

The Commonwealth Times

Free

The Independent Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University Vol. 41 No. 9 Thursday, September 30, 2004

CTVCU@hotmail.com
www.commonwealthtimes.com
(804) 828-1058

Constitutional revisions stir SGA debate

**New constitution
passes despite
objections**

Page 3



Sports

Root, root for the
home team.
Undefeated women's
soccer prepare for
UNC Wilmington. /
Page 10



Editorials & Letters

Get out to vote! / **Page 14**


Spectrum

Jump 'n jive! Lindy Bombers
bring swing to VCU. / **Page 11**


IN BRIEF

CALENDAR SEPT. 30 THROUGH OCT. 2		
Thursday, Sept. 30	Friday, Oct. 1	Saturday, Oct. 2
Need some hints on how to get the most from your textbooks? Attend this week's Academic Success Program titled "Comprehending Your Textbooks." It runs from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Commons Theater of the University Student Commons.	With the recent robberies around campus self-defense might be a good skill to learn. A self-defense class sponsored by 24-Seven will be taught in Virginia Ballroom B of the University Student Commons from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	The healthy living expo , which will be at the Chester Village Green, features health screenings, fitness tips, massages and information about nutrition. It runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 11800 Centre St.


CAMPUS FORECAST




Thursday
75/55



Friday
78/60



Saturday
81/59



Sunday
78/57

Recycle this newspaper!
For recycling information, visit:
www.vcu.edu/recycling

Compiled from wire reports

Roman goddess found in sewer

In Rome recently, workers found a statue of the goddess Venushas in a sewer. The only thing left of the statue, which was found in a shaft of the sewer, is its naked torso. The workers were repairing the Cologne sewer, which dates back to before the fall of Rome in 355 A.D. Officials believe the statue was damaged when the city was destroyed. They also say it was used to build the sewer during the rebuilding of Rome a year after its fall. After she is cleaned, Venushas will be displayed at a Cologne museum.

Teacher punishes pupils with dung

An Indian teacher has been suspended for making his pupils eat cow feces as punishment. Bosavarajappa, the teacher, allegedly imposed the punishment because the children laughed at him after he fell asleep in class and fell off his chair. The teacher from the government school at Arundi is being accused of forcing students and faculty members eat the feces four times. Parents became concerned when the children did not want to go to school and complained to school officials. The parents then took their complaints to education officials, who suspended Bosavarajappa.

Group protests hunting ban with dead animals

Animal carcasses were thrown and women showed their breasts in protest to a law being passed in England banning hunting with hounds. About 8,000 demonstrators gathered in Brighton, England during Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor Party conference. Three animal carcasses were left near the conference center where the meeting was held: two calves and one horse. Also, some women wearing bathing suits flashed their breasts and leapt into the English Channel. Sept. 16 parliamentarians from the Labor Party voted to ban fox-hunting. Protesters say the ban on hunting will put thousands of rural people out of work.

Czech's exchanging blood for beer

Instead of orange juice after donating blood, nurses in Prague are giving donors beer. Hundreds

Man paying railway after train ran over him

A man is paying the Polish railway PKP because he caused a delay in railway traffic -- he was run over by a train. Pawel Banaszek, age 19, was paralyzed after being run over in August 2003. Representatives from PKP say the delays add up to \$580. Banaszek is paying \$240 to PKP -- the other half was written off -- in monthly installments from his disability pension. Banaszek's house also recently burned down and Krzysztof Lancucki, spokesperson for PKP, said it will probably write off the rest of the debt if he formally requests. Wyborcza said men who beat him in the Polish village Stare Bosewo left him on the train tracks. Regional prosecutor Robert Strzeminski said there was no evidence of a beating.

Beware of busty barmaids at Oktoberfest

A gang called the 'boob bandits' has been stealing money from people at Oktoberfest, according to police in Munich, Germany. The 'bandits' distract festival-goers with a buxom barmaid while a man and another woman steal the persons' wallet. Males attending Oktoberfest are now being warned to be wary around busty barmaids flashing their breasts. Oktoberfest ends this weekend.

The Commonwealth TIMES

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

STAFF

Executive Editor
DEVON MARROW
CTeditor03@yahoo.com

Managing Editor
ANGELA MACK
mackforlife@hotmail.com

News Co-Editor
MELISSA LYNCH
lynchmd@vcu.edu

News Co-Editor
JONATHAN ROBBINS
robbinsjs@vcu.edu

Production Chief
ANDREW BABB
Andrew@toolatetorun.com

Spectrum Editor
LIZ KINCAID
liz@passthewasabi.com

Associate Spectrum Editor
KOSHA JOSHI
Joshikh@vcu.edu

Sports Editor
JULIAN BENBOW
Benbowjj@yahoo.com

Photography Editor
PAT KANE
kanepm@vcu.edu

Editorials & Letters Editor
ALI KHAN
khanam@vcu.edu

Business Manager
DAN PRINCE
princedd@vcu.edu

Advertising Director
MORGAN COPELAND
copelandmd@vcu.edu

Advertising Representative
LATASHA EWELL
ewellln@vcu.edu

Accounts Manager
CHRISTINE MENDOZA
catchrisjay@hotmail.com

Webmaster
THOMAS GEHRING
tagehrin@vcu.edu

Office Manager
ALICIA JONES
jonesam3@vcu.edu

Advertising and Classifieds
ctaddept@yahoo.com

www.commonwealthtimes.com
ctvcu@hotmail.com
(804) 828-1058

Cover photo by Pat Kane.
Sports cover teaser by Pat Kane.

NEWS

SGA approves constitution 16-0, 6 abstain

HOLLY HOBBS

Staff Writer

After bantering for about 50 minutes Monday, 22 Senators voted 16-0 to put a revised student government constitution on the Oct. 5 Senate election ballot. Six senators abstained.

Changes adopted last spring by the SGA constitution committee include adding a judicial branch and dissolving the steering committee.

"Every single year for the past five or six years there have been efforts to revise the SGA constitution," said Sen. Ali Faruk, the only member of the constitution committee eligible to vote at Monday's discussions. SGA adviser Reuban Rodriguez, dean of student affairs, and members of the executive branch also serve on the committee.

"This year's really the only one where we've built-up enough momentum, and there's been enough dedication that it's (constitution revision) actually gone through," Faruk said.

The committee, he said, found holes in the current constitution where there was an oversight and lack of responsibility as well as authority in some cases. He said the committee made changes based on what worked best for the students.

"There were some things in the old one that were blatantly wrong," Faruk said. "I want you guys (senators) to emphasize on whether this constitution is better than the

one we work with now."

Senators focused their debate on voting to vote on the new constitution. In the end, 11 favored the revisions. Although most favored the measure, others continued debating that voting be delayed until the newly elected senators can be inaugurated into office after Oct. 5.

"This is an important issue... To pass this bill, we'd probably only need two-thirds, which is about 15 (senators)" said Sen. Tin Htut-Myint of the School of Engineering. Slightly more than half of the 50 senate seats remain vacant.

Sen. Matt Haynes agreed that waiting until after the Senate elections would better represent students' opinions.

"How would you feel if you were a student, possibly with no real concept of what's going on... and you realized it only took, say, 14 people to change the way (you're) governed?" asked Haynes, a fourth-year political-science major representing the College of Humanities and Science.

"Would you feel better knowing that it was 14 people or knowing it was 26?" he asked. "Would you feel better knowing not even half of a full Senate is voting on this

bill? What's more realistic for the student body?"

Some students agreed with Haynes and Htut-Myint.

"Considering we have (almost) 30,000 people here (at VCU) and only 22 are making decisions, I think there should be more," said Colette Duffy, a second-year student. Duffy, who has yet to decide her major, suggested that she thought more senators could create more voices and broader opinions on debated legislation.

Audra Aversa, a third-year music-education major, agreed with Duffy.

"I think there should be 50 people (a full senate) to vote because if they want 50 (after elections), they should wait for 50," she said. "If they go with 22 (senators) they're undermining their idea of equal thought."

"Fair is fair."

Aversa said she was concerned about the decisions the SGA now makes for the student body.

"If it's that close between 12 (senators) and 13 (to equal a majority), they should think it over again," she said.

The main opposition for waiting until after Senate elections came from Ali Faruk, the SGA director of elections, who said the senators were misusing their debate time.

"Look at what we're doing right now," he said. "We're arguing about numbers, 14

versus 26. I think that's silly. I would have rather spent this time talking about concerns you guys have and talking about whether or not it's good for the student body."

He continued by saying he feels students have had ample time to study the new constitution.

"There's been more than a week," he said, responding to Haynes' remarks about senators having five or six days before elections to advertise the new constitution reforms.

"I sent a copy of the draft constitution to the CT weeks ago, and no one took it (upon themselves) to contact me. I e-mailed everybody I could," he said. "Honestly, while some people are interested and some people looked over it (the constitution), the vast majority of the people are apathetic and that doesn't bother me at all that much because my job is to give them the opportunity."

Some senators and others on the Monroe Park Campus said the SGA fails to communicate its agenda to students.

"No one with common sense is going to vote on something they haven't read," Aversa said. "I think they (could) even hand out little 5x5-inch fliers just saying what (the constitution revision) is and how to find out about it."

She also suggested the SGA visit the student commons and classrooms, plus post tabletop ads in the Shaffer Court Dining Center.

"If you aren't aware you can't do anything to change anything," Aversa said.

Faruk, however, said he doesn't think the amount of time students had to read the constitution should be debated.

"They (the student body) haven't just had five days to look at the constitution; they've had months," he said. "I think what's best for the students in the long term is

getting them a better constitution."

After voting for the revised constitution, SGA president Zmarak Khan thanked senators for their debate and concerns, saying he wanted to meet with those who were

uncomfortable about voting.

"Those of you (senators) who abstained... I really would like to talk to you because, even though (the constitution) passed I'm concerned," he said. "I'm still interested in letting you know that this is not the wrong decision that we made here."

"If you don't think that 23 people are enough (to vote on legislation), I would suggest you resign from your seat because these are the 23 people that elected you also."

Now approved by the Student Senate, the constitution will go to the student population and eventually to the Board of Visitors for a vote.

Copies of the old and new constitutions can be found on SGA's Web site.



Matt Haynes



Pat Kane

Ali Faruk listens to discussion about the new constitution.

Senate votes

On voting for the constitution:

Yes= 11

No= 10

Abstention= 1

On voting to approve the new constitution

Yes= 16

No= 0

Abstention= 6

Voting Senators= 22

Members of the Constitution Committee

LeaAnne Eaton

Ali Faruk, director of elections

Kelly Carnes, head of student activities and university relations.

Zmarak Khan, SGA president

Ali Khan, clerk

Reuban Rodriguez, adviser and dean of student affairs

SGA Constitution Web site

<http://www.vcu.edu/sga/legislative/constitution.shtml>

We want to hear from you!



Send your comments and letters to
ctvcu@hotmail.com.

VIRGINIA CREDIT UNION MEMBERSHIP



We're more than a bank.

Become part of something better.

- A 75-year history of helping members
- Free and low-cost services
- Low-rate car loans
- Honest, straightforward advice
- Scholarship program just for members

Call us today!

To find out about membership
or additional services, call
800/285-6609 or 804/323-6800.
Or visit www.vacu.org.



VIRGINIA CREDIT UNION
Making progress together

Full-time and part-time students and employees of your college or university are eligible for Virginia Credit Union membership.

NEWS

Students weigh in on animal testing

ANTHONY MCBRIEN
Staff Writer

Debates surrounding animal-testing circle the globe with different reactions and ethical reasonings. Some individuals, including VCU students, however, continue to question their uses in experiments.

"We treat these animals like...they have no feelings, no emotions," said Ryan Pupa, a junior mass communications major. "They feel pain... That would be the biggest reason why I am against testing."

Ryan Jones, a sophomore who hasn't decided on a major, said he, too, cannot fully grasp why such research becomes necessary.

"So you (the student) dissect a frog. You find out what a frog looks like on the inside," he said. "So the next time you go to a pond, you can see a frog and say, 'You know his aorta is a little wider than I would have expected it to be.'"

Still, Jenna Rice a junior forensic-science major, views testing as necessary but she remains concerned about animals rights:

"You can only learn so much from a book. Some people need that hands-on experience."

— Nicole Lewitzke, senior biology major

"We have to use the testing if we want to progress with medicine, but at the same time it is wrong because we don't really know how it is affecting the animals."

Wayne Barbee, chairman of VCU's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, or IACUC, said animal testing has been involved in almost all of the major medical advances in the past 100 years.

"There is a difference between animal rights and animal welfare," he said. "The institution (VCU) is concerned with animal welfare."

Nicole Lewitzke, a senior biology major, agreed that animal testing and dissections are necessary.

"You can only learn so much from a book," she said. "Some people need that hands-on experience," she said.

Barbee, who said that the animal care and use committee regulates only the usage of live animals, considers evaluations like Lewitzke's correct because a person cannot use a computer model or program to duplicate meticulous procedures used by physicians.

"There are things that you can see and do with a live animal that you will never learn from a cadaver or computer model," he said.

Besides some VCU students, animal-

rights activists contend that testing on animals is inhumane and unnecessary. Such groups as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals argue that testing on animals is irrelevant because of the differences in human biology and animal biology.

Thus, VCU's animal care and use committee has a long list of regulations and protocol that must be reviewed and analyzed before conducting any experiment.

"There are 16 pages of forms, and you must answer all of the questions before you can even order an animal at all," said Jennifer Stewart, an associate professor of biology who serves on the animal care and usage internal committee at VCU. Stewart said simple tests like drawing blood from a lab mouse requires at least a month to be reviewed.

