

Fri: So sunny and warm, you'll be as giddy as a little girl! High 72, low 51

Sat: Mostly sunny with a heavenly high near 80! Lows in the 50s.

Commonwealth Times

Thursday, March 26, 1998

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

Vol. 30, No. 55



Peter S. Martin/Commonwealth Times

NICE WHEELS — Enjoying the breakthrough of sunshine after last week's nasty storms, many VCU students brought out the bikes and rollerblades.

RamCorps program reaches at-risk youth

Aisha S. Durham
CT STAFF WRITER

An index card that spells the word "horseback" flashes before two students at one table, while fairy tales take other students from the Parent Resource Center at Whitcomb Court Elementary School to a different world.

"This is a bright spot in their day," RamsCorps team leader Meagan Tracy said, referring to the elementary students selected by teachers to receive special tutoring from AmeriCorps members.

RamsCorps, an extension of VCU's AmeriCorps program, provides tutorial assistance and mentoring to at-risk elementary school children from low-income housing areas such as Gilpin, Whitcomb and Moshy courts.

AmeriCorps, a nationwide program approved by President Bill Clinton, permits eligible college students to receive stipends for education and living expenses in exchange for serving at least 900 community service hours.

"Sometimes it's frustrating to them," AmeriCorps trainer Kathleen Heubach said of college tutors working in urban schools. "They come to the program wanting to help the child, and they don't realize the challenges children face."

Tracy, first reluctant to work in an urban school, said she looks forward to going to work. But after spending time with students outside school, she said she gained a better understanding of those she tutors. "A lot of students don't have the support that they need at home," Tracy said.

RamsCorps support team at the Whitcomb Court Elementary site include Michelle Weaver, Margaret Carter, Patrick Green, Shelia Jackson, Victoria LeFon, Ted Pagulayan and Harvey Stebbins as well as Loretta Tillman, a community liaison. Besides Tracy and Tillman, the two full-time RamsCorps members, each part-time participant receives a \$3,820 stipend

Those interested in joining VCU AmeriCorps should turn in their applications by April 15 to Thomas Rhodenbaugh, program director. Pick up an application at Room 222 in Founder's Hall or the VCU Career Center.

plus a \$2,363 educational award.

Harvey Stebbins, an early childhood education major, attributes his RamsCorps membership to the educational award.

"I took the job for financial support," he said. "And because it was related to my field."

As a substitute teacher for Henrico County schools and a RamsCorps tutor, Stebbins works with students from different economic backgrounds.

"There's not much difference between county and urban students," he said.

Because Stebbins works with 11 kindergarten students at Whitcomb Court, he said he spends much of his time providing "extra enrichment."

But to Tracy, this extra-enrichment builds self-confidence.

"We build their confidence," Tracy said. "We show them that they can succeed."

In a 1997 report published by AmeriCorps, data show an increase in reading levels for students tutored by AmeriCorps members.

"Since tutoring programs have been in place the reading levels of students have increased by a grade and a half," said Thomas Rhodenbaugh, VCU's AmeriCorps program director.

For example, Rhodenbaugh said a student reading at a first-grade level at midsemester would read at a third-grade level by the end of the school year.

For many education students, the tuto-

RAM continued to page 3 ►

VCU to present 1998 Disability Awareness Award

Sarah Ann Hearney
CT STAFF WRITER

For the first time VCU will honor a member of the university community with the 1998 Disability Awareness Award.

The award will recognize an individual or group having enhanced the goal of equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in the VCU community. President Eugene Trani will present the award at a ceremony in April.

"The (University) Access Committee

promotes a well-assimilated environment at the university for the disabled," said Rosemary Kelso, VCU's Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator and committee member.

"The idea behind the award," she said, "was to acknowledge an individual or group that has contributed to the promotion of inclusion and equal opportunity for persons with disabilities here at the university."

Karen Wake, a student on the access committee, said the committee proposed

the award in June 1997.

"I am very excited about it because it will bring the challenges of the disabled population to the table," she said. Students with disabilities on the academic and medical campuses can join an organization headed by Melissa Hayden, a second-year master's student in the clinical social-work program.

Hayden became the president of VCU's Students with Disabilities organization about a year ago.

"I was diagnosed as having a learning

disability when I was a freshman in college," Hayden said, "and I then got involved with the Students with Disabilities organization on campus."

The organization, founded five years ago, she said, had not been too active on campus until her presidency.

Students needing special assistance in the classroom or elsewhere can contact Shyla Ipsen, coordinator of VCU's program of services for students with disabilities.

World NEWS

News from around the globe



VIRGINIA



•'Uncle Ron' schedules news conference

Dr. Ronald E. Carrier, president of James Madison University, scheduled a news conference for 11:30 a.m. Many suspect he will retire this year. Carrier has served as president of JMU longer than any other state university president has ever served.

Carrier saw JMU through its transition from a small all-female teacher's college to a coeducational institution that now boasts over 13,000 students.

•Son of televangelist named to UVa. board of visitors

Gov. Jim Gilmore announced the appointment of four new members to the University of Virginia's board of visitors.

Timothy Robertson, son of televangelist Pat Robertson and a UVa. alumnus, was named to the board along with Joseph Wolfe, Charles Caravati and Benjamin Wathen, a former Richmond law partner of Gilmore's.

WORLD/NATION



•Libya begins trial of U.S. bombings

The trial of eight former U.S. officials connected with the 1986 bombings of Libyan cities began Wednesday. The eight are being tried in absentia.

Among the eight are former National Security Adviser John Poindexter and former member of the National Security Council Oliver North.

Mufta Daechi, the court's president, said the men were charged with "intentional murder." Daechi said the families of people killed during the attacks demanded the trial take place.

•Annan calls on Israel to honor land for peace

U.N. General Secretary Kofi Annan asked Israel to move forward on the Middle East peace process by agreeing to the principle of land for peace.

Recent problems in the peace process "point out to you that you have been slow to fulfill your obligations under the Oslo agreements and that you have made your implementation conditional in a way the Oslo

accords did not intend," Annan told the Israeli Foreign Relations Council.

•Iraqi sites to be inspected soon

Jayantha Dhanapala, the newly appointed U.N. commissioner overseeing inspections in Iraq, has announced that the U.N. inspection team is prepared to begin the inspections of Saddam Hussein's presidential sites.

The date of the inspections will be determined by the U.N. Special Commission, said Dhanapala.

U.N. and Iraqi officials said the first inspections of the previously closed sites should be completed within two weeks.

