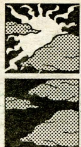


WEATHER



MONDAY — Becoming cloudy. Forty percent chance of rain in the afternoon. Highs in the 60s. Lows in the 40s.

TUESDAY — Mostly cloudy and cool. Highs in the 50s.

Commonwealth TIMES

INSIDE

• Get a Byrd's EYE view of Richmond's movie palace. See story page 8 and 9.



MONDAY, March 27, 1995

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 26, No. 63

General Assembly gives VCU more than \$2 million

Jim McNamara
CT STAFF WRITER

"VCU could be to Virginia what Notre Dame is to Indiana," said Sen. Benjamin J. Lambert III, D-Richmond, discussing the General Assembly's appropriation of \$547,000 for VCU's School of Engineering.

"It has the potential to revitalize downtown Richmond economically, educationally and culturally."

Besides the engineering funds, VCU requested \$1.5 million from the legislature for the Virginia Generalist Physician Initiative.

The initiative is a six-year plan that began in July 1994 to train 50 percent of all medical students in general medicine, family practice and general pediatrics.

"It is a laudable goal where 50 percent of your physicians are going into family practice or general pediatrics or general internal medicine," said VCU President Eugene P. Trani. "But it is an expensive goal in the sense we are forced to give up surgery residencies to turn them into family-practice residencies."

The General Assembly appropriated \$387,688 to VCU in general funds and \$21,141 in nongeneral funds toward the general physician initiative for 1995-96. Some \$300,000 has already been included in the 1995-96 budget. State lawmakers also increased funding to help pay for indigent-care costs at the MCV Hospitals. The state funds 70 percent of these costs incurred by poor patients, creating a strain on the hospital's budget. The

ASSEMBLY continued to page 4 >



Stacy L. Reed/Commonwealth Times

PUTTIN' ON THE DOG — (from left) John Steptoe, Chuck Robinson and their pals, Sprinkles and Napoleon, take a break. The Virginia Union University students this past week were visiting friends on the VCU campus.

Gilmore's victims' rights tour continues

Greg A. Lohr

CT EYE EDITOR/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

During a brief stop last week at George Mason University, Attorney General James S. Gilmore III continued his verbal commitment to finding ways to fight sexual assault on Virginia's college campuses.

With a panel consisting of a GMU staff member and coordinators of various Northern Virginia assault services, Gilmore stressed victims' rights and the importance of universities within their surroundings.

"The campuses are the center of the communities," Gilmore said to approximately 35 students and local residents. "We're very troubled by the continued incidents of sexual assault. It's both men's and women's problem, but particularly women are assaulted."

Panel member Connie Kirkland, coordinator of GMU Sexual Assault Services, said she agreed with the attorney general's statement.

"It's a position George Mason realized a few years ago is an important link to the community agencies we already have."

Kirkland's office and campus police work together to handle the physical and legal concerns of assaulted students, she said, adding that students' academic performance remains a major concern.

"I find that it certainly is negatively affected after a sexual assault," she said.

Gilmore's recent "town meetings" at

GILMORE AT VCU

Attorney General James S. Gilmore III will speak at 7 p.m. April 17 in VCU's Business Building Auditorium.

several universities focused on the rights of crime victims, a topic he vehemently supported during the 1995 General Assembly session.

"One thing we think is important is to listen to you. We're not here to tell you everything; we don't know everything," he said, encouraging the audience to pose questions to the panel.

A former Fairfax County investigator of major crimes specializing in sexual assault, Sandy Higgs, asked how to teach young children to prevent this type of crime. Gilmore said parents still are the best teachers.

"We have to think about teaching that there are consequences, teaching that there is responsibility and teaching that there is accountability," he said. "It doesn't matter how a woman dresses... how much she had to drink. It's not OK to commit rape against that person."

Mim Keo, panel member and coordinator of the Fairfax County Women's Shelter, suggested utilizing the education system.

"In general, domestic violence has been accepted in the past in many families," she said. "The schools are one place where we can address this at an early age."

Future staff cuts could save VCU \$13 million

*New technology
to replace workers*

Melanie Irvin
CT NEWS EDITOR

Savings may be on the horizon for VCU, according to a report released March 17 by KPMG Peat Marwick. Overhauling administrative management structures and computer systems throughout the campus can result in a possible \$13 million in savings, the report said.

Donald C. Bruegman, senior vice president for administration and chairman of the Committee on Administrative Review, said short-term savings will not be sizeable — about \$3.9 million per year.

"The real impact is in the long-term," he added.

But before any savings can be realized, the report says, the university must invest between \$8 million and \$12 million to retrain staff and revamp administrative computer systems.

The report came at the request of the Committee on Administrative Review, which has been charged with implementing VCU's Strategic Direction 15 — shaving 15 percent of administrative costs.

Dozens of interviews and audits led the consultants to recommend a 25 percent reduction in staff.

Bruegman said the staff cuts will be felt mainly at the management level.

"We'll be scaling down management

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- cutting administrative costs by 21 percent for a savings of \$13 million.
- Improving productivity of the physical plant for a saving of up to \$3 million.
- Reconfiguring student support services on the academic campus.
- Eliminating the micro-management by administration and finance and reducing the number of senior management positions in those departments.

before staff or employees doing the day-to-day work," he said, explaining that these positions may be reduced later following the implementation of the new technology.

"It will not be in place overnight. It will take at least three years," he said referring to the updated computer system.

Down the road, students will benefit from these changes, Bruegman said.

"Students will be provided with better and more timely services," he said, citing the universal card as one example of possible benefits.

The committee now will review the report and then make recommendations to VCU's president.

Bruegman said the most important result of this report could be a change in mentality:

"(The) understanding that the administrative management structure and culture, not only at VCU but in higher education in general, has to change," he said.

WORLD/NATION



• First lady takes daughter on side trip to pyramids

CAIRO, Egypt — Hillary Rodham Clinton, en route to Pakistan, took advantage of a fueling stop in Cairo to take her daughter, Chelsea, on an impromptu tour of the pyramids Saturday.

The previously unscheduled trip was arranged at the request of Mrs. Clinton, who saw the 4,500-year-old monuments during a visit with President Clinton last October.

Zahi Hawass, the Egyptian archaeologist in charge of the Giza plateau just outside Cairo, quoted Mrs. Clinton as saying she wanted to show her daughter the ancient wonders.

They spent about an hour there and saw the pyramids and the nearby Sphinx and Solar Boat, a vessel that had been intended to carry an ancient Pharaoh's body to the afterlife.

• Chemical at N.Y. school makes more than 70 sick

NEW YORK — A chemical similar to tear gas wafted through a junior high school on Friday, sickening more than 70 students, teachers and administrators.

The chemical caused coughs and gasps but no serious injuries.

All 1,600 students and 200 members were evacuated while authorities investigated. Classes resumed later in the day.

The culprits were not immediately identified, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said.

• Stolen gold artifacts found in D.C. pawn shop

WASHINGTON — Marc Epstein thought he was dreaming when a man walked into his pawnshop Saturday afternoon and tried to hock a centuries-old gold bird for \$100.

Epstein had just finished telling police about a similar incident Friday when he paid the man with the white beard \$100 for a slightly smaller, similar artifact.

The two birds turned out to be pre-Columbian objects stolen earlier Friday from the National Geographic Society's Explorers' Hall — the first theft in the museum's 31-year history.

Capt. Charles Smith, the National Geographic's head of security, had notified pawn shops in Northwest Washington about the stolen items.

Police Saturday were questioning Clyde William Church, 49.

VIRGINIA



• 90-day term given in sex cases

BEDFORD — Lloyd Glenwood Naff, 59, was sentenced to 90 days in jail Tuesday for having sexual relations with two juvenile girls.

Naff, a prominent Roanoke businessman, pleaded guilty in September to the sexual battery of a 15-year-old and contributing to the delinquency of a minor by having consensual intercourse with a 16-year-old. Both crimes are misdemeanors.

As part of a plea agreement, a felony charge of aggravated sexual battery against

a 13-year-old was not prosecuted. Court officials said the charge could be reinstated if Naff violates the terms of his probation, which bars him from unsupervised contact with any juvenile.

• Newspaper employees sue bank

DANVILLE — Employees of the Danville Register & Bee have sued American National Bank & Trust Co. for not selling company stock to them.

The lawsuit, filed Friday in U.S. District Court in Roanoke, seeks to block the bank from selling the newspaper to anyone other than to an employee stock-ownership plan.

The employees claim the bank violated their pension rights and disregarded the wishes of the late owner of the newspaper, E. Stuart James Grant.

RICHMOND



• VUU alumni association to sponsor walk-a-thon

The John W. Barco Chapter of Virginia Union University's Alumni Association will sponsor an 8.5-mile walk-a-thon April 1 to benefit the chapter's scholarship fund.

Walkers will start on the VUU campus at 9 a.m. For more information, call 257-5720.

• Registrations being taken for parade against drugs

Registrations still are being accepted for the seventh annual Parade Against Crime, Drugs, School Dropouts and Teen

Pregnancy, to be held April 8 starting at 11 a.m.

The parade is the brainchild of the late James Martin Christian, who was a social studies teacher and coach at Armstrong High School. The parade will assemble at Chimborazo Park at 33rd and East Broad streets at 10 a.m. and will end at Armstrong, 1611 N. 31st St. For more information, call 780-4017.

CAMPUS



• MCV alumni contributes collection to Tompkins-McCaw library

Dr. Herman J. Flax marked his retirement from more than 50 years as a practicing physiatrist by donating his exceptional collection of psychiatry books to Tompkins-McCaw library at the VCU Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. The collection is valued at \$34,600.

Flax, a 1940 graduate of MCV, has been assembling the collection for more than 35 years.

