

Free classifieds are listed on page 4 • "Ask Bob," page 2

# THE Commonwealth TIMES

MONDAY  
April 1, 2002

Vol. 36, No. 21

The Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University

## VCU pulls off landmark \$1.3-billion buyout of U.Va.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

After months of deliberation and closed-door meetings, VCU has officially purchased the University of Virginia campus.

Sources said VCU paid an estimated \$1.3 billion for the campus and plans to convert it to the state's largest engineering school.

"Many of us are still in shock," said a U.Va. professor, who asked not to be identified.

Officials would not say if U.Va. would keep its current name or be changed to "Virginia Commonwealth University-Charlottesville."

"I just think this is absolutely ridiculous," the U.Va. professor said. "VCU has bought up half of Richmond and now they're

moving west. What's next? Tech? Rhode Island?"

Top VCU officials could not be reached for comment.

One possible reason for the buyout, sources say, is land. With very little available land in Richmond, the acquisition is seen as a way to ease the parking and housing concerns. A VCU spokesperson said there would now be plenty of room for

students to park on the VCU-Charlottesville campus.

"I mean it's only an hour away," said the spokesperson.

**APRIL FOOLS! This of course did not actually happen, folks.**

## MODA: Fashion show offers atypical look at what we wear

Student-run group's event serves as tribute to Sept. 11

BY SARAH KITE and JOY SHEPPERSON

Staff writers

With Annie Lennox's song "Why" mixed with sounds from Sept. 11 playing in the background, models somberly walked up the aisle.

The models, male and female VCU students, were clad in red, white and blue, while one young woman stood tall, wrapped in silver cloth, representing the Statue of Liberty.

This symbolic scene opened the Group MODA fashion show Tuesday night.

Group MODA's second annual fashion show was not just about the latest fashions, it was a about

awareness and was a tribute to the events of Sept. 11.

Before intermission, models wore bright colored fabrics around their bodies to symbolize the colorful ribbons worn to make people

diversified and non-stereotypical manner.

Stephanie Johnson, co-founder and president of Group MODA, said planning for the event took about five months. VCU students and retailers participated in the event. The students made some of the outfits and retailers provided some outfits.

Models wore everything from formal gowns to blue jeans

and white shirts. Bold, bright colors paired with basic black painted a rainbow down the runway.

Male models wore white tuxedos, overalls with one strap down and suspenders.

Group MODA is a student run organization that allows students to present the art of fashion in a diversified and non-stereotypical manner.

aware of breast cancer, AIDS, child abuse, domestic violence, diabetes and teen suicide.

The show was held at the Student Commons with an audience of more than 400 people.

Group MODA is a student run organization that allows students to present the art of fashion in a



Candice Anderson

Models at the MODA show often interacted with each other on the runway.

MODA continued to page 3

## INSIDE

IN BRIEF: PAGE 2

NEWS: PAGE 3

SPECTRUM: PAGE 12

OPINION: PAGE 16

SPORTS: PAGE 20

## Spectrum



LOCAL INDIE-ROCK TRIO ADARA DISCUSS THEIR NEW ALBUM.

PAGE 12

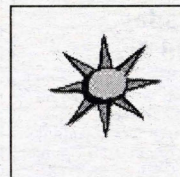


COLUMNIST EMILY LIU TELLS YOU THE TRUTH, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

PAGE 16

## OPINION

## TODAY'S WEATHER



HI 67

LO 39

Sunny

How to reach us: [ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com) • (804) 828-1058

# In Brief

## CALENDAR

**Monday  
April 1**

**SGA Senate meeting** from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the University Student Commons' Forum Room.

**Liberation of Palestine meeting** to discuss the launch of the new student organization. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the University Student Commons' Capital Ballroom D.

**Hatebreed, Stalemate, Converge and Down to Nothing** perform at Alley Katz. Doors open at 6 p.m.

**Tuesday  
April 2**

**The Science Museum of Virginia** presents the "Women's History Theatre Festival." Learn about Alice Evans and Marie Curie through two one-act plays titled "The Milk Masquerade" and "Madame Curie." Tickets are \$5. Performances start at 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. For more information contact the museum at 864-1400.

**George Clinton and the P-Funk Allstars** will bring in the funk at the 930 Club. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

**Wednesday  
April 3**

**Amnesty International** meeting to discuss upcoming events will be held from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in the University Student Commons' Metro Room.

**Wu Tang Clan** will perform at the 930 Club. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

**Jacquelyn Campbell** will give a lecture titled, "Voices of Strength and Resistance: Using Emancipatory Research to Change Policy for Battered Women" in the School of Engineering Building at 7 p.m.

**Thursday  
April 4**

**Cindy Milstein** will lecture on the future of radical social movements in the University Student Commons' Forum Room from 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

**2 Skinnee J's** will perform at the 930 Club. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15.

### Students caught cheating in ethics exam

A group of Canadian students are in trouble for cheating in an ethics exam.

They plagiarized material pulled from the Internet and submitted it as their own during the test.

The 31 engineering students from Ottawa's Carleton University are all facing disciplinary action.

Donald Russell, associate dean at the university, said, "We're disappointed this has happened in the course on ethics."

Russell added, "Some of the offences involve the entire document submitted, so they've taken parts of different Web sites, assembled them into an essay and submitted it as their own work."

In one case, a student changed just four words in an essay taken from a Web site.

The words in an essay taken from a member of staff compared essays the students submitted to essays on a similar subject that are easily available on the Internet.

Each of the accused students will be questioned and may be subject to suspension or expulsion.

### Electricity company directs customers to sex line

Customers who phoned a Pennsylvania electricity company's helpline have been offered phone sex services.

A letter Green Mountain Energy sent to 93,000 customers gave the wrong number for its customer service department.

A recorded female voice told callers they could have wild, one-on-one adventures if they phoned other numbers.

"Unfortunately, the worst-case scenario occurred," company spokesman John Holtz said.

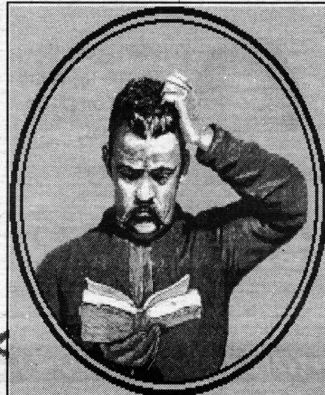
There was a misprint in a letter explaining a price increase, which included a free telephone number for its customer service center.

Hundreds of customers have complained about the message, Holtz said.

Green Mountain Energy is now negotiating with the owner of the sex line, PrimeTel Communications, to buy the number.

It has also sent replacement letters, with an apology and the correct number for customers to call.

Holtz added, "There's nothing sinister behind it - we believe it was a simple mistake."



### Gamma radiation helps make fart-free beans

Indian scientists have found a way to stop beans from making you fart.

They say a short burst of gamma radiation before soaking the beans does the trick.

The technique works particularly well on mung beans, black-eyed beans and chickpeas, but not so well on kidney beans.

Gut bacteria feed on oligosaccharides, giving off gas, but the new treatment cuts those carbohydrates by up to 80 percent.

New Scientist magazine reports the traditional method of soaking them removes just 35 percent.

Beans given a low dose of radiation and then soaked had 70 percent fewer oligosaccharides than beans that were just soaked. Beans given a high dose before soaking had 80 percent less.

Jammala Machaiah and Mrinal Pedekar from the Bhabha Atomic Research Center in Trombay, carried out the study.

Machaiah said, "In India, beans are a very popular and important part of the national diet, but some people can't eat a lot of beans because of the flatulence problem."

"This is unfortunate, as it is a very good source of essential nutrients. Irradiation would make beans less of a problem."

### Man has 420 needles stuck in arms

An Ontario man hopes he's set a world record for the most number of piercings in one day.

Nathan Robitaille had 420 needles stuck under the skin on his arms.

They were removed once the official count was complete.

London Free Press reports the 23-year-old from Chatham beat a North Carolina man who managed 301 in February.

It took body piercer, Bobby Robichaud, more than three hours to do all the piercings.

Robitaille said, "I just wanted to have a record and it's not like I can beat the fastest 100 meters. My mom didn't know what to say."

"Some spots were worse than others. My forearm wasn't too bad, but it was pretty painful on my shoulders."

According to the 2001 Guinness Book of Records, Elaine Davidson from Edinburgh has the most body piercings. She's had 462 since 1997, of which 192 are on her head.

And the most pierced man is Luis Antonio Aguerro from Cuba who has 230 piercings.

### Got a question?

Ask Bob.

If you have a question you would like answered, send it to

[ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com). Put

"Ask Bob" in the subject line. Bob will answer your questions biweekly.

### Woman's lips glued together by attackers

Detectives are hunting men who glued a woman's lips together before leaving her tied to a banister. Police in Romford, Essex are looking for four men who forced their way into the 26-year-old woman's house.

A relative discovered her and the woman has been treated at Oldchurch Hospital and released.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said, "Thankfully she has not suffered permanent physical injuries, however she has been left distraught by the ordeal."

The four men are described as Caucasian and three of them wore balaclavas.

The spokesman added, "They just produced this glue, so we think that they brought it with them."

"It could have been any type of strong, quick-drying glue. We don't know what brand it was."

Nothing was taken and the woman was not otherwise injured.

## THE Commonwealth TIMES

-Room 1149  
T. Edward Temple Building  
901 W. Main St.  
Richmond, Va. 23284-2010

### STAFF

**TY BOWERS**  
*Executive editor*

**HOLLY CLARK**  
*Managing editor*

**CARL HOLSCHER**  
*Production chief*

**OLIVIA LLOYD**  
*News editor*

**HOLLY HOBBS**  
*Associate news editor*

**SAGHI TEHRAN**  
*Spectrum editor*

**AMBER HENDRIX**  
*Spectrum editor*

**DEREK STAMEY**  
*Sports editor*

**KENT BROCKWELL**  
*Photo Editor*

**JOHN MESSITER**  
*Business manager*

**MICHAEL FISHER**  
*Advertising director*

**WHIT LEE**  
*Circulation director*

[ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com)  
(804) 828-1058

# NEWS

## NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED FROM STAFF  
AND WIRE SOURCES

### Man facing charges for talking too much at meeting

A Pennsylvania man is facing criminal charges after talking for too long at a town council meeting.

Jim Barbe is accused of talking for 11 minutes at a meeting of the Salem Township supervisors after officials had limited speakers to five minutes each.

Police have charged Barbe with disrupting a public meeting and with defiant trespass.

The 60-year-old accountant faces a potential sentence of up to two years in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

"I did say I was just about done," Barbe said, remembering the meeting.

He wants a judge to throw out the charges and says the rule violates his freedom of speech.

But prosecutors objected to that, making the point that while speech may be free, too much of it could lead to gridlock.

"We're just enforcing the law," said prosecutor Kyle Baxter.

Strange political goings-on are not unusual in Salem Township, about 30 miles east of Pittsburgh.

In 1995, a woman was charged with inciting people to throw tea bags at a supervisor over an increase in sewer rates.

### Bomb squad 'can't deal with grenade because it's Easter'

A New Zealand woman has been told she'll have to live with a hand grenade in her cellar until Tuesday because the bomb squad can't get there until then.

The World War II American hand grenade was found Thursday at the house in New Plymouth.

She says the bomb squad told her they couldn't deal with it because it's Easter.

The woman reported the find to New Plymouth police, who put her through to the army's bomb experts.

"They told me because it is Easter no-one around there could come, so they told me to wait until Tuesday," she said adding, "It's been here for 60 years and hasn't gone off. I'm sure a few more days won't hurt."

Acting Sgt. Grant Kennard of New Plymouth confirmed the army believed the grenade posed no danger.

## The Queen Mother 1900-2002

"Her sense of duty and her remarkable zest for life made her loved and admired by people of all ages and backgrounds, revered within our borders and beyond." –

Tony Blair



Britain's Queen Mother died in her sleep Saturday. She was 101. The Queen Mother had been in deteriorating health after suffering a chest infection in December.

This is the second tragedy in little more than a month for Britain's royal family, the Queen Mother's daughter Princess Margaret died in February.

"The Queen Mum" was loved by many and often called "the nation's favorite grandmother." She was known for bringing Britain's royal family closer to the people.

"During her long and extraordinary life, her grace, her sense of duty and her remarkable zest for life made her loved and admired by people of all ages and backgrounds, revered within our borders and beyond," U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair told CNN.

Her two great-grandchildren, Prince William and Prince Harry, returned home from their skiing trip in Switzerland; they and their father, Prince Charles, were said to be "devastated."