•Suspects in school shooting go before judge Wednesday

Two boys accused of killing five and wounding ten others are to be brought before a judge to decide if there is enough evidence to keep them in custody.

After Westside Middle School, in Arkansas, was evacuated during a fire drill, shots were fired, killing four students and a teacher.

The suspects were captured near the school and were dressed in camouflage clothes. Students said one of the suspects had made threats to his former girlfriend after their recent break up.

The fatal shootings were the third such incident in the United States in the past five months.

•Marcia Lewis back in court

Monica Lewinsky's mother returned to Washington, D.C., yesterday to talk with U.S. District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson. The details of the meeting are unknown.

Marcia Lewis spent seven hours before the grand jury investigating the White House sex scandal in February before she was excused because of her emotional state.

During her previous testimony, Lewis' lawyer, Billy Martin, said, "No mother should be forced by federal prosecutors to testify against their child."

•Clinton offers aid to prevent future massacres

President Clinton met with survivors of Rwanda's 1994 genocide and unveiled a \$30 million plan to bolster justice systems in Rwanda and neighboring countries and offered \$2 million to help survivors rebuild their lives.

"Genocide can occur anywhere ... we must have global vigilance," said Clinton. "During the 90 days that began on April 6 in 1994, Rwanda experienced the most intensive slaughter in this blood-filled century we are about to leave."

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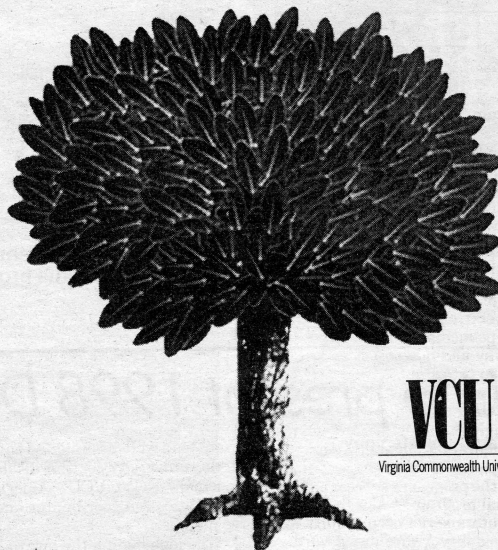
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Professor tells of struggle against male dominance

Lindsay Kastner

CT STAFF WRITER

During her presentation, "War Stories: A Woman's Tale of Academia," speaker Philippa Strum told of her days on "the front lines" and offered advice for women scholars embracing battles of their own.

Currently a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, D.C., Strum said she spent a long time "deep in the trenches" before she began to gain acceptance in the male-dominated world of academia.

Strum told those gathered at the University Meeting Center Monday night that as a political scientist, author, and professor, success often requires backing by one's colleagues.

"Professional advancement may be less about what you have to say, than about who will verify that you have said something important," Strum noted.

Strum, who received her masters degree from Harvard and her Ph.D. as a valedictorian at New School for Social Research, said that all too often she was discounted because she was a woman.

Being a wife and mother only made the situation worse Strum recalled, describing a department chairperson at Brooklyn College who, towering over her diminutive frame, told Strum that he would never grant tenure to a married woman in his department because they belonged at home, "taking care of the children."

Apparently Strum did not heed his words, as she went on not only to receive tenure, but to become department chair.

Once she attained the coveted title, however, Strum said her disbelieving male peers began to speculate how a woman could achieve such success. During her presentation, which was sponsored by the VCU Graduate Student Association, Strum recalled the gossip surrounding her, such as rumors that she slept her way up the

ladder of a professional organization, and that her husband was the one actually writing all of her books.

Strum told how she quelled that gossip by calling a department meeting in which she candidly announced that she was not the real author of her books and that she had indeed been sleeping with prominent men in her field. The rumors, she told her laughing audience, quickly dissipated.

But rumors and gossip were not the least of the problems Strum faced in her quest for acceptance and equal opportunity in the workplace. Strum spoke of an incident of sexual harassment as well, noting that many women experienced similar incidents.

When Anita Hill's allegations made the news, Strum said, "I do not know a single woman my age in academia who did not begin to tell stories," of her own.

When Strum spoke of the high profile Anita Hill case, the audience asked what she thought of the current controversy surrounding President Clinton.

Though Strum presents herself as a strong advocate for women, she was not quick to jump to accusations.

"He asked, she said 'yes.' When she said 'no' he backed off... I don't consider that sexual harassment," Strum said, adding that she believes the question of perjury has more relevancy to the presidency than Clinton's sexual actions.

While Strum said she does not think the president is guilty of sexual harassment, she does say he is "guilty of really poor taste."

Despite the media attention given to allegations of sexual harassment and abuse of power, Strum said that in many ways the situation is improving for women.

"The balance has changed dramatically," Strum commented, noting that women in academia are not as scarce as they once were.

In addition, she says there are more "enlightened" men willing to help women



Mary Franke/Commonwealth Times

ORGANIZE — Philippa Strum spoke on how she struggled against discrimination during her career in academia. A fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, she urged women to organize against unfair treatment.

in their fight.

Nevertheless, the future is not necessarily smooth for female scholars, Strum warned, adding that a friend at Harvard who has is not tenured is currently attempting to hide her pregnancy for fear that she may lose her job.

That fear, Strum said, is more than unwarranted paranoia.

"I urge all of you to get out in the

trenches," Strum challenged her audience.

"Make some noise," she advised, "The more voices, the more attentiveness one is likely to achieve."

To women academics Strum advised asking the question, "Am I being treated in a way that I somehow think is unfair?"

And if the answer is yes?

"Organize," she said, "Organization is strength."

RAMS

continued from page 1

rial program correlates into practical experience.

"Students have an opportunity to test their skills," Rhodenbaugh said.

For Stebbins, education classes such as reading and human development coincide with the two-day training workshop, which he said applies to his elementary students.

In the training workshop, for instance, tutors learn the appropriate ways to read to children. Although they do not acknowledge specific learning styles, the RamsCorps members know when to give words away and how much to assist students when tutoring.

"Those who couldn't spell their name can write their name now," Stebbins said.

Although Stebbins' accomplishments with elementary students resemble other RamsCorps tutors, Rhodenbaugh does not attribute the program's success entirely to the tutorial program.

"The tutors serve as role models," he said.

Like Rhodenbaugh, AmeriCorps trainers Kathleen Heubach and Judith Richardson of the School of Education tell volunteers that tutoring is not just a job.

"You are playing a role in helping a child face a brighter future," Heubach said.