Altogether, the nearly 500 volumes in five languages make up an expansive collection in a field of medicine that includes aspects of physical medicine and rehabilitation, occupational therapy, orthopedics and alternative medicine. An exhibit of the collection will be featured at a reception in honor of Flax at 2 p.m. April 13 in the Special Collections and Archives unit at Tompkins-McCaw library.

This event is free and open to the public. Guests are asked to RSVP at 828-1116.

— Compiled from news sources.

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FYI

for your information

Response to Conflict

The Richmond Peace Education Center is offering an introductory training in children's creative response to conflict on April 1. This one-day experimental program is designed for those who work and play with children, assisting them to create an atmosphere where creative conflict resolution can take place.

Participants can experience new ways to examine conflict and develop solutions. The workshop, designed to promote an understanding of creative conflict-resolution theory, will give people the opportunity to practice the activities.

The workshop will be from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the conference rooms of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, 811 Cathedral Place. Registration is \$45, which includes training, snacks, a meal and all workshop materials.

Be Beary Careful

Meet the newest member of Maymont's bear family at Bear Family Day from noon to 5 p.m. April 2.

A 40-pound male black bear cub was given to Maymont by the Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries after several unsuccessful attempts to place him with foster mothers in the wild.

Maymont's animal experts are working with the cub to slowly introduce him to the habitat and the two older bears currently living there. Although the cub is not yet on view, Maymont will offer a rare glimpse April 2.

On Bear Family Day, Maymont's visitors are invited to meet the bears, journey through imaginative activities at the Children's Farm and to have fun learning about the black bear habitat. Children can bring their own favorite bear to be in the Victorian Teddy Bears' Picnic and Parade, learn bear habits in the Cub Run obstacle course, search for bugs in the Grub Hunt, make bear flags, masks and much more.

Admission is free with nominal fees for some games and activities. For more information, call 358-7166.

Sun Catchers

Have you ever wondered what the sun really looks like? It's not safe to stare at it. In fact, looking at the sun can damage your eyesight and you won't even feel it. But the opportunity to get a better look at the sun may be as close as the 1995 Richmond Times-Dispatch Great Outdoor Expo. Weather permitting, members of the Richmond Astronomical Society will share their specially equipped telescopes with you.

Astronomer Leslie Bochenski says these telescopes will have sun filters, which is the only safe way for you to look directly at the sun. As long as the sky is clear, these and other telescopes will be outside the Exhibition Hall at the Fairgrounds on Strawberry Hill. The Expo is from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. March 31, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. April 1 and from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. April 2.

For more information, call 367-1013.

On the road with a ...

A social studies teacher turned administrator, part II

Bill Bucco
CT STAFF WRITER

Struggling with a diminishing enrollment and faced with administrative cutbacks to make up the \$3.7 million shortfall, VCU looks to its student recruiters for answers. In the second article in a two-part interview, Horace Wooldridge Jr., director of admissions for VCU, talks about handling tough recruiting questions, the student's recruiting power, the incoming student outlook and doing "more with less."

Commonwealth Times: What do you consider VCU's biggest recruiting drawbacks?

Horace Wooldridge Jr.: Boy, that's a loaded question — you'll get me in trouble with that one.

The crime issue hurts us, but I think that the urban factor is really a cut-and-dried issue. It's either a big turn-on or a big turn-off. There's not a whole lot of ambivalence there. But you consider the mom and dad of, let's say a young lady who's 18 that may live in a rural area of Virginia. ... Coming to Richmond can be very scary.

The parking issue doesn't help us. I think if students here have one major gripe, it's probably parking. It's a nightmare. But the important thing for us to do as admissions people is to tell them that up front.

The worst thing you can do in recruiting is to misrepresent the university. The second biggest mistake that you can make in recruiting is not be consumer-oriented. If you tell somebody you're going to call them back, call them back. Treat them like exactly what they are — they're consumers. They know they're in a buyer's market.

The number of high school graduates has plummeted since about 1987. It's starting to go back up, but at the same time it's going back up at a much slower pace than was first anticipated. We really thought that we would be out of this beginning this year. What it's really starting to look at now — based on some recent data that's been released — is that we're really not going to be out of it until the class of '97. Those kinds of statistics make life hell for people like me.

Generally when I go out on campus, usually, if someone asks me how I am, the next question I get is "How are the numbers?"

CT: How do you respond to perspective students' questions about crime?

HW: We've released the crime statistics, which, basically for the size of the institution, really puts us among the top five per capita-wise safest institutions in the state.

The other thing we mention to them are the phone systems, the police, the escort

service, things like that. My own opinion is, no matter what college campus a student goes on, whether it be in a small college town in a rural area, there is still a danger factor there.

I think for students ... on urban campuses such as ours, the very fact that they are in the city may actually heighten that awareness, make them more aware, and actually make them act in a more responsible manner. I don't think there's a college campus in this country that you would walk across by yourself at 2 in the morning. It's a fact. That's America in the 90s, you can't get away from it.

But again, I think that when people look at that, and when they weigh that possible negative against the advantages of an urban school, there are more advantages than there are negatives. ... Obviously we don't compare ourselves negatively with other institutions. It's just something that you don't do.

The whole idea of recruiting is one that I think the university is understanding more and more. It is a global issue. It is not just an admissions issue. The marketing plan that I just drew up about a month ago, which has now been through the president's council and the deans, clearly points to the involvement of alumni, of administration, of faculty and of students.

I don't think that the student body at VCU really understands how much power they have to promote this place. There are people that are going to bitch and moan about being here, but you can't show me one university in this country that somebody's not going to bitch and moan about something about it. But when you go back to your communities, if you're having a good experience, go by your high school and talk to your counselors and say this is what I like.

It's funny, all the stuff that we do, the mailings, the travel, the publications — everything — most students come here because they know students here who like it.

Probably the one school in Virginia ... over the past 20 years that has done the best job of raising their reputation is JMU (James Madison University). I'm convinced that the level of education here at VCU is probably better than that at JMU. I know they'd have a stroke to hear me say that, but that's my own opinion.

One of the roadways that Madison did — what they did is that everyone up there tooted their own horn till finally the world believed them. It's almost the old adage that nobody else in the world is going to respect you or care about you, so you respect and care about yourself. That's something that the university is still learning to

do.

CT: What is the outlook for the upcoming freshman class?

HW: As of Friday (Feb. 17) our freshman applications were up about 4 percent, which is actually a little bit better than I expected. I expected us to be up. Generally what I'm finding around the state in calling is that it seems like everybody is either up a little or down a little.

... Ideally in the process if you can get a student that's been accepted get a call from a current student, a faculty member in their perspective major, and to a lesser extent an alum, what you're doing is reinforcing.

They've raised my freshman target from 1,650 to 1,800. That's going to be tough, so we've got our work cut out for us. The university has been losing students primarily in the nondegree category. Your biggest revenue generators are your full-time undergraduates, so that's where the pull is — beef that part of the student body up.

CT: Same question, for transfer students. Is the number of applicants increasing or decreasing?

HW: Right now it is pretty stable where it was last year. I accept that, but our target for transfers in the fall is 1,700, and right now I don't see any problem at all with that. We are in a very unique position with transfer students, obviously being in a population center. We've got a lot of feeder capabilities just from the community colleges.

The other thing that we have going for us is that in the truest sense of the word, we are truly the only urban school in the state of Virginia. Old Dominion comes close, but even Old Dominion doesn't have Franklin Street running through the campus, or Main Street running through the campus.

Your students that go away to smaller towns, it is difficult for them if they come from an urban area or even a suburban area to make the social adjustment to being in a small town. There is a natural tendency for those students to come back to what they're familiar with. So we have a natural draw. I think my favorite line in the 12 years that I've been here, I was talking with a young lady who was transferring. I asked her — admission officers love to get all the dirt about what's wrong with the other schools — I asked her, "Why are you considering here?" She stopped for a minute, and she looked at me, and she said, "I think if I saw one more cow, or one more swallow, I'd throw up."

One of the things I hope I never lose, and I don't really think I will: I love working

WOOLDRIDGE continued to page 4 ►

ICE CREAM — bringing sororities together

Jenifer L. Vancil
CT STAFF WRITER

In an effort to open relations among all sororities on campus, the Panhellenic Council will sponsor an ice cream social for members of Panhellenic sororities and members of VCU's historically African-American sororities next month.

The brainchild of Elizabeth C. Bell, assistant director for student activities who also oversees Greek affairs, the event was first discussed among the delegates in Feb-

ruary. In Bell's view, there previously has been a lack of communication on both sides.

"I would love to see increased relations between all sororities, both the NPC (National Panhellenic Conference) sororities and the traditionally African-American sororities," Bell said in a previous interview.

Rachel Stafford, Panhellenic Council president, said the event is long overdue.

"There is too much distance between the traditionally African-American sororities and our sororities," Stafford said. "We don't do anything together.

"We're all Greek. It would be beneficial just to get to know each other."

The social will be at 5 p.m. April 9 at Amy's Yogurt, 946 W. Grace Street.

In addition, at 9 p.m. April 9, all members of VCU's Panhellenic sororities are meeting to approve newly revised rules for next semester's formal rush.

In other council business, delegates are searching for businesses and organizations to sponsor the council's Easter egg hunt planned for April 15.

The event brings together children from area mentor programs, children of faculty and students and children who live in the Fan for an egg hunt. The group hopes to offer T-shirts and prizes to the participants.

ASSEMBLY

continued from page 1

legislators increased next year's indigent funding to 85 percent.

VCU's School of Dentistry, nationally recognized for its graduate programs, also picked up \$250,000 in funds from the assembly.

"We have the highest student-teacher ratio of all public dental schools in the country," Trani said. "That's not good."

The allocated funds, Trani said, will allow the school to add more clinical instructors and faculty members.

VCU's restructuring plans also received a boost when legislators approved \$500,000 for the initiatives, said Donald C. Gehring, assistant to the VCU's president for governmental and community relations.

