

## WEATHER



**FRIDAY** — Sunshine and more sunshine. Lows in the 50s and highs in the 80s.



**SATURDAY** — Partly cloudy with light wind. Lows in the 50s and highs in the 80s.

FRIDAY, September 7, 1997

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

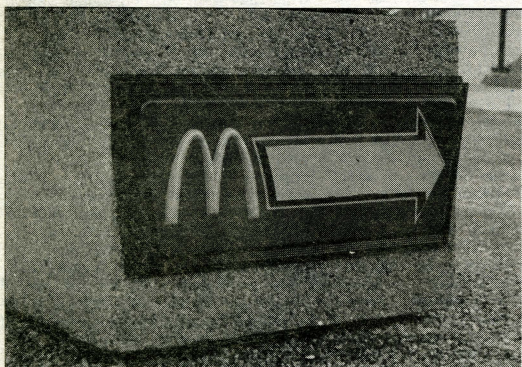
Vol. 29, No. 4

# Commonwealth TIMES

## INSIDE

■ It's time for The Picks. Turn to page 15 to find out which football teams the "experts" think will fare well this season.

## McDonald's reps respond at forum



Mary Franke/Commonwealth Times

**STEP RIGHT UP** — Signs such as this, located on the south side of the Commons, were among student's concerns voiced at the SGA public forum.

**Marian Klatt**  
CT STAFF WRITER

After a week of mixed reactions, VCU students expressed their views about the McDonald's located in the Student Commons in a public forum.

Deborah L. Brown, the Richmond real estate representative for McDonald's, and Charlie Bryson, director of business services for VCU, attended the meeting to respond to student concerns. Both participated in last semester's negotiations to bring McDonald's to campus.

The SGA surveyed students outside the Commons last week for opinions about the new restaurant. The SGA Publicity Committee organized the meeting after receiving "a whole lot of responses," said Susan Samuel, who chairs the committee.

Many of the responses neglected food as an issue.

"It's not about the food," Samuel said. "It's about McDonald's themselves. It's about everything. We're on a fact finding mission... to better represent the student body."

The meeting covered signage disputes, food variety and vegetarian options since those issues recurred in survey responses.

The first student to speak about his concerns said, "Last year we had pizza, a Burger King, a Taco Bell. We had more things to choose from."

Bryson responded to the concern with a briefing on the process of choosing a food service provider. Virginia law requires food services to file requests for proposals. The only three companies who responded were

Aramark (the company that ran last year's services), Marriott and McDonald's.

Taco Bell, however, was not part of any of the proposals.

Last year, Bryson said, Taco Bell was "one of the weaker performers." The restaurant's revenues steadily declined during its last few years on campus.

The McDonald's proposal was unanimously approved by the food service selection committee. Part of the attraction, Bryson said, was the inclusion of Ukrop's.

"Aramark basically had the same thing every day," he said. "Ukrop's literally has hundreds of products."

Even though Ukrop's Fresh Express won't open until later this month, the McDonald's loca-

FORUM continued to page 3 ▶

## VCU traditional mixer renamed, welcomes new black students

*After 7 years as Black Freshmen and Transfer Week, the welcoming has been renamed Agapae.*

**Myra Anderson**  
CT STAFF WRITER

Formerly known as Black Freshmen and Transfer Week, Agapae Week brought new meaning to an old VCU tradition.

Victor Collins, director of the Office of Minority Affairs, explained that the term *agape* can mean "unselfish, platonic love of one person to another," or "the brotherly or spiritual love of one Christian to another."

Using the plural form, *agapae*, Collins said the prior meaning defines the essence of the seven-year-old tradition.

The Black Awakening Choir, Rejoice of Jesus Ministries and the Broken Inspirational dance troupe were among the black student organizations attending a social mixer earlier this week.

The standing room only event opened this week's festivities.

Transfer student Latoya Frye, who attended several functions, said the series helped her see what campus resources were offered.

"It was good to see the leaders of the black organizations talk about their organizations' missions, goals and achievements," Frye said.

Roxanne Riggins, also a transfer student, agreed saying that she is more aware of campus activities.

"This was very beneficial to me as a new student," Riggins said.

"I have a better understanding of what's available to me at VCU."

The purpose of the week's events, Collins added, is to increase student awareness so they can become better consumers and more effective students.

For instance, faculty members and administrators welcomed the new students at a reception last

night in the Commons.

Ann Creighton-Zollar, associate professor of sociology and African-American studies, said such events allow students to meet faculty and staff members on an informal basis.

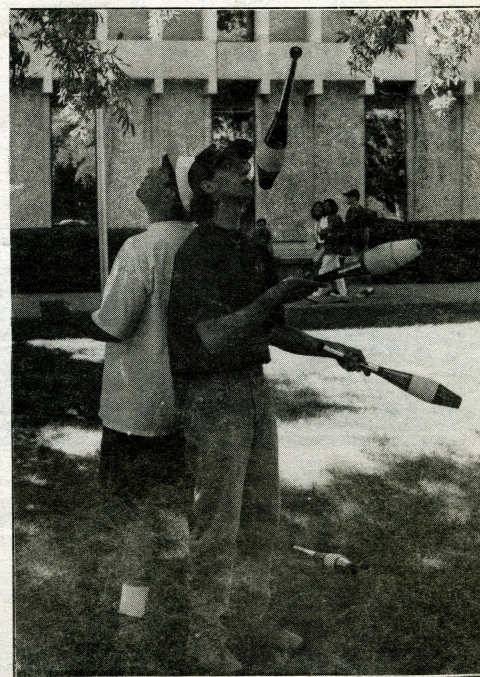
Furthermore, Riggins said the faculty members made her feel so welcome that she plans to attend next year's reception as well.

"(The faculty) made you really feel that you're not alone here, as if it were coming from their hearts and not their minds," she said.

The reception, added Stephanie Miller from the Office of Academic Support, allows students to meet supportive black faculty members.

"It gives them a sense of connection and ultimately a better chance of succeeding at this university," Miller said.

Agapae week will come to a close with jazz music performed by The Rados in the Commons Plaza today at 7 p.m.



Mary Franke/Commonwealth Times

**JUGGLING ACT** — Trey Gomes, right, and Tony Sager of VCU's juggling club "Drop Zone" practice Thursday in front of Cabell Library for an upcoming competition.

## Around the state . . .

### •Colin Powell to speak at southern governors' meeting

Gov. George Allen announced Wednesday that Gen. Colin L. Powell will highlight the Southern Governors' Association meeting in Hot Springs, which will be held Sept. 6-9.

Allen, the chairman of the association, released the agenda for the 63rd annual meeting, which will also include Sen. John Warner and Master of Ceremonies Willard Scott.

"At this meeting we will recognize and celebrate the emergence of the South as the nation's pacesetter in showing that common-sense, creative ideas are moving our states and the nation forward," Allen said in a press release.

### •Donor relieves Liberty's \$27 million debt

Threatened with foreclosure last year, Liberty University has found an anonymous donor to bail it out of the \$27 million debt it owes 1,600 bondholders.

The university, founded by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, had faced a decade of financial problems that nearly closed the school in the early 1990s.

The deal was announced at this year's first convocation service on Wednesday.

### •Virginia Lottery refutes GOP attack

Gov. George Allen and the House Republican leader say the lottery advertisements in newspapers are misleading. The Virginia Lottery Department says the ads are right on the money.

House Minority Leader S. Vance Wilkins Jr., R-Amherst, and Allen's

chief spokesman both said the ads incorrectly gave the notion that public schools are supported by lottery profits.