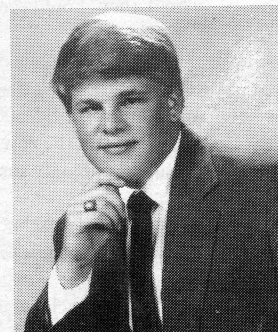
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Depression strikes millions—indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag themselves along 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.

UNTREATED DEPRESSION

#1 Cause of Suicide

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



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Fred Drasner

Chief Executive Officer

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These law school rankings are a small part of our philosophy of *News You Can Use*™: information we bring you in each issue of the magazine to help you manage your life.

Good luck in law school and good luck on making the right choice.

Kindest Regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Drasner", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

* Shipping and handling charges additional.

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Justin M. Wilson

A word like no other

How can a word so derogatory now be used as a greeting?

This past week, I attended speech class. Our assignment was to speak about a word we felt others should utilize more often. Everyone came up with his or her idealistic speeches about how "hello" and "thanks" and "you're welcome" should be more prevalent. However, one fellow student had a far different speech.

She spoke about a word that she feels should be banished from everyday use. She spoke about a word so heinous in its connotations that I will not employ it in this editorial.

She narrated how she had to explain to her 9-year-old son why people in his class had called him this word that begins with the letter "N." If there ever was a "loaded" word, it was this. No word carries with it such horrible baggage.

No word contains a glimpse into the struggles of a people; a people maligned from the beginning of time. This derogatory word positively proves why there were the Freedom Marches in Birmingham, Ala., the Marches on Washington, the sanitation workers' strikes in Memphis, Tenn., the battles outside the class-

rooms of Little Rock, Ark., the skirmishes inside the Supreme Court, and the sit-ins around this nation.

It is a word that for so long was employed by slave masters as they brought a people into servitude.

It was a word put into the everyday speech of people holding on to the last vestiges of segregation and the Jim Crow laws.

Now it is a word used by the fringe groups that operate outside the peripheries of our consciousness.

Or is it?

I look through the catalog from my favorite music club and find my way to the "rap" section where numerous song titles employ that word.

I walk the streets and find members of that race the word was for so long indignantly directed to, greeting each other with the dreaded noun.

I cannot understand how a word directed at men in chains only 140 years ago can now be applied as a greeting of admiration.

In my speech class, our instructor suggested it was as though the race to which the word has been directed has adopted it to deflect some of its stigma. I thought about that as a valid excuse for its use.

Maybe in fact things have changed so much that the definition has evolved into something positive.

Yet another experience debunked that theory. I watched a television newsmagazine portray the story of an African-American in Gilpin County, Co. This man, Roy, kept to himself, working as a miner. Yet, being one of the few of his race in that county, he was tormented by neighbors who regularly greeted him with his name along with the aforemen-

tioned noun as an affixed prefix.

It got the point where the man was nearly killed by a group of neighbors hoping he would leave town. The local police ignored his pleas for help and even noted him in their records not by his first name and proper surname, but by that derogatory moniker. That cemented my feelings. How could a word like that still be used as one to recognize a friend with anything but putrid animosity? It just doesn't make sense to me!

How can a word that for many conjures up images of the mutilated body of Emmett Till floating in the Delta of the Mississippi River, and the defiant posturing of Orval Faubus and the utter disregard for human life of Eugene "Bull" Connor of Birmingham, be used as a greeting?

It is time to push this ugly word into oblivion. I find comfort in knowing that my views are shared. Director Spike Lee, who has used the word multiple times in his accurate portrayals of African-American life, adamantly advised "that all African-Americans do not think that word is trendy or slick."

Vicki Mistr

Guest Editorial

How we know 71 percent don't binge drink

Thanks to the VCU *Commonwealth Times* for providing informative coverage about students and alcohol. The CT staff has told the VCU community about the new statewide Alcohol Task Force, about the social marketing campaign with photographs of VCU students, and about binge drinking.

By the end of Alcohol Awareness Weeks — observed right before Spring Break — most students seemed aware that 71 percent of VCU students do not binge drink. This is gratifying, especially since we were only halfway through our campaign to raise awareness about student alcohol use — or better yet, student alcohol non-use.

When I guest-lecture in classes I often ask what percent of students do they think

binge drink. In other words, what do students think is the norm for alcohol use by their peers? Students consistently say the norm is that 60 to 90 percent of students binge drink. The truth is the exact opposite: 71 percent do not binge. This is slightly better than the national average of about 65 percent.

Just what is binge drinking? Actually two definitions exist. The first and more widely known refers to drinking heavily for several days without stopping. Commonly called "going on a binge," some alcoholics drink this way. For campus educational purposes, such researchers as Henry Wechsler of Harvard define binge drinking as five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (four drinks for women). This is the defini-

tion employed in the survey that VCU used to determine that 71 percent do not binge drink.

Students rarely believe that 71 percent of their peers do not binge drink. They always ask, "O.K. How did you arrive at that 71 percent?"

Here's the answer. During the 1997 spring semester the VCU Office of Health Promotion (OHP) conducted a survey of VCU students about risky behavior. The National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention developed the instrument — the National College Health Risk Behavior Survey.

Almost 2,000 VCU students received the survey and about 40 percent responded. The returned surveys were weighted so the results would reflect the VCU population.

The survey asked students about their choices and behavior concerning health risk. Topics included diet, exercise, riding motorcycles, carrying weapons, driving or riding with a driver under the influence of alcohol, sexual behavior, and alcohol and tobacco use.

The question that yielded the information about VCU students and binge drinking was, "During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?"

Data analysis resulted in the answer that, overall, 28.9 percent of VCU students had five or more drinks in a row in the past 30 days. Further analysis yielded information that more men (33 percent) than women (26 percent) binge drink. Students

25 years and older binge drink at a lower rate (22 percent) than 18- to 24-year-olds (35 percent). While 11 percent of black students binge drink, 16 percent of Asian and 35 percent of White/Hispanic/American Indian students do.

The good news is that the large majority — 71 percent overall — of VCU students does not binge drink. Some will argue, "Yes, but that means 29 percent do binge."

Our response: That's true, but current research and practice indicate that educating a student population that the majority do not engage in high-risk behavior concerning alcohol may encourage low-risk use.

When students learn that the norm for alcohol consumption is not binge drinking, they tend to lower their own drinking. At Northern Illinois University the number of students who binge drink dropped nine percent when they learned that the majority of their peers did not make high-risk choices about alcohol. Similar changes occurred at the University of Arizona.

