



**PARTY PATROL: THE CT HITS THE STREETS – PAGE 3**

# The Commonwealth Times

**FREE**

The Independent Student Press of Virginia Commonwealth University Vol. 44 No. 16

Monday, March 20, 2006

www.commonwealthtimes.com

(804) 828-1058

“irreducible complexity (which) refers to any system that contains several interdependent parts that work together for a common purpose” is evidence for a designer because

“if one of these pieces is missing, the system loses all functionality.”

But biologists know that sometimes traits evolve for one purpose

and then develop further to serve a

## Making a case for evolution

Page 18-19

Another look at the debate  
over intelligent design

### News

Who's Who @ VCU:  
Meet Ben Saunders

Page 4

### Sports

VCU is 'track-tacular'  
at Ram Invitational

Page 7

### Spectrum

It's nifty to be thrifty:  
See our thrift store  
roundup.

Page 10

### Editorials & Letters

Put your penis  
away, friend.

Page 17



# BRIEFS

Monday

58/35

Tuesday

39/28

Wednesday

49/30

Thursday

57/33

## IN THE NEWS

Compiled from wire reports

### Drug violence hits Acapulco, but visitors keep coming

**ACAPULCO, Mexico** - Four gunmen are dead and several policemen are seriously injured after a convoy of jeeps manned by heavily armed men opened fire on a police checkpoint. Bullet holes scarred a church and storefronts along one of the main avenues into the resort town.

In the past, the granddaddy of Mexican tourist towns was hardly touched by the gangland carnage seen elsewhere in the country. But this year, the city of more than 720,000 has been shaken by 15 execution-style slayings, four grenade attacks on police stations and the Jan. 27 shootout.

Federal investigators link the violence to a turf war between drug gangs in northern Mexico for lucrative smuggling routes into the United States.

The bloodshed in Acapulco poses one more headache for President Vicente Fox, whose administration already has been rattled by drug-related violence on the U.S. border. Acapulco lies on a major drug route to the United States, and Mexicans worry for the nation's nearly \$12 billion foreign tourism industry.

### Protesters rally on Iraq war anniversary

**NEWYORK** - Thousands of anti-war protesters took to the streets around the world Saturday, marking the third anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq with demands that coalition troops leave immediately.

Wael Musfar of the Arab Muslim American Federation addressed more than 1,000 people who gathered in Times Square near a recruiting station, which was guarded by police.

"We say enough hypocrisy. Enough lies. Our soldiers must come home now," Musfar said from a parked flatbed truck. Participants chanted, "Stop the U.S. war machine, from Iraq to Korea to the Philippines."

Protests also were held in Australia, Asia and Europe, but many events were far smaller than organizers had hoped. In London, police said 15,000 people joined a march from Parliament and Big Ben to a rally in Trafalgar Square. The anniversary last year attracted 45,000 protesters in the city.

### Alabama mad cow case raises alarm

**WASHINGTON** - Investigators may never figure out where the Alabama cow with mad cow disease was born and raised, in part because the U.S. lacks a livestock tracking system that the Bush administration promised two years ago.

After a case of mad cow disease in December 2003, the government pledged to get a nationwide program into place quickly so officials could track cows, pigs and chickens from their birth to the dinner table. Today, however, the system is a long way off.

Alabama officials saw the need firsthand last week as they tried to discover where the infected cow came from. However, with 9 billion chickens, pigs and cows

in the country, the task is proving difficult.

The animal had no ear tags, tattoos or brands, and she spent less than a year on the farm where she died. The trail seems to have gone cold at an auction where she was sold last year.

The goal is to pinpoint a single animal's movements within 48 hours after mad cow or a different disease is discovered.

### Wife jailed, banned from contacting young husband

**GAINESVILLE, Ga.** - Lisa Lynnette Clark, 37, was sentenced to nine months in jail after pleading guilty to the statutory rape of her 15-year-old husband. She was arrested on charges of child molestation and enticing a minor, in addition to statutory rape, last November.

Clark will also be prevented from contacting her husband until he reaches the age of 17.

At the time of their marriage, Georgia law stated children of any age could marry if the bride is pregnant. Clark gave birth to the boy's son on Feb. 11.

Georgia lawmakers have since voted to set the minimum marriage age at 16 unless juvenile court permission is obtained.

Judy Hayles, grandmother of the young husband, said the boy would seek a divorce and undergo intensive counseling.

Clark will remain on probation until 2010.

## The Commonwealth Times

Classified Advertising  
ctclassifieds@gmail.com

www.commonwealthtimes.com

(804) 828-1058

817 W. Broad St.

P.O. Box 842010

Richmond, VA 23284-2010

Executive Editor

**KATIE GANTT**

ganttkt@vcu.edu, 828-6516

Managing Editor

**PHILIP J. BOGENBERGER**

bogenbergepj@vcu.edu, 828-2420

News Co-Editor

**STEPHEN PRATT**

prattsr@vcu.edu, 828-6056

News Co-Editor

**KAREN BOLIPATA**

bolipatakc@vcu.edu, 828-6056

Sports Editor

**WESTON REEVES**

reevesws@vcu.edu, 828-2420

Spectrum Editor

**VACANT**

Associate Spectrum Editor

**THOMAS C. NASH**

nashtc@vcu.edu, 828-5317

Editorials & Letters Editor

**MAGGIE SOUZA**

souzame@vcu.edu, 828-1058

Photography Editor

**PAT KANE**

kanepm@vcu.edu, 828-4770

Production Manager

**MARY FRANKE**

ctproduction@gmail.com, 828-7660

Production Chief

**OMAR YACOUBI**

yacoubioa@vcu.edu, 828-7660

Graphic Designer

**ANDREW BABB**

andrew@theoneoutside.com, 828-4770

Reporter

**CLIVE WHITE**

Student Media Director

**GREG WEATHERFORD**

gowweatherfor@vcu.edu, 827-1975

Business Manager

**OLIVIA LLOYD**

ollloyd@vcu.edu, 827-1642

Accounts Manager

**DAVID VAIRO**

ctaccounts@gmail.com, 828-2544

Advertising Director

**SARAH BARRY**

ctadvertising@gmail.com, 828-5019

Advertising Representative

**DAVID CANAVAN**

ctadvertising@gmail.com, 828-6629

Webmaster

**CARL HOLSCHER**

peroty@arcticpalace.org



# NEWS

## The CT hits the streets: Party patrol

AMY CARNEY AND CHRISTINA SCLAFANI

Staff Writers

**Q1: When you are on campus how often do you see police patrolling or circulating the area at night?**

**Q2: What do you think about police patrolling parties?**

**Q3: How do you think increased police patrol at parties has affected student relations?**

**Q4: How many times have you seen police cars in your neighborhood monitoring parties?**

**Q5: In what circumstance would you notify the police to patrol a party?**



**Kaylee Pickinpaugh, 21, painting and printmaking**

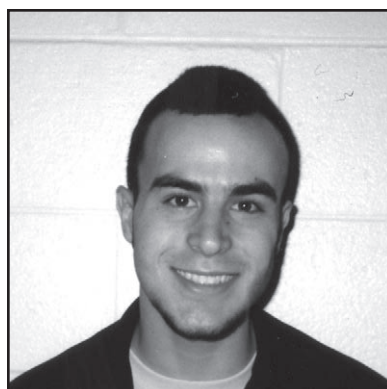
Q1: I'm not really on campus at night, but when I am I usually see one or two.

Q2: I think it is irritating. They have a job to do as long as it doesn't affect me.

Q3: I personally don't think about it. I'm 21. I am not at parties where there are younger students.

Q4: All the time...they're everywhere. I usually just see them in passing though.

Q5: Probably never, except in a violent circumstance.



**Colin Smith, 20, mechanical engineering**

Q1: Fairly frequently.

Q2: I agree with cracking down on DUIs, but it is ridiculous to try and stop underage drinking. I like the idea of it being safer.

Q3: Minimally. I don't think it is bad.

Q4: I live in a nice neighborhood, so I do not see a lot of police.

Q5: Anytime an incident happens, such as a fight. Anytime there is a threat to anyone.



**Cristina Goncalves, 21, painting and printmaking**

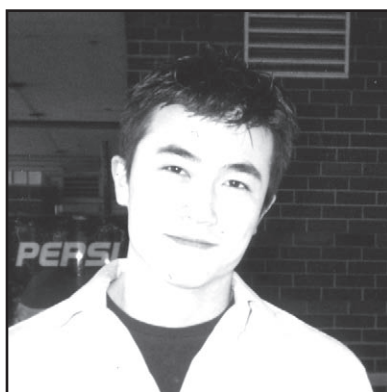
Q1: Pretty frequently.

Q2: I think it sucks.

Q3: I don't really go to parties.

Q4: They drive by all the time because it's Boulevard.

Q5: If I can't sleep and it's past 2 a.m. If it's out of control I would.



**Lewis Irving, 22, crafts**

Q1: All the time.

Q2: I think it's good and bad. It's good to regulate and know what's going on.

Q3: I don't even go to parties.

Q4: Maybe once or twice.

Q5: Maybe if there was a fight.



**Jessica Campbell, 20, public relations**

Q1: Not often. I'd say I see them twice a day.

Q2: I think if they stay out of everybody's way and just make sure people are safe then it's fine.

Q3: I do not think it has, it's been the same as it has been. I don't normally go to campus parties.

Q4: Never.

Q5: Pretty much if someone was getting hurt.



