

WEATHER



FRIDAY — Partly cloudy. Highs in low 80s. Thirty percent chance of rain.

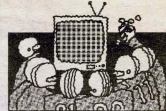


WEEKEND — Mostly sunny. Highs in the low to mid-80s. Lows in the mid to upper 60s.

Commonwealth TIMES

INSIDE

• Week 2 of The Picks. Check out who's in the lead. See page 14.



FRIDAY, September 8, 1995

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 27, No. 5

\$16 million?

Motorola confirms Goochland site

Sherry Jones
CT STAFF WRITER

Prominent Virginia legislators gathered yesterday as Motorola officials cemented their decision to build a \$3 billion semiconductor manufacturing plant in Goochland County.

Also on hand at the event were VCU President Eugene P. Trani and Grace E. Harris, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"I think this is an essential step for the School of Engineering," Trani said, adding that VCU's proposed engineering school was part of what attracted the company to Virginia.

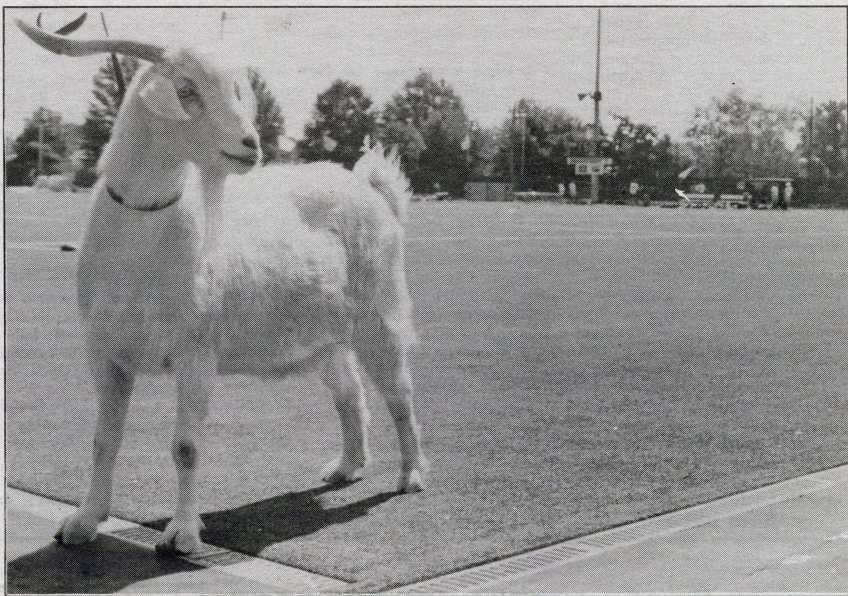
As part of an incentive package put together by the state to entice Motorola, VCU stands to gain \$16 million for the engineering school. The proposal awaits the approval of the General Assembly.

"We are very excited," Harris said, "about the relationship that Motorola has with the School of Engineering."

She added that the funds VCU may acquire as a result of this venture will be useful in building the engineering school's facilities.



MOTOROLA continued to page 4 ▶



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

GOAT GET 'EM — Snowy River, the VCU women's soccer team mascot, takes a break during the action of Sunday's game at Cary Street Field. Snowy belongs to the family of assistant coach Carrie Proost.

Faculty learns what to expect this fall

H&S faculty members gather for annual meeting

Melody Williams
CT STAFF WRITER

College of Humanities and Sciences faculty members received a dose of upcoming plans for the university's new general-education program at their fall faculty meeting yesterday.

Joseph Chinnici, chairman of the College Implementation Committee, told an audience of about 70 faculty members that the implementation of last May's proposal to change the general education program will be focused on this semester.

Chinnici said the goal of the new program is to have a framework for more coherent courses. It also will leave the distinction between bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees to the discretion of individual departments.

Full details of the program have not been worked out, he said, but the implementation committee will be working on the plan's phases this semester.

"By mid-November, we will have organized and developed a set of guidelines for courses to be submitted to departments,"



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

READY TO GO — Faculty members gathered for refreshments following the College of Humanities and Sciences annual fall faculty meeting.

he said. "The committee hopes to have part of the plan in place for fall 1996, with other phases to follow."

Dr. John Borgard, associate dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences, also

addressed the group. He stressed the importance of advising in the first-year experience of students.

FACULTY continued to page 4 ▶

SCHEV drops a line on drop outs

Virginia's state-supported colleges and universities lose at least one out of five students within their first two years of school, according to a report released by the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia.

SCHEV

The study followed students entering college in fall 1992 and followed them through fall 1994.

Some of the highest drop-out rates were found at urban universities, especially those with large numbers of adult students who work.

Twenty-eight percent of VCU freshman dropped out by their second year. Eleven percent transferred to other universities.

At other urban universities, drop-out rates ranged from 52 percent at Old Dominion to 65 percent at George Mason.

—Compiled from news sources.

Weird news

Check it out!
See inside, page 2.

Weird News

Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction



● Death-row dinner plans die

What was described as the "Annual Death-Row Banquet" at Eddyville prison in Kentucky was canceled after word of the event was widely reported for perhaps the first time ever.

The banquet would have brought together the 28 death-row inmates plus 125 guests, including inmates' families and friends, inmates' lawyers and death-penalty opponents.

Victims'-rights organizations said they were shocked to learn of the banquet.

● Mrs. Congeniality not-so-friendly after all

In June, Barbara Ricci was voted by fellow contestants as Mrs. Congeniality in the Mrs. New York State pageant, receiving 22 of the 28 votes. But in January, she had gone to trial in Mount Vernon, N.Y., on charges that she tried to drive over the 11-year-old daughter of a neighbor with whom she had been feuding. The result: a hung jury. A second trial was pending at press time.

And in an unrelated incident in 1993, New York's friendliest of the friendly, pleaded guilty to harassment of a police officer, who had said Ricci punched and kicked him at a school board meeting.

● Alleged shoplifter runs into pillar

Steven Kemble, 21, was arrested in St. George, Utah, last March when he attempted to flee Tom Tom CD's & Tapes after allegedly shoplifting a compact disc. After being detained briefly by a clerk, Kemble broke free, dashed out the door and ran smack into a pillar in front of the store, knocking himself unconscious.

● Pigs add fuel to fire alarm

In April, a South African Airways plane headed home to London when fire alarms sounded.

The alarms were triggered by the heat and flatulence produced by 72 prize stud pigs in the cargo hold.

● Busy bees sting reporter

In Kennewick, Wash., in June, while on location for a story about beekeepers, TV reporter Mychal Limric, 24, was stung on the head about 30 times by bees apparently attracted to his hair gel.

The subject of the news piece, beekeeper Irv Pfeiffer, tried to help Limric by immediately covering him with a protective hood. She did not realize, however, that there were many bees inside the hood as well.

● Six Chinese pay taxes with their lives

The Xinhua news agency in China reported in June that six men had been executed for producing bogus "paid-up" tax

invoices. Also in June, Zhang Guangming was sentenced to life in prison in Shaanxi province for killing a panda.

● Federal Express, Russian style

In 1992, an adviser to Russian President Boris Yeltsin proposed that emergency relief food and supplies could be placed in the nuclear warhead housing of an SS-18 ICBM to be fired into remote areas of the world as humanitarian aid.

That suggestion was not accepted, but the ITAR-Tass news agency reported in June that an SS-18, launched from a nuclear submarine near Murmansk, delivered 1,270 pieces of mail to Kamchatka.