We want VCU to be in the same category — among universities where the number of students making low-risk choices about alcohol use is increasing. That is why you have seen posters, fliers, and even bus signs touting the good news that most VCU students do not binge drink. We hope that if you are currently in the minority of students who do binge, you will re-evaluate your choices and join the ranks of those who make safer and healthier choices concerning alcohol use.

Vicki Mistr is coordinator at the Office of Substance Abuse Programs

CommonwealthTimes

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Application Process:

To present a poster at the 1st Annual Research Symposium & Exhibit, applicants are required to submit a completed presentation application form and an abstract of no more than 120 words. The deadline for submissions is by April 1, 1998.

Please submit a completed application to:
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Reviewing the student-juried art show

The more things stay the same

Joel Gibbs

CT STAFF WRITER

Going to the opening of the student-juried show this year was a treat.

It has been 10 years since I garnered my Bachelor of the Fine Arts degree in painting, and over 15 since I last attended one of these events.

My curiosity about the works of the fine arts students has been at a peak as I frequent the third floor halls of the Pollock Building, inching my way toward my art education degree. This curiosity moved me to volunteer to attend and write this review.

I was delayed by errands and arrived 45 minutes after the 5 p.m. opening. I was worried that if there was any discussion by the jurists, I may have missed it. Nothing like this was evident. In fact, there was hardly anything indicating there was much at all going on inside that was special or different (save for a klatch of smokers out front).

The only faculty members I recognized were Barbara Tisserat, Gerald Donato and the art education department's chairman, Donald Blicek. In addition, I found there was nothing

resembling crackers, cheese nor beverages about. This was a far cry from the rather festive "wine and cheese" affairs of a decade and a half ago.

Don't misunderstand, I was not there for a bite to eat and I am aware of the sensitivity in regards to alcohol at universities. But the lack of sodas, cheese and crackers gave the feel that the opening was literally just an opening of the doors.

I found that the first gallery was the most crowded, so I went on to the next. It was here that I found the cheese. Unfortunately, it was slices of American and part of someone's works. Jeannine Harkleroad's three related pieces, "Study of Shadow Size," were slightly bulbous silhouettes of female figures fashioned from individual slices of the cheese and mounted between

pieces of plexiglass. The attached plaques led me to believe that they were inspired by the Karma-Sutra (oh, aren't we naughty). These were supported by unfinished wooden stands. I'm not against the use of food in art, nor do I frown on novel approaches. I just found fault with the quality of the work. The plexiglass was rough at the edges, the supports seemed flimsy and the figures were awkward and cropped. I guess I thought they could have been crafted better.

Also in the same room were two paintings with red themes, yet with two diametrically opposed sensibilities. The first one, Jennifer Towslee's "She Eats Red Food," was small, but far from insignificant. Its lush use of the paint and depth of color made the work stand out. The central female figure was rendered crudely, but effectively and was comfortably surrounded by her luxuriant deserts. The fact that it had already been sold was evident that someone else had a like mind.

The second red painting in the room, "Psyche" by Kym Symons struck me as an exercise in the monochromatic. The thinly applied paint and the use of black to darken and white to lighten the primary color made me think more of an art foundation assignment than a gallery piece. This was not helped by the naive manner in which the figure was rendered. I don't mean to be cruel and I did notice that she is not a painting major, but the show is supposed to be best of

the school's offerings.

Upstairs there were paintings, sculptures and objects for all tastes. Let me first say that I was again impressed by the craft department's entries. The high skill level in all items made me think once again why they don't receive the recognition they deserve. Whether it was the clay works, the jewelry or the blown glass, I found the pieces to be quite good. They did garner recognition through one of the department's furniture entries. I think Wendy Wiesner rightly deserved the second place award for her metal and wood cabinet.

This compels me to go on a bit about the first place winner: Anthony Marcellini's "Flowers Synesthesia II." I didn't like it. Mind you, I didn't hate the thing, I just didn't like the way he handled the painting in this or in his similar "Flowers Synesthesia I." I found both pieces to be muddy and confused, but he sold one as well, so it does appeal to others.

The next painting I must mention first is Shaun Nelson's "Self-Portrait with Cast." I didn't care much for it when I first saw it, but it grew on me. The little Fisher Price-looking figure with the one septic looking injured arm at its side has a whimsical, pathetic feel to it. This was accentuated by the contrast between the bright green background and the diseased-looking limb. It may be an acquired taste, but so are good Scotch, organ meats and the French.

There was another opportunity for comparison in this room. The two candidates here were Hiede Trenadiers' untitled piece and Jennifer Steven's "Walk On The Moon." And the winner is: Jennifer Trenadiers. Ms. Steven's work was well done, but textured, black canvases seem to have been done to death. I much preferred the glazing, colors and markings that gave variety to the latter.

The first thing that I noticed in the next gallery was Steven Stackpole's little construction, "Exclamatory." It was obviously quite a time consuming project

possessing the intricacy of a clock. This alone made it deserving of acceptance, but it also benefits from its humorous Rubie Goldberg meets Peter Max sensibility. Turn it on so you can view it running.

Around the corner from this work on the left-hand wall was a ceramic work that caught my eyes immediately "Torso," a ceramic bass relief was striking. The artist sculpting of the upper chest and neck in one diamond shape and the abdomen in the second, lower one have an unsettling, eerie quality. This is heightened by the green flaky glaze used on the areas which would have skin. A cadaverous nature is lent to the work in this way it contrasts with the smooth white walls. It may not have been the artist's intention, but I got nothing so much as the sense of a morgue from the viewing experience.

Across from "Exclamatory," I discovered "Dialogue (Nature Morte)." This small oil painting had a glassy liquid feel to it. Gisselle Gaudreau's muted colors and composition gave me the sense of "Nature Morte," especially with the industrial images at the bottom of her split composition. It might be indicative of where my tastes run, but it was my favorite painting of the show.

Time and other considerations force me to only briefly mention some other works. I found both the straight forward and the altered photographic work to be appealing and competent. I thought the large metal by Richard Kuhlbars' handbag was good in its Claus Oldenbergesque way. I was of two minds about Robert Matthews' "Attack on a Stag." I liked the energy, but thought it looked unfinished. Finally, John Sheffield's small, pastel colored, field paintings, heavily obscuring oriental characters did nothing so much than to put me in mind of paint samples at Lowes.

I was surprised at how the types of works haven't changed in all these years and alarmed that there wasn't more fanfare, especially as many of the works are for sale. But, hey, this is just my opinion.

Trampoline is a thoroughly meritorious affair, brimming with interesting twists at nearly every turn, reeking with a typical Mavericks signature of vibrancy and surprise.



