

# the ct

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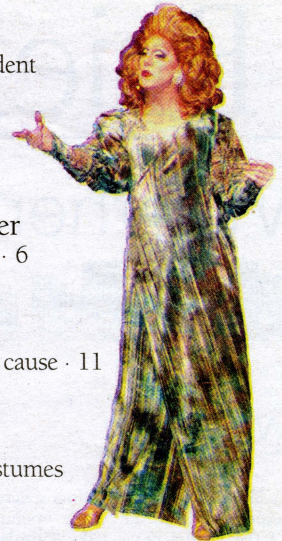
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The **independent** student press of Virginia Commonwealth University

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



# 'Hell Block'

## gets Halloween makeover

free

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# Briefs

## Weather



Monday

62/35

Tuesday

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Wednesday

72/48

## WORLD

**SIRTE, Libya** – Negotiators lowered expectations ahead of the opening of the Darfur peace talks Saturday, with almost no key rebel leaders present to negotiate an agreement with the Sudanese government. The talks were announced in early September by U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to try to end more than four years of fighting that have killed more than 200,000 people in Sudan's western region of Darfur.

With the absence of the major rebel players, hopes faded for a quick peace agreement, and mediators played down the conference's goals, insisting that focus would now be to "create conditions" for effective peace talks to take place.

They said negotiations will also give a larger role to groups representing civilians, which have had little say so far. Mediators did not know by noon Saturday how many faction leaders and

delegates would attend the talks' opening, but the chief U.N. mediator, special envoy Jan Eliasson, said six or seven groups could be there by Saturday.

"People keep coming. There's a slow trickle," he said.

The talks' first priorities are to reach an immediate cease-fire, discuss the return of Darfur refugees to their destroyed villages and obtain financial compensations for war victims, Eliasson said.

## NATION

**WATAUGA, Texas** – A 5-year-old boy playing on train tracks fell and then froze up when he heard a locomotive approaching, leaving him unable to move before the train struck and killed him, police said.

Kevin Bradford and two other boys had sneaked past their grandmother to look for dinosaur bones on Thursday, police said. Workers aboard the Union Pacific train

traveling through this small North Texas town saw the boys on the tracks but couldn't stop in time despite braking, Union Pacific spokesman Joe Arbona said.

Kevin's 7-year-old brother and 5-year-old cousin made it safely off the tracks and ran home. Kevin's foot got caught in the tracks and he fell, officials said.

Watauga Police Chief Rande Benjamin said Kevin's death was an accident, and charges would not be filed. A report was sent to Child Protective Services for review.

Texas ranks second in the U.S. for pedestrian-train fatalities. From January through July, 29 pedestrians died on Texas railroads, according to the Federal Railroad Administration.

## LOCAL

**MARTINSVILLE** – A career police officer who was the central figure in a public corruption case is scheduled to report Tuesday to begin serving an eight-month prison term.

Former Henry County Sheriff H. Franklin Cassell will report to U.S. Penitentiary-Canaan in northeastern Pennsylvania, near Scranton. The all-male prison has 1,536 inmates,

most of whom are in a high-security institution.

Under a plea agreement, Cassell pleaded guilty in May to one count of making false statements to federal investigators. Prosecutors dropped four other charges related to allegations that the sheriff looked the other way as drugs and guns seized by the department were resold to the

public.

At his sentencing last month, a U.S. District judge in Roanoke also fined Cassell \$15,000 and placed him on two years probation following his release.

All of the prisoners work at jobs, such as food service, painting, working in a warehouse or landscaping. The starting pay is 12 cents an hour.

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cover photo by Rachel Larue

The Commonwealth Times strives to be accurate in gathering news. If you believe we have made an error, please call Executive Editor Gayland Hethcoat at 828-4770 or e-mail him at editor@commonwealthtimes.com. Corrections will appear on this page.



*"People want a clean world. They just don't necessarily want to clean it themselves."*

—Grace Howard, president of the Student Sierra Coalition at VCU

## Sierra Club organizes festive 'Hell Block' cleanup



**top: Grace Howard, Student Sierra Coalition president  
right: (From left) Student Sierra Coalition member Chloe Santulli,  
Will Isenberg, and Aaron Linas clean up trash on Hell Block on Saturday.**

Rachel Larue photos

### CHRISTEN DUXBURY

*Co-News Editor*

A fairy, the Black Plague and a pink lady straight from '70s film "Grease" were among those who gave the 1100 block of West Grace Street a makeover Saturday.