The Queen Mother's coffin was moved Sunday to the Royal Chapel of All Saints in Windsor Great Park. Her funeral will take place on April 8 in Windsor.



### Tough turtle stuck back together after four-story fall

A turtle has been patched up with tape and glue after surviving a fall from a four-story building in New Zealand.

Sly and her companion Latina fell after being left on a balcony in Wellington to bask in the sun.

She was found in the back of a truck and taken to a vet. Latina died on impact.

The driver of the truck, Daren Whitcher, said he found Sly bleeding and bewildered.

"I didn't have any idea where she came from," he said. "I looked at her and she looked at me. It was quite sad."

Sly's owner Howie Sampson said she took the turtles to the balcony above her apartment so they could enjoy the sun. When she came back for them, they had disappeared.

"I didn't panic at first. They are

curious little guys and I thought they had got inside for a wander around," she said.

After two days hunting for them, she was told both turtles had fallen after climbing up a stack of tiles on the balcony.

Sly, a five-year-old red-eared slider, had been taken to a vet at the Wellington Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Vet Anthony Wong said it was amazing Sly had survived the fall, and the two days she spent lying undiscovered in torrential rain.

"They are hardly little animals but four stories is a big fall," he said.

Sly suffered several cracks to her shell, part of which was caved in, and a broken leg. Wong stuck her shell back together with glue and tape, and prescribed a course of antibiotics.

## MODA

Continued from page 1

hats also appeared on the runway for men's fashion.

Some segments of the fashion show had themes. There was a superhero segment with Superman T-shirts and Batman capes. One pair of models wore an American Indian motif complete with leather vests and feathered tops.

Unlike most fashion shows, the models interacted with each other and the audience.

"It's kind of like watching a musical," Jason Bleuss, a VCU student said.

**Unlike most fashion shows, the models interacted with each other and the audience.**

Now serving  
breakfast!

**SUBWAY**

1110 W Broad Street

Next to Siegel Center.  
Previously on Grace street.

**OPEN  
LATE ON  
WEEKENDS**

UNTIL 12:00 MIDNIGHT  
phone: 355 0433  
fax: 355 4806

\$2.49 sub of the month:  
ITALIAN BMT regular 6"

**1\$ OFF ON ANY FOOTLONG  
50c OFF ON ANY 6" SUB**

One coupon per customer per visit.  
Not good with any other offer.  
Valid only at 1110 W. Broad location.  
Expires 4/30/02

**SUBWAY**

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Wedding photographer needed.**  
June 29th, Richmond. Portfolio required.  
B/W & color, candid/formal. Pay \$500,  
negotiable. Call Liz or Ty @ 359-0113 by  
April 10 for appointment.

**Fraternities • Sororities**

**Clubs • Student Groups**

Earn \$1,000 - \$2,000 with the easy  
Campusfundraiser.com three hour  
fundraising event. **Does not involve  
credit card applications.**  
Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so  
call today! Contact  
Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-  
3238, or visit  
[www.campusfundraiser.com](http://www.campusfundraiser.com)

Summer child-care position available  
for responsible student. 8:30 - 5:30 M-F;  
additional opportunities (night/weekend)  
available. Must have own child-friendly  
transportation. Located in West End. \$350/  
week plus expenses. References required.  
Please call 364-6007.

**#1 Spring Break Vacations!**  
Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas, & Florida!  
Best Parties, Best Hotels, Best Prices!  
Space is limited! Hurry up & Book Now!  
1-800-234-7007  
[www.endlesssummertours.com](http://www.endlesssummertours.com)

**EARN \$1000 FOR YOUR GROUP**  
Work on campus to raise money for your  
student group or organization. Make your  
own schedule and earn \$5 per application.  
Please Call 1-800-808-7450

**ACADEMIC COACHES needed!**  
Paid tutoring positions (\$13+) available  
in schools (K-8) near VCU. Please com-  
plete a candidate form online at  
[www.universityinstructors.com](http://www.universityinstructors.com).

**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
Devote your summer to environmental  
change! Work on exciting campaign to limit  
out-of-state trash! 350\$-450\$/WK, 1:30pm-  
10:30pm, M-F  
CALL: 342-1498 between 9am and 5pm

**The Bank of Richmond NA**  
At the Bank of Richmond we are an  
enthusiastic, experienced group of bank-  
ers. Our goal is to provide exceptional  
customer service in an energetic atmo-  
sphere. Richmond's hottest community  
bank is rapidly growing and looking for the  
following team members:

**TELLERS (FULL/PART TIME)**  
Previous experience in similar a po-  
sition is a plus. This is a ground floor  
opportunity for a great banking career or  
just an extra way to make money.

We offer a competitive salary/benefits  
package including stock options. No phone  
calls. Stop in any of our branches to fill out  
an application or send a resume to Human  
Resources, The Bank of Richmond, P.O.  
Box 18428, Richmond, VA 23286. EOE.

**FILE TAX RETURN ONLINE**  
Refund in about 14 days with direct  
deposit  
1040EZ-\$9.95  
1040A-\$14.95  
Log onto [www.1040.com/ctstax](http://www.1040.com/ctstax)

**DON'T HAVE AN ORDINARY SUMMER.**  
Looking for a challenge, fun and the best sum-  
mer of your life? Camp Easter Seal in Virginia  
has a job opening for camp counselors, program  
instructors for aquatics, horseback riding, ad-  
venture and sports. Work with children and  
adults with disabilities in a beautiful outdoor  
setting. Staff come from across the US and  
around the world. Room, board, salary pro-  
vided. (804) 633-9855. Camp Easter Seal 20500  
Easter Seal Drive Milford, VA 22514.  
[www.campeasterseal-va.org](http://www.campeasterseal-va.org) e-mail:  
[dbrown@va.easter-seals.org](mailto:dbrown@va.easter-seals.org)

**ATTENTION STUDENTS**  
**PART TIME WORK**  
\$14.85 base/appt.  
Expanding local co. Now hiring 20+ students  
for fun & easy work in customer serv./retail  
sales. No telemarketing/No door 2 door. Flex.  
hours around classes (10-30/wk) Scholarships  
awarded. Conditions apply. Positions filling fast!  
264-8229, ask for Kim or z19.com

Receptionist/Manicurist Assistant. Part-  
time. \$7 hour + tips. Convenient Carytown  
location. NO experience necessary. Fun and  
busy atmosphere. Immediate opening. 355-  
0440.

**ANXIETYSUPPORTGROUP** starting. First  
meeting will be Sunday, March 3rd at Retreat  
Hospital. First floor in conference room. For  
more info contact  
[catherinejohnson77@yahoo.com](mailto:catherinejohnson77@yahoo.com)

Room for Rent; Southside \$300 per month  
including utilities, Prefer Female non-smoker,  
contact [tunein2life@cs.com](mailto:tunein2life@cs.com)

Undergraduate and graduate **ACADEMIC  
COACHES** needed immediately! 25 paid  
positions (\$13+) available for instruction in  
schools (K-12) near VCU.

Please complete a candidate form online at  
[www.universityinstructors.com](http://www.universityinstructors.com). Thank you!

**CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS!**  
**CALL 1-877-320-7716 TO SEE IF YOU  
QUALIFY FOR: STUDENT LOAN REPAY-  
MENT UP TO \$10,000 IN STATE TUITION  
RATES & UP TO 100% COLLEGE TUITION**

\$1000  
Art/Interior Design  
Your unique floor design can earn  
you a cool thousand dollars! The only  
limitation is your imagination.  
Call 643-2786 for details.

**STUDENTS**  
Up to 100% paid tuition and in state  
rates.  
Student loans up to \$10,000 repaid.  
Contact Mike Hampton at 225-3014  
Tuition Only

**\*\*\* Sales & Marketing positions \*\*\***

**AVCOM-RAMSEY Technologies, Inc.**, a lead-  
ing manufacturer of satellite and RF communi-  
cation test equipment seeks two highly moti-  
vated, energetic sales and marketing profes-  
sionals.

The primary mission is to develop strategies  
and tactfully implement sales activities to meet  
company objectives, work with existing cus-  
tomers and seek out, identify, and capture new  
customer bases and opportunities.

Qualification include:  
Practical and creative in applying market-  
ing knowledge and strategies in real world  
sales environments. Persistent and aggressive  
in generating new sales and new customer  
bases.

Excellent communication, presentation and  
computer skills. Web development skills and  
technical, preferably RF knowledge/background  
is a plus.

A Bachelor's degree (or in the near future) in  
the related discipline.

These two positions can be either perma-  
nent full-time or internship. Interested candi-  
dates should reply to:

**AVCOM-RAMSEY Technologies, Inc.** 500  
Southlake Blvd. Richmond, VA 23236 or send  
email to: [applicant@avcomramsey.com](mailto:applicant@avcomramsey.com)

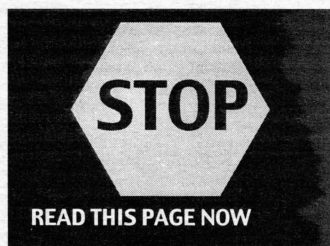
Undergraduate and graduate **ACADEMIC  
COACHES** needed immediately! 25 paid posi-  
tions available for instruction in schools (K-12)  
near VCU.

Most instruction times are either Monday/  
Wednesday 2-4:30 or Tuesday/Thursday 2-4:30.  
Please complete a candidate form online at  
[www.universities.com](http://www.universities.com). Thank You!

VCU Students  
Part Time Jobs Available With  
Benefits OF  
Student Loan Repayment up to  
\$10,000.  
Up to 100% College Tuition  
In State Tuition Rates  
Page Me Now!!  
1 - 888 - 845 - 3580

**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
Devote your summer to environmental  
change!  
Work on exciting campaign to limit out-  
of-state!  
350\$-450\$/WK, 1:30pm-10:30pm, M-F  
CALL: 342-1498 between 9am and 5pm

**WRITE  
FOR THE  
CT!**



**CLASSIFIED!**  
submit to 1149 temple building, commonwealth times.

name: \_\_\_\_\_  
date: \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
text: \_\_\_\_\_  
time period for the ads. \_\_\_\_\_

where would you like to pick up  
the commonwealth times?  
\_\_\_\_\_

what issues would  
you like covered? \_\_\_\_\_

on first come first serve basis \*we reserve the right to reject any objectionable ad

Rents  
From Only  
\$410!

The Communities at  
**SOUTHWOOD**

Coming Home Never  
Felt So Good!

Convenient to VCU  
Spacious Floor Plans  
Tennis Court  
Swimming Pool  
Basketball Court  
Billiard & Game Room

\*Financial aid counts towards income

4602-C Southwood Pkwy • 804-230-2300

# Cell phone radiation causes concern about tumors

© U-WIRE

Recent studies indicate that cell phones may be responsible for an increase in brain tumors and brain cancer in the United States.

"Since cell phones emit electromagnetic energy, which in certain circumstances has been linked with causing tumors, many people fear that the two statistics may be linked," said Dr. Ted Schwartz, a neurosurgeon from New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Most cell phone companies rebuke the alleged accusations.

The most recent study, published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, states that people who regularly use their cell phones are not at any greater risk than those who do not use cell phones.

Robert Elston, spokesman for Ericsson, said that all Ericsson phones are designed and tested to comply with existing safety standards for radio frequency exposure.

Studies have produced inconclusive evidence, Elston said.

Nevertheless, cell phone companies are aware of the possible dangers of cell phone use, and the Cellular Telecommunications Internet Association has been conducting research since 1994, said Wendie Larkin, public relations manager for Network World Inc.

George Carlos, a public health scientist, was hired by CTIA to conduct a six-year, \$25 million research effort.

Carlos' findings confirmed the industry's worst nightmare, linking cell phone use to a brain tumor called acoustic neuroma.

"People who reported using cell phones for six years or more had a 50 percent higher chance of developing this benign tumor," Carlos said.

The radiation emitted by the phone is absorbed 1 to 2 inches into the skull causing some heating of the brain tissue.

Using a headset, rather than holding the phone directly to your head, may minimize possible side effects, said Janice Brewer, spokeswoman for the World Health Organization.

Cell phone companies may reject possible hazards, but Motorola, Nokia, Hitachi and Ericsson have all rushed to buy radiation shield patents, said Larkin.

These shields are used to reduce the risk of brain tumors among consumers, she said.

Michael Westmark, Ericsson spokesman, said the patents were designed to improve the performance of mobile phones by reducing the radio waves, not specifically to prevent brain tumors.

Until further research is completed, the World Health Organization suggests cell phone users limit their time on a cell phone and consider using a hands-free device, Brewer said.