Lottery officials insist that the ads are truthful.

Lottery profits go into the state's general fund with billions of dollars from other sources of revenue. This fund supports many different public services, including public school, though there is no increase in spending for education because of the lottery.

### •Henrico jail probe receives special prosecutor

A state police investigation of alleged inmate abuse at the Henrico jail prompted Chief Henrico Circuit Judge L.A. Harris Jr. to appoint a special prosecutor on Wednesday.

Prince William County Commonwealth's Attorney Paul Ebert was named to the position, and Harris ordered him to "prosecute any criminal charges that result from the investigation, if there be any."

Henrico Commonwealth's Attorney Toby Vick asked Harris to name the special prosecutor. Vick removed himself because of a possible conflict of interest.

### •Ferrum enrollment drop baffles officials

Fall semester enrollment is down 16 percent from last year at Ferrum College and school officials don't understand why.

The enrollment went from 1,010 students a year ago to 852 this year. The school had expected 930 full-time students this semester. Tuition at the four-year, private school is \$15,600. The decline in student population will leave the school an estimated \$2.5 million in debt.

— compiled by news sources

## Survey: Working women call for equal treatment

WASHINGTON — American working women want the same pay as men for the same work, job security, a safe workplace and respect, according to a survey released yesterday by the AFL-CIO.

These goals have changed little in the last 25 years, and despite the feminist revolution, the sharp rise in the number of women who work for pay and even the steep economic recovery of the last five years, women feel they are still far from the prize, the survey found.

What has changed is women's status in the U.S. workforce, Karen Nussbaum, director of the AFL-CIO's Working Women's Department, said at a news conference announcing the survey findings.

Where most American women used to see their jobs as temporary additions to the family coffers, now 64 percent of those surveyed said they provide half or more of their household's income, Nussbaum said.

"Women are sophisticated, permanent members of the workforce who believe that they're not getting a fair deal and that's a very profound change that makes real change in policies possible for the first time," Nussbaum said.

The vast majority—94 percent—of the more than 50,000 working women surveyed said equal pay for equal work was very important, but only 62 percent said their current job provided it.

Related problems, including generally low pay, gender discrimination in general and the so-called "glass ceiling" hindering

women from advancing at work, were also seen as important.

More than two-thirds of women, or 72 percent, said, it was very important to have protection from layoffs and downsizing, but only 34 percent said they had these protections at work.

The need for respect was a dominant refrain among women who were asked what they want on the job, and that included freedom from and punishment for acts of sexual harassment.

One woman of every three said she wanted employers to offer child care, but only 8 percent said their current job provided it, the survey said.

Workplace safety was one area where women's expectations were largely met, with 93 percent calling the issue very important and 89 percent saying it was currently provided on their jobs.

The survey was conducted via questionnaires distributed at workplaces, prayer breakfasts, schools, libraries and street-corners around the United States. These questionnaires were supplemented by a scientific telephone survey of 725 working women which had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent.

Using the survey results as a springboard, the AFL-CIO kicked off a campaign to organize union and non-union women to work for workplace change.

— compiled by news sources

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# Universities offer potential students online application forms

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Applying to college by computer was only natural for Mark Garneau.

The 18-year-old from Closter, N.J., spends two or three hours a day exploring the Internet. Virginia Tech, one of the most heavily wired campuses, had the most detailed Web page—an online application form.

He could apply without leaving his perch or dragging out a typewriter, a foreign practice for many youngsters yet still required by many institutions.

"The other ones, I had to think about keeping them neat and typed and stuff like that," said Garneau, now an incoming freshman at the university.

Knowing there's a whole generation of Web-literate teenagers out there, universities are struggling to meet the demand for online applications in time

for the college-hunting season this fall.

"Clearly, the paper application is doomed," said the summary of a poll released last winter by the Art & Science Group Inc., a Baltimore research company that found a sharp rise in Web access among high school seniors. More than one-third said they would rather apply online, up from 11 percent a year earlier.

Going online saves paper, lets institutions hear from a wider range of applicants and lets them promote themselves as technologically advanced, the colleges say.

But the new world also has created some special headaches for universities.

Sophisticated probers who look at a college's Web site also can gain access to such things as campus crime reports, faculty ratings or other information through unofficial channels.

And students are sometimes bombarding faculty with questions by e-mail, creating a burden that not all colleges or faculty might be able to handle.

"Colleges are not geared up now to deal with students accessing this unofficial information," said Kenneth E. Hartman, director of elementary and secondary programs for the College Board and author of "The Internet Guide for College-Bound Students."

Despite such concerns, universities in the past year also have hired services that let students learn about several universities or campuses from one Web location, apply to several and then charge the application fee over the computer. They also offer links to scholarship information and other services.

IBM announced last month it would sell to its university customers the CollegeNet service, a product of Universal Algorithms.

## Forum: Students speak out at SGA on McDonald's

continued from page 1

tion has already outperformed Aramark's offerings at this time last year.

John Carter, a religious studies major, expressed concern about the lack of vegetarian selections.

Bryson responded, "We hope Ukrop's will come in with a line of food suitable to vegetarian needs."

Many students don't know, however, that the Aramark-run Hibbs Cafeteria has substantially improved since last year.

The company has added three new stations to the all-you-can-eat style cafeteria.

One station has a variety of Asian foods, while the others include the pasta station and a flat bread pizza station.

The second floor now houses D.C. Subs, where students can observe their submarine sandwiches being compiled of ingredients of their choice.

Bryson hopes the Hibbs selection, along with Ukrop's assort-

ment, will provide enough variety to satisfy everyone.

Elisha Spencer voiced a concern seen in many of the SGA's survey responses.

"The arches are too much. Everyone knows about McDonald's. Why does there have to be so much promotion?"

Bryson explained that last year the food services blamed poor revenue on a lack of marketing. McDonald's strong marketing plan seemed like a good idea in comparison.

Brown added, "I wish we could build and they would come. It's like giving the customer constant reminders to let them know we're here."

Due to student response, however, the corporation decided to review an alternative signage package.

"We know that this is your house," Brown said. "That's why we're here—to serve the student body and be part of your house."

## IN BRIEF

### House debates spending on Internet version

Five appropriations bills Congress plans to review this week would provide funds for development of the Next Generation Internet, a government program aimed at creating a faster, more advanced network and developing powerful applications.

At least six federal agencies involved in the project would split about \$100 million requested for N.G.I. by the president last February. Nevertheless, lawmakers are reluctant to provide federal financing for the effort because plans for the program are vague.

The effort parallels that of universities, known as Internet.

### Federal judge rules in favor on encryption software

A federal judge in San Francisco ruled that government restrictions on the export of encryption software violate the First Amendment's protection of free speech.

Daniel Bernstein, an Illinois professor, sued the government while he was a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley for the right to publish academic papers about encryption, the scrambling of electronic messages to guard them from eavesdroppers, and to distribute a computer program he created to scramble electronic messages.

### Fruit-fly foraging linked to gene

Fruit-fly researchers from New York University and York Uni-

versity in Toronto have demonstrated that the tendency of a fruit fly to stay close to home or roam far in search of food can be attributed to a single gene.

The discovery is unusual because most behaviors are influenced by several genes. Scientists usually have difficulty identifying behavior-influencing genes and linking interactions to one another.

### Michigan professor pays \$1.67 million in suit

A former researcher at the university of Michigan received \$1.67 million after claiming that her intellectual property had been stolen by a professor and sued to secure a grant.