**Patrick Whalen, 29, crafts**

Q1: I see them, but they are mostly in their cars so there is no real presence.

Q2: They have better things to do like decreasing Richmond's murder rate.

Q3: People expect it, but at the same time it's a misappropriation of police forces.

Q4: Every weekend.

Q5: Violence.





## NEWS

## WHO's WHO

@VCU



Pat Kane

## Meet Ben Saunders

*Graduate environmental studies major and member of Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront*

JUSTIN SPEARS

Staff Writer

For 24-year-old Ben Saunders, helping to preserve the environment is as big a part of his life as is attending graduate school.

Saunders, a second-year graduate student, works with the nonprofit Friends of Chesterfield's Riverfront and acts as a mediator between the county, businesses and land owners. The group works toward making the Appomattox and James rivers healthier by preserving the nearby land and bodies of water.

"The project is going very well," Saunders said. He added that the county was given a grant to provide funding to complete the project by 2007.

Saunders, a Richmond native, will graduate in the summer of 2006 from VCU with a master's in environmental studies.

"Ben came in with an idea about what he wanted to do and worked rather aggressively to accomplish his goals," said Peter Defur, graduate program director of environmental studies.

In his graduate years, Saunders has been working closely with Clifford Fox, assistant director of environmental studies, on projects to better the environment.

"Ben is doing excellent work under the supervision of the people in the departments. He overall is doing terrific and getting practical experience," Fox said.

In 2003, Saunders earned his undergraduate degree in political science and public policy from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn.

Directly after college he moved to Charleston, S.C., where he interned for a federal judge and worked for a law firm.

After he graduates from VCU, Saunders said he is unsure of the career path he will take.

"I might work with the state or a consulting firm that works with the state and private businesses, kind of like a mediator," Saunders said.

During his limited spare time, Saunders enjoys hobbies such as mountain biking, hiking or any other outdoor activities.

## FAN TAN

\$6 per session	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$20 for 5 sessions	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$36 for 10 sessions	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$48 for 15 sessions	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners

**Unlimited, Level 2 Beds, 7 days a week, 7 a.m. to Midnight**

\$44 month for 1 month	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$36 with min 3 months	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$30 with min 6 months	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners
\$25 with min 12 months	level 2 w/ 3 facial tanners

**Ergoline ~ Cosmedico 9K90**

**Open 7 a.m. to Midnight, 7 days a week**

**1617 W. Broad St. / 804.355.1199**  
**Near Lombardy, across from Lowes**

**student rates**



# SPORTS

## Rams win eight straight during Spring Break

Compiled from CT resources

### St. Clair pushes Rams past Pride

VCU 8, HOFSTRA 3

The Rams scored four runs in the seventh inning to rally for their eighth-straight win, downing conference-rival Pride Saturday.

Senior **Tim St. Clair** (Woodbridge/Garfield High School) had a two-run double in the seventh and scored, and junior **Scott Sizemore** (Chesapeake/Hickory High School) also doubled and scored in the inning.

**John Leonard** (Virginia Beach/Kellam High School) tossed seven innings, allowing five hits, one run and no walks to earn his second win of the season.

### Mozingo shuts down Hofstra

VCU 12, HOFSTRA 0

Junior **Harold Mozingo** (Tappahannock/Essex High School) pitched a two-hit complete-game shutout as the Rams topped the Pride Friday at The Diamond.

Freshman **Jared Bolden** (Lynchburg/E.C. Glass High School) tripled to left field in the bottom of the first inning to bring

home Sizemore and St. Clair, and the Rams cruised the rest of the way.

Mozingo, who struck out nine to push his record to 4-0, allowed singles in the fourth and ninth. The right-hander has fanned 54 batters in 45.2 innings this season.

### Meador goes cycling for Rams

VCU 12, LONGWOOD 4

**FARMVILLE** – Senior **Joe Meador** (Mechanicsville/Lee-Davis High School) had a flawless game, going 5 for 5 and hitting for the cycle on Wednesday to lead the Rams past the in-state rival Lancers. Meador scored four times and racked up three RBI.

Junior right-hander **Bill Weiland** (Marlton, N.J.) posted his first win of the season, allowing six hits and two runs in five innings. He matched his season-high seven strikeouts.

### Freshman helps Rams pound cross-town rival

VCU 13, RICHMOND 1

Bolden had three hits and allowed one run in eight innings to spearhead the Rams' victory over the cross-town rival Spiders

on March 14 at The Diamond.

**Sergio Miranda** (Bay-amon, Puerto Rico) and Kwan Evans (Hampton/Bethel High School) registered three hits apiece for the Rams. Evans' knocks were all doubles, and the sophomore scored three times and posted three RBIs.



## BASEBALL RECAPS

### Jackson's homer lifts Rams in nail-biter

VCU 14, TOWSON 13

Freshman **Chris Jackson** (Midlothian/Manchester High School) belted a two-out two-run homer in the sixth inning as the Rams nipped the Tigers March 12 at The Diamond.

The Rams built a 10-run lead before the Tigers scored six in the fourth inning and four in the fifth inning to tie the game at 11.

Bolden pounded four hits, scored four times and drove in three runs for the Rams.

### Leonard, Walker tame Tigers

VCU 10, TOWSON 4

Meador and Miranda had three hits each, and Evans drove in two runs to push the Rams to a win over the Tigers on March 11 at The Diamond.

Junior right-hander Leonard pitched five innings, giving up six hits and two runs for his first win of the season. **Brett Walker** (Virginia Beach/Frank W. Cox High School) pitched the final four innings, allowing two unearned runs and no walks for his second save of the season.

### Rams use fast start to pull out a victory

VCU 6, TOWSON 4

The Rams scored four runs in the first as every batter came to the plate to help the Rams open up a four-run lead en route to a win over the Tigers on March 10 at The Diamond.

Bolden scored the winning run on a single up the middle by **Nate Anderson** (San Jose, Calif.) in the third inning.

Mozingo pitched his first complete game of the season, scattering eight hits and three runs to earn the win. The right-hander did not allow a walk.

## Elsewhere

in the world of sports...

### 'Don't shoot, I'm human'

**LAS VEGAS**, Nev. – The Las Vegas Wranglers, a minor-league hockey team, gave away bright orange hunting vests with the slogan "DON'T SHOOT, I'M HUMAN" to the first 1,000 fans that attended Friday night's game for Dick Cheney Hunting Vest Night.

### Moss' agent busted for crack cocaine possession

**ST. PETERSBURG**, Fla. – The agent for Oakland Raiders wide receiver Randy Moss was arrested in Florida March 14, for possession of crack cocaine, police said.

Louis Dante DiTrapano and his wife, Teri, of Charleston, W. Va., were arrested at their hotel in St.

Petersburg, the city's police department said Wednesday in a press release on its Web site.

Police were called by hotel management about a disturbance in DiTrapano's room. When officers arrived at the room to investigate, they found the drugs, police said.

In addition to DiTrapano and his wife, three other people were arrested for possession of crack cocaine, police said.

### Former Virginia standout gets walking papers

**NEW ORLEANS** — Aaron Brooks' days as a New Orleans Saints quarterback, which effectively ended with the team's 3-13 season, officially ended March 15 when he was unceremoniously released by the club.

See **ELSEWHERE**, Page 6

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Men's Track and Field

Fri.-Sat. March 24-25

Fred Hardy Invitational  
First Market Center · Richmond, Va.

Raleigh Relays  
Raleigh, N.C.

### Women's Track and Field

Fri.-Sat. March 24-25

Fred Hardy Invitational  
First Market Center · Richmond, Va.

### Women's Tennis

Fri. March 24  
vs. Hampton, 1 p.m.  
Thalimer Tennis Center

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

### Baseball

Thurs. March 22  
vs. Virginia Tech, 7 p.m.  
The Diamond

Fri. March 24  
at James Madison, 2: 30

Sat. March 25  
at James Madison, 1

Sun. March 26  
at James Madison, 1

### Men's Tennis

Fri. March 24  
vs. Hampton, 1 p.m.  
Thalimer Tennis Center

Sun. March 26  
vs. Brown, 1  
Thalimer Tennis Center

VCU RAMS



## 3.25

**10:00 p.m. – “Orientation”** – The Official Strut Week Launch Party at Element Lounge. Located on 18th & Main Street.

<http://www.classescanceled.com>

## 3.27

**7:00 p.m. - Movie Makeover Monday | Battle of the Sexes:** The sexes battle to win a makeover. Richmond Salons I, II.

**8:00 p.m. - Zoolander:** Fashion Comedy Richmond Salons I, II.

## 3.28

**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Talk Tuesday: Scion car show.** Strut's title sponsor will have their cars on display. Commons Plaza.

**6:00 p.m. - Fashion Industry Panel Discussion:** A discussion about careers in the industry. ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center.

## 3.29

**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Walk Off Wednesday:** Open to all who think they have the fiercest walk on campus in front of our panel of judges. Commons Plaza.

## 3.30

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Designer Tent Show:** We're bringing New York to Richmond! The tent show featuring some of Virginia's up and coming designers. Commons Plaza.

## 3.31

**8:10 p.m. - International School of Strut Fashion Show 2006:** Come join us at the most talked about fashion show in VCU history. ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center.

\* “Graduation” - Official After Party at Element Lounge with DJ Lonnie B. controlling the crowd.