# U. Iowa professors receive grant to research stuttering

© U-WIRE

Two University of Iowa professors will take part in one of the largest studies ever on early childhood stuttering, which is aimed at classifying stutterers into subgroups to better treat the disorder.

A \$4 million grant from the National Institute on Deafness and other Communication Disorders will fund the study, which will bring together the efforts of investigators from six universities working at four schools.

The study is an extension of research started 13 years ago at the University of Illinois by UI alumnus Ehud Yairi, who will serve as the project's principal researcher. Investigators are working to sub-categorize children who stutter based on different characteristics and skills.

Patricia Zebrowski and Jerald Moon, both UI associate professors of speech pathology and audiology, are responsible for research at the UI that will also examine motor skills exhibited by the children.

Research will be carried out at the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana, Purdue University, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The core of the project will track children who develop the speech impediment from its onset to recovery in hopes of understanding what factors contribute to the recovery of stutterers. Researchers hope to break down the stutterers into more than the two existing subtypes: those who recover and those who carry the impediment into adulthood.

In addition, each school will look closely at a specific characteristic in the children. The study comes almost a year after UI officials issued an apology for research methods used in 1939. Allegations were brought forth that former UI professor and revered researcher Wendell Johnson applied negative therapy to 22 orphaned children, causing some to develop stuttering problems that progressed into adulthood.

Richard Hurtig, the chairman of the UI speech-pathology department, said the university's research reputation in the field was not significantly damaged by a study conducted more than 60 years ago. "Our reputation is based on what we're doing now, not past glory," he said.

Several hundred children and their parents will be tracked by the researchers starting in April and continuing for the next four to five years. The study will include a control sample of children with normal speech patterns.

Stuttering typically begins between the ages of 2 and 5 and lasts an average of one to two years. The majority of children who stutter eventually recover; it is not known why a small percentage develop ongoing problems.

ONLY REDEEMABLE AT 1214 WESTOVER HILLS BLVD

**150%**

**Walgreens**  
The Pharmacy. Always True.

- \* school supplies
- \* 1hr photo
- \* pharmacy
- \* foodmart
- \* halmark
- \* cosmetics

**OFF WITH THIS COUPON**


PH: 804 230 1118 RX PH: 804 230 6335 EXPIRES: 5/31/02

Like being belittled and made fun of?  
Fancy having your journalistic integrity questioned?

The Commonwealth Times is looking for News and Feature writers.

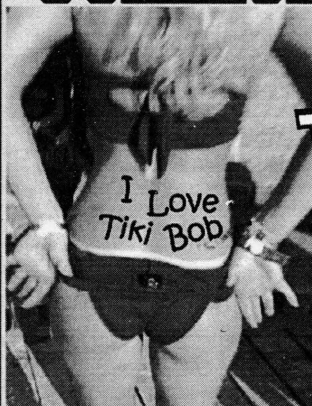
Contact Ty and Holly for more information:

828 - 1058



**TUESDAY 18 & Up**


**COLLEGE NIGHT**



**Tiki Tan Line Contest**

**Tuesday April 2nd**

**\$100 CASH for the sexiest tan line!**



110 N 18th St.  
644-9091

# Addictions provoked by computer, Internet use

© U-WIRE

Reuben Logsdon, a software writer from Washington, dealt with a chronic seven-year addiction to the computer game "Civilization." "I would play it again and again, even though I always won, and a normal game might take eight to 24 hours to complete," said Logsdon, whose addiction started in college.

"Civilization" is a game where players create their own armies in pursuit of world domination. Like many computer games, "Civilization" had the means of providing Logsdon with an escape from the tedium of college life.

Logsdon's past behavior is a standard example of computer addiction, according to Maressa Hecht Orzack, a Harvard University psychologist and director of Computer Addiction Services at McLean Hospital, located in Belmont, Mass.

Not simply isolated to computer games, numerous cases of addictive behavior have been associated with persistent online chatting and viewing of Internet pornography.

"Adults also need to realize how they can be caught in a darker side of the Internet," Orzack said.

Her treatment program for people addicted to computers includes behavioral therapy and anti-depressants such as Zyban, a prescription drug used to help weed smokers off cigarettes.

People who are often bored, depressed, lonely, have low self-esteem and poor social skills are more likely to be pulled into excessive computer usage, Orzack said. She added that having a history of other addictions also makes people more susceptible to computer addictions.

"Physically, people can undergo stresses such as gaining weight from lack of energy ... have repetitive stress injuries such as carpal tunnel syndrome, migraines from staring at the screen too much and backaches," she said. Orzack also noted loss of sleep and forgetting to eat as warning signs of addiction.

Logsdon said that even though it has been more than two years since he destroyed the disks and kicked the habit, he has "not totally gotten over it" and will occasionally play other games.

Logsdon said for a person showing signs of addictive behavior, it is critical to uninstall the program from the computer and also physically destroy the CDs or

disks.

"This demonstrates your power over the addiction," he said.

For some, it may not be so easy.

Engineering senior Joe Giannetti said that "massively multi-player online role-playing games" such as "EverQuest" and "Lineage" are notorious for keeping players glued to the screen. Since its release in 1999, "EverQuest" has amassed more than

**"For a person showing signs of addictive behavior, it is critical to uninstall the program from the computer and also physically destroy the CDs or disks."**

**— Reuben Logsdon, a software writer**

250,000 online players. The characters, which are designed by the players, make alliances with other online players and go on quests to kill monsters, solving puzzles along the way.

"There have been people from (Bursley Residence Hall) who have dropped out of school because of 'EverQuest,'" Giannetti said.

Adding that it takes at least six hours of playing time to make "good progress" in the game, Giannetti said he cannot imagine anyone in college playing the game successfully while still "maintaining a social life and academics at the same time."

Logsdon said the need to return to his computer stemmed from an "unmet need" for control in his life. Since quitting, he has realized that, rather than providing a suitable outlet for these needs, computer games actually stood in the way of meeting them.

"The games need to be coded to force timeouts after too many hours of play. It's like having bars be required to stop serving alcohol to a patron who has had too much," Logsdon added.

# 5 leave Dartmouth program after terror threat

**Art students in Italy threatened during Easter weekend**

© U-WIRE

Five Dartmouth students are returning from the art history department's Foreign Study Program this weekend after the State Department warned that Florence, the location of the FSP, was a potential terrorist target on Easter Sunday.

Three other Italian cities — Venice, Milan and Verona — were also mentioned in the March 27 warning, which cited unspecified "extremist groups [who] do not distinguish between official and civilian targets."

Americans were warned to avoid large crowds, clubs, restaurants, places of wor-



ship, schools and outdoor recreation events.

"After consultation with their families, some of the students decided it was better if they returned home and to Dartmouth for the spring," Dean of the college James Larimore said.

"The folks in Residential Life are hard at work to get them housing," Larimore said of the five students who will be returning to campus Monday.

Larimore emphasized that the FSP has not been canceled, although faculty adviser Professor Adrian Randolph has arranged to take the remaining students out of Florence for the weekend.

"Students now participating in the FSP said they were feeling very good about getting to see other parts of Italy. ... We are dealing with the worries they have about being in public places in a different way," Larimore said.

He said he did not know the names of the students who are leaving, and students who remained in Florence were unwilling to comment on the situation.

While Italian government officials argue that the State Department's warning does not constitute a serious threat, the information in the warning came from Italian investigators, according to a Thursday article in The New York Times.

Neither the U.S. nor the Italian government specified whether the threat was connected to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.



**Bottom Billiards**

117 N 18th St.  
Shockoe Bottom  
643-4323

**FREE POOL**

(MIN \$10 PURCHASE PER PERSON)

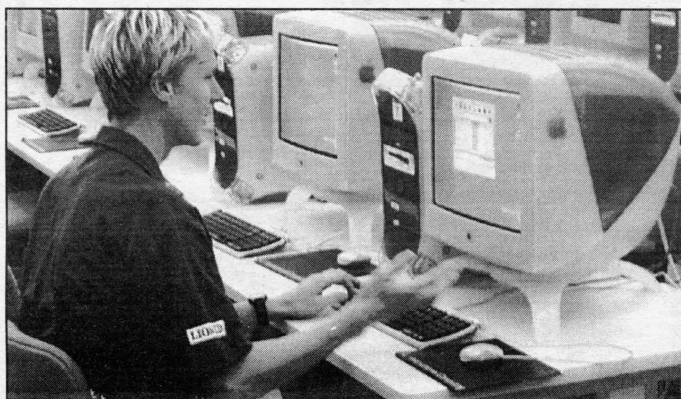
**SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
FROM 5-9PM  
**1/2 PRICE POOL**  
**LADIES PLAY FREE!**

EVERY NIGHT  
**99¢ SPECIALS**

HOURS: 5:00pm-2:00am

**The Best Sandwiches Subs & Burgers in the Bottom**



**Dangerous games:** Computer gaming may detract from your social life and academic career, former game addict says.

# University of Virginia graduate students formally start union

© U-WIRE

University of Virginia graduate students voted last week to form a student union and will vote next week on whether to affiliate with a larger professional union.

Forty-two college graduate students in attendance at the meeting voted unanimously to form the union, which has been under consideration since the beginning of the year.

"In the broad sense, the purpose is to give graduate students a voice in the decisions that affect their lives," fourth-year graduate student Daniela Bell said.

She said particular goals of the union will be to acquire guaranteed health care, adequate wages and office space for graduate students.

Three aspects of Virginia law weaken the union's ability to change University policy. The union cannot strike, collectively bargain or require graduate students to become members.

In addition, Virginia is a "right-to-work" state, which means unions cannot force individuals to join their organization in order to get a job.

"Because Virginia is this right-to-work state, a lot of what we can do is lobby the

Three aspects of Virginia law weaken the union's ability to change University policy. The union cannot strike, collectively bargain or require graduate students to become members.

state legislature," Bell said.

Affiliating with a national union is one method the graduate student organizers will try to use to gain more clout.

The experience and monetary resources of a national union will help in this effort, she said.

Representatives from the Communication Workers of America already have visited with the graduate students twice. The American Federation of Teachers is sending a representative to give a presentation at a meeting Wednesday when the union

will decide if it wants to join a national organization.

After the AFT representative presents, union members will vote between affiliating with the AFT or the CWA.

Though there is a consensus that the union in its present formulation has a legal right to exist, what tangible impact it will have remains a matter of debate.

"They have a right to organize like any other citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia," said Duane Osheim, associate dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

However, the union "probably won't change the way we make decisions," Osheim said.

Union members have not yet met with administration officials, Bell said.

The union also has not yet elected any formal leadership.

"It obviously is something that has to happen soon," Bell said.

At the meeting Wednesday, union members also will vote to determine the name of their organization. An e-mail message sent out by union organizers listed Graduate Union of U.Va., Graduate Labor Union and Graduate Labor Alliance as potential names.

**DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE?**

**DO YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON?**

**DO YOU LIKE SEEING YOUR NAME IN PRINT?**

**WRITE FOR THE CT!**

**828-1058 or stop by the CT office and pick up an application. They are on the door.**

## ANNOUNCEMENT!

### ADVANCE REGISTRATION for Fall 2002

The Schedule of Classes is available at this VCU website: <http://www.vcu.edu/schedule/>

Copies of the Schedule of Classes can be picked up in Founders Hall, Room 104, or in the school or college of your major, and in University Student Commons.

Monday - March 18 --- Summer advance web/telephone registration begins for all students

Monday - Friday, March 25-29 --- Advising for Fall 2002 term

Monday - April 1 --- Advance web/telephone registration for Fall term 2002 begins (except for Honors students).

See registration schedule below.

Honors students	March 25
Graduate Students	April 1
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate students	April 3
Seniors	April 3
Juniors	April 8
Sophomores	April 15
Freshmen	April 22
Special Students (non-degree seeking)	April 29

Telephone and Web registration hours:

Monday - Saturday: 7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Sunday: Noon - 10 p.m.

Telephone registration number: (804)828-1495

Web address: <http://iserver.adm.vcu.edu/students>

If you have any questions, please call Records and Registration at 828-1349.

*Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability. If special accommodations are required, please contact Henri-Etta Burke at 828-1898.*

# Univ. Nebraska students given alternative course options in effort to promote diversity

## © U-WIRE

Cassie Callaway always has taken classes that are a bit, well, out there.

In past years Callaway, a senior diversified agriculture major, has signed up for both "Fruit Production" and "Vegetable Production" -- moves that warranted more than a little surprise from friends and family.

But they barely batted an eye when she finalized this semester's schedule.

"By the time I took beekeeping, they were used to it," Callaway said.

That's right, beekeeping -- Entomology 109, where students begin by learning about the basic biology of bees and end with the confidence to stride through a swarm.

