

Thursday: Cloudy with rain late in the day. High of 45, low of 33.

Friday: Cloudy with rain. High of 50, lows in the 40s.

Wednesday, January 21, 1998

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 30, No. 39

Commonwealth Times

Engineering Progress



Peter S. Martin/Commonwealth Times

A construction worker earnestly drills while working on the School of Engineering building. The building is scheduled to open in time for the Fall 1998 semester of classes.

Professor mugged after gubernatorial debate

YooRee Oh
CT STAFF WRITER

Stranger things have happened.

And on the morning of Oct. 6, the day VCU hosted the gubernatorial debate, a string of unusual events led professor "Jones" (not his real name) to a cash machine, less than one block from where a Jacob Dylan look-alike robbed him of his wallet at gunpoint.

Jacob who?

Dylan is lead singer for a band called the Wallflowers and son of Bob Dylan.

It's not everyday that someone resembling a MTV heartthrob holds up a professor, but as Jones recalls, it was a peculiar morning altogether.

The family dog had an eye infection.

Jones immediately took him to the vet.

On his way to take the dog back home, he stopped at his neighborhood bank where he usually withdraws cash, but it was ominously closed.

Adding to his frustrations, patrol cars blocked the parking lot where he routinely leaves his car.

Jones, an associate professor who asked to remain anonymous, usually arrives on campus by 8 a.m. After the early morning procession of unexpected events, however, he fell two hours behind his normal schedule.

But before heading toward his office, Jones first stopped by the cash machine adjacent to the Student Commuter Lounge.

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MCV offers help for winter blues, anxiety

Mary Franke
CT STAFF WRITER

As class attendance drops with the temperature on campus, many of you may notice that someone you know may be missing classes, avoiding social situations or even finding it difficult to concentrate on studies. This person could be experiencing the winter blues or test anxiety.

This person could be you.

Dr. William T. Riley, co-director of the Anxiety Disorders Program at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, says that this kind of behavior could be perfectly normal.

"Most people deal with fear and anxiety at some time in their lives," he said. "It's actually a very functional response to real danger. But when these responses get in the way of everyday activities, it may be time for the person to seek help."

And help is out there.

"Most cases are fairly treatable," Riley said. "Our success rates (at MCV) are similar to those recorded nationally." Most individuals who seek help fall in the 60 percent to 80 percent who experience some kind of relief.

So what kind of treatment options are out there?

If a student named Maxine chose to seek help from psychological services offered by MCV Hospitals, this is the three-step plan she would undergo:

1) Initial Evaluation — Maxine would make an appointment for an informal interview with a therapist. During this meeting, she and the clinician would identify Maxine's specific needs.

2) Behavioral Monitoring — Maxine would spend two weeks observing her own behavior. She would prepare a basic record of possible triggers that could be bringing on her anxiety.

3) Treatment — Finally Maxine would have a follow-up appointment during

which, with the help of her therapist, she would decide from two different treatment options.

Short term cognitive behavioral therapy would consist of weekly counseling for a 12- to 16-week period. If Maxine chose medication as a treatment, she would meet with a psychiatrist once every couple of months to monitor her progress.

"We try to see how the drug is helping," Riley said, "and then after success, we taper off (the dosage) to suit the patient's needs."

In the case that Maxine's medical insurance could not cover the cost of the program, psychological services would refer her to the resident intern clinic where reduced cost is an option.

Another financial option for Maxine is Commonwealth Catholic Charities, located on the 1500 Block of Willow Lawn Drive. Payment options are based on need on a subsidized fee scale. And the services offered there are not limited to psychological disorders.

"We can act in mediation to resolve a conflict between family members, roommates or friends," Intake Coordinator Denise Creed said. Catholic Charities houses a variety of counseling options to the public.

Those that may appeal to students at VCU could be support groups. In an intimate social setting apart from Maxine's personal life, she could find it beneficial to talk her problems out with those who have had similar experiences.

Some groups available are those discussing women's issues, occupational transitions, alternative lifestyles and domestic abuse.

"Abuse can be physical, sexual, verbal and even financial," Creed said. "We deal with harassment issues as well."

And physical evidence of a psychological

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University Inclement Weather Policy

VCU issued a newsletter regarding the closing of the university in the event of inclement weather.

The newsletter urges students, faculty and staff to listen for announcements on the major area radio and television stations when inclement weather threatens. People may also call 278-1727 to hear which operating plan is in effect.

"Plan 1: All day classes at both the Academic and MCV campuses are cancelled. All faculty and staff offices are closed. Dental School Clinics are closed. MCV Physicians Clinics are closed.

Plan 2: All day classes at both the

Academic and MCV campuses are delayed until a specific time — to be announced. Dental School Clinics afternoon schedule is fully operational — additional clinic announcements will be made only if not fully operational. MCV Physicians' Clinics afternoon schedule is fully operational — additional clinic announcements will be made only if not fully operational.

Separate announcements will be made for evening and Saturday classes."

MCV Hospitals will always be open. State government closings and late openings do not apply to VCU.

World NEWS

News from around the globe



WORLD/NATION



• Netanyahu and Clinton meet

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Clinton met yesterday in Washington, D.C. to jump start the Middle East peace process.

"I think that Israel wants peace and a resolution of this and I believe it's very much in the best interests of the Palestinians and Mr. Arafat to seek to resolve it and we're working very hard," said Clinton.

Clinton plans to discuss what a "credible withdrawal" from the West Bank would entail for the Israelis.

"We made a decision to go to peace," said Netanyahu. "This is what this government is about, peace with security, and I am sure that I can muster the necessary support across the government ... for something that will move the peace process forward and maintain secure and defensible boundaries for Israel."

• Holocaust sends invitation to Arafat

The U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. said yesterday it had reversed

itself and offered a special tour to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Miles Lerman, chairman of the Holocaust Memorial Council, was quoted in the "Washington Post" as saying he had listened to bad advice in withdrawing an initial invitation to Arafat.

• Maryland exchange students assaulted in Guatemala

Five female students from St. Mary's College of Maryland were raped in Guatemala last Friday after two pick-up trucks forced their bus off of the road.

The bus was returning to Guatemala City after an educational tour of historic and cultural sites.

The 13 students and three faculty members were forced off the bus and robbed of luggage, money and other possessions during their two-hour ordeal.

Guatemala authorities have since arrested four suspects in connection with the assault and are looking for three more.

The U.S. State Department has not warned American citizens against traveling in Guatemala but has issued a notice that crime is on the rise in the country.

• Texas ranchers mad as cows

Jury selection began yesterday in Ama-

rillo, Texas for Oprah Winfrey's upcoming court battle with Texas beef growers. Ranchers maintain that Winfrey caused beef prices to plummet after a 1996 program about mad cow disease where Winfrey vowed to never eat a hamburger again.

The April 15 show featured former cattleman Howard Lyman who said feeding animal parts to cattle was a common practice and could lead to the spread of bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

A group of beef growers led by Amarillo feedlot owner Paul Engler charged that the comments were misleading and cost them \$12 million.

The case is the biggest test for the Texas "veggie libel" laws against disparaging Texan agricultural products. Opponents contend the laws violate free speech and prevent discussion on potential food dangers.

VIRGINIA



• House evenly split

House Speaker Thomas W. Moss Jr. handed out committee assignments to the House yesterday, which was considered fair by both parties. Moss divided up

among the 100 delegate spots into 20 committees. Seniority and party played a prominent issue in the committee assignments.

• Do as I say... not as I do

A former state trooper arrested and charged with robbing a Buckingham County bank has also been charged in the robbery an Albermarle County motel.

Michael Carl Eskanczy joined the state police in 1989 and ended his career as a state trooper in 1996 due to disability.

Eskanczy is also being investigated for another robbery.

CAMPUS



• Report shows drug helps relieve effects of hemorrhaging

Virginia Commonwealth University researchers reported in the Dec 4 issue of "Nature" that white blood cells called macrophages produce a marijuana-like substance, which causes blood vessels to relax following severe hemorrhaging, occurs naturally in the body.

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The biggest threat to depression is your awareness of it.

Serious depression strikes millions. Serious depression strikes indiscriminately. Serious depression is MOST dangerous when it goes unrecognized. That's why it's so important to always be aware of the threat of depression. And if your life is ever interrupted by a period of depression, remember that it is readily, medically treatable.

UNTREATED DEPRESSION

#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SAIVE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>

Crime Report

This covers crime occurring on the Academic Campus between January 12 and January 18.

1/12/98

900 Park Avenue
Hibbs Building
A female student reported that between 1/8 and 1/12 an unknown person removed state property from a secured location.
Value: \$200.00

710 W. Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Rhoads Hall
A female student reported that between 8:00 A.M. on 1/9 and 6:30 P.M. on 1/12 a known person was harassing her via telephone.

1/13/98

1537 W. Main Street
A visitor was arrested at 2:08 A.M. for driving under the influence and refusal.

1000 Blk. of W. Broad Street
A visitor was arrested at 12:27 A.M. for driving under the influence.

900 Blk. of W. Grace Street
A visitor was arrested at 7:17 P.M. for a parole violation.

Henry/Grace Sts.
SC-2 Extension
A visitor was arrested at 9:55 P.M. for drinking in public and littering.

812 W. Franklin Street
Franklin Terrace
Between 5:00 P.M. on 1/12 and 5:30 P.M. on 1/13 an unknown person damaged state property.

1/14/98

600 Blk. of W. Main Street
A visitor was arrested at 12:58 A.M. for driving under the influence (third offense)

925 W. Grace Street
A visitor was arrested at 11:39 P.M. for possessing alcoholic beverage underage.

1/15/98

900 Park Avenue
Hibbs Building
A male employee reported that between 4:30 A.M. and 5:45 A.M. an unknown person vandalized his vehicle.