# International School of Strut: Fashion Week 2006

[www.schoolofstrut.vcu.edu](http://www.schoolofstrut.vcu.edu) . [www.classescanceled.com](http://www.classescanceled.com) . [www.schoolofstrut.vcu.edu/fashion](http://www.schoolofstrut.vcu.edu/fashion)

VCU is an EEO/AA Institution. If further accommodations are needed because of a disability please contact the USCA Programs Office at 804-828-4554. Event sponsored by University Student Commons & Activities, Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Services.





# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

Compiled from CT resources

### Men's tennis reaches Blue-Gray final

**Montgomery**, Ala. – VCU's men's tennis team rolled into the finals of the Blue-Gray Tennis Classic with a 4-3 victory over No. 39 Tulsa Saturday, a 4-2 win against 37<sup>th</sup>-ranked Texas Tech Friday and a 4-3 nail-biter against No. 38 Colorado.

The Rams were swept in doubles and lost at the first and second singles spots before **Francesc Lleal** (Barcelona, Spain), **Georges-Alexandre Israel** (Marseille, France), **Sergi Arumi** (Barcelona, Spain) and **Damien Lacombe** (Perigueux, France) picked up victories to give the Rams the win over the Golden Hurricanes.

Arumi registered singles victories against the Golden Hurricanes, Red Raiders and Buffaloes.

**Arnaud Lecloerec** (Plouhinec, France), the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's 19<sup>th</sup>-ranked player, pounded the Red Raiders' top player

Adrian Prpic 6-0, 6-2, but dropped a 6-3, 6-1 decision to the Golden Hurricanes' Arnau Bruges.

Tied 3-all after the singles portion, the Rams pulled out doubles wins at the No. 1 and No. 2 positions to nip the Buffaloes.

The Rams, seeking their third win in four years, played No. 20 Notre Dame Sunday in the championship.

### Women's tennis passes tough test

**Mobile**, Ala. – The 18<sup>th</sup>-ranked VCU women's tennis team weathered its toughest challenge of the season Wednesday, pulling out a 4-3 victory over South Alabama. Then the Rams moved on to trounce Tennessee State 6-1 on Friday. They also crushed Southeastern Louisiana 7-0 March 14.

**Marianna Yuferova** (St. Petersburg, Russia), **Olga Borisova** (Minsk, Belarus), **Vera Petrashevitch** (St. Petersburg, Russia) earned singles and

doubles wins in all three matches.

Borisova's singles win put the Rams on top 4-1, but VCU lost the remaining two matches for the final margin. It was the first time the Rams have lost more than one singles match.

The Rams host Hampton at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the Thalhimer Tennis Center.

### Bolden earns CAA distinction

VCU freshman **Jared Bolden** (Lynchburg/E.C. Glass) was named the conference's player of the week on March 15. Bolden batted .667 for the week with two doubles, a triple, seven runs and five RBI. The first baseman had a pair of four-hit games. Bolden,

who has been named CAA Rookie of the Week twice, also pitched 4.1 innings in a win against Norfolk State, striking out three batters.

### Chappell shines in Palmetto

**Aiken**, S.C. – Junior **Daryl Chappell** (Dinwiddie High School) shot a final-round 69 to finish in a tie for second place and lead the Rams to a third-place spot at the Palmetto Intercollegiate on March 14.

Chappell's sub-par round left him just three strokes behind Houston's Jordan Irwin, who won the tournament. The Rams finished four strokes behind Houston and host South Carolina-Aiken. The Rams are playing the Pinehurst

#### ELSEWHERE, from Page 5

The former Virginia star was released on the same day the Saints introduced Drew Brees as their new starting quarterback.

After Jeff Blake suffered a season-ending injury in the 11th game of the 2000 season, Brooks came in and went on to start 82 consecutive

regular-season games, now one of the records he holds for the club. Last season he reached 120 career touchdown passes with the Saints, surpassing the old club record of 115 held by Archie Manning.

He led the Saints to their only playoff victory in club history in 2000.

Compiled from CT resources

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE RAM INVITATIONAL

Compiled from CT resources

VCU track and field competed in its first outdoor event of the season, hosting the three-day Ram Invitational Thursday-Saturday at Sports Backers Stadium.

### Women's Track and Field

**Verniece Johnson** (Mineral/Louisa High School) won the triple jump with a mark of 36-11 and bounded into second place in the long jump, posting a leap 18-6 ½.

**Sheemeca Berkley** (Madison Heights/Amherst High School) took home top honors in the long jump, besting Johnson's mark by ¼ of an inch.

**Tanika Brown** (Powhatan High School) garnered a first-place finish in the high jump.

**Octavia James** (Newport News/Heritage High School) won the 200 meters with a time of 25.68 seconds and posted a 14.76 in the 100-meter hurdles, good enough for second place. She also anchored the 1600-meter relay team's

third-place showing.

**Brandy Butler** (Charlottesville High School) was the runner up in the triple jump with a leap of 36-8¼, less than three inches behind Johnson.

**Courtney Green** (Hanover/Caroline High School) sprinted her way to a third-place finish in the 100 meters, posting a time of 12.48 and anchored the runner-up 400-meter relay team.

**Lauren Stewart** (Richmond/Maggie Walker Governor's School) took home third-place honors in the pole vault with a mark of 10-6.

**Lindsay Holman** (Virginia Beach/Salem High School) earned a fourth-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles, recording a time of 1:07.52.

**Danielle Williams** (Virginia Beach/Salem High School) ran to a fifth-place finish in the 800 meters with a time of 2:20.77.

**Nikki Arrington** (Midlothian High School) posted a fifth-place finish with a mark of 145-6 in the hammer throw.

### Men's Track and Field

**James Frierson** (Richmond/Highland Springs) sprinted to victories in the 100 and 200 meters, posting times of 10.73 and 21.80 respectively.

**Davion Lambert** (Richmond/Varina High School) posted a personal best triple jump of 49-3¾ to take home top honors in the event. He also grabbed second place in the long jump, posting a mark of 23-10.

**Mariusz Mostrag** (Krajnik, Poland) finished ahead of the field in the 800 meters with a time of 1:55.65, and placed second in the 1500.

**Christian Matute** (Quito, Ecuador) finished just more than two seconds behind Mostrag in the 800 to take third place.

**Kyle Miller** (Front Royal/Warren County High School) placed third in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 56.50.

**Matthew Sandridge** (Mechanicsville/Atlee High School) placed third in the pole vault with a mark of 13-7¼.

**Jay Wyss** (Richmond/J.R. Tucker High School) took home fourth-place honors in the 1500 with a time of 3:57.34, less than four seconds off Mostrag's pace.

**Jackie Deshazo** (Mechanicsville/Atlee High School) placed fourth in the 100, three-tenths of a second behind Frierson.

**James Evangelisti** (McLean/Langley High School) finished the decathlon in fourth place with a score of 5,133.

**Cary Chaffee** (Richmond/Hermitage High School) was fifth place in the 1500, nearly six seconds behind Mostrag.

**Tim Cancro** (Mechanicsville/Lee-Davis High School), **Adam Canning** (Williamsburg/Bruton High School), Matute and Chaffee ran to a first-place finish in the 3200-meter relay, posting a time of 7:49.94.

**Derek Altizer** (Chesterfield/Thomas Dale High School), Frierson, Lambert and Deshazo placed second in the 400-meter relay with a time of 42.66.







DISCOVER VISA MasterCard CHECK CARD

**Sub of the Month**  
**ONLY \$1.99**  
 Meatball Sub  
 (regular 6-inch sub)

**Any 3 Regular Foot Long Subs**  
**for \$11.99**  
 (after 4 pm everyday)


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

**Natural & Organic**  
**@ Ukrop's**  
 Grace Street  
**It's Everywhere!**

**Wolfgang Puck's Organic Soup**  
 14.5 oz.  
**2.49**

**Flavored Pita Snax**  
 6 oz.  
**2/\$3**

Prices are good Monday, March 20, through Saturday, March 25, 2006 with Ukrop's Valued Customer Card.




# The Nolde Bakery Condominiums

**Starting in the \$200's**  
**Loft Living in Historic Church Hill**

- 1 and 2 BR Units
- Multiple Floor Plans
- Luxury Finishes
- Stainless Steel Kitchens
- Theater and Entertainment Center
- Fitness Center
- Garage Parking

**Designer Model Now Open**  
 Thurs-Sat, 11-3pm & Sun, 1-4pm  
 Now Writing Contracts • Summer 2006 Delivery

**www.TheNoldeBakery.com**

**Visit our web site for the latest Nolde Bakery news!**  
**www.TheNoldeBakery.com**  
 Curt Reichstetter & Mark Meitz  
**(804) 249-2808**  
**info@TheNoldeBakery.com**

**HOMETOWN REALTY**  
 "The Exceptional Exception"





# SPORTS

## MEN’S BASKETBALL ROAD TO THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP



# Spectrum



Fan Tastic Thrift is located at 1914 W. Main St.

Pat Kane

## College means thrifty

PAUL SHOEMAKER

*Spectrum Writer*

Sitting out there, among the freshly wiped down Shafer tables, sits a vast crowd of students who look eclectic, time-warped and second hand.

No, these students are not poor, they're expressive. More and more students have realized that treasure can be found cheaply and only a couple of blocks away from campus.

Thrift stores in the Richmond area have given students cheap access to art supplies, apartment make overs and mostly affordable fashion. Layered beyond dusty frames and broken porcelain, there are aisles of decade decadence that are nostalgic of a hip and rebellious America.