Even though time and thought go into the care and ethical treatment of animals, some students still refer to the classes where they and their peers dissect frogs and fetal pigs as inhumane.

"With each course," Barbee said, "the instructor needs to consider the course objectives and what the student needs to get out of that course."

Regardless, some students reportedly were advised that they must witness the dissection to receive credit. They call such witnessing "insensitive" to them as human beings.

"I told my professor that I was vegetarian. And I asked him if there was any other alternative, or if I could just not have to do any dissection. He said 'No.' I had to do the dissection," said Shana O'Leary, a junior psychology major.

Other students interviewed about in-class lab dissections, said their labs involved dissecting a fetal pig or frog. Each section of those classes had a 1-4 or 1-5 ratio of fetal pigs or frogs to students, which one student, Ryan Jones, considers important.

"There should just be a level of civility and good taste. You can't slaughter a million frogs so that every certain kid has a frog to dissect in bio class," he said.

Barbee said VCU has no set policy regarding animal dissections. Nonetheless, some students recommended that animal dissection classes be reserved for students who know they want to become biology students rather than for everyone who completes it as a general-education course. They suggest that students, disinterested in biology as a major or a career not have to participate in sections involving dissections.

"If you know that you are not going to be a biology student, then it just doesn't seem

relevant," Jones said, "'cause it seems like your learning curve is lost cause most of the time you're worried about 'how gross is what I am about to touch?'"

"If it were more relevant to the curriculum then it should be included."

Barbee said VCU retains the highest standards of animal-care and-use and is a member of the organization that accredits universities.

"We just underwent a site visit this past spring, and we received full accreditations

with no mandatory items (to be corrected), only suggestions" Barbee said, adding that he considers this an achievement.

On the other hand, animal dissection, not accreditation remained the issue for students. Eric Raezer, a senior medical-illustration major, for instance, agreed that dissections should be limited to biology-related majors only.

"If you're not premed, then I don't think it's necessary," he said. (Bailey Stephens, editor of Powhatan High School's newspaper, contributed to this report.)

Examples of the forms that the experimenters use are available online at http://www.orsp.vcu.edu/IACUC-DOCS/IACUC_form.doc.



Vet: Don't 'sacrifice' animals for education

PHILIP BOGENBERGER
Staff Writer

"Alternative is the way to go," said Christopher Patterson, a local veterinarian, during his hourlong lecture on "Animal Usage in Veterinary Education." And he was not talking about his music preference.

During the speech, Patterson, who last week visited the Monroe Park campus, offered students and faculty a glimpse of his experiences while attending the veterinary-medicine school on St. Kitts, an island state in the West Indies also known as St. Christopher.

As part of his veterinary education, Patterson, who received his bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Commonwealth University, performed surgeries on animals strictly used for medical research. He then euthanized the animals when they were no longer needed.

While in veterinary school, Patterson said, he became sensitive to animal rights

because he thought that it was unnecessary for so many animals to die even if it furthered his education.

"I understand that the needs of many outweigh the needs of the few," Patterson said. "I just feel that too many animals were used that did not have to sacrifice their lives."

Although Patterson, who now works at the Three Chopt Animal Clinic, said even though he questioned the use of so many animals, his experience with a sheep named Abbo completely changed his mind.

Patterson convinced his professor to let him take Abbo home after performing the first of four surgeries on the sheep. While Abbo lived with him, Patterson said, he became attached to the animal.

"He had as much personality as any dog," he said.

At the end of the semester, Patterson and his laboratory partners performed terminal

TESTING continued to Page 9



RIO GRANDE

C A F E

mexican food restaurant

9216 Stony Point Parkway
Richmond, VA 23235

NOW INTERVIEWING
ALL POSITIONS
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

MON, WED or THURS
between 3:30pm - 5:00pm or
call 804.560.7453



hyperlink

Café

Hyperlink Cafe
814 W. Grace St.
Richmond, VA 23220
tel. 254-1942
HyperlinkVA.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Night Insomnia w/ DJ Lonnie B. til 2am	Monday Night Football 8pm until end of game	Tuesday Open Mic Tuesdays 7-12pm	Wednesday Reggae Wednesdays 9-12pm	Thursday Unplugged / T.G.I. Thursdays 6-10pm / 11pm-2am	Friday Strictly Jazz w/ The Urban Jazz Unit 6-11pm	Saturday Super Nova Saturdays 9pm-2am
Monday Through Saturday After Work Attitude Adjustment From 6-9pm						

Festival of India
Greater Richmond Convention Center
403 North Third Street, Richmond, VA 23219
Admission to the festival is free.

Saturday, October 9th
11 am - 9 pm
Sunday, October 10th
12 pm - 8 pm

ਫੇਸਟੀਵਲ ਓ ਫ਼ਿਰੋਂ

A little piece of India in America

NEWS

Author discusses Greek community *Lawrence Ross encourages fraternities, sororities to network*

KATIE GANTT
Staff Writer

All Greek fraternities and sororities should eliminate hazing, Lawrence C. Ross Jr. told an estimated 200 people attending his special lecture last week on Greek life of African-Americans.

"It should be done away with," Ross said in response to an audience member asking him to define his stand on the issue. "It doesn't prove anything."

An active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity at the University of California at Berkeley, Ross told the mostly student audience that hazing did not improve the quality of students entering his fraternity. Instead, he said, when his member brothers told the pledges they were being hazed so they could prove their devotion to the fraternity, they were "lying to them."

Ross, a reporter for the Los Angeles Independent Newspapers, wrote two books, including "The Divine Nine: The History of African-American Fraternities and Sororities." In "The Divine Nine," Ross refers to the nine major African-American fraternities and sororities that exist on university campuses today, including VCU's.

"There is beauty in every organization," Ross said, although many, including he, suffer from fraternal

bias for the organization in which they once actively participated.

In his lecture, Ross not only stressed communication within the different fraternities and sororities but also among Greek organizations and non-Greek groups within the university community.

"If people didn't know who we were and what we did, they would always view us with suspicion," Ross said, explaining the importance of his "Divine Nine" work. Not knowing details about his wife's sorority experience, he said, motivated him to write the book.

"Why, in all of the years that we have been married, have I never picked up her book to find out about her organization, and she mine?" he asked.

Once Ross decided he might write a book, he looked for one about the different fraternities and sororities but found none. Therefore, he said, a history book on the different African-American fraternities and sororities was something that people, especially students, needed desperately.

"It is important for college students to realize – particularly African-American fraternities and sororities – that they have a lot more power than they think,"

he said.

Although the author focused his lecture on Greek organizations, many attending the event were affiliated with other groups on the Monroe Park Campus.

"I came because I've read parts of the 'Divine Nine' book," said Irma McKie, a 20-year-old junior premed/biology major.

Others attended the lecture for different reasons. For instance, Pam Mayo, a 20-year-old junior psychology major, wanted to hear about the sorority choices available.

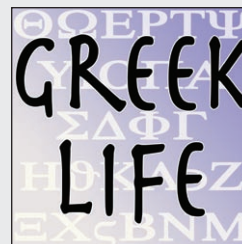
"I came because I was curious, and I wanted to find out more information about sororities here at VCU," she said.

Still, Natasha Riddick, a 20-year-old junior psychology major, attended the event to learn more about the various Greek organizations so she could join one if she wanted.

"The lecture," she said, "helped me determine which sorority to be in and how active I will be."

After the lecture, Ross responded to some audience members' questions that ranged from the reason he chose the APA fraternity to the time he spent writing his book.

He then signed copies of his book and mingled with many of the audience members.



VCU officials stress the gravity of lying

ELISA GLUSHEFSKI
Staff Writer

Dan was a dedicated student, but had fallen behind on some work. Without thinking twice, he decided to skip class the next morning to give him time to catch up on missed assignments. Subsequently Dan missed an exam and submitted a false doctor's note excusing his absence.

When his professor found out about the false document from a classmate, he reported Dan to the honor council.

Although Dan's is a hypothetical situation, psychologists say lying about absences is commonplace among college students.

"People tend to lie if they will personally gain from telling a lie, and if they can convince themselves that the lie is not really a lie, but instead a 'misrepresentation' or a 'white lie' and hence is harmless," said Don Forsyth, a professor of psychology at VCU.

According to the honor code, it is a violation for a student to make any oral or written statement related to academic matters, which the individual knows to be untrue.

Faculty members often emphasize

both orally and in their syllabi that their classes will be held to the honor code and provide students with a copy of or link to the code.

Forsyth said that method should suffice.

"I don't feel (professors) should spend their class time reviewing the code with students," he said. "Students are required to read the code, and they are required to pledge and conform to the code when they enroll at VCU."

Psychologists contend that there are many factors that contribute to academic dishonesty.

"Classroom climate can contribute to whether students lie," said Charles Klink, director of university counseling services. "If it is an antagonistic climate they will be less likely to be honest about absences."

Oftentimes it is poor planning on the part of the student, Klink said, and so they look for a temporary solution.

Forsyth said students generally find themselves pressured by circumstances to lie about the reason for absences.

"If a professor will permit students to

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
BEN KWELLER
OCTOBER 12
SHOWTIME 7:30pm
RICHMOND COLISEUM

General Admission and Reserved Seat Tickets are available at the Coliseum Box Office, all Ticketmaster Outlets, charge by phone at 804-262-8100 or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information call 804-780-4970. A Clear Channel Entertainment Event.

Get Tickets At **CC.COM**

LYING continued to Page 9

CLASSIFIEDS

Need Employees?
Selling Stuff?
Got something to say?

spring break 2004...for local and statewide productions. No exp.,req
brandnew w/warrantv. \$110. Can deliver. New. Still in plastic w/ w

Classified for VCU students Classified

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Text: _____

(up to 25 words)

Submit to:
Commonwealth Times
1149 Temple Building

spring break 2004...for local and statewide productions. No exp.,req

HELP WANTED

VALET PARKING ATTENDANTS
MCV Hospital
FT/PT Daytime/Evenings. Flexible hours. Friendly
customer service skills required. Excellent pay,
tips daily.
Call Jim 1-800-386-9538

Part-time child care provider as needed in our
West-End home for 2 toddler girls. Good with kids,
dependable, references. Call 217-7005 or 273-4388
for interview.

Environmental/Political — Devote a semester to
environmental change. Work 2-3 days per week.
\$150 - \$250 per week. Call 342-1498.

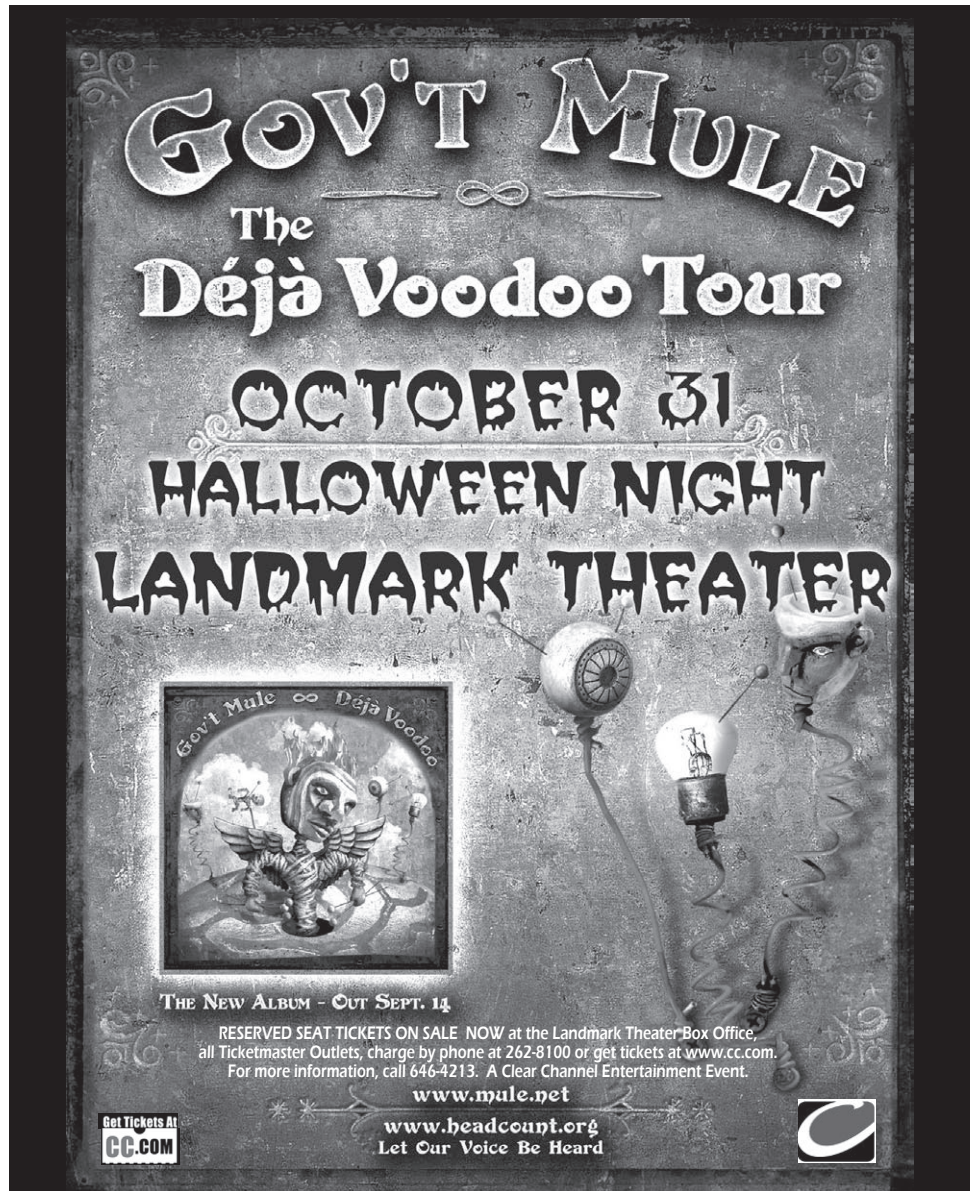
FOR SALE

No Draft For Iraq
Patriotic Bumper Sticker, \$3.50, Order Today at:
www.bushliedthousandsdied.com
Register. Your vote counts! Register today!!