Carolyn R. Phinney, a researcher at Michigan's Institute of Gerontology, sued Marion Permuter, a psychology professor and Phinney's superior at the university for fraud. The research examined the changes of adult's personalities over the course of their lives.

A jury decided in Phinney's favor in 1993. Phinney sued the institute's director and the university, saying they had retaliated against her.

### Court rules divorced parents must pay college fees

The Iowa Court of appeals ruled last month that divorced parents can be ordered to pay their children's college tuition, even though married couples do not hold the same responsibility. The decision was intended to

"safeguard children of divorced parents against fiscal problems and other obstacles that often accompany divorce," the three-judge court panel wrote.

### Diana's funeral procession tripled

In London on Wednesday, the royal family tripled the length of Princess Diana's funeral procession.

Buckingham Palace said its first public statement since Diana was killed on Sunday.

Her driver, legally drunk and traveling at high speeds, crashed in a Paris roadway tunnel, killing himself, the princess and Dodi Fayed.

### McMahon nomination dropped

In Washington, a bipartisan group of senators dropped the nomination of Patricia McMahon, Clinton's nominee for director for demand reduction inside the drug czar's office.

The position is the most responsible official for reducing America's drug habit.

Critics said she lacked the credentials for the job, and a stronger qualified candidate should be sought.

### New policy for Russian passports

Russia plans to discontinue use of its "fifth line" phrase, Russia's declaration of nationality that reinforced discrimination against Jews, Tartars and other minorities.

Passports will now identify people as citizens of Russia and citizens will not have to list their religion in them.

### National day declared for Diana

The senate declared Sept. 6 a national day of recognition for Princess Diana's efforts at exposing the issues of breast cancer, land mines, homelessness and AIDS.

### Bounty hunters kill innocent couple

Bounty hunters in Phoenix shot and killed Chris Foote, 23, and his girlfriend, Spring Wright, 20, in a case of mistaken identity.

The hunters were searching for an out-of-state bail jumper who owed \$25,000 to a California bond company.

Gunmen kicked down the couple's bedroom door and Foote opened fire on them, wounding two of the gunmen before being mortally wounded himself.

### Jury studies Democratic coupon use

The federal grand jury is investigating allegations that Democrats bought people's votes during the re-election of Representative Gene Copeland, D.-Mo., last fall.

Democrats rewarded 200 people with coupons for a dollar purchase at Gas-A-Mat.

They handed out the coupons to departing voters in mostly black, poorer areas.

Nobody has been charged and Democrats deny the allegations.

### Proposed revision draws major backlash

Opponents of a plan to revise the "core" courses at Brooklyn College warn that the proposal would cause damage to the curriculum that would negatively impact students.

Brooklyn College's current "core" courses offer a broad liberal-arts curriculum. Opponents argue that narrowing the range of learning would be an injustice to students.

Christopher M. Kimmich, the college's provost, sees no cause for alarm. The core curriculum, he said, will not be compromised by the proposed revision.

### Professor fired, calls himself 'tough but fair'

A northern Illinois University economics assistant professor with 32 years on the job recently was dismissed due to repeated student complaints.

The complaints taken from course evaluations painted pictures of a teacher belittling students for asking questions and consistently gave lower grades and failed more students than other professors in the department.

The professor, Robert H. Renshaw, said he had high expectations for students in his courses and he admitted his toughness on students, but he said that many of his students excelled as a result.

— compiled by news sources



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## For better or for worse, comic strip characters are harmless

Last spring there was a nationwide controversy when the lead character of the television sitcom "Ellen" announced, on a much publicized episode of the show, that she is gay. The attention accompanying the announcement was intense.

Shortly after that episode aired, Ellen DeGeneres, the real life lesbian actress who plays the part of the fictional Ellen, appeared with her girlfriend on "Oprah."

Furthermore, following the airing of the "coming out" episode, DeGeneres' parents were interviewed by a network news magazine.

Sexual minority groups threw "coming out parties" while they watched the show.

The announcement of her sexual orientation brought with it a tiny spurt of

"Ellenmania."

But, not everyone was thrilled to discover that Ellen is gay and what's more, openly so. At least one station even refused to air the episode.

*It isn't exactly as if anyone were jumping out of the page, tackling readers, and pleading with them to convert to homosexuality.*

Now that all the hoopla over Ellen's sexual identity has calmed down, another gay character is getting a bad rap.

Lawrence, a character in Lynn Johnston's

comic strip "For Better or For Worse" has made some newspapers disgruntled. The strip was suspended from some papers and discontinued from a few others.

All because a character is openly gay. This seems a little ridiculous, after all,

we're talking about a two-inch tall *drawing*. It isn't exactly as if anyone were jumping out of the page, tackling readers, and pleading with them to convert to homosexuality.

Certainly a comic strip is not that big of a threat to the world's homophobics.

If you don't like it, don't read it. Or better yet, learn to accept the differences in others and put aside your senseless distaste.

Comic strips and sitcoms are supposed to offer a little humor to our otherwise hectic lifestyles.

Just think how many chuckles we would be denied if all the dog haters had Snoopy banned from the ranks of the "Peanuts" gang.

For better or for worse, there will always be those people who are different from the ranks of the majority and sooner or later everyone else is going to have to get used to it.

Come on everybody, lighten up.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Have a great McSchool year!

I was really looking forward to this semester. Sure I had to deal with the normal McSchool headaches, like getting a parking space in the McAcademic Deck, standing in line for my McBooks and having to reorganize my class McSchedule.

But I've been doing this for three years and I'm used to it.

Sound sarcastic? You better McBelieve it. I am appalled to see Golden Arches almost everywhere I look.

What is our McUniversity thinking? This is a learning environment, not a marketing test cell.

Our McUniversity has severely limited our choices and seems to have done so without our approval.

I don't ever remember voting for a McDonald's, do any of my fellow McStudents?

And I know we were never asked if we wanted the Student Commons to look like the inside of a Wal-Mart. I think most of us are educated enough to figure out there is a McDonald's in the Commons without the need for gaudy signs.

Obviously the McDonald's Corporation never asked our talented School of Interior Design students for advice.

Well, I wanted to keep this letter short for everyone, by now you should have finished a Big Mac, or are still waiting in line. I hope the VCU McRams do well this year in sports and I hope my fellow McStudents have a wonderful semester.

I would also ask President McTrani to publicly disclose in the next issue of the Collegiate Times how much McMoney was paid to our McUniversity for the privilege of being turned into a McMarketing opportunity.

Brad Henson  
VCU student

## Did McDonald's donate the student commons?

There is nothing as nauseating and aesthetically revolting as the McDonald's trademark plastered outside and inside the Student Commons. One would think that McDonald's donated the Student Commons to the university. What other message could there be?

If I were a student, I would greatly resent this crass commercial intrusion in my social space. What was once a peaceful place is wracked by McDonald's commercialism.

Perhaps the venality of the university could be further gratified by renting all buildings inside and outside for commercial advertising. On the other hand, the university could put its own seal on the Commons and university buildings, but there would be no money in that, would there? Students should get rid of this commercial muck, a cleansing of academe from the money changers.

H. Otto Dahlke  
Professor Emeritus

## Not-so-famous quotes from famous folks . . .

"Give me chasitivity and continence, but not yet."

— Saint Augustine

"Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former."

— Albert Einstein

"I'm living so far beyond my income that we may almost be said to be living apart."

— e e cummings

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."

— Thomas Watson, Chairman of IBM, 1943

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The editorial section of the *CommonwealthTIMES* 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. The opinions expressed are those of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *CommonwealthTIMES* or VCU.

