



WORKSHOP TEACHES BUSINESS ETIQUETTE TO STUDENTS, PAGE 3

The Commonwealth Times

Free

The Independent Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University Vol. 42 No. 10 Thursday, February 24, 2005

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

High powered

**Rams
manhandle
Tribe for
third-straight
CAA win**

Page 6



News

Students show support for domestic violence and sexual assault victims. / **Page 5**

Editorials & Letters

The brutal odyssey of an outlaw journalist ends . . .
Hunter S. Thompson will be missed. / **Page 11**

Spectrum

Special Oscar preview;
Tsunami survivors turn tragedy into art. / **Page 8**



WEIRD NEWS

CALENDAR

FEB. 24 THROUGH FEB. 26

Thursday, Feb. 24	Friday, Feb. 25	Saturday, Feb. 26
Thinking of moving to off-campus housing? Stop by the “ Moving On Moving Out ” lecture to learn helpful hints that can make the transition easier. The event takes place from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the University Student Commons Forum Room. Contact Martha Harper at 828-6500 for more information.	Think you’ve got some good dance moves? Try them out at the VCU Dance Department Audition . The tryouts are open to the public, but participants must sign up for an audition time. The event takes place at the VCU Dance Center from 10:25 a.m. to 4 p.m. To schedule an audition, call 828-1711.	Ready to take a break from studying? APB and UnCommon Cinema present “ The Wiz .” The movie starts at 7 p.m. and runs until 8:30 p.m. in the Commons Theater, but get there early to enjoy the free popcorn. For more information call LaTonya Dunaway at 405-6297.

CAMPUS FORECAST



Thursday
39/25



Friday
45/27



Saturday
49/24



Sunday
51/35

Compiled from wire reports

Meteorologists fined for incorrect predictions

Meteorologists in Moscow now face heavy fines if they get they forecast the weather incorrectly. The mayor of Moscow said weather forecasters are responsible for the city’s financial losses when they get the weather wrong. The mayor said this happens most when forecasters incorrectly predict snow storms. In the month of February, Moscow received a record snowfall in one night which left streets blocked and businesses unable to open. No price has been established for the fines.

Vacuum calls for help

James Dyson, the inventor of the Dyson vacuum cleaner, has designed a vacuum cleaner that can order its own spare parts. The cleaner can automatically detect when a part breaks and alerts the user to the need for the new part. The owner can then call a toll-free number and holds the phone to the vacuum. The vacuum then transmits its need to engineers who place the order for the necessary part. Dyson created the machine to save owners the hassle of looking up serial and model numbers for their specific cleaner.

That’s a big dumpling

A Chinese company in Shenyang claims to have cre-

ated the world’s biggest rice dumpling. The dumpling, which was made by estate agents, is almost 79 inches in diameter and weighs roughly 8,800 pounds. It took 10 workers about 15 days, 3,130 pounds of sticky rice and 837 pounds of fruit and nuts to create the monstrosity. The creators plan on applying to the “Guinness Book of World Records” to have their creation official recognized.

Breast size chart predicts personality

Can a woman’s personality be determined by the size and shape of her breasts? Italian sex researcher Piero Lorenzoni claims it can. Saying that a woman’s breasts denote her character just like her astrological sign, he has categorized breasts types by fruit size. Although he has created his own chart, he said men can make a horoscope chart for themselves noting what size and shape say about personality. The chart’s sizes range from melons to cherries. The chart claims to be able to tell a woman’s sexual appetite and her desire for romance.

Man accidentally shot with pen

A man in Germany accidentally shot himself in the neck with a James Bond style pen-gun. The 35-year-old German delivery driver, identified only as Nusrel F for legal purposes, survived the shooting. Police report that the stealthy gun fell out of the man’s pocket as he bent down to tie his shoelaces,

setting off the trigger in the process. Nursel F had been making deliveries to a nearby hospital when the pen-gun self detonated. The man reportedly told police he had found the gun.

Movie memorabilia auction

Movie buffs beware. The dance floor from Saturday Night Fever will soon be auctioned off. The multi-colored floor, which was rescued from a Brooklyn nightclub, is expected to go for \$80,000 or more. The club was recently closed after a real estate investment company purchased it. The dance floor features flashing lights and will go up for auction April 1 on eBay.

Woman flushes man’s penis

A man from Anchorage, Alaska, had his penis cut off by his girlfriend. After discussion of possibly breaking up, the two quickly made up—or so the man thought. After convincing him to allow her to tie him up for a quick sexual romp, she quickly grabbed a knife and cut off his penis. To top things off, she then flushed it down the toilet. A worker had to dismantle the plumbing to find the amputated limb. Doctors were able to reattach it.

Front cover photo by
Pat Kane.

The Commonwealth TIMES

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

Executive Editor
DEVON MARROW

CTeditor03@yahoo.com

Managing Editor
VACANT

News Co-Editor
KATIE GANTT

ganttkt@vcu.edu

News Co-Editor
JONATHAN ROBBINS

robbinsjs@vcu.edu

Spectrum Editor
JOANNAH NWOKEABIA

jhwokeabia@yahoo.com

Associate Spectrum Editor
VACANT

Sports Editor
JULIAN BENBOW

Benbowjj@yahoo.com

Editorials & Letters Editor
OMAR YACOUBI

yacoubioa@vcu.edu

Photography Editor
PAT KANE

kanepm@vcu.edu

Production Manager
MARY FRANK MILLER

mmiller@rnc.edu

Production Chief
RACHEL BLACK

blackrl@mail2.vcu.edu

Graphic Designer
ANDREW BABB

Andrew@toolatetorun.com

Business Manager
DAN PRINCE

princedd@vcu.edu

Accounts Manager
CHRISTINE MENDOZA

cachrisjay@hotmail.com

Advertising Director
MORGAN COPELAND

copelandmd@vcu.edu

Advertising Representative
JUSTIN JOHNS

johnsjp@vcu.edu

Office Manager
JAMES APPLEBACH

applebachjr@vcu.edu

Webmaster
THOMAS GEHRING

tagehrin@vcu.edu

Advertising and Classifieds
ctaddept@gmail.com

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

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

NEWS

So which fork is which?

Teacher advises students on proper business etiquette

AMANDA L. DES ROCHES
Staff Writer

When was the last time someone invited you to a business dinner, and you found yourself seated at a fancy table with satin napkins, crystal glasses, fine china and more forks than you knew what to do with?

As key speaker at the University Career Center's business etiquette seminar, Michelle Pollard Patrick, founder and director of consulting firm National Protocol Ltd., defined the six steps in using the proper etiquette at a lunch or dinner.

"No matter how many forks appear in a place setting," Patrick advised students to "work from the outside of the plate inward."

She also outlined the four steps to a proper handshake and numerous other guidelines for social and business-etiquette ranging from conversational techniques to the amount of food a person should place on a plate while dining at a business buffet.

When students forget names, she suggested they be honest and admit they forgot the person's name.