"The president (Trani), provost (Grace E. Harris) and other vice presidents will be making a strategic decision in light of what the strategic plan is and will make some decisions and recommendations and run it by VCU's Board of Visitors," he said.

The General Assembly restored \$766,842 in funds for four research and public service centers, including \$200,000 for the Center on Urban Development.

"I think the center will play a tremendous role in helping VCU and the city of Richmond develop its urban plans, providing the important research it needs," Lambert said.

Trani elaborated on the merits of the engineering school, which is scheduled to open in fall 1996.

"I think it is a major recruitment attribute for the Richmond metropolitan area," he said. "The Richmond metropolitan area is bidding on a large Motorola plant for the Richmond metropolitan area, which could employ thousands of people."

Trani said the goal is to raise \$23 million to pay the school's start-up costs.

"The university has raised \$12 million of that \$23 million," he said. "We also have a \$500,000 commitment from the City of Richmond."

VCU officials and state leaders are discussing the future of the downtown Virginia State Library. Some think relocating schools or departments is preferable to constructing a new building.

Lambert said officials still are negotiating, but Gehring said he expects a formal recommendation to be made soon.

"In the near future there will be a meeting of the Virginia Public Buildings Committee," he said. "We believe the Department of General Services and the Secretary of Administration will recommend to this group that VCU have use of the building with the exception of the first floor."

Gehring said assuming plans go as scheduled, the university will start work-

THE BUCK STOPS HERE

What the General Assembly appropriated to VCU during the 1995 session.

- \$547,000 for the School of Engineering.
- \$387,688 in general funds.
- \$21,141 in nongeneral funds towards the general physician initiative.
- 5 percent increase in funding indigent-care costs at MCV Hospitals.
- \$250,000 for the School of Dentistry.
- \$500,000 in support of restructuring plans.
- \$766,842 restored for four research and public service centers.

ing with the general services department to propose renovation plans for the building.

A prospective tenant for the building is MCV's Tompkins-McCaw Library, Gehring said, but other options are being discussed.

Overall, Trani said he was satisfied with the session on several key areas.

"I felt the General Assembly did a very good job for supporting higher education," he said. "I was also pleased with the governor's recommendations supporting the School of Engineering and supporting MCV Hospitals."

But Trani noted this wasn't a cause for celebration.

"This is no great victory," he said. "We didn't make any great advances, but we certainly stayed even."

His long-range goal for the university, he said, is getting the legislature, the governor and the people of Virginia to recognize the importance of higher education's role in Virginia.

"Higher education is part of the infrastructure of society," he said.

As an example, Trani compared the spending of Virginia's state revenue to that of North Carolina:

"In Virginia, we are now spending less than 12 percent of our general-fund revenue on university support. In North Carolina, it's over 20 percent," he said. "It is a very conscious policy on the part of the research triangle of the state of North Carolina to put money into universities to result in economic development."

WOOLDRIDGE

continued from page 3

with kids. I love talking to them about the university. Hopefully, I come across as someone that cares about them. ... I know (VCU President) Dr. (Eugene P.) Trani would have a fit to hear me say this, but I think even he understands me: I would rather see someone make a better choice and choose to go elsewhere and be happy than to come here and for whatever reason be unhappy. Because if they come here, and they're unhappy, everybody loses. They're not going to stay. They're going to become disenchanted. They're going to leave. If their experience here is not good, when they get home, wherever home may be, they're going to trash us to all their friends. It's very important for everybody in the university community to realize that even the smallest things can effect us very positively or very negatively, and it goes way beyond that one individual that the direct contact is made with. There's always going to be a scatter.

CT: From what regional areas do we get most of our students?

HW: Virginia is divided into 10 markets. The greater Richmond area is market six. That's where huge numbers of our students come from.

Probably close to that are markets one and two. That's Northern Virginia and that's a tough market to break. It's the largest market in the state. There are absolutely thousands of students up there. They are generally middle-upper-class students so they have lots of options. They're in some of the strongest school systems. I know the university would like for us to have more students from that area, so that's something we're trying to beef up.

The other area that we draw, that would probably be our third biggest draw, would be market eight, and that would be Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Hampton, Newport News, kind of like the Peninsula.

It's interesting to note that if you look at the last several years where we've seen the greatest percentage increase — of course the numbers are still small — has been in some of the rural areas of the state. For example, the whole area between Winchester and Bristol, basically the valley area. We're beginning to break into that market.

Traditionally, out-of-state — New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware — has always been our heart. We are now beginning to see some growth in the New England states, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire. Hopefully, we will see some growth as we continue to cultivate the markets in the South, where the economy is improving, where the population is going.

I am convinced that if we put the resources into recruiting — everybody around here screams that we don't have enough staff — but I truly do feel when we've had two consultants come in over the last three years, and both of them have said the admissions office here is critically understaffed.

We asked this year to hire one part-time recruiter, but that didn't happen in time for us to do it. Virginia Tech hired seven and had seven on the road. They were part-time, and they hired them just to travel. I think that's one of my biggest frustrations is that I know what some of the other schools are doing.

For example, George Mason wants to increase its number of out-of-state students. They hired three people to do nothing but out-of-state recruiting. It's really a challenge to hear the "do more with less," and I understand the economics, but I think the university really needs to engage the fact that it's like any other corporation. If you want to increase sales, you've got to increase your sales staff.

That one will probably get me in hot water for saying that, but that's the way I feel.

CT: How well will cultural diversity be represented in the upcoming class?

HW: I think we are going to continue to see a strong minority presence. I have no problem with that. Some universities would kill to have our racial diversity. They are breaking their necks to do it. They're just not doing it. In our case, where our weaknesses would be is how do we go about getting more white males. That's where we fall down — white males.

If there are any students around here that have some ideas of what we're doing — what worked for them when they went through the process, what they liked — I'll be glad to meet with them and listen to them. I'll also take it up the line and say the kids are telling me this is what needs to be done, so let's get the resources and do it.

CT: Is there anything I missed that you would like to add?

HW: There has been a lot of positive change here. I think change is threatening, and I think we've all felt that. The state cutbacks have hurt us. We're still alive.

I know students have issues they're not happy with, and I think they need to continue to advocate and draw attention to their issues. I think, unfortunately, we don't teach young people in high school to be assertive.

We don't teach them, in my own opinion, good decision-making skills. I know we don't teach them good time-management skills. People need to be responsible for themselves and try to do those things. If something's wrong, they need to scream and shout about it because the university can't react to something if they don't know there is a problem.

At a party... HOST unknown . . .

What to DRINK? Hmm . . .

Beer in a cooler. Soda in the fridge.

RED punch in a garbage can. WHICH?

Let's talk about choices. Choices that are healthy, safe and legal.

VCU
Virginia Commonwealth University

If you, or someone you know, wants help with alcohol-related choices, please call the University Counseling Services, 828-3964 (MCV Campus) or 828-6200 (Academic Campus). For information about activities of Alcohol Awareness Weeks at VCU (Feb. 20 - March 8), please call the Office of Substance Abuse / Sexual Assault Education, 828-2085.

Stacy L. Reed

Prejudices of Love

One would think in this society, with its dire predictions for love, an individual would be happy for another who had found it. One would think so, but it's not true.

The regulations for "proper" couplehood are everywhere. There are so many biases against the two people involved that it is amazing that couples exist at all. Two people aspiring to couplehood have enough problems trying to pass their own personal hurdles; getting past the hurts of past relationships, finding common interests. And once they have managed to conquer all of this, usually a feat in itself, they then are supposed to try to please the rest of society, too.

Two people are supposed to be the right age, the right color and the right sex, before society gives its blessing and just lets them be happy. These two people are supposed to conform to the expectations — whether ageist, racist or homophobic — of so-called friends and even strangers on the street. They either conform or risk being lectured, condemned, stared at, cussed at, threatened and, at the not-so-uncommon extreme, physically harassed or beaten. One would think these actions are completely unacceptable, or at the very least considered rude, but more often than not it is this meddling friend or stranger that gets society's praise.

So here we have a couple that's holding hands or kissing in public. How many times have you seen couples doing this?

And who are those people who would spend such time bothering and harassing the loving couple? They are the people out there overtly pushing their prejudices. But they also are those so-called friends who don't even realize their own hidden prejudices.

So who are those people and are they to blame for a prejudice they don't even realize they have? Let's decide...

Have you ever heard of ageism? Well, one characteristic is the strange idea that two people shouldn't be a couple if their ages are very different. What does "very different" mean; 5, 10, 20, 50 years? Who knows, who decides, who

cares? Isn't love supposed to be based on the two individuals involved; those crazy ideas of compatibility, concern for each other, love? But how many of us have questioned the sincerity of these couples simply because we think one was too old for the other? We always seem to think that one is using the other and that the other is too lovestruck or stupid to notice.

And of course there's the issue of interracial couples and racism. Consider those people, even those who don't consider themselves racist, who still look twice at racially mixed couples in public. Now be honest, how many of us have a tendency to do a double-take when it comes to such couples? Of course the claim can be made that one is just looking at the fact that it's a couple. Face it, we look because of skin difference. Indeed, if the phenomenon were just "couple-curiosity," we all would have permanent sore necks from turning to look at every kissing, hand-holding pair of people.

And what of those same-gendered couples, huh? Homophobia is rampant. So what else is new. Gay couples, male or female, are not publicly welcome. When's the last time you saw a gay couple in public? What I'm referring to here is simply two in-love people, holding hands or kissing in public; actions that, if not for the homosexuality of the couple, otherwise wouldn't be noticed. But seeing a gay couple in public always seems to raise this common response. How many times have you heard, or even said, "I don't care if people are gay, they should just keep it in the bedroom?" Are these people — are you — suggesting that two people in love can't even kiss or hold hands in public? How ridiculous.

Should any of these couples have to hide their love, or have to say "I love you" in a whisper?