The environmental group, Student Sierra Coalition at VCU, and other volunteers wore their Halloween costumes to pick up cigarette butts, garbage and broken glass from the sidewalks of the mostly student-populated block, which is commonly referred to as "Hell Block."

"We are doing it by example out here," said Chloe Santulli, Student Sierra Coalition vice president. "This is students getting involved in cleaning up after students."

Santulli said that along with the typical

garbage found on the block, the most odd items found were a pair of shorts and a belt. The two items were not found together, she said.

The Hell Block cleanup is the second such event the Student Sierra Coalition has hosted this semester. The club tries to organize direct-action cleanups once a month, and the turnout to these events has been good so far, said Grace Howard, president of the Student Sierra Coalition.

"We've seen a lot of new faces," Howard said. "It helps to increase our visibility."

The events have been well attended, and other organizations have been sending representatives to check out the group's success, she said.

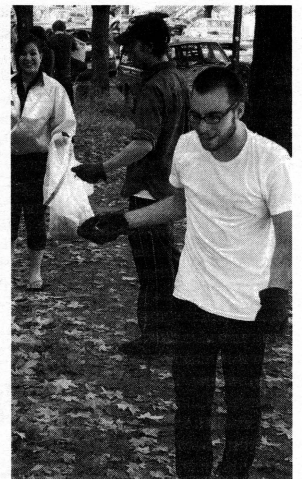
"It is great for networking," Howard said.

Such networking is important for the Sierra Club, Howard said—especially now, as the group is working with the Student Government Association to develop a Green Campus Coalition, which aims to turn VCU into a carbon-neutral campus.

Knowing such large policy changes can take time because of resistance from officials and red tape, the Student Sierra Coalition is continuing to maintain a core focus of direct action, education and outreach, she said.

Students are directly affecting the community they live in, Howard said, and events like this cleanup can encourage people to make lifestyle changes.

"People want a clean world," Howard said. "They just don't necessarily want to clean it themselves."

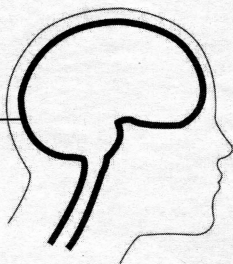




# School officials promote → safety following student's death

Meningitis is the inflammation of the lining around the brain and spinal cord.

—from meningitis.org



LISA CHUN  
Contributing Writer

Following the death of a 19-year-old music major Wednesday afternoon from what might be meningitis, Linda Hancock, director of VCU's Office of Health Promotion, said students with questions or concerns should go to University Student Health Services.

"Bacterial meningitis is very rare, but it can have very serious consequences. So you have to be careful," Hancock said.

Bacterial meningitis is an infection of the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms of meningitis develop quickly and include high fever, neck stiffness, light sensitivity and severe headaches.

The cause of death for the sophomore, who lived off campus, has yet to be officially released.

Hancock said the student collapsed suddenly, was rushed to The VCU Medical Center and was pronounced dead. The medical investigation has been turned over to the state medical examiner, she said.

VCU President Eugene P. Trani sent an e-mail Oct. 25 to students and faculty stating that VCU was offering a free antibiotic for bacterial meningitis until Oct. 28 at the student parlors of the Sports Medicine Building.

"I want to emphasize that health experts indicate that the risk of infection after exposure to bacterial meningitis is extremely small," Trani said in his letter to the VCU community.

Hancock said bacterial meningitis can only be spread through the exchange of saliva from an infected person.

The university's music department held an assembly for its students, warning them about the incident and informing them about the medication being offered.

John Guthmiller, chair of the music department, said the majority of music students and the music department staff attended the assembly.

"We wanted to get the message to everyone in the department at the same time and as soon as possible," Guthmiller said. "We also wanted to acknowledge the loss of a student who was a friend and colleague to many of us."

By late Thursday, 122 students had sought preventative treatment at University Student Health Services, said Pam Lettety, a spokeswoman from the Office of the President.

An information sheet on meningitis can be found on the University Student Health Services Web site at [students.vcu.edu/health](http://students.vcu.edu/health).