The missile crossed nine time zones before reaching its destination.

● Government targets pollution with new fuel

Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine reported in February that a new fuel soon would be used in U.S. war missiles, including Hellfires, TOWs and Sidewinders.

Among the fuel's benefits were higher performance and less heat — and it gave off less air pollution on the way to the target.

● Women preach for the top

In April, trustees of Southern Baptist

Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., endorsed their president's position that new faculty hires must adhere to the belief that the Bible prohibits female pastors.

One week later, to the chagrin of the trustees, the three top finishers in the Seminary's Annual Francisco Preaching Awards competition were Kimberly Baker, Mary Beth McCloy and Dixie Petrey.

● New moms charged for being unprepared

In January, the maternity unit of Rockyview Hospital in Calgary, Alberta, which requires mothers to complete the provincial registration records of their births with a black pen, stopped lending the pens and began charging 25 cents each for them.

● Mistress given boot after second year

In February, Hong Kong legislator Eric Li proposed a law to strengthen the family by limiting extramarital affairs.

Li would ban affairs that involve financial support to the mistress or affairs that produce children.

Affairs that involve neither of those conditions, however, and which had not reached their second anniversary would be legal.

— Compiled from news sources.

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hasweb/mac/Times.html**

✂ (Clip and carry this handy dandy card for easy reference!)

Commonwealth TIMES

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The *Commonwealth TIMES*
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Crime Shorts

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8/31

Grand larceny

A female reported that between 5 p.m. 8/23 and 7 a.m. 8/24 an unknown person removed a VCR from its secured location in the Performing Arts Center.

Total value: unknown

Arrest

Alexander Hagg, a visitor, was arrested at 3:26 p.m. for assault 8/30 in the General Purpose Academic Building

9/1

Arrest

Alfred Graham was arrested at 3 a.m. 8/31 in the Oliver Hall courtyard for disorderly conduct.

Petit larceny

A male student reported that between 9:15 a.m. and 9:26 a.m. an unknown person(s) removed property from an insecure location on the first floor of the Meridian Building.

Total value: \$130

9/2

Grand larceny

A female employee reported that the property of two patients was removed 9/1 from its secured location in the MCV Main Hospital.

Total value: \$363

9/3

Vandalism

A female employee reported that between 6:50 p.m. and 7 p.m. 9/2 an unknown person(s) vandalized state property at the MCV Main Hospital.

9/4

Arrest

Richard E. Pelletier was arrested at 2:28 a.m. 9/3 for driving under the influence.

9/6

Petit larceny

A female employee reported that between 5 p.m. 9/1 and 7:30 a.m. 9/5 an unknown person(s) removed personal and state property from a secured location at the MCV North Hospital.

Total value: \$149

Grand larceny

A male employee reported that between July and 11:26 a.m. 9/5 an unknown person removed property from an insecure location in the MCV Main Hospital.

Total value: \$1300

Haar takes helm of grad studies

New dean fills five-year gap, sets plans, goals

John Fiebke
CT STAFF WRITER

For five years VCU's Department of Graduate Studies went without a dean.

Jack Haar, a professor of anatomy at MCV, now has the job.

"I'm interested in interdisciplinary graduate programs," Haar said, "that allow us to combine English with medicine, business with art, molecular biology with medicine."

During those previous five years most of the responsibilities of the position belonged to William Dewey, vice president for research and graduate studies.

Dewey recently has begun to oversee the realization of the Biotechnical Research Park.

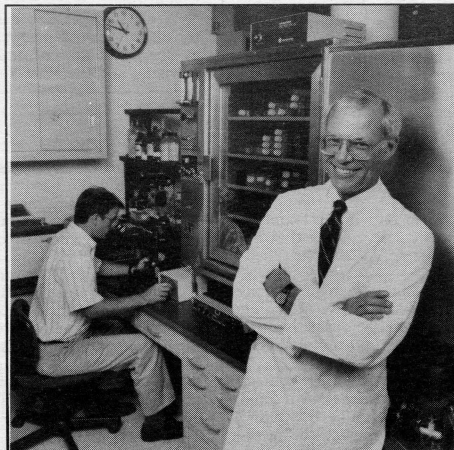
"As Dr. Dewey's responsibility's grew, we needed a person to revisit the position (of dean of graduate studies)," said Michael Little, associate professor of marketing and co-chairman of the search committee.

Dewey, the other co-chairman, said Haar's job entails two aspects.

"The first is to establish the philosophy of the program," he said. "How do we improve? How do we recruit more students...?" He listed the second area as the "mechanical aspects of heading the recruitment-admission process, and the finances involved with the graduate and research studies."

Little emphasized that one of the most significant responsibilities of the dean will be collaboration.

"I see it as an opportunity and a chal-



Allen Jones/ MCV Foundation

HAAR HAS IT —
Anatomy professor Jack Haar has been appointed the university's new dean of graduate studies. The position had been vacant for the past years.

lenge — trying to foster collaboration between various disciplines," Little said.

"I look at the medical school and business school, business and English, the School of Education and (College of) Humanities (and Sciences) and so on and find that collaboration is becoming more critical.

"The outcome is that you are more productive."

Dewey said Haar was the only candi-

date interviewed with experience in both the medical and academic realms so prevalent at this university.

"In my opinion," Dewey said, "his experience in the M.D. and Ph.D. programs, his experience in graduate education and his obvious firm commitment to achieving the goals of the graduate committee" were

HAAR continued to page 4 ►

Keeter tackles new job with open mind

Martina M. Murray
CT STAFF WRITER

This fall, Scott Keeter assumes of chairmanship of VCU's Department of Political Science and Public Administration.

The role is a three-year rotating position chosen by the faculty and recommended to the dean. Keeter was nominated and elected by then his peers and approved by the dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences.

"He was selected because of the qualities he has exemplified," said Ralph S. Hambrick, director of the doctorate of public administration program.

He said Keeter, an active scholar involved in service activities, is well-regarded by his colleagues, plus he sees Keeter as having an easygoing management style.

Hambrick also said Keeter maintains an open mind about new ideas for doing things. He said this quality is especially important in making changes to the department.

David R. Hiley, dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences, said he thinks Keeter will excel as a chairman because he is "fair minded, an excellent teacher and

respected by all members of the department."

Keeter first came to VCU in 1986 as an assistant professor of political science. In his nine years on campus, he consistently has served the university in activities ranging from a faculty associate at the Survey Research Lab to VCU's official representative of the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research.

Locally as well as statewide, Keeter is recognized as a leader in survey research, especially in the Commonwealth Poll.

"The poll is an omnibus survey," Keeter said. "The clients buy the questions and share the cost of the poll. There are political questions, and the poll is used as a basis for press releases. The poll puts VCU's name into the public eye."

Hiley described Keeter as a very important research arm of the Center for Public Policy and vital to the success of the research lab.

Besides chairing the department, Keeter continues his role as spokesman for the Commonwealth Poll.

"He's got to do both," Hiley said. "He's got to do both really well."

Since the political science department merged with public administration a year ago under the leadership of Robert Holsworth, much work remains for Keeter.

"The task for Dr. Keeter," Hiley said, "is to take the merged department and lead it to a unified department and lead it to the next level of quality."

"I think the merger of two former de-

partments is a difficult thing. Keeter's background in political science and research methodology makes him perfect to bring the department together. He is a nice bridge between the two parts of the department."