"Be apologetic," Patrick said. "Say something like, 'I apologize, but I seem to have forgotten your name,' however, let them know you didn't want to miss the opportunity to say hello to them."

"Relationship management is the buzz of the business

world," Patrick told the students. "The bottom line: Good social strategies make more effective individuals in the business world."

Joshua Grinnan, a computer engineering major, said he hopes to improve his conversational and introductory skills he learned at the seminar.

"It was great as a student to have a good practice ground," he said. "It's better to do this here at school and get the experience before trying it on a professional level."

Following the business etiquette seminar, students used their newly acquired skills during the career-networking reception with employers. Students interacted with the industry leaders in a social atmosphere to discuss internships and full-time job opportunities during lunch.

"I was much more aware of what I was doing and I felt more confident," Grinnan said, referring to how many pumps a proper handshake entailed and how to execute a strong introduction. "Just as we learned in the etiquette seminar, you have 30 seconds to make an impression on someone so you better know what you're doing."

Mark Clark, human resources expert with American Management Systems, discussed strategies with students during the last of the three-day workshop on the proper preparation and execution of the perfect job-search strategy.

Susan Story, the career center's director, said the job search seminar was especially vital to students beginning

their searches for the right career.

"When it comes to finding jobs, students are really too dependent on computers. They fill out online resumes and expect to see immediate results," she said. "Only 20 percent of people actually get jobs electronically."

"This seminar was really about the dos and don'ts of career searching. Students have to network — they have to just get out there and do the work. As Mark Clark said during the seminar, employers are looking for those students who can distinguish themselves above the rest. They're looking for leadership skills and good attitudes."

Sixty-five to 70 students attended the business-etiquette seminar, and about 200 attended the career-networking reception, while 70 students attended the job search seminar.

"The students really seemed to enjoy themselves," Story said. "Half of them at the career-networking reception were planning to attend all three events and were still chatting about the previous day's business etiquette seminar."

Grinnan called the conferences a great concept. "There was a good overall atmosphere," he said. "We got to practice our networking, and I'm just very appreciative for the experience."

Upcoming events coordinated by the Career Center include a March 7, 8 and 9 Behavioral-Mock Interview workshop when students can sit individually via mock interviews with Richmond area employers.

"It's more behavioral questions about previous experiences such as explaining a time when you've had a difficult customer or situation and how you dealt with it," Story said.

**Behavioral-Mock
Interview Workshop
March 7, 8 and 9
University Career Center
Call 828-1645 to register**

Climb, kayak, canoe with Outdoor Adventure Program

CHRISTINE UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

Any plans for your spring break?

Then you might be interested in backpacking through the Grand Canyon for seven days with a group of students. If interested, call Greg Hawkins, the program's coordinator, who said he along with a group of students plan to fly to Arizona for their spring break.

"Every year a group of students and I go backpacking in the Grand Canyon where we spend three nights and four days in the canyon and two nights on its south rim," Hawkins said. "We will also be hiking in Havasu Canyon, Arizona, which is located on the Havasu Indian Reservation."

For 20 years, VCU has provided activities for students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests through its Outdoor Adventure Program. Adventure-based trips include kayaking, whitewater rafting, hiking, canoeing, rock climbing, backpacking, skiing and sea kayaking. Undergraduate and graduate students

as well as some staff, faculty and others take advantage of these trips.

Hawkins said the program introduces physically conditioned inexperienced students to activities.

"I want students to know that we have activities set up for beginners to experts," Hawkins said, adding that students need no previous skills if they are interested in the available activities.

Michelle Bright, a senior environmental-studies major, said she likes joining other students in the outdoor program.

"I worked at Cary Street Gym in the center and decided that I wanted to be a part of the Outdoor Adventure Program because I liked the programs that were being offered and did not want to be left out."

Hawkins, a graduate of Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, who has served as the program's coordinator the past seven years, identified kayaking and rock climbing as the two most popular programs.

Eve O'Connor, a second-year-graduate biology major, said she meets new

people from the program and enjoys rock climbing.

"I enjoy getting to meet new people from the program as well as being a graduate student, the program helps to clear my mind by participating in activities."

In contrast to the fall and spring semesters, Hawkins said students travel to Kitty Hawk, N.C., to hang glide in the summer. In addition, students can share an international experience by going to Baja, Mexico for six to 10 days to windsurf and relax on the beach.

"Over the past five years, things have been pretty safe at the Outdoor Adventure Program," the coordinator said.

Besides Hawkins, student leaders who complete an outdoor program typically acquire the necessary experience to serve as a guide for travel abroad and local students.

Nonetheless, leaders complete the adventure skills practicum that includes workshops and wilderness experiences as part of their leadership training.

In addition to activities, this leadership

training includes first-aid, wilderness medicine, outdoor leadership, trip-planning, group facilitation, hazard assessment, team-building and ethics. After successfully completing their training sessions, the leaders spend a week in the wilderness where they use these skills.

"I have been a part of the Outdoor Adventure Program for four years and a student leader for three years," Bright said. "I enjoy being a part of this program because I have met new people, and I am not intimidated to participate in any of the programs."

Students wanting to plan a personal trip or program for spring or summer should talk with Hawkins.

"I would need an advance notice on what kind of trip is wanted, depending on if it is a trip that we offer and if someone will be available to lead the trip," he said.

Moreover, he said during STAR week, when incoming first-year students visit the campus for orientation, the program provides day-caving, canoeing and rafting for them.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Douglas Aquatics is seeking lifeguard. Managers, and lifeguard/swim instructors. FT/PT throughout Richmond area. Certification avail. Great pay, incentives, and advancement. www.douglasaquatics.com (804) 232-0225.

Attention Businesses! Hiring? Want to know an easy way to reach the VCU community? Classifieds 25 words or less are **\$10!** Anything above 25 words is only 10¢/word. For the full *Terms of Use*, check out our classifieds section at www.commonwealthtimes.com.

FOR SALE

VCU students! Classifieds 25 words or less are **FREE!** Anything above 25 words is only 10¢/word. For the full *Terms of Use*, check out our classifieds section at www.commonwealthtimes.com. (FYI: This ad would only cost \$2.50!) For the full *Terms of Use*, check out our classifieds section at www.commonwealthtimes.com

Save a tree. Recycle this CT when you're done reading.



Asthma

takes the air
out of your game.

If you suffer from asthma you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study. This study is testing the effectiveness of two marketed medications for the treatment of asthma.

You may be able to participate if you:

- Are African-American or of African descent
- Are between 12 and 65 years old
- Have a history of asthma

Study staff will review additional criteria with you.

You will be asked to come to the clinic for 17 study visits over approximately 15 months. All study-related medical evaluations and study medication are provided to qualified participants at no cost.

For more information, please contact:

Glenn M. Giessell, M.D.
Pulmonary Associates of Richmond
(804) 323-7002

Want to reach the student body
of VCU?