"It's a fun class to teach," said Marion Ellis, an associate professor of entomology who has instructed aspiring beekeepers since 1995. "Everyone that takes it really wants to be there."

Callaway certainly does. She hopes someday to own an organic farm filled with bees, an orchard and other "all-natural" things.

She's not alone in seeking out University of Nebraska-Lincoln's unusual classes, though.

From "Wine Tasting" to "Juvenile Delinquency," "Sociology of Sports" to "Recital Attendance," students have a variety of scheduling options of which they might

not even be aware.

They might want to take freshman Kyle Hughes' lead, then.

Coming to UNL last fall as an undecided major, Hughes didn't know what he should sign up for, so he simply flipped through the class listings and picked ones that sounded interesting. One of those was "Death and Dying," taught by Julie Masters, a visiting assistant professor of gerontology.

"My friends asked me why I would take that class," Hughes said. "But (death) happens, and there's no reason we shouldn't talk about it."

Masters said she wasn't surprised by those reactions.

"I think that when (students) first come in to the class, it's creepy, and their friends wonder why they're taking a class about death," she said.

But the class is actually quite beneficial, Masters said. Students learn to talk comfortably about death as well as prepare for their own ends. They discuss grieving, capital punishment and euthanasia. Class projects include writing wills and planning personal memorial services.

"Do I want to be buried or cremated? Do I want a tombstone? What about my obituary?" Those are the kinds of things we talk about," Masters said.

Though the activities aren't done in a morbid way, Hughes said the thought of planning his own funeral was a little un-

settling.

"That's one thing I'm a little worried about because it kind of puts you in a weird position," he said.

Such worries are exactly what Masters

From "Wine Tasting" to "Juvenile Delinquency," "Sociology of Sports" to "Recital Attendance," students have a variety of scheduling options of which they might not even be aware.

hopes to conquer.

"(The class) gives you a chance to confront any fears you might have," she said.

Masters said she hadn't received any complaints about the class since she began teaching it eight years ago. Nobody's had to drop it, either, because of its sometimes intense content. Maybe that's because the students who sign up are generally pretty mature, Masters said.

Indeed, Hughes said despite his worry,

the class had been a good experience for him.

"It makes you think about a lot of stuff," he said. "We have a lot of broad discussions."

That is much like Callaway's beekeeping class, where the class of 13 gets to be pretty close over the course of the semester. Donning protective gear and then closely examining beehives brings people together, Callaway said.

None of the students ever have been stung, Ellis said.

"Only the instructor gets stung on a regular basis," Ellis said. "But I can take a lot of stings without a lot of consequences, except saying things I shouldn't."

But if students don't pay attention in class, Ellis said, they'll learn their lesson right away when they take the hands-on "bees final exam."

"I always enjoy watching the bees educate my students," he said, laughing. "They're much better teachers than I am."

Beekeeping affects many more students than one would think, Ellis added.

"Think about how much people like their Snickers," he said. "They're pretty important to them."

Callaway agreed, saying even though beekeeping was a "weird" class, learning the actual process of raising bees is beneficial.

"You get something good out of it," she said. "It's sweet."

## LASIK Special for VCU/MCV

For a limited time, the LASIK Center of Virginia is offering Virginia Commonwealth University/ Medical College of Virginia employees, staff and students a special rate on LASIK surgery of only \$900 per eye.\*

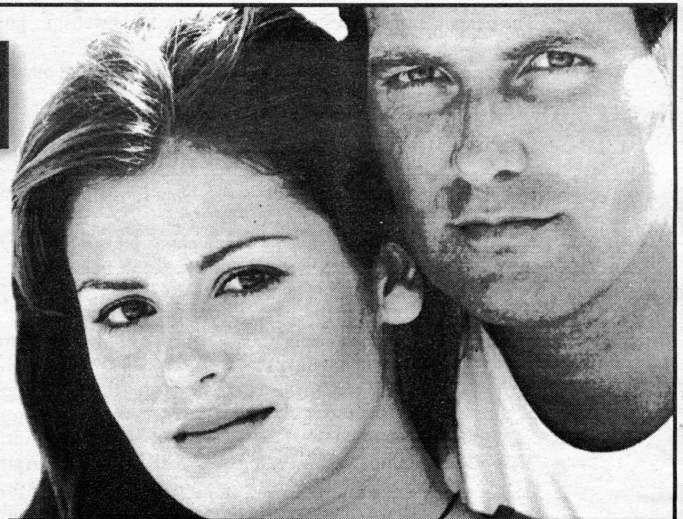
This special rate includes all pre and post operative care for two full years. Consultations and treatments will be performed by Dr. Pranay Gupta. 12 months no-interest financing available.

To find out if LASIK is right for you, call the LASIK Center of Virginia today for a free consultation.

**LASIK Center**  
of Virginia

343-2020

Richmond Eye & Ear Hospital • 1001 E. Marshall Street • Richmond



Only \$900 Per Eye!

We'll change the way you look at life!

[www.lasikcentervm.com](http://www.lasikcentervm.com)

\* Regular price \$1800 per eye. No other discounts apply. Offer ends 4/30/02.



# What Is It?

It's part performance car. It's part multipurpose carryall. It's part cutting-edge transportation. And it's all Toyota. It's Matrix, an entirely new breed of vehicle — stop-and-stare good looks, standard air conditioning, up to 180 HP with an available 6-speed. Matrix is designed to be whatever you want, including affordable — starting at \$15,405\*.

**Test Drive Matrix At Your  
Toyota Dealer Today!**

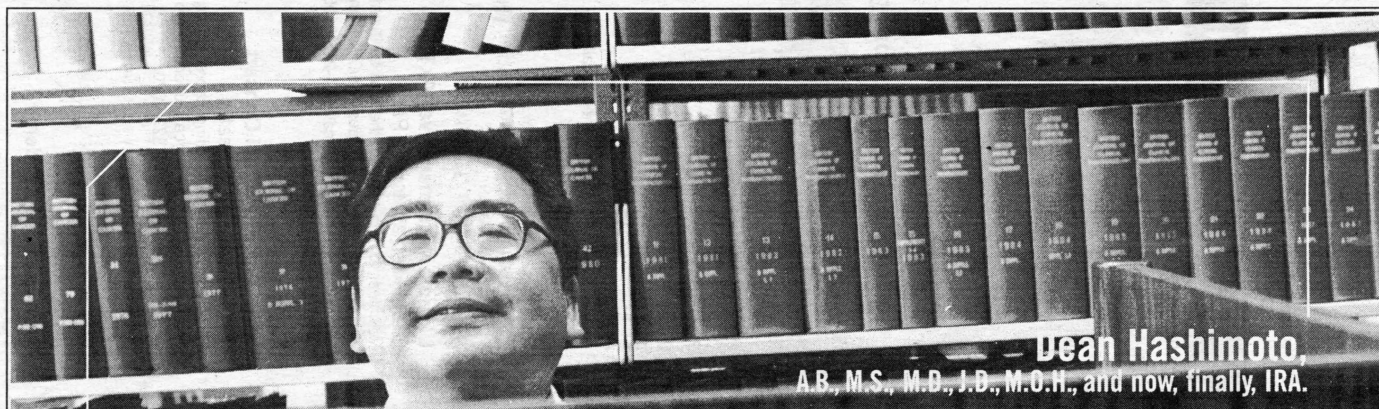


GET THE FEELING. TOYOTA.

[www.toyota.com](http://www.toyota.com)

\*MSRP EXCLUDING TAXES, TAGS, TITLE FEES  
AND OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT. MODEL 1901  
SHOWN. DEALER SETS FINAL PRICE.

**TOYOTA  
MATRIX**



**Dean Hashimoto,**  
A.B., M.S., M.D., J.D., M.O.H., and now, finally, IRA.

As a man who's devoted his life to the pursuit of knowledge, Dean Hashimoto wasn't going to pick a retirement plan without first doing his homework. That's why he chose an IRA from us, the people with over 80 years' experience managing portfolios for the world's sharpest minds. After discovering that our IRAs offer a variety of investment choices and low expenses, he decided to add one to his resume. A wise choice, by a very wise man.

Log on for ideas, advice, and results. [TIAA-CREF.org](http://TIAA-CREF.org) or call 1.800.842.2776



*Managing money for people  
with other things to think about.™*

RETIREMENT | INSURANCE | MUTUAL FUNDS | COLLEGE SAVINGS | TRUSTS | INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Dean Hashimoto became a participant in 1989. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc., and Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc., distribute securities products.  
©2001 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association—College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF), New York, NY. Dean Hashimoto was compensated.

# April 2002

April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? (answer below)

## EVENTS

**1** **R**  
**9th Annual James River Film Festival**  
 Various Locations  
*Opening night!* A week long celebration of independent film and video. Held annually since 1994. Sponsored by the Richmond Moving Image Co-op. For more info visit [www.rmicwcb.org](http://www.rmicwcb.org) or call 804-355-1383.

**2**  
 2:00 pm  
**60 Minute Service Tuesday**  
 Dedicate an hour to community service! Meet in the Student Activities Center, lower level of the Commons. Transportation provided. Call Yolanda Jackson at 828-3648 for more information.

**3** **R**  
 8:00 pm  
**Flicker**  
 Fulton Hill Studios, 1000 Carlisle Ave.  
 The fourth anniversary Flicker! This bi-monthly film festival features short films by area filmmakers. Sponsored by the Richmond Moving Image Co-op. For info visit [www.rmicwcb.org](http://www.rmicwcb.org) or phone 804-355-1383.

**12**  
 7:00 pm  
**Juried Student Fine Art Exhibition**  
 Anderson Gallery  
 Opening Night! Free. For more info call 828-1522.

**13** **R**  
 9:00 am  
**Ukrop's Monument Ave 10k Run**  
 Start/Finish at Monroe Park  
 Volunteer to help or watch the race as it starts and finishes right on campus! For more info visit [sportsbackers.org](http://sportsbackers.org) or call 804-285-9495.

7:00 pm  
**VCU Dance Informal Concert**  
 VCU Grace Street Theater  
 An evening of fresh, exciting choreography and performances by dance students. Free. For more information call 828-2020.

**14**  
 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
**New Member Academy**  
 Forum Room  
 Workshop for new fraternity and sorority

## APB FILMS



*Ocean's Eleven*

All films are sponsored by APB Films Committee, are free with your VCUCard and are shown each weekend in the Commons Theater. Non-students must be a guest of a VCU student with VCUCard. Two guest limit per each VCUCard.

- |           |  |           |   |
|-----------|--|-----------|---|
| <b>5</b>  | 7:00 pm: <b>Ocean's Eleven</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Monsters, Inc.</b> | <b>19</b> | 7:00 pm: <b>Ali</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>The Spy Game</b>                   |
| <b>6</b>  | 7:00 pm: <b>Monsters, Inc.</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Ocean's Eleven</b> | <b>20</b> | 7:00 pm: <b>The Spy Game</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Ali</b>                   |
| <b>12</b> | 7:00 pm: <b>Harry Potter</b>                                     | <b>26</b> | 7:00 pm: <b>The Wash</b><br>9:30 pm:<br><b>Not Another Teen Movie</b> |
| <b>13</b> | 8:00 pm: <b>Harry Potter</b>                                     | <b>27</b> | 7:00 pm:<br><b>Not Another Teen Movie</b>                             |

# April 2002

April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? (answer below)

## EVENTS

**1** **R**  
**9th Annual James River Film Festival**  
 Various Locations  
*Opening night!* A week long celebration of independent film and video. Held annually since 1994. Sponsored by the Richmond Moving Image Co-op. For more info visit [www.rmicwcb.org](http://www.rmicwcb.org) or call 804-355-1383.

**2**  
 2:00 pm  
**60 Minute Service Tuesday**  
 Dedicate an hour to community service! Meet in the Student Activities Center, lower level of the Commons. Transportation provided. Call Yolanda Jackson at 828-3648 for more information.

**3** **R**  
 8:00 pm  
**Flicker**  
 Fulton Hill Studios, 1000 Carlisle Ave.  
 The fourth anniversary Flicker! This bi-monthly film festival features short films by area filmmakers. Sponsored by the Richmond Moving Image Co-op. For info visit [www.rmicwcb.org](http://www.rmicwcb.org) or phone 804-355-1383.

**5**  
 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
**GRC Residence Hall Carnival**  
 Gladding Residence Center  
 Open to GRC Residents only. Call 828-0992.  
 8:00 pm  
**Student/Faculty Dance Concert**  
 VCU Grace Street Theater  
*Opening Night!* Featuring new works by students, faculty and guest artists. Runs through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10, free to students with VCUCard. For ticket info call 828-2020.