Nevertheless, Hiley said, it is not so much a matter of improving the department as it is to move the department to a new level.

Keeter, he pointed out, will have the chance to make important hiring decisions during the next three years because of upcoming retirements.

The dean sees two major tasks for the department this year.

The first is a review of the master's of public administration curriculum.

"The outcome of that review would update curriculum market the program and increase enrollment," Hiley said.

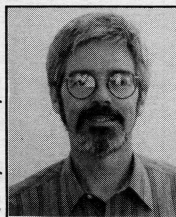
The second task involves the self-study for the reaccreditation of the master's program, which Hiley said will determine whether the school meets the needs of the profession and the students.

Hambrick also identified accreditation as necessary "for the department to be well-regarded by the rest of the field."

In addition, Keeter said he plans to improve other aspects of the department, especially in using technology.

"We think we are a very good teaching department," Keeter said. "But there is always room for improvement especially with the use of technology. We can find ways to make our teaching more effective."

Hambrick called the 1995-96 academic year "a challenging year" for Keeter as well as the department.



Keeter

MOTOROLA

continued from page 1

In addition, Gov. George Allen said Motorola's involvement in the Richmond community will have a definite impact on the economy of the city.

"Just as the Lewis and Clark exploration of the lands of the Louisiana Purchase and beyond awakened our young nation to the opening of new opportunities and ventures for new lives, new homes and commercial development," Allen said, "so too, this decision opens a new, exciting frontier for future generations of Virginians."

The most tangible benefit, the governor continued, will be the creation of jobs for Virginians.

"This presence by Motorola," Allen said, "certainly will provide thousands of jobs for people in the Richmond area now with future generations."

Also, the governor hammered home his motto that "Virginia is open for business."

"This decision by Motorola puts an exclamation point at the end of that," he said, adding that his administration will continue trying to snare businesses into Virginia.

When a company such as Motorola, a \$22 billion-a-year electronics giant and the nation's leading manufacturer of semiconductors, decided to build in Virginia, Allen said, that sets a prime example for the rest of the world.

"Motorola's decision to invest \$3 billion demonstrates sincere and extreme confidence in a long-term, stable partnership with Virginia, Goochland County and the entire Richmond region," the governor said.

Thomas D. George, president and general manager of Motorola's semiconductor products sector, expressed his positive feeling about locating in Goochland.

"We have always been confident in this area," he said, adding that picking a new site is not easy, which makes the decision to build in Virginia even more significant.

FACULTY

continued from page 1

Borgard said figures from the end of the fall semester 1994 semester indicate that 33 percent of freshman went on academic probation after their first semester.

One way to decrease this percentage, he said, would be an early alert program in which professors would communicate individually with students who perform poorly on first exams.

"We need to get to students as quickly as we can so that the 33 percent doesn't get any larger," he said.

Borgard also discussed a report from the Committee on Advising and the First Year Experience, which empha-

sizes the need for VCU to improve the academic advising for students as well as provide opportunities for a successful and satisfying first-year experience for new students.

"We need a centralized system in which students are prepared for the beginning of school and their intended majors," Borgard said.

Some of the committees recommendations, he said, include the implementation of new student programs designed to enhance family interactions, requiring VCU 101 for all incoming freshmen and a first year mentoring program that would focus on providing the commuter student with a direct connection on campus.

"We want students to know," Borgard said, "there is someone at VCU who cares about them."

HAAR

continued from page 3

keys to the anatomy professor's selection.

Haar said the need for VCU to combine disciplines recently has become more important.

"A competent graduate studies program creates uniquely trained people," he said. "As the world of graduate education changes, we need to respond to the needs of the internally linked world of today."

Dewey said Haar stands out because of his "organizational skills and his dedication to the task at hand. He's done an amazing job at developing the MD-Ph.D. program against terrible odds. He's been a miracle at making things happen.

"He'll be a real force at bringing faculty in graduate studies together and a real stimulus to establishing disciplinary programs."

Little called Haar a person who seems to have a high energy level and excitement about the graduate programs, saying he is from MCV but excited about the academic campus. Haar earned his Ph.D. in anatomy in 1970 at Ohio State University in Columbus.

He taught biology at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa, and at Capital University in Columbus.

Here, he served as assistant professor of anatomy from 1971 to 1977, then as an associate professor until 1986, when he became a full professor.

Both Dewey and Little agreed that search committee members reached a definite consensus on their decision.

"Dr. Haar was thought of very highly by the committee," Dewey said.

The committee reached "a strong, overwhelming consensus as best as I can feel," Little said, adding — with a confident smile — "I think we've got a great person in there."

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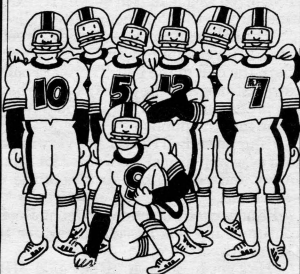
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Stacy Reed

Smoker's Rights

The following is an editorial for nonsmokers only, I repeat, this is for NonSmokers (NSs) only. If you are a Smoker (Smk) and take pride in that fact, then Do Not Read This Editorial!

OK, are all you NSs ready? All right, take a deep breath (revel in the fact that you can) and continue ...

The first thing you should know is that there is a big difference between NonSmokers (NSs) and AntiSmokers (ASs). ASs believe that smoking should be completely eradicated; NSs could care less.

ASs spend large amounts of time and money confronting Smks about their shortcomings and generally making their lives difficult (as if Smks aren't doing enough of that for themselves already); NSs don't give smoking much thought and, whenever possible, tend to avoid the offensive odor makers (Smks).

ASs push their "morality" around; NSs mind their own business.

Having said all this, the second thing you should know is that, like it or not, smokers do have rights. They have the same right to life, liberty and happiness as the rest of us. The fact that they choose the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of heart disease instead just is another aspect of exercising their rights. So they have the right to smoke as much and as often as they like, more power (and less stamina) to them.

Even Governor Allen supports the smoking habit; he thinks it's good for Virginia's economy. And he is right; it really does help Virginia's economy, not only the tobacco industry but also the medical one as well. Smks certainly have helped the marketplace here in Richmond; Phillip Morris gets them to spend a lot of money poisoning

their bodies, and then MCV gets them to spend a lot more money putting those bodies back together again.

Even Governor Allen is trying to swing both ways. Remember back when he went on that barely-disguised-as-a-listening-tour campaign trip across our state? The man cruised around Virginia actually handing out cigarettes! He could have tossed out Virginia hams or peanuts or vegetables, but then again these products don't exactly keep consumers addicted to the market.

So, out of all the Virginia products available, he had to choose cigarettes.

Why?

Perhaps he would have done better by giving his constituents referrals to see

a few MCV heart specialists.

Later, after he'd finished flirting with the voters, Allen was confronted about having such poor taste in parting gifts. He simply waved away the issue, saying it was all nothing more than giving Virginia's economy and cigarettes a good light.

That's Allen for you. Still sitting on that ideological fence. He's got himself perched up there so high his feet are barely touching solid ground. Is he worried about getting them dirty or is he just taking advantage of the best of both worlds?

Well, he doesn't really fit in either. Here is a man who wakes up every morning thinking his superior Republican "morality" is putting Virginia back together again, all the while believing so wholeheartedly in stoking Virginia's economy that he'll even help people light up!