HELP WANTED

AUTO CARE ASSOCIATE
College schedule making it hard to squeeze in a
job? Not with us.
We can tailor a part-time or full-time work schedule
to fit your needs. Our positions are demanding &
rewarding. We don't require experience, we require
character, honesty, drug free, energetic & flexible
people who take pride in their personal work.
We take pride in the delivery of excellent customer
service, and in providing employees with full train-
ing, team support, & an atmosphere that's fun.
Benefits begin with free car washes, & increase with
tenure & hours worked, to include health insurance,
401k, & vacation.
Our wage range is \$6-10 per hour in the following
positions: Detailing Technician, Interior Vacuumer,
Tunnel Prep, Exterior Dryer & Express Wax Techni-
cian. We work together. We are the new Car Pool
with 3 locations within 10 minutes of the Student
Commons. Send resume &/or letter of interest to:
employment@carpoolinc.com or fax to 726-1887.
Visit us at www.carpoolinc.com.
We are an Equal Opportunity Employer, a Drug Free
Work Place and Super Place to Work!

Visit us on the Web!
“www.commonwealthtimes.com”



GOV'T MULE
The
Déjà Voodoo Tour
OCTOBER 31
HALLOWEEN NIGHT
LANDMARK THEATER

THE NEW ALBUM - OUT SEPT. 14

RESERVED SEAT TICKETS ON SALE NOW at the Landmark Theater Box Office,
all Ticketmaster Outlets, charge by phone at 262-8100 or get tickets at www.cc.com.
For more information, call 646-4213. A Clear Channel Entertainment Event.

www.mule.net
www.headcount.org
Let Our Voice Be Heard

Get Tickets At
CC.COM

NEWS

Saturday's fights a catalyst for discussion

Administrators to analyze event security

MATTHEW HARRIS
Staff Writer

Last weekend's fights at the annual Fall Block Step Show had VCU officials and university President Eugene Trani meeting Tuesday to discuss security and enforcement measures.

Saturday night's altercation at the Stuart C. Siegel Center marks the third time this year that a VCU-sponsored event had to be canceled because of violence, said Tim Reed, director of Student Commons and Activities. The other two functions – one during the spring semester and the other in August – were parties in the Commons.

Officials said that scuffles are not unusual at parties, but figuring out how to avoid ending a party offers a challenge.

"In any large crowd like this you may have a fight, but

how do you respond? How do you get those people out of the way so the others can have fun?" Reed asked.

While he said the step show was a success with more than 4,000 people attending, the fights in the early half of the after-party shut the event down.

The cancellation sent the thousands of partygoers out on Broad Street where, Reed said, one arrest was made and Richmond City Police had to take action.

"There was a Richmond city police officer who released what is called a pepper-spray fogger," he said. "The fogger was used to clear a group of bystanders who would not evacuate the area."

Some VCU students said the fights make them leery of attending school events.

"If I was there I wouldn't feel safe," said Kim Wheatly, a first-year premed major. "With police officers spraying mace and everything it could hit someone who was not involved."

"Kelli Lemon, assistant director for programs (at the Commons) met with the Siegel Center staff and VCU Police to talk about how we can increase security and do some things to make that event more safe," Reed said.

Students who attended last Saturday's after-party

said they're concerned that the fights might put an end to some campus functions.

"I'm scared they won't have the events anymore just because a few people can't act like civilized adults," said Toni Wilkerson, a senior political-science major.

Senior officials met and voiced the same concerns at the meeting, Reed said.

"The president is concerned," he said, "and he doesn't want to see things like the after-party stopped."

Future possibilities include increasing security and devising new altercation-response methods.

Still, some students said they didn't think only VCU students caused the fights.

"Nine times out of 10 it's people from other schools," said Robyn Hicks, a senior social-work major.

Wilkerson agreed saying she thought that limiting the number of non-VCU students would cut down on fighting.

Saturday night's step show and after-party were open to general admission.

Despite the recurrence of scuffles, some students said school functions still offer a better alternative.

"Fights happen anywhere," Hicks said. "I feel safer at a school function than out on the street somewhere."

LYING continued from Page 7

bargain for an excused absence, then students will feel pressured to come up with an acceptable excuse for their missing class," he said. "Students will be more likely to misrepresent the circumstances the greater the pressure on them to do so."

Klink said peer influence has a tremendous impact on behavior.

"Some students feel justified (to lie). They feel that the professor doesn't care (why they were really absent). Also, if students believe other people cheat they are more prone to do it themselves," Klink said, pointing out that there is a conjoined responsibility of the students and the faculty to clarify the honor code.

"With academic dishonesty everyone has a role in creating a climate that doesn't condone dishonesty," Klink said.

Moreover, even if they lie impulsively students often have a good reason for it, Klink said because most behavior is purposeful.

"I think professors and faculty are more understanding than students give them credit for," Klink said.

It is partly a communication element that contributes to the problem of academic dishonesty, Klink said, adding that there is a joint responsibility between students and faculty to clarify the honor code.

Forsyth designs his course attendance policies to reduce pressures on students to lie about absences.

"Only if they miss too many classes will their grade be negatively impacted, and so they are less likely to need to lie about an absence I also give students the

opportunity to make up tests without any excuse at all," he said.

In addition, students do not always understand the specific elements of the honor code. Most realize they cannot cheat on a test by copying off another's test or taking in crib notes, Forsyth said.

"But what they do not realize as frequently is that the code also bans other types of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, lying about the absence and even theft."

Attendance policies vary from class to class and professor to professor.

Forsyth, who teaches both graduate and

undergraduate courses in psychology, said he requires attendance in some of his classes while it's optional in others.

Likewise, methods of taking attendance vary. Some professors pass out role sheets for students to sign or have students complete assignments or quizzes in class. But professors like Forsyth will use a combination of all three methods.

Klink said everyone has a role in creating a climate that doesn't condone academic dishonesty.

"(Lying) doesn't start when people come to college. It starts at a very young age and creates an environment that makes cheating

more likely," Klink said. "People learn by imitation. If you grow up in an environment where the truth is compromised then it makes it easier for you to compromise the truth."

However, he said lying is not isolated to students, and research shows that institutions with honor codes have fewer problems with academic dishonesty.

Editor's Note: This is the third installment of an eight-part series intended to introduce and help students navigate VCU's Honor Code. The series will be published every Thursday.

TESTING continued from Page 5

surgery on Abbo.

"That was one of my biggest regrets," said Patterson with a slight twinge in his voice. "I feel he's an animal that I failed."

After describing that experience, the speaker told the audience that he knew he had to stand up for his beliefs.

"If an M.D. student can go through their education without taking a person's life, then why can't a veterinary student go through their education without taking an animal's life?" Patterson asked. "I believe we can prevent animal suffering by alternative education."

He cited such alternatives as ethical-consent cadavers, detailed diagrams, models, computer simulations and supervised clinical experience.

"The best way to learn is from another vet," Patterson said. "I learned the most while I was in clinical rotation."

Nonetheless, the veterinarian said alternative forms of education not only concerns his ethical beliefs, but he also views euthanizing animals as having a psychological impact on students.

"Getting schools to change their policies is student-driven," Patterson said because bringing about change is not easy. "In most instances the faculty will try to change your mind."

Some changes, such as the newly effective policy for Virginia's public schools, already are underway in the Virginia General Assembly.

A bill introduced by Delegate James H. Dillard II, R-Fairfax County, and passed

by the 2004 Virginia General Assembly in April, calls for local-school divisions to provide students with alternatives to animal-dissection techniques within relevant public-school curriculum or course.

Laura Duval, 22, a senior biology student who attended Patterson's presentation concurred with this legislative decision.

"If computer programs and models can give you the same knowledge, then they should be used instead of killing animals," she said. "I did not realize how many animals are used (in veterinary education)."

This was the first time Patterson, a 1993 VCU graduate, has lectured at VCU, but he said he hopes to give more talks at his alma mater and at other universities in Virginia and elsewhere.

STATE & NATION

GOP legislator protests Moore's university appearance

BY BOB LEWIS

Associated Press Writer

RICHMOND — A conservative Republican state legislator is challenging George Mason University's plan to pay "Fahrenheit 9-11" director Michael Moore to speak on campus five days before the election.

"How can GMU justify a \$35,000 payment for any college speaker," Del. Dick Black, R-Loudoun, asked in a letter dated Tuesday to the university's president, Alan G. Merten.

"Profligate spending for liberal speakers

"How can GMU justify a \$35,000 payment for any college speaker?"

— Del. Dick Black, R-Loudoun

sets a tone for slipshod financial practices permeating the university system. Tax money is being spent poorly, and for partisan purposes," wrote Black, who has one of the General Assembly's most conservative voting records.

Moore's film, still playing in theaters, criticizes and ridicules President Bush's response to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and his decision to go to war with Iraq. Republicans have denounced the film as blatant anti-Bush propaganda.

Moore is scheduled to discuss "Fahrenheit 9-11" on GMU's campus in Fairfax Oct. 28. University spokesman Daniel Walsch said Moore planned to screen clips from the film, and the event would be open to the public.

The election is Nov. 2.

Black urged Merten to reconsider the university's "lavish payment" to Moore or to cancel the appearance.

Walsch said the university is reviewing its contract with Moore but he would not discuss terms of the contract, the size of the payment or options the university is considering. GMU brings several prominent speakers to its campus each year, he said.

"Right now, we hope Michael Moore will come," Walsch said. "We hope to have things resolved in the next few days. As a public university, we will not misappropriate any kind of public money for this or for any event."

Judge strikes down secret searches by the government as unconstitutional

BY LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Declaring that personal security is as important as national security, a judge Wednesday blocked the government from conducting secret, unchallengeable searches of Internet and telephone records as part of its fight against terrorism.

The American Civil Liberties Union called the ruling a "landmark victory" against the Justice Department's post-Sept. 11 law enforcement powers.

"Today's ruling is a wholesale refutation of excessive government secrecy and unchecked executive power," said ACLU attorney Jameel Jaffer.

U.S. District Judge Victor Marrero struck down a provision of the Patriot Act that authorizes the FBI to force Internet service providers and phone companies to turn over certain customer records. The companies are then barred from ever disclosing the search took place.

In his ruling, the judge called national security of "paramount value" and said the government "must be empowered to respond promptly and effectively" to threats. But he called personal security equal in importance and "especially prized in our system of justice."

Marrero said his ruling blocks the government from issuing the requests or from enforcing the non-disclosure provision "in this or any other case." But the ruling will not immediately take effect to allow for an appeal.

Megan L. Gaffney, a spokeswoman for the federal prosecutor's office in Manhattan, said the government was reviewing the deci-

sion and had no immediate comment.

The judge said the law violates the Fourth Amendment because it bars or deters any judicial challenge to the government searches, and violates the First Amendment because its permanent ban on disclosure is a prior restraint on speech.

He noted that the Supreme Court recently said that a "state of war is not a blank check for the president when it comes to the rights of the nation's citizens."

"Sometimes a right, once extinguished, may be gone for good," Marrero wrote.

Marrero issued his decision in favor of an Internet access firm identified in his 120-page ruling as "John Doe." He had agreed to keep the firm's identity secret to protect the FBI probe that led to the search request.

Jaffer, the ACLU lawyer, said the government had turned over as part of the lawsuit a six-page document showing it had obtained Internet or telephone records dozens and possibly hundreds of times.

The government was authorized to pursue communications records as part of a 1986 law. Its powers were enhanced by legislation passed after the passage of the Patriot Act in 2001.

In a footnote to his ruling, Marrero cited words he had written two years ago in another case to warn that courts must apply "particular vigilance to safeguard against excess committed in the name of expediency."

"The Sept. 11 cases will challenge the judiciary to do Sept. 11 justice, to rise to the moment with wisdom equal to the task, its judgments worthy of the large dimensions that define the best Sept. 11 brought out of the rest of American society."

NATIONAL NEWS

British hostage in Iraq pleads for help; concern surfaces about ransom payments

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A weeping British hostage was shown pleading for help between the bars of a makeshift cage in a video that surfaced Wednesday, a sobering reminder of the grim reality for at least 18 foreign captives still held by Iraqi militants.

There is wide speculation that ransoms were paid for the freedom of a dozen hostages, including two Italian aid workers.

The new footage, first broadcast on the Arab news network Al-Jazeera and then posted on the Internet, showed Kenneth Bigley begging British Prime Minister Tony Blair to meet his captors' demands.

"Tony Blair, I am begging you for my life," the 62-year-old Bigley said between sobs. "Have some compassion. Only you can help me now."

He accused Blair of lying about efforts to secure his release, saying no negotiations were taking place.

"My life is cheap. He doesn't care about me. I am just one person," the civil engineer said. "I want to go home. Please, Mr. Blair, don't leave me here."