Sub of the Month
ONLY \$1.99

Seafood Sensation
(regular 6-inch sub)

Any 3 Regular Foot Long Subs

for \$11.99

(after 4 pm everyday)

SUBWAY
1110 W. Broad St.
(Next to the Siegal Center)
Phone: 355-0433 | Fax: 355-4006

Expand Your Career Options Secure Software Engineering / Information Security

The James Madison University Department of Computer Science offers an MS degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Secure Software Engineering. This application-oriented program prepares students for careers in an increasingly security-conscious world of information technology with courses in software engineering, computer networks, and information security. Students can receive an NSA-approved Information Security Professional certificate. For more information visit www.cs.jmu.edu/msSecureSE.htm.

Can't come to JMU? Then check out our Internet based MS program in Information Security. Study and learn from your home or office. For more information visit www.infosec.jmu.edu.

An NSA Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education
offering NSTISSI (4011) and CNSSI (4014) certifications

READ YOUR
FAVORITE NEWSPAPER
ON THE INTERNET.

www.commonwealthtimes.com



NEWS

SGA raises money for domestic abuse victims

ALYCE ROBINSON
Staff Writer

If all goes as the SGA plans, 30 women facing domestic abuse soon will have cell phones to call for help when they need it — thanks to VCU students and other donors.

“I was very pleased with the turnout

that we got,” said Mariam Hashim, SGA’s deputy assistant for development who was in charge of the “Where is the Love” event. “I was very pleased by the amount of students that donated and that were just generally interested in what was going on. I was very surprised and very happy that they were participating.”

The SGA, along with VCU’s Therapeutic

Recreation Club, collected old cell phones from students to help benefit domestic-abuse and sexual-assault victims. The cell phones will be refurbished with tracking devices and given to women seeking help for potential abuse.

In addition, the SGA raised about \$1,000 to benefit victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault by collecting money from

donors at a table in the Commons. Century Florists, a wholesale supply company, also supplied student government members with 300 free flowers, which they sold for \$1 on Valentine’s Day to add to the proceeds.

The event ended Wednesday with a special noon program in the Commons Plaza that featured Ty and Imago Dei, two singers who performed free for the cause.

‘Moveable Feast’ offers eclectic audience mix

Graduate students share writings with colleagues, community

STEPHEN PRATT
Staff Writer

When the “Moveable Feast” originated in 1996, it became a moveable event because the sponsoring group selected a new site each month so graduate English and art students could showcase their work.

Nine years later, people travel downtown to the 1708 Gallery, a nonprofit art space at 319 W. Broad St.

VCU’s Graduate Writers Association sponsors the “Moveable Feast” that features special free readings so English department graduate students can present their theses statements to a diverse audience.

Angela Rehbein, president of the writers association, said an eclectic mix of people attend the presentations.

“People wander in off the street to check out what’s going on,” she said. “But it’s also an opportunity to be around others who like to write.”

Jeff Lodge, graduate programs coordinator for the English department, said the event provides oral publication for graduate students working on their theses.

“They (the students) get a chance to say, ‘I’ve been at this for three years, and here’s what I’ve done,’” he said.

Lodge also stressed the collaborative nature of art by saying, “It’s a time to thank everybody.”

Each month one student reads a piece of fiction and one reads poetry.

Jim Panos and Kathy Davis last week read to a crowd of more than 40. Davis began reading selections from her poetry replete with pop culture and college-life references.

Panos concluded the evening by reading excerpts from his timeless short story. Still protective of the work’s title, he said the tale tells many things but focuses on one man’s reflection

of his life after meeting a person from his past. Panos said he prefers people interpret the story’s meaning by reading it.

Formerly an undergraduate journalism major, Panos resumed his educational career several years ago by enrolling in a creative writing class. Since then, he not only has continued writing but also included parts of his first story in his final thesis.

“I’ve always trusted my destiny,” he said. “After working so hard, I’m just going to see what opportunities come my way.”

Those involved with the “Moveable Feast” said 1708 Gallery allows community members to be exposed to art and literature without having to pay for a ticket.

“There’s an atmosphere of creativity,” Rehbein said. “It’s a good place for it to be going on.”

Lodge agreed, identifying literature as just another art medium.

“Our degree is a Master of Fine Arts,” he said. “It’s all the same.”

At one point, the “Moveable Feast” further combined literature and art at VCU by working with the Graduate Artists Association. During recent years, however, only English department graduate students have participated in the “Moveable Feast.”

While English department graduate students are familiar with the writing of their peers, Panos said he remains interested in collaborating with students and faculty from other schools on the Monroe Park Campus.

“It would be nice to see more interaction between the creative departments,” he said. “There’d be more opportunities to see each other’s work.”

Lodge encouraged students to attend future readings.

“So many students have had graduate teaching assistants at VCU,” Lodge said. “Here’s a chance to see what they’re doing outside of class.”

Community anticipating VCU Homecoming ‘06

TAMMY PHAM
Staff Writer

Homecoming Week activities this year reached, and may have exceeded, the students’ and coordinators’ expectations — especially for Kelli Lemon, the assistant director of student activities programs and events.

“I felt like we finally got it,” Lemon said. “Not only are we not a commuter school anymore, we’re also the second-largest in-state university in Virginia. But we got spirit. I just felt like everybody came out and had some spirit. We need to continue these kinds of traditions.”

Lemon worked closely with faculty and students every Thursday this spring to plan for the week’s activities. These included the Spades Poker Tournament, the VCU Spirit Scavenger Hunt, Homecoming Court Meet and Greet, The Roots and John Legend concert, the Chill ‘N Grill plus all the parties after the basketball game.

The homecoming committee, headed by a staff and student chair for each individual event, worked throughout last semester to develop plans within its budget and to execute those plans for Homecoming Week.

“We kind of throw ideas out there, and the students ultimately make the decisions,” Lemon said.

Nevertheless, students such as Dorrick Atkinson, a senior accounting major, and some event coordinators offered suggestions for future years.

“We need to have a bigger event the night after the basketball game — kind of a final event to culminate homecoming week,” Atkinson said. “Maybe we could have a faculty vs. students basketball game where the students pick out which teachers they want to play.”

Brian Liu, a senior psychology major, said he not only thinks the homecoming committee should plan events that appeal to a wider range of students and faculty, but he also has concerns about the level of school spirit displayed this year.

“We have school spirit, but there could be a lot more,” Liu said. “I blame the crowd at The Roots’ concert for not appreciating them enough. More people should have been dancing.”

Timothy Reed, director of University Student Commons and Activities, said he hopes next year to see more publicity for the events and more involvement, particularly from faculty and alumni.

“There’s always a challenge to do bigger and better things,” he said. “One thing I would like to see improve is getting the medical campus involved. We could really make it a unified VCU homecoming.”

For students such as Atkinson and Liu, volunteering to serve on the homecoming committee could be the key to putting those ideas into action.

Lemon said the committee application process begins in early March.

“Join committees and get involved,” Lemon said, “because if you don’t then you can’t say much about the events. We always welcome students to come and join and help us because we need all the help we can get.”