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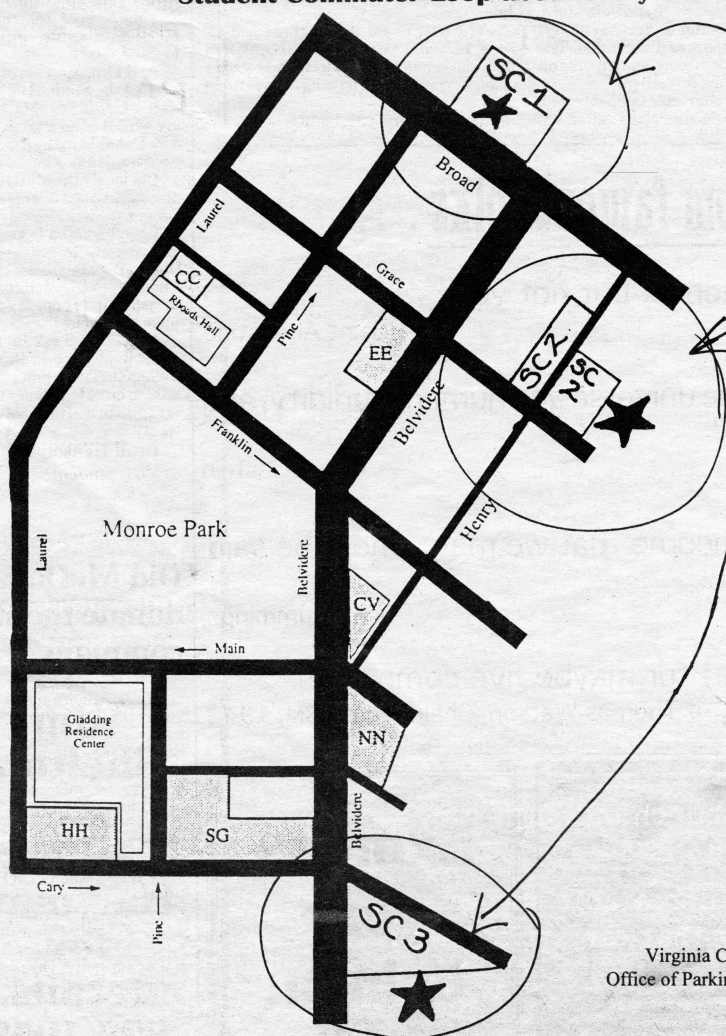
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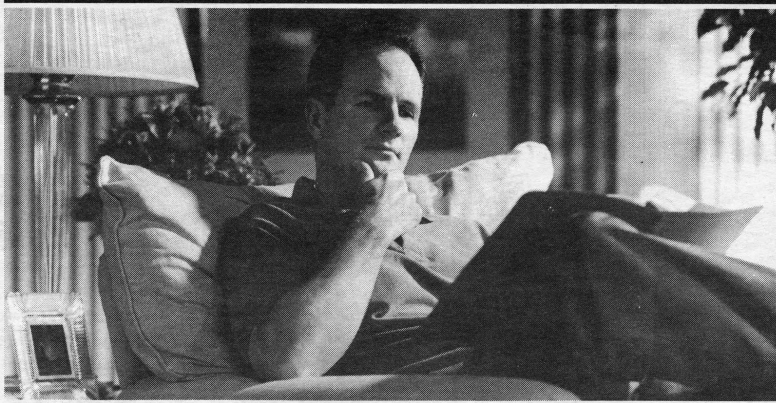
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- ? a) Depression is a bunch of symptoms exhibited by weak people.
- b) Depression is an unbearable suppression of brain activity that can strike anyone.

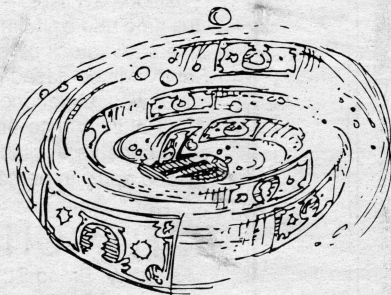
Straightening out all the misconceptions, the correct answer is 'b'. It's a concept we should all understand and remember, and here's why. Depression strikes millions of young adults, but only 1 out of 5 ever seeks treatment for it. Too many just drag themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide. Why not treatment? Partly lack of awareness. Partly the unwarranted negative stigma. This is what needs fixing. This is where we need you to change your attitudes. It's a illness, not a weakness. And it's readily treatable. Spreading the word and making this common knowledge is everybody's assignment.

## UNTREATED DEPRESSION

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# Radiohead soars with latest endeavor

Trishtram Coffin  
CT STAFF WRITER

In rock 'n' roll, anyone who is daring enough even to attempt a concept album is either noble for doing so or, more likely, wants people to think they are. Through the years concept albums have been some of the greatest and worst records of all time. From the '60s came The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* and The Who's *Tommy*. In the '70s we heard David Bowie's *Ziggy Stardust* and Pink Floyd's *The Wall*. In the '80s, Prince's *Purple Rain* was masterful as an album before it was self-conscious as a movie, but the '90s have been, with the exception of Nine Inch Nails' wrenching album *The Downward Spiral*, without a concept album with enough unity for its story to be followed. It is just too easy to embarrass oneself.

The rock 'n' roll concept album hall of shame has far more inductees than its hall of fame. Meatloaf's *Bat Out of Hell*, Duran Duran's *Seven and the Ragged Tiger* and, most recently, the Smashing Pumpkins' *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* are among those whose lack of direction have scared other bands away.

Well, Radiohead has, nevertheless, filled the '90s concept album void with *OK Computer*, a record that is more focused than any of the classic albums mentioned and easily the finest record released so far this year.

What makes *OK Computer* such a thrill is the vast array of influences the band collectively brings to the music, the complexity of its lyrical images and the insight it grants the listener for investing the time to explore its message.

The lyrics in *OK Computer* contain themes far more profound than what is common for the rock 'n' roll medium, and because of that its writers will have a difficult time finding respect.

However, from "Airbag's" exploration

into the ironic origins of human inspiration ("...in the next world war, in a jackknifed juggernaut, I'm born again...") to "Climbing Up the Walls" portrait of denial and introverted paranoia, ("...I am the key to the lock in your house that keeps your toys in the basement, and if you get too far inside you'll only see my reflection..."), this record roots to the core of who we are as individuals and as a society and its response is ashamed and convicting.

*OK Computer* succeeds through its story of a lone soul who sees mankind becoming machine-like, and a people more obsessed with efficiency than emotion.

In "Subterranean Homesick Alien," he finds that he views people as he imagines aliens would, depicting them as "weird creatures who lock up their spirits, drill holes in themselves and live for their secrets."

Repeatedly and to no avail, he waves his warning flag to prevent the inevitable. Escaping to his dreams, he averts reality to find hope and motivation to press on.

During the progression of the album, the music, which takes Beatlesque melody and accessibility and tears it to ribbons with King Crimson's time signature changes and song structures, identifies the character's state of mind with ominous and violent tones for his encounters with the machine.

Except for "Electioneering," a less than daring but nonetheless bitter satire of politics, no song is wasted in the development of the story.

In "Paranoid Android," singer Thom Yorke petitions that, ("...ambition makes you look very ugly...") If so, *OK Computer* is the most hideous of monsters, a sprawling twelve song cryptic tale that reveals a new revelation with each listening and is so sincerely desperate it will have even the most stubborn paranoid androids running headlong to join Greenpeace.