Yemeni judge orders death sentence for two USS Cole defendants, jails four others

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — A Saudi suspected of being an associate of Osama bin Laden and a Yemeni militant were sentenced to death by firing squad Wednesday for the bombing of the USS Cole four years ago, the first convictions in the al-Qaida terror attack that killed 17 American sailors.

The judge ordered four other Yemenis

jailed for five to 10 years.

With army snipers on nearby rooftops and armored vehicles and soldiers surrounding the courthouse, Judge Najib al-Qaderi handed down guilty verdicts in an often-delayed trial that saw the five defendants in Yemen's custody refuse to enter pleas, claiming U.S. interference in the case.

The judge ordered Jamal al-Badawi, a 35-year-old Yemeni, and Saudi-born Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, who is in U.S. custody at an undisclosed location, executed for plotting the attack by two suicide bombers who blew up an explosives-laden boat next to the Cole as it refueled in the Yemeni port

Reformed University Fellowship
presents...

Darwin on Trial

a video by Dr. Phillip E. Johnson
exposing the philosophical dogmatism
behind Darwinian Evolution

Tuesday, October 5
12:00 - 1:00pm
Commons Theater

FREE Subs
provided by Stuffy's

SPORTS

Vick's Falcons face-off against Panthers

RAJ SETHI
Sports Writer

A notch in the win column isn't the only thing at stake in this NFC South showdown. Should the Falcons win, it would put a huge dent in the psyche of the Carolina Panthers. The defending NFC champions, meanwhile, are looking to assert their supremacy early, and prove that last year was no fluke. Three things to watch for:

Peerless? More like Disa-Peerless:

In case you didn't get the subhead, I'm talking about Peerless Price, Atlanta's high-priced WR. Although you wouldn't guess that if you looked at his numbers (8 catches for 96 yards through three games). Price only superb year was in 2002 when he had teammate and pro-bowler Eric Moulds to deflect attention. Now he has no such help; he's the No. 1 man. Carolina's D, very good by any stretch of the imagination, does come up a little short in pass defense. Price needs to take advantage of the Panthers' young DBs Ricky Manning and Chris Gamble youth in order for the Falcons to win.

Coming Out Party, Part 2

With Stephen Davis nursing a knee injury, Deshaun Foster was thrust into the spotlight last week against Kansas City. And boy, did he shine. Foster ran all over the Chiefs D' to the tune of 174 yards and a TD. It is common knowledge that the UCLA grad is talented enough to start for most teams; he just happens to be stuck behind a perennial pro-bowler in Davis. For another week, at least, the job is his. If he can perform well against the Falcons, there will be no assurances that Davis' job will be handed back to him when he returns.

Watch Your Ankles

What game preview involving the Falcons would be complete without a comment about Michael Vick? The NFL's most exciting player hasn't faced a defensive unit like Carolina's this season, though. Look for Carolina to take a page out of the playbook of the Arizona Cardinals, who lined up five defensive linemen in an effort to put pressure on Vick and keep him inside the pocket. Not counting 58-yard romp scamper in garbage time, Vick was held to 10 yards on eight carries. The Panthers ability to limit Vick's mobility will go a long way in determining the winner of this game.



So your 8-4 was a solid week. It put you at 14-10 (.583) on the season. But our 9-7 wasn't bad either, not to mention a 4-0 by a certain sports editor that pushed us up to 15-17 (.465). Props to Carlton Thorne who picked up all four games, too. We got lucky with the Redskins game, but picking the Jags was just good. Let's see how you do this week.

Raj Sethi

Last week: 2-2
Season: 4-4
Colts over Jaguars
Panthers over Falcons
Bills over Patriots
Packers over Giants

Marcus Hudgins

Last Week: 2-2
Season: 4-4
Colts over Jaguars
Falcons over Panthers
Patriots over Bills
Packers over Giants

Nicholas Arnold

Last Week: 1-3
Season: 2-6
Colts over Jaguars
Falcons over Panthers
Patriots over Bills
Packers over Giants

Julian Benbow

Last Week: 4-0
Season: 6-2



Robert Cole

First-year
Favorite Team: Buccaneers
Jaguars over Colts
Panthers over Falcons
Pats over Bills
Packers over Giants



Jeff Watts

First-year
Favorite Team: Ravens
Colts over Jaguars
Falcons over Panthers
Patriots over Bills
Packers over Giants



Michael Watkins

First-year
Favorite Team: Cowboys
Colts over Jaguars
Panthers over Falcons
Patriots over Bills
Packers over Giants



Upcoming Sports EVENTS

NCAA

Friday, Oct. 1

Men's Soccer vs. William & Mary, 7 p.m.

VCU, who squashed the Richmond Spiders 5-0 on Sunday behind Brian Morris' hat trick, plays its conference opener against a Tribe team that hasn't lost in a month. W&M's latest win was shutout victory over Maryland, the best team in the country.

Field Hockey vs. Towson, 7 p.m.

After dropping both games in their first road trip since August, VCU plays its first CAA game of the season at home against the Tigers, who have won three of their past five after starting the season 0-4.

Saturday, Oct. 2

Women's soccer vs. UNC Wilmington, 7 p.m.

Both teams opened their conference seasons with Drexel and Hofstra. The Rams went X-X. And while the Seahawks extended their nine-game unbeaten streak, Drexel played them to a 2-2 tie.

Volleyball at George Mason, 7 p.m.

The Patriots come into the game with take the same 0-1 record into as VCU, but at 5-4 overall, they've played three fewer games. Blame it on Hurricane season canceling matches in South Florida at the start of the season.

For more information contact the VCU sports line: 828-7000. VCU sporting events are free to students with a valid student ID.

Intramural Results 9/29/04

With a good mix of action to start things off, this was a good week for our intramural athletes.

Last Wednesday, in the flag football Co-Rec division, DPT 007 gets an easy one over Pharmacy 2007 by forfeit. Sports This beat MHA Suits 21-6. The Articulators pounded the Kwik-E-Martys 38-6, and PT 2006 edged Team Cummins 8-7.

The flag football, Men's B division had Team Nicholas airing it out against ABC All-Stars 30-0, and the Beast had a close

call versus Team Yudson, 21-20.

Also on Wednesday in the Indoor Soccer Co-Rec division, Free Agent CR W beat Panthers 6-4, M2 CR clipped M3 4-3, Monster Cat terrorized M1 5-0, and Adcenter FC got by Team Huffman by a score of 7-2. In Thursday flag football action, South Hill Select beat up on P-Cubed 40-0 in MCV Men's division. Ditka got over on D4 by default. The Scrubs shutout Team Vanderveer 6-0, and the Gunners unloaded on the M1 Gunners in a 28-6 win.

Indoor Soccer's Co-Rec division was nasty as the Dirty Caban Crew beat Free Agent CR H by default. Team Rodriguez downed Team Mikesell 4-2. Free Agent

CR H put the Novocain on Dentistry 8-5, and Team Liu Liu defeated the Jaguars 8-4. Flag football was rained out Monday and Tuesday.

But in the Monday's indoor soccer games, D1 Decay beat Team Hunsucker 7-4 in the Men's A division. Anponsem FC bested Team O'Leary 8-1, Sambagot by M2 6-3 and in their second game of the night, Anponsem FC served the D1 Raw Dawgs 7-1. Team Griggs of Indoor Men's B division faced MSA, and won 7-5. Free Agent M put down The Revolution 9-3 followed by Team Marcelle beating Delta Chi 6-2. The late game was a nail biter, with Free Agent M and Bad News Bears tying 1-1.

SPORTS

Take me out to the ballgame...

MARCUS HUDGINS
Staff Writer

(In my best Rock impersonation)

FINALLY ... BASEBALL HAS COME BACK ... TO D.C.

That's right kiddies, after months of debates and negotiations, the Montreal Expos are coming to town (much to the chagrin of the Baltimore Orioles).

The Expos play their last game in Montreal tonight.

Ever since the failed Senators experiment sent the Beltway's only Major League Baseball franchise to Texas to become the Rangers, everyone here has cheered (or jeered) the Orioles.

I realized long ago that Virginians will never pony up the dough to get a professional sports franchise. We just turn to the Orioles. But now they will have competition within 60 miles, even at the farthest proposed new stadium location.

But where will the new stadium be?

Four D.C. sites have been under consideration; only the one near RFK Stadium would require no ownership contribution. A site at New York Avenue, near the U.S. Capitol, is more intriguing. A site near the National Mall, offering spectacular views and access to four subway stops, is the most intriguing (and expensive) of all.

The city has promised to build a \$400 million stadium on the Anacostia waterfront, where the Expos, probably under a different name, will play starting in the 2008 season. Renovations to RFK, where the team will play until its new home is completed, will reportedly take at least three months.

Os owner Peter Angelos may have a good reason to be concerned. The team's attendance might suffer, and their broadcast revenue may diminish. But, the reality is that no neighboring team could damage the Orioles as much as Angelos has in the past decade.

Will this be a good deal in the long run? I am not exactly sure.

There will be short-term benefits, of course. Increased revenue for the D.C., and its businesses is good for everyone involved.

We'll see if it can work. If not, we'll be losing another team and gaining another headache.

VCU vs. UNC-W: Top teams in CAA battle on Saturday

NICHOLAS ARNOLD
Staff Writer

If you were to look up home-field advantage in a recent sports dictionary, you'd probably find a picture of the New England Patriots in snowy Foxboro Stadium where they always seem to win late in the season.

A few sub-definitions lower you might find a picture of the VCU Women's Soccer Team at sunny Sports Backers Stadium, celebrating another last second overtime victory or a dominant thrashing of a visiting opponent.

The Rams, ranked No. 13 by Soccer Buzz in this week's MidAtlantic Region poll, are undefeated at home so far this season. They haven't lost at home since last October. Throughout the streak, the team has posted six shutouts and outscored their opponents 27-5.

Now VCU prepares for one of their toughest contests at home in the past two seasons.

UNC-Wilmington strolls into Richmond on Saturday at 7 p.m. after failing to sustain home-field advantage of their own.

The Seahawks lost to Hofstra 1-0 after tying Drexel on Friday 2-2. Before that, UNCW had won nine straight games, a

team record. They boast the CAA's leading scorer, Kristine Mengle, who's netted ten goals so far this season. She also leads the conference in game-winning goals with three.

VCU has faced tough strikers already this year. And the defense's approach to this potent offense will be the same as the past: focus on team defense and don't let the opposition take you out of your game plan. It's been a recipe for success for almost a full year. Why should it stop now?

VCU's offensive attack has been important at home, but the ability of the defense to shut down top Colonial Athletic Association powers symbolizes the importance of defending the home field.

Offensively, VCU's Jen Parsons and Solfrid Andersen are first and second, respectively, in points in the CAA this year. Parsons is second in goals scored, while Andersen is third.

But the back line of VCU's defense, led by team captain Jennifer Woodie, Hedda Gardsjord, Solveig Haaland, and Shelley Lyle, has stepped up at home, and that's what wins championships in team sports.

Midfielders, Kasey Sandvig and Sandra Anger are constantly disrupting the opponents' control of the ball in the middle of the field. And forwards Parsons and Andersen

have set the tone for the defensive effort by aggressively attacking the passing lanes of the opponents' defense.

With the addition of two strong first year goalkeeper's, Emily Niman and Lauren Hardison, the Rams defense is just as stout this year as it was last year. They've shut down hot offensive opponents like Hofstra and Oregon State. They completely overwhelmed Seton Hall, a team that is now ranked seventh in the MidAtlantic region, by a score of 4-0.



Leigh Anthony (12).

Pat Kane

Rams start conference play with two of CAA's best

JULIAN BENBOW
Sports Editor

Somebody had to drop their Day Runner. That's the only way to explain the schedule for the first week of conference play in the Colonial Athletic Association.

VCU starts its Colonial Athletic Association games with two teams have won more games combined than VCU has played all year.

The Rams host William & Mary this Friday at Sports Backers Stadium. At 5-1-2, the Tribe are more than half way to nine games they won all of last season.

With Kris Rake allowing about a goal a week, the William & Mary has only has to score 12 goals compared to a VCU team that's scored 13 goals in its past four games.

The Rams come into the game 4-2-1. The but haven lost a game since being shut out 1-0 in double overtime by a Wake on Sept. 10. Since then they've taken three of their past four games, including a 5-2 romp of then No. 9 North Carolina.

Newcomer Domonic Oduro lit the Tar Heels up for four goals and has scored at least one goal in each of the Rams past four games.

The Rams, who came into the season wondering how they'd score goals, blew up again for five goals, blanking Richmond on Saturday. Junior Brian Morris recorded the first hat trick of his career, converting on two feeds from Ricardo Opuka and another

from Samuel Asante. Morris was named to the College Soccer News National Team of the Week for scoring his first goals of the season.

Still, the team's questions on offense haven't been completely answered. Oduro and Morris are the only players on the roster with more than one goal, and excluding those games, against Richmond and UNC, the team has scored just six goals in its five other games.

The Rams are winless in the three games in which they've scored one goal or fewer, going 0-2-1. Three of the Tribes five wins, however, were one-goal shutouts, and the team hasn't scored more than two goals all season.

While VCU and William & Mary both come streaking into Friday night's game, Old Dominion, ranked 12th in the NSCAA/Adidas poll, may be stumbling into Sports Backers by Sunday.

After winning their first five nonconference games, the Monarchs played to a 1-1 tie with American (5-4-1, 1-0 Patriot League) at William and Mary, then lost 1-0 to Hartwick (4-1-3) two days later.

Kevon Harris has been clutch for the Monarchs all season. The senior midfielder scored three of his team-high four goals in the Monarchs first

three games.