**University Student Health Services is housed within  
the Sports Medicine Building at 1300 W. Broad St.**

# Don't forget about *sexual self*, urges sexperts

CHRISTEN DUXBURY  
Co-News Editor

Richmond sex experts playfully and informatively confronted topics such as "How big is big?" and "What happens when you get bored with sex?" during a VCUVOX-hosted event Thursday night.

VCUVOX, a student-run organization affiliated with nationally run Planned Parenthood, brought Shawn McNulty, department manager for health outreach at the Fan Free Clinic, and VCU professor of human sexuality Virginia Totaro to the stage to answer students' questions about everything sexy and sex-related.

McNulty and Totaro talked to an audience of about 60 people in the University Student Commons. They said students should always be trusting and open with their sex partners.

"Lots of communication is necessary," Totaro said.

She urged students to be sure they know what they are doing and they know enough about their partners.

Even though you might have your own sexual agenda, before acting on that desire, make sure that your partner is on the same page, Totaro said.

McNulty said not talking about issues when they come up can cause conflict between you and your sex partner.

They don't always know what you are thinking or feeling, McNulty said. Until you begin talking honestly about your hang-ups, fears and desires, your partner will continue as if nothing is wrong, he said.

The benefit of knowing a sex partner well is not just having a great time together. There are benefits of knowing a person's history, Totaro said.

"A few years ago, Richmond was No. 1 for chlamydia and No. 2 for gonorrhea," McNulty said.

Although those statistics have changed, gonorrhea and chlamydia are still the two most common sexually transmitted infections on college campuses, McNulty said.

It is important to learn and understand your body, Totaro said, but it is not a good idea to self-medicate.

"Unless you need to, don't artificially stimulate your sex drive," said McNulty.

Taking, for example, prescriptions like Viagra when you don't have a prescription can cause a heart attack, he said.

"You might not realize it, but if you're lucky, your body will one day be 80," McNulty said.

Therefore, it is important to pay attention and think about what you are doing to your body, he said.

It is also important to realize everyone has hang-ups about their bodies, he said. When you are with someone who voices insecurity, you should work with that person and that aspect of who they are, he said.

"Treat them as if it was them that mattered ... not their body," McNulty said.

Regardless of what is wrong, whether it is a sexually transmitted infection, an uncomfortable sexual situation, a birth-control issue or anything else, Totaro told students they shouldn't sit and suffer in silence.

With all the resources available to students, such as the University Student Health Services and the Fan Free Clinic, they should not hesitate to see somebody if they have a question or concern, Totaro said.

University Student Health Services is located on the second floor of 1300 W. Broad St. The telephone number is (804) 828-8828. The Fan Free Clinic is located on 1010 N. Thompson St. The telephone number is (804) 358-6343.



# Break free of society's mold,

## speaker says at leadership lecture

BETHANY EMERSON  
News Co-Editor

Lillian Lincoln Lambert, the first black woman to receive her MBA from Harvard Business School, spoke Wednesday night about her personal struggles of becoming a graduate student and an entrepreneur against the racially biased climate of the 1960s.

Lambert's lecture, "Defeat is Not an Option," was one in a series of lectures being presented this fall at VCU, called "Breaking the Mold."

Lambert, former president and CEO of Centennial One Inc. was asked many questions, which she answered by referring to her own personal experiences.

**Q:** What does "breaking the mold" mean to you?

**A:** (If) you (are) the first in your family to do something unusual ... you are breaking the mold.

**Q:** Why are you here?

**A:** Going to college was not anything I had the intention of doing. At 21, (I) finally came to the realization that I needed a college education ... and I resisted the temptation to give up.

When I entered Harvard, I had no idea I was the first African-American woman to be accepted there.

Twenty-seven were accepted the next year and all graduated. It is important to challenge systems that may be based on ignorance.

**Q:** How can you get a business off the ground?

**A:** Getting my business off the ground was not easy. You have to have real determination ... to keep you committed to your vision.

