

LEGISLATORS HAVE MIDTERMS, TOO — PAGE 3

The Commonwealth Times

FREE

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BRIEFS

Monday



Tuesday



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IN THE NEWS

Compiled from wire reports

Justices to revisit late-term abortion ban

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court will consider reinstating a federal ban on what opponents call partial-birth abortion, pulling the contentious issue back to the high court on conservative Justice Samuel Alito's first day.

Alito could well be the tie-breaking vote when the court decides if doctors can be jailed for performing the abortion procedure.

It is the first time the court has considered a federal restriction on abortion, and conservatives said they expect the membership change to affect the outcome.

"This is the frontline abortion case in the country," said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the conservative American Center for Law and Justice, who represents members of Congress in the case.

In 2000, Justices split 5 to 4 in striking down a state law barring the same procedure because it lacked an exception to protect the health of the mother. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who was the tie-breaking vote, retired late last month and was replaced by Alito.

Three charged with planning to attack troops

TOLEDO, Ohio - With jobs, families and college courses, three men of Middle Eastern descent appeared to be active members of their Midwestern communities, but prosecutors say they were plotting to kill U.S. and

coalition troops in Iraq.

One was taking college courses and selling used cars. Another spent time playing in his yard with his children, according to neighbors.

All three were charged with attempting to wage terror attacks against the United States and its allies by recruiting and training others to fight overseas, according to a federal indictment unsealed Tuesday.

The indictment says the group traveled together to a shooting range to practice and studied how to make explosives. It alleges that at least one of the men researched and tried to obtain government grants and private funding for the training.

The three men pleaded not guilty Tuesday in federal courts in Cleveland and Toledo. The most serious charges could bring life in prison.

Cohen leads after dazzling short program

TURIN, Italy - It's becoming an Olympic tradition: An American woman wins figure skating gold and the Russians claim all the other titles.

Sasha Cohen took an important step toward keeping the tradition alive Tuesday, winning the short program with a brilliant performance. She capped off the spectacular skate by snapping her fingers and double-pumping her fists as if to say, "Top that."

Cohen will need to be just as dynamic and sassy in the

free skate Thursday. That is because world champion Irina Slutskaya is as close as a skate blade's edge to Cohen in the standings — and the Russian has a better track record.

"It's going to be like starting over. Like the short didn't really count. Back to square one," Cohen said. "Anybody in the top three can win."

Fireman who spoke after being in coma dies

BUFFALO, N.Y. - A brain-injured firefighter who suddenly spoke after nearly a decade in a stupor, giving hope to families of countless other patients, died Tuesday. He was 44.

Donald Herbert was injured in December 1995, when the roof of a burning home collapsed on him. Deprived of oxygen for several minutes, he ended up blind, was largely mute and showed little awareness of his surroundings for years.

But on April 30, 2005, he shocked his family with a 14-hour talking jag. Since then, he spoke only sporadically, his progress hampered by a fall out of bed that caused bleeding on his brain, his doctor said.

Herbert was hospitalized again on Sunday with an infection.

"Don fought very long and hard ... right to the end. Last night he was breathing very hard, trying to keep going," fire commissioner Michael Lombardo said.

CORRECTION: In the Sports section of Monday's issue of The Commonwealth Times, there was an incorrect underline in David Hall's women's basketball story entitled "Turnovers plague Rams in home loss to Hofstra" that cited Quanitra Hollingsworth with more points than she made in the game. We deeply regret the error, and in no way was this a reflection upon the writer, who had no hand in the headline-making process.

The Commonwealth Times

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NEWS

High stakes: Where does higher ed stand at midterm?

ANNIE MCCALLUM

Capital News Service

If the legislative session were an academic semester, Virginia lawmakers would be catching their breath after midterms. And just as students would be sizing up their grades, legislators and others are sizing up the issues.

Legislators faced their midterm exam on Feb. 14 – “crossover day,” the deadline for bills to pass either the House or the Senate. Now, each chamber takes up the other’s legislation. Bills that could not make it out of committee are dead.

Crossover marked the middle of the legislative session, which began on Jan. 11 and ends on March 11. Many higher education initiatives are on the General Assembly’s agenda. So how are colleges and universities faring this session? Here’s a rundown.

Affordability

The state’s colleges and universities say they are facing a \$377 million deficit next year. If legislators don’t fill the gap, students will have to — by paying an average of \$1,246 more in tuition.

Virginia21, a student advocacy group, called attention to the issue recently by delivering to the General Assembly petitions with more than 12,500 signatures urging lawmakers to fully fund higher education.

Legislators got the message.

The House and Senate on Sunday released their proposed budgets, showing they will lower the deficit by allocating more money for higher ed.

“By next year, the Senate’s budget would cut the \$1,246 per-Virginia-student higher-education funding deficit in half, bringing it down to just \$641 per student,” said Jesse Ferguson, Virginia21 executive director. “That’s exciting progress, and it’s the kind of action Virginia needs to stay competitive and keep our economy going strong.”

Research funding

Delegate David A. Nutter, R-Christiansburg, has made research funding a top priority this session. Nutter introduced two pieces of proposed legislation aimed at getting colleges research money.

House Joint Resolution 103 proposed the creation of a joint subcommittee to study research potential at colleges. To see what works, the subcommittee would compare Virginia schools with colleges in other states. The joint resolution died in committee, but Nutter’s other piece of proposed legislation about research money survived.

House Bill 925 would create a nonprofit corporation that would help support research. Biological systems and nanotechnology research would be emphasized and the corporation would report on their activities annually. The bill has passed through the House and is being considered by the Senate Education and Health Committee.

Textbook costs

Last year, the General Assembly passed legislation to promote competition in the textbook market. This year, the Legislature is looking specifically at textbook sales.

House Bill 1478, sponsored by Delegate Glenn Oder, R-Newport News, would require the governing boards of colleges to implement policies to address the cost of textbooks. The bill calls for these initiatives:

- ⊙ Faculty members must submit in a timely manner the list of books they will require.
- ⊙ If study materials are sold with the textbook, they must also be made available separately.
- ⊙ Professors must be aware of the price of the text before ordering it.
- ⊙ Faculty members must limit the use of new editions.
- ⊙ Sample copies of the text will be made available for students in the library.
- ⊙ Profits made by university bookstores should benefit the students.

HIGHER ED continued to Page 5

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Globalization at VCU

VCU’s international-student enrollment has increased by 67.5 percent since 2003, according to an article on Tuesday by the Richmond Times-Dispatch. About 943 students from 96 countries attend VCU, and university officials plan to increase international-student enrollment by 1,000 more students.

University President Eugene P. Trani has traveled to China, Russia, London, Spain and Italy in the past three years to spread the word about VCU.

The university currently has collaborations with universities in about half a dozen countries, and officials plan to partner with 15 universities abroad.

Some school administrators say the diverse student body offers an advantage for VCU’s 29,000 students, who mostly hail from Virginia. Van Wood, professor of international business, said it gives students a glimpse of their competition as globalization expands.

Trani told the Richmond Times-Dispatch international students who stay in the United States upon receiving their degrees would aid the country’s next wave of innovation.

VCU has a design college Qatar, a desert kingdom, which recently signed a 10-year, \$180-million agreement with the university.

Alumnus to chair radiation oncology department

A 1981 alumnus has been appointed chair of VCU’s Department of Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Mitchell S. Anscher, a graduate of the VCU School of Medicine, will assume his role as chair of the department on June 1, according to University News Services.

Anscher is a prostate cancer expert from the

Duke University Medical Center, where he is professor, vice chairman and clinical director for the Department of Radiation Oncology.

Among his duties as chair is heading a department of more than 30 radiation oncologists, medical physicists and scientists who work with the VCU Massey Cancer Center interdisciplinary teams to develop treatment plans for patients.

Anscher is a fellow of the American College of Radiology and received the Outstanding Medical Alumnus Award from the Medical College of Virginia Alumni Association in 2001.

In 1977, he received a bachelor’s degree from Stanford University and joined the Duke University faculty in 1987.

VCU Health System earns Magnet Status

The VCU Health System on Feb. 15 was awarded Magnet status, an honor designated for nursing excellence in national and international health care, according to University News Services.

The American Nurses Credentialing Center developed the Magnet Recognition Program for excellence in Nursing Services in 1994. Health systems that apply for Magnet status must meet criteria such as quality of nursing leadership, professional models of care, quality of care and a commitment to quality improvement.

Carol Crosby, vice president for patient care services and chief nursing officer, told University News Services there are about 200 healthcare organizations worldwide who have received the honor. Virginia hospitals that have earned Magnet status are Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Carilion Medical Center in Roanoke and Centra Health in Lynchburg.

Two killed in Va. plane crash

DERRILL HOLLY

Associated Press Writer

BOWIE, Md. — Two men were killed and a woman was injured Wednesday when their small plane crashed while preparing to land at a suburban airport near Washington, D.C., during a brief snowstorm.

The plane, a single engine Cessna 172 S-Model Skyhawk that had taken off from Warrenton, Va., was making its second approach to Freeway Airport using a global positioning system.

Mark Brady, spokesman for the Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department, said two men in the front of the plane were killed. Freeway’s chief flight instructor, Marcel Bernard, said a woman in the rear seat suffered serious injuries to her upper body and was later taken to a hospital.

The crash site is about a quarter mile from the runway. Bernard said it was snowing heav-

ily with low clouds when the plane crashed just before 10 a.m.

County officials said visibility in the area, about 18 miles east of Washington, D.C., was between zero and 500 feet at the time with a cloud ceiling of less than 500 feet.

Authorities said the National Transportation Safety Board was sending investigators to the scene.

According to Federal Aviation Administration records, the plane’s registered owner is the Tracey Corp. of Midland, Va. A woman answering the phone at Skyworld Aviation, also known as the Tracey Corp., declined immediate comment.

Freeway Airport handles about 200 takeoffs and landings a day. Small planes often land to refuel or pick up passengers at the facility, which is adjacent to U.S. 50, a major commuter route from the Prince George’s County suburbs to the nation’s capital.

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News

CRIME LOG



February 20

A female was arrested for driving under the influence on I95 South.

A male was arrested for larceny, possession of marijuana and identity fraud in the 1000 block of West Grace Street.

A male was arrested for possession of an open container of alcohol in the 1000 block of West Grace Street.

February 19

A male was arrested for assault and battery, disorderly conduct and drunk in public in the 800 block of West Cary Street.

A female advised that an unknown person(s) damaged state property totaling \$200 at the Bowe Street Deck.

A male advised that an unknown person brandished a firearm at West Broad and Harrison streets.

A male advised that an unknown person(s) removed personal property from an

unsecured location at Ackell Residence Center.

February 17

A male was arrested for public intoxication on North Morris Street and Floyd Avenue.

A male employee advised that an unknown person(s) damaged state property totaling \$150 at Franklin Street Gym.

A male was arrested for obstruction of justice in the 200 block of North Lombardy Street.

A male was arrested for trespassing in the 1200 block of East Marshall Street.

A male was arrested for driving under the influence and presenting the license of another as his own at West Broad and Shafer streets.

A male was arrested for littering in the 900 block of Park Avenue.

A female advised of suspicious circumstances in the women's bathroom at 907 Floyd Ave.

HIGHER ED continued from Page 3

Oder's bill passed unanimously in the House and is now before the Senate Health and Education Committee.