The Mavericks jump higher on their Trampoline

Tom Netherland

CT STAFF WRITER

Depending on how you may view country music, The Mavericks have either marched country music into new arenas or they have retreated from its basic tenets with Trampoline. Horns, big band style and mariachi exist alongside steel guitars and twangy melodies, creating a sound that sets

the band even further apart from their Nashville brethren.

Johnny Cash and producer Don Law surprised many when they attached a lone trumpet to Cash's "Ring Of Fire" back in 1963. The song topped the charts, thus expanding instrumentation possibilities in country music. Likewise, the numbers on Trampoline come at a time when emittances of

general staleness exude out of Nashville the way honest innovation once did. Raul Malo's shimmering, almost-operatic voice reaches beyond the parameters of the status quo, as on "To Be With You," much as Roy Orbison once stood out on Top 40 radio.

The Mavericks are not afraid to challenge their fans with tunes such as lead track "Dance The Night Away," an exuberant, horn-heavy song

James River Festival moves into it's fifth year

Christopher Irving
CT SPECTRUM EDITOR

For its fifth year, the James River Festival of the Moving Image will yet again present a virtual cornucopia of films and guest speakers.

The Festival kicks off March 30 at the VCU Business Building Auditorium at 8 p.m. with a presentation by Yvette Kaplan, the Director of Animation in "Beavis and Butt-head Do America," who will screen different animations and discuss working with America's most an-novating cult figures.

On Tuesday at 8 p.m., also in the Business Building Auditorium, directors Albert and David Maysles' films "Meet Marlon Brando," (a head-to-head between Marlon Brando and various reporters) and "Christo's Valley Curtains," (a documentation covering a group of iron workers' artistic quest) These two films will only be part of the festival's spotlight on director Albert Maysles.

Wednesday, April Fools' Day, brings Maysles' Sports Illustrated: '92 Swimsuit Video documentary, which covers the making of the Sports Illustrated 1992

Swimsuit Issue and a reshooting of "Christo's Valley Curtain," starting at 2:30 p.m. at the Adams Auditorium at the University of Richmond.

Also at the Adams Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. will be Maysles' "Salesman," a film which follows the plights of a Bible salesman from Massachusetts to Florida. Don't worry if you can't make it to UR, though, "Salesman" will be shown in VCU's Business Building Auditorium at 9 p.m. the following Sunday.

At 8 p.m. in the Business

Building, director John O'Brien will showcase his newest film "Man with a Plan," a comedy about a grassroots candidate for the House. The Harvard-educated O'Brien will also discuss his career afterwards.

On Thursday, April 2, at 2 p.m. in the Business Building brings "Rid in the Whirlwind," an independent western by director Monte Hellman, starring Jack Nicholson. Made in 1965, this film features Nicholson when he was just another name.

Perhaps the highlight of the

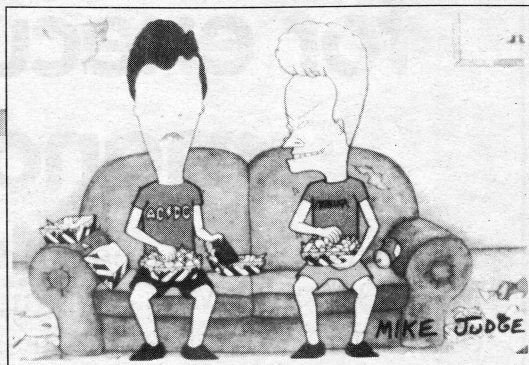
that sets a tone throughout. The Memphis/Stax soul of "Tell Me Why," with a guitar break that suggests B.B. King's influence, precedes Tex-Mex delight "I Should Know." If that weren't enough, by just the fourth track the band melds a Duane Eddy-esque guitar lead with an uptown horn section that, accompanied by Malo's dramatic vocal, makes for an adventurous trek into heretofore rarely charted territory.

More traditional, less risky numbers such as "To Be

With You," co-written by Malo with James House, act as somewhat of a breather in the band's foray into new musical terrain. "I've Got This Feeling," also co-written with House, brims with a shimmering musical background that builds to a spectacular crescendo, yet all the while remains one step behind the atomic-voiced Malo. Set-closer "Dream River" sounds pulled from the ranks of Roy Orbison's vast catalog of classics, as Malo, in the Orbison role, supersedes the song's spare

instrumentation with his once-in-a-generation voice.

"Fool # 1," one of three tracks written with former NRBQ helmsman Al Anderson, is a smoky, atmospheric tune that glides along with the grace of a Gene Kelly dance step in a classic 40's musical; an immediate flip-flop has the band immersed in the 60's, with the poppy "I Don't Even Know Your Name." Reaching even further, "Dolores" explores 1920's ragtime, while "Save A Prayer" takes us to church for an energetic bounce that



ASSUMING THE POSITION — Yvette Kaplan, Supervisory Director of tBeavis and Butt-head, will discuss her career.

festival, as it has been every year, is when local Richmond group the Ululating Mummies perform music to a silent film. The Mummies are at it again this year, replacing Buster Keaton with Andy Warhol's film "Chelsea Girls," from 1966. The film will be multiprojected, as Warhol had originally intended. The movie starts at 8 p.m. at the 1708 Gallery. Student tickets are \$5, Adult tickets are \$10 at the door and \$8 in advance, with advance tickets being sold at Carytown Books and the 1708 Gallery on Broad Street.

On Friday, April 3, director Albert Maysles himself will join the party at a reception at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Sculpture Garden at 6 p.m., before commenting and screening his latest work, "Concert of Wills: The Making of the Getty Center," which chronicles the construction of Los Angeles' Getty museum from the initial blueprints to the opening night, at 8 p.m.

The Byrd Theatre Midnight Movie will be Albert and David Maysles' "Gimme Shelter," a documentary which follows the Rolling Stones when they went cross country to Altamont in 1969.

The highlight for Saturday, April 4, will be the 3rd James River Juried Invitational, which has drawn short film and video entries from around the nation. The prize will be \$2000 and 1,200 feet of film stock by Eastman Kodak. Admission is \$2 at the Grace Street Theatre and starts at 8 p.m.

The festival winds down on Sunday, April 5 with "Reeling Stones: You Can't Always Get What You Want!" a presentation by Art Historian Kevin Concannon who tries to interpret images of the Rolling Stones from film and video clips.

At 7 p.m. in the Business Building Auditorium is animation from ASIFA 1998, a presentation from an international Society of Animators. Admission is free.