Hello. Wake up.

With this reasoning (if that's what you dare to call it), one can assume that Allen's stance is "the more Virginians who smoke,

the better." Good news for Smks, I guess; not only can they stimulate their bodies (at first anyway), but they also can stimulate Virginia's economy (at first anyway). It makes nicotine (drug) abuse sound almost patriotic.

But at least in theory, no rational political leader could expect the Virginia tobacco market to remain healthy once today's generation of Smks die out (as they will), and if today's children are not recruited to take their places (as Phillip Morris says they are not).

Talk about bad planning. First, Allen

tries to speed up the arrival death by tobacco by passing out free cancer sticks. Then, as if to further com-

plicate his already garbled agenda, he comes out against children smoking.

If he's not going to recruit the kids, then he needs to plan alternatives for the ailing tobacco future that ultimately will result. (Maybe he ought to suggest making paper and clothing from tobacco plants; it sort of worked for hemp).

We may as well support the economy by burning flags; the more they make the more we burn the more they make. It would be the perfect economic cycle and every manufacturer's dream.

But that's all it is, a pipe dream. So let's be realistic.

At the rate Allen is going, he's not only going to kill our economy, but he's also going to kill his constituents.

Is this running a good political campaign?

Then again, maybe we should be congratulating our governor for his actions toward smokers. I mean, even I believe in a person's right to assisted suicide. Per-

haps he and Jack Kevorkian could get together and lay down some consensus on bodily autonomy.

This raises some questions that need answering — Did our esteemed Governor take any economics courses in college? Does he realize yet that he is living in the '90s? And just what is this queer mix of inconsistencies in his personal definition of bodily autonomy?

Given his excessively religious-conservative stance on so many of today's autonomy issues — abortion and sexual preferences to name just two — then it would seem more ideologically consistent for him to take sides with the anti-smokers, the ASs.

But he has not.

Instead he has shown a perverse willingness to help Virginians commit suicide with Virginia's legal drugs, excuse me, cigarettes. (And let's be completely honest here, even bad politicians know that the anti-smoking campaign aimed at teens will not work; that's why Governor Allen isn't exactly shaking in his boots about Virginia's tobacco future.)

Sadly, but also not surprisingly, Allen gets so comfortable and surefooted when he threatens other (much more relevant) aspects of our bodily autonomy, especially when he thinks they fit neatly behind the smoke screen he calls religious "morality."

Right now, Allen may claim to be sitting in the smoking section, but his attacks on our bodily autonomy show that he's only puffing out hot air.

Maybe he and his busybody, blinded-by-smoke followers (including the ASs) need to take some lessons from the NS people. Simply put, they need to quit sticking their noses in everyone else's business and work a bit more on minding their own.

"Look to your health; and if you have it, praise God, and value it next to a good conscience; for health is the second blessing that we mortals are capable of; a blessing that money cannot buy."

— Izaak Walton, The Compleat Angler (1653-1655) Epistle to the Reader, 21.

Commonwealth TIMES

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We reserve the right to edit all letters for grammar, style and space. Letters should not exceed one single-spaced typed page. Letters must be signed and must include daytime and evening phone numbers.

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	WEDNESDAY	9/13	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
	THURSDAY	9/14	7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

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WHERE:	UNIVERSITY STUDENT COMMONS THEATER		
WHEN:	MONDAY	9/18	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
	TUESDAY	9/19	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
	WEDNESDAY	9/20	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
	THURSDAY	9/21	7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
	FRIDAY	9/22	7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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CD

REVIEWS

CIRCLE JERKS

"ODDITIES, ABNORMALITIES AND CURIOSITIES"
POLYGRAM RECORDS

With punk bands like Rancid, Green Day and Offspring making millions of dollars, it's only inevitable that other groups that influenced them are going to get noticed.

What happens then?

Those bands who still are together get signed to major labels! This is exactly what happened to All (formerly the Descendants), Bad Brains, Bad Religion and now the newly reformed Circle Jerks.

Give this band credit where credit is due. The Circle Jerks helped write the book on hard-core punk in the early '80s. These guys were kicking out smokin' tunes while Billie Joe, guitarist for Green Day, still was plunking "Louie, Louie" on his first sixstring.

The album "Oddities, Abnormalities and Curiosities" reunites the original Circle Jerks musicians after a long retirement from the scene. Even guitarist Greg Hetson, who had moved on to melodic hard-core kings Bad Religion, (the group he joined after Circle Jerks), takes

a hiatus to play with his former band. Singer Keith Morris' ever present raspy vocals and smart ass lyrics continue to be as dominating as ever.

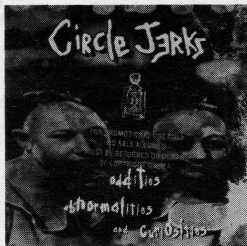
The songs themselves aren't bad, even though a few tunes reek of typical 1990s alternative style, a sound that earned mucho dinero. But these flaws are few, with most of the impact coming from work that reflects their main strength classic punk. Songs like "Brick," "Teenage Electric," "Dog" and "Anxious Boy" make listening enjoyable.

This is a "reunion" album. I'm not sure if this CD was done for the money, or if it was something that "needed" to be done. It's kind of hard however, to see 30-something-year-old guys kicking out tunes about "being young" and rebelling.

Keep in mind these guys are legends. They have been playing punk rock longer than most bands and have made a pretty good album.

Check it out sometime.

— Bill Carter



UGLY KID JOE

"MENACE TO SOBRIETY"
POLYGRAM RECORDS

They're baaaaaack! Yes, the band that brought you the memorable song about breaking up with a recently estranged loved one, "(I Hate) Everything About You," have returned with their second full-length album "Menace To Sobriety."

Often noted for their seemingly dry humor, Ugly Kid Joe gets a little more serious and a bit "harder" with the image (though the picture of a top of a beer can is a bit amusing). Also, unlike their previous albums, "Menace To Sobriety" carries a bit more of an aggressive edge, and it is by far the Kid's most guitar-oriented album to date.

To add on to the new "aggressive" sound is well-noted producer Garth Richardson (L7, Rage Against the Machine) who is quite noted for producing loud and fast albums. A new addition to the band is highly touted drummer Sh-

annon Larkin (formerly of Wrathchild America/Souls at Zero), who adds a stronger groove for the band to play on.

The songs are pretty much typical cookie-cutter, mapped-out heavy-metal cuts. Containing the standard riff rockers like done in "God" and "Clover" and with the normal ballad "Cloudy Skies" and "Candle Song" are thrown in there as well.

Overall this album is average, containing nothing special. No song seems to stick out from the others, they all just seem to "be there." Also the humor that made Ugly Kid Joe so entertaining in the past, seems to have disappeared. All in all, "Menace To Sobriety" is mediocre at best and is rather hungover.

— Bill Carter

Spectrum
BRIEFS

Tonya Harding booed at concert

PORTLAND, Ore. — As a singer, Tonya Harding is terrific figure skater.

Loud boos nearly drowned out her voice as her band, The Golden Blades, opened Sunday for Kool and the Gang at the Last Chance Summer Dance, a fund-raising event for muscular dystrophy.

"She wanted to sing a song for you people because she does love Portland," said her manager, who leaped to the stage to admonish the crowd. "And instead of booing, I think you should be cheering this young lady."