# 'Cop Land' doesn't shoot blanks

Russell de Leon  
CT STAFF WRITER

The title of "Cop Land" alone suggests an unintelligent "shoot 'em up" action film. However, *Cop Land* delivers something rare in movies today—a good story.

"Cop Land" is actually a name of the small town of Garrison, New Jersey, it is a town founded and established by policemen from New York City. Sylvester Stallone plays Freddy, the sympathetic half-deaf sheriff, who is denied a position as a city cop due to his handicap. The film starts with a scene that can't help but make the audience feel sorry for Freddy: he is playing pinball and resorts to breaking open a parking meter since he is too broke to continue playing. The true catalyst of the movie is rookie cop Murray Babitch, played by Michael Rappaport. On his way home from a bachelor party, Babitch's carelessness results in the deaths of two other drivers. Babitch's uncle, Ray Donlan (Harvey Keitel) and his crone Jack Rucker (Robert Patrick) aid him in faking his death. Through this, the corruption that runs rampant through Garrison is exposed to the viewers. The incident gets the attention of Moe Tilden, an Internal Affairs agent played by Robert DeNiro, who employs Freddy in bringing the corrupt cops to justice.

This is not the first story about corrupt cops, and it definitely won't be the last. However, what makes "Cop Land" a good story is the depth of the characters and how well the subplots are de-

veloped. Annabella Sciorra plays love interest Liz Randone, a girl who Freddy rescued from drowning as a child, resulting in his partial hearing loss. Although Freddy is in love with Liz, she is married and with a child by her abusive husband. New York City cop Joey Randone, played by Peter Berg. Another interesting character is Gary "Figs" Figgis, played by Ray Liotta, and his attempt at losing his corrupt edge.

What sounds like the plot of a daytime soap opera (Randone even has an affair with Donlan's wife) isn't, thanks to excellent character development and acting. Great detail is taken in the characterization, so that the audience can see why the characters react the way that they do.

The plot of "Cop Land" is slowly built up, sucking you in, until it spits you out in a great crescendo.

The only true problem with "Cop Land" is that it is not long enough. In a time where movies have gotten longer and longer (the box office hit "Contact" was close to three hours), "Cop Land" ends abruptly with things rushed together. Unfortunately, the great Robert DeNiro is relegated to a surprisingly minor role.

The producers should be applauded for taking a chance with Stallone, a perennial action star whose outside genre ventures have recently failed. Stallone actually made a real attempt at acting on this one, even gaining forty pounds to look Freddy's part.

"Cop Land" is a good movie with a strong story behind it. However, it would have been better had more time been given. Stallone led the other strong performances, adding to them, and should hear his name when it comes time for the Oscars.

# Nexus anything but a nightmare

Christopher Irving  
CT SPECTRUM EDITOR

Nexus is a bit of a contradiction unto himself, created by writer Mike Baron and artist Steve Rude in the early '80s, Nexus (aka Horatio Hellpop) lives in and rules the future world of Ylum. While Ylum appears to be a virtual paradise, it is led by one of the darkest heroes in comic books. Nexus was granted power by an alien being referred to as "The Merk," the only catch was that the power required Hellpop to kill villains of The Merk's choosing, lest Nexus goes mad through nightmares. The Merk left recently, and Nexus finds himself powerless and still needing to kill, even without the alien's direction.

Nexus decides at the beginning of "Nightmare in Blue" to have the citizenry of Ylum decide who must die. As a result, tribes of Ylum's people start fighting each other, anxious for Nexus to kill the oppo-

nents that they had voted for. Halfway through the first book, Ylum lies in complete and utter chaos and all Nexus finds himself doing is brooding, until he pleads for the readers to vote for one of the terrible villains to die.

Baron has never been a terrific writer, yet Nexus is unarguably his best work. Still, he has made the mistake of bogging the story down with too many supporting characters, aside from love interest Sundra Peale and President Tyrone to numerous others who all blend together for new readers.

Also, the supporting characters take up more of the book than the supposed star himself, the second issue is mostly about juvenile delinquent Machina Loomis, with no more than maybe ten pages of Nexus.

Steve Rude's artwork is the one true saving grace when the story becomes too bogged down. Rude's work takes one back to the comics of the 1960s, yet it has a

slightly modernistic edge. Due to low sales (Nexus is quite the cult classic, and nothing more), the artwork has been switched to black and white (with no lowering of price).

The black and white is nice, but Nexus is just one of those comic books that needs to be in color to stress the brightness of Ylum. As for Nexus himself, he wears one of the snazziest costumes in comic books; being a deep royal blue and black with yellow highlights, it has a very simplistic and timeless design.

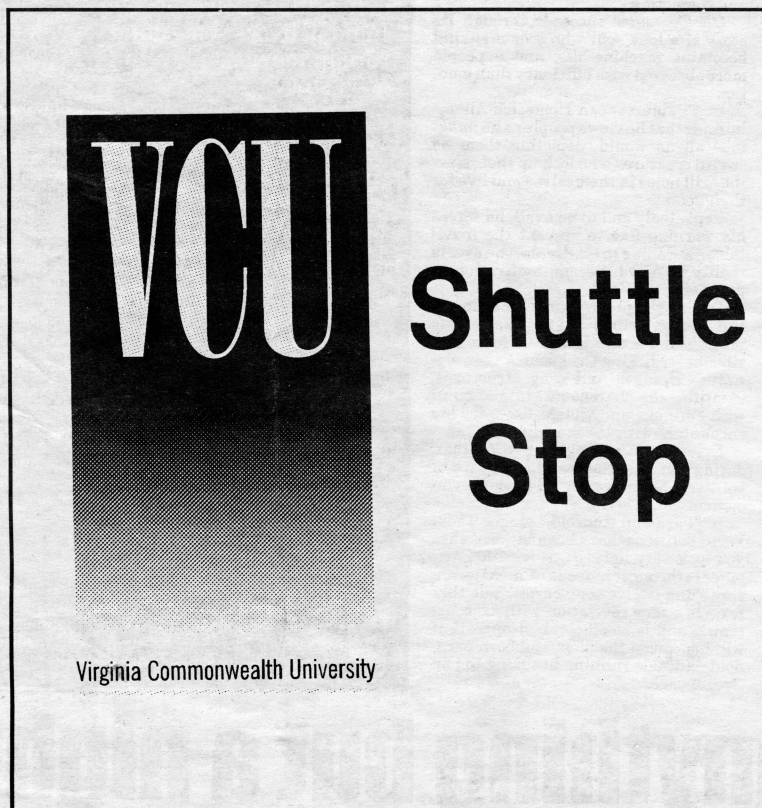
Although only halfway through, "Nightmare in Blue" has proven a fair series. One of the more entertaining parts is the cameo in the second issue, from Jack "The King" Kirby (one of Marvel Comics' founders), to a long lost Mike Baron character. If Baron would focus a bit more on the antagonist of the book, rather than his friends, loved ones, and enemies, it would be an easier read.