**6** **R**  
 7:00 pm  
**College Night at the Diamond**  
 The Diamond  
 Pay only \$1 admission for a Richmond Braves game with VCUCard at the Will Call window! For more information visit the [www.rbraves.com](http://www.rbraves.com) or call 804-359-4444.

**11**  
 7:30 pm  
**The Scams of Scapin**  
 Raymond Hodges Theatre  
 VCU Performing Arts Center  
*Opening Night!* Moliere's great satire on materialism. Runs through April 20<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10, free to students with VCUCard. For ticket information call 828-2695.

8:00 pm - 11:30 am  
**APB Dance: Glow in the Dark**  
 Commonwealth A-B  
 Free to student with VCU ID, non-students must be guest of a VCU student with VCU ID. Two guest limit per each VCU student.

**12**  
 7:00 pm  
**Juried Student Fine Art Exhibition**  
 Anderson Gallery  
 Opening Night! Free. For more info call 828-1522.

**13** **R**  
 9:00 am  
**Ukrop's Monument Ave 10k Run**  
 Start/Finish at Monroe Park  
 Volunteer to help or watch the race as it starts and finishes right on campus! For more info visit [sportsbackers.org](http://sportsbackers.org) or call 804-285-9495.

7:00 pm  
**VCU Dance Informal Concert**  
 VCU Grace Street Theater  
 An evening of fresh, exciting choreography and performances by dance students. Free. For more information call 828-2020.

**14**  
 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm  
**New Member Academy**  
 Forum Room  
 Workshop for new fraternity and sorority members. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

**18**  
 7:00 pm  
**College Night at the Diamond**  
 The Diamond  
 Pay only \$1 admission for a Richmond Braves game with VCUCard at the Will Call window! For more information visit the [www.rbraves.com](http://www.rbraves.com) or call 804-359-4444.

**19**  
 8:30 am - 3:30 pm  
**Greek Summit**  
 Forum Room  
 Discussion on improving the VCU Greek System. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

5:00 pm  
**Greek Awards Ceremony**  
 Capital Ballroom  
 Reception to follow. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

8:00 pm  
**Larry Brown Step Show**  
 Commonwealth Ballroom  
 Sponsored by Phi Beta Sigma.

**20**  
 12 noon - 7:00 pm  
**APB Local Band Jamboree**  
 Common's Plaza  
 Come hear Richmond bands play your favorites! Free.

8:00 pm - 1:30 am  
**Black Ball**  
 Commons Ballrooms  
 Semi-formal annual event. Tickets are required but are free. Sponsored by Black Caucus. Call 828-3648 for information.

## APB FILMS



Ocean's Eleven

All films are sponsored by APB Films Committee, are free with your VCUCard and are shown each weekend in the Commons Theater. Non-students must be a guest of a VCU student with VCUCard. Two guest limit per each VCUCard.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>5</b> 7:00 pm: <b>Ocean's Eleven</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Monsters, Inc.</b> | <b>19</b> 7:00 pm: <b>Ali</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>The Spy Game</b>                |
| <b>6</b> 7:00 pm: <b>Monsters, Inc.</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Ocean's Eleven</b> | <b>20</b> 7:00 pm: <b>The Spy Game</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Ali</b>                |
| <b>12</b> 7:00 pm: <b>Harry Potter</b>                                    | <b>26</b> 7:00 pm: <b>The Wash</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>Not Another Teen Movie</b> |
| <b>13</b> 8:00 pm: <b>Harry Potter</b>                                    | <b>27</b> 7:00 pm: <b>Not Another Teen Movie</b><br>9:30 pm: <b>The Wash</b> |

**21**  
 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
**Intercultural Festival**  
 Commons Plaza  
 Sponsored by SGA Human Relations, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs and Commons & Activities.

**25**  
 8:00 pm  
**Spring Senior Dance Concert**  
 VCU Grace Street Theater  
*Opening Night!* Featuring the work of graduating seniors. Runs through April 27<sup>th</sup>. Free. For more information call 828-2020.

**26**  
 8:00 pm  
**Fashion Show**  
 Commonwealth Ballroom  
 Annual fashion show sponsored by the VCU Fashion Department. Need admission price and contact.  
 9:30 pm - 12:30 am  
**APB Dance**  
 Common Ground  
 Free to student with VCU ID, non-students must be guest of a VCU student with VCU ID. Two guest limit per each VCU student.

**Coming In May...**  
**MTV Campus Invasion**  
 featuring Nickelback in Concert  
 May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Siegel Center  
 For info & tickets call the Siegel Center Box Office at 828-7526

**28**  
 2:00 pm  
**Leadership & Service Awards**  
 Commonwealth Ballroom  
 Annual awards ceremony to recognize students who have excelled in leadership, service and academics. Reception immediately following. For more information call Yolanda Jackson at 828-3648.

## got culture?

**Intercultural Festival**  
 April 21, 2002  
 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
 Commons Plaza

- Free Admission
- Informational Booths
- Food
- Games

Performances by Ebony Quest, FACT, VSA, HSC, MSA, SASA, LSA, Soneros de Bailadores, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and many more.

Answer: Pilgrims!

# VCU Life is good here!

Published by University Student Commons & Activities, Division of Student Affairs. All events and times subject to change. VCU is an EEO/AA institution. If you need special accommodation to participate in a university sponsored event due to a disability, contact staff at (804)828-6500. For assistance with non-university event, contact the listed sponsor.

**R** Indicates non-university, Richmond area event.

5

3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**GRC Residence Hall Carnival**

Gladding Residence Center

Open to GRC Residents only. Call 828-0992.

8:00 pm

**Student/Faculty Dance Concert**

VCU Grace Street Theater

*Opening Night!* Featuring new works by students, faculty and guest artists. Runs through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10, free to students with VCUCard. For ticket info call 828-2020.

6

7:00 pm

**College Night at the Diamond**

The Diamond

Pay only \$1 admission for a Richmond Braves game with VCUCard at the Will Call window! For more information visit the [www.rbraves.com](http://www.rbraves.com) or call 804-359-4444.

11

7:30 pm

**The Scams of Scapin**

Raymond Hodges Theatre

VCU Performing Arts Center

*Opening Night!* Moliere's great satire on materialism. Runs through April 20<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10, free to students with VCUCard. For ticket information call 828-2695.

8:00 pm - 11:30 am

**APB Dance: Glow in the Dark**

Commonwealth A-B

Free to student with VCU ID, non-students must be guest of a VCU student with VCU ID. Two guest limit per each VCU student.

Workshop for new maternity and sorority members. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

18

7:00 pm

**College Night at the Diamond**

The Diamond

Pay only \$1 admission for a Richmond Braves game with VCUCard at the Will Call window! For more information visit the [www.rbraves.com](http://www.rbraves.com) or call 804-359-4444.

19

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

**Greek Summit**

Forum Room

Discussion on improving the VCU Greek System. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

5:00 pm

**Greek Awards Ceremony**

Capital Ballroom

Reception to follow. Sponsored by Commons & Activities and Greek Council.

8:00 pm

**Larry Brown Step Show**

Commonwealth Ballroom

Sponsored by Phi Beta Sigma.

20

12 noon - 7:00 pm

**APB Local Band Jamboree**

Common's Plaza

Come hear Richmond bands play your favorites! Free.

8:00 pm - 1:30 am

**Black Ball**

Commons Ballrooms

Semi-formal annual event. Tickets are required but are free. Sponsored by Black Caucus. Call 828-3648 for information.

21

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

**Intercultural Festival**

Commons Plaza

Sponsored by SGA Human Relations, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs and Commons & Activities.

25

8:00 pm

**Spring Senior Dance Concert**

VCU Grace Street Theater

*Opening Night!* Featuring the work of graduating seniors. Runs through April 27<sup>th</sup>. Free. For more information call 828-2020.

26

8:00 pm

**Fashion Show**

Commonwealth Ballroom

Annual fashion show sponsored by the VCU Fashion Department. Need admission price and contact.

9:30 pm - 12:30 am

**APB Dance**

Common Ground

Free to student with VCU ID, non-students must be guest of a VCU student with VCU ID. Two guest limit per each VCU student.

**Coming In May...****MTV Campus Invasion**

featuring Nickelback in Concert

May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Siegel Center

For info & tickets call the Siegel Center Box Office at 828-7526

9:30 pm: **The Wash**

28

2:00 pm

**Leadership & Service Awards**

Commonwealth Ballroom

Annual awards ceremony to recognize students who have excelled in leadership, service and academics. Reception immediately following. For more information call Yolanda Jackson at 828-3648.

**got culture?****Intercultural Festival**

April 21, 2002

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Commons Plaza

- Free Admission
- Informational Booths
- Food
- Games

Performances by Ebony Quest, FACT, VSA, HSC, MSA, SASA, LSA, Soneros de Bailadores, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and many more.

*Answer: Pilgrims!***VCU** *Life is good here!*

Published by University Student Commons & Activities, Division of Student Affairs. All events and times subject to change. VCU is an EEO/AA institution. If you need special accommodation to participate in a university sponsored event due to a disability, contact staff at (804)828-6500. For assistance with non-university event, contact the listed sponsor.

**R** Indicates non-university, Richmond area event.

# SPECTRUM



Special to The Commonwealth Times

**Indie-something:** Local trio Adara -- fresh from recording their debut album, "Caught between the Stars and the City" -- will perform at the Mid-Atlantic College Radio Conference in Harrisonburg this month.

## Indie-something: Adara poised to make impact

*Band finds Richmond music scene lacking; set to play college radio festival*

BY SAGHI TEHRAN  
*Spectrum editor*

Adara has come a long way since December 2000. Though they continue to shroud themselves in mystery, especially concerning the meaning behind their band name, the stir has only fueled them to keep

the mystery going.

Adara is Chip Cosby (vocals and guitar), Steven Anderson (bass and vocals) and Brian Bachman (drums and vocals). Although their roots run deep in Richmond, they hope to ascend into super stardom with a new four song demo, "Caught Between the Stars and the City," and a show case in this year's Mid-Atlantic College Radio Conference (MACRock) held at James Madison University.

In an interview with The Commonwealth Times, Adara spouted about MacRock, hoping to be signed (and not just to any label) and why they're the anti-Dave Matthew's Band.

**CT:** How would you describe your music for someone who has never heard it?

**Bachman:** I'd say it's a cross between Elliott and the Deftones if that's possible.

**Anderson:** I'd say it's a good mix between soft and emotional, mixed with like in-your-face rock 'n' roll and a little bit of pop punk in it.

**Cosby:** I'd say it's hard driven rock 'n' roll with emotional lyrics, melodic hard-rock.

**CT:** How did you guys come up with the name Adara?

**Cosby:** Well, the meaning behind our

ADARA continued to page 13

# Adara

Continued from page 12

name is remaining a secret and basically we all came to a consensus. I brought the idea of the name to everybody in December 2000. We can't say the meaning but we basically let the music speak for itself, and the name kind of backs it up.

**CT: What inspires you to write music? Is it a joint effort?**

**Cosby:** It is a joint effort, a very democratic process. What inspires us? Ordinary things in life. Heartbreak is probably the biggest.

**Anderson:** I like to play bass and it really suits it and it fills that need when we create music. So that's what inspires me.

**Bachman:** I'd say we are all equally inspired by our lives, whatever that may be.

**CT: Was it hard to budget for this CD, since you're not on a label?**

**Cosby:** No, we basically got loans for this CD, friends and parents. We're actually in debt right now, \$4,500 we're hoping to pay back soon through CD sales.

**Bachman:** I think that if we wanted to sign to a smaller label that wouldn't be a problem but I have my sights set higher on major labels but that takes a long time to work out and it's kind of on a down-low but we're working on it. Look out for us!

**CT: Where did you record the CD?**

**Cosby:** We recorded the CD with Mark Miley at Montana Studios. It took us four days, and it came out really good, two and a half days of tracking and a day and a half of mixing, so it went really well. He is a great guy to work with and we suggest anybody who wants to record a really good CD to go to Mark.

**CT: Is this the first time you guys are playing MACRock?**

**Cosby:** This is our first year. I submitted a demo tape earlier this past winter, and we got accepted. They turned down 400 bands, so we're really happy about that.

**Bachman:** I guess they thought we were good 'cause we gave them a demo, did you already say that it's pretty cool that we got in cause 400 bands got turned down?

**Cosby and Anderson:** Yeah

**Bachman:** Okay well then, so it's very cool to play and we're really excited and it's going to be a lot of fun MACRock's cool!