His first goal of the season was the team's only goal in its season-opener against Campbell in Norfolk. He came out and scored the game-deciding goal in a 2-0 win over Davidson.

Both the Tribe and the Monarchs have schedule problems of their own to deal with. Before Old Dominion gets to Richmond, they have to deal with UNC Wilmington (6-1-1), which is looking to start another five—game winning streak. After William and Mary leaves Sports Backers, they'll have the Seahawks to deal with, too.

Palm Pilot, anyone?



VCU's Brian Morris (11) had three goals against the Spiders.

Pat Kane

Spectrum

VCU's Lindy Bombers swing club members learn to

cut a rug

JESSICA CHAPIN
Spectrum Writer

On Thursday nights, between 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., one might walk by the West Grace multi-purpose room to see a group of people dancing as if they were unaware that the Roaring '20s have been over for decades. These people are members of the swing club at VCU, called the Lindy Bombers. With music of the 1920s blaring, they dance the Lindy Hop and Charleston with the help of instructors Trey Gomes and VCU alum Lauren Carriker.

Lauren Carriker was the first to bring a swing club to VCU before she graduated in 2003.

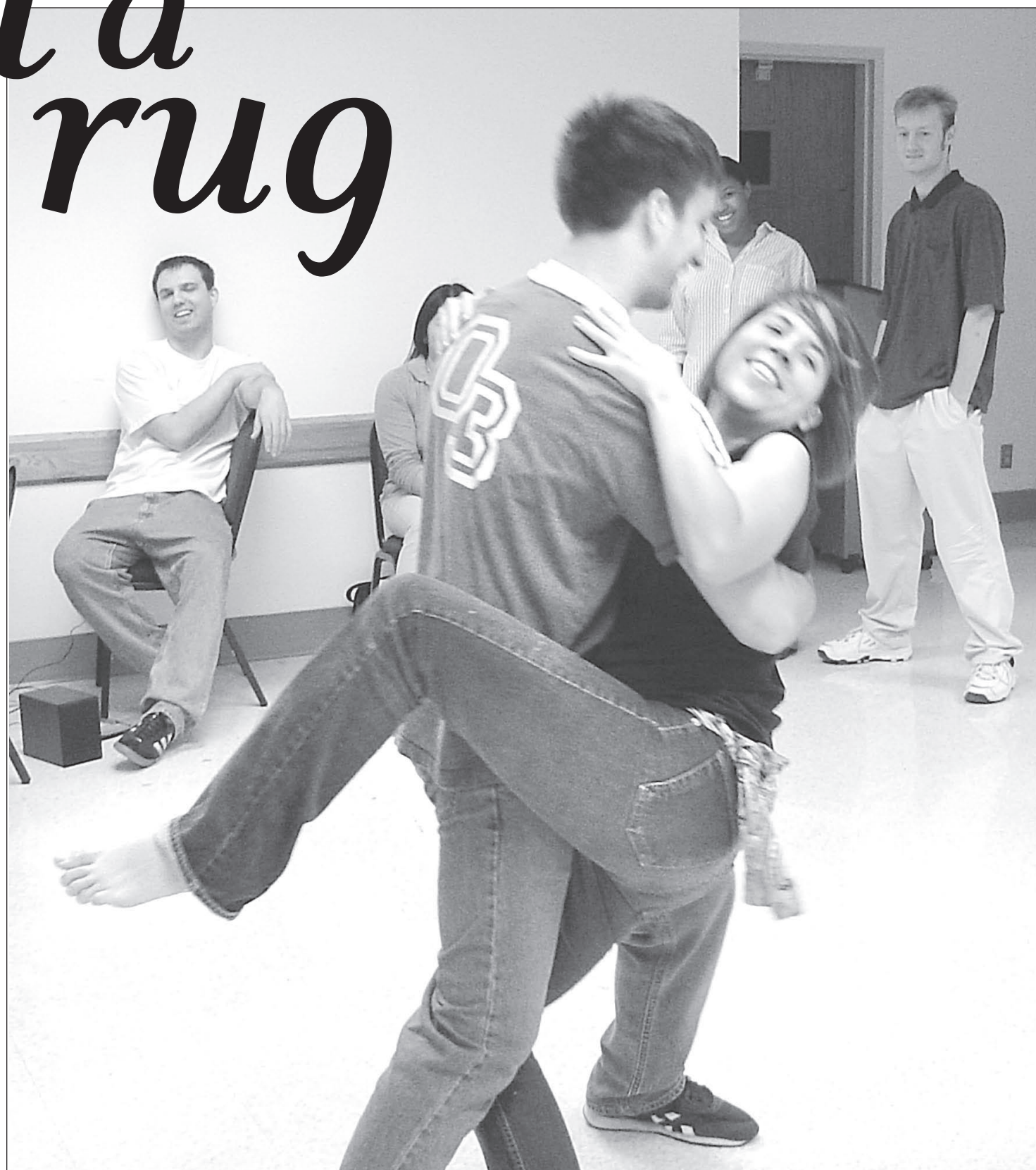
"In the swing scene around Richmond, there were no college-aged people, so Trey and I wanted to get a younger crowd involved," said Carriker. "I'd like to say that the Lindy Bombers have changed the scene and made it younger."

Each Thursday night meeting, Gomes and Carriker teach a new lesson and after practicing and sharing moves for a while, most of the swingers head to the Upper East Side Jazz Lounge and Sports Bar on 7103 Brook Rd. to dance to music performed by a live jazz band. Dances are also held in the Commons Ballroom on Friday nights, where students can exchange moves and ideas with each other. Brittney Fells is a VCU sophomore and recent member of the club.

"Everyone's really nice and willing to teach you new things," she said. "No one's going to shun you if you don't know how to dance, because that's why you're there."

This year's swing club president is senior Edward Bouton, who began swing dancing after meeting Carriker in one of his classes. Since then, the club has grown and meshed with many swing dancing residents around Richmond through different events. The Lindy Bombers also participate with swing clubs from other schools such as the College of William and Mary, University of Virginia and James Madison University, through workshops and dances at the different schools.

The most recent upcoming event, "Jammin' on the James," will be Oct. 15-17 at the Lewis Ginter Recreation Center in Richmond. Dancers from Richmond, and



Jessica Chapin

Trey Gomes and Lauren Carriker put a new spin on an old style of dance at the Lindy-Bomber's meeting.

other universities are welcome to attend the weekend of workshops and dances taught by Sylvia Sykes and Erik Robison. The Dance Space, located on 6004-A W. Broad Street, also sponsors swing dances every Saturday night with beginner lessons

at 7:30 p.m. Members of the swing club use these workshops and dances as a great opportunity to learn new moves, socialize and exchange styles with each other.

Whether it's a workshop, dance or another Thursday night in the multi-purpose

room, the Lindy Bombers can prove that swing dancing isn't trapped in the past. The members' favorite artists to dance to include Louis Armstrong, Fats Waller and Outkast, as they put a modern spin on an old-fashioned style of dancing.

Spectrum

Zodiac Cookies

Crack one open and find out what's in store for you.

♍ Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

You work hard behind what you like and fly with colors. Go ahead!

♎ Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 23

You are in a rut again, but you have learned from your past. You'll get out of it with ease.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 21

Your rocky relationships are soon to go smooth. Your genuine feelings will become apparent and get you through.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

People tend to mock you and poke fun at you. However with your wit, you'll avoid the teasing.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You are going through a very peaceful time. No one is here to meddle with you or push your buttons. Take advantage of this time!

♒ Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Your peace-making abilities will come to use, when helping others. Be proud of yourself.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19 - March 20

You have so much potential, but your lack of effort is getting you nowhere. Just remember, you can do it!

♈ Aries March 21 - April 19

There is no room for procrastination, take care of what needs to be done immediately. It's better to be safe than sorry.

♉ Taurus April 20 - May 20

It's time for you to seal the deal with that special someone. Go for it!

♊ Gemini May 21 - June 21

With enthusiasm and determination you will motivate you toward your goals. You will soon see how sweet success can be.

♋ Cancer June 22 - July 22

You may find your attitude and actions judged this week, stay strong and keep your guards up.

♌ Leo July 23 - Aug. 22

Your days may seem to go by slow, but be sure to pace yourself. You never know when everything can go into disarray.



Baldacci's 'Split Second' action driven

SHANTICE BATES

Spectrum Writer

Take a moment to read the opening of VCU alumnus David Baldacci's "Split Second."

Take another moment to cancel any weekend plans, because this book will probably be far more engaging.

Although longtime fans of Baldacci say that it is not his best work, when considered alone, it stands as a great work.

In terms of dialogue, "Split Second" is up-to-date. In one part, Baldacci writes a scene in which a character is speaking of decorating using Feng Shui principles.

Sean King, a former Secret Service agent lost his career after failing to competently perform his duty.

Nine years later, agent Michelle Max-

well is on the verge of being transferred to Secret Service duty when her charge, a presidential candidate is also killed.

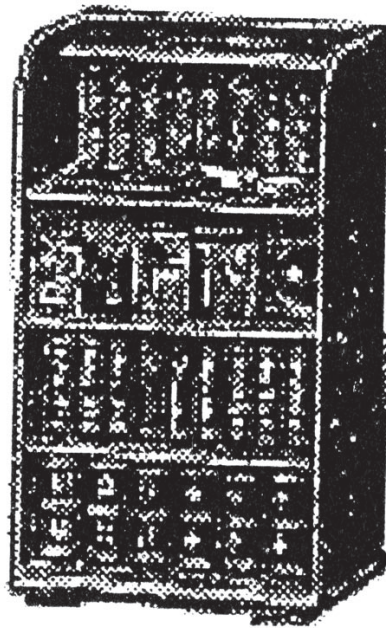
King and Maxwell decide to team up because they discover a connection between the two incidents. They also discover some feelings for each other.

Baldacci's writing is, at times, somewhat poetic. Although unexpected, it serves the reader well for softening otherwise tragic events.

It is all right to take a break from it, but don't take longer than a split second.

David Baldacci. "Split Second." 404 p.p., hardcover. List price: \$26.95, hardcover. Available in hardcover, paperback, and abridged compact disc. Available in English, Spanish, Dutch, German and French.

(All languages may not be available in the United States.)



Spectrum Book Review Ratings System

The rating each book receives is based on sales, demand, content, writing style and general appeal.

Four bookshelves: put this book in a space by itself

Three bookshelves: put this book with your favorites

Two bookshelves: put this book with the old textbooks that couldn't be sold

One bookshelf: this definitely belongs on the shelf—the bookstore shelf

Four desk lamps: turn on every light to read this

Three desk lamps: use a bright desk lamp to read this

Two desk lamps: use a book light to read this

One desk lamp: use natural light

Zero desk lamps: conserve energy. Remain in the dark.

'Def Jam: Fight for NY,' word

LOUIE CORBO

Spectrum Writer

Being the son of folk singers, I know a thing or two about the gangster life style. Anyone who knows me knows I like it one way, and that's straight street. Finally a game came along that will let me scratch that itch. "Def Jam: Fight for NY" is a new fighting game from EA sports.

The game is a sequel to last year's "Def Jam: Vendetta," a wrestling game that features Def Jam rappers instead of professional wrestlers. "Def Jam: Fight for NY" gets out of the sweaty men in spandex rut by evolving from a wrestling game to a full on fighting game. The developers managed to perform this evolution while still keeping true to the franchises feel and control, but of which made the first game decent.

There are about 70 different fighters, half of which are based on real world people such as Ghostface Killa, Ludacris, Snoop Dogg, Ice-T and Lil' Kim. Using Hip-Hop personality in a fighting game is a cute gimmick, if not done well it's a gimmick that would become old after the first couple of fights. Luckily this game doesn't rely on its gimmicks, it has solid

game play behind it.

The fighting from the game isn't as intuitive as most fighters out now, most of the moves involve timing and depend



as much on your location in the fighting ring as what button you push. It takes a bit to figure out, but if you play it alone on story mode you'll figure enough of the basics out to enjoy the game.

Story mode alone makes the game fun; of course you need to not think too hard about the plot. The plot is simplistic to the point of being incomplete; you play a fighter who randomly rescues D-mob from the police. D-mob then makes you part of his gang, a gang whose soul occupation is prize fighting in New York's underbelly. That's really all the plot there is, except for the fact the Snoop Dogg is

the villain. The fun of story mode isn't the story; it's the "make-a-fighter" system you get to play with. You get to pick the look and sound of your character, and throughout the story mode you get to dress up your character, get a girlfriend, wear jewelry, change your hair style and even get tattoos.

The game isn't perfect, it has 70 fighters, but you really don't feel a need to play them all. Some characters are awesome to play against, like Ice-T, others (cough) Carmen Elektra (cough) make you scratch your head. The biggest problem is the controls. While they are not horrible, they really don't feel as tight as a fighting game should be. A lot of times you'll try to lunge at your opponent only to move in the wrong direction. Loading times are also problematic.

Even with these issues the game has a lot to offer. The game's old school rap soundtrack is awesome.

This is not a game for the timid. It's violent, crude and sexist. If any of that bothers you, avoid this game, but if you want a game where you can smash your opponent's head through a speaker and then hear the F-bomb dropped, you are going to be in hog heaven.