900 Park Avenue
VCU Bookstore
A male student reported that between 9:15 A.M. and 5:30 P.M. an unknown person removed personal property from an unsecured location.
Value: \$290.00

929 W. Grace Street
Twister's
A visitor was arrested at 12:55 A.M. for fraudulent use of driver's license.

1/16/98

W. Broad Street/Allen Street
A visitor was arrested at 10:30 A.M. for possession of marijuana.

907 Floyd Avenue
Student Commons, 1st Floor
A female student reported that between 9:50 A.M. and 3:26 P.M. an unknown person removed personal property and U.S. currency from its unsecured location.
Value: \$42.00

812 W. Franklin Terrace
2nd Floor
A female student/employee reported that between 3:15 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. an unknown person removed personal property from its unsecured location.

1003 W. Grace Street
A visitor was arrested at 11:11 P.M. for trespassing after forbidden to do so.

1/17/98

400 Blk. of N. Shafer Street
A visitor was arrested for urinating in public at 12:44 A.M.

400 Blk. of N. Shafer Street
A visitor was arrested at 12:44 for being drunk in public.

400 Blk. of N. Harrison Street
A visitor was arrested at 4:14 P.M. for drunk in public.

1/18/97

400 Blk. of N. Harrison
Two visitors were arrested for underage possession of alcohol.

Belvidere/Grace Street
Amoco
A visitor was arrested at 11:31 P.M. for felony possession of a concealed handgun and possession of marijuana.

Source: VCU Police

Gilmore outlines goals for state in first address

Angela D. Hill
CT EXECUTIVE EDITOR

While still not providing expected details of how localities will recover lost revenue, Gov. James S. Gilmore III recapped his plan to eliminate Virginia's personal property tax on vehicles during his first State of the Commonwealth Address Monday evening in the House Chamber on Capitol Square.

"We understand the reality that 135 local governments collect this tax in their own unique ways," the 48-year-old Richmond native said. "We have reviewed vital information that was not available last year to accurately measure the impact of my no car tax promise."

The governor continued outlining the plan, saying that he wanted General Assembly members and Virginians to know the following: the plan eliminates the property tax on nearly 5 million vehicles; the plan phases out the tax on the first \$20,000 of vehicle value beginning Jan. 1, 1998; the plan will replace all local revenue now collected through the tax; the plan will reduce through the use of vouchers the amount taxpayers pay each year; and the cost of the plan will be paid from economic growth and will not require a tax increase.

Later this week, he said, he will present legislation and budget amendments to implement his voter-friendly Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998. During his election campaign, Gilmore distributed 61,000 "No Car Tax" signs around the state, making the slogan one that some believe helped the GOP sweep Virginia's top three posts for the first time in history.

Also new to the state, Gilmore said he soon will announce the appointment of a cabinet level technology officer and assemble a 21st Century Science and Technology Task Force to advise him and develop proposals that will allow Virginia to lead the nation as the prime example of a government maximizing information technology.

Gilmore visited George Mason University last week for the Inaugural Technology Showcase where items such as a watch allowing people to check their e-mail were displayed.

Continuing to elaborate on his proposed ways to boost Virginia's economic growth, the governor also pledged to place special emphasis on the state's tourism program.

"Is there a better place for people to visit than Virginia? No there isn't," Gilmore said through deafening applause from both sides of the aisle. "Virginia is the best place."

The governor also made it clear that while he will not tolerate tobacco sales to minors, he does plan to continue his predecessor

former Gov. George Allen's fight against federal tobacco legislation.

"Tobacco farmers deserve our support as they face an uncertain future," Gilmore said. "I pledge the powers of my office to help prevent them from being innocent victims of federal tobacco legislation."

Gilmore also drove home his ideas for reforming the state's education through the Standards of Learning and the hiring of 4,000 additional teachers. Allen provided funding for the hiring of one-fourth of Gilmore's campaign promise during his budget planning after last year's General Assembly session.

In other education initiatives, the governor called on the lawmakers to approve public charter schools. For four consecutive years, they have turned down charter school legislation, citing possible problems in the areas of funding and racial equality. Charter schools are schools paid for through funds allocated for all public education but are not subject to typical public school regulations.

"Last year, because we failed to enact charter school legislation, Virginia lost millions in federal funds," Gilmore said. "Each dollar lost represents a lost educational opportunity for our children."

Some legislators contend that charter school legislation may pass during this session with the swing in political power. The House of Delegates, controlled by Democrats since the last century, agreed to a power-sharing arrangement late last week. After Tuesday night's special elections that resulted in Republican victory, the House now has 50 Democrats, 49 Republicans and one independent who has so far voted with the GOP.

The lone independent, Delegate Lacey E. Putney of Bedford, was not elected Speaker of the House as many Republicans wished. Instead, incumbent speaker Democrat Thomas W. Moss Jr. of Norfolk will continue presiding over the House and committee assignments regardless of the outburst last Wednesday in the chamber. Republicans, beating their desks, yelled "Objection!" and turned their backs during proceedings in which newly elected Republican members were not allowed to be seated because of state electoral board law. This episode reportedly has embarrassed members from both sides of the aisle, who compare it to the infamous English parliament.

During a speech that drew applause from most of the audience most of the time, Gilmore's reference to his recently signed executive order, the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education, received no reaction from legislators. Gilmore cited that his reasoning behind the order was to adopt goals for higher education spending, therefore ensuring responsible appropriations of funds.

"We have for too long spent whatever money could be found to fund various projects, most of them worthy, on our college campuses," he said. "This spending has taken place in the void of a coherent state policy and agreed upon goals for higher education."

Gilmore also pledged to continue Allen's freeze on college tuition for at least two more years, increase faculty salaries and increase tuition assistant grants to \$2,600.

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MCV

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cal problem isn't limited to abuse situations. There may even be a change in health as well as in behavior.

"Whenever your normal coping methods fail and you find yourself turning to alcohol or drugs," Creed said, "or if there's a change in your eating and sleeping habits, you may need help."

On the VCU campus students can go to University Health Services if there are serious physical signs of stress, anxiety or depression. The health professionals there

can help evaluate whether a change in lifestyle might be appropriate.

Full-time students or university employees can see a doctor by appointment or just by walking in. University Health Services is located on the northwest corner of Gladding Residence Center on Main and Laurel streets.

The number for making an appointment is 828-8828. There is an after hours recording that directs a person to MCV in the case of an emergency.

Psychological services, whether they include counseling or medication, may not be necessary for everyone. But for someone who may feel the need for some outside help, to go to a professional therapist or psychiatrist could do more than alleviate short term stress.

To learn to cope with stress or depression can be prepare an individual to be more cognitive of his or her physical and emotional needs in the future and in the long run lead to a better quality of living.

MUGGED

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Minutes later, someone pushed from behind, asked him for his wallet at gunpoint and took off.

The ordeal took less than 20 seconds.

"I was luckily not terrorized by the crime," Jones said as he recalled the events of that morning. "I was upset and angry that I lost my wallet, that it happened so easily... but in retrospect, I don't think he would've hurt me."

Jones' story represents one of two dozen cases VCU police review monthly.

Sgt. G.A. Natoli, an investigator with the VCU Police, said the police handles crimes reported on both the academic and medical campus, which includes burglary, car theft, arson, assault and larceny.

Many times, case solving can take months, even years before investigators find suspects, witnesses or retrieves stolen goods.

Not so, in Jones's case.

Richmond City Police officers caught the suspect the next day for an unrelated robbery. City officials matched the description of a suspect previously dispatched by VCU Police, the same description Jones gave VCU officers characterizing a resemblance to the younger Dylan.

Richmond officers promptly notified VCU of the arrest. VCU investigators thereafter questioned the suspect who confessed to the crime.

"Case solving doesn't always involve an arrest or a case in court," said Natoli, a native of New York who has served the VCU Police for more than 11 years. "Sometimes we solve domestic disputes or recover stolen property."

While overnight cases might be rare, cooperation with Richmond City Police officers portrays a common practice.

Nevertheless, Natoli also gives credit to Jones for his role in capturing the suspect. Neither he nor Sgt. Jon McAchren, also with VCU Police, was familiar with the real Jacob Dylan. McAchren sketched a composite of the suspect based on what Jones was able to recall, but the resemblance was minimal. That's when Jones pulled a picture of the rock star from the Internet.

Although Natoli has previously visited the World Wide Web, the Dylan case was his first exposure to Internet research.

Cooperation between the two police precincts linked the suspect to the campus crime, he said, but the Internet served as an invaluable resource to making the link possible.

Natoli has since attended seminars on the Internet and found the Web helpful in other areas. With Jones' help, Natoli has experimented with computer simulated composites and networked with other police officers via the Internet.

"Each case is different," Natoli said. "There's no 'typical' case, but with the (Jones) case, everything fell into place."

The 1997 Annual Security Report shows crimes on VCU's grounds, especially crimes against people, are minimal. The university's crime statistics indicate for 1996: 11 burglaries, 1 car theft and 253 larcenies. The security reports found that compared to statewide and national statistics, violent crimes on campus are virtually non-existent.

"VCU is a safe area, we just deal with a high number of property crimes," Natoli said. A lot of which, he added, can be avoided by taking simple precautions such as locking doors and windows and re-keying locks after they've been lost or stolen.

To advocate additional preventive measures, the police department offers community-policing programs for all university employees, staff and students.

Officers provide a range of services through the program, including security surveys of facilities, presentations on personal-safety tips and recommendations for safety measures.

VCU Police also offers training for both students and employees in Rape Aggression Defense.