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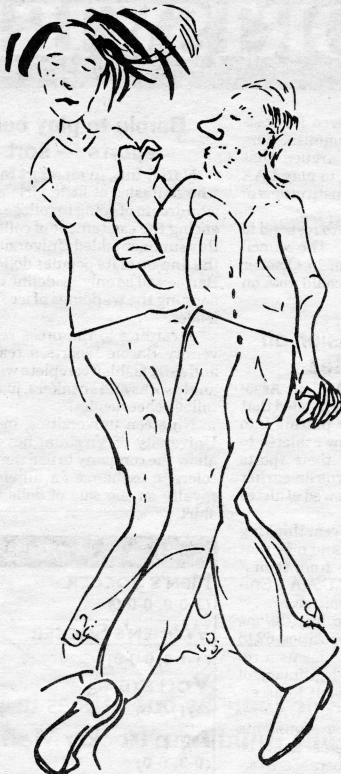
*I got this friend. He's always falling in love.*

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*Now, he's in love with a girl in Ohio. He lives in Massachusetts. He has pledged marriage. He's never ever seen her. They won't talk to each other on the phone because they're afraid they'll get spooked and run away if they don't like each other's voices.....WOW.*

*I suppose it could be worse.*

*All last year he was in love with a girl who turned out to be 3 guys from UCLA.*



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# McCarthy easing into basketball program

Joe Rogalsky  
CT SPORTS EDITOR

VCU's hiring Mack McCarthy as Associate head coach, to replace Sonny Smith as men's basketball coach, the year before Smith leaves has little, if any, precedent.

"That's a totally unique concept," McCarthy said. "I don't know of another school in the country where that's been done."

Smith and McCarthy have worked together in the past, most recently at Auburn.

Since the two are familiar with each other, they will be able to work together productively during the 1997 season.

"Sonny's relationship with me and my relationship with him is what is going to make this year work," McCarthy said.

"I was Sonny's assistant before and I had a lot of responsibility then and I would anticipate now that I probably would have even more responsibility just because I know he trusts me and maybe even trusts me more now that I

have done it on my own."

McCarthy was the head coach at Tennessee-Chattanooga before resigning Aug. 2.

He mentioned his relationship with Smith and the Stuart C. Siegel Center among his reasons for coming to VCU.

"The major thing is the commitment Dr. (Eugene) Trani (President) and Dr. (Richard) Sander (Athletic Director) have made to have a first class program," McCarthy said.

"It is phenomenal that they are willing to have a strong program and make the whole athletic department competitive nationally."

While with UTC, McCarthy brought the program national recognition by reaching the Sweet 16 in this spring in the NCAA tournament and having a first-round pick in this year's National Association draft by the Orlando Magic.

"Coaches, as a rule, don't like change," McCarthy said. "It upsets the equilibrium of things. But I think that this is such a

great opportunity that everything is positive though there is still that feeling of moving and changing and leaving 12 years of relationships. I felt it was time to change, both personally and professionally."

"I had done a lot of things and accomplished a lot of things. It would have been okay to stay there forever but I think if you get to comfortable somewhere then maybe you won't do as good a job and I didn't want to be like that."

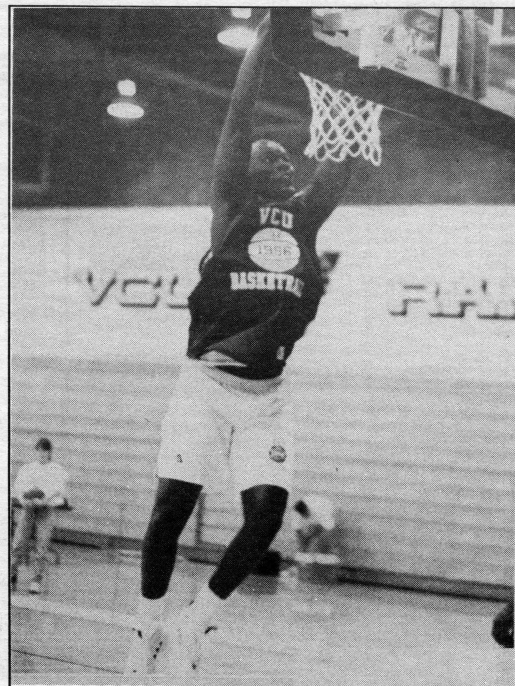
The team has had brief meetings with McCarthy as a unit and some players have met with him individually. The players seem to excited to have him on board.

"He has a track record just as good as Coach Smith's," said veteran player Torrance Archie.

"I'm excited to have two coaches for my last season here. The younger players will benefit more because they will be able to work with him (McCarthy) for a few years."

The success of the UTC squad

COACH continued to page 15



file photo

**SLAM DUNK** — Torrance Archie dunks during practice last season. He said he feels the Smith-McCarthy combination will be a good one.

## SPORTSWIRE

### Grambling agrees to two year probation

The National Collegiate Athletic Association announced last month that it had placed Grambling State University on two years probation for violations in its football and basketball programs that included improper courting of football recruits and two instances of allowing academically ineligible athletes to play.

The committee found no evidence that Grambling's football coach, Eddie Robinson, was aware of the violations as they were occurring, said David Swank, chairman of the N.C.A.A.'s Committee on Infractions, who described the infractions as "relatively limited."

Grambling agreed to also limit its football recruiting this year and to provide intensive, on-campus training in rules compliance for its football coaches. The college will also forfeit three men's basketball games from the 1993-94 season and 47 women's games from the 1993-94 and the 1995-96 seasons — games in which ineligible athletes played.

### NCAA considers revising '6-Win Rule'

The National Collegiate Athletic Association, by a vote of 10-8, has recommended taking the first step toward modifying a regulation that discourages institutions in Division I-A from scheduling football games against teams in Division I-AA.

The rule requires Division I-A football teams to win six games against other Divi-

sion I-A teams to be considered for post-season bowl games, but Commissioners for I-AA conferences have argued that making I-A teams reluctant to play I-AA teams has deprived smaller institutions of lucrative games.

Universities have 60 days to respond to the board's recommendation. The council will consider the issue again in October and the Board of Directors could vote on the matter in January.

### NCAA delays decision on jobs for athletes

The National Collegiate Athletic Association council, in July, recommended that the board delay by one year putting into effect a rule that would allow athletes to hold part-time jobs during their sports season. The decision overturns an earlier decision that would have allowed athletes to work as early as fall 1997.

"Athletes left campus last year thinking they would be able to work, and now that opportunity has been taken from them," said Bridget Niland of the N.C.A.A.'s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Critics charge that some institutions might, through the rule Proposition 62 to use their employment programs as a recruiting tool, and that the legitimacy of athletes' jobs would be difficult to ascertain.

This was despite counter-arguments that these potential problems could be avoided by prohibiting members of university athletics departments from arranging employment for students.

### Barbie to play college sports — sort of

Mattel Inc., in an effort to help fulfill "the fantasies of little girls everywhere who dream of going to college and experiencing the excitement of college sports," this summer added University Barbie to the line-up of its popular doll series. But Barbie will be only a sideline participant, donning the trappings of a college cheerleader.

According to the press release, University Barbie "sports a team sweater and skirt fashion complete with pompon, ankle socks and sneakers, just like a real college cheerleader!"

Nineteen universities, including the University of Virginia, have agreed to allow the company to use their logos and colors in exchange for an eight percent royalty on the sale of dolls wearing its shirt.

### Fraud in obtaining aid for athletes subject of probe

The U.S. Department of Education is conducting a nationwide investigation to determine whether college athletes are fraudulently obtaining federal student aid.

The investigation began several years ago, a department spokesman said, but did not become public until last month when ESPN, the sports cable network, reported that Education Department officials were reviewing aid awards made to athletes at Mississippi State University.

In the wake of the report, Thomas Bloom, the department's Inspector General, issued a statement confirming that his office had "begun a national project," to review the use of federal student aid within college athletics departments.