**CT: You said you guys were more excited than nervous, so do you hope to be noticed by a label there?**

**Cosby:** Yes, we are hoping to be noticed by labels there. I feel that a label opens many doors for bands, doing things yourself isn't always that easy, because there's a lot of things to do especially when you get in the music business. I think it will open a lot of doors for us, especially as far as getting out music to as many people as possible.

**Anderson:** We are hoping to get noticed by labels to open up our doors a little more get a little competition going. We're really shopping around hardcore right now. We're looking big and we're looking small and we just wanna get as many opportunities as possible for the moment.

**CT: Is Adara your main focus right now?**

**Cosby:** Adara is our main focus. I am a sophomore Philosophy student at VCU, but I am looking to make music my main focus for the future.

**Anderson:** Adara is definitely my main focus between that and my ever-growing opportunities at Bed, Bath and Beyond, I mean I know I'm going to have a good career working there for the rest of my life but, um I'd rather make it as a musician it would probably be a lot easier than folding towels.

**Bachman:** Adara is my main focus right now, but I have a side project that

of soft stuff, a little hard stuff. Oh yeah, Third Eye Blind is really good for Chip, not me.

**Bachman:** Excuse me I'm trying to say my bands here... the new Rufus Wainwright CD is very good, you should get that. The new Elton John CD-any Elton John. I am a big fan of singer/songwriters in general because I am one. Steven said he

Kravtiz, Glassjaw. I love all the bands that they love, don't get me wrong I'm into all the indie, hardcore crap. I like a lot of pop bands on the radio. A lot of people say you shouldn't like pop music. I think its great. It's pop music as in popular, so you should like it. I like The Calling. They get away from the whole post-grudge thing and I don't think they sound original or whatever but they're good. I like The Strokes. They're great. I think they are very original.

**Anderson:** Dashboard Confessional

**CT: Are you guys satisfied with the Richmond music scene?**

**Cosby:** No, I'm not satisfied with the scene. There are too many bands in the city and a lot of people are doing the same thing and not being very original. Maybe that has a lot to do with the influences they listen to. This band seems to have a wide range of influences. Maybe that's why it gives our sound such diversity. Oh yeah, we do a lot of LSD, too. That inspires us.

**Anderson:** I think the Richmond scene could be better. We could have a lot more clubs. Don't get me wrong. When I go out of town I check out the people and scenes they have there and there's 'virtually nothing. Richmond has good potential. There are a lot of people into the indie-kind of music but I think it's becoming a trend, almost like a religion in a weird kind of way. For people who want to rebel, I just think it's kind of ordinary right now.

**Bachman:** No, am I a pioneer, yes! Oh, back to the previous question- make sure you put something in there about Mr. Show because that's one of my favorite hobbies.

**Anderson:** Oh, good God almighty! That's a great show!

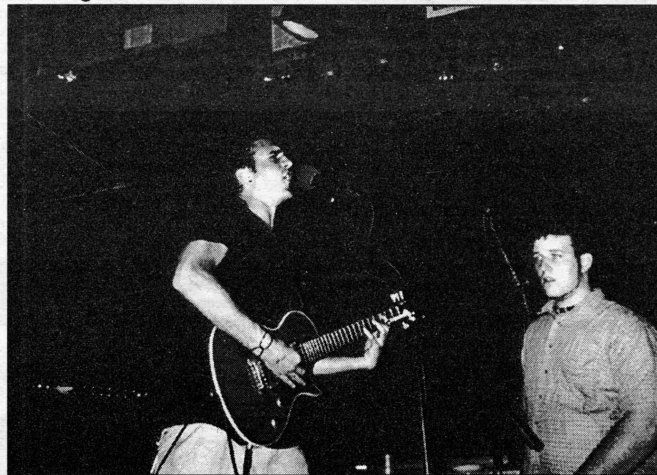
**Bachman:** It's a comedy sketch. Well, what about the Richmond scene don't I like... for a band like us it's hard to make it because we're not like the party, get drunk band, like a lot of bands that get popular around here like Dave Matthew's. They went right to the top. It's hard for us to get our music across to people because we don't sound like the bands they like, so it's hard. We're one of those bands that needs the right person to hear us to get our music out. Like I said, we're not Carbon Leaf, Dave Matthew's or Fighting Gravity. I think we have something more to offer and it's hard to get that across to most average listeners, because most people just want to have fun. But I think there are people out there that will dig our music, that do dig our music.

**Anderson:** If you want to listen to a CD that will move you and get you jumpin' at the same time get our CD.

**Bachman:** Get you jumpin'?



Adara's members say the Richmond music scene presents a challenge for them and their music.



I work on every night at my house, it's like a Lenny Kravitz kind of thing. I play everything and try to write some good songs.

**CT: What bands are you currently listening to?**

**Cosby:** The Cure, Elliott, Sunny Day Real Estate, The Cars, A-Ha, Pat Benatar, Stabbing Westward's really good, Further Seems Forever, some Darkest Hour, some Spitfire, at The Gates.

**Anderson:** I listen to a lot of music. I'll go with Zao, Spitfire, Jimmy Eat World, Blink 182, a lot of radio stuff, a lot

forgot to mention N'Sync so put in N'Sync because he's an idiot!

**Anderson:** Whatever, I love that girl-friend song.

**Bachman:** I love the new Unwritten Law CD, I don't care if anyone doesn't like it, I think it's really good. Coldplay is very good. I'm into a lot of mellow music right now because I am a mellow guy. Because I am unemployed I'm into mellowness. Oh yeah Air. They're an amazing French techno band. You have to listen to them. I absolutely love them. I got the opportunity to see them at the Electric Factory in Philadelphia and that was very cool. Lenny

ADARA WILL PLAY MACROCK ON SATURDAY, APRIL 6, AT 2 P.M. WITH THE BRANSTON LIARS ACADEMY AND ZERO ZERO (EX-MEMBERS OF LIFETIME). THE BAND'S DEBUT EP, "CAUGHT BETWEEN THE STARS AND THE CITY," WILL BE RELEASED AT MACROCK. ALSO BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR THEM THIS SUMMER WHEN THEY OPEN UP FOR ELLIOTT AT ALLEY KATZ IN JUNE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ADARA'S LOCAL SHOWS AND THE MACROCK FESTIVAL, VISIT THE BAND'S WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WWW.ADARAROCK.COM](http://www.adararock.com). FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF MACROCK BANDS AND TIMES, VISIT [HTTP://WWW.JMU.EDU/WXJM/MACROCK](http://www.jmu.edu/wxjm/macrock).

# 'Oh Boy!' Comedy stuffs fraternity boys in chicks' clothing with winning results

BY JESSICA SIMS  
Staff writer

Who knew that my personal hell could be transformed into such a hilarious motion picture? I was certain that a combination of fraternity boys and sorority girls was indeed my least favorite equation for cinema magic, but I now gladly retract that opinion.

The film, "Sorority Boys," is the riveting story of three gregarious and popular members of the prestigious "KOK" frat. Enjoying a decadent, beer-soaked lifestyle, the three friends (Barry Watson, Harland Williams and Michael Rosenbaum) cherish their lives in the fraternity. Unfortunately, their precious world shatters when they are framed for the heinous crime of stealing the fraternity's cash fund. Chased out of the frat house, the clever trio develops a plan to get back into their former home and retrieve the videotape that would prove their innocence.

What's the best way to get into a frat house? Dress in drag, of course. Imagine the hilarity of three brutish fellows in frocks and caked-on makeup struggling to wear heels. Their plan fails when the image-conscious frat members throw them out from a party (for being too ugly) and dump them on the doorstep of the second tier sorority, "DOG."

This sorority of earnest, but aesthetically sub-par ladies, struggles against the sexist attitudes and actions of the KOK fraternity. Deciding to pledge DOG, the three masculine "women" are welcomed into a world of self-doubt, communal showers, period woes and sisterhood. Slowly, but hilariously, the frat dudes adapt to the new environment, bonding with the motley crew of sorority sisters.

"Daisy," Barry Watson's female equivalent, begins to form a strong bond with the sorority president, a spirited

feminist named Leah (Melissa Sagemiller). The charade continues as the boys actually develop consciences and discover that the superficiality of the KOK frat is hurtful to others. While this profound spiritual awakening occurs, the three comrades continue in their attempt to prove their innocence.

The tragic task of frat infiltration falls to Rosenbaum's female guise, "Adina." Since she is the object of a KOK frat member's affection, she woos the young Romeo in an attempt to find the infamous videotape. Adina's plan fails when the frat stallion thwarts her sobriety.

Again, the three burly ladies are at a loss, until they realize that winning an annual Powder-puff football game would allow them access to a cocktail party sponsored by the KOK frat. Once at the shindig, the fellows could find and play the videocassette for the fraternity and its former members, a slew of over-the-hill frat retirees attending the party.

To gain an invite to the celebration, the DOGs must conquer the undefeated team, KOK's sister sorority, in an intensely catty football game. Will the DOGs win? Will the boys' innocence be proven? Will "Daisy" reveal his true identity to Leah? Will anyone actually see this movie to find out the answers? I shall keep my fingers crossed that someone else seeks such diverse entertainment.

The film is effective on so many levels. Not only does it reinforce stereotypes of fraternities and sororities, it provides two or three really hilarious lines. The comic vigor of these carefully scripted lines carries the film, transforming it into a blessed sophomoric joyride.

Harland Williams definitely shines the



Doug Hyun © Touchstone Pictures. All Rights Reserved.

Oh Sister: (from left to right) Harland Williams, Barry Watson and Michael Rosenbaum play dress up in "Sorority Boys."

brightest and the raw vulnerability of his alter ego, "Roberta," is utterly heart-warming. Through his sophisticated direction, Wally Wolodarsky (an original head writer for "The Simpsons") aptly conveys the ridiculous but engrossing emotionalism of the film's maturing male protagonists.

"Sorority Boys" is appealing, regardless of any personal opinions one may have concerning Greek campus presence. As a wonderfully escapist film, "Sorority Boys" gave me an hour and a half to forget my troubles and live vicariously through fraternity members living vicariously as sorority members. The film receives my

Who knew that my personal hell could be transformed into such a hilarious motion picture?

thanks and my recommendation as one that will certainly offer a brief reprieve from the stress of everyday living.

Looking for good food that won't break your wallet? Dicks Inn has it.

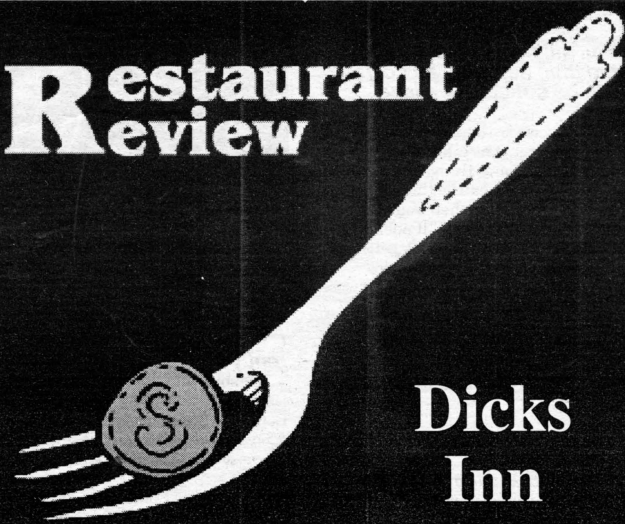
Conveniently located in VCU's backyard, Dicks Inn offers an array of dishes for under \$5, including shrimp filled quesadillas and chicken caesar salad wraps with pasta salad. They also have a breakfast and dinner menu. There are very few establishments in the VCU vicinity that offer filling portions at reasonable prices with friendly service. In the evenings, Dicks Inn has performances by

local jazz musicians, along with different theme nights where patrons can win prizes. Wednesday night is "Let's Make a Deal" night, Thursday night is "Will and Grace" night and they have a drag show every Sunday morning, similar to Godfrey's popular Sunday morning drag show breakfast.