Next Month’s Event
The Moveable Feast
6 p.m. March 25
319 W. Broad St
(804) 643-1708



SPORTS

Upcoming Sports EVENTS

Men's basketball

Feb. 26: VCU vs. UNC WILMINGTON at the Stuart C. Siegel Center, 7:30 p.m.

Women's basketball

Feb. 24: VCU at William & Mary, Williamsburg, Va., 7 p.m.

Men's tennis

Feb. 25: VCU at Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio
Feb. 27: VCU at Harvard, at the Thalhimer Tennis Center, 10 p.m.

Women's tennis

Feb. 25: vs. Clemson at the Thalhimer Tennis Center, 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 27: vs. Virginia at the Thalhimer Tennis Center, 2 p.m.

Men's track and field

Feb. 26: UNC, Last Chance Meet in Chapel Hill, N.C.
Feb. 27: George Mason, in Fairfax, Va.

Women's track and field

Feb. 27: George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Baseball

Feb. 26: Sacred Heart (Double-header), Petersburg, Va., 1 p.m.
Feb. 27: Sacred Heart, Petersburg, Va., 1 p.m.

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



Pat Kane

Nick George (21) scored 23 of his career-high 36 points in the first half of Wednesday's win over William & Mary.

Riding highs

George sets career-best again with 36 points

JULIAN BENBOW
Sports Editor

The ball slipped through the hands of Calvin Rowland, dribbled between the legs of Renardo Dixon and rolled out to the wing, finding Nick George squared up at the three-point line.

The trey George popped on the clock gave VCU a 75-70 lead. It also gave George 33 points for the game, tying the career-high he set a week earlier against Delaware. And there was still 9:15 left on the clock.

George would hit a jumper along the baseline in the game's waning minutes then converted on the three-point play attempt, giving him a 36-point performance in VCU's 91-69 pasting of William &

Mary in front of 4,737 fans at the Stuart C. Siegel Center.

"He continues to amaze us," VCU head coach Jeff Capel said of George. "It's as good a performance as I've seen."

The win kept the Rams in third place with a 12-5 record in the Colonial Athletic Association and a 16-11 mark overall. Hofstra stunned CAA-leading Old Dominion 66-63 and UNC Wilmington came from behind to beat Delaware 68-65 and hold on to the second-place spot in the conference.

B.A. Walker scored 18 points on 7-of-10 shooting. The sophomore guard also knocked down four of his seven 3-pointers, dished out eight assists and grabbed four rebounds. Corey Cofield dropped a career-high 27 points for the Tribe (2-15, 6-20), hitting 13 of his 16 free-throw attempts and shooting 7-of-11 from the floor. He, like Delaware's Harding Nana last Wednesday, just picked the wrong night to go basket

for basket with George.

It was the third straight CAA game in which the 6-foot-6 forward set new career highs in scoring. George is averaging 32.6 points in VCU's past three CAA games and he hit 16 points and grabbed four rebounds over the weekend against College of Charleston.

George's hot streak comes as the regular season winds down and coaches across the conference have to start thinking about CAA Player of the Year.

"He'd get my vote tonight," said William & Mary head coach Tony Shaver, who watched from the bench as George hit from long distance and shredded through all the Tribe's defensive schemes on his way to a 23-point first half. "A special talent had a special night."

George would have to battle with the performances of Old Dominion standout Alex Loughton, who tops the conference leading Monarchs in four statistical categories, and Delaware's Harding Nana, who's currently tied with Hofstra's Loren Stokes for to scorer in the CAA.

Jeff Capel has there's no doubt about who should get player of the year.

He said that George has become a "pretty good player" since he first came to VCU as the rangy catch-and-shoot player that had a knack for crashing the boards.

In his time as a Ram, George has developed his ball handling and his mid-range moves adding layers of depth to his game. Wednesday night, Capel said everything—the long jumper, the post game, the mid-range game—everything was working for George.

"I don't know a better player in the league right now than Nick George," Capel said.

Which is exactly why Capel said he'd vote for Old Dominion's Loughton.

Aside from the fact that he can't punch a ticket for his own player, Capel said Loughton gets the nod for leading a first-place team.

George and the Rams are still fighting for second place with one CAA game left. A win in Saturday's matchup against second-place UNC Wilmington at 7:30 p.m. at the Stuart C. Siegel Center would put the Rams in a tie with the Seahawks for the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament, which starts Mar. 4. The Rams would get the tie breaker if they win because they split their season series with the Monarchs, while UNCW was swept. As a two seed, the Rams would get a first-round bye. As a three seed, their road to a repeat as CAA champions gets longer and tougher.

Capel said he didn't know if his team understood the implication's of Saturday night's game, but he's sure they understand the importance of simply beating conference rival UNCW.

"We don't get into what the difference is and who we play and what time we play," Capel said. "We'll explain that to them after Saturday."

SPORTS

‘It’s all about technique’

MELANIE RAZEEQ*Staff Writer*

Nevermind the fact that this is his first year cheering for Virginia Commonwealth University, or that he’s the smallest male cheerleader, standing 5-foot-8 and weighing 130 pounds.

Cameron McPherson has the biggest heart of them all.

A transfer student who cheered his freshman year at NC State, Cameron explains, “It’s all about the technique.”

McPherson proves that statement night after night by lifting and tossing his female teammates with ease.

Cameron is a 19-year-old sophomore majoring in mass communications with a concentration in public relations. A graduate of James River High School in Chesterfield, Va., he was the only male on the squad his senior year, but that doesn’t mean he was a stranger to the sport.

He started cheering at age 15 on a competition squad in his hometown of Richmond, Va. Now, in his fifth year of cheering, he finds himself making great contributions to the VCU squad. What he feels he brings best to the squad is his tumbling techniques.

“It comes naturally to me, I participated in gymnastics when I was a young,” said Cameron of his extensive tumbling skills.

It apparently does come naturally because every time the squad gets a chance to cheer, he is the first one back-flipping his way onto the court. His teammates also speak

very highly of his skill and character.

“Cameron is a wonderful friend,” said co-captain Chanelle Noel. “He is very helpful, and is such a positive influence on the team.”

Teammate Drew Lichvar commented on Cameron’s great personality, saying, “He always keeps us laughing. He has such a positive outlook, and works very hard everyday.”

Although he receives high praise from other squad members, Cameron doesn’t take all the credit for the team’s success.

“Most of the males on the squad are relatively new to cheering, but they caught on very quickly,” Cameron comments on how well the team has come together this year. “We (the team) were all able to come together and achieve various levels of difficulty in such a short amount of time this year.”

He also gives credit to his coach, Tim Morgan, who has worked hard and been dedicated not only inside the gym, but outside as well. This hard work and dedication from both the coach and the team will continue as the squad prepares for an upcoming national competition to be held in Daytona, Fla. from April 6 to 10.

The VCU squad is currently looking for corporate sponsors as they hope to achieve great success in the upcoming competition. Regardless of the outcome of the competition, Cameron looks forward to continuing his participation on the cheerleading squad as he furthers his college career at VCU.