—compiled from news sources

UPCOMING EVENTS				NOTES
<b>MEN'S SOCCER</b> (2-0-0, 0-0-0)	Sept. 6 HAR.	Sept. 7 WRIGHT ST.	Sept. 12 RAD.	THE RAMS LAST PLAYED RADFORD IN 1994, A 6-0 WIN FOR THE RAMS.
<b>WOMEN'S SOCCER</b> (1-1-0, 0-0-0)	Sept. 5 UNCW	Sept. 9 JMU	Sept. 15 NAVY	THE LADY RAMS ROUTED UNCW 5-1 LAST SEASON BUT LOST 3-0 TO JMU AS WELL.
<b>VOLLEYBALL</b> (1-1, 0-0)	Sept. 5 ST. PETERS	Sept. 6 RUTGERS	Sept. 6 FORD.	THE LADY RAMS PLAY TRAVEL TO NEW JERSEY FOR THE RUTGERS TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND.
<b>FIELD HOCKEY</b> (0-3, 0-0)	Sept. 5 OHIO	Sept. 6 RIDER	Sept. 10 JMU	THE JMU GAME IS DAWN HILL'S COACHING DEBUT AT CARY STREET FIELD.

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## Rams and Stats

■ Follow The Picks throughout the season to find out which VCU fan is really on top.

# SPORTS

Commonwealth TIMES

## NEWS

Now that you've seen the opinions on football, turn the page to find out what VCU students think of issues in the news.

## The Picks



"Lou Holtz"  
Rogalsky



"Coach"  
Leiss



"Pete's"  
Mary



"Mouth of the"  
Southworth



Trish  
"The Dish"



"Top"  
Bob



"Bon"  
Dovi



"The Rat"  
Templeton



"Monkey Boyt"  
Anderson

### NCAA

Auburn at UVA	UVA	UVA	UVA	UVA	UVA	Auburn	Auburn	UVA	Auburn
Va. Union at Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.	Norfolk St.
Florida St. at USC	USC	Florida St.	USC	Florida St.	Florida St.	Tennessee	Tennessee	USC	Florida State
UCLA at Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
Ga. Tech at Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Ga. Tech	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
Buffalo at NY Jets	Buffalo	NY Jets	NY Jets	NY Jets	Buffalo	NY Jets	NY Jets	NY Jets	Buffalo
Carolina at Atlanta	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Atlanta	Atlanta	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
Cincinnati at Baltimore	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Baltimore	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Baltimore

### NFL

Tennessee at Miami	Miami	Miami	Tennessee	Miami	Miami	Tennessee	Miami	Miami	Miami
Minnesota at Chicago	Minnesota	Minnesota	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Minnesota	Minnesota	Chicago
New England at Indianapolis	New England	New England	Indianapolis	New England	Indianapolis	New England	New England	Indianapolis	Indianapolis
San Diego at New Orleans	San Diego	New Orleans	San Diego	New Orleans	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego
San Francisco at St. Louis	49ers	St. Louis	49ers	St. Louis	49ers	St. Louis	St. Louis	49ers	49ers
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh	Tampa Bay	Detroit	Washington	Detroit	Pittsburgh	Detroit	Tampa Bay	Detroit	Pittsburgh
Washington at Pittsburgh	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Denver	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington
Denver at Seattle	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Denver	Seattle
Green Bay at Philadelphia	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay
NY Giants at Jacksonville	NY Giants	Jacksonville	NY Giants	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	NY Giants	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	Jacksonville
Dallas at Arizona	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas
Kansas City at Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Oakland	Kansas City	Oakland	Oakland	Kansas City

### RESULTS

Last week:	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Season to date:	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
Percentage:	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Games Back	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

■ Editor's Note: The Auburn/UVA game was picked before Thursday's game.

The Picks are back for another season and there is much rejoicing. YEAH! The '90's have finally caught up with the Sports Department as there are a record number of females on the picks board this year -- two. Only "Lou Holtz" Rogalsky, "Mouth of the" Southworth and "Top" Bob have previous experience with The Picks, but "The Rat" has set lofty goals for himself. He is, however, a lovely staff writer and his quest for prognostication supremacy will no doubt rattle some editors. Little does he know that "Holtz" is the proud owner of a Cairn Terrier, a breed that was trained in ancient Scotland to kill rats. "Pete's" Mary has asked for assistance from a past Picks pontiff. Only time will tell if the Lynchburg water supply stimulates the portion of the brain dealing with football and vaults the photography guru to the esteemed left side of the board. "Bon" Dovi may need to take up music if he keeps picking 20 point underdogs like Georgia Tech. You don't bet against the Fighting Irish at home, especially when there will be 20,000 more Irish faithful in attendance than past years. Trish "The Dish" took a break from spending night after night in the CT office to fill out a picks sheet, claiming to be a hater on women's intuition. Obviously no one ever told her The Picks is a man's world. In an interestingly disturbing coincidence, all nine pickers took the Cowboys. Last year in this space, the team from Dallas was referred to as "coke-sniffin", prostitute-buying, drunken-driving team." The members of the Sports Department now add camera-destructing and wife-beating to the list. You know, it makes one wonder why the Cowboys players continue to do stupid things like buying sex. But when you are as fat as Nate Newton, you gotta do what you gotta do. For those Cowboy fans out there, don't think that this will be the last assault on the Convicts. No, we here in Pickland intend to expose the Cowgirl-buyers for the evil they are. We gotta job to do and we're gonna do it baby!

## Coach: McCarthy settling in

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this past spring, said McCarthy, helps the players be receptive of the situation.

"They knew about our (UTC's) success," McCarthy said. "They knew I was coming from a situation where we were very successful."

McCarthy said he will concentrate on recruiting, but will be involved in working with the team.

"Sonny's going to be the head coach," McCarthy said. "He's going to make the decisions, the ultimate decisions. I'll focus on recruiting but will be there to help him with the coaching things."

The Rams are inspired to make Smith's final year of coaching a successful one and have already started preparing.

Their work ethic has improved and that may result in a change in their style of play.

"We're committed to it (making Smith's farewell season a success). We've been doing a lot of conditioning," Archie said. "We are going to run with some teams and play defense in their face."

McCarthy watched many Colonial Athletic Association games last season and is familiar with the coaches.

He sees it as an strong and intense league with fierce rivalries.

The biggest difference he noticed about the AC from UTC's Southern Conference is the short distances between schools.

"We were kind of along the perimeter of the league instead of in the middle, he said. "We had some nice seven and eight hour bus rides."

The longest conference treks for the Rams are to East Carolina in Greenville, NC, and to UNC-Wilmington in Wilmington, NC.

## 1997-98 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

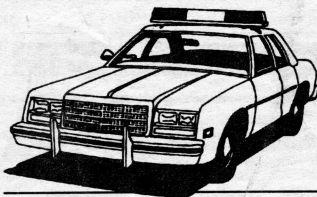
Nov. 15 at Wake Forest 2:00; Nov. 22 Rider 2:00; Nov. 25 Norfolk State 7:00; Nov. 29 Virginia 2:00; Dec. 5 Santa Clara (at Rice Tournament) TBA; at Rice Tournament TBA; Dec. 13 at Towson 1:00; Dec. 16 South Carolina 7:00; Dec. 20 at Boise State TBA; Dec. 21 at Boise State Tournament TBA; Jan. 2 James Madison 7:00; Jan. 4 William & Mary 2:00; Jan. 9 at American 7:00; Jan. 11 at George Mason 2:00; Jan. 16 at East Carolina 7:00; Jan. 18 at UNC Wilmington 2:00; Jan. 23 Richmond 7:00; Jan. 25 Old Dominion 2:00; Jan. 30 at William & Mary 7:30; Feb. 1 at James Madison 2:00; Feb. 3 American 7:00; Feb. 6 East Carolina 7:00; Feb. 8 George Mason 2:00; Feb. 13 at Old Dominion 7:35; Feb. 15 UNC Wilmington 2:00; Sun. Feb. 22 at Richmond 2:00; Feb. 25 - March 1 Colonial Athletic Association Tournament (played at the Richmond Coliseum)

All home games to be played at the Franklin Street Gymnasium. All times are p.m. and East Coast times. Students are admitted free with valid VCU identification.