**Q:** How do you balance family and career?

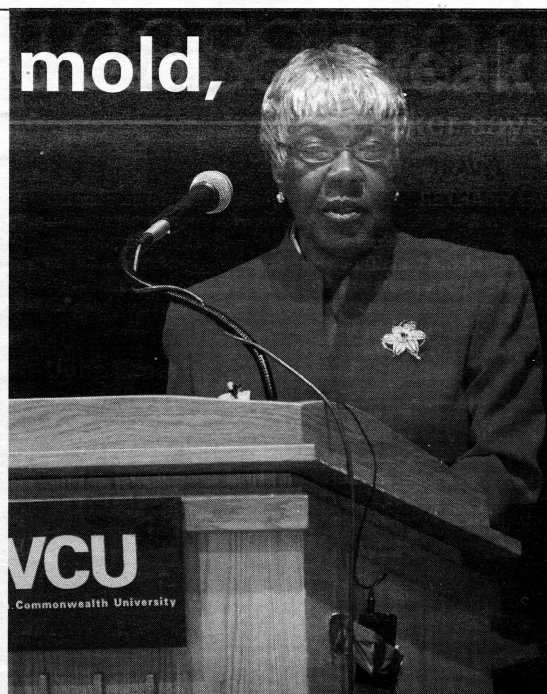
**A:** Being an entrepreneur and a mom taught me to prioritize. I learned to delegate, and I gave up the notion of being superwoman ... I learned to let go of petty things.

**Q:** What does success mean to you?

**A:** For me, it is about self-actualization. It's about working hard ... and playing hard, too.

It takes courage to make something of yourself. Remember, defeat is not an option.

Lambert's event was presented by VCU Women's Leadership Forum, a group that formed last fall. E-mail questions or requests to [wlf@vcu.edu](mailto:wlf@vcu.edu).



Lillian Lincoln Lambert

photo by Rachel Larue

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# Sports

## MEN'S SOCCER

### Freshman Loehr is hero on Senior Day

MATT DOYON  
Associate Sports Editor

On Senior Day at Sports Backers Stadium, it was a freshman who shined for the Rams.

Jorit Loehr (Bremen, Germany) netted two goals for VCU, including the game-winner in overtime, and added an assist to lead the Rams to a 3-2 win over Towson.

The Rams entered the weekend with just six points in conference play and under increasing pressure to close out their final matches to qualify for the CAA tournament. They defeated George Mason in Fairfax, 3-1, on Friday night to move closer to the playoffs.

On Sunday, the Rams again proved they were better than their record indicated.

"In the first few (conference games), we were unlucky, but now we make our own goals," Loehr said. "We're now very competitive."

Loehr got VCU on the board first with a header from 5 feet out in the 11th minute, assisted by junior Peer Jaekel (Bremen, Germany). The goal ended Towson's shutout streak, which dated back four matches to a 2-1 loss on Oct. 12 at Drexel.

The Tigers nearly tied the score in the 27th minute. After having his initial shot blocked by junior goalkeeper Andrew Dykstra (Woodbridge/Osbourn Park), Pat Healey aimed high just seconds later, and Dykstra provided a leaping save to tip the ball over the crossbar. The save was the only one Dykstra had to make in the half.

Windy conditions made for a struggle

on both ends for Towson in the first half. Crossing passes suddenly drifted to the net to become un-intended shots. In the 38th minute, the Tigers attempted to center the ball near midfield and advance it into its offensive zone.

Instead, the ball hung in the air and sailed backward, creating a scoring chance for the Rams.

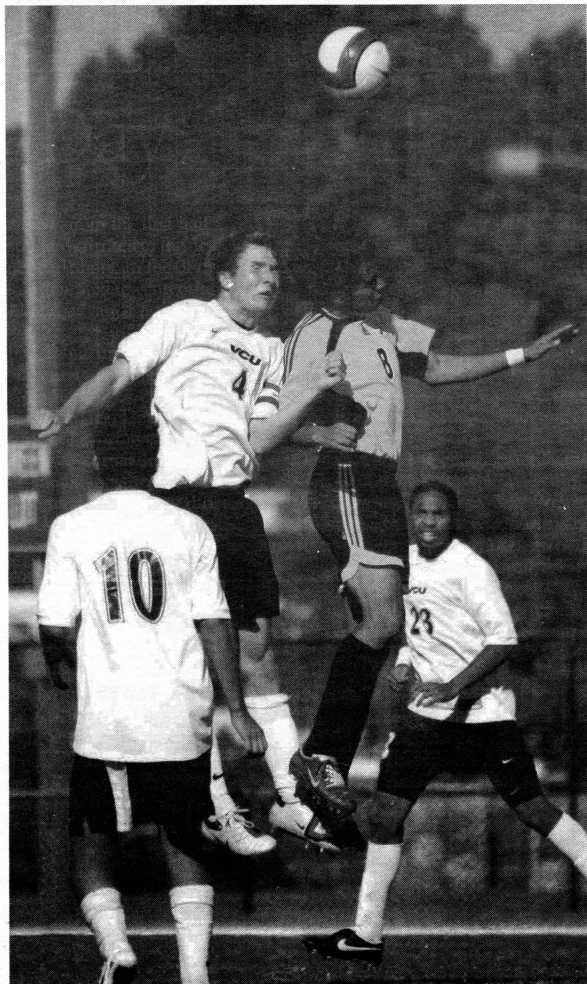
In the second half, the Tigers capitalized at the end of a series of scoring chances. Matt Beckman had two corner kicks for Towson, resulting in six shots in the following minute. The final one hit pay dirt for Cesar Cisneros. After a deflection off a defender, Healey assisted the goal to the left of Dykstra, barely beating the goalkeeper to the far post to tie the score at 1-1.