Such are welcomed opportunities for students like Stephanie Holland, who views safety as a privilege.

Holland, a junior and English education major, said safety was one of two deciding factors in her selection of VCU. The 20-year-old said she wanted the best education for her money but also wanted to feel safe.

Originally from Boston, where her father serves as a lieutenant for the Boston city police, she said safety was a natural concern in her choice of schools. After a thorough investigation of the university police system, Holland said both she and her father found campus security reliable.

From her father's influence, Holland said she believes all police officers care, to some extent, about the people and communities they serve.

"What's special about VCU Police," she added, "is the way they talk to and treat students. It's as if we're fulfilling their day when they're fulfilling ours by protecting us. I have a lot of respect for them."

In her three years at VCU, Holland has twice been a victim of crime. Her opinion of the VCU Police, however, has not changed.

Just last year, Holland and a group of students were enjoying a summer evening outside of Rhoads Hall, when a young man, threatening to have a gun, approached them. The young man made an advance toward one girl then walked away when she didn't respond.

Holland rushed inside and called VCU Police.

"Before we knew it, a bike patrol officer came and caught the suspect," she said. "It was incredibly fast and efficient."

In her first brush with crime, however, Holland's recent reaction to contact the campus police was absent.

During her freshman year, as Holland was leaving a Chinese restaurant on Grace Street, a stranger, also threatening to have a gun, asked for her money.

From what she could recall, she came straight from home, not from a cash machine where her assailant might have followed her. Nonetheless, she handed over all the cash she was carrying.

"As soon as it was over, all I could think was call 911, call 911," Holland said. "I didn't think to walk across the street to VCU Police."

The suspect was never caught, VCU Police was never involved and Holland lost \$80.

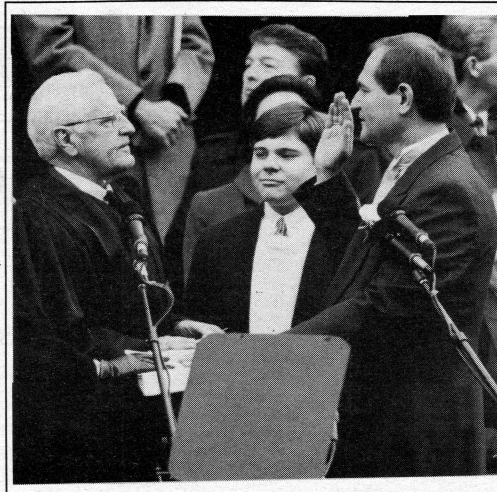
"I blame myself for not contacting VCU Police," she said. "To Richmond, it's a petty crime, but to VCU, it's a crime on one of their students."

"VCU Police care about their students. Obviously those who choose to come and remain at VCU do so because they want to care for students."

Holland adamantly believes VCU Police would have caught whoever robbed her that evening. But in the frenzy of the events, she said she didn't think to contact campus police.

"It's hard for students to think beyond dialing 911," Holland said. "Many times, students may not call VCU Police for crimes not directly related to campus activities, even if it takes place on campus."

The campus police prides itself on their quick response time, but officers said they



Chris Woodford/Commonwealth Times

IN WITH THE NEW
— Flanked by family and friends, Gov. James S. Gilmore III takes his oath of office Saturday at the Inaugural Ceremony on the north side of the Capitol

GILMORE

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The governor, self-described as a "common man," paused during his outline of public safety to request the audience observe a moment of silence in honor of recently killed state trooper Jessica Jean Cheney. Cheney died while in the line of duty Saturday when she stepped out to direct traffic at a Stafford County accident scene and was hit by a Jeep Eagle. She was 23 years old.

While the Allen administration abolished parole and reformed the juvenile justice system, Gilmore said he did not consider his work complete and called on legislators to pass effective bail reform.

"Too many violent criminals are allowed to roam the streets while awaiting trial on bail," he said. "These criminals then often intimidate witnesses and pose a general threat to the community."

The governor also called for a new war on drugs and violence, stiff penalties for any adult who recruits a minor into a gang, tough penalties for drug dealers or users caught with a weapon and the closing of Lorton Prison.

In other aggressive changes, Gilmore proposed that legislators enact laws that will allow Attorney General Mark Earley to also prosecute anyone violating Virginia's environment and natural resources. Gilmore introduced environmental concerns in the wake of an administration that was frequently accused of going easy

on polluters.

"Putting such a law on the books will send a powerful message to those who think they can violate our environmental statutes with impunity," he said.

Gilmore transitioned from his environmental concerns to transportation. He urged legislators to support Virginia's U.S. Sen. John Warner's initiative to obtain the state's "rightful share" of the federal highway trust fund; begin construction of projects to include the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, the Hampton Roads Third Crossing, Route 288 and Virginia's Smart Highway; and to stand behind Virginia's Public Private Transportation Act.

Gilmore wrapped up his nearly 45-minute address with a plea for legislators to stand behind welfare reform and the collection of child support — two initiatives Allen counted as successes while giving his State of the Commonwealth address last Wednesday.

Gilmore once more brought up his Saturday inaugural address theme "A Time for All Virginians" in saying that he extended his hand to all Virginians to join him on his journey as the people's governor.

"On Saturday, I remarked that I was a common man with an uncommon chance to serve the people of Virginia," he said. "I pledge to you to do my best to be faithful to that opportunity. Thank you and God bless you."

realize there is always room for improvement.

Captain Herman Hicks, deputy chief in charge of patrol, said campus police officers work hard to protect what many consider is an unsafe campus.

"One of things VCU Police deal with is the perception that the campus is unsafe because of (the crime) reported in the city," Hicks said. "Even if a crime takes place 10 blocks away, it can haunt VCU and give us bad publicity."

VCU's jurisdiction includes all university facilities and buildings at the academic and medical campuses. When a large population of students and faculty live and work off-campus safety on campus can include safety near campus grounds.

"I hope students feel safe no matter where they live," said Hicks who's serving his eighth year as deputy chief of patrol. "My number one priority is the safety of

students, staff, faculty... everyone at VCU."

Hicks said he recognizes the needs of students and faculty but affirms that everyone must play a role to maintain a safe campus.

"There are some things students and faculty have to do," Hicks said. Just as students depend on the police, he added, they too depend on the students to be careful.

Hicks suggests students and faculty should avoid walking alone, especially after dark, avoid staying out late at night and watch belongings carefully.

"We're asking (students and faculty) to support us so we can support them," he said.

For their part, VCU Police will continue to patrol by foot, car and bicycle, service community programs and publish *Campus Watch*, a monthly publication that offers safety tips.

Big Brother is back

By **CLIFF HICKS**
Daily Nebraskan
(U. Nebraska)

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — Laura shakes her head, looking down at the newspaper confusedly.

Sure, she thinks to herself, it isn't worthy of being the top story, but this? This is a story some editor considered unimportant.

"Malicious, isn't it?" the young man in the leather jacket says as he settles into the seat across from her, a cup of Irish Mocha in his hand. "I mean, people say I'm paranoid and all, but this? This, I don't think enough people are paranoid about."

The headline, buried on page five, reads "GERMANY OKs ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE."

"I have to confess," she says, "if I were in Germany, I'd be scared to death."

He nods, taking a sip from his coffee. "You'd think people would learn after the first time. Hell, we don't allow continuous bugging for a lot of reasons."

"You think they're going to get rampant with it?" Laura asks him.

He laughs softly. "Of course they are. History of racism dictates it."

She arches an eyebrow inquisitively, urging him to go on.

"When Hoover was in charge of the FBI in the United States, he started keeping files on anyone at all suspicious - politi-

cians, musicians, actors, you name it."

"Actors? How can an actor be suspicious?"

"I could introduce you to some actors who are very shifty-looking, but that's not the point. The point is that Hoover started watching everyone, and I mean everyone. If you so much as let wind in the wrong direction, your phones would be bugged, your mail would be steamed and there would be a gentleman in the car across the street from you at all times."

"Wouldn't it be fair to say Hoover is an isolated incident, though?"

He shakes his head, biting his bottom lip, choosing his next words carefully. "Not at all."

You know the old saying - 'Power corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely.' Hitler's Gestapo listened in on telephone calls all the time. During World War II, Japanese-Americans were imprisoned in America because of unfounded suspicions. All it takes is one person getting antsy, and pretty soon you have a whole mess of trouble on your hands."

"So why'd they do it?" she asks.

"Who?" he replies, the question a little vague for him.

"The Germans today."

"Organized crime."

"What?" she questions, almost stunned.

"Germany's having a problem with organized crime?"

He nods as he takes another sip from his

mocha. "Sure, I think everybody is these days."

She picks up a french fry, twirling it in her fingers. "It's just when I think of organized crime, I think of, well, you know - 'The Untouchables' and 'The Godfather' rolled into one. Germany doesn't really enter into the picture."

He tilts his head a little, shrugging.

"Organized crime doesn't have to just be about Italians talking about what good 'family' men they are. These days, the Internet can work wonders. As the rest of the world goes up technologically, so do our criminals. They get smarter and they learn new tricks."

"They're probably sending communications back and forth through the Internet as we speak," he says. "Somewhere in the world, there's a group of hackers trying to break encryptions so they can scam credit cards. People are subtly trying to influence the market. Every time a new technology is invented, it's only a few short minutes before someone has figured out how to abuse it."

"So you don't think the Germans should have passed the law?" she asks.

He shakes his head, frowning a little. "There are too many people who might abuse it. Even if the law wasn't passed, there will always be government cronies spying on the people - they'd just have to be more hush-hush about it."

She frowns at this herself, a little con-

fused.

"What's the difference between if they had not passed the law and now?"