Fueled by the cheap prices and the locality of thrift stores, the campus is on a stylish pulse with the rest of the country.

### University Life

Two great stores to check out would be Fantastic Thrift, located in the Fan, offering lots of clothes. It's within walking distance from campus down on Main Street and it's a great place to stop by if you're on the way to Carytown.

Diversity Thrift, which used to be just a block away from Fantastic Thrift, has moved across Broad Street, close to the Diamond baseball stadium. The store still offers not just clothes but lots of old appliances, kitchenware, furniture and much more.

You can stop by the Salvation Army that you'll pass on the way to make it more worth your while, but Diversity Thrift alone is worth the trip and money saved.

## Help us improve our coverage:

*The Commonwealth Times wants to be your must-have guide for . . .*

what to do on weekends  
where to find a knitting/reading/D&D group  
where to worship God/Morrissey/Satan  
where to find the best vegan food/bison burger, etc.

If you have tips on any of these things, let us know! If you have any upcoming events, exhibitions, meetings, worship services, concerts or anything else you'd like to note, there's no easier way to let the entire VCU community know.

**Email: [ctcalendar@gmail.com](mailto:ctcalendar@gmail.com)**

## Nine Inch Nails brings the rock at Richmond Coliseum

JAM WILLIAMS

*Spectrum Writer*

After a five-year hiatus, Nine Inch Nails finally embarked on their U.S. tour to promote their newly released album "With Teeth" last year. NIN fans of all ages filled the Richmond Coliseum last Tuesday for a sold-out show.

Saul Williams opened the night, giving an amazing performance to an unreceptive crowd. Mostly known as a black poet from hip-hop culture, Williams expressed his work over mainly rock beats while discussing the politics of hip-hop, government and humanity as well as personal politics.

Thirty minutes later, NIN hit the stage in a cloud of cliché and smoke, appearing as shadows behind sheer curtains and white lights.

The mood at first was sonic anarchy, starting off the show with "You Know What You Are" from "With Teeth," before pulling out their 1990 dance club hit "Sin."

Lead singer Trent Reznor took solo piano for "Hurt," the quiet ballad covered by the late Johnny Cash that turned into a joyous sing-along.

"The Wretched" was frenetic, "Wish"

was brilliant and during a meditative "Right Where It Belongs," they played behind sheer curtains once again. Their shadows were replaced with video images of everything from wildlife to poverty to a dancing George Bush, an image that really riled the crowd.

The overall theme of the concert was strength. Reznor's vocals, the stage lighting and the atmosphere of the entire Coliseum were undoubtedly strong.

This kind of performance is the reason why people join bands. Reznor truly connected with his audience. After climbing offstage and letting the crowd feel him and croon into his mic, Reznor without a doubt confirmed his status as a rock god.

I had been waiting to see NIN since the eighth grade. After seeing them perform at the 1999 MTV Video Music Awards, I instantly became a fan. After seven years of anticipation, Tuesday's concert did not disappoint.

NIN fans that missed out need not worry: Reznor announced that they would be back for another U.S. tour this summer. NIN provides a heartpounding, chaotic show that is definitely makes putting up with Ticketmaster service charges worth it.



## Spectrum

# Jam-worthy CDs

## New releases and contemporary classics

JAM WILLIAMS

Spectrum Writer

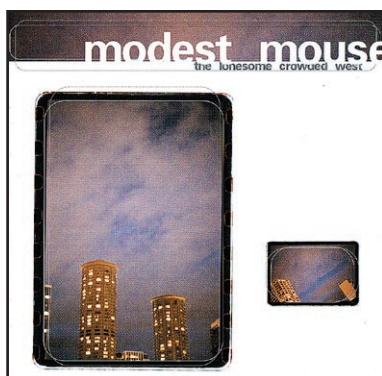
### Fort Minor – ‘The Rising Tied’

Laced with run-of-the-mill lyrics and overproduced guitar riffs, Mike Shinoda’s rhymes always seemed like an afterthought in Linkin Park. Shinoda’s solo effort, “The Rising Tied,” recorded under the moniker Fort Minor, is surprising because of the way it tries to showcase the rapper/producer’s skills.

Shinoda may still be an amateur MC, but on this album he masks his weaknesses with more sincere lyrics and the wise use of guest artists like Common and Black Thought. Musically, Shinoda mixes traditional scratching, moody keyboards and a hint of electronica to create a forceful and confident sound.

Linkin Park may have made him famous, but this record is certainly a stronger expression of Shinoda’s talents.

**Recommended if you like Linkin Park, Gym Class Heroes and De La Soul.**



### Modest Mouse – ‘Lonesome Crowded West’

“Lonesome Crowded West” is the most cohesive representation of the band’s talent and style. Lead singer Isaac Brock wails each song brilliantly off key. Strained, discordant vocals, erratic changes in tempo and unconventional lyrics are the basic elements that give this album a fresh and coherent low-fi sound.

The album’s first track, “Teeth like God’s Shoeshine,” starts off as disjointed and lurching rock, moving to a more tender, quiet breakdown and then busting out a huge buildup of guitar squall and thundering beats. It performs this pattern twice before resolving. It’s the most cohesive representation of the Modest Mouse’s talent and style.

**Recommended if you like Pixies, Pavement and Primus.**



## We’re here for you!

**Walk-up:** Cabell B-9 or  
Sanger B1-018

**Phone:** (804) 828-2227

**E-mail:** [help@vcu.edu](mailto:help@vcu.edu)

**Web:** [www.ts.vcu.edu/helpdesk](http://www.ts.vcu.edu/helpdesk)

**VCU** Technology Services

# Hey, Didja Know?

**Walk-up and Phone  
Help Desk Hours Have**

# EXPANDED

**Mon-Thur 7:30 am - 10 pm**

**Fri 7:30 am - 6 pm**

**Sat 10 am - 2 pm**

**Sun 1 pm - 4 pm**



## Spectrum

## Weird News

## Melting flute halts orchestra concert

A Swedish orchestra playing instruments made out of ice had to stop its performance when a flute began to melt.

Instrument maker Tim Linharts, has carved functioning flutes, violins and a double bass out of ice.

The instruments were played for the first time at a concert in a gigantic igloo in this week, which was said to be a complete success apart from the flute incident.

"The musicians still do not know how to handle the instruments properly," Linharts said.

Flute player Gunilla von Bahr's instrument started melting due to her hot breath.

"Next time I will keep 10 ice flutes at hand in case it happens again."

Linharts says the musicians will keep their instruments in a freezer and only take them out to practice or perform.

## Russia blanketed by red snow

The upper part of Russia has been blanketed by a red colored snow that resulted from a sandstorm that began as a tornado in Mongolia.

"The winds of the cyclone embraced dust particles that colored the fallouts," meteorologist Yuri Meseznikov said.

Russian officials have been broadcasting weather bulletins to explain the cause of the snow after panicked locals bombarded police and emergency services.

The red snow comes just weeks after yellow snow was found on Russia's Far East island of Sakhalin, which

was caused by pollution from an oil and gas factory.

## Bigger bills for bigger hotel guests

A German hotel has started calculating fees according to the weight of the guest.

The three-star Ostfriesland hotel in northern Germany charges the equivalent of 60 cents for every two pounds.

Under this system, a thin man weighing 130 pounds pays about \$35 a night, but a man weighing 220 pounds would be forced to shell out around \$60.

"Slim guests live longer and can therefore come more often and that is why we reward them," owner Juergen Heckroth said.

— *Compiled from wire reports*

## Monday, March 20

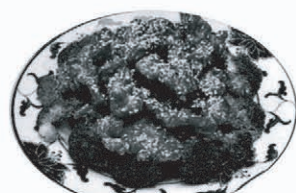
The Atlas Piano Trio will be playing at the Singleton Center for the Performing Arts. 8 p.m. Free. 828-1169.

## Tuesday, March 21

APB Uncommon Ideas will be hosting a lecture/video presentation by Camille Celluci, producer of visual effects scenes in the "Matrix" sequels, "Titanic" and "The Invisible Man." 7 p.m. University Student Commons, Richmond Salons 3 and 4. 828-6500.

## Wednesday, March 22

Lesbians on Ecstasy, Moon Boggle and Widows will be performing at Nanci Raygun. 9 p.m. 18+. \$6. 353-4263.