Throughout her three-song, 15-minute set, the booing crowd turned thumbs down and lobbed plastic bottles at the stage. Harding dodged a few and kept singing as she picked one up and waved it in the air.

"They need to take her off the stage, because she's embarrassing," said one spectator.

Harding was placed on three years' probation and ordered to perform community service last year after pleading guilty to conspiracy to hinder prosecution in the January 1994 clubbing of rival skater Nancy Kerrigan. She also was banned from competitive skating for life.

Charlie Sheen weds Donna Peele

MALIBU, Calif. — No more spending tens of thousands of dollars for companionship. Charlie Sheen's a married man.

"Just when I thought I was the luckiest guy alive, I just got luckier," Sheen said just before his wedding Sunday to model Donna Peele, which followed a mere six-week courtship. "She's my best friend, and we've both found our soul mates."

Sheen, who also celebrated his 30th birthday Sunday, met the 25-year-old Peele while filming a commercial in New York City. It was the first marriage for both.

Sheen starred in Oliver Stone dramas "Platoon" and "Wall Street" and the off-the-wall comedy "Hot Shots."

His latest feature, however, was shown in a courtroom; videotaped testimony in the trial of Heidi Fleiss, in which he admitted ordering Fleiss's call girls at least 27 times and running up a tab of more than \$50,000.

Boy George's brother in court

LONDON — The brother of glam singer Boy George appeared in court Monday on a charge of murdering his wife.

Gerald O'Dowd, 31, did not enter a plea during the brief hearing in Hemel Hempstead, 20 miles northwest of London.

O'Dowd was arrested Sunday at his home in Tring, 35 miles northwest of London, where police found his 32-year-old wife, Jill, with a single stab wound in the chest. She died later that day.

Police released no details about the stabbing.

In a statement released Sunday, Boy George said the family reacted with "absolute disbelief."

"She was a forthright, bright, intelligent woman and seemed to be very good for him," the singer said. "We are all thinking of Jill and her family and are hoping to understand the situation a bit better and find out what happened."

— Compiled from news sources.

Movies of the week

1. "Mortal Kombat," New Line Cinemas, grossed \$8.3 million during the past three weeks.
2. "Dangerous Minds," Disney, grossed \$7.9 million during the past four weeks.
3. "The Prophecy," Miramax, grossed \$7.5 million during its first week.
4. "Desperado," Columbia Pictures, grossed \$17.1 million in two weeks.
5. "A Walk in the Clouds," 20th Century Fox, grossed \$38.6 million in four weeks at the box office.
6. "Babe," Universal Pictures, grossed \$43.2 million in five weeks.
7. "Something to Talk About," Warner Brothers, grossed \$45.4 million in five weeks.
8. "The Usual Suspects," Gramercy, grossed \$5.7 million in three weeks.
9. "Waterworld," Universal Pictures, grossed \$81.3 million in six weeks at the box office.
10. "Apollo 13," Universal Pictures, grossed \$162 million in 10 weeks.
11. "Clive Barker's Lord of Illusions," MGM, grossed \$9.7 million in two weeks.
12. "The Net," Columbia, grossed \$45.3 million in six weeks at the box office.
13. "The Amazing Panda Adventure," Warner Brothers, grossed \$5.4 million in two weeks.
14. "The Brothers McMullen," 20th Century Fox, grossed \$4.7 million in four weeks.
15. "Beyond Rangoon," TriStar Pictures, grossed \$4.4 million in two weeks.

— Compiled from news sources.

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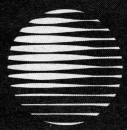

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A letter to VCU students



Fall 1995

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DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
SUTHERLAND HOUSE
901 FLOYD AVENUE
P.O. Box 843017
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23284-3017

804 828-8540
FAX: 804 828-2190
TDD: 1-800-828-1120

To All VCU Students:

In our society today, all of us, both men and women, need to assume greater responsibility for our personal safety. This is true whether we are on campus, in a shopping mall, or walking down main street in our hometown. It's up to each of us to use our initiative to take precautions for our own personal safety. Sometimes college students tend to regard the collegiate environment as a "safe haven" which is immune to concerns like personal safety. While we are working hard to make the VCU environment as safe as possible for students and employees, the reality is that we are not immune to the same kinds of crimes that occur elsewhere.

As you begin your studies this fall, we wanted to give you this reminder about your personal safety. Our message is twofold: (1) it is important for all of us to assume responsibility for our personal safety by taking some very common sense kinds of precautions, and (2) we should become familiar with, and utilize fully, the resources that the university has provided.

What can you do?

- ◆ Be alert to your surroundings and others around you.
- ◆ Don't take shortcuts through areas that are not well lighted.
- ◆ Try to walk with a friend or in groups after dark. Don't go out alone late at night.
- ◆ Get in the habit of locking your doors—on your room or car.
- ◆ Don't think that "it won't happen to me" so that you cease to take these and other common sense precautions. Trust your "gut feelings." If something seems strange, it probably is.
- ◆ Be aware that alcohol and drug use impairs your ability to make good decisions about your personal safety.

Use the resources on campus.

- ◆ Don't hesitate to ask any **VCU Police Officer** for assistance. They are here everyday, all day. Report any suspicious individuals or activity right away—although it may not directly affect you, it could fit into a larger pattern of which you may not be aware.
- ◆ Make a mental note of the location of the **Emergency Reporting Telephones** outside all major buildings on campus. These are yellow phones with a flashing amber light above them. Use them to get directions to a location on campus, or if you need assistance. Simply press the button, and a police officer will be dispatched immediately to that location.
- ◆ Use the **Security Escort Service**, operated by the VCU Police, whenever you are on campus at night and need someone to escort you back to your residence hall or apartment near the campus. Simply call 828-WALK from an ordinary phone, or use one of the Emergency Reporting Telephones to request an escort. This service is available, free of charge, during the following hours:

6 pm - 7 am seven days per week all year
5:30 pm - 2 am Monday-Saturday; 6 pm - midnight on Sunday

MCV Campus:
Academic Campus:

You may wish to make a note of several of the phone numbers listed below. We look forward to having you back on campus and hope you have a safe and profitable year at VCU.

Dan M. Dean, Chief
VCU Police

William H. Duvall
Dean of Student Affairs

PHONE NUMBERS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY

Police/Fire/Emergency	
VCU police emergency	828-1234
VCU police nonemergency	828-1196
Off campus	911
Other VCU police numbers	
Escort service	828-WALK
Nonemergency	828-COPS
Crime prevention	828-1214
Investigations	828-6409

VCU police offices

918 W. Franklin St. (Open 24 hours)

Dispatcher
Chief

Investigations

940 W. Grace St.

Crime prevention pecton
Police academy
Property section (lost & found)
Victim/witness program

Other public safety and service numbers

VCU rape consultants programs

Weekdays	828-6200
Anytime	828-1196

University Counseling Services

Academic Campus	828-6200
MCV Campus	828-3964

University Student Health Services

Academic Campus	828-8828
MCV Campus	828-9220

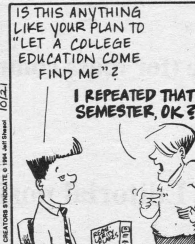
Environmental health and safety

828-6437

Glum
— Eddy Harrington



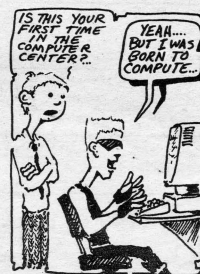
Thatch
— Jeff Shesol



Vulpine
— JW Kennedy



Freak and Spike
— Robb Lane



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Faculty reference (for mass communications students): _____

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☐ Managing Editor

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Spectrum

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☐ Staff Writer

☐ Editor

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Sports

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Qualifications: Please list all prior relevant job experience or writing background. Describe contributions you feel you can make to the operations of the Commonwealth Times.