The goal counted, but not without controversy. It appeared that Cisneros grounded the airborne ball using his arm, and the Rams pleaded their case to no avail.

VCU soon grabbed the lead again. Loehr brought the ball into the zone down the left sideline and crossed to senior Matthijs Maruanaya (Alkmaar, Netherlands/Willem Blau). Maruanaya fed the ball inside the 18-yard box to junior Gerson Dos Santos (Sao Paulo, Brazil/E.E. Ruth Cabral Troncarelli), who capitalized with a goal from 10 yards out to give VCU a 2-1 advantage.

The lead was extremely short-lived as lightning struck twice in the form of Cisneros, who answered Santos' tally just 29 seconds after the Rams regained the lead,

SOCCER continued to CT8



Jason Gareau photo

Dirk Dittrich (4) goes up for a header against a Towson defender during Sunday's match.

## THIS WEEK

### Men's Basketball

Thu., Nov. 1, vs. Virginia State, Siegel Center, 7:30 p.m.

### Women's Basketball

Thu., Nov. 1, vs. Virginia Union, Siegel Center, 5 p.m.

### Men's Soccer

Fri., Nov. 2, @ UNC Wilmington, Wilmington, N.C., 7 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 4, @ Georgia State, Atlanta, 1 p.m.

### Women's Soccer

Thu., Nov. 1, vs. James Madison, Sports Backers Stadium, 7 p.m.

### Volleyball

Tue., Oct. 30, vs. Radford, Siegel Center, 7 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 2, vs. William and Mary, Siegel Center, 7 p.m.

VCU sporting events are free to students with a valid student ID. For more information, visit [vcuathletics.com](http://vcuathletics.com) or call the VCU Sports Line at 828-3440.



## VOLLEYBALL

## Huskies' attack proves to be too much for Rams

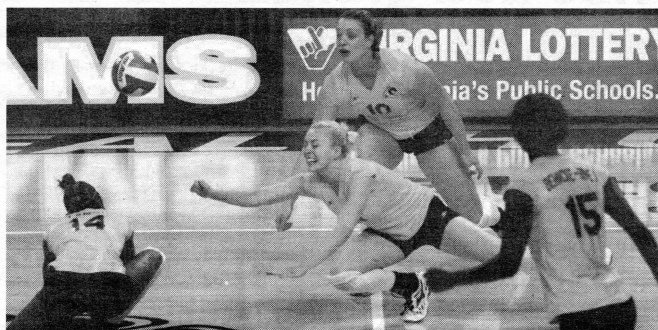
MATT DOYON  
Associate Sports Editor

The Rams looked to string together consecutive conference wins for the first time this season Saturday when they welcomed the Northeastern Huskies to Alltel Pavilion.

VCU was fresh off a win Friday over defending conference champion Hofstra, but it could not carry the momentum to the next night as Northeastern walked away victorious, 3-1.

Both teams started the match fast offensively. After multiple attack errors from freshman Jessica Ojukwu (Sao Paulo, Brazil/Colegio Dourado) in the opening points, the Huskies jumped to a quick 3-0 lead in the first game. But, the Rams countered in the ensuing points with a strong service series by freshman Belinda Behncke-Biney (Hamburg, Germany/Gymnasium Mariemthall) to tie the game, 5-5.