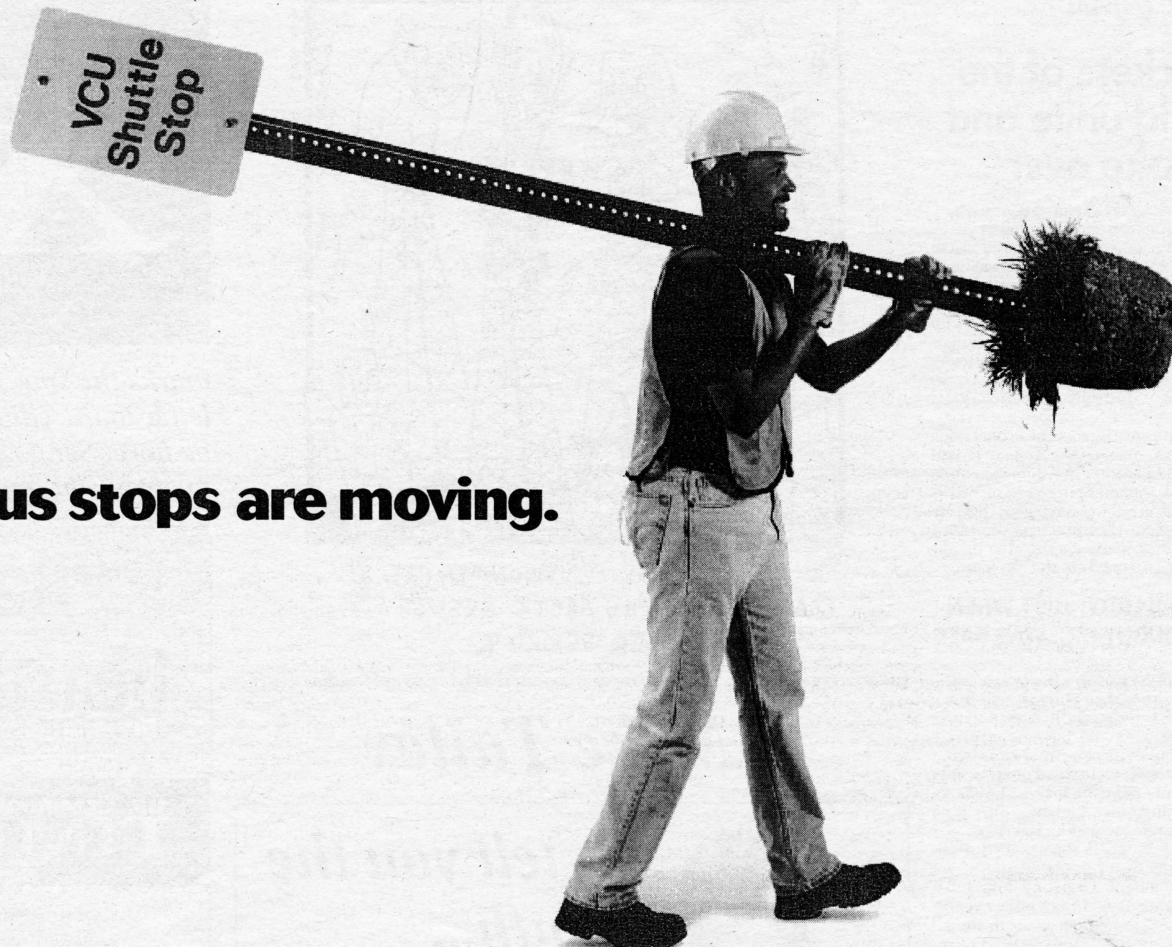
Dicks Inn is located at 1104 West Main St.

Olivia Lloyd

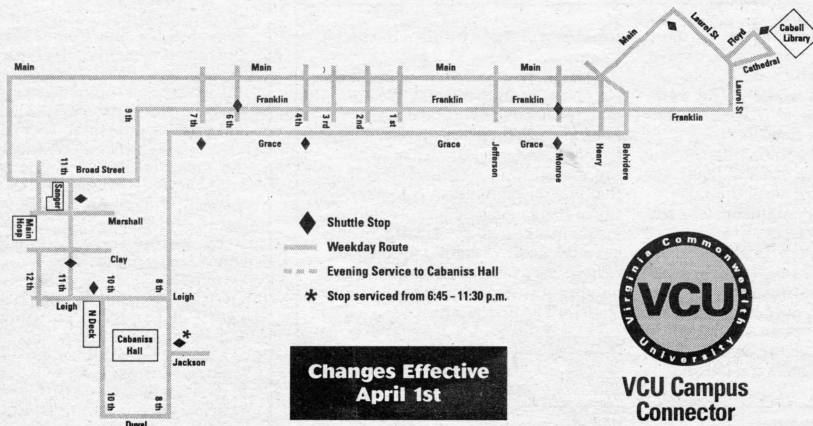
Restaurant Review



Dicks Inn



# Bus stops are moving.



VCU Campus Connector bus stops and routes are changing effective April 1st.

The shuttles will run every 15 minutes from each new bus stop. Service schedules will stay the same, beginning at 7:15 a.m. and running through midnight during the academic year.

**Don't miss the bus!**

For additional information, please call  
**VCU-PARK (828-7275)**  
 or the Office of Parking & Transportation Services  
 828-0501



**VCU Campus Connector**



# OPINION

Jeffrey Z. Qureshi

## Slackers of the world unite and take over

EDITOR'S NOTE: AFTER RECEIVING HIS GRADUATE DEGREE IN 1996, FORMER COMMONWEALTH TIMES EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER AND COLUMNIST, JEFFREY Z. QURESHI, NOW AN ATTORNEY, HAS RETURNED TO PICK UP WHERE HE LEFT OFF. TODAY'S PIECE IS A CONTINUATION OF HIS COLUMN THAT FIRST APPEARED IN THE MARCH 28 ISSUE.

First some general thoughts—MCV and VCU have dramatically changed. Sanger Hall is no longer bluish green, much to my chagrin. After closing off several streets and creating a centralized location, VCU has matured into an urban university. This growth continues as the school adds new facilities, such as the Eugene P. and Lois E. Trani Center for Life Sciences. Indeed, with the announcement of VCU's participation in public television's "Secrets of the Sequence," the university continues to serve the ever-increasing need for higher education, particularly in the life sciences.

## MARION BARRY: JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT D.C. WAS SAFE

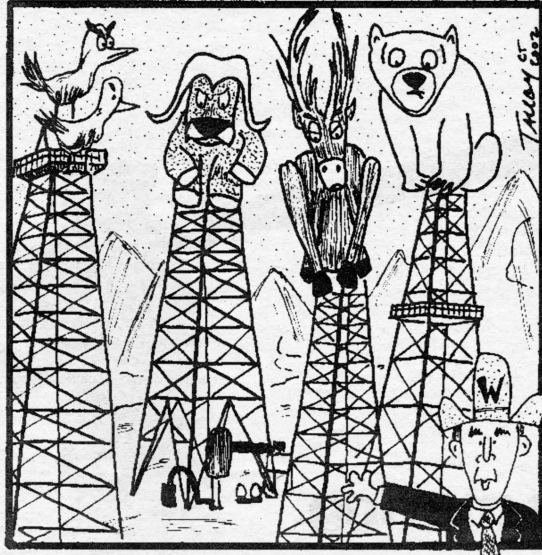
I love to pick on Merry Barry. He is the type of person whose actions reflect his commitment to better the lives of individuals. Indeed, he could have been a role model for young African-Americans living in Washington, D.C. Instead he is the only mayor in American history to be videotaped smoking crack cocaine. Surely no one needs a role model like Barry.

According to media reports, U.S. Park Police spotted Barry in his Jaguar at approximately 9 p.m., Thursday, March 21, 2002. An unidentified Park officer represented there was white powder in the vicinity of his nostrils. Once again, egg on the face of the former D.C. mayor. Additionally, initial tests were positive for marijuana and cocaine. Barry was not arrested, but certainly faces the prospect of an indictment if and when the investigation wraps up and any charges are presented to a grand jury.

*The appearance of impropriety on Barry's behalf is prima facie proof of impropriety! Indeed, this is the same individual who announced his bid for a position on the D.C. council earlier this month and represented he was clean and sober. What a disgrace. It also points to the continuing need for congressional oversight of the nation's capital.*

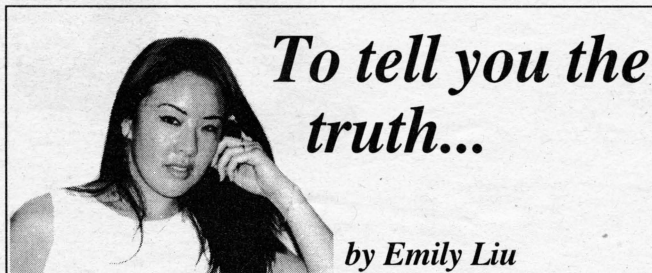
One final point, this incident suggests that Barry was unfit to be mayor when he ran and won in 1994. It is likely he has an ongoing problem, one that makes him a poor role model, a liar and possibly an addict. The question I pose is who is more foolish, Marion Barry, or those who support him?

• ON THURSDAY: JEFF EXAMINES THE VIRGINIA GOP'S VERSION OF THE IDEAL VOTING DISTRICT.



"I HAVE MADE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN THE ARCTIC REFUGE A HIGHER PRIORITY..."

by *Mike Talley*



Richmond is certainly not the most conservative city in the nation by any means, neither is its population of people -- the most modest by my own account. Students of VCU are nearly as diverse as they come in their background, appearance, interest and ideology. Many non-student Richmond residents are much the same. We are even somewhat defined by our liberal, open-minded attitudes towards people diversity; though more conservative areas may consider this quality to be immature or counterproductive to society. Still, the wonderful aspect of our perception of our own identity is that it allows us to be proud of what we have created and

together will share within our smaller community.

Our liberal nature allows us much social leeway in Richmond. We are largely unbound by social expectations and are therefore given a tremendous sense of freedom to express our unique individuality. I am thankful for the limitless characteristics of Richmond, our severe open-mindedness can at times strip away our city's sense of dignity. In the past several weeks I have encountered a number of such disreputable instances. The first of which occurred as

*LIU continued to page 17*

# X

marks the spot. You're letter to the editor could be here. Send responses to [ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com).

## "Be heard."

THE Commonwealth  
**TIMES**

**TY BOWERS**  
Executive editor

**ROBB CROCKER**  
Editorial editor

The opinion section of The Commonwealth Times is a forum open to the public. Virginia Commonwealth University students, faculty and administrators are encouraged to submit letters and columns 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. Editorials represent the institutional opinion of the Commonwealth Times.

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.

CTE-mail: [CTVCU@hotmail.com](mailto:CTVCU@hotmail.com). Mailing address: P. O. Box 842010, Richmond, VA 23284-2010. Drop box location: Room 1149, T. Edward Temple Building.

Have an opinion? Send it to [ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com)

**Liu**

Continued from page 16

I strolled home to my apartment along West Franklin Street. I recall approaching what appeared to be a homeless man sitting in broad daylight on the sidesteps of a local church, heavily bundled in the cold weather. I hadn't actually devoted much of my attention to this man, as it was a rather typical sight to see in Richmond. But when I reached the point at which he was a mere five paces from myself, I did glance in his direction only to be in shock from what I saw. The man had his dark tattered pants unzipped and was engaging in public masturbation!

A few weeks following this incident, a group of three college-age males walking several paces ahead of me were carrying on as usual, when one of the three suddenly loosened his jeans and let them fall to his ankles, along with his boxers. Appalled by the site of his pale, skinny buttocks, I immediately crossed the street in surprise and utter disgust. Days later I was told of yet another awful experience encountered by a friend. Apparently my friend had seen an elderly man standing in the open elevator of our apartment building, with his pants again straggling his ankles. My reactions to all of the incidents were not due to my distaste for the male form, but rather I was petrified by the immorality and tastelessness of the acts so openly performed.

It is one thing to express oneself to society in a meaningful manner, it is another thing to choose to be inappropri-

ate and immature without regard to the safety and moral standards of those in the surrounding community. In our own privacy, we are generally free to act as we please. But as we take that first step beyond the doors of our privacy, we enter the realm that society has created for us in which we must first respect one another before we may openly express ourselves. This may seem rather limiting to our individuality, yet the courtesy we must show towards one another is essential in the establishment of a whole, functioning community of people.

When we choose to leave behind our civil nature in order to take an action that is so blatantly disruptive and offensive to a majority of the people, then we are demeaning the integrity of the city that we have worked so tirelessly to improve. Many people seem to equivocate being liberal to being irresponsible, when instead liberalism stands solely for our freedoms. It is not a showcase nor should it create a living spectacle of our social deviancies. Liberalism allows us to express ourselves in a productive manner, with its goal being that we may somehow improve our society through diversity. It is not a self-gratifying attitude that ignores the needs of society. Ultimately, as citizens of the various overlapping communities within the boundaries of this earth, we cannot ignore our sense of public morality to serve individual interest.



Corinne Eidson

# The woes of class scheduling

I have good news. The semester is winding down and your classes will end soon. Hang in there. Keep picturing you and your friends at the beach and before you know it exams will be behind you.

But alas, those of you returning in the fall will have to face a class schedule once again. Or even worse, you'll have to go to your adviser to help you schedule your courses for the next school year.