Sesame Chicken



Sweet and Sour Pork



Chicken Wings w/ Pork Fried Rice



Fried or Steamed Dumplings



House Special Lo Mein

## Lunch Special

Lunch Served Daily From: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Served w. Pork Fried Rice or White Rice & FREE Soda or Egg Roll

VEGETABLES	
L 1. Mixed Vegetable	4.00
L 2. Broccoli with Garlic Sauce	4.00
L 3. Bean Curd with Garlic Sauce	4.00
L 4. Eggplant with Garlic Sauce	4.00
L 5. Ma Po Tofu	4.00
PORK	
L 6. Boneless Spareribs or Spareribs	4.50
L 7. Sweet & Sour Chicken or Pork	4.25
L 8. Roast Pork with Broccoli	4.25
L 9. Spicy Mala Roast Pork	4.25
L 10. Roast Pork with Garlic Sauce	4.25
CHICKEN	
L 11. Moo Goo Gai Pan	4.25
L 12. Chicken with Broccoli	4.25
L 13. Hunan Chicken	4.25
L 14. General Tso's Chicken	4.50
L 15. Chicken with Garlic Sauce	4.25
L 16. Chicken with Eggplant	4.25
L 17. Lo Mein in Any Style	4.25
L 17a. Chicken with Asparagus	4.50

BEEF	
L 18. Pepper Steak	4.50
L 19. Beef with Broccoli	4.50
L 20. Spicy Mala Beef	4.50
L 21. Hot & Spicy Beef	4.50
L 22. Hunan Beef	4.50
L 23. Egg Foo Young Any Style	4.50
SEAFOOD	
L 24. Shrimp with Broccoli	4.50
L 25. Shrimp with Lobster Sauce	4.50
L 26. Shrimp with Mixed Vegetable	4.50
L 27. Chow Mein in Any Style	4.50
L 28. Hot & Spicy Shrimp	4.50
L 29. Spicy Mala Shrimp	4.50
L 29a. Shrimp with Asparagus	4.95
SPECIAL	
L 30. Triple Crown	4.95
L 31. Four Seasons	4.95
L 32. Beef & Shrimp with Hunan Sauce	4.95
L 33. Triple Delight	4.95
L 34. Spicy Mala Trio	4.95
L 35. Bar-B-Q Chicken	4.95



Chinese Restaurant and Buffet

Eat In, Delivery, and Take Out

931 W. Grace Street, Richmond, VA 23220

Tel: (804) 353-7888, or (804) 353-7825 Fax: (804) 353-4572

## Dinner Combination Platters

(Served with Egg Roll and Pork Fried Rice)

VEGETABLES	
C 1. Mixed Vegetable	5.50
C 2. Broccoli with Garlic Sauce	5.50
C 3. Bean Curd with Garlic Sauce	5.50
C 4. Eggplant with Garlic Sauce	5.50
C 5. Ma Po Tofu	5.50
PORK	
C 6. Boneless Spareribs or Spareribs	6.50
C 7. Sweet & Sour Chicken or Pork	5.75
C 8. Roast Pork with Broccoli	5.75
C 9. Spicy Mala Roast Pork	5.75
C 10. Roast Pork with Garlic Sauce	5.75
CHICKEN	
C 11. Moo Goo Gai Pan	6.25
C 12. Chicken with Broccoli	6.25
C 13. Hunan Chicken	6.25
C 14. General Tso's Chicken	6.75
C 15. Chicken with Garlic Sauce	6.25
C 16. Chicken with Eggplant	6.25
C 17. Lo Mein in Any Style	6.25
C 17a. Chicken with Asparagus	6.75

BEEF	
C 18. Pepper Steak	6.25
C 19. Beef with Broccoli	6.25
C 20. Spicy Mala Beef	6.50
C 21. Hot & Spicy Beef	6.50
C 22. Hunan Beef	6.50
C 23. Egg Foo Young Any Style	6.25
SEAFOOD	
C 24. Shrimp with Broccoli	6.50
C 25. Shrimp with Lobster Sauce	6.50
C 26. Shrimp with Mixed Vegetable	6.50
C 27. Chow Mein in Any Style	6.50
C 28. Hot & Spicy Shrimp	6.50
C 29. Spicy Mala Shrimp	6.50
C 29a. Shrimp with Asparagus	7.25
SPECIAL	
C 30. Triple Crown	7.25
C 31. Four Seasons	7.25
C 32. Beef & Shrimp with Hunan Sauce	7.25
C 33. Triple Delight	7.25
C 34. Spicy Mala Trio	7.25
C 35. Bar-B-Q Chicken	7.25

Serving  
the VCU  
Community  
for over  
10 Years

- V 1. General Tso's Chicken  
V 2. Chicken w. Broccoli  
V 3. Hunan Chicken  
V 4. Chicken w. Garlic Sauce  
V 5. Spicy Mala Beef  
V 6. Hunan Beef  
V 7. Pepper Steak  
V 8. Beef w. Broccoli  
V 9. Spicy Mala Shrimp  
V 10. Shrimp w. Broccoli  
V 11. Shrimp w. Mixed Vegetables  
V 12. Shrimp w. Lobster Sauce  
V 13. Roast Pork w. Broccoli  
V 14. Spicy Mala Pork  
V 15. Pork w. Garlic Sauce  
V 16. Double Cooked Pork

## SPECIAL FAMILY DINNER

No. 1	No. 2	No. 3
for 2 people	for 3 people	for 4 people
\$12.99	\$19.99	\$25.99
Choose 2	Choose 3	Choose 4
Entrees	Entrees	Entrees
1 Soup	2 Soups	3 Soups

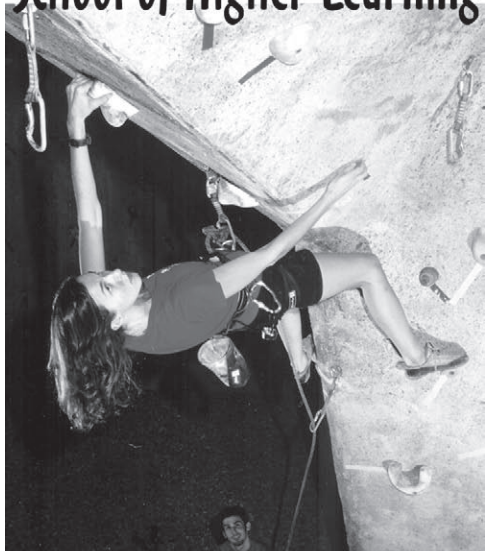
1. Wonton Soup  
2. Egg Drop Soup  
3. Vegetable Soup  
4. Seafood Soup  
5. House Special Soup  
6. Hot & Sour Soup  
Substitution Egg Roll  
no extra

Free Delivery

Located  
conveniently  
on campus



Welcome to the other  
School of Higher Learning



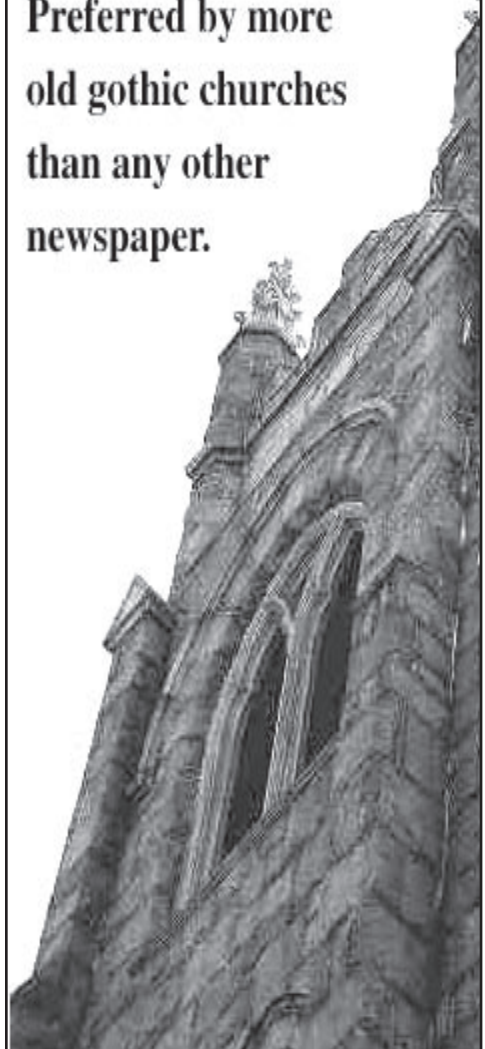
Rock Climbing  
College Night  
Every Thursday 6-9pm

2 for 1 Introduction to Climbing Classes  
& Day Passes for College Students

Peak Experiences Indoor Rock Climbing Center  
11421 Polo Circle Midlothian, VA 23113  
804-897-6800; e: info@peakexperiences.com  
www.peakexperiences.com

For Free Ride Information, Call the VCU  
Outdoor Adventure Program at 828-6004

The Commonwealth Times.  
Preferred by more  
old gothic churches  
than any other  
newspaper.



**Sunday, April 9, 2006**

Check in: 11:30 am

Lunch will be provided.

**Alltel Pavilion at the Siegel Center**

1200 West Broad Street

Richmond, VA 23284

**FIRST PRIZE: \$1,000**

**SECOND PRIZE: \$500**

Go to [alltel.com/3on3](http://alltel.com/3on3) or call 804-827-0586

for details and registration.

Deadline: Friday, April 7. First 60 teams to enter are in.

Fee: \$75

Players and teams bring canned goods.

Proceeds benefit the Central Virginia Food Bank.

**VCU**  
Sports  
Center

**alltel**  
wireless

Only students enrolled in a participating school can enter male, female and co-ed teams.  
Team that brings the most canned goods will win a special "Team with the Most Heart" prize.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## SERVICES OFFERED

**Mideastern/Belly Dance Classes.** Join us for fun and fitness. Spring classes forming now. Call Marguerita at 288-0450 for information.

2006 Graduates! Relocating for new job, graduate school? **Free Relocation Package**, any area; home/apartment search assistance. Email Pam, Moving, on@verizon.net

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](http://www.thescrapman.net)

## SITUATIONS WANTED

Foreign student from Russia wants to have **English classes in exchange for Russian**. E-mail: [volodya\\_hanasov@mail.ru](mailto:volodya_hanasov@mail.ru)

## HELP WANTED

Live this summer at the Beach and **work with Telescope Pictures/Beachtown Studio LLC** in Ocean City, MD/Virginia Beach, VA. Earn up to \$10,000.00. Housing is Available. For more information visit our website and APPLY ON-LINE [www.beachtownstudio.com](http://www.beachtownstudio.com) or call 1.724.322.1858. E.O.E.