Illegal aliens

The House and the Senate both have proposed legislation about illegal aliens receiving in-state tuition.

Senate Bill 677 prohibits the governing body of a college from allowing in-state tuition for illegal aliens. However, the bill offers certain exceptions. For example, in-state tuition could be given to those who have lived in Virginia while attending high school or who are actively pursuing legal residency.

House Bill 262 states "that an alien who is unlawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible for enrollment in any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth."

Both bills have cleared their respective houses and will now enter committee.

Campus safety

A package of bills and budget amendments has the attention of legislators and students. Three legislators are sponsoring the Protect Virginia Students plan: Delegate Phil Hamilton, R-Newport News; Sen. Ken Stolle, R-Virginia Beach; and Sen. Janet Howell, D-Fairfax. The plan was

unveiled several weeks ago with the help of Virginia21.

Included in the plan are House Bills 1036 and 346. HB 1036 would require the Department of Criminal Justice Services to create standards for campus security. This would mean specific hiring and training standards for campus security units across Virginia. The House and the Senate have passed this measure.

HB 346 has also been passed by both houses and would require institutions of higher education to report crime statistics making safety and security a high priority.

The proposed budget amendments involved in the Protect Virginia Students plan would create a grant that colleges and universities can use for security equipment. The amendments would also create an Office of College Law Enforcement.

The budgets drafted by the House and the Senate indicate there might be money for the proposed Office of College Law Enforcement. Ferguson said Virginia21 is pleased.

"This new office in the Department of Criminal Justice Services will strengthen campus policing by setting statewide standards for hiring, training and victim response while helping campus police departments share information and ideas," he said.



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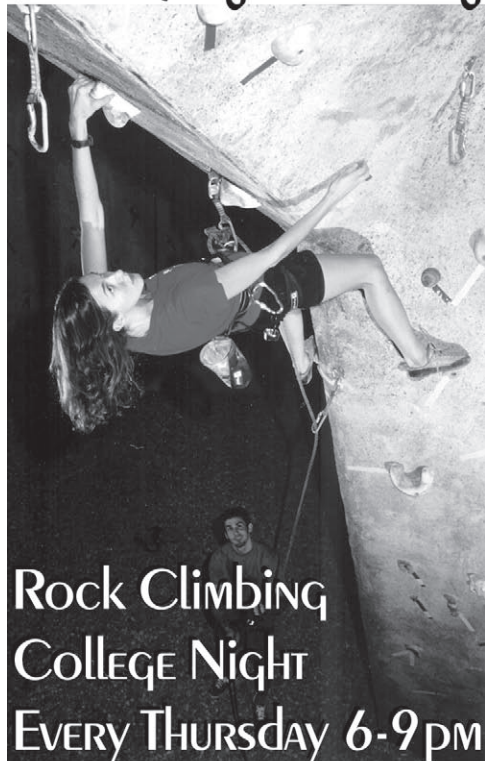
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News

The CT hits the streets: Prescription drug use

HEATHER ALEXANDER, LEWIS MEREDITH AND ASHBY PACA
Staff Writers

Q1: How many VCU students do you know use prescription drugs?
Q2: Which prescription drugs do they use?
Q3: For what reasons do they take prescription drugs?
Q4: How frequently do they use the prescription drug(s)?
Q7: How do most of the students you know obtain the prescription drug(s)?
Q10: What differences, if any, have you noticed about the student's behavior while using the prescription drug(s)?



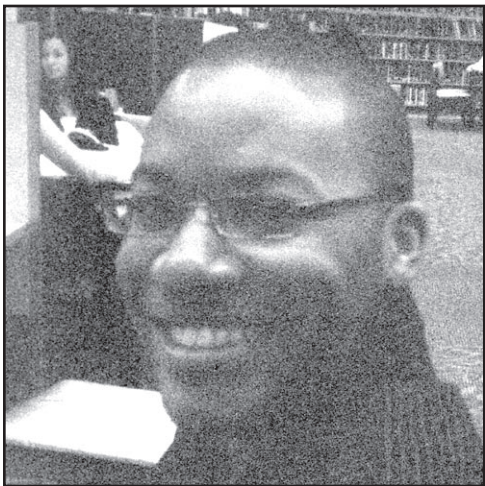
Velma Hairston, 18
First-year prenursing major

Q1: One to five
Q2: Ritalin
Q3: Scholastic
Q4: Biweekly
Q5: Physician
Q6: Most of the time, they are more relaxed, calm and can concentrate better.



Nhi Nguyen, 18
Sophomore prepharmacy major

Q1: One to five
Q2: Adderall
Q3: Scholastic
Q4: Weekly
Q5: Physician and friend
Q6: N/A



Jason Primrose, 21
Senior English major

Q1: Six or more
Q2: Adderall
Q3: Scholastic, recreational
Q4: Biweekly
Q5: Physician, friend
Q6: They get a little more excited, crazy.



Alex Haut, 21
Junior mechanical-engineering major

Q1: One to five
Q2: Ritalin, Adderall, Concerta
Q3: Scholastic
Q4: More than once a week
Q5: Physician, friend
Q6: I haven't noticed any significant changes in behavior.



Lauren Grech, 21
Senior psychology major

Q1: One to five
Q2: Adderall
Q3: Scholastic, recreational
Q4: More than once a week
Q5: Friend
Q6: They are calmer.



Forrest Morgan, 21
Junior mechanical-engineering major

Q1: Six or more
Q2: Ritalin, Adderall
Q3: Scholastic, recreational
Q4: More than twice a week
Q5: Physician, friend
Q6: They are calm, chilled.

SPORTS

Should NASCAR be considered a sport?

POINT
NASCAR: the ultimate sport

PHILIP BOGENBERGER
Managing Editor

Imagine sitting at a stop-light waiting for it to turn green, then beating the car next to you off the line, before pulling over for full-service gas and racing away before the guy at the next pump is finished filling his tank. Tell me that's not a sport.

Having mental toughness is more of a requirement in auto racing than most other sports.

Envision driving a car at speeds nearing 200 mph while opposing drivers push their supped-up vehicles around the racetrack in an attempt to keep you from finishing in first place.

If you have the slightest mental lapse then you've suddenly driven a car worth upwards of \$1,000,000 (depending on the racing circuit) into the wall at breakneck speed.

Sure, mental toughness is not the only attribute that qualifies auto racing as a sport.

Anybody who thinks pressing the gas pedal and shifting the gears of a car does not qualify as physical activity does not have the slightest inclination of what auto racing actually entails.

Try going from fifth gear to third while gently pressing the brake pedal to maneuver around a multi-car wreck in a matter of nanoseconds.

Sure it seems like a simple task driving in a Hyundai on I-95 at one-third of the speed, but it takes a lot of strength and force to perform the feat in a racecar, which most people are physically incapable of pulling off.

It also takes quite a skilled athlete to keep a car from flying sideways after being bumped from behind by a disgruntled Tony Stewart.

But it's not just the defending champion that a NASCAR driver has to compete against. Forty-three drivers qualify for a Nextel Cup race, and all are looking to win at any cost.

Still there are more reasons that make auto racing one of the supreme sports.

First, it is a worldwide sport with major automakers from

eight countries and circuits on six continents.

Next, while my colleague on the other side of the page will have you believe auto racing is for beer-guzzling rednecks, the sport is more advanced than others when it comes to gender equality. Women and men compete in the same races, and as a rookie of the year Danica Patrick proved during last year's Indy Racing League season, women can hold their own.

In addition, auto racers must be in tremendous physical shape. While driving in a racecar that can reach temperatures nearing 130 degrees, drivers can lose up to ten pounds during a race, which is similar to a hockey goalie.

Also, there are not any overweight racecar drivers, except for Stewart. But I would not say it to his face because he has been known to throw a punch or two at his detractors.

Lastly, auto racers are similar to daredevils, risking their lives every time they get behind the wheel.

If that is not the ultimate sport, then I don't know what is.

COUNTERPOINT

As 'athletes,' drivers take the back seat



WESTON REEVES
Associate Sports Editor

First off, if ridiculously fast racing and outlandish aggressive driving are qualifiers for what makes an athlete, then my 57-year-old mom is in the best shape of her life.

Sitting around the office Sunday I was compelled to turn my eyes to the Daytona 500 and actually see just what all the fuss was about. What I saw was not much.

To those fans out there who love NASCAR as much as their Blue Collar TV and their cold ones, I have come to critique what you call an athletic event.

With its increasing popularity, NASCAR has topped even Major League Baseball in ratings and has firmly planted itself as one of the top sports in America. But I can't help and question whether the event is even a sport at all.

To be a sport, there has to be a bit of athleticism involved, and the average NASCAR driver isn't going to win a track and field event against athletes like Terrell Owens or

Allen Iverson without the help of an engine.

Don't get me wrong, NASCAR has Jimmie Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr., who look like they could hold their own, but former Nextel Cup champion Tony Stewart doesn't look like he could finish a 50-yard jog, let alone a 50-yard dash. That is, unless he was chasing the Oscar Meyer Wiener Mobile down the street...

Maybe the running was a low blow, but these guys sit in a car for 500 miles! SIT!

Now I'll admit that there is a huge amount of skill required in racing. Racing a car up to 200 mph is definitely something that requires a bit of talent. However athletic talent? That's where I begin to disagree. It takes an incredible amount of skill to hit a bull's-eye in a game of darts, but athletic prowess? I don't think so.

As far as the sport is concerned, there is one thing that bothers me. At Daytona Sunday, Stewart sent Matt Kenseth spinning into the grass in the 106th lap, bullying his opponent off the road. The number 17 car sought revenge against the former Nextel Cup champion, later bumping Stewart's car but failing to prevent him from finishing in the top five.

How can NASCAR racing really be considered a true

athletic event if headhunting can play such a dramatic role in the outcome of the contest? Sure there is the occasional late hit in football, and a dirty ear bite or low blow may find its way into a boxing match, but they usually don't have large impacts on the final result.

Many races require athletic ability, but when you add an engine it takes the sport away from the event. Just ask Lance Armstrong how he would field about cruising around the French countryside on a moped instead of a bicycle.

COUNTERPOINT
with Philip and Weston



What do you think?

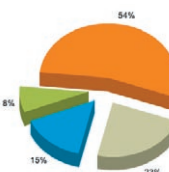
Should NASCAR be considered an athletic sport or competition?

- a. Sport
- b. Competition
- c. Both
- d. It's just driving

Vote in our online poll at
commonwealthtimes.com

Last question: In men's basketball, who will finish on top in the CAA?

- 54% George Mason
- 23% UNC Wilmington
- 15% Old Dominion
- 8% Hofstra



SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men’s Basketball’s George honored by coaches

Senior **Nick George** (Manchester, England) was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division I All-District Second Team. George, who is fourth in the Colonial Athletic Association with a scoring average of 17.0 points per game and has the conference’s highest 3-point percentage, earned first team all-district honors last season as a junior.



Women’s doubles dominate

Senior **Olga Borisova** (Minsk, Belarus) and sophomore **Marianna Yuferova** (St. Petersburg, Russia), the 17th-ranked doubles team in the country, remained perfect Tuesday when they led the Rams to their 12th-consecutive win, a 6-1 victory over Brown at Thalhimer Tennis Center as VCU remained undefeated. The pair is 8-0 after an 8-1 win over Kelly Kirkpatrick and Ashley Pariser. Other Rams who rounded out the top three

spots with victories include **Tatsiana Uvarova** (Minsk, Belarus) and **Vera Petrashevitch** (St. Petersburg, Russia) nabbing second position. **Camille Ripert** (Lourmarin, France) and **Viktoria Konstantinowva** (Hanskovo, Bulgaria) secured the third seed in doubles. Uvarova and Borisova also picked up their ninth wins in singles play.