Aretha Franklin and Elvis would sure find comforting. Versatile band, you say? You bet.

Additionally, Malo's Latin-American heritage comes through as powerfully as a tasty burrito with "I Hope You Want Me Too" and the lounge lizard-ish instrumental "Melbourne Mambo."

Trampoline is a thoroughly meritorious affair, brimming with interesting twists at nearly every turn, reeking with a typical Mavericks signature of

vibrancy and surprise. Hey, you can't really two-step to it, but the album's set of 13 well meshed, highly danceable tunes will make even the most insecure of souls throw caution into the wind and take to his heels. But is it country?

Well, to answer the question that must have been posed to Cash, and to Johnnie and Jack when they, in 1951, released the Latin-spiced "Poison Love," — you darn-tooten it's country. Spicy country with a little twist.

The Commonwealth Times is searching for candidates for executive editor and managing editor.

Executive editor candidates must have completed MAC 300, MAC 305 and MAC 303 and served as section editor, associate editor, copy editor, production assistant or in the business department for at least one semester or demonstrate equivalent experience.

Duties include coordinating editorial, production, business and advertising operations; serving as chief executive officer of the Commonwealth Times; hiring business and ad staff; assisting with hiring of editorial staff; coordinating deadlines; preparing yearly budget; implementing public relations policies; negotiating conflicts and serving as head of editorial board.

Managing Editor candidates must have completed MAC 300, MAC 303 and MAC 305 and must have served as a section editor, an associate editor or a copy editor for at least one semester or demonstrate equivalent experience.

Duties include coordinating coverage for sections; conducting staff meetings; compiling production schedules; overseeing copy editing; maintaining production supplies and serving as a troubleshooter.

Both positions are elected positions. Staff members are encouraged to attend the **April 1 meeting at 5 p.m. in the CT office** to hear candidates' platform speeches and vote. Staff members include all students who have had at least one article published in the CT during the current academic year as well as those in paid staff positions.

For more information, please call Angela at 828-1058.

Commonwealth TIMES

Staff Application

Name: _____ Local Phone: _____

Major: _____ Year: _____

Faculty Reference (for mass communications students): _____

Editorial positions:

- ☐ Writer
- ☐ Associate Editor
- ☐ Editor

Sections:

- ☐ News
- ☐ Spectrum
- ☐ Editorial
- ☐ Eye
- ☐ Sports

Other positions:

- ☐ Production chief
- ☐ Production assistant
- ☐ Photography chief
- ☐ Photography assistant
- ☐ Staff photographer
- ☐ Copy editing chief
- ☐ Copy editor
- ☐ Circulation director
- ☐ Business manager
- ☐ Advertising director
- ☐ Business/advertising assistant

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

For more information, call 828-1058 or come by our offices in Room 1149 of the General Purpose Academic Building (901 W. Main St.).

Classified

12 Commonwealth Times

Thursday, March 26, 1998

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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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Now Hiring Outing Rental Center Manager Recreational Sports VCU

We are looking for a manager for the Outing Rental Center. Responsibilities include overseeing the work of the work-study assistants, tracking the financial operations of the center, supervising the rental, inventory, and repair of equipment and supplies stored at the Center and marketing and promoting for the Center. The manager will also assist the student program coordinators logistically and operationally. This position is the chief assistant to the Outdoor Adventure Program Coordinator primarily responsible for the efficient operation of the Center. Applicants must be VCU/MCV students with some supervisory experience, retail and stock control experience and knowledge of repair and maintenance of outdoor equipment. Must possess a valid VA drivers license.

VCU

Virginia Commonwealth University
Division of Student Affairs

For additional information, please contact Greg Elliott, Coordinator of the Outdoor Adventure Program and Rental Center at 828-6004.

Application materials may be picked up from and returned to the Outing Rental Center 916 1/2 W. Franklin St. Application deadline April 10, 1998.

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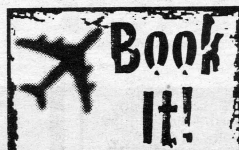
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Positions Available

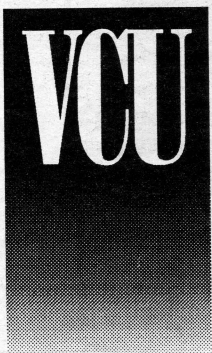
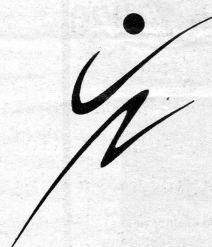
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IMPORTANT! Each student will be required to attend training during the month of August, proposed dates for training are August 27-30, 1998.

Application materials will be available at the MCV Campus Recreation and Aquatic Center, the Cary Street Recreational Complex, or the Outing Rental Center. For additional information, please call Jennifer Chapman at 828-6219.

Application deadline: April 10, 1998

VCU/MCV provides services on a non-discriminatory basis and is committed to a policy of equal access for all students. If you feel you may need special accommodations for participation in any event because of a disability, please contact Jennifer Chapman at 828-6219 (Academic Campus). VCU is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity University.



Virginia Commonwealth University

Recreational Sports
Division of Student Affairs



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CAA BASEBALL LEADERS

STANDINGS

(Through March 23)

Team	Conference		Overall	
	W-L	%	W-L	%
VCU	5-0	1.000	19-7	.731
Richmond	7-1	.875	18-6	.750
Old Dominion	5-1	.833	13-11	.542
James Madison	3-2	.600	11-11	.500
East Carolina	3-3	.500	14-11	.560
George Mason	1-2	.333	7-12	.368
William & Mary	0-7	.000	12-14	.462
UNC Wilmington	0-8	.000	6-18	.250

BATTING

(Through March 23)

PLAYER	AB	H	AVG.
Tim Wummett, ODU	94	44	.468
Shawn Pearson, ODU	110	50	.455
Greg Miller, JMU	59	25	.424
Corey Hoch, JMU	78	32	.410
Randy Rigby, ECU	96	39	.406
Greg White, JMU	57	22	.386
Jason Dubois, VCU	83	31	.373
Ian Rauls, ODU	84	31	.369
Anthony Forelli, ODU	112	41	.366
Randy Leek, W&M	99	36	.364
John Maglier, UR	93	33	.355
Jeremy Hays, W&M	74	26	.351
Nate Turner, JMU	78	27	.346
Mike Dwyer, UR	104	35	.337
Eric Folmar, ODU	87	29	.333
John Avent, UNCW	81	27	.333
Kevin Razler, JMU	76	25	.329

RUNS BATTED IN
(Through March 23)