Isn't it hard enough to maintain attraction, love and security these days without complete strangers and "helpful" friends butting in to moralize how to "properly" act? And how many of us have to admit that we have been those prejudiced people?

Erin E. Hierholzer

Praise of Our President

Maybe he's just trying to soften up us students before going on sabbatical this summer, or perhaps he just enjoys playing with the boys downtown. But for whatever reason, VCU President Eugene P. Trani has been putting in overtime, and VCU is benefiting greatly from his efforts.

Trani and his administrative team, allied with a few loyal delegates and senators, pulled out their big guns during the 1995 session of Virginia's General Assembly, effectively combatting Gov. George Allen's proposed higher-education cutbacks. The end result: The General Assembly doled out approximately \$2 million to our school.

While Trani may be most proud of his monetary coup for the proposed School of Engineering (it received more than \$500,000), it is the increased funding for indigent care at MCV Hospital that will have the greatest immediate impact on the community.

With the health-care system in disarray, more and more people have found themselves without this vital insurance. Indigent care at MCV Hospital has driven up the already-outrageous public health-care costs at this hospital, along with forcing MCV officials to cut the current staff instead of hiring the needed staff. The General Assembly promised a 15 percent increase in indigent-care funding from the state, freeing MCV's budget from some of these costs.

Trani was not alone in this fight. In a letter to the faculty dated March 8, he mentioned the "budget patrons and the conferees who carried the ball for VCU: Delegates Bob Ball (D-Henrico), Frank Hall (D-Richmond), Jean Cunningham (D-Richmond), Earl Dickinson (D-Louisiana), Alan

Diamonstein (D-Newport News), and Vince Callahan (R-Fairfax) and Senators Benny Lambert (D-Richmond), Hunter Andrews (D-Hampton), Stanley Walker (D-Norfolk), Chuck Colgan (D-Prince William) and John Chichester (R-Stafford)."

Trani's assistants for governmental and community relations, Donald C. Gehring and Mark Smith, also were key players in getting these much-needed funds.

College presidents from throughout the state came together during this General Assembly session to plead their cause. Three of Virginia's former governors, Linwood Holton, Mills E. Godwin and Gerald Baliles, wrote to Allen expressing their support of the college presidents.

These funds will provide VCU with a head start as the university competes with other colleges for students and more resources. Despite these advances, however, much work still needs to be done for VCU to hang with the academic pack in the 21st century.

A recent study commissioned by VCU officials found the school lacking in many areas, including technology and productivity. The March 18 article in the Richmond Times-Dispatch discussed the findings, which just put on paper what students have known since their arrival on campus: That "red-tape, duplication and paper-shuffling (is) the norm..."

After the adrenaline rush provided by the General Assembly, it may be easy for Trani to overlook the problems that still exist.

By using the same teamwork techniques that worked so well during this General Assembly session, Trani, the faculty and the student body can make the needed changes.

Gage Harter

Victims' Rights — Not in Courtroom

Virginia Attorney General James S. Gilmore once said, "Victims need to be in the courtroom to see justice done. Justice includes everyone involved in the process understanding the damage done to the victim."

Currently, Gilmore is pushing the state for a constitutional amendment that promises to grant greater rights for crime victims.

The provisions include allowing crime victims to consult with the prosecution during the trial, allowing the victim to address the court at the time of sentencing and alert victims if the criminal escaped or was released from custody. This is all part of Gilmore's plan to get tougher on crime.

This also is part of his campaign as he eyes the 1997 Republican governor nominee.

Most of Gilmore's initiatives, like his stalling legislation, his proposed appeal process for victims and his insistence to get tough on sex and habitual offenders, are reasonable. But part of this victims' rights amendment do not belong in Virginia's courtrooms.

Yes, a victim or the family should be notified if the criminal has escaped or has been released.

And maybe yes, the victim should consult with counsel during the prosecution.

But absolutely not, the victim or the family should not be allowed to address the accused during the time of sentencing.

This creates an explosive environment that could lead to violence — the very thing that cannot be condoned in court.

The judges also may be swayed in sentencing by the victim's or family's appeal for justice.

And why give victims or their family the right to approach the bench and not give the accused's family the right to beg for mercy?

And let's not forget that the accused could be innocent and that the media loves to write about these types of confrontations.

This situation happened during the Colin Ferguson case. Ferguson was convicted in the subway shooting deaths of six people. He served as his own lawyer in the case and when it was time for sentencing, each family had permission to address Ferguson.

Ferguson is guilty, and he probably deserves this treatment. But if the victim or family has the need to address the accused, then a suitable time might be a private meeting after the criminal is behind bars.

This way both the victim's and accused's rights are protected.

Commonwealth TIMES

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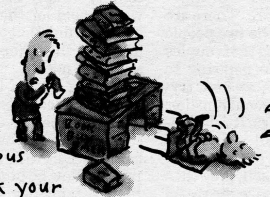
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The Commonwealth TIMES welcomes readers' letters. We reserve the right to edit all letters for grammar, style and space. Letters should not exceed one single-spaced typed page and must be submitted by noon Thursday to be considered for publication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

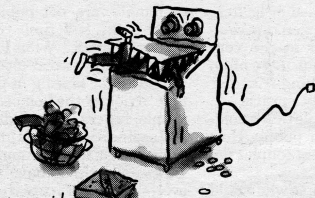
College Life: A Few Things To Know



KNOW: which off-campus bookstore will buy back your used \$45 textbooks for more than 25¢ each.



KNOW: which "30-minutes-or-it's-free" pizza place always takes exactly 31 minutes.



KNOW: which evil, quarter-eating laundromat machines to avoid.



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There are lots of tricky things for you to learn at college, but here's something that's easy: KNOW THE CODE, and save the person on the other end some serious money. You'll be glad you did.

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And the Winner Is:

BEST PICTURE:

- ☉ "Forrest Gump"
- ☉ "Four Weddings and a Funeral"
- ☉ "Pulp Fiction"
- ☉ "Quiz Show"
- ☉ "The Shawshank Redemption"

BEST DIRECTOR:

- ☉ Woody Allen, "Bullets Over Broadway"
- ☉ Robert Zemeckis, "Forrest Gump"
- ☉ Quentin Tarantino, "Pulp Fiction"
- ☉ Robert Redford, "Quiz Show"
- ☉ Krzysztof Kieslowski, "Red"

BEST ACTOR:

- ☉ Morgan Freeman, "The Shawshank Redemption"
- ☉ Tom Hanks, "Forrest Gump"
- ☉ Nigel Hawthorne, "The Madness of King George"
- ☉ Paul Newman, "Nobody's Fool"
- ☉ John Travolta, "Pulp Fiction"

BEST ACTRESS:

- ☉ Jodie Foster, "Nell"
- ☉ Jessica Lange, "Blue Sky"
- ☉ Miranda Richardson, "Tom & Viv"
- ☉ Winona Ryder, "Little Women"
- ☉ Susan Sarandon, "The Client"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR:

- ☉ Samuel L. Jackson, "Pulp Fiction"
- ☉ Chazz Palminteri, "Bullets Over Broadway"
- ☉ Martin Landau, "Ed Wood"
- ☉ Paul Scofield, "Quiz Show"
- ☉ Gary Sinise, "Forrest Gump"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS:

- ☉ Rosemary Harris, "Tom & Viv"
- ☉ Helen Mirren, "The Madness of King George"
- ☉ Jennifer Tilly, "Bullets Over Broadway"
- ☉ Uma Thurman, "Pulp Fiction"
- ☉ Dianne Wiest, "Bullets Over Broadway"

*David Letterman
will present the
67th Annual
Academy Awards
tonight at 9 p.m. on
ABC. Here's a list of
the most popular
categories.*

"Quiz Show" ↵

"Forrest Gump" ➤



Photo courtesy of Hollywood Pictures Co.

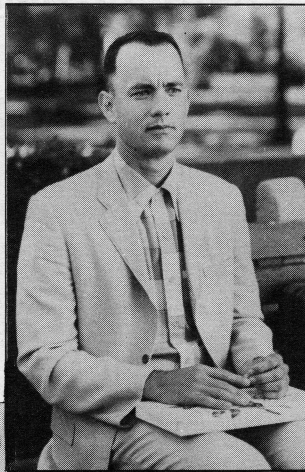


Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

CINEMATOGRAPHY

- ☉ "Forrest Gump," Don Burgess
- ☉ "Legends of the Fall," John Toll
- ☉ "Red," Piotr Sobocinski
- ☉ "Shawshank Redemption," Roger Deakins
- ☉ "Wyatt Earp," Owen Roizman

ART DIRECTION

- ☉ "Bullets Over Broadway," Santo Loquasto Set Decoration, Susan Bode
- ☉ "Forrest Gump," Rick Carter Set Decoration, Nancy Haigh
- ☉ "Interview with the Vampire," Dante Ferretti Set Decoration, Francesca Lo Schiavo
- ☉ "Legends of the Fall," Lilly Kilvert Set Decoration, Dorree Cooper
- ☉ "The Madness of King George," Ken Adam Set Decoration, Carolyn Scott

LIVE-ACTION SHORT FILM

- ☉ Franz Kafka's "It's a Wonderful Life," Peter Capaldi and Ruth Kenley-Letts
- ☉ "Kangaroo Court," Sean Astin and Christine Astin
- ☉ "On Hope," JoBeth Williams and Michele McGuire
- ☉ "Syrup," Paul Unwin and Nick Vivian
- ☉ "Trevor," Peggy Rajski and Randy Stone

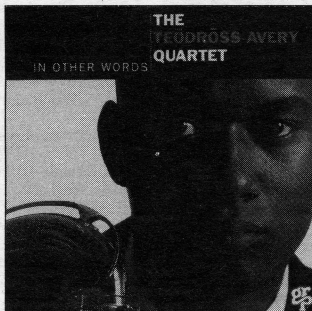
ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

- ☉ Woody Allen and Douglas McGrath, "Bullets Over Broadway"
- ☉ Richard Curtis, "Four Weddings and a Funeral"
- ☉ Frances Walsh and Peter Jackson, "Heavenly Creatures"
- ☉ Quentin Tarantino and Roger Avary, "Pulp Fiction"
- ☉ Krzysztof Piesiewicz and Krzysztof Kieslowski, "Red"



CD REVIEW

THE TEODRÖSS AVERY QUARTET IN OTHER WORDS GRP RECORDS



In the vein of great jazz saxophonists Duke Ellington, John Coltrane and the family Marsalis, I introduce to you the next legend... Teodröss Avery.