At 5-foot-8, 130 pounds McPherson is the smallest of VCU’s male cheerleaders.

Pat Kane

Wintergreen Resort
COME UP FOR SOME AIR

Save BIG with a Wintergreen Resort
Midweek Season Pass
Just \$99

Pass is valid Sundays 12:30pm until closing Friday nights, non-holiday.
BONUS: in addition to the regular dates, the pass is also valid on weekends from 3/7/05 through closing day 2005.

Purchase your Season Pass today at www.WintergreenResort.com
or call Ski Group Sales at 434-325-8165

MOST NURSES WILL ENTER THE U.S. HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.
YOU'RE NOT MOST NURSES.

U.S. AIR FORCE
CROSS INTO THE BLUE

Most nurses spend their entire careers in the same hospital. In the United States Air Force, it's unlikely you'll even spend it in the same state or country. You'll have the opportunity to practice nursing in as many as 20 different fields in a variety of nursing environments. And you'll feel a greater sense of shared responsibility when you have the opportunity to actually lead your team. Sound like the kind of career you'd like to have? Then call 1-800-588-5260.

AIRFORCE.COM/healthcare • 1-800-588-5260

Spectrum

And The Nominees Are...

Best Picture

The Aviator
Finding Neverland
Million Dollar Baby
Ray
Sideways

Best Actor

Don Cheadle
Johnny Depp
Leonardo DiCaprio
Jamie Foxx
Clint Eastwood

Best Actress

Annette Bening
Kate Winslet
Imelda Staunton
Catalina Sandino Moreno
Hilary Swank

Supporting Actor

Alan Alda
Jamie Foxx
Thomas Haden Church
Morgan Freeman
Clive Owen

Supporting Actress

Cate Blanchett
Laura Linney
Virginia Madsen
Sophie Okonedo
Natalie Portman

SUZANNE HOYLE

Spectrum Writer

Roll out the red carpet — Oscar is back again.

The 2005 Academy Awards is another breakthrough for black actors in Hollywood. Four black actors received a total of five nominations in the Best Actor, Supporting Actor and Supporting Actress categories.

Jamie Foxx's two nominations have created much excitement throughout Hollywood and for his fans. The Academy nominated him for Best Actor in "Ray" for his excellent performance as Ray Charles and for Best Supporting Actor in "Collateral." Foxx is second in Oscar history to Al Pacino, to receive two nominations in two separate performances in a single year.

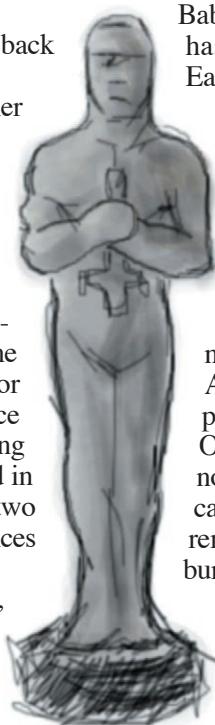
Accomplished 67-year-old actor, Morgan Freeman, will add another

Oscar nomination notch to his belt this year for Best Supporting Actor in "Million Dollar Baby." This is the second time Freeman has worked with actor/director Clint Eastwood.

Actor Don Cheadle received his first Oscar nomination this year for Best Supporting Actor for his role in "Hotel Rwanda." His film history includes "Ocean's Eleven," "Ocean's Twelve" and "Devil in a Blue Dress."

England-born actress Sophie Okonedo also received her first Oscar nomination this year for Best Supporting Actress in "Hotel Rwanda." She recently performed in "House of Sand and Fog." Okonedo is among other outstanding nominees in the Best Supporting Actress category such as Cate Blanchett for her remarkable portrayal as Catherine Hepburn in "The Aviator."

The 77th Academy Awards, hosted by Chris Rock, airs Sunday, Feb. 27.



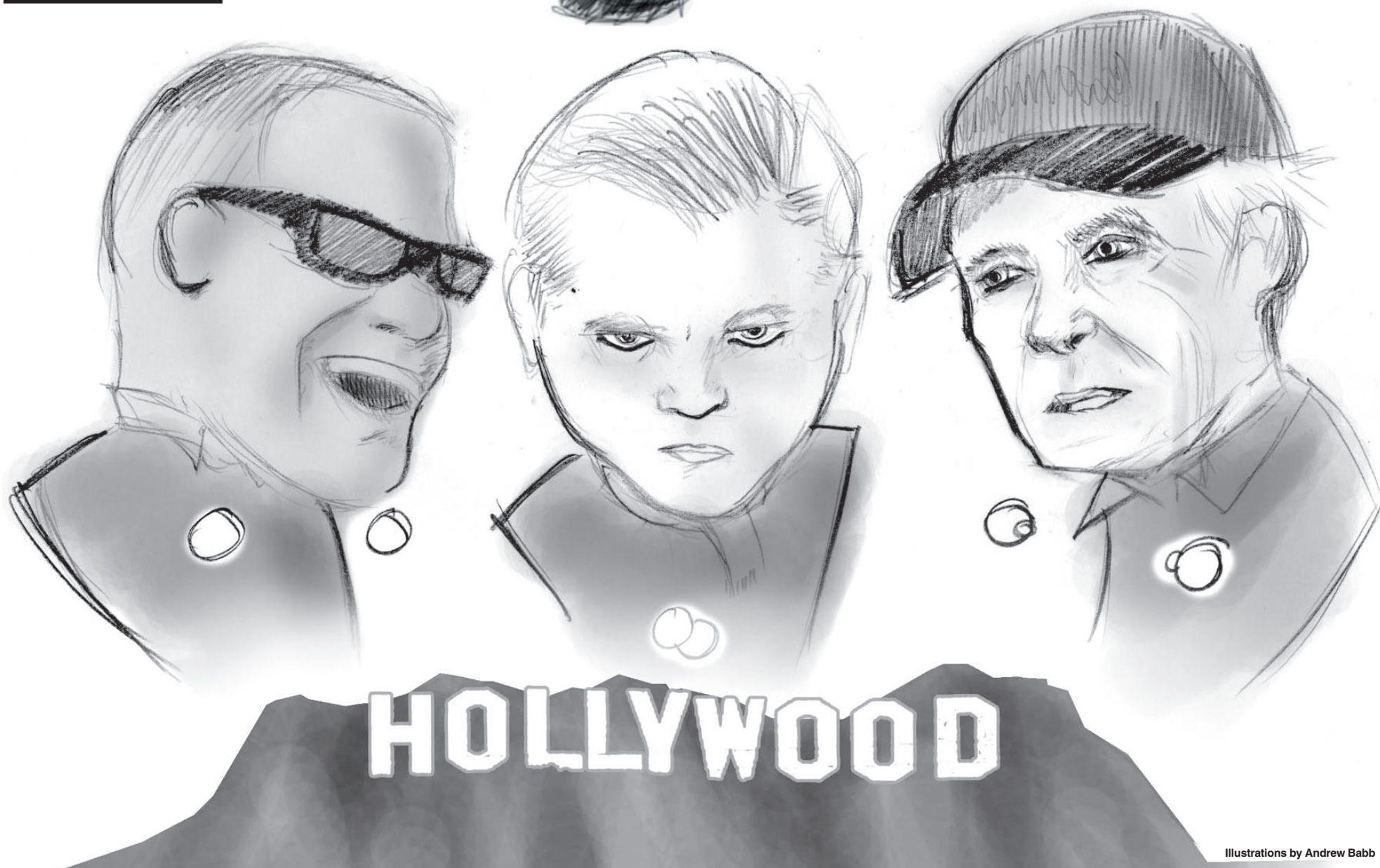
Do you know Oscar?