"Now it can be used as an intimidation tactic," he replies. "That's only one thing, too. Luckily, they did stipulate that a judge had to approve the bugging, but if you look hard enough, you can find a judge to pay into your pocket. If the government wants to beat the grass to scare the snakes, they've got the perfect stick already at hand. Making it legal simply makes it easier for the government."

"Think there'll be a dictator over there any time soon?"

He finishes off his coffee, shaking his head once more.

"Not any time soon, but it might happen. The reunited Germany is going to be watching for someone to rise up, and so is the rest of the world. Hitler is not exactly easy to forget, so I wouldn't expect the Germans to grow complacent any time soon."

"I suppose. I don't expect that they'd be all that pleased about parting with their hard-earned freedom, either," she says, pausing as she notices someone across the cafeteria looking over at them.

Both of them stop and look at the gentleman, who turns his attention quickly back to his food.

The two of them look back at each other, laugh and shake their heads, muttering "Nah, couldn't be..."

Lindsay Kastner

Young athletes going too far for win

Most athletes understand that using steroids is an unhealthy and unacceptable way to build strength. Drug use, however, is not the only way young athletes endanger their lives while trying to beat the competition.

Prior to matches, many wrestlers attempt to "cut weight," or loose enough pounds to qualify them to compete in a lower weight class. They sometimes go on extreme diets and work out in heated rooms while wearing rubber suits all in an effort to loose weight.

After shedding pounds, they weigh in up to 24 hours before competition and use the time left to regain the weight. This process is clearly dangerous — coaches, trainers and the wrestlers themselves must know that. Surely the NCAA knows as

well.

But it wasn't until three young wrestlers died late last year that anyone took action. The NCAA has now banned rubber suits, stipulated that exercise rooms may not be kept excessively warm and ruled that competitors can weigh in only one hour before competition time.

All too often, only tragedy sparks change. College wrestlers need to respect and adhere to new guidelines and coaches need to enforce them. Sports should be about competition and personal achievement, not about taking serious health risks in an effort to improve one's chance of winning.

The NCAA's new rules should encourage young wrestlers to do their personal best, rather than work the system in a dangerous attempt to get the upper edge.

Lindsay Kastner

Maybe Oprah should sue Texas

You may have heard that Oprah Winfrey — the philanthropic talk show host whose book club has gotten Americans to begin reading again and whose angel network is building a scholarship fund for needy teens — is being taken to court. Yes, the cattle ranchers in Texas are out to get Oprah, and the law just may be on their side.

Winfrey is being charged with saying some not-so-nice things about ground beef and hurting the cattle industry in the process. The Texans say ranchers are perishing because of her remark. They attest that family ranches are failing and no one is buying beef now that Oprah has declared that she will no longer eat hamburgers.

Why is Winfrey banning beef? Well it happened like this . . . Howard Lyman of the Humane Society on the United States appeared on the talk show one day to discuss "mad cow disease," which you'll recall is the bovine illness probably responsible for the fatal and incurable Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease in humans.

Lyman gave a factual presentation during which he discussed the fact that is common practice to feed ground up dead cows to other cows, a practice U.S. officials say could increase the chances of a mad cow outbreak in this country.

Oprah was shocked by Lyman's statements and professed that her hamburger days are over.

Now Oprah didn't tell lies, she merely said that she was through with hamburgers. So how can she be sued for libel? Well Texas and her beef-loving constituents have their own type of libel law. The "veggie libel law" basically outlaws the criticism of Texas agricultural products.

Ordinarily libel law puts the burden of proof on the plaintiff, who must prove that the defendant deliberately and knowingly presented false information. Under veggie libel, the burden of proof is shifted, which means the grumpy cattle ranchers may actually be able to beat Oprah. Veggie libel, a First Amendment infringement if there ever was one, is merely an underhanded tool of the industry to protect them from (often valid) criticism.

While it would be wrong to claim that all of Texas is out to get Oprah, those who do side with the beef industry are making their views known — bumper stickers in Texas proclaim that "The Only Mad Cow Around Is Oprah."

What would happen if Winfrey and her fellow celebrities got together to lobby for a "TV personality libel law"?

After all, if the ranchers can propose that stating an aversion to hamburgers is libel, couldn't Oprah just as easily sue for being called a mad cow? Perhaps, unlike the huffy beef people, she respects freedom of speech enough to refrain from stooping so low.

CommonwealthTimes

EDITORIAL BOARD

Lindsay Kastner — Editorial Editor
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The editorial section of the Commonwealth Times is a forum open to all members of the Virginia Commonwealth University community. Students, faculty and administrators are encouraged to submit editorials expressing their opinions and concerns. The opinions expressed are those of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commonwealth Times or VCU.

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.

Editorial e-mail: s2adhill@vtanet.edu. Mailing address: P. O. Box 842010, Richmond, VA 23284-2010. Drop box location: 1149 General Purpose Academic Building (outside of the Commonwealth Times office).

What's missing from this page? Your letter to the editor or guest editorial!

CALL FOR ENTRIES

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

COMPETITIONS



FOURTH ANNUAL

BLACK HISTORY MONTH JURIED EXHIBITION

THEME: "FREEDOM'S LONG QUEST"

All entries must be two dimensional, suitable for hanging, and matted or framed. No more than three entries per artist.

Deadline for entries: February 6, 1998, 4:30 pm.

Pick up date: February 13, 1998.

Exhibition dates: Feb. 12, 1998 — Feb. 27, 1998

Awards: First place, \$200 gift certificate;
Second place, \$150 gift certificate;
Third place, \$100 gift certificate;
Honorable mention, public recognition.

**All students, regardless of race,
are encouraged to enter!**

Results will be announced on Feb. 19, 1998

SEVENTH ANNUAL

CREATIVE ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

THEME: "FREEDOM'S LONG QUEST"

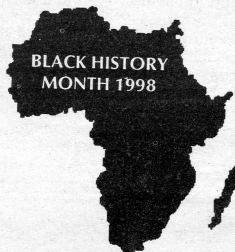
Deadline for entries: February 13, 1998

Awards: First place, \$75 gift certificate
Second place, \$50 gift certificate
Third place, \$25 gift certificate

**All students, regardless of race,
are encouraged to enter!**

Results will be announced on Feb. 19, 1998,
at the Black History program hosted by
African-American Studies

BLACK HISTORY
MONTH 1998



*Complete contest rules now available from
Minority Student Affairs, 901 Floyd Ave. Telephone 828-6672.
Entries due with completed entry form by 4:30 pm on the respective deadline date in the
Office of Minority Student Affairs.*

Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity / affirmative action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, ethnic origin, gender, religion, political affiliation or disability. If you need special accommodation, please contact Rhonda Hall at (804) 828-6672.

VCU

Virginia Commonwealth University
Division of Student Affairs

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The last challenge of a socially conscious society?

Depression strikes millions— indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression
of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is
readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag
themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide? First, there's the lack
of awareness of depression— as an illness and as the threat that it is to each and
every one of us. Second, there's the unwarranted negative stigma attached to it.
You know, the 'mental' thing. It's time to collectively face depression. To know it's
an illness, not a weakness. And it's a
challenge that's long overdue. It's
taken too many of us already.

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DEPRESSION**

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Student Government Association 1998 Campaign

Requirements:

1. **Any students registered for one or more credits on the Academic Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University may run for or vote in any Student Government Association election.**
2. **All candidates must have a GPA no less than a 2.0 cumulative.**
3. **If elected to the Student Senate, you must attend mandatory Senate meetings during the 1998-99 Academic Year, which are held every other Monday from 4 to 6 p.m.**
4. **If elected to the Student Senate, you must attend one Senate meeting in the Spring Semester of the 1997-98 Academic year.**

Offices:

Any student may register to be a candidate for one of the following offices in SGA:

1. Student Senator (50 Seats Available)
2. Student Body President
3. Student Body Vice-President

Important Dates:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Friday, Feb. 6 | Deadline for submission of candidate registration Student Activities Center, Student Government Offices |
| Monday, Feb. 12 | Candidate Reception & Information Session Forum Room, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. (mandatory attendance) |
| Feb 16. Thru March 1 | Campaigning |
| March 2,3, & 4 | Elections |

Senate Meetings to Attend in the Spring:

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| March 23 | 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. |
| April 6 | 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. |
| April 20 | 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. |

Elections Committee Contacts:

If you have any questions or concerns concerning the elections or other campaigns, please contact the committee at any time.

Phone: 828-7551
 E-Mail: sga-vcu@lists.vcu.edu
 SGA Office: Student Activities Center, Commons Lower Level

Virginia Commonwealth University
 Student Government Association
 1998 Campaigning Rules

1. All candidates are encouraged to campaign. Some suggestions:
 - Flyers, posters
 - Classes/cafeteria/Commons
 - Meet and greet other students
2. **No campaigning is allowed within 30 feet of a polling table. Any violation of this rule will be grounds for disqualification.**
3. Flyers are permitted in all academic buildings. Posting in the Commons and Residence Halls will be done in accordance with current regulations in those buildings.
4. Posters may only be placed on university bulletin boards.
5. Candidates will be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order.
6. Any student with just cause may appeal the election results. The student must defend his/her case before the Appointments/Elections Committee.
7. The results will be posted in the Student Activities Center on Friday, March 6, 1998.

1998 Student Government Association Candidate Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Personal Information:

Full Name _____

Print how name should appear on ballot if different from above

Social Security # _____

Address: Street _____ Apt. # _____

City/State _____

Zip Code _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Local Phone _____

College/School _____ (e.g. School of Business, Hum & Sci.)