BASEBALL
Errors plague Rams in loss to U. Va.

The University of Virginia broke a scoreless tie in the bottom of the third when Brandon Guyer drove in two runs with a triple to left center, spearheading a 7-1 victory over the Rams Tuesday. The Cavaliers finished the three-run inning with a David Adams sacrifice fly to score Guyer. Junior **Scott Sizemore** (Chesapeake/Hickory High School) got on base three times, scoring the Rams only run in the top of the fourth after he stole second and third base to reach home on a single from **Joe Meador** (Mechanicsville/Lee-Davis High School). Multiple Rams errors allowed the Cavaliers to build a 6-1 lead



with three unearned runs, and Tim Henry’s knock brought in the last runner in the eighth to round out the scoring.

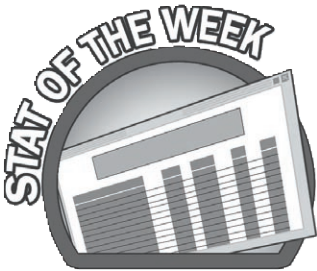
**Virginia****7**

**VCU****1**

DID YOU KNOW?

Martina Nedelkova holds the women’s tennis team record for the most career singles victories with 135, racking up wins between 1997 and 2002. During those same years, Nedelkova’s former teammate **Andrea Ondrisova** set the record for the second-most wins with 109 career singles victories. They also happen to hold the record for most career doubles wins, earning 59 doubles victories through those same years.

Source: vcurams.vcu.edu



What sports stories or events would you like to see covered by The Commonwealth Times? Let us know: 828-2420 or reevesws@vcu.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS



Men’s Basketball

Thurs. Feb. 23
vs. UNC Wilmington, 7:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 25
at William & Mary, 2

Women’s Basketball

Fri. Feb. 24
at Old Dominion, 7 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 26
vs. UNC Wilmington, 2

Thurs. Mar. 2
at Georgia State, 6

Track & Field (Men’s & Women’s)

Sun. Feb. 26
Mason Last Chance
George Mason Univ., Fairfax, Va.

Men’s Tennis

Sun. Feb. 26
vs. Ohio State, 11 a.m.

Women’s Tennis

Sat. Feb. 25
at Virginia, noon

Sat. Feb. 26
at Virginia Tech, 1 p.m.

Baseball

Fri. Feb. 24 – Sun. Feb. 26
Baseball at the Beach
Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Fri. vs. Coastal Carolina, noon
Sat. vs. Georgia Tech, noon
Sun. vs. Tennessee, noon

Wed. Mar. 1
vs. Radford, 4 p.m.

VCU sporting events are free to students with a valid student ID. For more information, contact the VCU Sports Line at 828-3440 or visit vcurams.vcu.edu.

VCU RAMS



SPORTS

STAFF PICKS

VCU BASKETBALL

Andrew “Cream of Potato” Babb

Graphic Designer
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: d. Old Dominion
L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 5-3 (.625)

Pat “Not Tim” Kane

Chief Photographer
MBB: L. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 5-3 (.625)

Tom “Don’t Call Me T-Bone” Nash

Associate Spectrum Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: d. Old Dominion; d. UNC Wilmington
Record: 5-3 (.625)

Weston “The Golden Boy” Reeves

Associate Sports Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 5-3 (.625)

Karen “Hotti Boombati” Bolipata

News Co-Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: d. Old Dominion; d. William & Mary
Record 4-4 (.500)

Katie “The Boss” Gantt

Executive Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; d. UNC Wilmington
Record 4-4 (.500)

Stephen “Devilman” Pratt

News Co-Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 4-4 (.500)

Maggie “Murda” Souza

Op-Editor
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; d. UNC Wilmington
Record: 4-4 (.500)

Omar “The Guesserator” Yacoubi

Production Chief
MBB: L. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 4-4 (.500)

Philip “The Governor” Bogenberger

Managing Editor
MBB: L. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: L. Old Dominion; L. UNC Wilmington
Record: 3-5 (.375)

Clive “The New Guy” White

Sports Reporter
MBB: d. UNC Wilmington; d. William & Mary
WBB: d. Old Dominion; d. UNC Wilmington
Record 0-2 (.000)

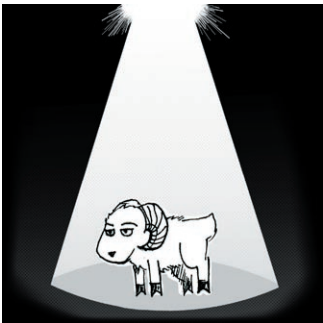
Key MBB WBB d. = defeats
 VCU Men’s Basketball VCU Women’s Basketball L. = loses to



STAY INFORMED
about VCU men’s basketball from Head Coach **Jeff Capel**

On the radio:
VCU Sports Talk w/ Jeff Capel, Mon. 6 p.m. on 100.3 WARV-FM, broadcast live from Glory Days Grill

On television:
The Jeff Capel Show, Wed. 8 p.m., RICH-TV (Comcast 79)



RAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Arnaud Lecloerrec Men’s Tennis

Class:
Junior

Major:
Sports Management

Birthday:
Sept. 17, 1982

Hometown:
Plouhinec, France

Tennis experience:
18 years playing, 3 at VCU

Plans after VCU:
Will pursue a master’s degree at the VCU SportsCenter

In spare time:
Likes to watch TV, movies, soccer and NBA games

Favorite (other) sport:
Soccer

Recent accomplishments:

Scored a 4-2 victory over then fifth-ranked Ralan Luchice in a singles match against North Carolina Sat. Feb. 18

Helped lead the 20th-ranked men’s tennis team to a 10-3 record on the season.



SPORTS

STANDINGS

CAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

	CAA		Overall
	W	L	W-L
George Mason	14	2	(21-5)
UNC Wilmington	13	3	(20-7)
Hofstra	12	4	(20-5)
Old Dominion	11	5	(19-8)
Virginia Commonwealth	10	6	(17-8)
Northeastern	10	6	(15-10)
Drexel	7	9	(14-14)
Towson	7	9	(11-14)
Delaware	4	12	(8-18)
Georgia State	3	13	(6-19)
William & Mary	3	13	(8-17)
James Madison	2	14	(5-20)

UPCOMING GAMES

Thurs. Feb. 23

UNC Wilmington at VCU, 7:30

George Mason at Hofstra, 7 p.m.

Towson at Georgia State, 7

Old Dominion at James Madison, 7

William & Mary at Drexel, 7:30

Northeastern at Delaware, 7:30

Sat. Feb. 25

VCU at William & Mary, 2

James Madison at George Mason, noon

Georgia State at UNC Wilmington, 2 p.m.

Northeastern at Towson, 4

Drexel at Hofstra, 4

Old Dominion at Delaware, 7:30



SCORES

Mon. Feb. 20

Hofstra	82
William & Mary	57

CAA WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

	CAA		overall
	W	L	W-L
Old Dominion	14	0	(16-7)
Hofstra	11	4	(16-8)
James Madison	11	4	(19-5)
William & Mary	10	5	(14-10)
Delaware	10	5	(18-6)
UNC Wilmington	7	8	(13-11)
Drexel	7	8	(12-12)
Virginia Commonwealth	5	10	(12-12)
George Mason	5	10	(9-15)
Georgia State	3	11	(8-15)
Towson	3	12	(8-16)
Northeastern	3	12	(7-17)

UPCOMING GAMES

Fri. Feb. 24

VCU at Old Dominion, 7

George Mason at Georgia State, 6 p.m.

Delaware at Drexel, 7

James Madison at Northeastern, 7

UNC Wilmington at William & Mary, 7

Towson at Hofstra, 7

Sun. Feb. 26

UNC Wilmington at VCU, 2

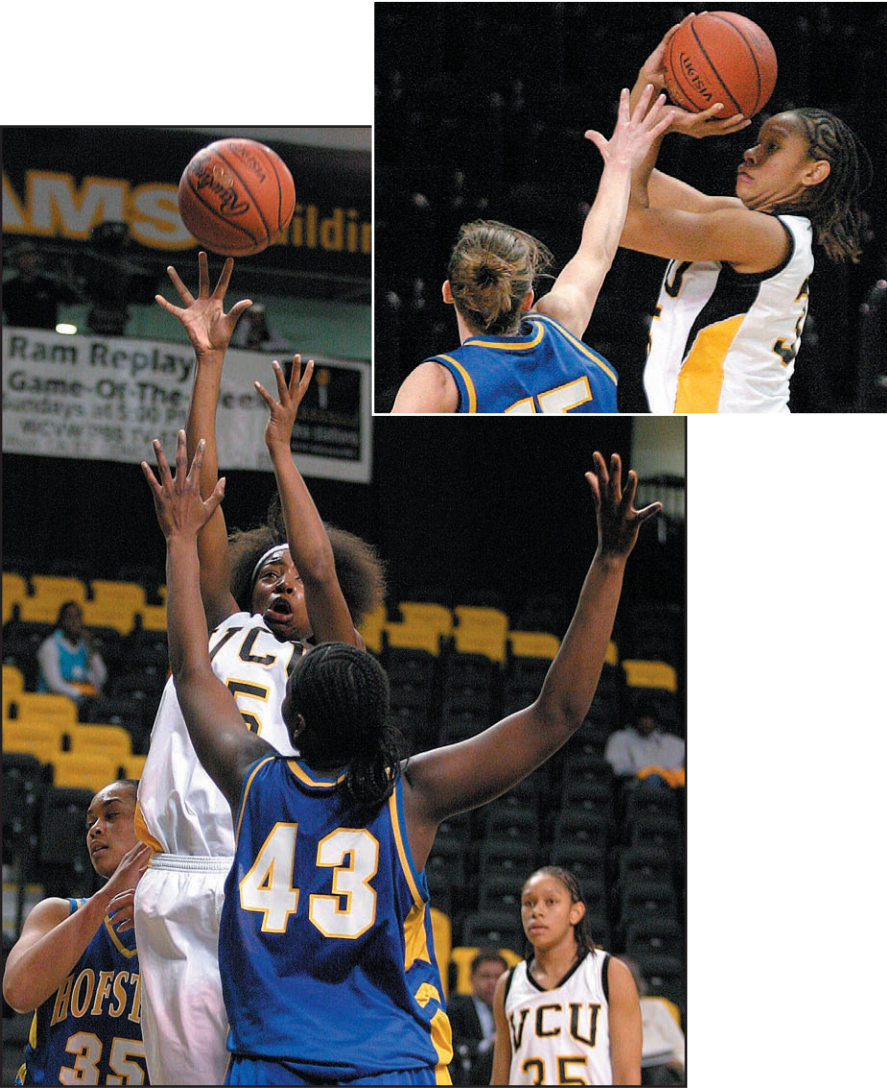
Northeastern at Delaware, 1 p.m.