The Huskies never held a lead greater than six points during the game, and the Rams could not pull ahead throughout after tying the game six times. The Rams rallied to a 27-27 tie after falling behind 22-16, forcing a late timeout from the Huskies. Brimey Brown assisted the kill



Karolin Heinz digs a ball against Northeastern.

Jason Gareau photo

on the following three points to give the Huskies a narrow 30-27 decision.

The second game followed a similar script. Neither team was able to make a push until Helene Servillon provided a spark for the Huskies, serving them from a 21-21 tie to a 28-21 lead. Junior Lauren DeTurk made the winning kill for Northeastern in a 30-27 victory.

The Rams faced tough odds entering the third game, needing to take the final three to claim victory on their home floor.

Helene Servillon continued to excel in the service game for Northeastern. The freshman served for five consecutive points, helping to bring the Huskies to an early 11-3 lead.

VCU responded following a subsequent timeout and slowly chipped away to overcome the deficit. A well-executed team effort allowed the Rams to momentarily pull ahead 22-21. Every waning point was hard-fought as each team struggled to gain the upper hand. A failed attack error

by Brown gave VCU the clinching point, 30-27, as the Rams drew to within a game of the Huskies.

The air seemingly escaped the Rams' balloon in what was the match's final game. The Huskies recorded 16 kills and a match-high .359 attack percentage. The game was knotted at six a piece before Northeastern gained control as it had in the first and second games. The Huskies achieved their largest lead of any game at 13 points on the match's clinching attack error to give them a 30-27 win.

Junior Elisa Kuehnelt (Dresden, Germany/Sportsgymnasium) led the Rams with 13 kills, followed by Behncke-Biney and Ojukwu with 11 and 10, respectively. Junior libero Laryssa Goncalves (Curitiba, Brazil/Colegio Dom Bosco) had a strong match, leading the Rams with 18 digs. Of the 217 points scored in the match, the Rams held the lead for only 26.

VCU falls to 8-17 overall and 4-7 in CAA play with just three conference matches remaining before tournament competition. Northeastern improves to 7-3 in the CAA, climbing to within a game of first-place Delaware. VCU hosts Radford on Tuesday and William and Mary on Friday. Both games start at 7 p.m.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Rams placed sixth out of eight teams Friday at the CAA championship, hosted by Hofstra at Bethpage State Park. Sophomore Stephen Mutisya (Machakos, Kenya) was the top finisher for VCU, finishing 15<sup>th</sup> in the 8,000-meter race. The reigning CAA runner of the week stopped the clock at 25:23.4.

#### Team results

1. William and Mary (16)
2. George Mason (97)
3. Georgia State (96)
4. Delaware (112)
5. Hofstra (155)
6. VCU (165)
7. Northeastern (179)
8. UNC Wilmington (221)

#### VCU top 5 finishers

1. Stephen Mutisya, 15th, 25:23.4
2. Piotr Dybas, 22nd, 25:45.6
3. Joey Wingo, 50th, 26:38.0
4. Tim Rusterholz, 62nd, 27:32.2
5. Chris Derosé, 67th, 27:45.4

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Senior Danielle Williams (Virginia Beach/Salem) finished fifth to earn All-CAA honors and to pace VCU at the CAA championship, hosted by Hofstra at

Bethpage State Park. The Rams finished ninth of 10 teams at the competition. Williams finished with a time of 22:09.7 on the 6,000-meter course.

#### Team results

1. William and Mary (40)
2. James Madison (50)
3. Georgia State (81)
4. Delaware (127)
5. Northeastern (133)
6. Towson (155)
7. Hofstra (191)
8. UNC Wilmington (211)
9. VCU (221)
10. George Mason (287)

#### VCU top 5 finishers

1. Danielle Williams, 5th, 22:09.7
2. Melissa Douglas, 46th, 23:42.6
3. Libby Little, 60th, 24:12.0
4. Samantha Hendel, 84th, 25:26.5
5. Genova Washington, 86th, 25:35.6

## FIELD HOCKEY

The Rams ended the season on a sour note, dropping two road games during the weekend, 5-1 to No. 18 Princeton and 1-0 to Northeastern in overtime. VCU trailed Princeton 2-0 at halftime, but Jenna Harris (Aurora, Colo./Smoky Hill) opened up the second half with a goal off an assist from Flore van

Dessel (Oisterwijk, Netherlands/Odulphus Lyceum). However, the Tigers responded with three more goals the rest of the way to silence the Rams' attack.