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The deadline for classifieds is 5 p.m. Friday for the following Monday edition, 10 a.m. Tuesday for the Wednesday issue and 10 a.m. Thursday for the Friday issue.

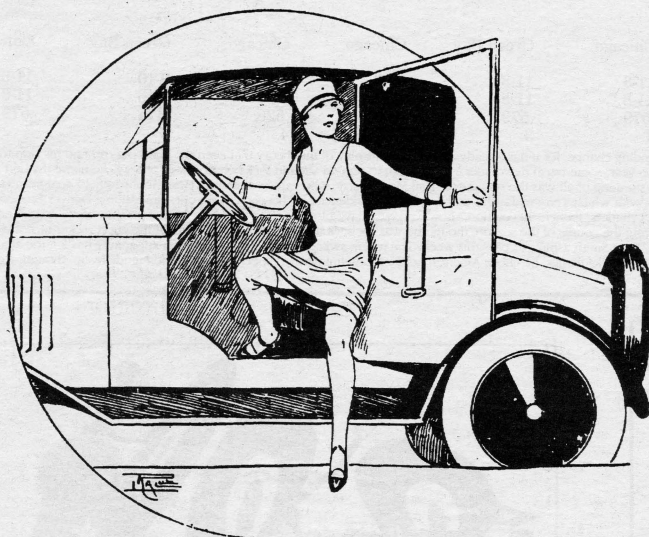
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Terry"One More"
McMahon"Bonds Away"
CovehFrench
"Revolution""Rue"
Paul"Sensational"
Sherry"Never Nervous"
DobiasSonny "Roy"
Smith

Saturday, Sept. 9
Virginia at N.C. State
Georgia at Tennessee
Notre Dame at Purdue
Illinois at Oregon

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Oregon

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Illinois

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Illinois

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Oregon

Virginia
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Illinois

Virginia
Georgia
Notre Dame
Illinois

Virginia
Tennessee
Purdue
Oregon

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Illinois

Virginia
Tennessee
Notre Dame
Illinois

Sunday, Sept. 10
Oakland at Washington
Miami at New England
Pittsburgh at Houston
N.Y. Giants at Kansas City
Detroit at Minnesota
Tampa Bay at Cleveland
New Orleans at St. Louis
Carolina at Buffalo
Denver at Dallas
Atlanta at San Francisco
Seattle at San Diego
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets
Jacksonville at Cincinnati
Philadelphia at Arizona

Oakland
New England
Pittsburgh
Kansas City
Minnesota
Cleveland
New Orleans
Buffalo
Dallas
San Francisco
San Diego
Indianapolis
Cincinnati
Arizona

Washington
New England
Pittsburgh
Kansas City
Detroit
Tampa Bay
St. Louis
Buffalo
Denver
San Francisco
Seattle
Indianapolis
Cincinnati
Philadelphia

Oakland
New England
Pittsburgh
Kansas City
Detroit
Cleveland
New Orleans
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Indianapolis
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Oakland
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Kansas City
Minnesota
Cleveland
St. Louis
Buffalo
Dallas
San Francisco
San Diego
N.Y. Jets
Cincinnati
Arizona

Oakland
Miami
Pittsburgh
Kansas City
Detroit
Cleveland
New Orleans
Buffalo
Dallas
San Francisco
San Diego
Indianapolis
Cincinnati
Arizona

Washington
Miami
Pittsburgh
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Philadelphia

Washington
New England
Pittsburgh
Kansas City
Minnesota
Cleveland
St. Louis
Buffalo
Dallas
San Francisco
Seattle
Indianapolis
Cincinnati
Philadelphia

Monday, Sept. 11
Green Bay at Chicago

Green Bay

Chicago

Chicago

Chicago

Green Bay

Chicago

Chicago

Green Bay

Chicago

Last week:
Season to date:
Percentage:
Games Back

14-5
14-5
.737
—

14-5
14-5
.737
—

14-5
14-5
.737
—

11-8
11-8
.579
3

11-8
11-8
.579
3

10-9
10-9
.526
4

10-9
10-9
.526
4

9-10
9-10
.474
5

11-8
11-8
.579
3

Last week, this space was devoted to talk of change. This week, it won't be necessary to talk of impending change, for it has already arrived. In a display of the theory that even the blind pig can find his slop trough every now and again, the three co-leaders of The Picks after week one are a cellar-dweller from the previous year, some blash newcomer loud enough to remind veteran Picks observers of one whose name rhymed with salami, though similarities were few, and a prognosticator the likes of whom this paper has never seen. Most stunning of all was the success of "Hail Mary" Terry, who came within one Norm Johnson field goal from taking sole possession of the Picks catbird seat. However, the unexpected success has not tempered the abandon with which Terry makes his picks, as can be evidenced by his choice of a one-dimensional Denver Broncos team to travel to Texas Stadium and defeat a Dallas Cowboy squad that would appear to be clicking on all 12 cylinders. French "Revolution," however, may have blown a valve and may need a pit stop pretty soon. Though only one week into the season, "Revolution" finds himself as far back as he ever has been in The Picks during the course of the season, though he was six back at the end of last season. Of the guest picker race: "MO" Morton finished with a so-so 11-8 record, but since he was the first Picker, he is the standard to which Sonny "Roy" Smith aspires to pass this week. The recent switch of conference affiliation apparently has left the affable basketball coach disoriented. When asked to pick the winners of the Eagles-Arizona and Kansas City-Seahawks games, he chose American and UNC-Wilmington, respectively. Note the Freudian slip, though: He chose the Eagles over the, ahem, Cardinals.

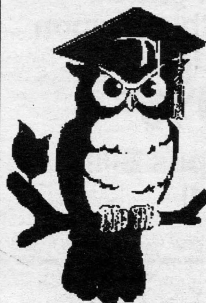
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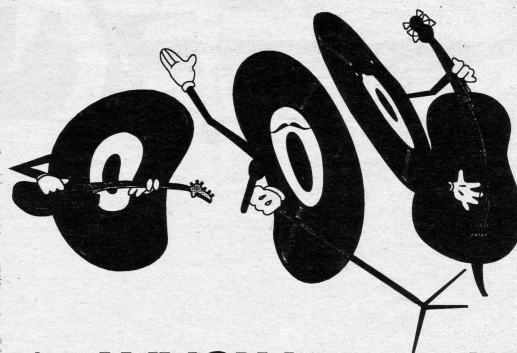
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Can new coaching tandem stop field hockey woes?

Brian J. French
CT STAFF WRITER

Editor's note: The following is the third of a four-part preview of VCU's fall sports. It happened sometime during the 1993 season.

The VCU field hockey program was coming off a season in which they finished in the national top 20 for the first time in team history and were ranked as high as 12th during the early part of the '93 campaign. But they started losing games. Usually one-goal losses, those minuses began to mount as the Lady Rams slipped out of the top 20 and into the middle of the pack with 9-9 record.

After the season, head coach Pat Stauffer — at the helm since the program's inception — resigned her post to assume duties within the athletic department.