Year in School (Circle One) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Office of Intent:

Select the Office for which you are registering to run:

☐ Student Senator☐ Student Body President/Running Mate (VP) _____☐ Student Body Vice-President/Running Mate (President) _____

* The candidates for Student Body President and Vice-President will be required to participate in a public debate held on February 24 in the Student Commons at noon until 1:30p.m.

Statement of Intent:

Please use the space provided to include a brief statement of your intentions to run for a public office:

Petitioning:

Along with this registration form each candidate must submit the attached form complete with 30 different signatures of VCU students. Obtaining these 30 signatures from VCU students will demonstrate your commitment to running for SGA and allow you to inform at least 30 students of your intentions. The Elections Committee will verify that all of the signatures are from VCU students. The registration form will not be complete without these signatures.

Qualifications:

Mark the following if appropriate:

☐ I will be registered for 1998-99 academic year on the Academic Campus.☐ I have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA.☐ I am not on academic warning or probation.☐ I hereby authorize the Elections Committee of the Student Senate to verify my GPA.

All of the information provided on this registration form is accurate. By signing, you authorize the Elections Committee of the SGA Academic Campus to publish your statement of intent in order to assist you in your campaign.

Signed _____ Date _____

How did you hear about running for SGA? (Circle all that apply)

Vine / Info Table / poster / friend / Commonwealth Times / Other _____

**** Return this completed registration form along with the completed Signature Form to the Student Activities Center by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6. ****

Death of a legend

Rockabilly great Carl Perkins dies at 65

By Tom Netherland
CT STAFF WRITER

Carl Perkins' "Blue Suede Shoes" forever rests in rock 'n' roll history as a bedrock upon which a genre of music was built.

Perkins, following a series of strokes in November and December, died Monday at 65.

Born and raised in poverty in Lake County, Tenn., Perkins picked cotton alongside his many black neighbors for hours on end, along the way picking up on the rhythms of their spiritual singing. Combined with the country and bluegrass sounds he heard from WSM's Grand Ole Opry, Perkins set forth rock's rhythmic backbone—a move that would later prove vital to the sounds of his many acolytes such as The Beatles and The Rolling Stones.

By summer 1956, Perkins, then with Sam Phillips' Sun Records, was scaling the charts with the seminal "Blue Suede Shoes." Phillips, who also had in his stable of artists Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, and Jerry Lee Lewis, thought Perkins was well on his way to superstardom, and as a result, didn't mind losing Presley that fall to RCA.

Unfortunately, Perkins' roller coaster ride tragically ended shortly thereafter. Scheduled to become the

first rock musician to appear on The Ed Sullivan Show in September 1956, Perkins nearly died in a fatal auto crash that claimed the life of his brother Jay, also a member of his band. Perkins, while recuperating, watched as Elvis, on Sept. 9, filled his slot on the Sullivan Show.

Perkins' career never rebounded. Still, the ever-positive Perkins kept active over the succeeding 40 years. He watched in the studio as The Beatles recorded his songs "Honey Don't," "Everybody's Trying To Be My Baby," and "Matchbox." Ironically, Perkins would say later that he made more money on their recordings of his classics than he did from the originals.

From the mid-'60s into the '70s, Perkins performed as a member of Johnny Cash's band and show. He recorded for a time with Columbia, where, despite a push for him in the country market, success never came close to duplicating his initial rockabilly recordings.

Ever appreciative of their hero, Paul McCartney and George Harrison paid tribute to Perkins in 1985 via an all-star salute. McCartney, in 1982, recorded a duet with Perkins who also stuck around that day to play guitar on McCartney's hit duet with Stevie Wonder, "Ebony and Ivory."



Perkins' last recording, 1996's "Go, Cat Go," featured many of his admirers, such as Bono, Paul Simon, and Willie Nelson. The accompanying autobiography of the same name dispelled any doubts that many may have had about whether Perkins harbored a tinge of bitterness toward Presley for grabbing his spotlight.

Instead, Perkins kindly purveyed his heartfelt gratitude for given the chance to live the life of his dreams.

Ever humble, always gracious, forever unforgettable, Carl Perkins gave more to rock than it could possibly have returned.

“Ever humble, always gracious, forever unforgettable, Carl Perkins gave more to rock than it could possibly have returned.”

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

Meeting: Engage in enlightening conversation and mingle with new friends at the International Student Coffee Hour, beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the Commons, Capital Ballroom D.

Meeting: APB/Alternative Films meets in the Student Activities Center in the Commons at 7 p.m.

Art Exhibit: "50/50, A Photographic Documentary of New York City," is an exhibition on the city so nice they had to name it twice that incorporates 50 photos by Jesse

Nemerofsky. "50/50" is on exhibit at The Underground Exhibition at the 1708 East Main Gallery, located at 1708 E. Main St. The exhibit ends on the Jan. 25.

Art Exhibition: "Legible Forms: Contemporary Sculptural Books," a traveling exhibition with more than 40 objects inspired by both the tangible and abstract qualities of books, runs at the Hand Workshop Art Center, at 1812 W. Main St., until Feb. 28. For more information, call 353-0094

Concert: W.C. Spencer, the "World's Greatest One Man

Band," will perform at Moondance at 9 N. 17th St., in Shockoe Bottom. Call 788-6666 for more information.

Concert: Disco Night starts at 10 p.m. at Twister's, 929 W. Grace St. For more information, call 353-GAME.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Thursday night DJ Dance begins at 9 p.m. in The Commons Ground. Free with VCU ID, non-students must be at least 18, have proof of age and be the guest of a VCU student.

Meeting: The "Welcome Back

to School Social and Tailgate Party" starts at 11 a.m. in the Commons Ground, and ends at 1 p.m. Aside from free food and prizes, meet the VCU men's and women's basketball teams.

Concert: Bobby Fleet and the Props of Faith will perform at Moondance at 9 N. 17th St., in Shockoe Bottom. Call 788-6666 for more information.

Art Exhibition: Coincidence Gallery, at 2401 W. Main St., celebrates its first anniversary with "The Art of Communication II," an exhibit featuring the work of photographers Carol Golemboski

DOWNFALL

For 1 hour and 55 minutes, "Fallen" the new supernatural thriller movie from Warner Bros., struggles to stay together. The last five minutes, though, is enough to make the movie a good one . . . when it comes out on video.

Denzel Washington stars as Detective John Hobbes. He is seen running through the woods at the beginning of the film — a very promising start. Then he begins to recount the story back in flashback form. The story starts with Hobbes meeting up with a killer on death row. Hobbes put the killer away. The killer dies, but not before touching a security guard.

An evil demon by the name of Azazel was in the killer's body. The demon lives on Earth and is passes through other people by touch. Azazel's passing around through different people causes a string of murders, including that of Hobbes' mentally ill brother Art. He does not know of Azazel's existence.

Hobbes learns of Azazel through Gretta Milano (Embeth Davidtz). Milano is the daughter of a decorated police officer that was possessed by Azazel before killing himself in 1966. Hobbes is being set up by Azazel and is being accused of the murders. Azazel wants Hobbes. So, Hobbes retreats so that he can be alone with Azazel and

try to kill the demon.

This is the second supernatural thriller released by Warner Bros. in recent months. "The Devil's Advocate," starring Al Pacino and Keanu Reeves, was released last fall. "Fallen" is not nearly as good as that movie.

Washington is a good actor, but he had no decent script with which to work. Unbelievable supernatural themes were not explained in a believable way. There is no character depth. We don't really know why Lt. Stanton (Donald Sutherland) keeps Washington from investigating Milano's suicide. Davidtz is a phenomenal actress and her character is just there to explain things to Washington. I still don't know why John Goodman is in this movie. The character is the most unnecessary one that I've seen in years.

The last few minutes, as I said earlier, are enough to make you leave the theater with a smile on your face. If a movie can end well, then the movie is at least good enough to rent.

—By Russel de Leon

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FOR
CHRIS OR
RUSSEL.

and Gordon Stettinius, painters Mary Scurlock, Mark Bryant, and Dave Moore, as well as mixed media artist Rose Marie Prins. The exhibition runs until Jan. 30. The Gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., call 353-5102 for more information.

Event: Vehemence Realized perform at Revelations Goth Night at Twister's, 929 W. Grace St. For more information, call 353-GAME.

Concert: Junk Food Buddah plays at Alley Katz, at 10 Walnut Alley. The show

starts at 9 p.m., call 643-2816 for more information.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Concert: The Dixie Power Trio will perform at Moondance at 9 N. 17th St., in Shockoe Bottom. Call 788-6666 for more information.

Event: Bouncing Souls, Blanks 77, and John Cougar Concentration Camp play an early show before Friday Funkalicious at Twister's, 929 W. Grace St. For more information, call 353-GAME.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

Concert: Lil' Ronnie's All Star Blues Revue will perform at Moondance at 9 North 17th Street, in Shockoe Bottom. Call 788-6666 for more information.

Concert: Submerge, Gentle and Patience Under Pressure play at Twister's, 929 W. Grace St. For more information, call 353-GAME.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Event: Come watch the Superbowl on a large TV screen in the Common Ground at 6 p.m. There will

even be a drawing for prizes. Sponsored by Commons Collage.

Event: "Bring Us Your Treasures," an appraisal session in which participants may bring in rare and old items to two experts. Admission is \$10 and the event runs from 1 to 4 p.m. The Valentine Museum is located at 1015 E. Clay St. Call 649-0711 for more info.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Event: Commuter CoffeeBRAKE, a chance for commuter students to meet for free coffee and donuts in

the Commons Lobby, starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 11 a.m. Sponsored by Commuter Student Services at VCU.

Concert: Chris and Meredith Thompson, acoustic musicians, will perform at Moondance at 9 N. 17th St., in Shockoe Bottom. Call 788-6666 for more information.