SUZANNE HOYLE

Spectrum Writer

1. Who is the only actress nominated this year to have won an Oscar in the past?
2. How many Oscar nominations has Morgan Freeman received — including this year?
3. Who was the 72-year-old actor that did 3 one-armed push-ups in 1992 when he accepted his award for Best Supporting Actor?
4. Which person has more Oscar nominations than any one else in Academy history?
5. Who was the first black woman to win Oscar's Best Actress Award?
6. Who was the first black man to win Oscar's Best Actor Award?
7. What year did the Academy Awards air without a host?

Answers will appear in the next issue



Illustrations by Andrew Babb

Spectrum

Student-Faculty Dance Concert at the Grace Street Theatre

VCU dance students, faculty and guest artists take to the stage for the Department of Dance and Choreography's annual Student-Faculty Dance Concert. Enjoy performances from this year's guest artists, Gerri Houlihan and Gesel Martin. Watch the dance department's finest express human relationships, tolerance, love and other apt themes through modern dance.

Student-Faculty Dance Concert shows Feb. 24, 25 and 26 at 8 p.m. 934 W. Grace St. Tickets are free for VCU students with valid ID and \$15 for general admission. To buy tickets, call Grace Street Theatre, 828-2020.

"Why, Tsunami, Why?" *Survivors cope with loss through play*

J. ADAM WRIGHT
Spectrum Writer

Why, tsunami, why?

That is the question asked by the surviving family members of the victims of the deadly tidal wave that crashed into the shores of Indonesia and swept away thousands upon thousands of lives. That question is also the title of a benefit play written and directed by Jihad Abdul-Mumit.

After the Richmond-native and playwright heard about the tragedy in Asia, he decided to use his craft to make the lives of those people better. The play calls on around 50 extras from the surrounding area and three actors who came all the

way from Salt Lake City, Utah.

Stu and Sally were vacationing in Thailand at the time the tsunami struck. Their daughter, Cali, and son, Jai, were swept away in the torrent of rushing

"Why, Tsunami, Why?" shows at the Landmark Theater. 8-10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24. 6 N. Laurel St. Student tickets are \$20. General admission is \$25. To buy tickets, call Landmark Theatre Box Office at 646-4213. For more information call 270-4478 or 740-5981.

water. Jai survived 20 minutes in the raging water before being pulled from the debris-ridden water. They never saw Cali again.

Jai sustained injuries that have required prolonged medical attention. Four surgeries later, he joins his mother and father on stage to perform in Abdul-Mumit's play.

The play is a reflection of many stories and is meant to show both sides of tragedy from the perspective of the wealthy and poor. It is filled with inherent emotional moments and, Abdul-Mumit said, has an ultimately happy ending; one that, he said, encourages spiritual guidance and helps people to find faith and strength during such a dark time.

Cali's family plans to return to Thailand with a small glimmer of hope and have also set up a Web site to fund an orphanage in Cali's remembrance. All proceeds from "Why, Tsunami, Why?" go to tsunami relief.

Particle's latest album broadens musical horizons

HEATHER ALEXANDER
Spectrum Writer

The self-titled album "Particle" features an unfamiliar sound. The music is definitely different from anything mainstream. The techno-disco sounds created by the four-member band at times will get your feet moving, but I'm not sure if the point of the music is to make you dance, or open your mind. There are no words, so the songs are free to interpretation.

The melodies sound like a mixture of funk, techno, disco, rock and synthesized beats. It sounds like a lot to take in at once, and sometimes it is, but it's not all bad. The focal instrument dictates the overall sound of each song. The music sounds like it is from another era — definitely nothing that would be played on any of the so-called music channels on television.

At first listen, I imagine polyester suits and teased hair roller-skating around the hottest new rink com-

plete with daisy dukes and obscene bulges. But then, the main instrument switches and the next song creates an entirely different mental image. I've never heard one band with such a versatile capability to change into so many different genres of music.

The songs are rather long, especially considering there are no words. Particle is for people who believe it is possible to "rock-out" on a keyboard. The music isn't bad, for what it is.

However, if you were looking for something to get the party started, Particle would not be my recommendation.

If you're interested in broadening your music



horizons, check Particle out. This is music for the artistically inclined; many people wouldn't be able to appreciate this music. It is much better understood after hearing it for yourself.

Particle plays at the Canal Club Friday, March 4, 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. 1545 E. Cary St. For more information log onto www.particlepeople.com.

Black History Happenings

Feb. 24 through Feb. 27

Thursday Feb. 24

Poetry and Politics features Dr. Njeri Jackson, director of African American Studies, reading selections of her poetry and discussing how the arts shape African American social thoughts. 6 p.m. Black History Museum and Cultural Center. 00 Clay St. Free and open to the public. 780-9093.

Friday, Feb. 25

Discover The Legacy of Malik Al Shabazz. AMWA at VCU presents films "Malcolm X—His Story As it Really Happened" and "The Pilgrimage of Malcolm X." Benjamin Kareem is guest speaker. 7 p.m. Student Commons. Free. Seating is limited. Refreshments served. For more information, contact info@amwanet.org.

Saturday, Feb. 26

Join in on the Black History Month Celebration with Learning, Believing, Healing: Remebering the Past and Charting the Future. Presenters include Virgie Binford, James Jones, and Mark Divins. Munch on hors d'oeuvres. 4-6:30 p.m. Sports Medicine Building, Parlors A, B, and C.

Sunday, Feb. 27

Oscar night could prove to be black history in the making as black actors garner five nominations. Tune in to see Jamie Foxx (nominated twice), Don Cheadle, Morgan Freeman and Sophie Okonedo. Who will take home the gold? Tune in to ABC Sunday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m.



Spectrum

Author, activist Sister Souljah urges unity, education in black community

JOANNAH NWOKEABIA
Spectrum Editor

Speaking as part of the Black History Month Event series, Sister Souljah delivered a hip-hop-infused, candid discussion on identity crisis, education, love, respect, racism and other issues affecting the black community.

An eager audience packed the Commonwealth ballrooms Monday evening to hear the author and activist speak, ask her questions and voice their concerns. Some clutched copies of her best-selling novels “The Coldest Winter Ever” and “No Disrespect,” hoping to get them signed later.