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY

October

Spectrum Calendar

<p>Alley Katz: Municipal Waste, Rattus, Reasonably Insanely, Direct Control, special guests, 18+, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. \$5.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: pbeer.com benefit show - Uhnunge, Dressed For Tragedy, The De-pots, A Small Step Forward, All Ages, 5 p.m. \$5.</p>	<p>Alley Katz: Tony Furrado with Southeast Funk Orchestra, Southside Punk Brothers, 18+, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. \$10door/\$12door.</p> <p>Chopstick (Carytown): xenodiqueux (Fronside), Murder Weapon, Permanent, This Is Hell, 10 p.m. \$5.</p>	<p>Alley Katz: The Beautiful Mistake, Peck, Tokyo Rose, My New Life, When All Else Fails, Forever and a Day, All Ages.</p> <p>6 p.m. - 11 p.m. \$5.</p> <p>Poe's Pub: Fancy Trash (country punk, acoustic, spazzy folk rock), 9 p.m. \$3.</p>	<p>Black Cat (DO): Q And Not U, Manhunter, Food For Animals, LaMi Vida Violenta, 59.</p> <p>Main stage, 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Moving Units, Kill Me Tomorrow, Chinese Stars (ex Asb On Radar), All Ages, 8 p.m. \$8.</p> <p>Jefferson Hotel: Richmond SPCA Fur Ball 2004, The Richmond SPCA Fur Ball 2004 features cocktails, a parade of pets, a fabulous dinner and a spirited auction. Benefits the Richmond SPCA's CanineFella Fund, which pays for the expense of treatment and rehabilitation for sick, injured and undernourished pets. For more information or to receive an invitation, please call Tamsen Heckel at (804) 521-1312.</p>	<p>17th Street Farmers' Market: Autumn Harvest Jubilee, Virginia Farm Bureau and Utkro's present the first Autumn Harvest Jubilee, featuring a pumpkin pie-eating contest, high school band competition, reverse doo dah parade, hay rides, vintage farm machinery and much more. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.</p> <p>9:30 Club: The Cramps w/ Gore Gore Girls & Shotgun. \$22, 18+ all ages.</p> <p>Alley Katz: Ben Lee - The Low Life - Pony Up! 18+, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. \$8.</p> <p>ArtSpace & Plant Zero: Rosny Auction and Dance, The Richmond Organization for Sexual Minority Youth will host its 12th annual Auction and Dance, 8 p.m. \$40 in advance. Tickets available at Menopel, Diversity, Thrift and Phoenix Rising. For more information, call (804) 644-4800.</p> <p>Black Cat: MOUSETRAP: DC's biggest tri-pop dance night \$8.</p> <p>Main stage, 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>Canal Club: Colored & Cantrina, Undertouch, 7:30 p.m. 18+, \$15.00 (online sales only, www.thecanalclub.com for info).</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Second week of the Second Annual Painted Red Battle Of The Bands Quarter Finals - Fall Of Rome, Voice Within, A Lost Order, Go Get Your Gun. All Ages, 5 p.m. \$5 pre-sale \$6 door.</p>	<p>Byrd Theatre: Dominion Film Sundays at the Byrd: A Celebration of Virginia Cinema, "Sweet Peak", 1:30 p.m. \$5.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: The Naves, Wives, Bart, The Wayward, All Ages, 5 p.m. \$5.</p>	<p>Nanci Raygun: League, A Roman Holiday, The Kill Roman, All Ages, 5 p.m. \$5.</p> <p>Sacrosance, 10 p.m. 18-20 \$5, 21+ \$3.</p>	<p>Nanci Raygun: A Violent Affection, Burns Out, Bright, Races To April, Glory Of This, All Ages, 5 p.m. \$5.</p> <p>Halfcore Gunroom, Escapists, Alter Q, 18+, 10 p.m. \$5.</p>	<p>9:30 Club: PJ Harvey, \$35. All ages, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: King Cobra, Des-Ark, The Smartest Girl Ever, Robo Sapien, 18+, 9 p.m. \$5.</p>	<p>Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen: Old School Freight Train Garden Music Series presents Old School Freight Train, OSFT explores a variety of music including bluegrass, jazz, classical, Latin and funk. Rain location: Center's Theatre, 7 p.m. \$5. Call (804) 261-6200 for tickets.</p> <p>SkateLand of Richmond is hosting Kulture's 5 year Anniversary Party, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. DJ Foot, R-Fresh will be spinning songs to make your skates roll faster. \$10.00, 21 and up, "Beverages" skate rentals, drinks and a really good time included.</p>	<p>Black Cat: Clinic, Sons and Daughters, The High Watermarks, \$13. Main stage, 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>9:30 Club: Living Colour & Public Enemy, 10 p.m. \$25.</p> <p>Alley Katz: SPIRAL, feat. Painting - Sculpture - Photography - Video - Spoken Word - Dance - Performance. Art more 18+, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Thinka Alice in Wonderland meets Cirque du Soleil meets Carnivale - Do not be late! \$7 adv/\$10door.</p> <p>Canal Club: Concrete Blood, 8:30 p.m. 18+, \$16adv. or \$20/door.</p> <p>(online sales only, www.thecanalclub.com for info)</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Third week of the Second Annual Painted Red Battle Of The Bands Quarter Finals - Uhnunge, Lo-Fat, Charline Beauty, Halcyon Days, All ages, 5 p.m. \$5 pre-sale \$6 door, new dimension band, 3rd dimension - 18+, \$10 discount with college id, ladies \$5 before 11 p.m., 10 p.m.</p>	<p>9:30 Club: Death Cab For Cutie, Pretty Girls Make Graves, Call for more info.</p> <p>Canal Club: The Toasters: The Big Guys, 8:30 p.m. 18+, \$10adv./\$12door.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Fourth week of the Second Annual Painted Red Battle Of The Bands Quarter Finals - Karama Martina, Canshow Hero, Ronib Waters, Highway 10 (ex Days Like These), Superboot, All ages, 5 p.m. \$5 pre-sale \$6 door.</p>	<p>9:30 Club: Death Cab For Cutie, Pretty Girls Make Graves, Call for more info.</p> <p>Canal Club: The Toasters: The Big Guys, 8:30 p.m. 18+, \$10adv./\$12door.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Fourth week of the Second Annual Painted Red Battle Of The Bands Quarter Finals - Karama Martina, Canshow Hero, Ronib Waters, Highway 10 (ex Days Like These), Superboot, All ages, 5 p.m. \$5 pre-sale \$6 door.</p>	<p>McComack's: Cramps tribute featuring Sean McLean and friends (owner of Banditos), Ramones tribute w/ Los Ramones, and Misfits tribute w/ I Live With Zombies, 10 p.m. Cover tho, 21+.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Fifth week of the Second Annual Painted Red Battle Of The Bands Quarter Finals - Bullshit, Nocturnal Agony, Downward Halo, Makeshift, Synthetic Nightmare - All Ages, \$5 Pre-Sale/\$6 Door, 5 p.m.</p> <p>The Hip Hop Helloween Extravaganza Presented By Unified Productions - DJ Katz, Melly Face, The Divine Propheets, Double Standard, MC Bantle - 18+, \$5, 10 p.m.</p> <p>Shoocke Ship Plaza: The Great Pumpkin Party: Come in costume to the River District's most popular Fall festival, Costume contests, food, beverages, live entertainment and more, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Free, for more info, call (804) 782-9555 ext. 209.</p>	<p>McComack's: Revelations 10th Anniversary Party, 10 p.m. 18+ Cover tho.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Imaginary Boys, tha - All ages, \$5, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Emilio's: Monarch makes metal rock at on Halloween</p>	<p>9:30 Club: Miminy, My Life w/ the Thrill Kill Kid, Hanzel & Greyll, \$25.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Swarm Of The Lords, The Tenth Key, The-All ages, \$7, 5 p.m.</p>	<p>9:30 Club: Bad Religion, Rise Against, From First to Last, \$20.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Richmond Queer Space Benefit, Show - Live Rocky Horror, All ages, \$5, 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Alley Katz: Unearth, Black Dahlia, Murderer, Terror, Remembering Never, All Ages, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. \$10adv./\$12door.</p> <p>Nanci Raygun: Against Me!, Blood Brothers, True North - All ages, \$10, 7 p.m.</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Weekly Events:

Want your monthly events listed in our calendar?
Contact CT Spectrum@yahoo.com and let us know!

Mondays:
Mojo's: Open mic hosted by Tyler Henderson.
Penny Lane Pub: Karaoke, free
Sticky Rice: Half Price Sushi, 10:30 p.m.
Hyperlink: Football Night, 8 p.m. till the end of the game.

Tuesdays:
Cary Street Café: The Grow (jam), weekly, 10 p.m., \$5.
Hyperlink Café: Karaoke Night, weekly, 7 p.m.-midnight, free.
Mars Bar: 80s Hair Metal Night, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., free.
Sticky Rice: Karaoke 21+, 10 p.m.
Legend Brewing Co.: Tuesday Night Movies: Cult classics and '80s flicks, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesdays:
 Banditos: Karaoke, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.
 Club 534 Berlin: '80s new-wave night.
 Hyperlink Cafe: We Funk Wednesdays. Hip-hop and funk soul. Performances by MCs and poets. \$5 after 10 p.m.
 Mars Bar: Revolution Metropolis (industrial), 10 p.m.-2 a.m. free.
 Mojos: Karaoke starts at 10 p.m. 21 and up.
 Uppert East Side Lounge: Poetry and open-mic night, weekly, 8-11 p.m., \$5.

Thursdays:

Bayla Bean Co. A Lo Hecho Pecho, 10 p.m., \$3.
Bandidos: Thursday Night Drama w/ Rick Danger (Dance Night), 11 p.m. - 2 a.m., Free.

Canal Club The Juke Joint Blues Jam open mic, 9 p.m., free

Mars Bar: 80's Dance Night, 18+, free
Nanci Raygun: Richmatic Live! 18+ \$3, 10 p.m.
TT Lounge: 804noise presents a DJ open-mic night (experimental music), weekly, 7-11 p.m., free.

Fridays: Banditos "Friday Night Fever" with DJ Rick Danger, Chopsitix Hip-hop DJs and electronic music, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., \$3.

Europe: Live DJ's, Resident DJ's JP & Jeff McGrath (Progressive House & Breaks), 10 p.m. - 2a.m. 21+ Hyperlink Café Strictly jazz with the Urban Jazz Unit, 6-11 p.m.

Mars Bar '80s Hits and Electronic Dance Night, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

Bandito's, 'Nature' w/ DJ Rick Danger. Dance night from 10:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Boom Boom Room.
Byrd Theatre: Midnight Movies. Go to http://members.tripod.com/~g_cowardin/byrd/index.htmMID for current schedule.
Europe: "Down" w/ resident DJ Omar Faison & Guest DJ's, Free; 21+

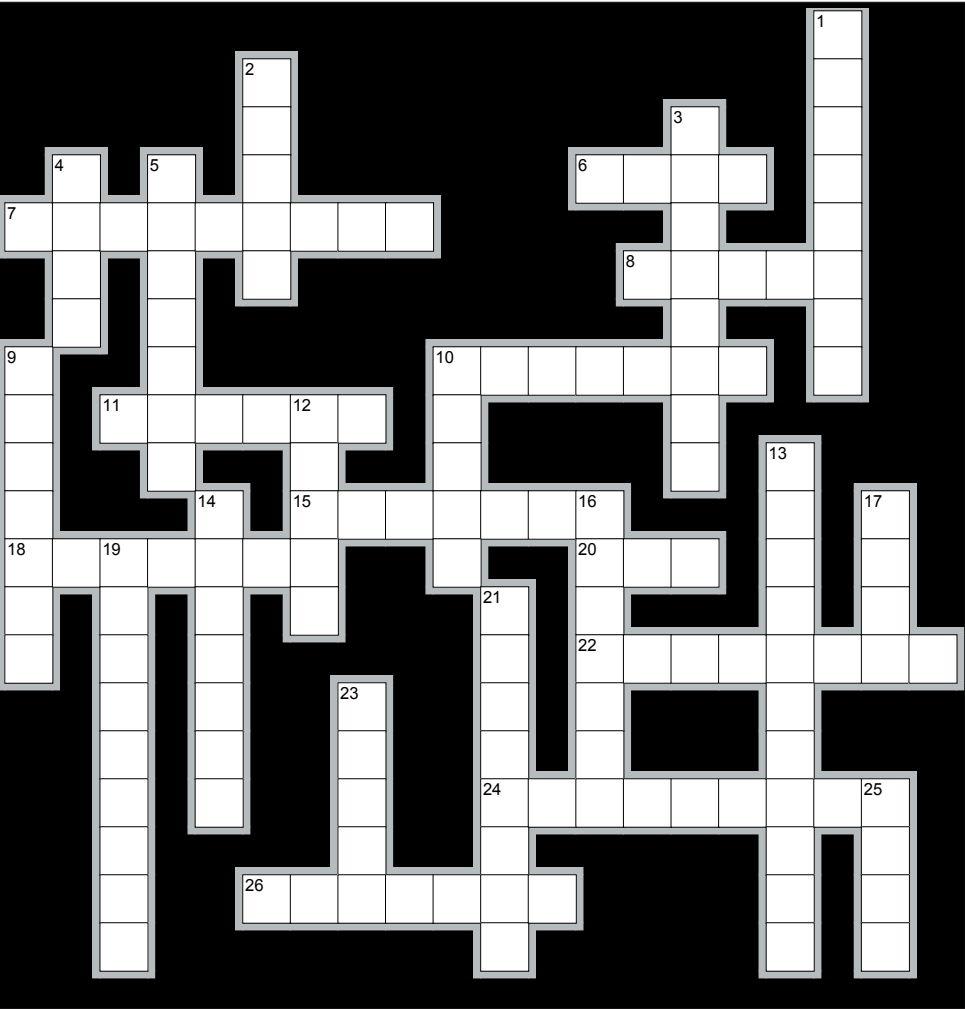
Hyperlink Café Super Nova International Dance Party, free before midnight.
Mars Bar '80s Hits and Electronic Dance Night, weekly, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., free.