**Lunch & Dinner shifts available** to fit your schedule. Casual restaurant convenient to campus. Apply at 314 East Grace St. after 2 p.m. Will Train.

**Earn 50% profit selling** gourmet food mixes or candles. This job moves with you during summer and school breaks! Contact [hokieez@yahoo.com](mailto:hokieez@yahoo.com) or 746-2614.

Atlantic Coast Athletic Club in Richmond, Virginia is seeking **Camp Counselors for Summer, 2006** (June 17th – September 2nd). 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 Midlothian location or on our website at [www.acac.com](http://www.acac.com). Forward to [JeanneS@acac.com](mailto:JeanneS@acac.com). 378-1600

## HELP WANTED

**PR & WEB:** design students: small company needs help immediately with press releases, marketing and website redesign. Great experience/professional reference for your resume, \$8-\$10 per hour. Please fax 231-5003 or email [popmount@aol.com](mailto:popmount@aol.com)

**Sitters Wanted.** Average \$10 per hour. Register free for jobs near campus or home. [www.student-sitters.com](http://www.student-sitters.com)

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

## 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



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

When Jews  
and  
Christians  
Meet:  
Barriers  
or Bridges?

## VCU Libraries Lecture

**Presented by Dr. Jack D. Spiro**  
 Thursday, March 23, 2006 • 7:30 p.m.

**W.E. Singleton Center  
for the Performing Arts**  
 922 Park Avenue

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 Tuesday, March 21, 2006.

The 21st Annual Brown-Lyons Lecture is sponsored by the VCU Libraries, the VCU Center for Judaic Studies, the Richmond Jewish Foundation and the Weinstein Jewish Community Center.

[www.library.vcu.edu](http://www.library.vcu.edu)  
[www.vcu.edu/judaicstudies](http://www.vcu.edu/judaicstudies)  
an equal opportunity/affirmative action university





**2 low-fat  
smoothies  
for \$5.99!**



929 West Broad St.

WRAPS - SANDWICHES - CATERING - SMOOTHIES

**CONNECT**  
to our DiningStyles survey  
**TO**  
tell us how Dining Services meets  
your needs and enter to  
**WIN**  
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!

# Students Fly Cheaper

spring break, study abroad & more

Sample fares from **Richmond:**

Chicago **\$163**  
Nashville **\$201**  
Austin **\$244**

Sample fares from **Wash., D.C.:**

London **\$380**  
Rome **\$470**  
Tokyo **\$879**

Visit **StudentUniverse.com** for cheap student airfares  
on major airlines to 1,000 destinations across the US  
and around the world.



StudentUniverse.com

Terms: All fares are based on roundtrip travel and include a StudentUniverse service fee of \$5. Domestic fares include a 7.5% US transportation tax. Other taxes and fees vary, depending on the itinerary and are not included. Fares valid Mon-Thru for departures from Apr 1 with an 8-day advance purchase. A 2-day min stay including a Sat night required and max stay is 30 days. International fares valid Mon-Weds for departures from Apr 3 to May 24 with an 8-day advance purchase. A 4-day min stay including a Sat night required and max stay is 122 days. Blackout dates and other restrictions may apply. Fares are subject to availability and change without notice.



**NOW OPEN  
IN THE  
RAMZ HALL BUILDING  
ON BROAD ST**

**LUNCH SPECIALS  
MON – FRI**

**FRESH BAKED BREAD AND  
FRESHLY SLICED MEATS AND  
CHEESES  
PARTYSUBS & PLATTERS**

**GIFT CERTIFICATES**

**CALL OR FAX AHEAD  
AND YOUR ORDER WILL BE  
WAITING FOR YOU**

**CALL 340-5563  
FAX 340-5564**

**Buy 2 Subs and get a third of  
equal or lesser value for  
FREE  
Only Good At the  
RAMZ HALL  
Jersey Mike's Subs**

**Buy One Giant Sub and One  
Regular Size Drink and get a  
Regular Size Sub for  
FREE  
Only Good At the  
RAMZ HALL  
Jersey Mike's Subs**

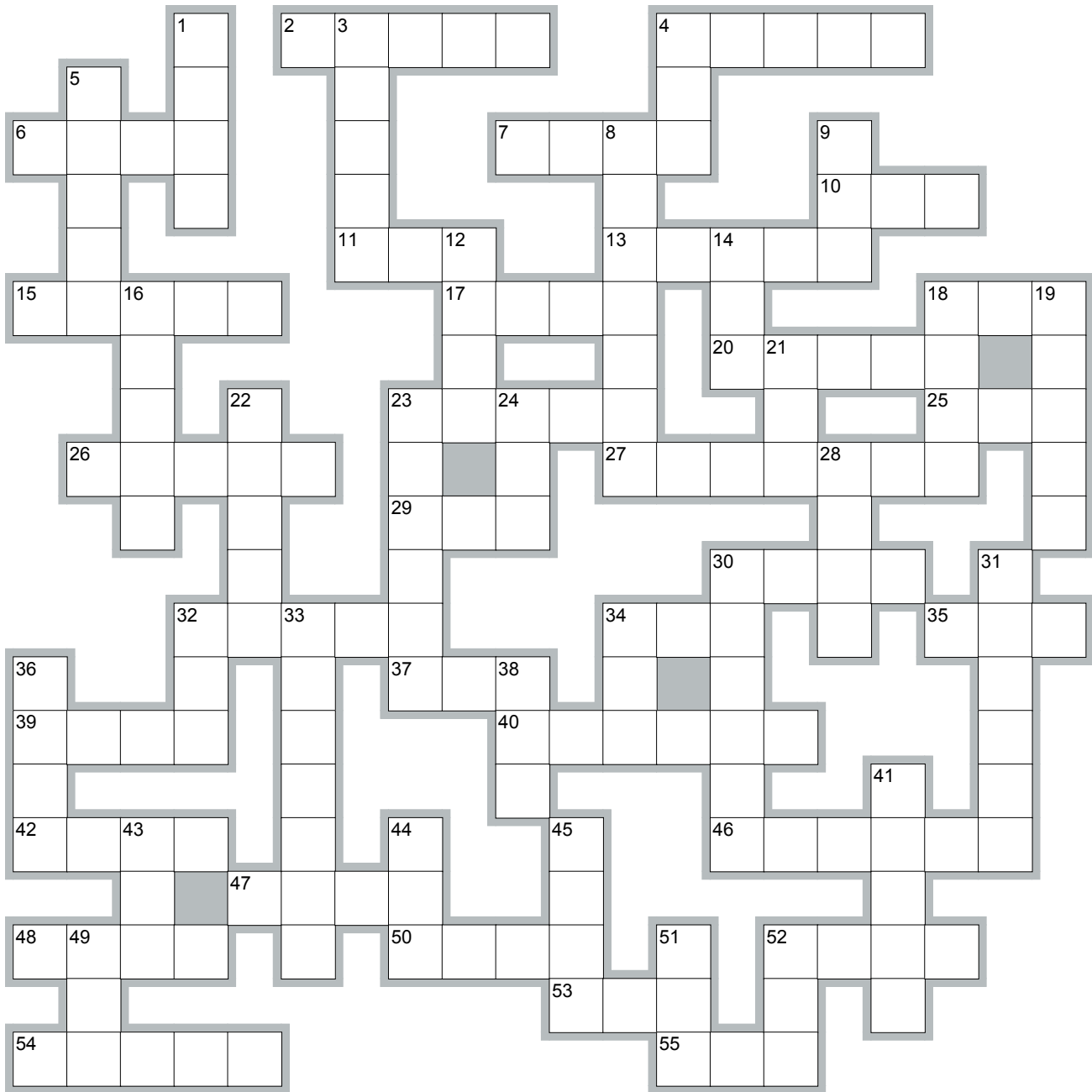
# THE COMMONWEALTH TIMES CROSSWORD

## Across

- 2. Icy, rain-like weather.
- 4. Bars set over an opening.
- 6. Opposite of first.
- 7. A bar used to fasten a door.
- 10. A fast-running bird.
- 11. Caspian, Baltic.
- 13. “Rise from your grave!” began the game “Altered \_\_\_\_\_.”
- 15. Dogs don’t know it’s not \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17. VCU mascot.
- 18. Animal mascot of VCU.
- 20. Name of the president of VCU.
- 23. A hiding place for treasure! Yaaar!
- 25. Writing utensil that uses ink.
- 26. Beg.
- 27. To go backwards.
- 29. To perform.
- 30. White whale hunter.
- 32. Bit my sister once.
- 34. You can process this to make petrol products.
- 35. To be wrong, human, usually both.
- 37. Referee.
- 39. Causes drifts, makes it feel colder than it actually is.
- 40. Doing, activity.
- 42. Good, or a female that has a nice body.
- 46. Wreckage.
- 47. Famous Charles whose research succeeded in finding the best way to ‘bank’ whole blood, and then to store only the plasma.
- 48. To not include.
- 50. Not having.
- 52. Greenhouse gasses could do this to the ice caps.
- 53. The last part.
- 54. Proverb.
- 55. Sometimes they pull a sled.