Last season — the first and only in Debra Brickey's regime — saw VCU drop to 10-10 overall and 1-5 in the Colonial Athletic Association. Brickey left following the season to take a similar post at perennial power Northwestern.

So what's in the cupboard this season? Not much in the way of experience, anyway. The Lady Rams return one senior, lose their top leading scorers among five starters and the returnees scored a combined total of three goals last season.

VCU made the unusual move of naming not one but two coaches to begin the rebuilding process. More unusual still is that the two coaches are a married couple, believed to be the only one coaching any NCAA sport this year.

Enter Phil and Shannon Danaher. Phil, 34, returns to the college coaching ranks from a three-year hiatus after spending the 1992 season as an assistant with Dale Shannon, 27, coached the Mystic Hockey Club (founder: Phil Danaher) from 1993 to 1994.

The key to building the program, in the eyes of the Danahers, is through an added emphasis on balanced teamwork, physical fitness and, in the words of Shannon, "a lot of discipline."

"This team cannot rely on one or two stars," She said.

The Danahers implemented a standard for drills in which, if the player can't complete the drill in an allotted time, she won't be allowed to play.

"It's not unusual to teams that play at the top level," Phil said.

That system may have helped prompt sweeper Ann Mace to leave the program.

Mace was named to the second-team All-CAA squad as a first-year player while playing all 1,217 minutes of last season and making six of VCU's eight defensive saves.

According to the Danahers, Mace chose to leave the team due in part to two factors.

"She felt she needed more time to focus on making the nursing program," Shannon said. "Also, she was worried that she wouldn't meet the physical requirements we had set."

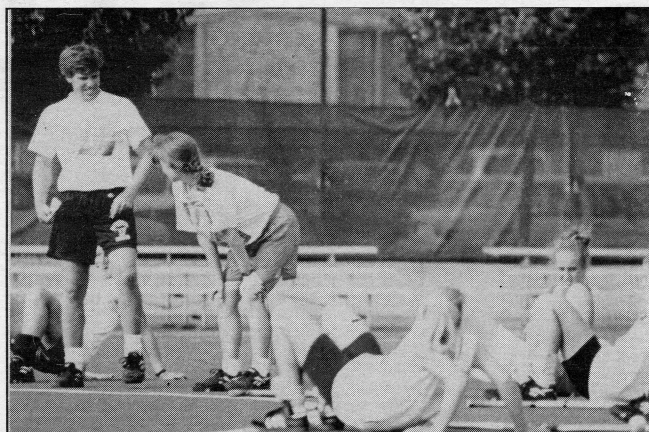
The physical standards come after an off-season in which the NCAA changed the makeup of the overtime periods so that if the teams are deadlocked after regulation, they play the overtime with only seven players a side, as opposed to the regulation 11.

Lead among the returnees is sophomore goalkeeper Kerriann Sloat.

Sloat started all 17 games as a freshman with a goals-against-average of 2.35 but found herself in a battle with freshman Staci Smith.

The two were splitting time, but the Danahers have decided to give the job to Sloat outright after last weekend.

"Kerriann and the defense really rose to the occasion," Shannon said. "She shut out



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

TALKING IT OVER — Co-head coaches Phil and Shannon Danaher discuss their team during a preseason practice.

the No. 3 team (Connecticut) for 16 minutes, and the fans up there were wondering if they'd ever score."

Score they would, however, and after the 9-0 pounding, the Danahers were actually pretty impressed with their young changes.

"You really can't expect a young team to be competitive with a team like that this early," Shannon said.

Added Phil: "What they (the team) saw was good physical technique."

They'll see more of it this season. Included in the Lady Rams' seven home games are tilts with defending national champion James Madison and traditional power Old Dominion.

Other players expected to contribute are Terri Staub (seven assists last season) Toni Staub (two), Shannon Lenhardt (subbing for the injured Alycia Yoder after four games last year) and Heather Nelson, who netted a pair of goals last year.

While the Lady Rams aren't expected to challenge James Madison or Old Dominion for CAA supremacy, the Danahers see the opportunity for the team to be better in the long run.

"The important thing for this team is not to fear their opponents," Phil said. "You can respect your opponents but not fear them. If you do, you've already lost. This may be a year in which we don't win many games, but show a lot of potential."

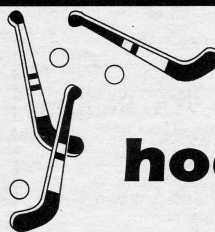


Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

GETTING READY — The Lady Rams prepare for their home opener Saturday against Southwest Missouri State.

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1995 field hockey roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.	Hometown/High School
00	Kerriann Sloat	GK	So.	Plymouth, Mass./Plymouth South
0	Staci Smith	GK	Fr.	Belfast, Maine/Belfast Area
2	Colleen Lenhardt	B/M	So.	Hayes/Gloucester
3	Shannon Lenhardt	B	Sr.	Hayes/Gloucester
4	Susan Sartain	GK	So.	Virginia Beach/Green Run
5	Jamie Bessett	B/M	Jr.	Sidney, N.Y./Sidney
6	Toni Staub	M	Jr.	Hanover, Penn./Southwestern
7	Terri Staub	F	Jr.	Hanover, Penn./Southwestern
8	Andi Romero	F	Fr.	Virginia Beach/Green Run
9	Kelly Gregory	F	Fr.	Oakton/Northern Valley (N.J.)
10	Heather Nelson	M/F	So.	Williamsburg/Lafayette
11	Jenna Stewart	F	Fr.	Virginia Beach/Green Run
12	Kristy Matthai	M	Fr.	Finksburg, Md./Westminster
13	Colleen Engelhardt	M/F	Fr.	Southbury, Conn./Pomperaug
14	Jamie Brock	M/F	Jr.	Richmond/The Steward School
15	Jill Braun	B	Fr.	Lewiston, Maine/Lewiston
16	Cortney Cutchall	M	Fr.	Harrisonville, Penn./Forbes Road
18	Kate Zacharias	F	Fr.	York, Maine/York
19	Emily Johnson	F	So.	Chesterfield/L.C. Bird
22	Patty Duffy	M/B	Jr.	Mt. Airy, Md./South Carroll

Co-head coaches: Phil Danaher, Shannon Danaher

Curve Ball

Q: Who has the longest current consecutive games-played streak in the NBA?

A: A.C. Green, 731

SPORTS

Inside

• A preview of the upcoming field hockey season.
See page 14 for details.

FRIDAY, September 8, 1995

Commonwealth TIMES

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Adu-Gyamfi burns Liberty in overtime

Coveh Solaimani
CT SPORTS EDITOR

It took nearly 100 minutes, but the Rams finally were able to break through and score against the Liberty defense to give Tim O' Sullivan his first regular-season victory as VCU's head soccer coach.

"It's great," O' Sullivan said. "I don't care whether it's ugly or whatever, when it's a 'W' in the column, they're all great."

At 97:44, Ram forward Kwaku Adu-Gyamfi kicked home a near-perfect pass from Stavros Manolakas to give the team their first win in VCU's 2-0 win Wednesday at Cary Street Field.

"Mervyn (Wright) knocked the ball down, and I touched it in," Adu-Gyamfi said.

Throughout the first half, VCU (1-1) controlled the action. The Rams outshot Liberty 5-1 and just missed scoring on a couple of occasions.

Following a Flames penalty, Manolakas

lined up for a direct kick just outside of the circle.