Sundays,
17th Street Farmers' Market Sunday Shookee Flea Market
Check out the unique blend of antiques, collectibles, and
fine crafts. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Babe's Drag Show 8 p.m. \$5.
Café Gutenberg Guitar jam and open mic with Stephen Saunders, 8 p.m., free
Poe's Pub Nerd's Karaoke, 8 p.m., free.
Sticky Rice, Piko Trivia, 11 p.m. 21+. Free.

Spectrum

CT CROSSWORD ULTIMATE GAMER EDITION



Across

- 6. 7 up's sunglass-wearing spokesman, who got his own cool game.
- 7. Smile.dk's DDR song about an insect.
- 8. "Rise from your grave!" began the game "Altered _____."
- 10. Capcom's Blue Bomber
- 11. Who told players to "Know the Kode?"
- 15. "Gran _____ 3 A-Spec."
- 18. The RPG of a boy taking (and holding) the throne of the netherworld.
- 20. He's in every Final Fantasy.
- 22. The one-armed Ocelot.
- 24. If you were in a kid in the 80s, you called Princess Peach by another name.
- 26. Dispose of with the ice beam and five missiles.

- 1. Vice City's main man.
- 2. Half-esper, half-human, and begins the game in Magitek armor.
- 3. The alien alliance in "Halo."
- 4. Red robot dog, sidekick.
- 5. First game to use the Super FX chip.
- 9. Knuckles is one of these spiny anteaters.
- 10. Fought Donkey Kong in the arcades
- 12. "_____ Slug," 2D side-scroller.
- 13. Data East's amphibians.
- 14. If you want to switch classes, this guy wants a rat tail.
- 16. Link's favorite time-traveling instrument.
- 17. All your what are belong to us?
- 19. Last boss of "Final Fantasy 7."
- 21. Eggman's name when he was still a doctor.
- 23. Ryu put the scar across this man's chest.
- 25. Turned 'Super Mario' into 'Raccoon Mario.'

Find Answers in
Monday's Issue.

ASK THE BARONESS

Dear Baroness:
I have a feeling that my boyfriend is cheating on me, what are the signs that he, is in fact, cheating.

Sincerely,
Yours In Murder

Dear Mrs. Berkowitz:
I hope you get the reference as to why I don't respond to your pseudonym the same way you wrote it. I assume you do, considering you wrote it. But for all those out there that are sane, please look it up on your own time.
So, you think your boyfriend is cheating on you and you need yours truly to decipher what the obvious signs are. Well, I'll fill you in on what to look out for:
* Not answering your phone calls and is never "available."
* Refuses to get intimate or be affectionate (either in public or private).
* Tells you that you're no longer boyfriend/girlfriend.
* If he starts calling you by someone else's name.

Now, Mrs. Berkowitz. I want you to take those four things into consideration.
You seem to be clinging onto this small glimmer of hope that you guys have a fighting chance. You don't, and I only say that because the first inclination that it is the beginning of the end of a relationship is the slightest bit of doubt of your partner's faithfulness. The four items listed above pretty much tell you what? C'mon. You can do it. YES! You got it! That it's OVER.
I've dealt with this so many times. You know what the signs are. You know what to look for, however you are ignorant to the fact that you don't want to recognize these obvious hints. I refuse to tell you to confront him on the basis that the second you do, you've unquestionably entered into the downward spiral towards relationship termination. In every instance that someone believes there is cheating by a partner, it is presumably one of two things:
* You recognize the signs, and are too cowardly to face him. Or
* You're simply looking for a way out of the relationship for any reason.

This reminds me of a little story. Once upon a time, a little girl had a boyfriend. She thought they loved each other until one day she wrote a letter to the Baroness asking for advice on whether or not her boyfriend was faithful. The Baroness laughed at her and realized that although she is the answer to many problems, that she cannot help the little girl because the little girl does not want help. She is only looking for an easy way out by asking all the wrong people what to do rather than dealing with the problem herself.
In closing, I shall only tell you the following: let him go. I would tell you there are plenty of fish in the sea, but alas, we're land-living creatures. A fish and a human can fall in love, but where would they live? And isn't that against the law?

Sincerely,
The Baroness

Spectrum is featuring a new column called: Ask the Baroness.

Let the Baroness answer all your love life woes. E-mail your questions on love, life and the pursuit of a good mate to:
thebaroness99@yahoo.com

Happenings

Special Events

(Running through the month of October)

Barksdale Theatre
Cyrano de Bergerac
October 1 - November 14

The epic romantic tale of the extraordinary, yet homely Cyrano and his undying love for the exquisite Roxane. Thinking that his looks make him unworthy of Roxanne's love, Cyrano agrees to court her on behalf of his friend, the dashing, tongue-tied Christian. \$38. Call (804) 282-2620 for tickets and show times.

Harrison Street Coffee Shop
Bike Art Show. Oct. 1st - 15th.

Contributors: Ross Trimmer, Brien White, Braden Govoni, Dave Boisineau, Erin Nicole Brown, Tahlia Lempert, Alicia Arnold, Neil Hise, Marshall Higgins, and more.

Ipanema (Grace St.)
Art by Ross Trimmer. Show goes all month of October. Opening reception Sunday, Oct. 3rd, 10 p.m.

Submit your own happenings to the Spectrum editor: Liz@passthejasabi.com

COMICS

Cul de Sac

Chris Powell

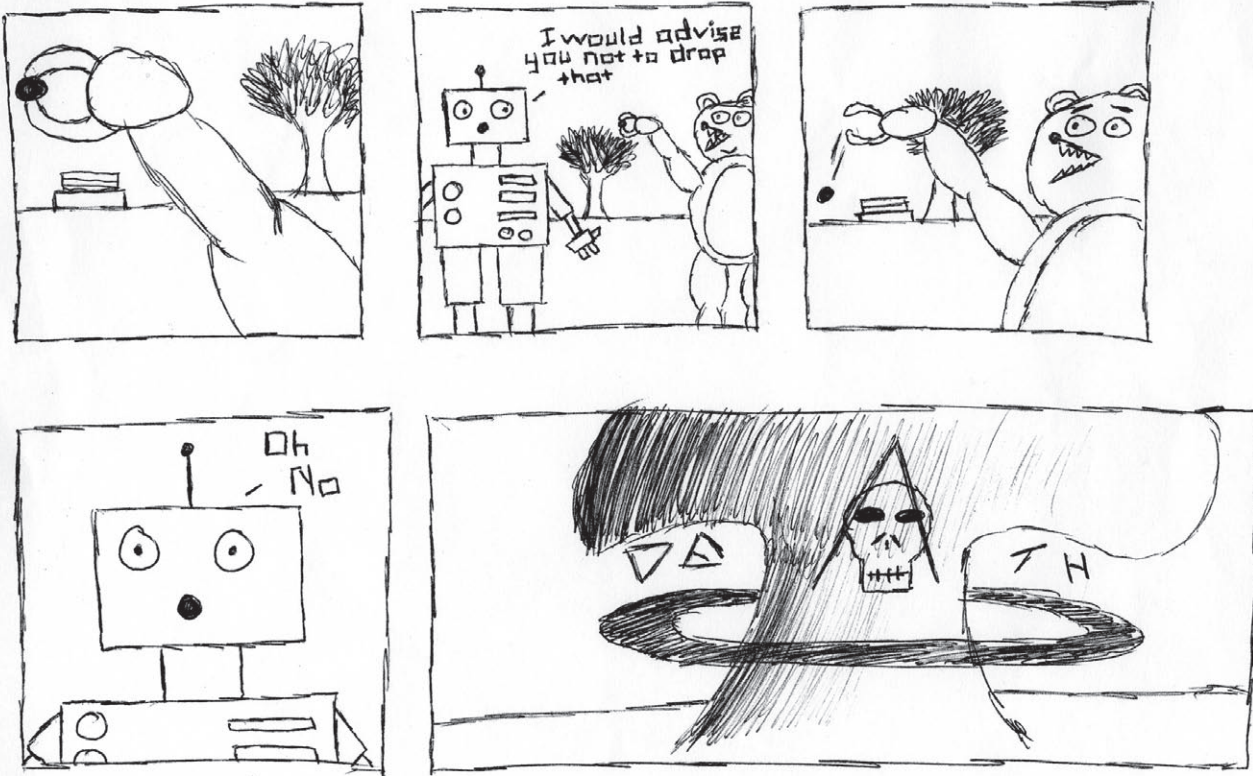
Shoulder Chips

Pete Temple



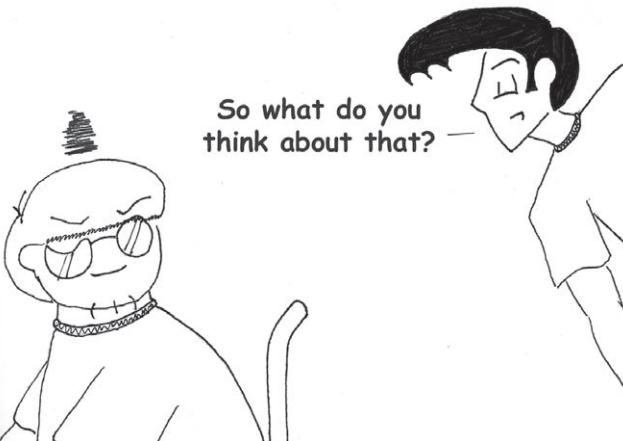
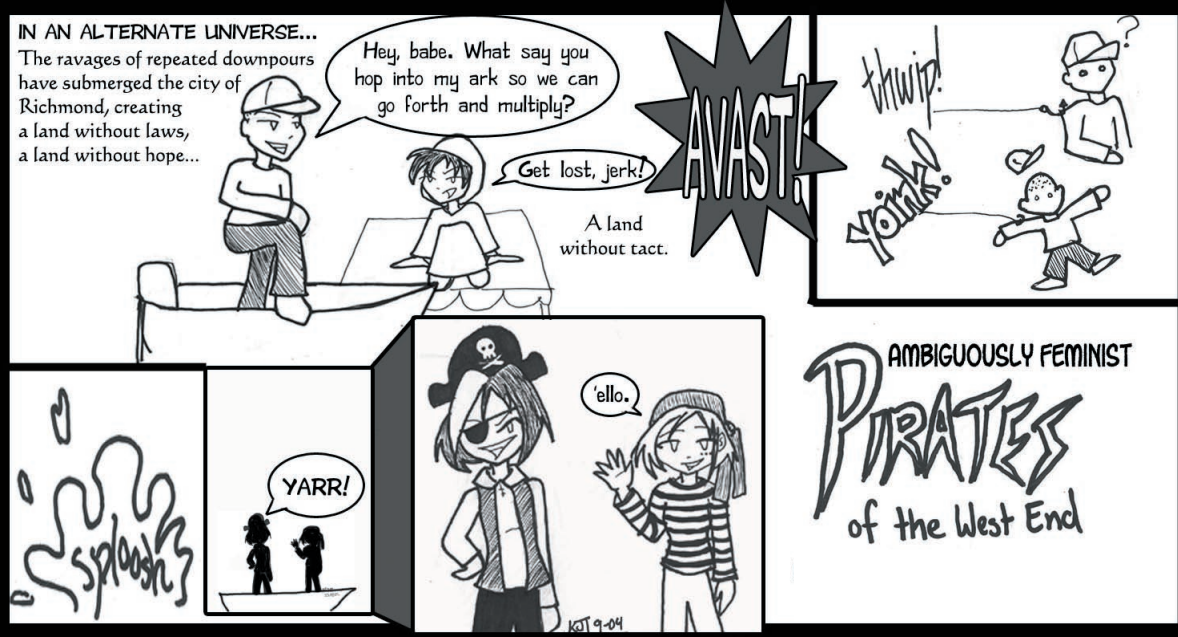
The Adventures of Robot and Bear

Curtez E. Flush



Pirates of the West End

Kate Tandler



EDITORIALS & LETTERS

Register to vote: The deadline is Oct. 4th

BY OMAR YACOUBI
Op/Ed Writer

It's been said many times, many ways, but really: you need to vote in this election. Even if you aren't planning on voting, register anyway just in case you change your mind. The deadline in Virginia is this Monday, Oct. 4, at 5 p.m. That means mailing your application by Saturday at the latest, even better if you do it by Friday (tomorrow).

If you need to get an application, they're available at the library, or you can visit one of the tables being manned by the VCU Young Democrats and College Republicans today and Friday in the Student Commons. If you aren't planning on voting, though, here are just three reasons you might want to consider the impact of this election on your future.

(Full disclosure: this isn't exactly a non-partisan voting guide, but it is some of the most compelling reasons I can think of that you'd want to make sure you make your voice heard in this election.)

1. Your Personal Freedom

At issue in this election are some pretty serious civil rights issues. While President Bush supports keeping the entire Patriot Act in place and expanding it, Kerry supports revising some of its more invasive parts.

Right now as it stands the government is allowed to spy on your book selections made at your library and bookstore, and your home can be searched without a warrant or your consent. The president also has the power to jail people, even American citizens, for an indefinite amount of time, without access to courts, lawyers or even family members.

The next president will also get to appoint more judges to the federal court system than any president in recent memory, and these judges have a direct impact on our rights because they interpret the laws that guarantee them. They have lifetime appointments, so their decisions will impact our lives for years to come.

A recent study found that so far, Bush has appointed judges who are more conservative than even Republican presidents of the past. Right now the judiciary is split roughly 50-50 liberal and conservative. The next president will probably tip the balance, especially since at least one Supreme Court justice is expected to retire in the next four years.