Hofstra at Drexel, 2

William & Mary at Old Dominion, 2

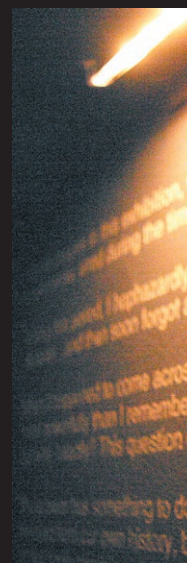
Georgia State at James Madison, 2

Towson at George Mason, 3





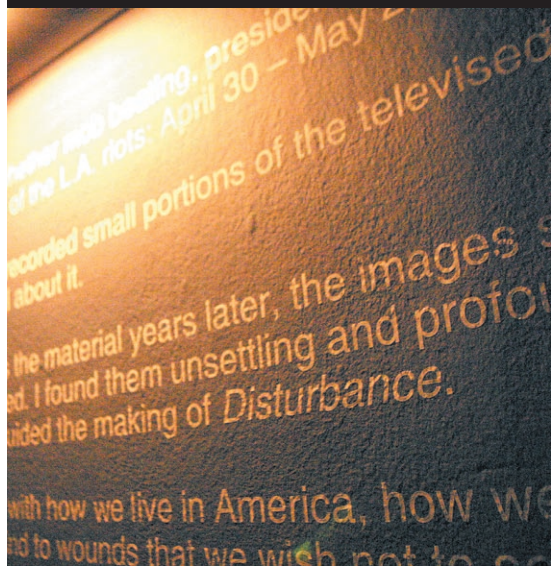
Spectrum



“Disturbance” Video Installations by Bob Paris will be at the Anderson Gallery at 907 ½ W. Franklin St. through March 5. For more information call 828-1522.



Pat Kane



Pat Kane

Kinetic imaging teacher creates a 'DISTURBANCE'

KATIE GANTT
Executive Editor

“Disturbance,” Bob Paris’ five-part video installation now appearing at the Anderson Gallery, is just that: disturbing.

The kinetic imaging teacher’s work features television programs and news footage videotaped in San Francisco from April 29 to May 2, 1992 – the time frame of the Los Angeles riots that occurred immediately following the verdict from the March 3, 1991, Rodney King beating.

“Sometime in the mid ‘90s, I came across many VHS tapes of something from a few years back. It turns out I have no memory of it but during the L.A. riots I had taped some of the TV coverage,” Paris said. “I was never really thinking of doing anything with it.”

What made the biggest impression on Paris was that he did not remember how large-scale the event had been.

“It was almost as if I was looking at them for the first time,” Paris said. “A lot of the images are so powerful and so sad, and I was struck by how I had forgotten about it.”

Though the exhibit focuses on everything from George H.W. Bush’s comments on the riots to TV commercials that appeared during that time frame, one part of the footage struck a chord in Paris.

“I was particularly struck by the public speech by King that day,” he said. “King is just such a masterful screw-up. He’s always been in trouble with the law. He’s not necessarily a role model. I kind of saw him that day as a kind of tragic figure. I just found him ultimately wildly eloquent.”

Since King’s stumbling speech made

such an impression on him, the main three-screen exhibit focuses for a minute or so on this event, breaking up the distorted, wobbly images that dominate the film.

Glen “Rodney” King was born April 2, 1965, in Sacramento, Ca. – four months, nine days and 385 miles from the Watts riots in L.A.

The Watts riots began when a California Highway Patrol motorcycle officer pulled over Marquette Frye for driving erratically – the same reason Rodney King was pulled over 26 years later. The 1965 stop resulted in arrests which triggered a riot that lasted six days.

Though the exhibit focuses on the L.A. riots, it does have a more overlying theme of the role TV plays in history and our lives.

“We don’t have any history anymore. TV plays a part in this,” Paris said. “Everything is about what’s happening now and not what happened before. Things just loop. They repeat.”

Amy Moorefield, assistant professor, assistant director and curator of collections for the Anderson Gallery, said the gallery is always looking for innovative exhibitions to display.

“I was completely blown away by the piece and worked with him and watched it grow into a five-part installation over a two-year process,” she said.

Moorefield also liked the piece for its portrayal of how the media affects our lives.

“I think one of my first impressions after I viewed Bob Paris’ work for the first time was that it was a very telling and moving piece for me, really conveying how the media in essence fragments our view of current events and human tragedy and how difficult it

DISTURBANCE continued to Page 18



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Spectrum

Movie Review

‘Final Destination 3’ brings a flawed premise to an end

JAMES APPLEBACH
Spectrum Writer

“Final Destination 3” may actually live up to its name of being the final destination of this series. It’s merely a rehashing of ideas in the prequels with brand new characters and extra-gory death scenes.

Seven high school seniors board a roller coaster at a local amusement park when Wendy Christensen, played by Mary Elizabeth Winstead, has a premonition that the coaster will run off its tracks and kill everyone riding. She starts screaming to be let off, and she, along with a number of others, decide that this ride isn’t either worth the drama or they are just too freaked out by her panicked behavior.

After this harrowing incident, people who got off the

ride begin to die in extremely bloody and painful ways. Mary and her new friend Kevin Fischer, played by Ryan Merriman, discover that by preventing the deaths of those who got off the coaster, she had merely postponed the inevitable on a very short timeline.

For what it was, this movie was worth seeing. Each death resembled more of a lack of control for the victims than the pure carelessness exhibited in the second film. However, there were certainly some that could have been easily avoided. The film also showed some borderline offensive images of the attack on the twin towers and other disasters.

The main problem with the film is that the background of the series has been flawed from the start, and not really scary at all. Yes, we are all going to die, and sometimes there are freak accidents, but this film strives once again to defy logic and cut into the audience’s most basic instinct

to make a buck.

Nothing resembling psychological horror or creepiness is found in this film. It’s merely one cheap shot after another to attack those most basic of all instincts with loud noises and utterly nonsensical suspense when given any amount of thought.

Plausible as these situations may seem to some, the idea that death is stalking those who avoid it with premonitions is utterly and completely ridiculous. The fact that this film even tries to strike some sort of philosophical chord in the audience is the most disturbing part of this movie-going experience, but this is not new. Every film in this series has tried to produce the same result on a flimsy and unimpressive crux.

3.5 stars



Richmond Ballet brings ‘Sleeping Beauty’ to life

BEN GIBSON
Spectrum Writer

The performance of “Sleeping Beauty” by the Richmond Ballet deserved the many cheers, clapping and a standing ovation it received.

Bombastic dancing occurred in time with the music. Gracefully, the dancers cross the stage while kicking their legs fast enough to remind one of a hummingbird, sometimes jumping in symmetry.

The crown and sequins on the costumes added to the mystique of the characters, especially the Lilac Fairy (Lauren Fagone). The lights briefly changed the appearance of people’s clothes when the curtains were raised.

A few strobe flashes announced the appearance of the wicked fairy, Carabosse (Malcolm Burn). His kilt was so large it briefly masked the two dancers behind him. In the next act, Puss –N– Boots (Thomas Ragland) and the White Cat (Maggie Small) behaved flirtatiously to the glee of the crowd.

After the second scene, the lighting made it appear that the Prince and Puss –N– Boots walked on thin air while crossing an incomplete bridge, which was a definite crowd pleaser. Having the bridge appear to come out by itself was also impressive.

The second scene revolved around flowers. Knowing how roses affect people in ballets, one may have expected Aurora to have fallen asleep after her first rose. But it was only after giving her mother eight roses that she was tricked. Carabosse in disguise, gave a posey. After being cut, Aurora danced around the crowd, seemingly to imply that she was still well. But the wicked fairy still succeeded, and Aurora fell asleep for 100 years, waiting for her prince to kiss her awake.

LEFT: “Sleeping Beauty” was performed by the Richmond Ballet Friday at the Landmark Theater. Photo courtesy of the Richmond Ballet.



V i r g i n i a C o m m o n w e a l t h U n i v e r s i t y

VCU Libraries
and the School of Mass Communications Lecture

Empower the People

presented by Tony Brown

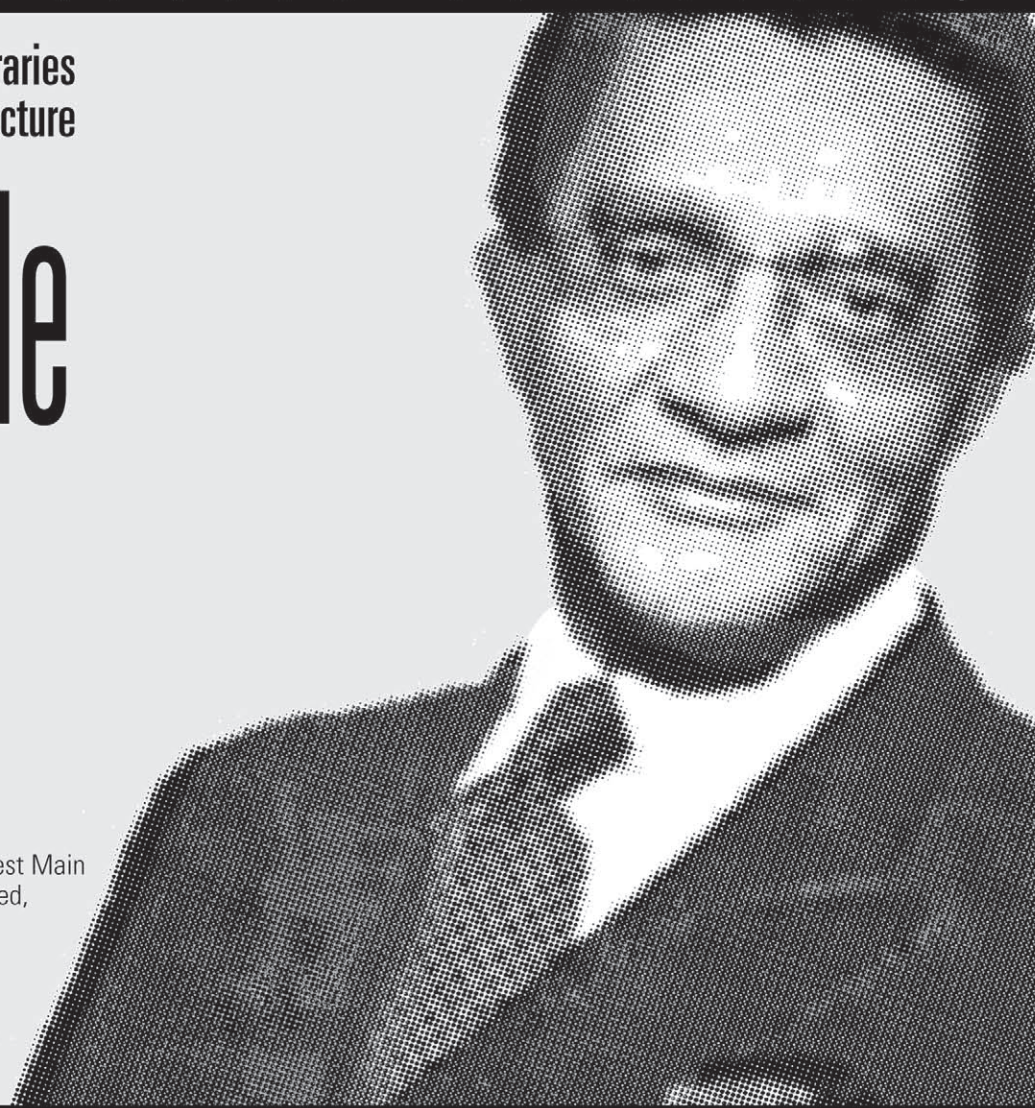
Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006 • 7:30 p.m.
VCU Student Commons, Richmond Salons
2nd Floor
907 Floyd Ave.