He fired a shot that seemed headed for the corner but Liberty goalie Joe Larson was able to get his hand on the ball, tapping it over the net.

During the second 45 minutes of action, VCU outshot Liberty (0-2) again, but the Flames seemed to have better scoring opportunities.

In one instance, Rams netminder Jim Larkin made an outstanding stop on a shot from Liberty midfielder Tim Wood to save a goal.

During overtime, VCU looked like a different team as they came out to dominate the session.

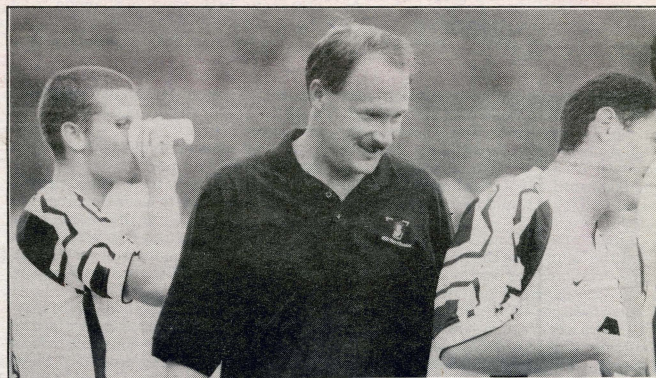
"We put the game back completely in their lap (his players) and got it back to our feet," O' Sullivan said, adding that his team started playing in the style in which they are most comfortable.

Nearly 15 minutes after Adu-Gyamfi's goal, the Rams scored again. In the second half of overtime, VCU midfielder Peter Roberts iced the game with a blast from 30-



VCU
Liberty

2
0



Bill Buckman/Commonwealth Times

NEW VICTOR — Tim O' Sullivan picked up his first regular-season victory as VCU's soccer coach in Wednesday's 2-0 shutout of Liberty.

yards out, beating a diving Larson.

"I just picked up the ball probably 40 to 35 yards out and nobody was in front of me so I took a wack at it and let it go," Roberts said.

After losing a heartbreaker to George Mason during the weekend, Adu-Gyamfi said it was a big win for the team.

"This was very important," he said. "Last week we played our butt off and outshot

the other team, but we didn't get the result."

In two games thus far, the only goal the Rams allowed came on a penalty kick. VCU allowed Liberty only four shots and pushed back the Flames offense time and time again.

"If we can stay good and strong and tight defensively, then we're going to be in games all the time," O' Sullivan said.

The 'Boys are back in town

Coveh Solaimani
CT SPORTS EDITOR

Prime Time! Prime Time! All I keep hearing is Deion Sanders this, Deion Sanders that. Who cares?

The man isn't even the best player at his position in the National Football Conference (that honor belongs to Arizona's Aeneas Williams), and he is supposed to be every team's missing piece to the Super Bowl puzzle.

Wherever Sanders ends up, whether it be in Dallas, San Francisco or Philadelphia, it will not matter because the Cowboys are the class of the NFC.

NFC East

Dallas (13-3) — If not for five minutes of error-plagued football against San Francisco in the NFC Championship, the Cowboys would have won their third consecutive Super Bowl.

This year the Cowboys are ready to reclaim their throne. In Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith, Michael Irvin and Jay Novacek, Dallas has one of the league's most dangerous offensive combinations.

N.Y. Giants (9-7) — The Giants aren't as bad as they looked Monday night.

Dave Brown is the key. If the Giants quarterback can play consistently, New York will be in the wild card hunt.

On the defensive side of the ball the Giants will be solid. After all, they don't play Dallas every week.

Arizona (7-9) — Ahh, Buddy ball! Last season, Arizona played a type of game in which their best offense was their defense.

In the offseason, Cardinals coach

Buddy Ryan brought in a new quarterback and new receivers to score some points. All the new "improvements" rang up Washington's defense for seven points. The Cardinals are in trouble.

Philadelphia (6-10) — Randall Cunningham is back! Back to the form that reduced him to playing second fiddle to Bobby Brister in '94. By the end of the season, Rodney Peete will be running the Eagles offense.

Washington (6-10) — Two weeks ago, I would have predicted three wins for the Redskins. With Heath Shuler injured, however, and Gus Frerotte now taking the snaps for at least four weeks, I have renewed hope for Washington.

NFC Central

Chicago (11-5) — This team isn't ready for the Super Bowl though they are ready to dominate this division. The Bears defense is the best in the Central with Chris Zorich and Alonzo Spellman leading the way.

On offense, Heisman Trophy winner Rashaan Salaam should help the running game. At the quarterback position the Bears have two capable signal callers in Erik Kramer and Steve Walsh.

Tampa Bay (9-7) — The hope's of this team lies in the hands of second-year quarterback Trent Dilfer. If Dilfer is ready to step up and play, the Buccaneers could find themselves in the playoffs.

Their defense is on the way up. Defensive tackle Warren Sapp was the steal of the draft. It looks like Sam Wyche has done it again.

Detroit (8-8) — The Lions have the NFL's best running back in Barry Sanders, then little else. Herman Moore has the potential to be a great wideout, but he needs someone to get him the ball. Scott Mitchell isn't the answer.

Green Bay (7-9) — Is it me or does Brett Favre look a little lost on the field without Sterling Sharpe.

Reggie White and Sean Jones anchor an underachieving defense that must step up and make the plays if this team is to have its fourth consecutive winning season.

Minnesota (6-10) — Time for Vikings coach Dennis Green to start rebuilding. Five starters are gone from last season's defense including two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Henry Thomas.

At quarterback, Warren Moon isn't getting any younger, and it's time for Minnesota to find a replacement.

NFC West

San Francisco (13-3) — They dominated the league last season and should find little competition outside of Dallas. Steve Young and Jerry Rice are back and both want to add a ring to their collection.

The Niners rivalry with Dallas is one of the best ever, and both teams should meet again in the NFC title game.

Atlanta (9-7) — Fourteen times the Falcons led at the two-minute warning last season and they came away with only seven wins yet. If the Falcons defense learns to hold a lead, Atlanta will be in the postseason.

New Orleans (8-8) — In the past, the Saints were known for their dominating

defense and sluggish offense. Things have certainly changed down on the Bayou. The New Orleans defense is average at best, while its offense, led by a reborn Jim Everett, can score a lot of points. But, not enough. Jim Mora will be out as coach after this season.

St. Louis (6-10) — They left Los Angeles for greener pastures in St. Louis. It's too bad they brought much the same team with them.

Jerome Bettis is the squad's best player, but he is struggling. Including the preseason, the Rams running back has carried the ball 27 times for a meager 10 yards.

St. Louis needs Bettis to regain his rookie form or it will be a long season for new coach Rich Brooks.

Carolina (4-12) — The first-year Panthers have more talent than any past expansion team. The offense is led by Frank Reich, who is finally getting a chance to start. The team's strength is its linebacking corp. Sam Mills, Lamar Lathon, Frank Stams and Darion Conner form a group many NFL teams would love to have.

Playoffs

First Round

N.Y. Giants 24, Atlanta 23

Chicago 21, Tampa Bay 10

Divisional Games

Dallas 34, N.Y. Giants 14

San Francisco 24, Chicago 6

NFC Championship

Dallas 30, San Francisco 28

Super Bowl

Dallas 17, Pittsburgh 13

Charity Stripe



NFC Preview