PLAYER	G	RBI
Anthony Forelli, ODU	24	44
Tim Hummel, ODU	24	36
Jason Greiner, ODU	23	30
Jason Dubois, VCU	26	29
Mike Dwyer, UR	24	28
Randy Leek, W&M	26	27
Brandon Inge, VCU	26	23
Nic Jackson, UR	24	23
Randy Rigby, ECU	25	22
Ron Bush, W&M	26	21
John Williamson, ECU	25	21

HOME RUNS

(Through March 23)

PLAYER	G	HR
Mike Dwyer, UR	24	10
Brandon Inge, VCU	26	8
John Williamson, ECU	25	8
Josh Lamberg, UR	24	7
Jason Greiner, ODU	25	7
Anthony Forelli, ODU	24	6
Tim Hummel, ODU	24	6

EARNED RUN AVERAGE

(Through March 23)

(Min. one inning pitched per game)

PLAYER	W	L	IP	ERA
Mike Stellar, GMU	2	1	37.0	2.19
David Bailey, ODU	3	1	28.7	2.20
Brooks Jernigan, ECU	4	1	38.3	3.05
Marc Fisher, VCU	2	1	28.7	3.45
Jason Bucy, ECU	6	2	52.0	3.46
Matt Burch, VCU	6	2	57.7	3.74
Andy Cook, W&M	5	3	54.7	4.11
Nic Herr, JMU	3	0	36.3	4.21
Mike Dwyer, UR	4	1	38.3	4.23
Aaron Sams, JMU	4	2	40.3	4.47
Matt Williams, GMU	1	3	33.3	4.86
Greg White, JMU	1	1	23.7	4.94
Chad Berryman, VCU	6	2	32.7	5.02
Mike Reed, W&M	4	0	45.3	5.17

STRIKEOUTS

(Through March 23)

PLAYER	IP	Ks
Matt Burch, VCU	57.7	69
Andy Cook, W&M	54.7	50
Randy Leek, W&M	40.7	49
Mike Reed, W&M	45.3	47
Aaron Sams, JMU	40.3	42
Mike Stellar, GMU	37.0	35
Brooks Jernigan, ECU	38.3	33
Chad Berryman, VCU	32.7	32
Mike Dwyer, UR	38.3	32
Brian Brantley, ODU	24.7	31

SAVES

(Through March 23)

Travis Thompson, ECU	0-2	5
Brandon Inge, VCU	3-0	5
Shawn Paterson, VCU	1-0	2

WOMEN'S TENNIS

TEAM RANKINGS

(Through March 24)

RANK	SCHOOL	AVERAGE
1	Stanford (15-0)	57.80
2	Duke (10-1)	49.80
T3	Florida (11-0)	39.12
T3	Georgia (10-1)	39.12
5	Brigham Young (13-1)	38.24
6	Arizona State (10-3)	36.43
7	Mississippi (11-2)	35.96
8	California (11-2)	33.46
9	Texas (8-1)	32.38
10	Wake Forest (8-2)	30.48
11	William & Mary (10-8)	28.31
12	Tennessee (11-4)	25.27
13	Pepperdine (11-4)	24.83
14	UCLA (10-6)	23.08
15	Kansas (9-2)	22.83
16	Notre Dame (11-5)	22.21
17	Vanderbilt (11-5)	21.61
18	Southern California (8-5)	19.10
19	Arizona (6-6)	18.59
20	Arkansas (10-7)	17.11
22	VCU (8-2)	13.57

MEN'S TENNIS

TEAM RANKINGS

(Through March 24)

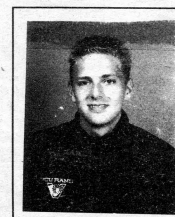
RANK	SCHOOL	RECORD	AVERAGE
1	Stanford	13-0	40.80
2	Georgia	11-1	38.04
3	Illinois	8-3	34.29
4	Mississippi State	10-1	30.86
5	Louisiana State	12-1	29.10
6	Mississippi	12-2	28.46
7	Texas	13-2	24.63
8	UCLA	12-3	23.66
9	Southern California	11-3	22.55
10	Pepperdine	11-2	22.10
11	Harvard	4-2	20.35
12	VCU	16-1	17.50
13	Duke	5-3	17.39
14	Northwestern	7-1	17.14
15	Tennessee	9-2	16.93
16	Alabama	7-3	16.58
17	Kentucky	9-4	15.36
18	South Carolina	10-3	13.85
19	Texas A&M	6-2	13.65
20	Baylor	9-3	12.82

Commonwealth
TIMES

Athlete of the Week

Daniel Andersson

Men's Tennis



■ Andersson, a sophomore from Stockholm, Sweden, went 3-0 this weekend at the Blue-Gray College Classic. Andersson (37-6), ranked fifth nationally, has not lost a match playing in the No. 1 singles position this season.

VCU BASEBALL

RAMS vs. OLD DOMINION

Saturday,
March 28th
6:00pm (DH)

Sunday,
March 29th
2:00pm

All home games played at the
Diamond and all VCU/MCV
students admitted FREE
with valid IDs

NATIONALLY-RANKED
VCU TENNIS

#12

RAMS
VS.

South Alabama
Sun., March 29th
at 1pm

William & Mary
Tue., March 31st
at 3pm

Duke
Sun., April 12th
at 1pm

#22 Lady

RAMS
VS.

George Washington
Thur., March 26th
at 2:30pm

All home matches
played at the VCU
Thalheimer Tennis Center

FREE ADMISSION

Ram Stat

• VCU baseball knocked off Norfolk State 11-1 Tuesday afternoon.

Thursday March 26, 1998

Sports

Commonwealth Times

Inside

• CAA baseball stats and men's and women's tennis national rankings.

Men's tennis ranked 12th

George Templeton

CT STAFF WRITER

Despite a difficult weekend at the Blue-Gray College Classic the VCU men's tennis team stayed at the No. 12 spot in the Rolex Collegiate Tennis Rankings.

This weekend at the Blue-Gray College Classic, VCU (17-3) went 1-2, losing 4-3 to New Mexico, ranked No. 54, and Fresno State, ranked No. 49. VCU defeated Tulane, ranked No. 28, 7-0.

"It's funny. We beat the highest rated team we played and lose to the lower ranked teams we played," VCU head coach Paul Kostin said. "It's another example of the parity that exists in men's tennis."

Three men's tennis players were also ranked in the top 100 of the Rolex ranking for men's singles. This week Daniel Andersson moved up from No. 15 to No. 5, Richard Wernerhjelm went from No. 68 to No. 64, while Manuel Kropfreiter made his first appearance in the rankings at No. 82.