Don't get me wrong some advisers are good. They know what you need to graduate. They can layout a plan for you and anyone in your major. With their help you're in and out in four years.

On the other hand, you could be like some students stuck with bad advisers. Frequently, advisers that teach way too many classes don't know what you need to take this semester. What they can do is read the list of requirements for your major out of the handbook that you've already read a dozen times and it still doesn't tell you exactly what classes you need to take.

Please don't continue like this. It could end up costing you. While attending a community college, I went through

a lot of bad advising. I ended-up taking classes I didn't need and didn't take classes I really had to take. Before I knew it, I was involuntarily on the five-year program.

I'm not alone. I can't calculate how many times per year I hear friends complain of the very same dilemma. Frustrated and most of all, mentally ready to graduate, they get themselves stuck.

Even self-advising isn't a good plan, depending on the department. Often times, there is an order to taking classes and you can enroll in classes that are above what you ought to be taking.

There's no need for that. Our school does have some good advisers. The best thing to do would be to either switch advisers. Some people are apprehensive to do this. There's no reason to be. I would ask the office, who would be the best adviser in the department. If you can't get in, you could ask a teacher about the best classes to take.



**WANTED MAN**

Robb Crocker

# INVADERS!

VCU is the last stop of MTV's Campus Invasion 2K2 Tour. Not only is this endeavor ill timed but also inappropriate.

First of all the bands booked are Nickelback (the latest one-hit wonder band), Default, Injected and Starsailor; three bands no one has ever heard of. These are not bands that get regular MTV rotation, let alone, local radio rotation.

These bands are not the industry's hottest bands, nor do I think that they will get much of a reaction from the diverse students here.

If VCU wants to schedule an event like this, they need to schedule bands that can appeal to the entire student population here - not just because MTV is involved.

If VCU wanted this venture to be more of a success, they shouldn't have scheduled it this late into the year.

And speaking of MTV, would VCU have even scheduled this show if MTV hadn't been involved. Is this show an opportunity to showcase VCU? If so, it may be as dreadful a turnout as the CAA men's basketball championship was, which was nationally televised on ESPN2.

In addition, most students here will either be preparing for exams and/or final projects. In fact, the show is on the eve of the first night of exams.

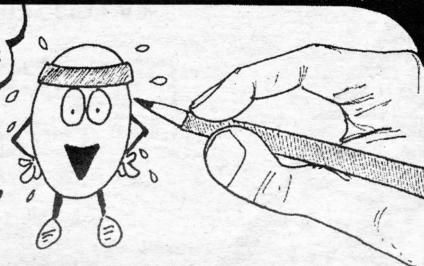
And if the scheduling wasn't enough ill timed, the show is on a Wednesday night. At least if the show were on a Friday, there would be a better chance to get a larger crowd. If VCU wanted this venture to be more of a success, they shouldn't have scheduled it this late into the school year.

## Just Asking?

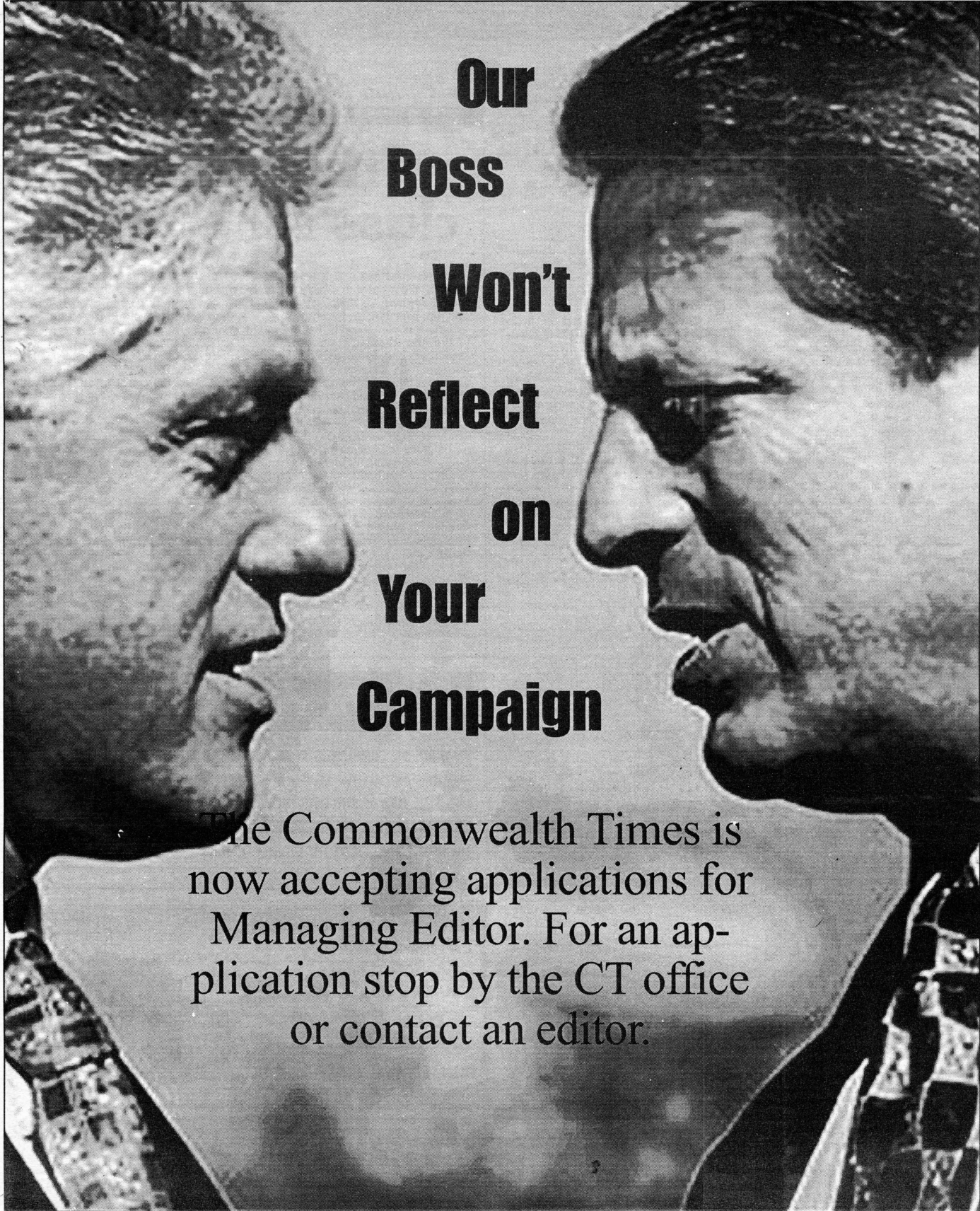
WITH ALL THE COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE QUALITY OF THE HIBBS DINING FACILITIES AND ALL THE TALK OF A BOYCOTT, HOW COME THE DINING HALL WAS STILL FULL OF STUDENTS CHOWING DOWN LAST FRIDAY? WHEN WILL STUDENT ACTIVISM ON THIS CAMPUS BE MORE THAN AN OPEN LETTER TO THE NEWSPAPER ABOUT THE QUALITY OF HIBBS' FOOD? GET REAL FOLKS.

INTERESTED IN DRAWING COMICS FOR THE CT?

CALL 828-1058 OR CONTACT MIKE TALLEY AT tallaymw@vcu.edu



“Render the truth.”



**Our  
Boss  
Won't  
Reflect  
on  
Your  
Campaign**

The Commonwealth Times is now accepting applications for Managing Editor. For an application stop by the CT office or contact an editor.



## Looking for a change of scenery?

**The Commonwealth Times currently has an Executive Editor position available for the fall 2002 semester.**

**Position includes two weeks paid training. Stop by the CT office or contact an editor for an application.**

**Please include resume. 828-1058**

# SPORTS

## Rams begin CAA play with win over Drexel

Baseball team racks up 15 hits in 8-4 stomping of Dragons; VCU brings home 18th win

### FROM NEWS SOURCES

Junior shortstop Jose Pabon went three-for-five and doubled home the go-ahead run in the bottom of the seventh inning to propel VCU to an 8-4 decision over Drexel in the Colonial Athletic Association baseball opener for both teams Friday night at The Diamond.

The Rams racked up a total of 15 hits against Dragon pitching as VCU (18-10) earned its eighth straight victory and snapped a four-game win streak for Drexel, which fell to 10-14 overall after dropping its first-ever league contest as a CAA member.

The teams were deadlocked at

4-4 after six innings of play before senior second baseman Chris Gerrity led off the bottom of the seventh with an infield single off Dragons' reliever Ryan Higgins (0-3). Pabon then delivered a shot into the left field gap to put VCU in front and later scored on an Drexel error after junior first baseman Danny Lopaze followed with a base hit to give the Rams a 6-4 advantage.

Freshman reliever Clay Meredith improved to 3-1 on the season after tossing 1 1/3 hitless innings in relief of senior starter Davy Martin. Sophomore closer Brian Marshall then slammed the door on the Dragon bats over the final two frames to pick up his



third save. Marshall entered the game with one on and no outs in

the top the eighth and after walking pinch-hitter Luke Sundheim, the lefthander proceeded to strike out the side to end Drexel's threat. VCU then tacked on two insurance runs in the bottom of the inning to help seal the win.

The Dragons scored a pair of runs off Martin in the third and added two more in the top of the fourth on junior Josh Yocum's second home run of the season to jump out to a 4-1 lead. The Rams crawled back into the game in their half of the fourth when sophomore third baseman Nick Jones doubled with one out and came home on a sacrifice fly off the bat of junior left fielder Rigo Orozco. Junior right fielder Jus-

tin Mattison then smacked a single to plate senior Bryan Gillespie and cut Drexel's cushion to 4-3.

VCU tied the game at 4-4 in the fifth when Lopaze drew a two-out walk to chase Dragons' starter Greg Barnett, moved to third as Jones greeted Higgins with a base hit, and crossed the plate when Gillespie beat out an infield chopper.

Pabon tied a school single-game record with three doubles on the night, while Mattison collected three hits in four at-bats for the Rams in the win. Yocum finished two-for-three with a pair of RBI to lead Drexel offensively.

## Tennis team routs Tulane

Rams improve to 16-2 with 11-5 win

### FROM NEWS SOURCES

VCU defeated Tulane University, 5-1, Friday at Thalhimer Tennis Center. With the win, the 15th-ranked Rams improved to 16-2 on the season while No. 22 Tulane fell to 11-5.

The Rams jumped to the early lead, claiming the doubles point, by sweeping all three doubles matches by 8-5 scores. In the featured doubles match of the day, seventh-ranked Florian Marquardt and Pedro Nieto of VCU defeated eighth-ranked Michael Kogan and Victor Romero of Tulane at No. 1.

Freshman Julien Lousao posted a 6-

1, 6-4 win at No. 6 singles to give the Rams a 2-0 lead, and Nieto upset Kogan, ranked 18th in the country in singles, 6-2, 7-5 at No. 1 to give VCU a 3-0 cushion. The Rams clinched the match at No 5 singles, as Mats Norin defeated Hannu Piironen, 7-6 (4), 7-6.

The match concluded as Marquardt defeated Romero, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 6-3 at No. 2, and Tulane's Jorge Liviano won a three-set match against Daniel Casquero at No. 4, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (8). The No 3 singles match between VCU's Marton Ott and Mattias Westerberg was not completed.

## VCU Recreational Sports

Division of Student Affairs

**Want to be a Personal Trainer or a Strength Consultant?**  
Recreational Sports and AFPA is sponsoring two workshops, attend one or both. It is your choice!

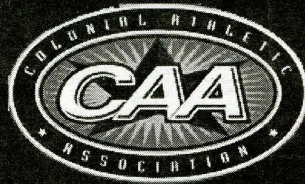
Strength Consultant Workshop & Certification  
April 6 9 am - 6 pm, Sports Medicine Building, Cost: \$179.00

Personal Trainer Workshop & Certification  
April 7, 9 am - 6 pm, Sports Medicine Building, Cost: \$179.00

Both Days: \$299.00, Save \$59.00, Pre-Registration Required!

Contact: Dr. Eric West at 827-0317  
for registration information

Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability.



## CAA Baseball Standings

2002 Standings (as of March 29)

### American

American	Record
James Madison	19-7
UNC-Wilmington	16-7
Towson	9-11-1
Old Dominion	12-12
Drexel	10-14

### Colonial

Colonial	Record
VCU	18-10
Delaware	13-10
William & Mary	15-13
George Mason	11-15
Hofstra	4-16

Like sports? Write sports. Call 828-1058.