Teo-what?

Or so was my initial reaction when I first heard about this kid in an ad hawking his band's first CD, "In Other Words." Not being a great jazz enthusiast, but becoming more and more interested in the genre, I gave it a spin at one of those listening bars at Digits.

Wow.

This tall, skinny kid (so called because he was only 20 during the recording of "Words") with the tenor and soprano saxes was good.

Good enough to make me put down the Bone Thugs-n-Harmony disc and take Avery's to the cashier.

How to describe The Teodröss Avery Quartet's sound? Jazz, in its pure and unadulterated form. Not acid jazz, not some weird symbiosis of brass and new age, but just good, plain traditional jazz highlighted by one hell of a sax blower.

The disc starts off powerfully, as Avery and his band (which also claims pianist Charles Craig, bassist Reuben Rogers and drummer Mark Simmons as members) go quick and peppy on "High Hopes," in which Avery's sax and Roy Hargrove's trumpet combine for a free-spirited, flavorful ride.

The CD goes like that for the rest of its spin, interchanging up-tempo hits ("Hopes," the gospel-tinged "One to Love") with more slow, soulful cuts

that conjure images of a smoky, blue-tinted lounge somewhere on Bourbon Street ("What's New, Our True Friends").

The quick movements from slow to fast are either beneficial or irritating, depending on whether the listener wants all slow or all fast cuts or a hodgepodge of styles. But that's why the shuffle button was invented. (And for those who are without CD players, you're out of luck — this is available only on CD.)

One of the more intriguing songs is "Urban Survival," in which Avery and company use music to illustrate the highs and lows of life in the city. It illustrates their daring side, but also one of their flaws. While they cook, they tend to go a little to the extreme and play too frantically. That should change as the group gains studio and performance time, picking up cohesiveness and tempering their youthful rages in the process.

Best cut on the disc: "Positive Role Models," a cool, effervescent play in which Avery, through his sax, begs for good role models for black youth... although it would take a gander at the inside of the CD cover to find that much out.

A word to the wise, though: This is not ear candy for the short-attention spanned among us. The shortest cut goes at 4:07.

This disc is worth the money. You will hear more from Teodröss Avery in the future. Like Steve was to the Atlanta Braves, Teodröss is a can't-miss prospect.

—Brian J. French



Byrd soars with ghosts, nostalgia

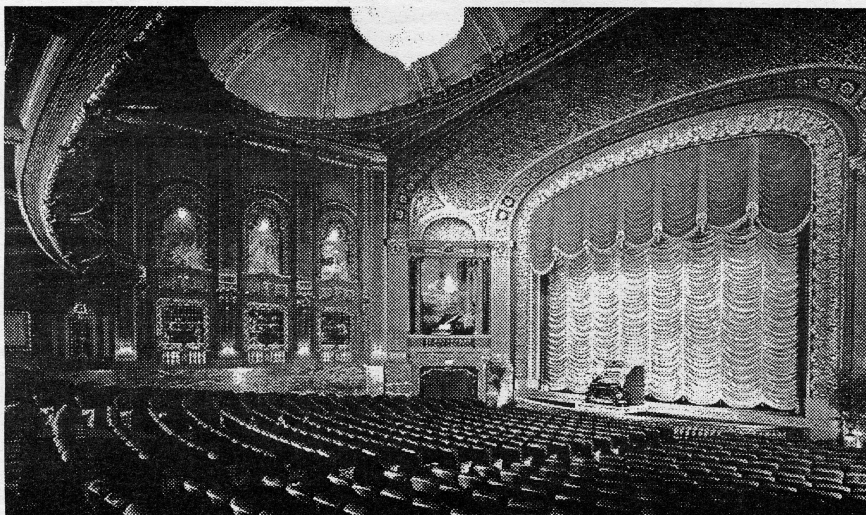


Photo courtesy of the Byrd Theatre

Patrons of the Byrd Theatre, 2908 W. Cary St., are greeted by employees dressed for the time period of the theater's 1928 construction.

Greg A. Lohr
CT EYE EDITOR

It's a chilly night — cooler than I predicted — so as the breeze picks up, I shiver and thrust my hands into my pockets, wishing I had brought my jacket.

Halfway down West Cary Street, though, Carytown long since deserted and the shops closed, I see the marquee. It's hard to miss, it juts out over the sidewalk, glowing white in the blue-black sky.

Joining the crowd under the movie sign, as always, I am taken aback by the theater's grandeur and style. A row of polished brass and glass doors as well as employees dressed in late 1920s fashion immediately transport me to a bygone age ... one of social and economic extravagance following World War I but heading into the Great Depression.

This was the era of the Byrd Theatre, 2908 W. Cary St., a movie palace designed in 1928 by Fred A. Bishop. And the theater, listed on The National Registry of Historic Places, even was written up in a January 1995 issue of Mid-Atlantic magazine. In that article, the author stresses the communal quality of such theaters that creates a bond among those who attend its shows.

Why? Because at any given time, only one movie plays, and we're all in it together.

For better or worse, the Byrd Theatre is not a video store with 1,000 titles to choose from. Nor is it a pastel and chrome arrangement of several cubicles with screens, as are many modern theaters.

Rather, when shelling out 99 cents at the Byrd, what you see is what you get.

Or is it?
On this particular night I followed the last customer inside and, instead of heading into the approximately 1,500-seat auditorium, I remained in the lobby in hopes of getting a behind-the-scenes glimpse of a unique establishment.

After all, I had seen movies there before. I knew what to expect. The walls soar upward, ornately carved and painted, creating a vast empty space overhead. A red and gold curtain hangs above the screen, and on either side of it are box seats housing a piano and a harp. In the center of the arched ceiling glitters an 18 foot by 12 foot chandelier connected to a parachute — just in case, according to projectionist John DeShazo, who grew up in Los Angeles.

"The seats are uncomfortable," he said, "but people were shorter in 1928. That's just the way it is."

During certain shows people can pay an additional 99 cents to obtain a more private and lofty viewing from the balcony. And weekend audiences may catch a performance by organist Lin Lunde on an instrument that rises up from the stage and even may be encouraged to sing along before the movie begins.

Assistant Manager Joy Gewalt, a VCU senior English major, said Lunde usually plays on Saturday nights, but not every weekend.

"You can tell that some people get into it," she said, laughing. "But no one is jumping out of their seats or anything."

Listening to Gewalt gave me a new perspective on the theater. I started to think there's much more to the Byrd than first meets the eye.

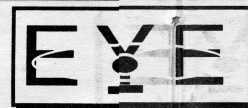
And throughout that evening its employees proved me right.

One of her responsibilities, Gewalt explained, is to go down into the basement when necessary.

Basement?
"Yeah, the heater, fan and blower and a well are in the basement," she said. "I'm so scared of going down there I almost won't do it. I make the box office (workers) do it." Of course, there's nothing to be afraid of, right?

Actually ...
"The theater's haunted, supposedly, by the previous owners and one of the original managers," Gewalt said, adding that the manager was shot late at night by a

A MASTERPIECE THEATER



Byrd soars with ghosts, nostalgia

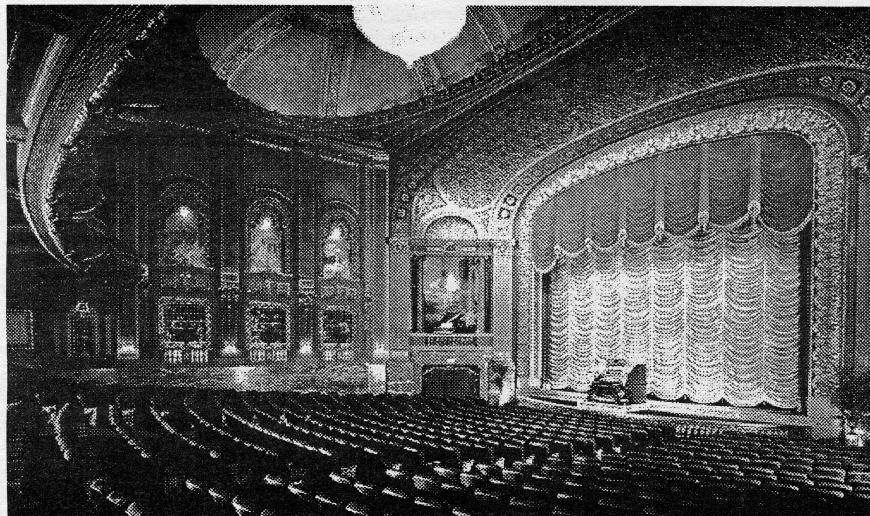


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"The theater's haunted, supposedly, by the previous owners and one of the original managers," Gewalt said, adding that the manager was shot late at night by a

disgruntled former employee. "They say the owner's ghost walks upstairs and whistles, and his wife's ghost sits in the motel balcony."

All this mystery doesn't stop locals from flocking to the Byrd. While forays into foreign films and live performances were unsuccessful, during the past several years the theater has prospered by showcasing second-run movies. Generally this means a gap of a few months before new movies end up at the Byrd.

As this night's movie came muffled through the wall behind the concession stand, I then accompanied DeShazo toward the projection booth.