VCU and Northeastern battled to a scoreless tie through regulation on Sunday, but Ashley Bascetta scored an unassisted goal in the 78th minute to end the game. VCU goalkeeper Brittany LoVullo (Williamsville, N.Y./Williamsville North) stopped 10 shots in the loss. The Rams finish their season with a 5-13 record.

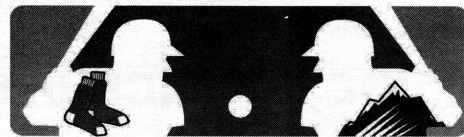
## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Rams tied George Mason on Friday night and defeated Towson on Sunday and clinched a home playoff spot along the way. The Rams and Patriots tied 1-1 after two overtime periods. Both teams scored goals early in the first half before solid defense took over the match. GMU's Kelly Keelan scored 13:02 into the first half, but Francesca Gioeli (New York/Brooklyn Tech) scored on an assist from Samara Stephen-Dowd (Vienna/Oakton) just more than a minute later. Goalie Emily Niman (Pittsburgh/Fox Chapel Area) worked all 110 minutes and made seven saves.

On Sunday, Stephen-Dowd and Bridget Cooley (Clifton/Seton School) each scored their first goals of the season in the first half to peace the Rams. Erica Marshall scored 2:43 into the second half for Towson, but it was not enough. VCU's fate in the CAA playoffs was decided with the win, and the Rams will host a quarterfinals match on Nov. 5.



# The World Series at a glance



Karen Sagun illustration

## THE SERIES

Boston leads 3-0

Game 1: Boston 13-1

Game 2: Boston 2-1

Game 3: Boston 10-5

Game 4: Sunday, at Colorado, late

Game 5: Monday, at Colorado, 8 p.m.\*

Game 6: Wednesday, at Boston, 8 p.m.\*

Game 7: Thursday, at Boston, 8 p.m.\*

\*- if necessary

## GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

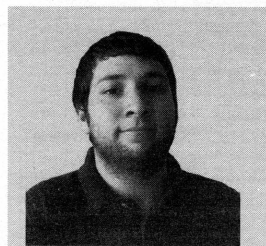
**Game 1:** Five Red Sox batters drove in two runs each to lead Boston to a series opening victory. Boston held a comfortable 6-1 lead after four innings, but scored seven in the fifth to blow the game open. Starting pitcher Josh Beckett gave up six hits and one run, and struck out nine in seven innings of work to earn the victory.

**Game 2:** Rockies first baseman Todd Helton drove in a run on a ground out in the first inning, but Red Sox relievers Hideki Okajima and Jonathan Papelbon combined for six strikeouts and only one hit given up in 3.2 innings of work to help Curt Schilling earn the win. Boston's bats didn't make the same noise as in the previous game, but Jason Varitek's fourth inning sacrifice fly and Mike Lowell's RBI double in the fifth was enough to give the

Red Sox another win.

**Game 3:** After two scoreless innings, the Red Sox scored six runs in the third, which included a 2-run hit by starting pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka. The Rockies clawed back in the middle innings, scoring two runs in the sixth and three in the seventh thanks to a three-run homerun from Matt Holliday. Boston answered with three runs of their own in the eighth and another in the ninth to take the win.

# The CT sports editor sounds off



**JON  
ATHAN  
SAYS**

## BASEBALL

*\*The CT went to press before Game 4 of the World Series ended. All comments made in this section reflect this.*

As I expected, the World Series has been boring... unless, of course, you are a Red Sox fan. After rolling over in Game 1 and getting a dose of Curt Schilling and the Red Sox bullpen in Game 2, the Rockies appeared to show up late in game three – but the Red Sox dominated the final two innings to take a 5-run victory. Colorado is a solid team, but it isn't ready to be elite. The Rockies' winning streak to end the regular season (and into the playoffs) was impressive – but they just aren't quite at the top yet. Because of the long layoff between series, the National League champions had somewhat of an excuse for the lackluster performance, but otherwise the series has been a tribute to Boston's excellent pitching staff and timely hitting.