Concert: Too Skinee J's and a special guest play at Twister's, 929 W. Grace St. Call 353-GAME for more information.

Classified

Wednesday, January 21, 1998

12 Commonwealth Times

help wanted

EARN \$750-\$1500/WEEK. Raise all the money your student group needs by sponsoring a VISA fundraiser on your campus. No investment & very little time needed. There's no obligation, so why not call for information today. 1-800-323-8454 x95

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HELP WANTED. PART-TIMEWAREHOUSE WORKER, AFTERNOONS, MON-FRI., LOADING/UNLOADING TRUCKS. LOCAL DELIVERIES. CLOSETOVCU. \$8.00/HR. 359-4840

Experienced banquet waitstaff needed for historic banquet facility near VCU. Flexible schedule. Well-groomed. Accepting applications on Thursday, Jan. 15 and Tuesday, Jan. 20, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. 107 W. Broad St. 2nd floor.

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Classifieds are accepted Monday through Friday in the offices of the **Commonwealth TIMES**, 901 W. Main St. Classifieds must be prepaid in cash, check or money order. Classifieds will be accepted by mail if full payment is enclosed.

The deadline for classifieds is noon Friday for the following Monday edition, noon Tuesday for the Wednesday issue and noon Thursday for the Friday issue. Classifieds are \$7 for the first 25 words or less, plus 10 cents for each additional word.

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VCU

ATTENTION MAY 1998 GRADUATES

The deadline for submitting applications for May 1998 graduation is January 23, 1998.

Request forms for graduation applications may be picked up at the Student Services Center, located at 827 W. Franklin St. The completed request forms may be placed in the Student Drop Box located in the hallway outside the Student Services Center between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday/ Wednesday/Friday or between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Tuesday/ Thursday.

Please return to the Student Services Center to pick up your graduation application two days after submitting your request. Upon receipt, your application should be taken immediately to your adviser to meet the Jan. 23 deadline for May commencement.

The Commonwealth Times is looking for editorials and editorial cartoons.

If you have strong opinions on issues you feel affect CT readers, and you want to make your voice heard, call 828-1058 and ask for Angela.

All artwork will be returned.

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Registrations are currently being accepted for Session I.

Classes begin Tuesday, January 20th and enrollment is limited. So exercise your right to good health.

Classes are offered up to five times per day and cost depends on usage per week.

| Day | Times | Aerobics Class fees: 7 week session | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| | | Times per Week | Students/ Members | Faculty/Staff Non-Members | Community |
| VCU Campus | | 2x | \$14 | \$28 | \$42 |
| Mon | 12,4, 5, 6, 7 | 3x | \$20 | \$40 | \$63 |
| Tues | 1, 5, 6, 7 | 4x | \$25 | \$50 | \$84 |
| Wed | 12,1,4, 5, 6, 7 | VCU Unlimited | \$35 | \$70 | \$105 |
| Thurs | 5, 6, 7 | MCV 5-Punch Card | \$10 | \$15 | \$20 |
| Fri | 12,1 | Ballroom Dance | \$10 | \$20 | \$30 |

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| MCV Campus | |
| Mon/Thur | 5:30 & 6:00pm |
| Tues/Wed | 5:30pm |

MCV Aquatic Center offers Water Fitness & Ballroom Dance classes
 Ballroom Dance Tues 6:00pm for beginner 7:00pm for intermediate.
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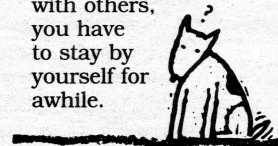
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VCU LADY RAMS



FREE PIZZA NIGHT VCU VS. RICHMOND

Friday, January 23
7:00pm

Franklin St. Gym

a free slice of pizza and a pepsi for the first
150 VCU/MCV students with valid ids.

NATIONALLY-RANKED ODU INVADES CAMPUS VCU VS. #2 OLD DOMINION

Sunday, January 25
2:00pm

Franklin St. Gym



All VCU/MCV Students admitted FREE with valid ids.



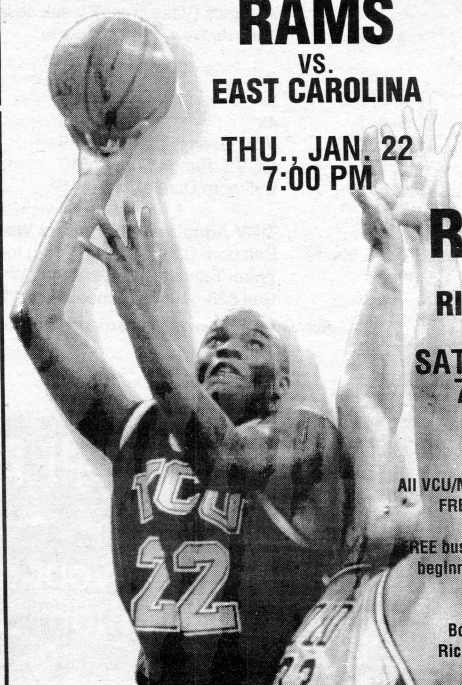
VCU BASKETBALL!!

RAMS VS. EAST CAROLINA

THU., JAN. 22
7:00 PM

RAMS VS. RICHMOND

SAT., JAN. 24
7:00 PM



All VCU/MCV Students admitted
FREE with valid IDs.

FREE bus transportation leaves
beginning at 5:30 pm from
Johnson Hall.

Both games at the
Richmond Coliseum.

LADY RAMS:

continued from page 16

"After 17-17, we didn't do anything. We were flat at the end of the first half and we came out flat in the second half," said Glass.

UNCW put the game out of reach for good by outscoring VCU 17-6 in the first 5:44 of the second half. Ioulia Koukourouzova contributed eight points to the run on four jumpers from nearly the same spot on the floor. The last basket by Koukourouzova gave UNCW its biggest lead at 41-23 with 14:16 left in the game.

"Ioulia is finally showing what she can do. She started to show it against William & Mary and she came up big for us in the second half," said Flax.

UNCW would match that lead of 18 at 52:34 after a jumper by LaTonia Beale with 8:25 left in the game.

After UNCW increased their lead back to 18, the Lady Rams went on a 15-4 run to close the gap to seven at 56-49 with 3:18 left in the game.

VCU would get no closer thanks to the Seahawks making eight out of their last 10 free throws to hold off the Lady Rams.

"We made some poor decisions in the second half and let them back into the game but our team sucked it back up and came through in the end," said Flax.

Marika Rasmussen led VCU in scoring for the sixth straight game, by scoring 18 points. Karlsson also had 13 points for the Lady Rams.

The Seahawks had four players in double figures led by Beale with 16 points. Katy Walters poured in 13 points along with 12 from Koukourouzova and ten from Chandra Watkins.

Despite being out-rebounded by 16 and shooting just 34.6 percent (18-52) the Lady Rams won the first game of the weekend road swing over East Carolina 53-50.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

VCU 61, Old Dominion 55
VCU (5-9, 1-3)

| | fg | ft | rb | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------|-------|-------|---|----|----|
| | min | m-a | m-a | o-t | a | pf | tp |
| Kodjoe | 22 | 3-7 | 0-0 | 2-4 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Archie | 30 | 4-8 | 5-7 | 2-4 | 0 | 5 | 13 |
| Brooks | 29 | 6-14 | 6-7 | 2-6 | 0 | 4 | 19 |
| Taylor | 33 | 3-6 | 2-2 | 0-3 | 3 | 1 | 9 |
| Lilly | 32 | 1-3 | 0-3 | 0-2 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Hoggatt | 8 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Drake | 25 | 3-7 | 0-1 | 3-6 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Carmon | 2 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Mills | 19 | 1-4 | 0-0 | 0-3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| TOTALS | 200 | 32-54 | 12-20 | 11-34 | 1 | 2 | 5 |

TOTALS 200 22-54 13-20 11-34 11 14 61

Percentages: FG-.407, FT-.650, 3-point goals: 4-16, 250 (Kodjoe 1-4, Brooks 1-2, Taylor 1-3, Lilly 1-3, Hoggatt 0-2, Carmon 0-1, Mills 0-1)

ODU (5-9, 2-2)

| | min | fg m-a | ft m-a | rb o-t | a | pf | tp |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|----|----|
| Bowdler | 25 | 2-9 | 3-8 | 2-6 | 1 | 2 | 7 |
| Poag | 26 | 5-7 | 2-2 | 1-3 | 0 | 2 | 15 |
| Youngblood | 26 | 4-8 | 1-2 | 3-8 | 0 | 2 | 9 |
| Dunlap | 36 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 1-6 | 8 | 2 | 0 |
| Byers | 34 | 5-9 | 0-0 | 1-4 | 4 | 3 | 15 |
| Bryant | 2 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pass | 16 | 0-4 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Williams | 6 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Reed | 2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bassette | 27 | 3-9 | 3-6 | 4-10 | 0 | 5 | 9 |

TOTALS 200 19-51 9-18 13-29 15 18 55

Percentages: FG-.373, FT-.500, 3-point goals: 8-16, 500 (Byers 5-7, Poag 3-5, Pass 0-3, Williams 0-1)

VCU 23 38 — 61
ODU 30 25 — 55

Technical fouls: none. A: 5,041

CT PLAYER OF THE GAME

MYLO BROOKS
CENTER, VCU



QUOTE OF NOTE —

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UNC Wilmington 68, VCU 57
VCU (8-8, 4-2)

| | min | fg m-a | ft m-a | rb o-t | a | pf | tp |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|----|----|
| Rasmussen | 35 | 6-12 | 5-7 | 0-4 | 0 | 3 | 18 |
| Kylhstedt | 22 | 2-4 | 2-2 | 1-4 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| Karlsson | 31 | 5-10 | 3-8 | 3-6 | 1 | 4 | 13 |
| Sisson | 28 | 3-9 | 0-0 | 0-6 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| Waller | 21 | 2-9 | 1-2 | 3-5 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| McKinnon | 16 | 1-2 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| DeLaGarza | 2 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Washington | 3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Millsaps | 13 | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| McKenna | 21 | 2-7 | 0-2 | 0-2 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Burns | 8 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