Black History month, Souljah said, celebrates the “we people” in history who made sacrifices, not for themselves, but on the behalf of their community. Referring to African tradition as a “we tradition,” she encouraged the audience to think collectively and dialogue with one another.

Souljah also expressed her concerns about the weakened state of the black community, saying that the mainstream does not judge or treat blacks as individuals, but as a collective group. A single person’s actions, she explained, reflects on the whole community.

Education gives people a context to understand events happening around them, Souljah said. Black people who lack education, she cautioned, develop problems with their identity and adapt the identity of the dominant culture.

Instead of looking to American culture for examples, she advised blacks to strive to pattern their values after ancient African civilizations that taught the definition of manhood and uplifted the woman.

A Q&A session following the author’s lecture touched on topics such as racism, the ‘n’ word, the ‘miseducation’ of blacks by blacks and sagging pants.

Jessica Smith, junior theatre education and African American studies major, asked, “What was greatest gift Africa has given to African-Americans?”

“Africa has given the world so much,” Souljah replied, adding that human life originated in that continent.

“The beauty of the African presence...is that we gave birth to civilization.”

While stressing the importance of college to the students, Souljah advised them to extend their education beyond the university’s classrooms and challenge the norms of what institutions of higher learning offer. She reminded the crowd that people can be academically advanced and culturally retarded.

Robin Jones of South Richmond implored Souljah to convey the seriousness of college to the students.

“The university is a very, very valuable resource and I think that we all should take advantage of it,” Jones said, lamenting that she did not fully appreciate it when she was in college.

Jones, who has taken classes at VCU and attended college in Dallas, said the night’s lecture also provided a chance to meet with other black people in the community.

Dr. Napoleon Peoples, director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, said after the lecture that Souljah addressed social issues in a way that everyone in the room could relate to.

“As a people, we need to have more unity, more spirituality, more morality, more self-determination and more respect for each other. We need to understand and be able to work together collectively,” Dr. Peoples said.

When Janelle Courtney, senior social work major, asked the speaker if she received death threats, Souljah recalled her days as a student activist attending Rutgers University.

There, she said she received lowered grades from professors for asking questions that strayed from the text and death threats from people wanting to silence her activism. The Rev. Jesse Jackson visited Rutgers to persuade its president to provide protection for her safety, she said.

When asked where she drew the line between embracing one’s blackness and being racist, Souljah stated that she did not believe blacks have the power to be racist.

Souljah defined racism as producing privilege for a particular people and solidifying it through institution.

“If you were a black person who was angry, what you would be is an angry black person.”

Souljah’s aimed her strongest message of the lecture to women in the audience, urging them to have self-respect and reject the mainstream media’s objectification of females and their roles in society.

Women, she said, have been trained by American culture to believe that being “cute and stupid” is attractive.

Stupid women, Souljah explained, do not know the power of their womanhood. African women, she warned, are at a crossroads of their identity and losing their families, minds, morals and spirits, she told the audience composed predominantly of black women.

“Pattern yourself after powerful African women who have a purpose and a point,” Souljah said, adding that they should not confuse the entertainment they see on TV with education.

Some women in the audience nervously shifted in their seats when the author turned her discussion to college women who on the weekends shed their studious behavior and adopt promiscuous tendencies, becoming “cute and stupid” for parties.

A few more jaws dropped when Souljah touched on hypocrisy and animosity among black sororities. She urged their members to become more unified like the sisterhoods in Africa.

Jonathan Quigly, first-year student, said he came to hear Souljah’s perspective on hip-hop and how her struggles shaped her.

“I wish that every single sorority girl was here. These girls need to have respect for themselves,” he said following the lecture.

Deanna Jones, first-year political science major, said she has long been a fan of Souljah’s.

The author’s lecture, she said made her “want to learn more, read more and do more once I graduate.”

Sister Souljah, the executive director of Sean Combs’ Daddy House Social Programs Inc., said that she is currently working on the sequel to her smash hit, “The Coldest Winter Ever” and is planning on developing a movie based on the novel. The author is also penning a non-fiction book, as well.

Happ

Thursday Feb. 24

Clay Chapman’s “Volume of Smoke” opens at The Firehouse Theater Project. 8 p.m. Through March 19. Student tickets are \$10. General admission is \$20. 1609 W. Broad St. 355-2001.

Friday, Feb. 25

Switch up your weekend routine with Xtreme Bowling. Bowl with black lights, music and videos at AMF Sunset Bowl. 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. 9650 W. Broad St. 282-0537.

Saturday, Feb. 26

See “Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas,” the 1998 movie based on Hunter Thompson’s popular novel. The author killed himself on Sunday. The midnight movie shows at The Byrd Theater. \$3. (804) 353-9911 or visit www.byrdtheatre.com.

Sunday, Feb. 27

Catch VCU Theatre’s final showing of “Metamorphoses” by Mary Zimmerman. The play is based on Ovid’s ancient transformation myths. 2:30 p.m. Free for VCU students with ID. The Singleton Center for the Performing Arts. 828-6026.



EDITORIALS & LETTERS

Opinion In Brief

The system works

Who says politics has to be boring? From exposed underwear to “upskirt” photos – a practice where voyeurs point cameras up women’s clothing to capture some rather private images – you’d think some of the bills at this year’s General Assembly session were inspired by a peep show – or a giggly middle school sex-ed class.

Among the most notable proposals was a bill that would have fined people \$50 for wearing low-hanging pants in public that would expose one’s underwear “in a lewd or indecent manner.” The bill, mercifully, was killed by a Senate panel after worldwide media picked up the story and briefly made Virginia “the target of global ridicule,” according to a front-page article in the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

A Senate panel also killed a measure that would have basically reintroduced school prayer by amending a portion of Virginia’s bill of rights which was originally based on Jefferson’s statutes of religious freedom.

The Senate is doing a good job of overriding the legislative excesses of the House. Now if they could just agree on a budget.

Phantom tollbooth

Ask the Times-Dispatch for a solution to Virginia’s transportation problems, and they will tell you tolls are the answer. “Unlike taxes,” they insisted in Tuesday’s editorial page, “tolls give drivers a clear sense of the actual cost of heading down the highway.”

The Times-Dispatch, however, shunned congestion pricing – a practice of raising tolls during peak hours – and supported HOT lanes (high-occupancy/toll lanes), which allow drivers to skirt carpooling requirements for restricted lanes by paying a small fee.

As long as tolls are going to be used to make drivers more aware of the cost of commuting, they should also be used to lower costs by providing people with a greater financial incentive to reduce traffic and choose to carpool or use mass transit instead – or better still, live closer to work to begin with.

Got something to say?
Write a letter to
the editor.



cteditor03@yahoo.com
commonwealthtimes.com

Another legend passes

Dr. Gonzo dead after living the life of many men’s dreams

MARK HUDGINS

Staff Writer

"Maybe there is no Heaven. Or maybe this is all poor gibberish — a product of the demented imagination of a lazy drunken hillbilly with a heart full of hate who has found out a way to live out there where the real winds blow — to sleep late, have fun, get wild, drink whiskey and drive fast on empty streets with nothing in mind except falling in love and not getting arrested . . .