This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available for a fee in the West Main Street and West Cary Street parking decks. If special accommodations are needed, please contact Kimberly Separ at (804) 828-1105 prior to Feb. 24, 2006.

VCU Libraries: www.library.vcu.edu

VCU School of Mass Communications: www.has.vcu.edu/mac

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Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006
Wednesday, March 22, 2006
Thursday, April 20, 2006
Wednesday, May 17, 2006
Registration not required; all sessions are from 5:30 to 7 p.m.
2006-07 application deadline: Feb. 1

For more information:

<http://www.vcu.edu/swmswnova>
Virginia Commonwealth University
Northern Virginia Master of Social Work Program
6295 Edsall Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22312
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Thursday, Feb. 23

VCU Happenings

Men of Color Discussion Group

This theme-oriented group supports male students of color who are in the process of becoming responsible male adults. Focus will be placed on general discussions about men's issues, culture conflicts, academic/career goals, and environmental stresses. This is not a therapy group. 5 to 6 p.m. Student Commons, Room 215. 828-6672.

Art History Oyotunji: An African King in America. A lecture by Dr. Babatunde Lawal. 7 to 9 p.m. Student Commons, Commons Theater. 828-6672.

VCU Symphony Orchestra

Concert VCU Music presents the VCU Symphony Orchestra in concert directed by Dr. Jean Montes. This concert will feature Dana Wilson's Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra commissioned and performed by VCU professor Rex Richardson. 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Singleton Performing Arts Center, Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. 828-1169.

Pool Trick Shot Competition

Deadline to sign up in Break Point! See details of event below (Sunday, February 26). \$7. 828-GAME.

Commons Reading Aimee Bender reading a selection of her prose work. 8 p.m. Student Commons, Salons I and II. 828-6672.

The Three Sisters The cultured Prozorov sisters and their brother, live in a small town and dream of one day finding freedom, fulfillment and romance by moving to faraway Moscow. Often referred to as "the best drama of the 20th century," this beautifully poignant exploration of the quest for happiness and the tragedy of unfulfilled dreams remains timely and touching even for today's audiences. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Raymond Hodges Theater. VCU students with a valid I.D. \$5, general admission is \$15, and seniors and faculty are \$12. 828-2695.

Climbing Gym College Night 2 for 1 Introduction to Climbing class (or \$15 each) that includes all climbing equipment, or 2 for 1 Day Passes (or \$5.50 each) are

available to anyone with a valid Student ID. ITC class begins promptly at 6:30pm. Free rides provided by VCU's Outdoor Adventure Program (828-6004). 6 to 9 p.m. Peak Experiences Indoor Rock Climbing Center, 11421 Polo Circle, Midlothian. 897-6800.

Around Town

Art

Brother and Sister Act Burt and Amy Ritchie will perform music and poetry together. 7:30 p.m. Chop Suey Books, 1317 West Cary Street. 497-4705.

Art After Hours and Auction

Celebrate the arts with musical guest Mo DeBree as well as chardonnay wine tasting, poetry by Ye Chun, tours and a silent art auction. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 200 North Boulevard. 21 years and older. \$10. 340-1400.

An Evening with the Barksdale Theater

The audience will have an opportunity to talk "behind the scenes" with the managing director of Barksdale Theatre, Phil Whiteway. The Tavern will also be unveiling a small exhibition of Barksdale artifacts. 5 p.m. Hanover Tavern, 13181 Hanover Courthouse Road. 537-5050.

Music

Sweep the Leg Cobra Kai presents Richmond's first Baltimore house party, featuring Tittsworth, Krames and Kool Kut Ninja. 10 p.m. Nanci Raygun, 929 West Grace Street. 18 years and older. \$3. 353-4263.

Local Xposure 102.1 the X presents local talent, including Infidel, Trust in the Fall, Ares Caress, Step Away Inc., and Classic. 8 p.m. Canal Club, 1545 East Cary Street. 643-2582.

Rock the Gallery Local and not-so-local talent by Silent Type, the Mason Brothers and North Elementary. 8 p.m. Gallery 5, 200 West Marshall Street. \$5. 644-0005

Back Room Jazz Come check out Plum Street Ramblers for a mix of classic country and bluegrass. Bogart's, 203 North Lombardy Street. \$5. 353-9280.

Friday, Feb. 24

VCU Happenings

The Three Sisters The cultured Prozorov sisters and their brother, live in a small town and dream of one day finding freedom, fulfillment and romance by moving to faraway Moscow. Often referred to as "the best drama of the 20th century," this beautifully poignant exploration of the quest for happiness and the tragedy of unfulfilled dreams remains timely and touching even for today's audiences. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Raymond Hodges Theater. VCU students with a valid I.D. \$5, general admission is \$15, and seniors and faculty are \$12. 828-2695.

The Love Experience Artist, songwriter, and performer, neo soul artist Raheem DeVaughn performs at APB's Uncommon Live. 7pm-9pm. Commonwealth Ballrooms. Open to the public. Free for VCU Students, \$5 for non VCU students. 828-6500.
DARWIN DAY CELEBRATION 11am - KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Robert Trivers presents "The Darwinian Approach to Dance: Dance Reveals Biological Quality (at Least in Jamaica)" Commonwealth Ballroom. Followed by guest speaker, Dr Brian Alters, presenting "Landmark Trial: Intelligent Design, God, & Evolution" at 2pm. Richmond Salons IV. 827-8516

An Evening with Dana Wilson

This concert will feature VCU Music faculty and students as they present several works by composer Dana Wilson. 8:00 pm-9:30 pm Singleton Center for the Performing Arts-Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Open to the Public. 828-6776

APB's Mardi Gras Party Come party with APB New Orleans style. Light refreshments will be served starting at 9:00 p.m., party beginning at 10:00 p.m.. VCU students \$3, non-VCU guests \$5 (must be accompanied by a VCU student). All proceeds will be donated to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Katrina victims. 828-4554.

Around Town

Art

Soul Power A night of spoken word and African-American history featuring Stic Man of Dead Prez, Junnipus Elite, and Shadowkat. 7-10pm. Tropical Soul. 314 N. 2nd Street. Stic Man will also be doing a book signing at the Black History Museum at 00 Clay Street.

Music

Darkest Hour Alley Katz presents Darkest Hour with Hisma. All ages show. \$10. 6 p.m. 10 Walnut Alley.

In The Back Room John Wintet performs jazz at Bogart's in the Fan. 203 N. Lombardy St. \$7 353-9280.



Thrash/punk metal band Darkest Hour will be playing at Alley Katz on Friday. The band is touring behind their latest release "Undoing Ruin." The band will be unveiling a special instrumental song called "Veritas, Aquietas."





Spectrum

DISTURBANCE *continued from Page 13*

is to actually escape from that onslaught of media when human tragedy like this occurs.”

Madison Fairburn, a sophomore art education major, read about the exhibit online before going to see it.

“I thought it was really well done,” Fairburn said. “It was good to have prior knowledge to what it was going to be about as far as it being a recording of the riots in ‘92 and knowing it was a video of that being shown.”

Fairburn did mention that she didn’t know the proper order to view the exhibit in.

“I was a little confused at first because of the main video,” she said. “Unless you know to go there first, the other videos kind of look choppy but the main video puts it all together.”

Even though there was some confusion, Fairburn enjoyed the exhibit.

“I really liked it. It’s a really strong piece as far as the message and the images,” she said. “In 1992 I was too young to understand it, so it’s interesting to look back. Definitely it’s a reality check on where we’ve been and even where we are.”

Though the footage was taped in ’92, it took several years for Paris to complete the project.

“I first transformed the images to black and white and how they wobble maybe in the mid ‘90s,” Paris said. “Analog video synthesizers is how the film was stretched and transformed to reflect the disease and disturbance I found.”

Paris wasn’t able to complete work on “Disturbance” until 2001 when he was able to finish the rest of the project in three separate three-week sessions.

“I always knew I wanted it on three large screens together kind of choreographed. I had no vision of exactly how it was going to turn out.”

Paris said the name “Disturbance” is slightly ironic.

“A sports announcer was going over the games being canceled, and he refers to them as disturbances. A disturbance is very low key. A disturbance is almost a blip on the radar – something out of whack a little bit, but it’s very temporary. It’s still under control. So there’s kind of an ironic understatement.”

The exhibit consists of three separate dark rooms with a series of televisions displaying footage that Paris morphed into ghostly apparitions of the events of the four days he videotaped.

“Darkness to me is much more in the realm of dreams – the world of history,” he said. “You have visual stimuli coming at you all the time, so I’m very pleased with the darkness and the sound that moves from one room to another. It’s eerie, and I like that.”

CALENDAR

A Night At The Opera Virginia Opera presents Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro. Sponsored by Carpenter Foundation. Landmark Theater. \$10 and up. 8:00pm. 646-4213.

Events

Our Big Fat Greek Weekend Explore the food, science, art and traditions of Greece. Dance performances Friday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday – Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 West Broad Street. 1-800-659-1727.

Saturday, Feb. 25

VCU Happenings

The Three Sisters The cultured Prozorov sisters and their brother, live in a small town and dream of one day finding freedom, fulfillment and romance by moving to faraway Moscow. Often referred to as “the best drama of the 20th century,” this beautifully poignant exploration of the quest for happiness and the tragedy of unfulfilled dreams remains timely and touching even for today’s audiences. 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Raymond Hodges Theater. VCU students with a valid I.D. \$5, general admission is \$15, and seniors and faculty are \$12. 828-2695. Mardi Gras Concert Join the Richmond Organization for Sexual Minority Youth for the first-ever Mardi Gras concert benefit. Eric Himan and Andy Moore will perform. VCU Commons, Commonwealth Ballroom. 8 p.m. to midnight. Student Tickets \$20, General Admission \$25. 644-4800.

Around Town

Music

In The Back Room Sambaiosis brings Brazilian jazz infusion to Bogart’s. \$7. 203 N. Lombardy St. \$7 353-9280. Gellman Room Concert The Finnsbury

Minstrel Guild, led by local musician and historian Jean Fearnow, will perform in costume, playing early and modern music on reproductions of ancient instruments. Richmond Main Public Library, Downtown. 2 p.m. 646-4514.

Space Rocks New wave, space bands the Key-ons and Moon Boogie will play the Raygun.. 18 and up. 10 p.m. \$5. 929 W. Grace St. 353-4263.

Jazz and Jams Modern Groove Syndicate will be performing their jazz and jam at the Cary St. Cafe at 10 p.m. \$5

Events

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Sunday, Feb. 26

VCU Happenings

Pool Trick Shot Competition All contestants will need to display five trick shots and will be judged by a panel of three people. 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Student Commons, Break Point Games Room. 828-GAME.

The Three Sisters The cultured Prozorov sisters and their brother, live in a small town and dream of one day finding freedom, fulfillment and romance by moving to faraway Moscow. Often referred to as “the best drama of the 20th century,” this beautifully poignant exploration of the quest for happiness and the tragedy of unfulfilled dreams remains timely and touching even for today’s audiences. 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Raymond Hodges Theater. VCU students with a valid I.D. \$5, general admission is \$15, and seniors and faculty are \$12. 828-2695.