TOTALS 200 22-57 11-21 9-32 11 23 57

Percentages: FG-.386, FT-.524, 3-point goals: 2-8, 250 (Rasmussen 1-4, Sisson 1-1, McKenna 0-2)

UNCW (7-8, 1-5)

| | min | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|------|---|----|----|
| | | m-a | m-a | o-t | | | |
| Cantley | 24 | 0-0 | 3-7 | 5-10 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| Winfield | 29 | 3-5 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| Koukourouzova | 24 | 5-6 | 2-4 | 2-5 | 2 | 5 | 12 |
| Watkins | 28 | 5-15 | 0-0 | 3-5 | 3 | 2 | 10 |
| Beale | 32 | 5-15 | 4-4 | 1-5 | 2 | 1 | 16 |
| McAdoo | 3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Casteel | 13 | 0-5 | 4-4 | 1-5 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Walters | 20 | 3-8 | 6-8 | 3-5 | 2 | 0 | 13 |
| Gambill | 21 | 0-7 | 3-6 | 5-14 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Gurshall | 6 | 0-5 | 0-0 | 2-3 | 0 | 2 | 0 |

TOTALS 200 21-66 22-33 27-59 14 20 68

Percentages: FG-.318, FT-.667, 3-point goals: 4-11, 364 (Beale 2-6, Walters 1-2, Winfield 1-1)

VCU 17 40 — 57
UNCW 24 44 — 68

Technical fouls: none. A: 605

CT PLAYER OF THE GAME

IOULIA KOUKOUROUZOVA
CENTER, UNCW



QUOTE OF NOTE —

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

VCU53, East Carolina 50
VCU (8-7, 4-1)

| | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp | |
|-----------|-----|-------|-------|-------|----|----|----|
| | min | m-a | m-a | o-t | a | pf | tp |
| Rasmussen | 31 | 7-11 | 0-1 | 1-1 | 0 | 3 | 14 |
| Kylhstedt | 28 | 3-8 | 3-4 | 1-3 | 3 | 1 | 12 |
| Karlsson | 34 | 1-6 | 1-2 | 3-11 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Sisson | 28 | 3-10 | 2-4 | 1-6 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| Waller | 29 | 3-12 | 7-10 | 2-3 | 3 | 3 | 13 |
| McKinnon | 10 | 1-1 | 0-2 | 0-2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| DeLaGarza | 4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Millsaps | 8 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| McKenna | 17 | 0-2 | 0-2 | 1-3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Burns | 11 | 0-1 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 200 | 18-52 | 12-25 | 12-34 | 17 | 13 | 52 |

TOTALS 200 18-52 13-25 13-34 14 17 53

Percentages: FG-.346, FT-.688, 3-point goals: 4-8, 500 (Kylhstedt 3-5, Sisson 1-1, McKenna 0-2)

ECU (6-9, 2-4)

| | min | fg | ft | rb | a | pf | tp |
|---------|-----|------|-----|------|---|----|----|
| Hayes | 16 | 1-9 | 0-0 | 4-6 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Melvin | 34 | 6-10 | 0-2 | 7-10 | 1 | 2 | 12 |
| Cox | 35 | 4-9 | 3-6 | 2-5 | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| Peckham | 35 | 0-3 | 0-0 | 0-4 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Horne | 30 | 3-13 | 0-1 | 1-3 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| Brown | 2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gillem | 5 | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Guthrie | 4 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Rice | 1 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jaynes | 27 | 4-8 | 5-8 | 3-10 | 1 | 3 | 13 |

TOTALS 200 20-58 8-17 22-50 13 18 50

Percentages: FG-.345, FT-.471, 3-point goals: 2-7, 286 (Peckham 0-1, Horne 1-5, Gillem 1-1)

VCU 26 27 — 53
ECU 28 22 — 5

Technical fouls: none. A: 384

CT PLAYER OF THE GAME

MARIKA RASMUSSEN
FORWARD, VCU



QUOTE OF NOTE —

MEN'S BASKETBALL

CAA STANDINGS

(Through Jan. 19)

| Team | Conference | W-L | % | Overall | % |
|----------------|------------|------|------|---------|---|
| Richmond | 4-1 | .800 | 11-4 | .786 | |
| William & Mary | 4-1 | .800 | 11-4 | .786 | |
| UNC Wilmington | 4-2 | .667 | 9-8 | .529 | |
| George Mason | 3-2 | .600 | 6-9 | .400 | |
| Old Dominion | 2-2 | .500 | 5-9 | .357 | |
| East Carolina | 2-3 | .400 | 7-8 | .467 | |
| American | 2-3 | .400 | 5-10 | .333 | |
| VCU | 2-3 | .250 | 5-9 | .357 | |
| James Madison | 0-5 | .000 | 5-10 | .333 | |

CAA SCORING LEADERS

(Through Jan. 19)

| Player | gp | fg | 3-pt | ft | pts. | avg. |
|-----------------------|----|----|------|----|------|------|
| Jarod Stevenson, UR | 14 | 99 | 43 | 41 | 262 | 20.1 |
| Nathan Smith, AU | 14 | 88 | 55 | 45 | 276 | 19.7 |
| Raphael Edwards, ECU | 15 | 97 | 8 | 61 | 203 | 17.5 |
| Randy Bracy, W&M | 13 | 70 | 27 | 43 | 226 | 17.4 |
| Stan Simmons, UNCW | 16 | 98 | 36 | 34 | 266 | 16.6 |
| Eugene Atkinson, JMU | 15 | 72 | 21 | 55 | 220 | 14.7 |
| Terence Jennings, W&M | 14 | 69 | 33 | 39 | 200 | 14.3 |
| Mylo Brooks, VCU | 14 | 68 | 5 | 53 | 194 | 13.9 |
| Jamar Perry, JMU | 15 | 63 | 23 | 58 | 207 | 13.8 |
| Mark Poag, ODU | 14 | 57 | 42 | 26 | 182 | 13.0 |

CAA REBOUNDING LEADERS

(Through Jan. 19)

| Player | g | no. | avg. |
|----------------------|----|-----|------|
| Cal Bowdler, ODU | 14 | 119 | 8.5 |
| Reggie Bassette, ODU | 13 | 102 | 7.9 |
| Eric Poole, UR | 14 | 109 | 7.8 |
| Raphael Edwards, ECU | 15 | 116 | 7.7 |
| George Evans, GMU | 15 | 114 | 7.6 |
| Nick Patrick, UR | 14 | 102 | 7.3 |
| Eugene Atkinson, JMU | 15 | 107 | 7.1 |
| Dink Peters, ECU | 14 | 98 | 7.0 |
| Dave Small, AU | 13 | 88 | 6.9 |
| David Grabuloff, W&M | 14 | 93 | 6.8 |

CAA ASSIST LEADERS

(Through Jan. 19)

| Player | g | no. | avg. |
|---------------------|----|-----|------|
| Brian Dunlap, ODU | 14 | 94 | 6.71 |
| Melvin Drake, VCU | 13 | 62 | 4.77 |
| Billy Donlon, UNCW | 17 | 79 | 4.65 |
| Randy Bracy, W&M | 13 | 60 | 4.62 |
| Marselles Brown, UR | 13 | 49 | 3.77 |

RESULTS/SCHEDULE

(Through Jan. 18)

| DATE | VCU | GAME | OPP. |
|---------|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Nov. 16 | 55 | GEORGIA ST. | 54 |
| Nov. 18 | 71 | @ SW Louisiana | (OT) 77 |
| Nov. 22 | 69 | TENNESSEE-MARTIN | 42 |
| Nov. 25 | 74 | SOUTHERN ILLINOIS | 77 |
| Dec. 6 | 75 | @ Miami, OH | 85 |
| Dec. 13 | 67 | VIRGINIA | 77 |
| Dec. 17 | 70 | NORFOLK ST. | 59 |
| Dec. 20 | 78 | @ Kansas St. | 76 |
| Dec. 28 | 57 | vs. Cornell | 54 |
| Dec. 29 | 57 | @ CALIFORNIA | 66 |
| Jan. 3 | 53 | @ WILLIAM & MARY | 67 |
| Jan. 10 | 54 | GEORGE MASON | 53 |
| Jan. 12 | 58 | UNC WILMINGTON | 67 |
| Jan. 17 | 61 | @ OLD DOMINION | 58 |
| Jan. 22 | | EAST CAROLINA (HTS) | 7:00 P.M. |
| Jan. 24 | | RICHMOND | 7:00 P.M. |
| Jan. 28 | | @ AMERICAN | 7:30 P.M. |
| Jan. 29 | | JAMES MADISON (HTS) | 7:00 P.M. |
| Jan. 3 | | OLD DOMINION (HTS) | 2:00 P.M. |
| Feb. 7 | | @ EAST CAROLINA | 7:00 P.M. |
| Feb. 10 | | @ GEORGE MASON (HTS) | 7:00 P.M. |
| Feb. 14 | | @ JAMES MADISON | 7:30 P.M. |
| Feb. 18 | | @ UNC WILMINGTON | 7:30 P.M. |
| Feb. 21 | | @ RICHMOND (HTS) | 2:30 P.M. |
| Feb. 23 | | WILLIAM & MARY | 7:00 P.M. |
| Feb. 25 | | CAA Championships (Richmond, Va.) | TBA |