"I think it's nice to see our players do well, but I'm not surprised that our No. 1 player (Andersson) and No. 2 player (Wernerhjelm) are doing so well," Kostin said. "It's always good to have ranked players but what really matters is the team playing well."

Kostin also talked about how good play from other singles players and from doubles has been key to the team's success.

"We've have played much better doubles this year," said Kostin. "We've only lost two doubles points this year, Harvard and New Mexico. I think we've paid more attention to it but I can't really find a reason for it. Our No. 3 and No. 4 players, Manuel (Kropfreiter) and Jose Sanchez, have really stepped up for us. When that happens it takes the pressure off your No. 1 and No. 2 players."

Despite the sparkling record, VCU has actually lost three of their last four.

"You learn from losing but it is more fun to win," Kostin said. "I think it keeps our players from getting too confident."

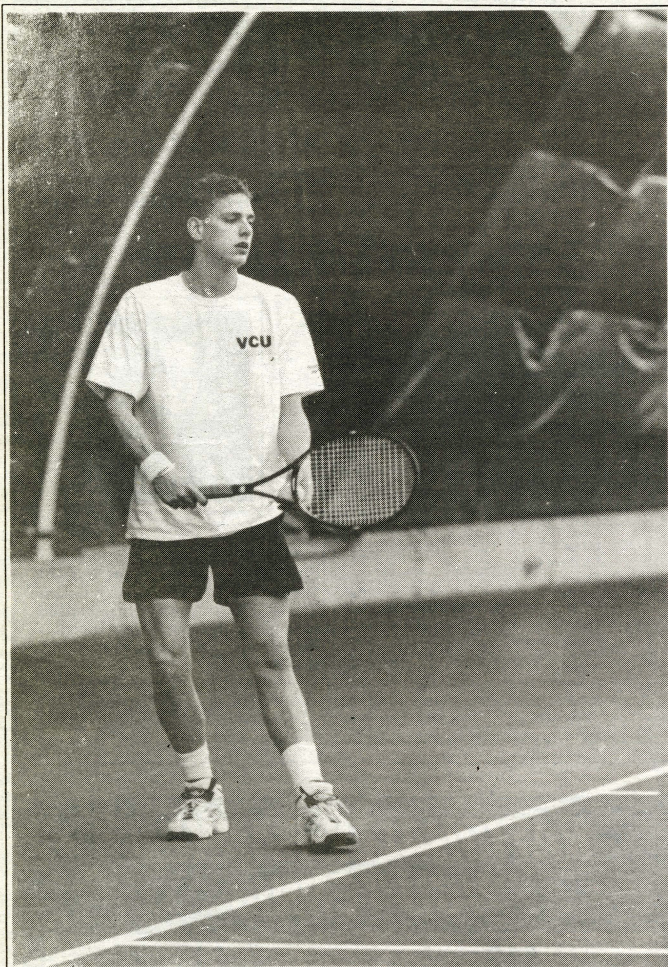
According to Kostin, one of the reasons for this current rough spot is injuries.

"I don't like to make excuses but when you have injuries you're going to struggle," said Kostin. "One of our players Olle Lundberg was sick and didn't play a match."

"We also have a player who has inflammation in his wrist, and a player with back spasms. If we can get healthy and play well we should be okay."

VCU plays their next two matches at home against South Alabama, ranked No. 33 and unranked William & Mary. These matches will be the first VCU has played at home since March 7 when they played Ohio State.

"It's always nice to play at home and we're going to play some good teams here," Kostin said. "South Alabama is a really good team that is always ranked high, and William & Mary isn't ranked but they have a really good team."



Mary Franke/Commonwealth Times

UNDEFEATED — VCU's Daniel Andersson has compiled a 16-0 record as the Rams' No. 1 singles player.

Lady Rams close out home schedule

Tom Leiss

CT ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

VCU's women's tennis team plays its last home match of the season Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at the Thalhimer Tennis Center against George Washington.

The Lady Rams (8-2) had an eight-match winning streak going into Wednesday afternoon's match with the University of Virginia and are ranked No. 22 in the current Rolex Collegiate Tennis Rankings.

The only Colonial Athletic Association team ranked higher is William & Mary (ranked 11th), which was the last team to defeat VCU. The Tribe handed VCU a 6-3 set back in the Lady Rams' second match of the season.

VCU coach Eva Bard said that if the Lady Rams continue to work hard the success should continue.

"They need to keep working on consistency and be more prepared for bad conditions," she said.

Now that it is spring, most teams are playing their matches outdoors, so VCU will need to be prepared for whatever Mother Nature throws at them, along with any other distractions.

Another, and possibly more important, key Bard mentioned was not settling for the wins that have happened so far.

"They can't be satisfied," Bard said.

Much of the Lady Rams' success has come on the singles level.

Top seed Martina Nedelkova, ranked 12th by the Rolex Rankings, and fourth seed Andrea Ondrisova are both 10-1, while Sofia Hiort (No. 2) and Lenka Zacharova (No. 3) have combined for a 17-5 record.

Not to be left out are VCU's steadily improving fifth and sixth seeds.

Carmen Beitzer, VCU's only senior, is 4-7 at the No. 5 spot and sixth seeded Siri Thayaprasat, one of only two hold-overs from last year's team, is 3-8.

Doubles has also been important to VCU's success, particularly for the top two

Rams in Action				
TEAM	UPCOMING EVENTS			Notes
MEN'S TENNIS (17-3, 0-0)	MARCH 29 S. ALA.	MARCH 31 W&M	APRIL 4 MSU	The Rams are undefeated against Region II opponents.
WOMEN'S TENNIS (9-2, 1-1)	MARCH 25 UVA	MARCH 26 GW	MARCH 29 NCSU	The Lady Rams match with GW will be their last home match of the season.
BASEBALL (20-7, 5-0)	MARCH 28 ODU (DH)	MARCH 29 ODU	MARCH 31 UVA	Ram pitcher Chad Berryman leads the CAA with six wins.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDICATES HOME GAME <input type="checkbox"/> INDICATES AWAY GAME				

doubles teams of Nedelkova/Ondrisova (8-0) and Hiort/Zacharova (6-1). In dual matches this season VCU doubles teams have a combined record of 38-14.

After hosting GW Thursday, VCU heads

south to battle North Carolina State on Sunday, March 29. The Lady Rams then travel to State College, Pa., where they will face Penn State (Friday, April 3) and Rice (Saturday, April 4).