With ghost stories fresh in my head, I followed him in the darkness up three sets of stairs, each one more narrow than the previous flight. We made our way through a maze of machinery, employees' costumes and theater paraphernalia until we finally reached the booth.

The small, dimly lit projection room houses spotlights, film projectors and light controllers, almost all of which is original equipment.

"The architect was quite efficient," DeShazo said, smiling.

He should know; he first signed on as a Byrd employee in 1986 while still in high school. Since then he has attended two different universities, including VCU, during which time he continued to work and learn in the projection booth.

I stood mesmerized as DeShazo quickly navigated through the cluttered room, all the while identifying and explaining the theater equipment.

Pulling a few levers on a wall-sized light controller, DeShazo said the movements used to be motorized, and that there are smaller versions of the equipment downstairs.

"We also recently got a 16 mm projector for showing short films," he said.

Whereas most modern theaters use large reels capable of holding the entire length of film, the Byrd's original reels, still in use, are smaller and often have to be changed during movies. To aid the projectionist in the switch from one projector to another, there is a surprisingly complex system of indicators.

Ball bearings quietly spin in a small track alongside the first reel, DeShazo explained. When two minutes are left on that reel, however, the ball bearings move faster and hit a warning bell, signaling the projectionist to begin switching power and sound from one projector to the other.

The second indication comes during the final seconds of the first reel in the form of two large, black dots that appear in the upper right-hand corner of the actual movie screen.

Even the actual projectors differ from modern equipment, though not in any substantial way.

DeShazo, who plans to eventually teach high-school English, said the Byrd's projectors each utilize a carbon-arc lamp. Basically, inside the projector two rods meet and form a bright ball of gas, which carries the electric current.

"The advantage is it's a very rich light similar to sunlight," DeShazo said. "The new Xenon bulb (that modern theaters use) is also an arc, but it's more of a switch you can turn on and off."

And what about the sound?

"There are three really big speakers behind the screen, which can be raised," he said. "Also there are maybe six or seven more speakers downstairs and four upstairs. It's not true Dolby-Lucas surround sound, but it's better than nothing."

Still recovering from finding out the theater has a basement, I was equally shocked to discover people can access the chandelier through an attic.

Is that the maintenance man I hear up there whistling?

THE BYRD THEATRE

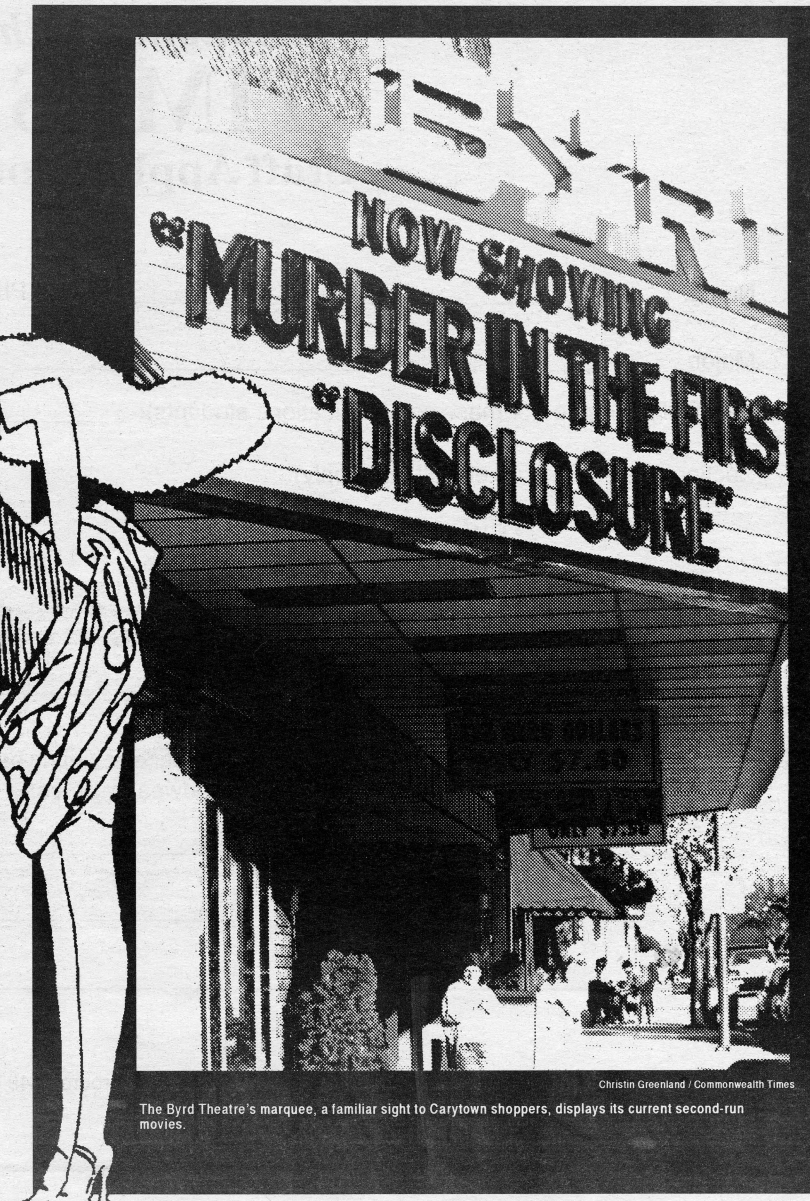
353-9911

Currently playing nightly:

"Disclosure" at 7:15 p.m.

"Murder In the First" at 9:30 p.m.

Matinee movie; Saturdays & Sundays only: "The Jungle Book" at



Christin Greenland / Commonwealth Times

The Byrd Theatre's marquee, a familiar sight to Carytown shoppers, displays its current second-run movies.



disgruntled former employee. "They say the owner's ghost walks upstairs and whistles, and his wife's ghost sits in the balcony."

All this mystery doesn't stop locals from flocking to the Byrd. While forays into foreign films and live performances were unsuccessful, during the past several years the theater has prospered by showcasing second-run movies. Generally this means a gap of a few months before new movies end up at the Byrd.

As this night's movie came muffled through the wall behind the concession stand, I then accompanied DeShazo toward the projection booth.

With ghost stories fresh in my head, I followed him in darkness up three sets of stairs, each one more narrow than the previous flight. We made our way through a maze of machinery, employees' costumes and theater paraphernalia until we finally reached the booth.

The small, dimly lit projection room houses spotlights, film projectors and light controllers, almost all of which is the original equipment.

"The architect was quite efficient," DeShazo said, smiling.

He should know, he first signed on as a Byrd employee in 1986 while still in high school. Since then he has attended two different universities, including VCU, during which time he continued to work and learn in the projection booth.

I stood mesmerized as DeShazo quickly navigated through the cluttered room, all the while identifying and explaining the theater equipment.

Pulling a few levers on a wall-sized light controller, DeShazo said the movements used to be motorized, and that there are smaller versions of the equipment downstairs.

"We also recently got a 16 mm projector for showing short films," he said.

Whereas most modern theaters use large reels capable of holding the entire length of film, the Byrd's original reels, still in use, are smaller and often have to be changed during movies. To aid the projectionist in the switch from one projector to another, there is a surprisingly complex system of indicators.

Ball bearings quietly spin in a small track alongside the first reel, DeShazo explained. When two minutes are left on that reel, however, the ball bearings move faster and hit a warning bell, signaling the projectionist to begin switching power and sound from one projector to the other.

The second indication comes during the final seconds of the first reel in the form of two large, black dots that appear in the upper right-hand corner of the actual movie screen.

Even the actual projectors differ from modern equipment, though not in any substantial way.

DeShazo, who plans to eventually teach high-school English, said the Byrd's projectors each utilize a carbon-arc lamp. Basically, inside the projector two rods meet and form a bright ball of gas, which carries the electric current.

"The advantage is it's a very rich light similar to sunlight," DeShazo said. "The new Xenon bulb (that modern theaters use) is also an arc, but it's more of a switch you can turn on and off."

And what about the sound?

"There are three really big speakers behind the screen, which can be raised," he said. "Also there are maybe six more speakers downstairs and four upstairs. It's not true Dolby-Lucas surround sound, but it's better than nothing."

Still recovering from finding out the theater has a basement, I was equally shocked to discover people can access the chandelier through an attic.

Is that the maintenance man I hear up there whistling?