“Res ipsa loquitur. Let the good times roll.”

Those lines are at the end of the editor’s note from Hunter S. Thompson’s “Generation of Swine: Tales of Shame and Degradation in the ‘80s.” So goes the story of perhaps the most fabled writer since Ernest Hemingway. The final chapter in the life of Dr. Hunter S. Thompson was written on Feb. 20. His son, Juan, found him dead around 6 p.m. of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. While many will mourn the loss of a man many people thought would never die, others will regret that there will not be another “gonzo writer” — at least not like Thompson. Even those who contest Thompson’s credibility as a journalist cannot deny the contribution to American literature made by this unlikely hero.

Hunter Stockton Thompson was born July 18, 1937, in Louisville, Ky. After a crime-filled youth, he enlisted in the Air Force as part of his parole. At Eglin Air Force Base in Fla., he worked as sports editor for the base paper.

Following his discharge, he worked at various writing jobs, most of which proved fruitless. He spent some time in the late ‘50s and early ‘60s writing newspaper articles in South America for American papers.

When Thompson returned to the states, he set up his home on Owl Farm in Woody Creek, Colo. although he was continuously on the road.

He gained fame for his first book, “Hell’s Angels: A Strange and Terrible Saga,” which describes the year he lived and rode with the motorcycle gang until a disagreement caused gang members to stomp him and break his nose.

In 1970, he ran for sheriff of Pitkin County on the Freak Power ticket and narrowly lost to the incumbent. But he is most famous for his brand of super subjective journalism called “Gonzo” — a wild extension of Truman Capote’s and Tom Wolfe’s “new journalism” concept.

Thompson, a man of strange and bewitching charisma, stood 6 feet 2 inches, and with one leg longer than the other he tended to bob about like a freakish marionette. He was always thirsty. His favorite drinks were Wild Turkey and Chivas Regal.

He is survived by one son, Juan Fitzgerald Thompson. His first wife was Sandra Dawn Conklin. About 18 months ago he married Anita Bejmuk, his longtime assistant.

In addition to being a writer and a failed politician, Thompson collected peacocks and guns, was an ex-night manager of the O’Farrell Theatre in San Francisco and founder of the Fourth Amendment Foundation.

A responsible Woody Creek resident, Thompson’s “doctoral” certification came from a mail-order church in the ‘60s while he was in San Francisco.

There have been many media renditions of Thompson. The most recognizable is the “Uncle Duke” character in “Doonesbury” by Garry Trudeau, which Thompson reportedly hated because of his general disdain for cartoons. Later a cult movie, “Where the Buffalo Roam,” starring Bill Murray and Peter Boyle gave further illustrations of his character.

A “Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas” spoken word CD was released about the same time as the movie version. Released May 22, 1998, the movie starred Johnny

Depp and Benicio Del Toro, and was directed by Terry Gilliam.

His last book, “Kingdom of Fear: Loathsome Secrets of a Star-Crossed Child in the Final Days of the American Century,” was published in January 2003.

A collection of his ESPN.com contributions was released last year, titled “Hey Rube: Blood Sport, the Bush Doctrine, and the Downward Spiral of Dumbness — Modern History from the Sports Desk.”

The November 1997 issue of Time magazine featured “Doomed Love at the Taco Stand” in which Thompson wrote: “They are extremely uncomfortable with the idea that I am a teenage-girl trapped in the body of a 60-year old career criminal who has already died 16 times. . . .”

Regardless of how people like their art, the good doctor will be missed. We have truly lost one of the last great, original minds.

Hunter Thompson is dead, and an “American Dream” may have died with him.

The Commonwealth TIMES

*The independent student press of
Virginia Commonwealth University*

DEVON MARROW
Executive Editor

OMAR YACOUBI
Editor of the Editorial Pages

WRITERS
Michael Dickinson • Lyz Holder

Opinions expressed are those of individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Commonwealth Times or VCU. Unsigned editorials represent the institutional opinion of The Commonwealth Times.

Add Your Voice

The opinion section of The Commonwealth Times is open to the public. 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. 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.

Your opinion here.

The Commonwealth Times currently
is seeking Op/Ed Writers
for the Spring 2005 semester.

Applications at Room 1149, Temple building
More info: yacoubioa@vcu.edu



We want to hear from you!

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



FIND YOUR IDEAL

Fit

Pitt County Memorial Hospital was recently designated as a Magnet hospital. Achieving magnet status recognizes and confirms the commitment PCMH has made to the quality and excellence of our nursing staff. In addition, PCMH was named one of the nation's 100 Best Companies for Working Mothers for 2003 and 2004!



The diverse strengths and resources of University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina. The collaborative vision and expertise of an extraordinary team of healthcare providers. The leading-edge technologies and compassion-driven care of our unique 745-bed medical facility. And the knowledge that a person like you can make all the difference in the world. You'll see it all come together in a perfect fit at Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Experience Our Magnet Culture and Award Winning Care!

PCMH was recently awarded Magnet designation by The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Less than 2% of hospitals in the country achieve this designation including only seven hospitals in North Carolina. Hospitals that achieve Magnet status are recognized as healthcare environments that offer exceptional nursing care. We're participating in national programs, developing systems for even more efficient communication and raising our level of care even higher.

NEW GRADS

\$2,500 Sign-On Bonus and up to \$3,000 Relocation Assistance Available to Qualified Candidates! *

Immediate Health and Dental Insurance Options, 401(k), and Pension Plan for Full-time Hires!

* Available to PCMH Employees only

NEW GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, February 26th, 9am-2pm
Pitt County Memorial Hospital Cafeteria
2100 Sauratown Road, Greenville, NC 27835

Interviews will be conducted with nursing representatives from:

Pitt County Memorial Hospital
Bertie Memorial Hospital
Chowan Hospital
Roanoke-Chowan Hospital
Heritage Hospital

Conditional offers will be made **ON THE SPOT!**
Candidates are strongly encouraged to bring 2 clinical references.

For more information on our New Graduate Open House or any of our current opportunities, please call (800) 342-5155.

With easy access to North Carolina's famed Atlantic shoreline, this beautiful region offers a warm, family-friendly environment where professional expertise and exceptional quality of life go hand-in-hand. Here you'll enjoy strong growth potential, ongoing learning opportunities and aggressive compensation. Pitt County Memorial Hospital brings everything you're looking for together in one great career. If you are unable to attend our Open House, **Please call (800) 342-5155 for more information, or send your resume to: Pitt County Memorial Hospital, Attn: Employment Office, PO Box 6028, Greenville, NC 27835.**

To learn more about our Award Winning Care, please visit our website at: www.pcmhcareers.com/magnet. We are diverse talents brought together by a common dedication: EOE.

PITT COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina

It all comes together @
www.uhseast.com