## Down

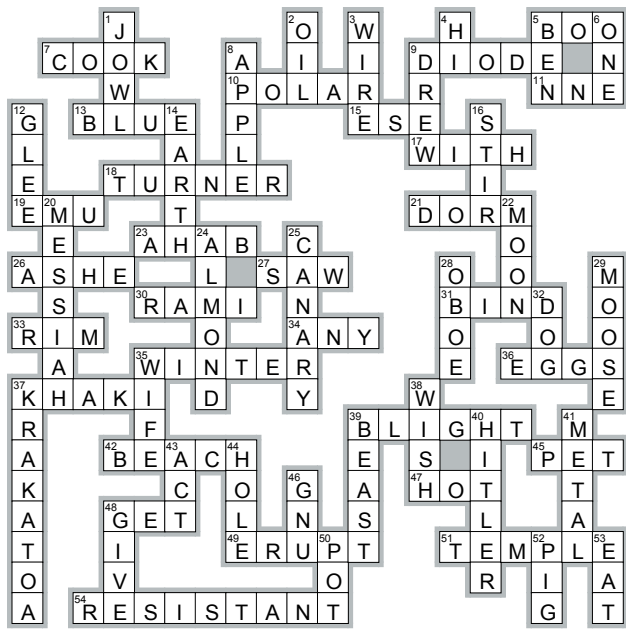
- 1. Speck.
- 3. A golf course.
- 4. “\_\_\_\_ at me” — call me.
- 5. Devilfish.
- 8. The “Dragon” in a dragon and phoenix dish.
- 9. Extra-sonic aircraft.
- 12. Range, tract, space.
- 14. Fit, appropriate.
- 16. Used to stop up and fill cracks.
- 18. Fully grown, ready for harvest.
- 19. To cut into tiny pieces.
- 21. Regret.



Created with EclipseCrossword — [www.eclipsecrossword.com](http://www.eclipsecrossword.com)

- 22. Wonder Woman’s golden “weapon.”
- 23. Result of a large bomb or impact.
- 24. Bed.
- 28. About 500 sheets of paper.
- 30. Cyanide smells/tastes like this nut.
- 31. Male swimwear.
- 32. Mire, muck.
- 33. Something that is not well-known would be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 34. Quaker \_\_\_\_ meal.
- 36. Exchange.
- 38. Follower of a sport.
- 41. Generally gas or charcoal, meant for cooking.
- 43. Born Cassius Clay.
- 44. Who? Who?
- 45. Jest, for a laugh.
- 49. Angry, insane.
- 51. Plus, join.
- 52. Stein.

## Answers from March 9 edition





# EDITORIALS & LETTERS

## Opinion in Brief

Calabasas, Calif., is about to have a load of disgruntled people on its hands. Every smoker in that city is going to feel like killing someone because they can no longer smoke in public. Not in bars, not in parks, not even in the streets.

Cigarette smokers face a tough challenge across the country as more and more localities ban them from smoking in public, and defending the rights of smokers is no easy task. But banning all public smoking is ridiculous. The Calabasas city government is overstepping its boundaries by outlawing a perfectly legal activity.

Those of you who don't smoke are probably thinking, "Good for Calabasas." Well consider this: What if you couldn't eat or drink outside because you might end up littering? You'd probably feel hungry more often, and you'd oppose such a trampling of your rights.

Or what if you could never drink alcohol outside of your own home (i.e. bars and restaurants) because you might end up driving home drunk? After all, drunk driving causes way more annual deaths in the U.S. than does secondhand smoke. In 2004, 16,694 people died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes while an estimated 3,000 people died from exposure to secondhand smoke, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Smoking isn't a great habit (duh) but that doesn't mean that smokers should lose fundamental rights.

Editorial Cartoon | Andrew Babb



## The dreaded Buddy Syndrome

**ALEX JONES**  
*Op/Ed Writer*

In our coed culture men and women live and work as equals (well kind of). I don't want to talk about equal rights between the sexes or anything. I'd like to talk about something even worse: the Buddy Syndrome. At some point in time every male has experienced this. The Buddy Syndrome is the point in a male-female relationship when the male skips the dating step and becomes a brother or a buddy to the girl.

The relationship may start with a guy being attracted to a girl without any feedback. The girl may not be interested in the guy and just keep him around as positive reinforcement or a safety blanket.

If you have never had a buddy you have probably seen one in a chick flick (any Freddy Prinze Jr. movie). All these movies follow the same story — misfit girl (girl wearing glasses) gets involved with a perfect guy. With the help of her male best friend she discovers some sort of lie, gets mad at the guy, makes up and lives happily ever after.

That's all fine and good, but what about the male best friend? Everyone watching knows he is in love with the heroine of the story. Why can't he have what he wants and live happily ever after? Is there anything wrong with that?

If you're a girl who has one of these buddies, congratulations! You have neutered someone who is most likely the nicest guy you know. Not only have you taken his self-esteem and pride away but also every time you go

anywhere he looks completely unavailable and will probably stay single for the extent of the "friendship."

I don't understand the female motivation. Do we make you happy when your boyfriend (the archenemy of the buddy) does something bad to you? Or do you keep us around so that you can have the emotional part of a normal relationship without the liability of the physical side?

No matter how much you think the guy is just your friend, there is always sexual attraction. Why would we have anything to do with women if there was no physical attraction?

We are genetic opposites, two pieces of the same puzzle. A man and woman may have things they like to do in common or a hair color in common; this doesn't mean they aren't complete opposites. We are made differently, look differently and our brain works differently (I'm not referring to the minority but instead the majority, every member of each sex as an average).

Now you're probably saying that's not true (ladies). Well, want proof? Just ask any guy who has a female best friend if he is sexually attracted to her even in the slightest bit and I can guarantee you he will say yes (in most cases).

Why not be more considerate? Instead of worrying about physical attraction and giving him the "I don't date friends" excuse, why not show your "buddy" a little appreciation? He's been nicer to you than probably any other guy. Watching you hold hands with your guy and be happy isn't a good time. Friends don't let friends be lonely. Hook him up with one of your friends or something. Come on people, it's a common courtesy.

### The Commonwealth Times

*The independent student press of  
Virginia Commonwealth University*

#### KATIE GANTT

*Executive Editor*

#### MAGGIE SOUZA

*Editor of the Editorial Pages*

#### WRITERS

*Andrew Mowe • Lyz Holder  
April Kung • Alex Marra • Danielle Moss  
Alex Jones • 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](http://commonwealthtimes.com), by e-mail at [cteditor05@yahoo.com](mailto: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

## It's time to evolve beyond religious dogma

APRIL KUNG

Op/Ed Writer

In response to the article, and follow-up letters to the editor about the article, entitled “Darwinism: Philosophy, not science,” I feel compelled to put in my two cents. That may be more value than the religiously dogmatic are willing to give it, but to those who haven’t completely ceased to think for themselves, perhaps my two cents will be appreciated.

Firstly, recall that the original article insisted that intelligent design is scientific, not religious, and therefore should be taught in science classes. Then recall the letter to the editor reiterating that intelligent design is a scientific theory, and consider that this letter was written by the RUF Campus Minister. If intelligent design has nothing to do with creationism, and nothing to do with Christian religious dogma, then why are its only proponents religious Christian zealots?

*For the damage religion has done to science over the ages, we ought to be calling for the teaching of evolution in the churches.*

They say you catch more flies with honey than vinegar, and I know that if I hope to convince anyone to see things my way, I should take a more diplomatic, less condescending tone. But the truth is that I find the prevalent and proud display of religious willful ignorance so exhausting and infuriating that I frankly cannot be bothered.

Besides, those who find evolution an “evil” idea, those who wish to believe that everything was created by an omnipotent god, whether in six days or 4.5 billion years (as is conceded by those with enough sense to realize that 4.5 billion years of geological evidence is hard to explain away) and especially those who wish to believe that this god (sic) created humanity in his own image (though you’d think an omnipotent god could do better) will continue to believe what they wish no matter how I say what I say. So, why bother with niceties? Furthermore, I have heard enough lectures on evolution to know that professors introducing this topic to a class typically feel obliged to do it apologetically. Well, enough is enough.

A couple weeks ago, I snuck in early to a lecture hall where my organic chemistry class is held. The class preceding mine was Life Science 101, and the professor was talking about evolution. After 30 minutes of explaining the concept of natural selection, Darwin’s descent with modification and touching on the incendiary concept that humans are one of the many products of evolution (we’re like lions and tigers and bears! Oh my!) a student raised her hand and said with the utmost sincerity, “I know that Adam and Eve were the first humans, so where does all this evolution stuff fit in?” My goodness, where does one begin from there? Teach intelligent design in science class? For the damage religion has done to science over the ages, we ought to be calling for the teaching of evolution in the churches!

First they gripped about the Earth not being flat. Then it

was blasphemy to say that the Earth revolved around the sun. Women were burned at the stake for being witches. Perfectly good cultures were wiped out of history in the name of saving souls for Jesus. Slavery was condoned by the very “good book” (sic) itself... And these are the people you want teaching science to your children? Are you out of your minds? Or is your single open-minded neuron (as the author of the original article in question so un-scientifically put it) non-operational?

The RUF Campus Minister suggested that intelligent design shouldn’t have to comply with the scientific method (observation, formation of a hypothesis, testing of the hypothesis, and validation, eradication, or modification of the hypothesis based on the results of those tests) because the scientific method only applies to empirical sciences, not “historical sciences,” such as (his examples) archeology and forensic science. (I think archeologists and forensic scientists might beg to differ!) But then, why are we being told to teach intelligent design in empirical science classes such as biology?