THE BYRD THEATRE

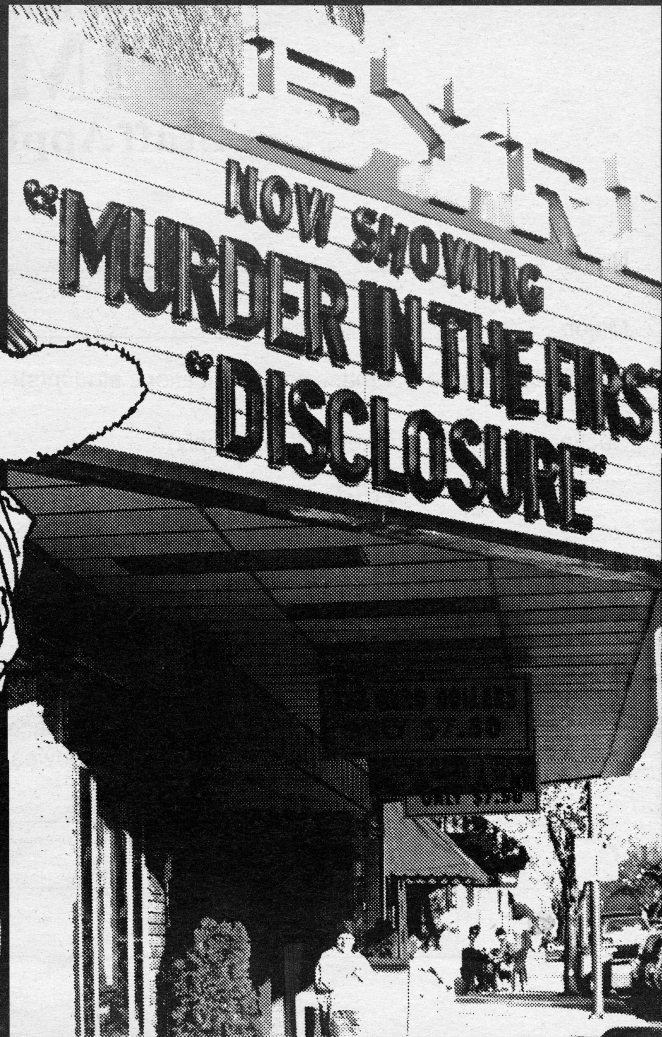
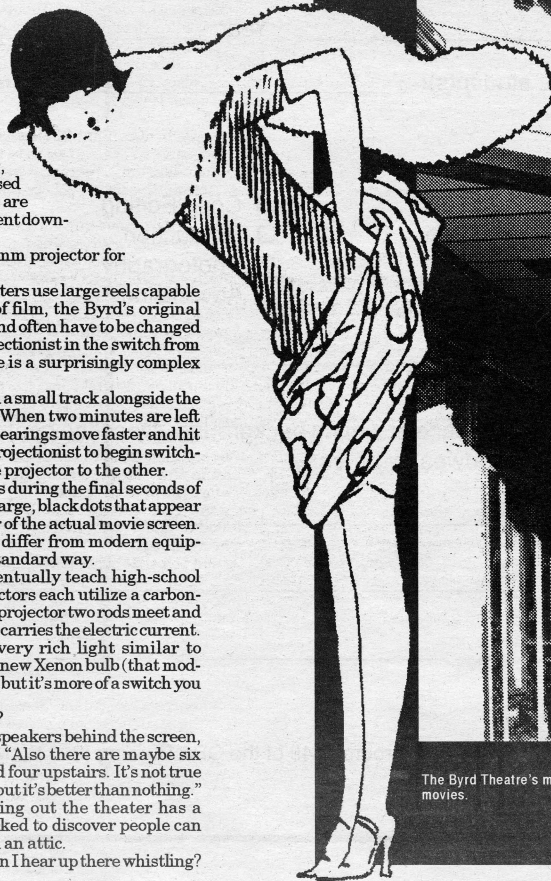
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Christin Greenland / Commonwealth Times

The Byrd Theatre's marquee, a familiar sight to Carytown shoppers, displays its current second-run movies.

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February 1995

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Action by Honor Council: Finding of Guilty. Suspension from the University for two semesters with an "F" in the course with a notation on the transcript that the grade was the result of an honor violation.

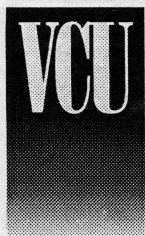
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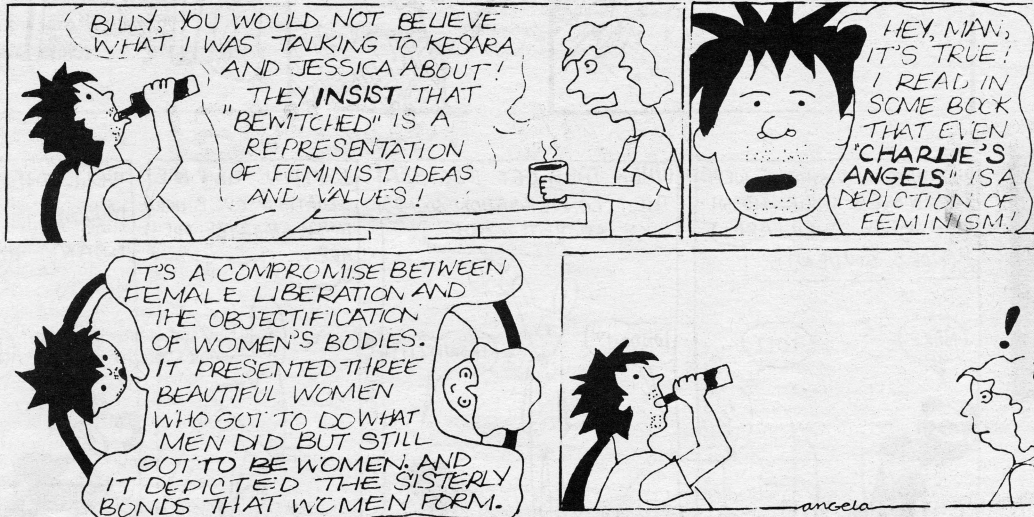
The deadline for classifieds is 5 p.m. Friday for the following Monday edition, 5 p.m. Tuesday for the Wednesday issue and 5 p.m. Thursday for the Friday issue.

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

Help Wanted

The Commonwealth TIMES, VCU's source of news by, for and of the students, is seeking writers, editors and business-minded folks to come join the team! For more information, come by Room 1149 in the GPAB or call 828-1058 and ask for Melanie or Diane.

PLUGGED IN by Angela Wingle



SHERMAN'S LAGOON by J.P. Toomey

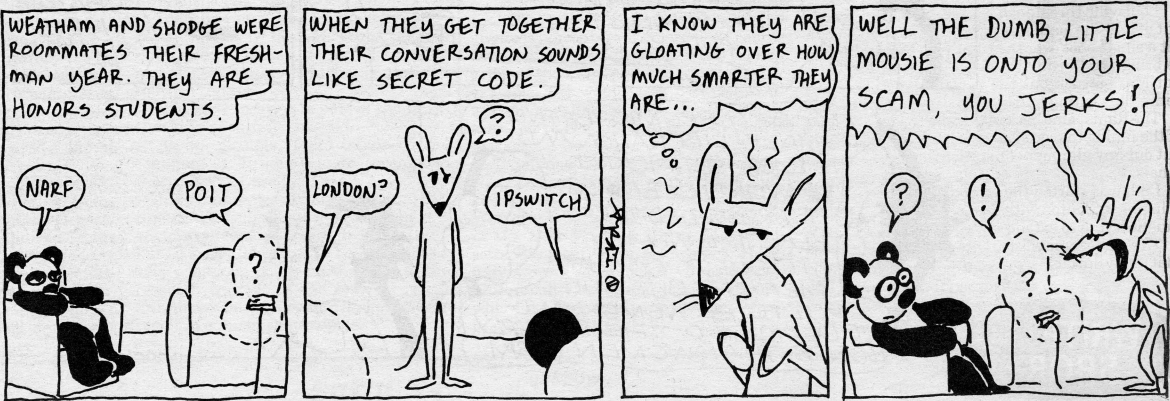


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KREW SHEPHERD



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VCU comes back to form in match against Wake Forest

Rams face No. 9 Duke next

Brian J. French
CT SPORTS EDITOR

VCU head coach Paul Kostin was a bit upset after his team's match with Wake Forest yesterday at the Thalhimer Tennis Center.

Men's Tennis	
VCU	5
WAKE FOREST	2

"We're ranked No. 25 in the country ... our lowest ranking in three years, but we'll try to bounce back,"

Kostin said.

Bounce back from No. 25?

Such is life for the men's tennis team, which defeated Wake Forest 5-2 to break a slump of three losses in four matches.

Even there, though, the team's three losses all came against top 10 outfits. Mississippi State (No. 3), Duke (No. 9) and South Alabama (No. 10) defeated the Rams in a tournament in Montgomery, Ala., but VCU defeated No. 11 Texas Christian.

The Blue Devils and Rams meet in a rematch Wednesday at the Thalhimer Tennis Center.

"No game is more important than the next one," Kostin said. "Every win is important for the team. It's just Wake Forest."

The Rams, in moving to 15-3 on the season, swept through the doubles and took four of the six singles matches.

But the Rams are a team struggling with injuries, which may be a factor in the Duke rematch.

Richard Wernerhjelm, the team's No. 1 player, missed the Wake Forest game with a back injury. He is questionable for the Duke match.

"If you don't have your whole team intact, then you probably won't beat the best teams," Kostin said, "but even if your team is intact, you don't really know if you can beat those teams anyway. It works in every sport."

VCU was supposed to beat Wake Forest, and the loss brings up a training question for Kostin:

How does the team maintain focused? "For me, it's not a problem," Kostin said. "You have to play as hard as you can ... or it will hurt you down the road."

Answer to Curve Ball: 16. UCLA 10, UNC 3, Okla. State 2, Arkansas 1

RAMS

continued from page 16

trouble with some of Marr's pitches.

"You have to give Marr credit," he said. "He did what he had to do. He threw a lot of good off-speed pitches and seemed to keep his composure any time he got in trouble."

Louisville threatened to make a game out of it in the sixth inning when Harper hit a single shot over the right field fence to bring the Cardinals within two runs, but Marr struck out the next batter to retire the visiting half.

The Rams came back in the second half of the inning to score four more runs and put out any glimmer of hope for the Cardinals.

Linhardt started the scoring spree by bringing in Denton with a double but was caught trying to extend it into a triple.

"We made some baserunning mistakes that really hurt us," Keyes said. "We could

have really extended our lead earlier if we hadn't made those mistakes."

Shortstop Chris Libbey came up next to knock in Smith with an RBI single, and then he scored on an RBI double by left fielder Larry Porter.