Around Town

Art

Gallery Talk In conjunction with current photography exhibition by Carrie Mae Weems, Visual Arts Center of Richmond brings to you distinguished visiting professor at VCU Department of Photography and Film, Charles Stainback. 2pm. 1812 W.

Main Street. 353-0094.

Music

VIP Sundays 106.5 the Beat & Capital City Entertainment present VIP Sundays with Dem Franchise Boyz. 9 p.m. Canal Club, 1545 East Cary Street. \$30. 21 and older. 643-2582.

Benefit Concert To benefit the Jessica Beck Memorial Scholarship Fund, presenting Hot Apple Pie with the Marna Bales Band, Robbin Thompson and CMT’s Miranda Williams. 2 p.m. The Canal Club, 1545 East Cary Street. \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. 643-2582.

A Night At The Opera Virginia Opera presents Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro. Sponsored by Carpenter Foundation. Landmark Theater. \$10 and up. 2:30 pm. 646-4213.

Events

Our Big Fat Greek Weekend Explore the food, science, art and traditions of Greece. Dance performances Friday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday – Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 West Broad Street. 1-800-659-1727.

Name That Beer The Richmond SPCA will benefit from the Tuckahoe Jaycees’ second annual “Name That Beer” event. Each participant will be given a 2-ounce sample of 12 different beers and can then test their ale aficionado status by identifying the samples from a beer list of 150 choices. 3 p.m. Capital Ale House, Innsbrook. \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. 780-ALES.

12 Years of Legend Brewing Company Come and experience their broad selection of beers while being entertained by the musical talents of Wade Reynolds, Hotel X, and Rylo. 6 p.m. to midnight. Legend Brewing Co., 321 West 7th Street. 232-8871.

How to Survive Your Dream Wedding Join the Richmond Bridal Association for an insider’s look at all of the elements that create your Big Day. From reception venues and coordinators to limousines and photographers, learn how to survive planning the wedding of your dreams. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Omni Richmond, 100 South 12th Street. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. 257-WEDD.



CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES OFFERED

Foreign student from Russia wants to have **English classes in exchange for Russian**. E-mail: volodya_hanasov@mail.ru

SKYDIVE! - One Day First Jumps from 13,500'! 22 jumper aircraft. Student Discounts! Gift Certificates! www.skydiveorange.com (540) 943-6587

How to **recover Gold** from computers and cell phones. This dvd details the parts and how to get paid top dollar on the precious metals. Easy to do! Visit www.thescrapman.net

HELP WANTED

BECOME A **DELL STUDENT REP** EARN \$12/hr. Make your own hours and gain amazing experience for your resume! Position starts immediately. Go to: Repnation.com/dell to apply

BECOME A **DELL CAMPUS REP** - EARN \$12/hr. Make your own hours and gain amazing experience for your resume! Position starts immediately. Go to: Repnation.com/dell to apply.

HELP WANTED

The Dairy Bar restaurant, located at 1602 Roseneath Road, less than 2 miles from VCU, is hiring **daytime waitresses** for lunch, 11-2pm or 11-3pm shifts, earn great tips call Bill or Trisha 355-1937.

Restaurant- Willow Oaks County Club seeks neat, personable and energetic individuals for **wait staff/banquet positions**. Candidates must be able to work a variety of shifts along w/ weekends and holidays. Prior experience preferred. Apply in person 6228 Forest Hill Ave. Drug Free work place. EOE

HELP WANTED

Atlantic Coast Athletic Club in Charlottesville, Virginia is seeking **Camp Counselors for Summer, 2006** (June 5th - August 25th). Salary range \$7.50-\$10.00/hour, depending on experience. If you are creative, energized and love kids, ACAC has an opportunity for you. Applications can be picked up at our Albemarle Square facility in Charlottesville or from our website at www.acac.com. Forward to ACAC Human Resources, 923 Gardens Blvd. Charlottesville, VA 22901.

HELP WANTED

We're growing! Do you know someone who loves working with kids and is looking for the COOLEST part-time job? **Mad Science of Central VA** is looking for energetic and enthusiastic people to add to our team of Mad Scientists! Visit our website and click on NOW HIRING!

Sitters Wanted. Average \$10 per hour. Register free for jobs near campus or home. www.student-sitters.com

Were You Adopted?

Were you born in another country and adopted by a North American family?

If so, please come to a 2-hour focus group discussion about your experience.

Contact VCU Graduate Students Christa Davidson at 703-242-6263 or Kathy Weeks at 703-690-3137 for more information.

You'll receive a gift card to a restaurant of your choice as our thanks to you.



2 low-fat smoothies for \$5.99!



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Twelve-time Grammy award winner Chick Corea's four-decade career is the stuff of jazz lore—an amalgamation of influential, limit-stretching musical experiences that have filled many a page in 20th century music history encyclopedias. Enjoy his creative genius and genre-bending compositions featuring Brazilian, Afro-Cuban and post-bop jazz flavors.

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TWO SHOWS!

Tuesday, February 28

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COMICS

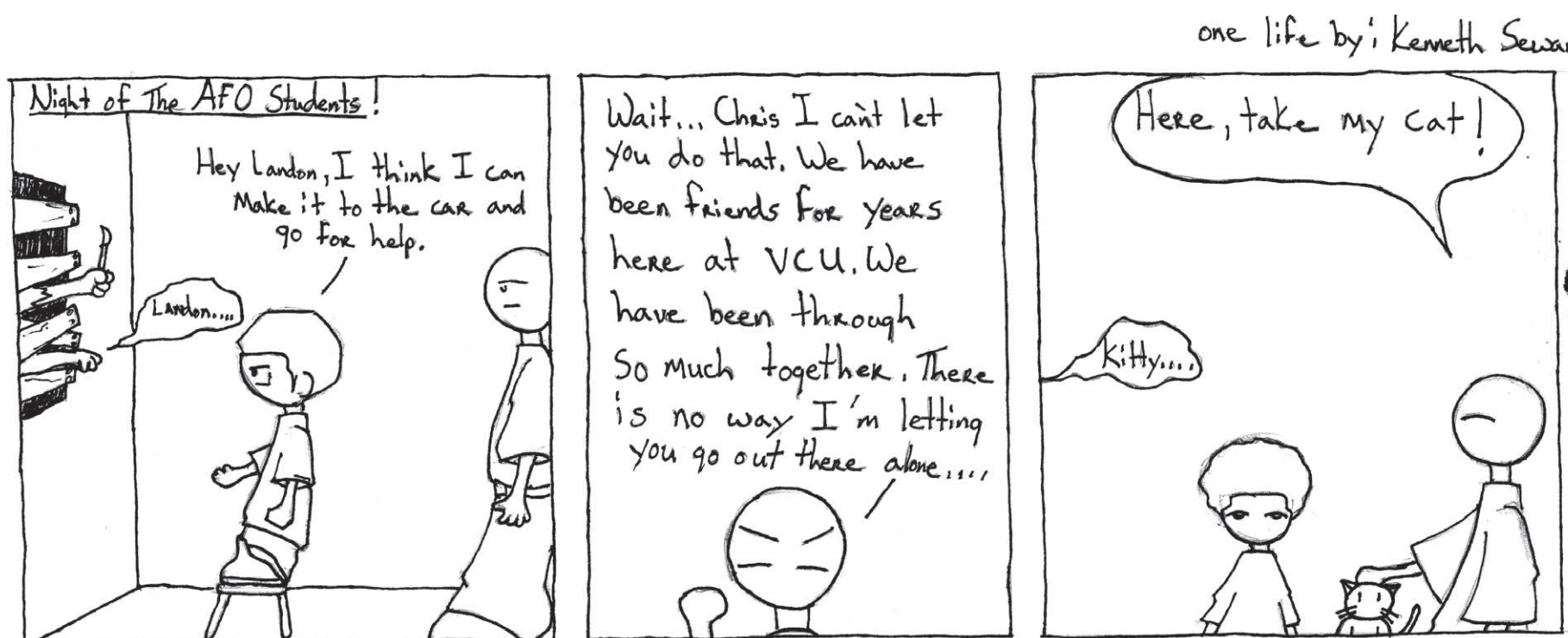
Pizza From Scratch

Bill Lemmond



One Life

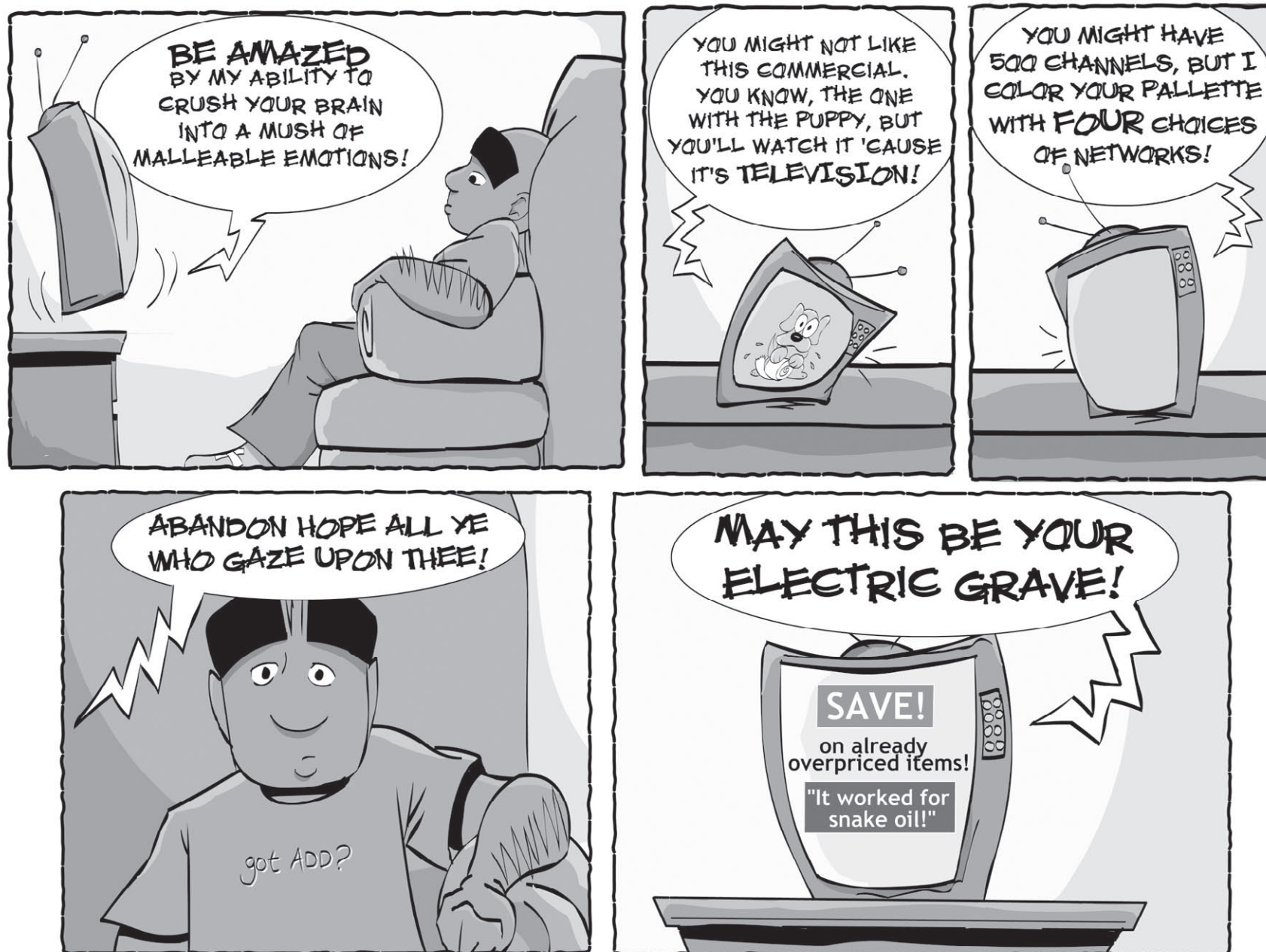
Kenneth Seward



COMICS

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an iPod® nano or an iTunes® gift card

GRAND PRIZE
iPod® nano (2GB)

FIRST PRIZE
\$50 iTunes® Gift Card

SECOND PRIZE
\$25 iTunes® Gift Card



Coming Soon in the VCU TelegRAM!