2. Your Tax Dollars

You may have heard talk about the federal deficit and think it doesn't apply to you. But it

really does. From education funding (think student loans) to repair of our roadways and other domestic priorities, the growing national debt will limit our ability in the future to take care of our needs here at home – and abroad.

As our national debt gets bigger, so does the interest we have to pay on it. Most of our debt comes in the form of government bonds, which are mostly owned by wealthy and foreign investors. Neither candidate has a proposal that will completely pay down the national debt like Clinton almost did before he left office, but the difference in cost between the two candidates' spending proposals differ by \$1 trillion: 1,000 billion dollars.

It might surprise you to know that Bush's proposals are more expensive over the long term, because they mean keeping in place the tax cuts for the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans, which Kerry favors repealing.

3. The Environment

Everyone breathes air. You like air. Air that's clean, and doesn't make you cough or get sick. Asthma rates among children are higher than ever, and pregnant women have been warned against eating too much fish because of the mercury it contains. Both of these are

direct consequences of the pollution streaming from the country's smokestacks.

Yet Bush has gutted environmental regulations, or at least tried. He has intervened on behalf of power companies to loosen require-

ments for modern, cleaner equipment for coal-fired power plants, and he has tried to change the definitions of regulations to render them useless.

Regarding the Clean Water Act, for example, he tried to make it so that it could only

be enforced on large bodies of water, when most pollution comes from smaller tributaries. Kerry, meanwhile, has received the endorsement of the League of Conservation Voters.

These are just three reasons you could decide to vote. There are many others, like foreign policy and job creation here at home, that could make even more of a difference on your personal life well after the election.

But here's where you come in: be an informed voter. Watch the upcoming presidential debates, the first of which will be broadcast tonight. Check the news headlines every now and then, whether it's CNN, Fox News or Yahoo.

Or better yet, all three – just having an overview of what happened will help you make a more informed decision, if not in this



BY PHIL MCKENNEY

For more information

Virginia State Board of Elections
www.sbe.state.va.us

Federal Elections Commission
www.fec.gov/elections.html

The Commonwealth TIMES

DEVON MARROW
Executive Editor

ALI KHAN
Editor of the Editorial Pages

WRITERS

David Canavan • Lisa Chun • Michael Dickinson • Lyz Holder • Alexander Marra • Eric Naimon • Thomas A. Nickle Sean Van Damme • Omar Yacoubi

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.

Please send letters to CTeditor03@yahoo.com, Mailing address: P.O. Box 842010, Richmond VA 23238-2010. Drop box location: Room 1149, T. Edward Temple Building.

Op/Ed

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In his Sept. 20th Commonwealth Times column, Michael Dickinson wrote that the assault weapons ban “eliminated repeat-fire weapons, ammunition clips and certain types of machine guns.”

Mr. Dickinson then went on to classify those voting for President Bush as uneducated “bubbas” and called the threat

of terrorism in America “far-fetched doomsday conspiracies.”

Now either Michael Dickinson is intentionally spewing lies in his columns or he is completely ignorant about his chosen topic (I’ll give him the benefit of the doubt and assume the latter).

The assault weapons ban, passed in 1993 and put into

effect the following year, does not address automatic weapons at all — automatic weapons were banned in the National Firearms Act of 1934.

The assault weapons ban addresses only those weapons classified as semi-automatic, meaning that every time you pull the trigger one bullet is fired.

Since I do have a limited amount of space here I won’t go into all the details of the weapons ban, but I will tell you that the reason these weapons were banned is purely cosmetic.

Some of the provisions in this bill include the inability to own a weapon that has a “flash suppressor,” a pistol grip or a bayonet stud.

A flash suppressor doesn’t hide the flash of a weapon; it diverts the flash away from the eyes of a shooter, thus preventing the temporary blinding effect resulting from firing a rifle. And when was the last time you heard of someone being “run

through” with a bayonet?

For good reading on this topic you should look at an independent study by the National Institute of Justice. The NIJ reached the conclusion that the ban had very little effect on shootings and even crime in general.

Assault weapons, as identified in the ban, were used in very few crimes.

The ban was nothing but a knee-jerk attempt by politicians to slow down the gun violence of the mid-1990s, but it accomplished nothing other than limiting the Second Amendment rights of Americans.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Colbert

To the Editor:

I just read Alexander Marra’s article about the pizza scene in Richmond (Commonwealth

Times, Sept. 27, p. 11).

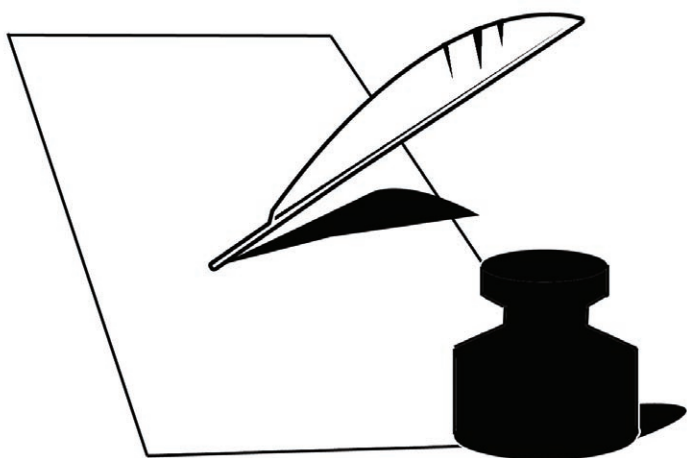
I was quite aghast over the fact that his trip up Main Street ended at Puddn’ Heads and didn’t take him another block to the Sven Shine Inn. It is by far the best pizza I’ve ever had.

They have a \$40,000 brick oven imported from Italy, run by one of the coolest guys I’ve ever met. Of course he is a little lonely since VCU students tend not to care about the restaurant voted “Best Pizza in Richmond” by more than one publication.

The Sven Shine Inn is located in the basement below the Lost Sock Laundromat (just before you get to Mulligan’s).

Now, I’ve never had Puddn’ Heads pizza — I was actually very unaware that they had pizza. But I’ve yet to have pizza that compares to this great place. Check it out.

Sincerely,
Andy Waters



The revolution will not be televised

Presidential debate format impairs voter dialogue

BY MICHAEL DICKINSON
Op/Ed Writer

Tonight, Republican President George W. Bush will face off against Democratic challenger John Kerry in a debate at Coral Gables, Fla.

What should happen is an unbiased moderator firing off a series of rapid questions to the candidates.

What will happen is a debate structured so that the candidates know what questions are coming and how to answer them, minimizing the risk for any major damage to their campaigns.

The Bush camp was instrumental in arranging each debate to

have a specific topic and making the “fair and unbiased” moderator for each debate sign an agreement accepting rules of the debate, which no doubt made some topics off limits.

Debates, by design, are supposed to assess accountability and find real answers. During his term Bush has been able to tap-dance around major issues such as his shady military service record and the lack of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

The presidential debate should be the great neutralizer, where a fair moderator will literally hold his feet to the fire and demand answers. But because of these agreements the debate will be little more than a showcase of ideas rather than a challenge of facts.

This is nothing new to Bush, because far too often in his first four years he has misrepresented facts to make himself look better.

I remember when Vice President Dick Cheney visited Richmond’s Jefferson Hotel a few months ago. While supporters of Bush were put in front of the hotel — front and center for the media to see and photograph — protesters were hidden around the block because of the “threat” they posed to his safety.

The crux of democracy in this country is that you have the right to tell others what you think of them — and to demand answers.

During his campaign four years ago Bush was less than forthcoming about his prior drunken driving conviction and only talked about it after the media had released it to the public.

In his first four years, every time Bush has been confronted with less-than-flattering facts about his failed mission in Iraq, he gets a pout face, stomps his feet and waves the flag using patriotism to hide the fact that he has no real answers. This is why it is so important to have

free and open debates to get real answers.

In a political climate such as the one we live in right now, we need to press the president and demand answers from him about every topic. I would like to see a debate — not at plush university campuses — but at real, American, middle-class high schools, where residents — not just political supporters who get tickets — can form a line and ask a candidate any question they want.

Don’t be fooled by the “town hall” debate format Oct. 8 in St. Louis. It is going to appear that the public can ask questions to the candidates, but the questions have all been carefully pre-selected, and the moderator is contractually bound to cut off those who deviate from those questions.

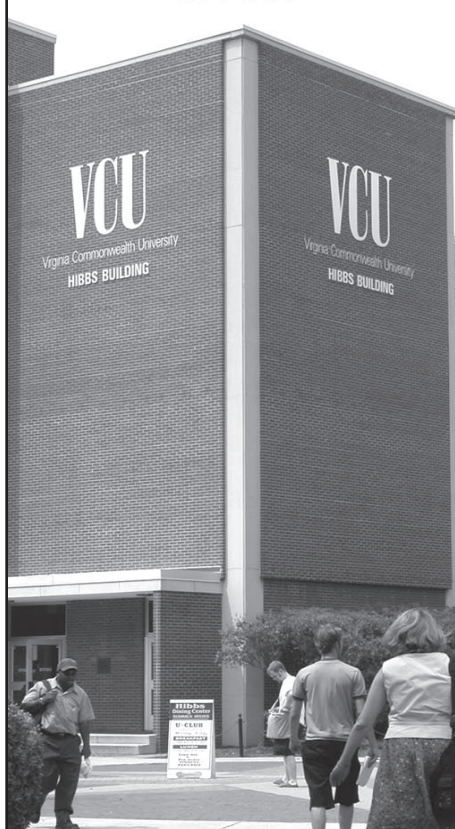
Americans need to demand real answers from our sitting president. Specifics need to be addressed, and plans need to be detailed. I am sick of hearing Bush say he is going to do something and the media forgetting to ask just how he is going to do it.

The media should live up to its obligation to push the presidential candidates and demand answers. But the only pushing we are likely to see in these debates is from Bush, as he once again uses the media to get away with not answering the questions we all want to know.



SOUNDING OFF

Want to reach the student body of VCU?



Advertise with
The Commonwealth Times

FIRST MONTH FREE

(when you bring your number to NTELOS)

Bring us your current wireless bill
& we'll switch you to

THE BEST VALUE IN WIRELESS

 **homefree**

- 1100 Anytime Minutes
- Unlimited Night & Weekend Minutes
- 50 True Nationwide Roaming Minutes
- Free Nationwide Long Distance
- Unlimited Mobile to Mobile

just **\$39⁹⁹**



Camera
Flip
Phone

\$79⁹⁹

Audiovox 8900
After rebates.



Color
Phone

FREE

Motorola C343
After instant rebate.



Back to School Sale
Going on Now!

Now's the time to take the

nTelos
CHALLENGE

nTelos
wireless

For fast, free delivery call 1-877-468-3567

www.ntelos.com

Store Locations:

Short Pump
Short Pump Town
Center Mall
1-877-4-NTELOS

Chester
12344 Bermuda
Crossroad Lane
Next to Home Depot
804-717-8340

Brook Run
5694 Brook Road
Richmond
804-515-0875

Short Pump
11440 West Broad St.
in the Wal-Mart shopping
Center - Glen Allen
804-364-8293

Laburnum Ave.
4742 S. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond
next to A&N
804-565-2361

Brandermill
4541 Commonwealth
Centre Parkway Midlothian
(288 & Hull Street Rd.)
804-744-9877

Mechanicsville
7088 Mechanicsville
Turnpike in front of Lee
Davis High School
804-559-9020

Colonial Heights
645 Southpark Blvd.
next to Wal-Mart
804-524-8890

Richmond
8400 W. Broad Street
2 blocks west of W.
Broad and Parham Rd.
804-273-6447

Chesterfield
Courthouse Rd. and
Midlothian Tpke.
804-378-1161

Virginia Center Commons
Kiosk
804-261-6570

Cloverleaf Mall
804-745-6135

All NTELOS stores open Monday-Saturday 9 to 8, Sunday
noon to 6. Kiosks open during regular mall hours.

eTel
Superstore.com

Contact a Business Consultant by calling: 804-327-5369.

HomeFree rate plans Nights are from 9:00 p.m. to 6:59 a.m. Monday – Thursday. Weekends start at 9:00 p.m. Friday ending 6:59 a.m. Monday. All plans include Free Nationwide long distance from the NTELOS network. All plans require a new one or two-year service agreement. First month free on new 1 or 2 year postpaid service agreements. Customer's billing address must be in the NTELOS network coverage area. Unlimited calling must be from the local NTELOS network coverage area. Additional network rate per minute is 45¢. Additional roam rate is 65¢ per minute. Calls outside the NTELOS network area will be charged roaming and long distance fees. Activation fee of \$35 on a one-year agreement required. Activation fee of \$10 required on two-year agreements. Early termination fee applies. Free Motorola C343 (after instant rebate) on new two-year postpaid service agreements. Audiovox 8900 is \$79.99 after mail-in and instant rebates and on new two-year postpaid service agreements. Customer is responsible for all applicable taxes. Usage rounded to next full minute. All calls are billed in one-minute increments. Actual coverage may vary depending upon customer equipment, terrain, weather conditions and electrical interference. Clarity and reception vary near coverage area borders. Coverage within buildings may vary depending upon location and building structure. Rates subject to change. Calls outside the USA will be billed at a higher rate. Normal per-minute rates apply for retrieval of voice mail. Free text messaging includes incoming messages only. Some services and features not available in all areas. Some restrictions apply. See store for details. Offers subject to change. Offer not available in all markets. Offers valid through 9/6/04.