The minister offered many seemingly logical examples to support his religious beliefs as scientifically valid. The problem is that those who are not properly educated in the sciences (our single open-minded neuron friend, for example) are vulnerable to being deceived by cleverly worded, seemingly scientific horsecrap.

This nonsense is to be found in all the creationist literature available and is regurgitated by the unscientific to the unscientific for the purpose of religious indoctrination, or, depending on your perspective, for the purpose of saving souls from eternal damnation.

The minister claims that “irreducible complexity (which) refers to any system that contains several interdependent parts that work together for a common purpose” is evidence for a designer because “if one of these pieces is missing, the system loses all functionality.” His point was that a system such as this could not evolve, because if one piece were to evolve without the others, the system wouldn’t function.

But biologists know that sometimes traits evolve for one purpose and then develop further to serve a different purpose, so it is perfectly possible for a complex “biological motor” to have evolved from a predecessor that either served a different purpose, or alternatively, from a physical trait that did not hinder the organism’s ability to survive and reproduce.

Moreover, the system with interdependent parts that we examine now as a successful “biological motor” exists for us to examine because it was successful. Nature has eliminated billions and billions of unsuccessful developments, some of which can be examined from what has been left behind in the fossil record, most left no record at all because they were too deleterious to the survival of the organism.

The creationists seem to like the motor analogy as evidence for an intelligent designer. If we examine the motor of an automobile, for example, we don’t think it evolved, we know it was designed by a designer.

Uh-huh. And if we were to drop this automobile out of the sky from a helicopter into an area inhabited by people who have remained cut-off from civilized society for generations, people who still live primitively and have never seen a television, people who don’t know who Pat Robertson is, people who have never experienced any of the modern gadgets we have come to take for granted... What would they think of this automobile? My guess is that, being unable to explain its existence using their limited knowledge of natural phenomena, they would

assume it was created by some sort of god.

This is what the minister wants us to do every time we come across something that our limited knowledge prevents us from explaining in naturalistic terms. Hey, why not? That’s how we used to explain disease. Before we knew of the existence of bacteria and viruses, plagues were the curse of an angry god. Yes, let’s teach intelligent design in science class, and just to be philosophically consistent, let’s also go back to saying the rosary instead of getting antibiotics for an infection.

The minister then goes on to call DNA “a message... (and) a dead giveaway that life was designed.” He refers to “information theory,” I suppose to make himself sound scientific. He says, “Information theory, also universally accepted, tells us that messages never arise from the medium that contains them.” Humph! Here is how Wikipedia defines information theory:

“A field of mathematics that can be partitioned into three fundamental considerations:

Lossless compression: How much can data be compressed (abbreviated) so that another person can recover an identical copy of the uncompressed data? (See also Redundancy.)

Lossy data compression: How much can data be compressed so that another person can recover an approximate copy of the uncompressed data?

*Yes, let’s teach intelligent design in science class, and just to be philosophically consistent, let’s also go back to saying the rosary instead of getting antibiotics for an infection.*

Channel capacity: How quickly can information be communicated to someone else through a noisy medium?”

Many similar definitions can be found online that make no mention of the minister’s interpretation. Search for yourself.

The minister then goes on to say that since DNA exists “in all living cells,” and based on his explanation of “universally accepted” information theory (please note, the theory may be universally accepted but the minister’s interpretation is not) “DNA could not have arisen by the properties of matter.”

Helloooo? DNA is matter. It stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. “Deoxyribo,” as in, missing an oxygen from the sugar molecule ribose, “nucleic,” as in, found prevalently in the nuclei of cells, “acid,” as in, can react with a base — the four bases in DNA being adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine. Basically, the stuff is made up of carbon and hydrogen and other well-known elements of matter that have existed for billions of years.

The minister also makes reference to Egyptian hieroglyphics and points out that archeologists don’t try to explain their existence using natural processes such as

KUNG continued to Page 19



# Op/Ed

## KUNG continued from Page 18

wind erosion, but know instead these pictographs were drawn by intelligent beings. This is true. But it's because we have scientific evidence that these intelligent beings existed. They were humans. We found their mummified corpses along with the hieroglyphics, which talk a lot about how many bushels of wheat were traded for how many sheep.

And speaking of hieroglyphics, you may know that we are able to decipher the meaning of Egyptian pictographs thanks to finding the Rosetta stone — which is kind of like the contemporary “key” that helps us to interpret complex diagrams.

Would you like to know why we still haven't been able to fully decipher the Mayan language? Because of a priest named Diego Landa who went along for the ride during the Spanish Conquest in the 16th century and, in a fit of rage, burned the sacred Mayan texts (along with many people) because he found the heathens worshipping their own gods instead of his.

Christianity claims that science cannot provide moral guidance to the masses, but it seems to me that the evolution of our collective morality is inversely related to

the level of religious fanaticism in our populations. In other words, the less zealous we have become in our religious beliefs, the more advanced we have become in our moral philosophies. And this is why I'm so angry about the contemporary rise of religious zealotry, in the United States and elsewhere.

They tempt us with alleged everlasting life, but the price is willful ignorance. It's said that ignorance is bliss, which is why, I suppose, Christianity is so appealing to some. “Don't worry! Jesus is coming!”

But ignorance also leads to war, hatred, racism, sexism and to the religiously sanctioned exploitation of the powerless. Ignorance impedes our moral and scientific progress. And religious zealotry breeds, indeed, mandates ignorance. Disagree? What does the Bible say is the reason Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden? Because they ate from the tree of knowledge.

Religion has been used throughout human history to manipulate and control the masses, to homogenize codes of conduct, to explain what could not otherwise at the time be explained, to make us feel better about

our own mortality, to make us feel like we were special despite our similarities to other animals, to ease our grief at the passing of loved ones, to appease us in times of poverty and want and to justify our wars.

But so what if we're not the center of the universe? So what if we're no better than the people in other parts of the world? So what if we're not some god's “crowning creation?” So what if we're not immortal? So what if we share a common ancestor with apes and dogs and mushrooms? We're still an amazing and clever (sometimes) species that has the potential to continually improve.

And when Jesus doesn't come, who's going to fix things? Who's going to save us? Or, good grief, what if Shiva or Allah come instead? People, wake up. I know it's easier and more pleasant to believe that someone else is going to set everything right. But, no one is coming to the rescue. If we want a better world, it is up to us to create it. We have the ability to do it — if we'd just quit waiting for a miracle and start using our brains.

## Your Turn *Letters to the Editor*



### National BUYBC Day

BUYBC and EC are not text-messaging codes; they represent Back Up Your Birth Control and Emergency Contraception. BUYBC is a national campaign, spearheaded by Planned Parenthood and hundreds of national and local medical organizations and women's health advocacy groups to promote EC awareness. Tuesday, March 21, is National BUYBC Day.

Emergency Contraception, also known as Plan B and the morning-after pill, has a proven 89 percent effectiveness rate of preventing an unintended pregnancy if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex or if a contraceptive method fails (for instance a condom splits or a pill is forgotten or taken late). Four out of 10 girls get pregnant at least once before the age of 20 and each year 3 million pregnancies, or half of all pregnancies in the United States, are unintended with half of these unintended pregnancies ending in an abortion. Widespread awareness and use of EC could result in preventing 1.7 million unintended pregnancies and 800,000 abortions each year in the U.S. Additional facts on EC include:

- EC is a higher dosage of the same hormones found in daily birth control pills.
- EC has minimal side effects, the most common being nausea. However, anti-nausea medication can be taken an hour before the first dose of EC pills to reduce this side effect.

- EC meets all of the FDA's requirements for over-the-counter status and is generally safer than many other drugs currently available over-the-counter in the U.S.

- Over-the-counter status of emergency contraception is wholeheartedly supported by a wide range of medical and women's health organizations, including the American Medical Association, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, National Women's Health Network, National Black Women's Health Project and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

- EC is currently available without a prescription in many countries worldwide, including France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Israel and South Africa.

- EC is not the abortion pill RU-486.

EC can be obtained through Student Health or Planned Parenthood. In honor of BUYBC Day, Virginia League for Planned Parenthood will be offering EC for only \$10 on March 20 and 22. Contact Planned Parenthood at (804) 355-4358, ext. 14 for details. For additional information on BUYBC and EC visit [www.backupyourbirthcontrol.org](http://www.backupyourbirthcontrol.org). If you're interested in becoming actively involved in supporting reproductive rights and comprehensive sex education, contact [vcuvox@yahoo.com](mailto:vcuvox@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,  
**Sara Duke**  
VOX @ VCU, President

# We want to hear from you!

Send your comments and letters to [ctvcu@hotmail.com](mailto:ctvcu@hotmail.com).



**ONE WEEK  
FREE**

First time guests only. Limit one per guest.

THE LOOK YOU WANT

**PACIFIC COAST TANS**

Parc Place at Short Pump

804-360-7777

The Shoppes at Bellgrade

804-379-2282

WWW.PACIFICCOASTTANS.COM

With a tan, no one will notice  
your bad hair days.



# You're invited

Help us celebrate the **VCU Student Media Center** at  
817 W. Broad St. We are the home to independent  
media on campus including four publications and  
WVCW radio station. Join us for a light lunch, meet our  
students and staff and *tour our beautiful facility!*

**Student Media Center**  
**Open House**  
**March 24, 2006**  
**11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**