SMOKERS and EX-SMOKERS: EARN \$80 IN A U. OF RICHMOND STUDY

U of R researchers are looking for frequent smokers (20+ cigs/day) and ex-smokers (who quit 1-10 years ago) who are aged 18-55 and in good health for a study examining the relationship between smoking and respiration. Eligible participants will be paid \$80 for completing one 60-minute lab session.

Call 24 hrs for information • (804) 484-1546
Principal Investigator: Kenneth Abrams, Ph.D.
Study approved by the UR Institutional Review Board



EDITORIALS & LETTERS

Brief

Michael Morales is supposed to be dead already, executed by lethal injection. He would be, but medical professionals — unlike the prison officials who usually handle this stuff — are having some ethical issues.

And who could blame them? Pumping poison into people for the sole purpose of executing them is not a job that allows you to go home with a smile on your face. If you disagree, you should seriously consider a career working for a prison system.

Morales, 46, was scheduled to be killed Tuesday, but a judge ruled that an anesthesiologist had to be there to make sure Morales was unconscious and therefore unable to feel pain when injected with the paralyzing drug.

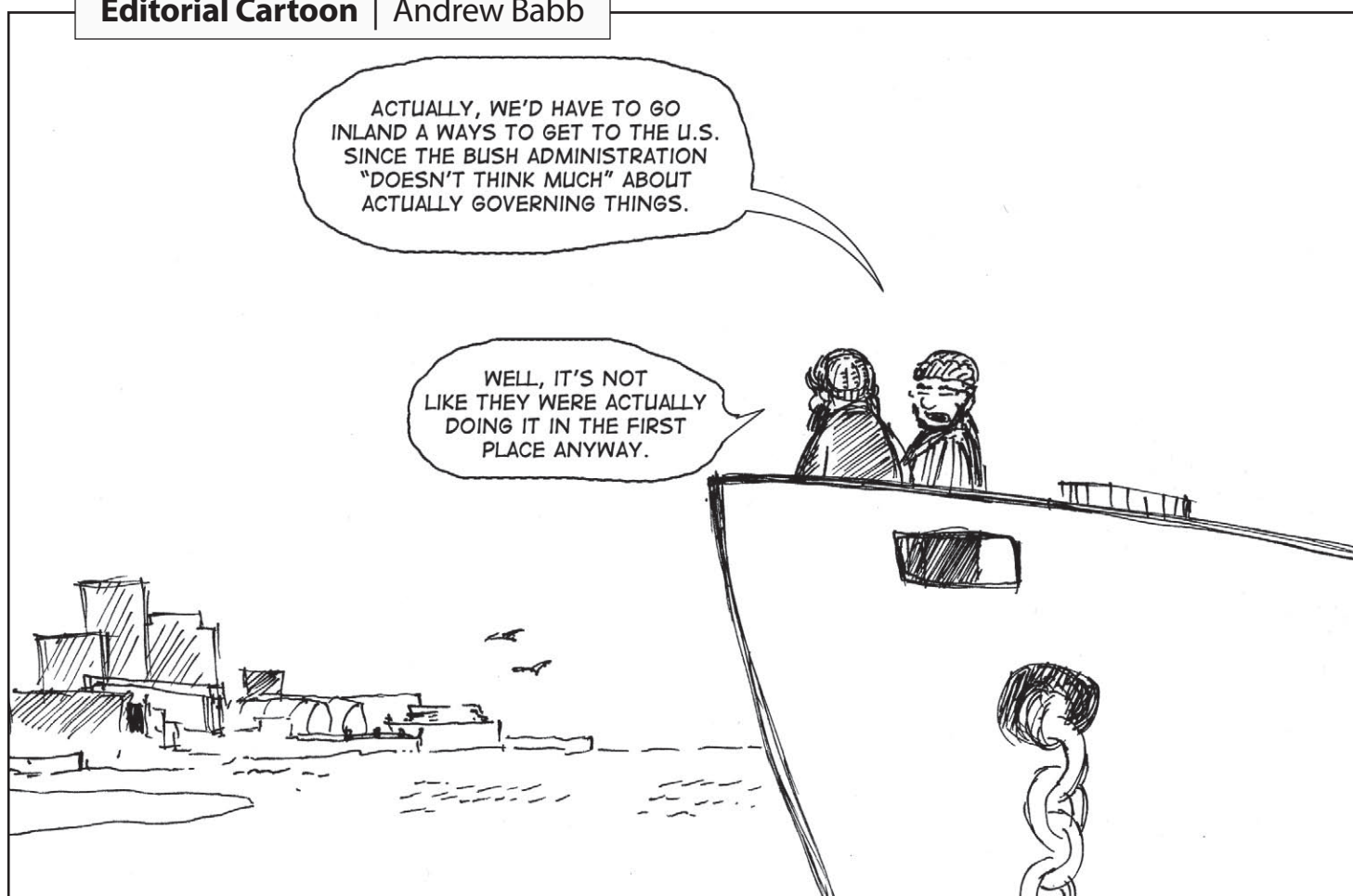
Nobody has taken San Quentin State Prison up on the offer.

The other option the judge gave was to have a licensed practitioner inject a lethal dose of sedatives. This method would take 30 minutes to kill the prisoner. There have been no volunteers for that job, either.

Usually lethal injections are administered by a machine, which is hooked up intravenously by trained prison staff, and consists of three drugs: one to sedate, one to paralyze and one to stop the heart.

It's obvious that putting this responsibility directly into the hands of a medical professional is a lot more difficult than turning on a machine. Maybe it's because such people generally aren't sadistic, or maybe it's because the machine doesn't give a damn.

Editorial Cartoon | Andrew Babb



Your Turn *Letters to the Editor*

Security is still an issue

All over campus are advertisements and posters for a free escort service provided by the university. They'll pick you up from the library and drop you off safely at home. This is a very important service in a city like Richmond as it has one of the top murder rates in the nation. The only problem is, they'll only take you as far as Lombardy Street in the Fan. As you may already know Lombardy Street is only five blocks away from the Business Building, which means the escort service barely even scratches the surface of the Fan, where hundreds of VCU students work and live.

This is a very serious problem. When I was a freshman the escort service would take you all the way out to Boulevard. The apparent reason for the cut was that students were "taking advantage" of the service. How one could take advantage of a security escort is beyond me. However, I, among others, am suffering the consequences.

The five blocks from campus to Lombardy Street are the least of my worries when I'm walking home from class at 10 p.m. What worries me is the next eight blocks I have to walk to my apartment. And I'm sure I'm not the only one.

In the wake of incidents such as the tragic disappearance and murder of Taylor Behl

and the recent robberies in the Fan, I recommend that the old boundaries be reinstated for the security of VCU students. There are plenty of students who have never abused the escort service and they are being put at risk by being forced to walk the streets of Richmond late at night.

I urge you all to check out the escort Web site (<http://www.vcu.edu/police/security.html>) and fill out a comment form requesting that the boundaries be reset. While we cannot prevent all crimes in the Richmond area, we can help keep VCU students safe while they travel to and from campus during these dangerous hours.

The VCU Security Escort Service is available from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day. Dial 828-WALK or pick up an Emergency Reporting Telephone (those yellow boxes all over the campus) to speak with a dispatcher.

Amanda L. Indorf

Editor's reply: My guess is that students were "taking advantage" of the service by using it as a drunk taxi instead of a means of safety. VCU takes care of its intoxicated students by teaming up with the Richmond Police and forming a Party Patrol, not by offering services that would help them get home in one piece. This isn't JMU after all.

Jackson Ward Development

In recent Richmond news, students or faculty members familiar with the Richmond area may have recognized mention of the Jackson Ward district, of notable proximity to the VCU Monroe Park Campus. Jackson Ward lies just east of Belvidere and north of Broad Street, and includes parts of Clay and Marshall streets. Once known for crime and urban decline, and especially known by its nickname, "Harlem of the South," Jackson Ward faces a new future.

As the Richmond Times-Dispatch points out, the Jackson Ward area is following suit of certain Richmond factory renovations (i.e. Todd Lofts) and is getting a new image. Decaying homes are becoming less and less apparent and the blocks are beginning to resemble the Fan district.

As improvements are made, several effects on Virginia Commonwealth University can be assumed. First, Jackson Ward extends from Belvidere to 3rd Street, although it formerly extended as far east as 18th Street. It formerly would have connected the Monroe Park and Medical campuses, but the district does not as of now. Keeping proximity in mind, though,

LETTERS continued to Page 23

The Commonwealth Times

The independent student press of
Virginia Commonwealth University

KATIE GANTT

Executive Editor

MAGGIE SOUZA

Editor of the Editorial Pages

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*Tad Hethcoat • Lyz Holder
April Kung • Alex Marra • Danielle Moss
Katherine Pugh • Derek Rinaldo*

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 pages of The Commonwealth Times are a forum open to the public. Clear, concise and compelling contributions are welcome online at commonwealthtimes.com, by e-mail at cteditor05@yahoo.com or by mail and in person at 817 W. Broad St., Richmond, Va. 23220-3806.

Letters must be sent from a valid VCU e-mail address or signed with daytime and evening telephone contact. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, style and space.

Op/Ed

Darwinism: Philosophy, not science

GEORGE BELDEN

Op/Ed Writer

As a mentor of mine was telling me, there is no such thing as a worldview-less worldview. Darwinism is no exception. While evolution in and of itself does not infer anything about the existence or non-existence of a creator, Darwinism has no room for such folly. I think it is abundantly clear that there is no God in the Darwinist worldview. Thus, while evolution is a scientific theory backed up by archaeological evidence, Darwinism is a philosophy regarding the origin of life.

So what is my point? Well, according to John E. Jones, a U.S. Middle District judge in Harrison, Pa., intelligent design is not fit for study in public schools. In brief, his reasoning is that intelligent design is simply creationism with a mask, and we all know that intelligent design does imply a designer. Therefore, according to Jones, teaching intelligent design in schools violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment which states, "...Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion...." He would be right if creationism was a worldview held only by those weak-minded Christians (cynics, here is your chance to prove your naivety). However, this is not the case. While the majority of the proponents of

intelligent design may in fact be Christian, and while Christianity may agree with intelligent design on the sole basis of there being a creator, it does not respect Christianity any more or less than it does Islam, Judaism, Hinduism or Unitarian Universalism. Indeed, we could say that Darwinists believe in a creator. Their creator, and I exclaim that their god (not capital because I am not referring to the God) is random chance.