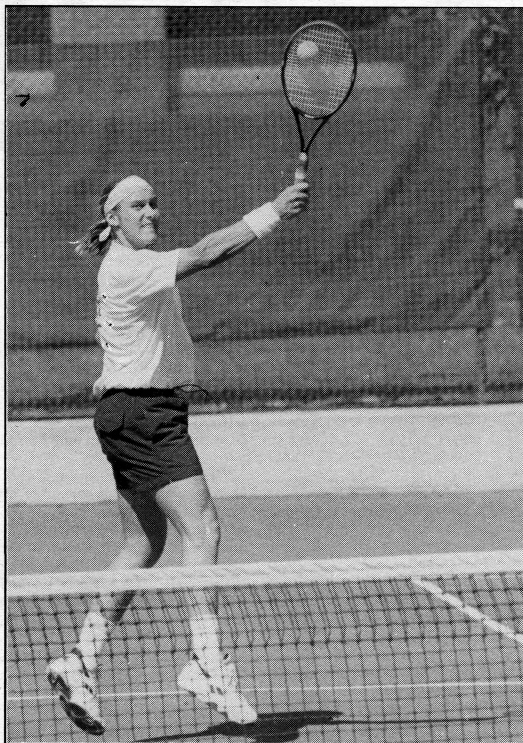
Ashcraft rounded out the scoring by bringing in Toby Gonzales on a sacrifice fly to right field.

"What they (VCU) did really well is hit every mistake our pitchers made," Baker said.

Baker added that Hodgins, who lasted 6 2/3 innings and gave up seven runs on 12 hits, pitched well, but his few mistakes hurt the Cardinals.

"Hodgin made one or two mistakes, and they just killed it," he said. "He made one bad pitch to Denton, and he just hammered it."

VCU next plays George Washington Tuesday at The Diamond and then travels to meet George Mason Wednesday.



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

HI MOM — A VCU tennis player puts away a high backhand. The VCU Rams improved its record to 15-3 after defeating Wake Forest, 5-2.

NCAA fund helps low-income athletes deal with expenses

For the past five years, the National Collegiate Athletic Association has distributed \$3 million among its 33 Division I conferences through a special assistance fund. The fund is designed to help athletes from low-income families buy clothes, pay medical expenses or provide travel for a family emergency.

The latest available figures show that 9,338 athletes received money from the special-assistance fund. In the 1992-93 academic year, an estimated 124,000 athletes competed at Division I colleges during that year.

Funds are available to athletes who receive Pell Grants and to others having special financial needs. Student athletes who have children can receive money to help with the costs of babysitting. Money also is used for college supplies, medical care and travel expenses in cases of family emergencies.

University abandons four teams from sports program

The State University of New York at Albany said last week that it would proceed with plans to eliminate four varsity teams. Albany officials decided to drop wrestling, men's and women's swimming and men's tennis after this year.

The university's decision was based on making its sports program more equitable for women. Based on that motive, the school added women's golf and field hockey last year, and it plans to reduce the number of participants in some men's sports.

The changes will take effect in 1995-96 when Albany's sports program will include eight men's teams and 11 women's teams. The percentage of fe-

male athletes will rise to 47 percent, which is close to the percentage of women in its' student body.

ACC goes online

The Atlantic Coast Conference made it possible for sports fans to follow the men's basketball conference tournament without moving from their computers.

ACC properties, the conference's marketing firm, and the News & Record in Greensboro, N.C., introduced a new World-Wide Web service on the Internet called "The ACC Tournament: Wired."

The service included scores and gave a play-by-play rundown immediately following the matches. Officials who organized the Web service said the ACC tournament is the first collegiate sporting event available on the Internet.

The Web address for the service is: <http://www.infi.net/acc>.

Bill proposed to limit pay-per-view

A bill introduced in Congress last week would probably put an end to pay-per-view telecasts of college sports.

Rep. William O. Lipinski, D-Ill., proposed legislation, known as the Taxpayers' Right to View Act, which would put a ban on fees for broadcasts of entertainment events sponsored by nonprofit organizations, such as colleges and universities.

According to Paul Kagan Associates, Inc., a media consulting company, 51 college football games were offered on pay-per-view last season. That number was up from six in 1989.

—Compiled from news sources.

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CURVE BALL

• How many NCAA men's basketball titles have been won by this year's Final Four? See answer, page 15.

SPORTS

Inside

• The No. 25 Men's tennis team defeated Wake Forest 5-2 Sunday. See page 15 for details.

MONDAY, March 27, 1995

Commonwealth TIMES

Vol. 26, No. 63

'Gades put the Chill on ice in double OT

Coveh Solaimani
CT SENIOR WRITER

Thanks to a miracle by Blaine Moore and a game-winning goal from Scott Gruhl, Richmond knocked off the Columbus Chill 9-8 in a double overtime thriller Saturday at the Freezer.

Moore blasted a shot by Columbus goalie Brett Abel with 1.2 seconds remaining to tie the game. Gruhl beat Abel top shelf with 4:55 left in the second overtime to cap the Richmond comeback and send what was left of the 5,435 crowd into a frenzy.

"Finally, it's over," Gruhl said he thought when he saw his shot fly into the net. "I had been trying to get it over his shoulder in both overtimes and I was missing. That time I was able to get a lot of it (the puck) and get it over his shoulder."

Richmond was able to force the extra sessions by scoring two goals in the final minute and a half. Garrett MacDonald's second goal of the night cut the score to 8-7, and Moore's miracle sent the game into overtime.

"That was definitely the biggest goal of my career," said Moore, who had six goals and nine points during the weekend.

The win gave Richmond a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five series. The Renegades can close things out tonight in Columbus.

In the first period both teams lit the lamp four times. The Renegades opened the scoring on a Jay Murphy goal, but the Chill fought back, eventually knocking out Richmond goalie Duane Derksen.

"Both teams lighted it up in the first period," Gruhl said. "That's the second night in a row they scored four goals on us in the first We need to come ready to play."

Columbus center Derek Clancey completed his hat trick in the second stanza,

and Craig Woodcroft added a goal to give the Chill a 7-5 lead going into the third.

In the final period the Renegades controlled the action. They kept the puck in their zone almost the entire 20 minutes and outshot the Chill 24-5, but it still took two late tallies to even the score. The Renegades dominated the overtime periods, but Columbus did have one excellent chance to win the contest. Richmond goalie David Littman saved the game when he stopped a Columbus shot from point-blank range.

"The guy was on my left and I saw him out of the corner of my eye," Littman said. "I was fortunate to be able to get over there and smother the shot."

In the second overtime period the Renegades continued to keep the puck on their end. After missing several opportunities, Gruhl was able to slap in the game winner.

"In overtime we were able to keep the puck in the their zone," MacDonald said. "We played good team defense and dominated them."

If Richmond is to wrap things up on Monday, they are going to have to play better defensively. The environment in Columbus will be hostile as the Chill tries to stay alive.

"We have to stick to our game," Murphy said. "We are not the type of team to get into a 9-8 shootout. We just have to play better on the defensive end."

Renegade notes:

We want Moore: Center Blaine Moore had six goals and nine points during the weekend.

A Gruhling game: Scott Gruhl had 2 goals and 2 assists in Saturday's 9-8 win.

Fire away: Richmond took 76 shots on goal in Game 2 vs. Columbus. For the weekend, the Renegades took 124 shots and scored on 19.

ECHL HOCKEY

RENEGADES	9
CHILL	2



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

FREEZER BURN — Columbus goalie Brett Abel watches a rebound shot by Richmond's Jay Murphy go in the goal Saturday night at The Freezer. The Renegades defeated the Chill in a double overtime game, 9-8.

Rams score early and often in grounding Cardinals

Brian W. Whitson
CT SPORTS EDITOR

The VCU baseball team exploded with four runs in the first inning, and Jeff Marr pitched a complete game to give the Rams an 8-2 victory over Louisville on Sunday at The Diamond.

VCU (12-15, 2-1) completed its first Metro series by snatching two of three games from the Cardinals (8-16, 1-2), and in yesterday's game the Rams showed the confidence head coach Paul Keyes has been waiting for.

"We need more games like this," Keyes said. "We're getting a little more confident with me and our system. We're really young, so it's taken a little time for the team to get adjusted."

"When we get on top early we seem to do OK, but when we get behind early — because we're so young — we seem to tighten up a little bit late in the game."

The Rams started the game somewhat shakily when Louisville got one run on three hits in the first inning. Kevin

Kaczmarek scored when third baseman Tim Harper singled to right field.

Not to be outdone, VCU came back later in the inning to rip Louisville's starting pitcher Aaron Hodgkin and take a 4-1 lead.

Center fielder Jay Ashcraft started the inning off with a single, and then Brandon Snead reached first base on an error. Two batters later, first baseman David Denton hit a three-run home run.

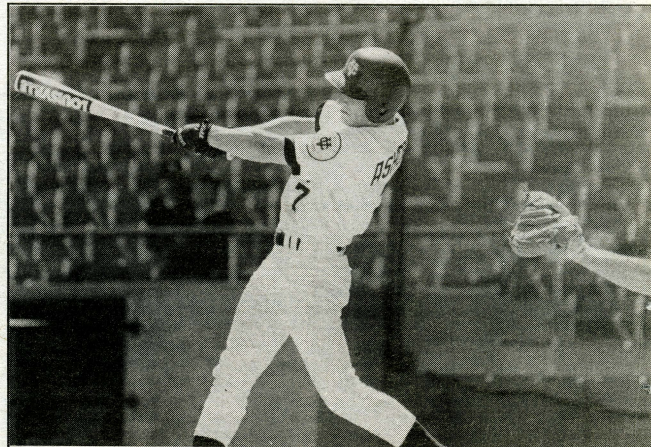
After second baseman Brody Smith singled, third baseman Anthony Linhardt brought him in with an RBI triple off the right field fence.

"We scored first, and then we go out there and make two mistakes that cost us," said Louisville head coach Gene Baker. "We've done that to Hodgkin before and he doesn't have the big strikeout pitch to get him out of trouble."

Marr took over from that point and finished the game, giving up two runs on nine hits and striking out 11 batters.

"He (Marr) threw really good, and he matched up well against them," Keyes said. "After the first inning he seemed to settle down a little bit and pitch well."

Baker added that the Cardinals had



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

CARDINAL KILLER — VCU's Jay Ashcraft connects on a single in Saturday's game against Louisville at The Diamond. The Rams won the three-game series with the Cardinals 2-1.

RAMS continued to page 15 >