VCU STATISTICS

(Through Jan. 11)

| Player | fg | | 3-pt. | | ft | | avg. | | avg. | |
|---------------|--------|--|-------|--|-------|-----|------|------|------|--|
| | m-a | | m-a | | m-a | rb | a | pts. | | |
| Brooks | 57-119 | | 4-13 | | 41-55 | 5.7 | 14 | 13.3 | | |
| Mills | 41-95 | | 17-46 | | 28-39 | 3.9 | 21 | 10.6 | | |
| Drake | 39-75 | | 2-13 | | 26-39 | 5.4 | 59 | 9.6 | | |
| Lilly | 37-101 | | 21-67 | | 3-10 | 3.1 | 36 | 8.2 | | |
| Archie | 30-63 | | 1-2 | | 26-46 | 6.5 | 12 | 7.3 | | |
| Hoggatt | 27-84 | | 21-61 | | 3-4 | 2.3 | 10 | 6.5 | | |
| Kodjoe | 26-70 | | 10-33 | | 1-3 | 5.3 | 8 | 5.3 | | |
| Moore | 12-29 | | 1-3 | | 7-13 | 2.1 | 5 | 3.2 | | |
| Taylor | 8-27 | | 5-16 | | 1-2 | 3.0 | 11 | 5.5 | | |
| Whitlow | 0-0 | | 0-0 | | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 0.0 | | |

TOTALS
VCU 277-663 82-254 136-211 37.9 176 64.3
Opponent 291-712 90-252 120-188 35.4 162 66.0

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CAA STANDINGS

(Through Jan. 19)

| Conference | | | | Overall | |
|----------------------|-----|-------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Team | W-L | % | W-L | % | |
| Old Dominion | 7-0 | 1.000 | 14-0 | 1.000 | |
| American | 5-1 | .833 | 15-1 | .938 | |
| VCU | 4-2 | .667 | 8-8 | .500 | |
| Richmond | 4-3 | .571 | 10-7 | .588 | |
| James Madison | 3-3 | .500 | 9-7 | .563 | |
| East Carolina | 2-4 | .333 | 6-9 | .400 | |
| George Mason | 2-5 | .286 | 7-9 | .438 | |
| William & Mary | 1-5 | .167 | 8-8 | .500 | |
| UNC Wilmington | 1-6 | .143 | 7-9 | .438 | |

Rams to take on archrival Richmond

George Templeton
CT STAFF WRITER

After winning their first conference game of the year against Old Dominion, the Rams basketball team celebrated as if their team had just won the CAA championship.

"It was a big lift beating one of our biggest rivals in ODU, they are in there with Richmond and James Madison as our biggest rivals. It is almost better to beat one of them on their floor than beating them on your own floor," said VCU head coach Sonny Smith.

With the win Smith tied J.D. Barnett for the most wins in VCU history with 132.

"I didn't even think about that really, it was just nice to get that first conference win," said Smith. "I suppose it's nice to be at the top, but I really didn't even give it much thought."

The Rams won this game in a way similar to their earlier losses to George Mason and North Carolina-Wilmington. VCU was down 30-15 with two minutes in the second half before coming back to win 61-55.

"A win like this is more exciting, and more nerve-racking than if you just jump out on someone because it is what you did in the comeback—that makes it memorable," said Smith.

VCU only allowed 25 points in the last 22 minutes of the game to key the victory.

"We went to a press and we got the lead down to seven at the half by pressing them and we just kept up the aggressiveness in

the second half," Smith said.

Next up for the Rams are two home conference matchups. The first one is on Thursday and pits VCU against the East Carolina Pirates.

The Pirates stopped Richmond's eight game win streak over the weekend with a 77-67 in Greenville.

The Rams then get one day off before playing city rival Richmond at home. Richmond defeated William & Mary last night 70-57 at the Robins Center to tie both the Spiders and the Tribe for first place in the CAA at 4-1.

"Richmond helped us out by beating William & Mary, because if

William & Mary had won they had would have no losses and everyone else would have two," said Smith.

Smith mentioned offensive consistency as a key to VCU's success.

"We can't get back into the title race if we shoot 42 percent one half and 25 percent in another half. Our defense and rebounding has been consistent, it's our offense that needs to get more consistent," said Smith.

VCU also will get Simon Moore back after he was sidelined for a week.

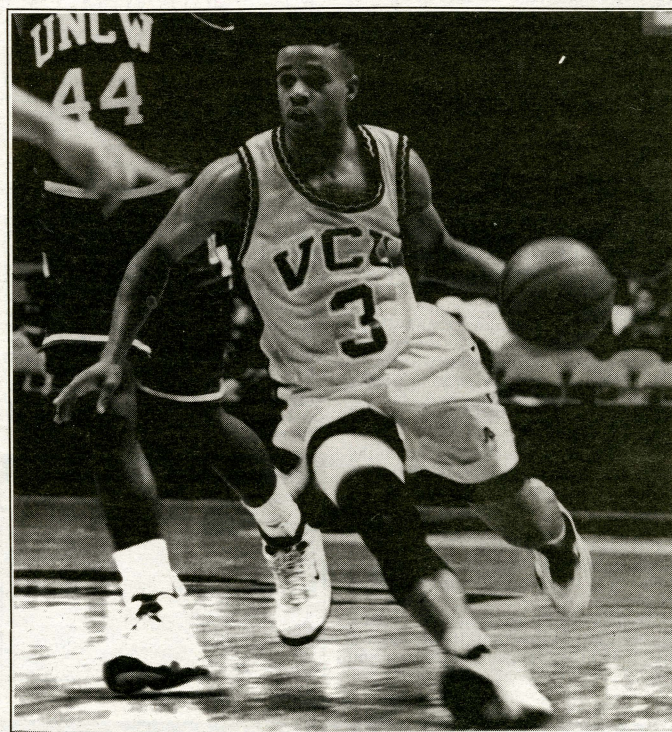
"We're beginning to get healthy at the right time and I expect Simon to come back and play significant minutes for us against ECU," said Smith.

VCU will have nine players in the rotation for the first time all year.

"Getting Simon back gives us nine players in our rotation, and if we want to get into this title chase then you need to have at least nine players," Smith said.

"I suppose it's nice to be at the top, but I really didn't even give it much thought."

Sonny Smith
VCU head coach



Many Franke/Commonwealth Times

HERE COMES TROUBLE — Freshman point guard LaMar Taylor dribbles the ball downcourt against UNC-W. Taylor led VCU's 61-65 win over ODU Saturday with a three-point shot in the final minute.

American Basketball League puts on show

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLA. — Sylvia Crawley stole the show from the ABL All-Stars Sunday. Responding to chants of "Crawley, Crawley" and her personal promise to do something daring, the 6-foot 5-inch forward from the Colorado Xplosion slipped on a blindfold and captured the league's first slam dunk contest.

Crawley marched off 10 paces before being fitted for the blindfold. She was mobbed by players and other supporters

after she rose above the rim and easily slammed the ball through the basket.

In what was supposed to be the main attraction, the West easily won the league's second All-Star game 102-73.

Most Valuable Player Shalonda Enis scored 15 points on 5-for-7 shooting and Natalie Williams added 12 points and 12 rebounds.

— compiled from news sources

Lady Rams split road trip, now 4-2 in the CAA

George Templeton
CT STAFF WRITER

VCU (8-8, 4-2) ended their weekend trip through North Carolina by losing to North Carolina-Wilmington 68-57. The Lady Rams first game in their weekend swing was a 53-50 victory at East Carolina.

The win over the Lady Rams snapped the Seahawks six-game losing streak and gave Bernie Flax his first conference win as coach.

"The first one is always the hardest one to get and this was a long time in coming," said Flax.

The Lady Rams were undone by 24 turnovers and by the strong rebounding of UNCW. The Seahawks out-rebounded VCU 59-32.

"We were ready to play and with rebounding, it is all effort. Second chances on offense were very important. We missed our second shots in the first half, but made a lot of them in the second half," said Flax.

The Seahawks out-rebounded VCU 27-

9 on the offensive boards.

"We weren't ready to work and one team really was. We weren't disciplined and it showed up on the rebounding end. We were outplayed today," said VCU head coach David Glass.

Leading the Seahawks rebounding was Christy Gambill with 14 rebounds and Stacy Cantley with 10 rebounds. Mona Karlsson and Meredith Sisson led the Lady Rams with six rebounds apiece.

Late in the first half, VCU crumbled after taking a 17-15 lead on a jumper by Karlsson with 3:40 left. The Seahawks ran off the last nine points of the half to take a 24-17 lead into the locker room. Six of the nine points during that run came from the free throw line. UNCW had this lead despite just shooting 20 percent from the field (7-35).

VCU also had a difficult first half. The Lady Rams only shot 32 percent (8-25) from the field.

LADY RAMS continued to page 15▶

| Rams in Action | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| TEAM | UPCOMING EVENTS | | | Notes |
| MEN'S BASKETBALL (5-9, 1-3) | JAN. 22 ECU | | JAN. 26 AU | VCU'S GAME THURSDAY AGAINST ECU WILL BE TELEVIEWED BY HTS. THE RAMS ARE 9-3 ALL TIME AGAINST ECU. |
| | | | | |
| WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (8-8, 4-2) | JAN. 23 UR | JAN. 25 ODU | JAN. 30 W&M | THE LADY RAMS LOOK TO IMPROVE ON LAST YEAR'S 0-2 RECORD AGAINST THE SPIDERS. |
| | | | | |
| <div> <div>■ INDICATES HOME GAME</div> <div>□ INDICATES AWAY GAME</div> </div> | | | | |