Have I gone too far? Good.

Let us assume for just a moment that my logic is flawed (which could verily be possible) and that intelligent design does respect an establishment of religion due to its ulterior creationist motives. What, then, are we to deduce about evolution? Does evolution respect an establishment of religion such as atheism, agnosticism or Buddhism due to its ulterior Darwinist motives? I would argue that in the same way that intelligent design is nothing more than a watered down form of creationism, the theory of evolution nothing more than Darwinism in disguise. To put it analogously, intelligent design is to creationism as evolution is to Darwinism. Be careful to note that in this context I do intend to label atheism and agnosticism as "establishments of religion." While they may not have an "established" church, they are undoubtedly forms of

personal religious beliefs. Indeed, they are much more than worldviews. Your god is anything you submit your innermost being to. Darwinists submit their innermost being to random chance.

In our courts, judges like John E. Jones are interpreting the First Amendment of our constitution to condone censorship. Any American with a single open-minded nerve cell in their brain will recognize that intelligent design as a scientific theory wields a great wealth of merit. We cannot allow our judges to censor theories that are so promising to science. After all, we can only make scientific theory into scientific law by testing that theory to see if it holds its water. What greater way to test evolution than to see how it holds out against another widely embraced theory?

The big distinction that needs to be clearly made is that intelligent design and evolution belong in the realm of science but creationism and Darwinism to the realm of philosophy. I hope it is clear that I am not fighting to eradicate our schools of the teaching of evolution. I am fighting to integrate intelligent design into our biology textbooks and into our classrooms. I am not trying to brainwash your children into believing in my God. I want your children (and mine one day) to see that there are two sides to the story. If we affirm the teaching of evolution in our schools, then let us be logically consistent and include intelligent design alongside evolution in our textbooks and in our classrooms.

LETTERS continued from Page 22

the "cleaning up" of Jackson Ward and, ultimately, the Broad Street district (on Broad Street from Belvidere to 1st Street) should alleviate the pressure of crime on campus. Proximity of poverty is a likely factor in urban crime (compare Leigh Street to Monument Avenue, for example); likewise, the renewal of Jackson Ward will hopefully decrease crime on campus.

Secondly, commercial and real estate improvements in Jackson Ward will further bolster the real estate prices of the downtown area (the Fan district, the Monroe Ward, etc.). Lastly, the urban redevelopment gives VCU an enormous opportunity to expand itself and to further reach into the community.

The students of VCU have been blessed with a proactive administration that seeks to better the future opportunities of the school. The VCU 2020 plan, available for viewing online, illustrates initiatives that reflect the importance of non-VCU-related urban development. For example, initiatives 1 and 2 of the section of the proposed 2020 plan titled "Integrating VCU into the Greater Community" stress the importance of solving the dilemmas pertaining to our urban community, to paraphrase a little. The opportunities for VCU through engaging in community redevelopment are tremendous. The school will not only aid itself in expansion through helping communities like Jackson Ward get on their

feet, but it will also ensure its own campus safety through increasing the desirability of formerly impoverished communities in Richmond that have a significant proximity to the school and to the resources around the school.

Lastly, and ideally, community redevelopment can offer a moneymaking potential for VCU, already considered to be a major "corporation" in the Richmond area (based on income of funds and tuition, etc.). The school can actively pursue purchasing and fixing up area buildings for the sake of a) providing more living space for students and b) selling back the properties for profit, if this can be done legally (i.e. does not violate any contractual obligation to the commonwealth or city regarding making a profit).

Please check out VCU's 2020 plan at <http://www.vcu.edu/vcu2020/>. The school should actively seek a better role in redeveloping its community for the sake of continued prosperity and safety, as it arguably has the best opportunity (out of all public institutions of higher education in the commonwealth) to control and promote its own growth through local means.

Best regards,

Robert J. Smith, III
Special Assistant for Communications
Student Government Association

commonwealthtimes.com

If you stare at it long enough,
you'll see a sailboat.





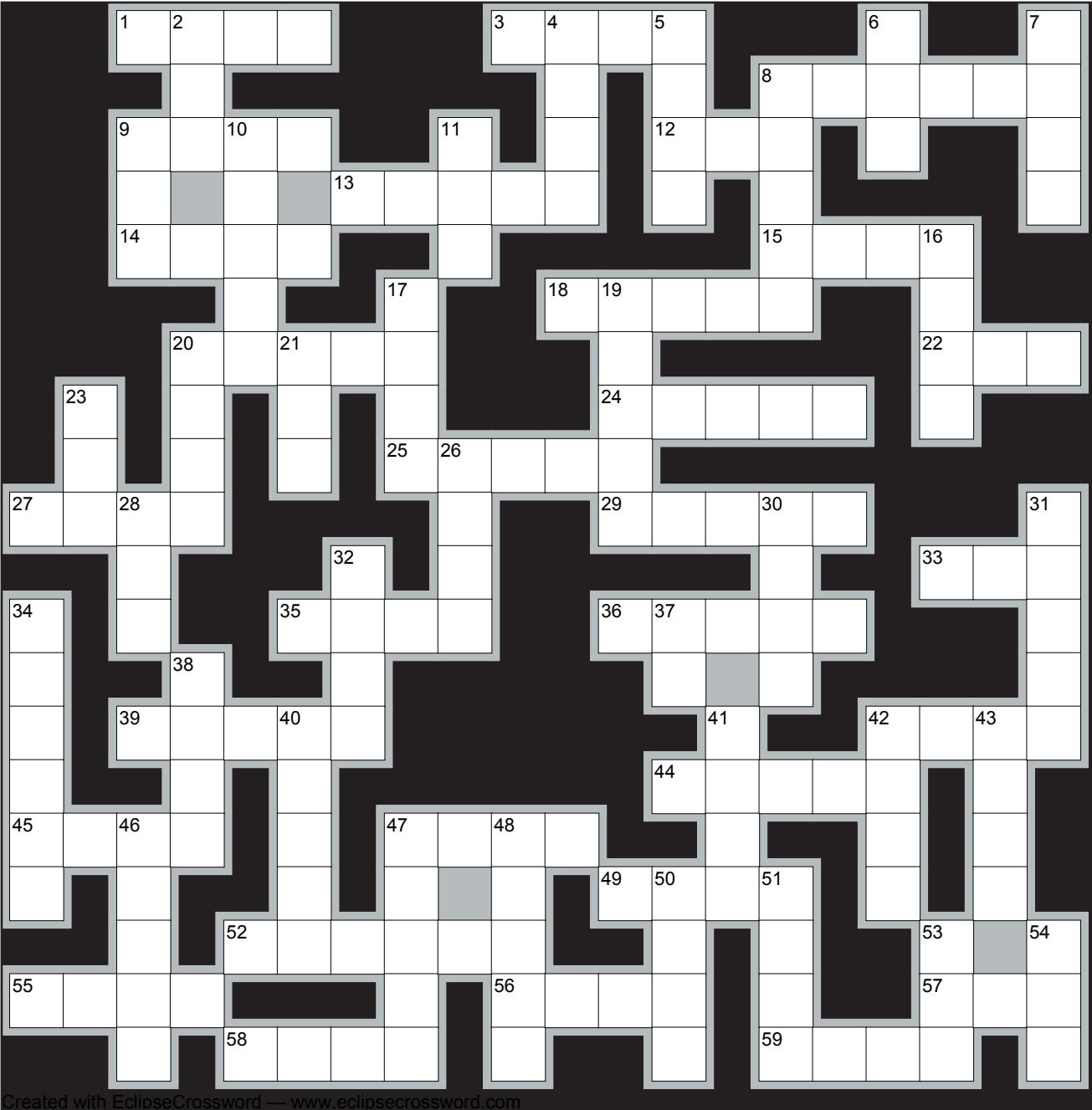
THE COMMONWEALTH TIMES CROSSWORD

Across

- Greenhouse gasses could do this to the ice caps.
- Raven.
- Fairness.
- Spring, leap.
- A type of evergreen.
- Hack.
- To tie together, like with a rope.
- Good, or a female that has a nice body.
- German cabbage.
- Glue.
- Oink!
- Generally gas or charcoal, meant for cooking.
- Popular pant color.
- Range, tract, space.
- Cookie batter.
- Dog, mutt.
- Bulldogs have large ones.
- Large aquatic mammal.
- A thing.
- “We’ll keep this info on _____, just in case.”
- Before.
- Driven with a hammer.
- Noisy.
- Ship, vessel, banana.
- Allow, consent to, authorize.
- Whipped, fried, scrambled, poached.
- To burn down completely.
- Born Cassius Clay.
- The Norse chief of the gods.
- Rip.

Down

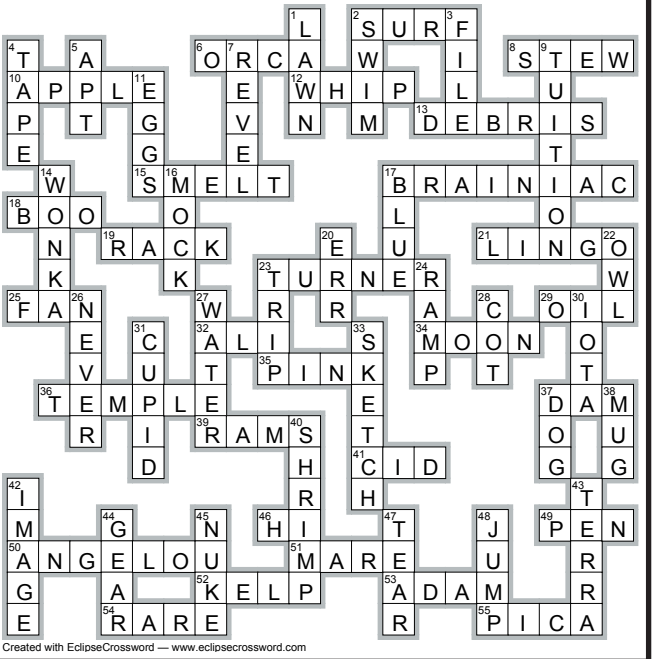
- A fast-running bird.
- Red robot dog, sidekick.
- Relation of Sue Dibny to Ralph Dibny, the Elongated Man.
- Demonic alcoholic beverage.
- Fable, legend.
- A volcanic action.
- I like the cut of this paper’s _____.
- Devilfish.
- Bad hairpiece.
- Adhesive.
- A sharp, sudden pull.
- Stiff.
- Twelve points, six to an inch.
- Caspian, Baltic.
- Mode of transportation.
- Wolf cry.
- To be wrong, human, usually both.



Created with EclipseCrossword — www.eclipsecrossword.com

- Considered one of VCU’s school colors.
- Cost.
- A bar used to fasten a door.
- The hungry horseman.
- “Was up?”
- Windcatching and mast-hoisted.
- A place or position particularly suited to the thing that fills it.
- “Killer” whale.
- Croaker.
- Hole with liquid coming out.
- Created by creators who wanted to own their creations.
- Fruit, citrus.
- Extreme, excessive.
- To carry out.
- Type of book for class.
- Used to row, row, row a boat.
- You can process this to make petrol products.

Answers from Feb. 16 edition



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