## 1997-98 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Black & Gold (Exh.); Nov. 7 Court Authority (Exh.); Sports Tours (Exh.); Nov. 16 Georgia State; Nov. 18 at Southwestern Louisiana; Nov. 22 Tennessee-Martin; Nov. 25 Southern Illinois; Dec. 6 Miami (OH); Dec. 13 Virginia (to be played at the Robbins Center on UR's campus); Dec. 17 Norfolk State; Dec. 20 at Kansas State; Dec. 28 Cornell (at Golden Bear Classic in Oakland, CA); Dec. 29 at Golden Bear Classic; Jan. 3 at William & Mary; Jan. 10 George Mason; Jan. 12 UNC Wilmington; Jan. 17 at Old Dominion; Jan. 21 East Carolina; Jan. 24 Richmond; Jan. 26 at American; Jan. 28 James Madison; Feb. 1 Old Dominion; Feb. 4 American; Feb. 7 at East Carolina; Feb. 9 at George Mason; Feb. 14 at James Madison; Feb. 18 at UNC Wilmington; Feb. 21 at Richmond; Feb. 23 William & Mary; Feb. 25 - March 1 Colonial Athletic Association Tournament (to be played at the Richmond Coliseum)

All three exhibitions will be played at the Franklin Street Gymnasium. All home regular season games will be played in the Richmond Coliseum. VCU students are admitted free with valid VCU I.D.



## TRAFFIC CHECKPOINTS

*What do you think about the traffic checkpoints administered by Richmond City Police Department as a result of substitute judge Harold M. Marsh's death?*

"They are unfair, an invasion of privacy."  
Alex Dimitriou, 20, Chemistry

"I think it's really good. If you have anything to hide, you shouldn't worry about it."  
Linda Eiler, 19, Special Education

"I think they should look for expired tags. I don't think they should search your cars."



Diallo

good citizens time."  
Amadou Diallo, 24, Computer Science

"I can't see anything wrong checking for guns and drugs."  
Tom Moorefield, 24, Nuclear Medicine

"I think they are good because they can find people who are driving without licenses."  
LaTarsha Jones, 19, Chemistry



Boyd

"I think it's fair. Richmond is rated as one of the highest crime capitol's so I think it's paying off."  
Kevin Mack, 22, Mass Communications

"I don't see a problem with them. I

wouldn't mind if they searched my car. There is a debate over the violation of rights, but they catch a lot of people quicker."

Stephanie Boyd, 19, Education

*How would you rate the effectiveness of the checkpoints?*

"I think they are pretty effective for people who do go through them."  
Kelly Love, 18, Pre-Pharmacy

"If they are random they would be effective."

Jamie Frazier, 18, Pre-Nursing

"They lose effectiveness as the days go by. If I know cops are there, I'm going to go that way even if I don't have drugs."  
Joan Martin, 28, Business

"They are pretty effective, but police officers should be doing more important things."

Justin Hios, 17, Criminal Justice

*What alternative methods could police do to reduce crime in Richmond?*

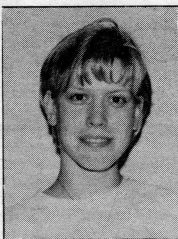
"Enforce even minor crimes. Courts should impose stricter punishments."  
Elise Hughes, 36, Education

"If the money was dumped into art and schools, if kids had an outlet where they don't feel hopeless it would reduce the crime, fund more art programs instead of police."

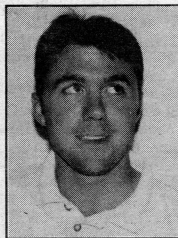
David O'Bryan, 29, Computer Science

"There's nothing you will be able to do in Richmond to reduce crime, more patrolmen downtown which act more effective, not ignoring minor crimes, stricter sentences, if you're convicted, you go to jail."  
John Shurm, 22, Chemistry

"It's a difficult job, clean up high schools, maybe they can bring a magic formula from New York to Richmond, pinpoint places that are really bad."



Love



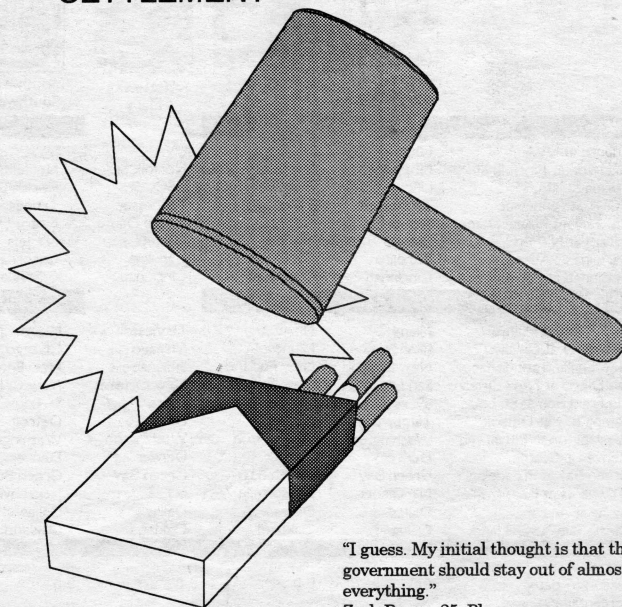
Shurm

Marilyn Brogan, 20, Sculpture

"More policemen, people are just not as respectful so how can police deal with it, stricter penalties."

Anita Holloway, 40, Art History

## TOBACCO SETTLEMENT



regulating it now, but I don't think they should regulate it as a drug."

Jon Finan, 24, Medical School

"I think it should be up to the manufacturers."

Naeema Patel, Biology

"I guess. My initial thought is that the government should stay out of almost everything."

Zach Bryan, 25, Pharmacy

"I think we give too much power to the government. We should take more responsibility ourselves to be health conscious."

Mary Adams, Rehabilitation Counseling

"I would say as much as they control alcohol, which is about the same thing. I think it should be under state control, like alcohol."

Rick Metz, 29, Pharmacy

"Quite a lot, actually. I think it's been out of control all these years."

Diane Han, Rehabilitation Counseling

*How successful do you think the states would be in covering the medical costs?*

"I think it's definitely going to help because they do have to incur costs from cancer and associated diseases due to cigarette smoking. How much it really helps is debatable because we haven't really seen that yet."

Jeremy Rowan, 27, Museum Studies

"I think those settlements are ridiculous. It's just a way to find a scapegoat instead of taking responsibility."  
Catherine Altorfer, 22, Clinical Laboratory Science

*How effective do you think the proposed controls on cigarette advertising would be in deterring underage smoking?*

"Probably not very much, because I think that a lot of the motivation for underage smoking is mostly rebellious and not really a response to advertising. ... Smoking is seen more as a way to express yourself."

David Barrett, 24, Medical School

"I don't think it has anything to do with underage smoking. I think it has to do with the parents and how involved they are in their kids' lives as to whether or not they're going to smoke, and to what extent."

Jessica Palacios, 24, Business

*How much do you think the government should control nicotine?*

"I don't think the FDA should regulate nicotine. In order to regulate it, it has to be considered safe and effective. Nicotine is neither safe nor effective. I think they should regulate it just as far as they're