## NFL

Someone please, please, puhhhhhlease, find a way to schedule an 18th week in the regular season just before the playoffs. After the Dolphins flew all the way to London

to lose to the Giants, and the Rams threw away a chance to win against the Browns, both teams sit at 0-8. It is a shame to me that these two teams do not meet during the regular season – and as bad as they are, both could easily finish 0-16. That would be an astonishing feat, as no team has ever finished a season winless since the league expanded the regular season to 16 games, let alone two. However, if it indeed happens, there should be a game between the two, if nothing else to ensure that the National Football League isn't completely embarrassed by two franchises with very good histories.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Before I say anything else, let me say that Boston College's Matt Ryan is clutch. The Eagles were stymied all night last Thursday against a tough Virginia Tech defense, but found a way to pull through at the end. Ryan, a Heisman Trophy candidate, led two scoring drives in the final 2:11 to help the Eagles grind out a 14-10 win over the Hokies. Maybe it was his calm demeanor in the pocket, or maybe it was the images of him throwing up on the sideline after throwing the final touchdown with 11

seconds to play, but Matt Ryan now fully has my respect.

My respect, however, might be the kiss of death. After I sang the praises of South Florida not too long ago, the Golden Bulls have now dropped games against Rutgers and Connecticut. Now, both teams are very good and have been or are in the top 25 this season, but when you work your way to the No. 2 ranking in the country, you have to win the tough games. Speaking of which, props to Oregon for coming through and beating Southern Cal. The Ducks were favored to win, but many felt the Trojans would still win the game. Oregon was able to put the USC hype aside and win a close ball game.

## AROUND CAMPUS

Basketball season officially kicks off this week when the men's and the women's team play exhibition games. The men take on Virginia State while the women play Virginia Union on Thursday. I ask everyone to come out and support both teams as they begin the season – every game counts, even when they don't show up in the records.

## SOCCER continued from CT6

again assisted by Healey. Cisneros created many of the Tigers' scoring chances seemingly on his own to collect his fourth and fifth goals of the season.

Sophomore Damien Friday (Richmond/Atlee) unloaded a high-velocity shot from the center of the 18-yard box that Towson goalkeeper Billy Chiles was able to get just a piece of to tip it over the net

and preserve the tie in the 73rd minute. With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Jaekel bent a penalty kick into traffic in front of the net, and the Rams came close once again as the ball skipped just left of the goal, sending the match into overtime knotted at 2-2.

In the fourth minute of overtime, Loehr scored off an assist from Jaekel to

end the game.

"It was a great cross, and I just tried to keep the ball in the box," Loehr said. "I'm happy to win for the seniors."

Loehr started at forward in place of senior Pat Viray (Reston/South Lakes) for the third consecutive game after playing the early season as a defender.

"I said to Pat after the last goal, 'This


one's for you,'" Loehr said.

The three goals allowed by Towson equaled the combined total they allowed in six earlier CAA matches.

VCU improves to 4-4 in conference play and 8-5-2 overall. The Rams will be on the road for their final three CAA contests before tournament action gets underway on Nov. 13.



# SAVE




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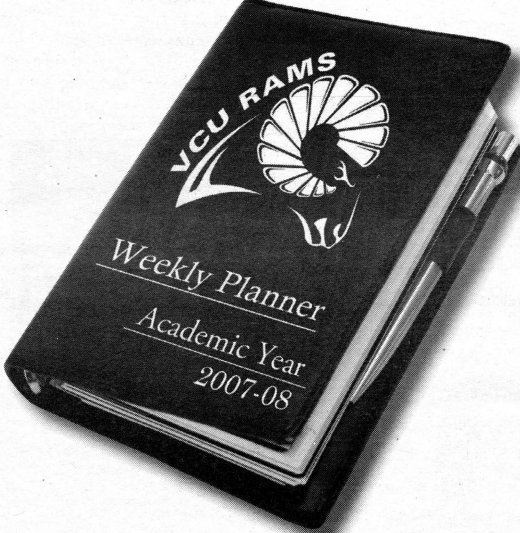
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Contents under pressure.



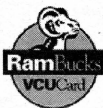
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Richmond, VA 23298



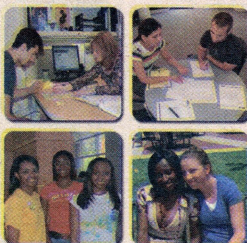
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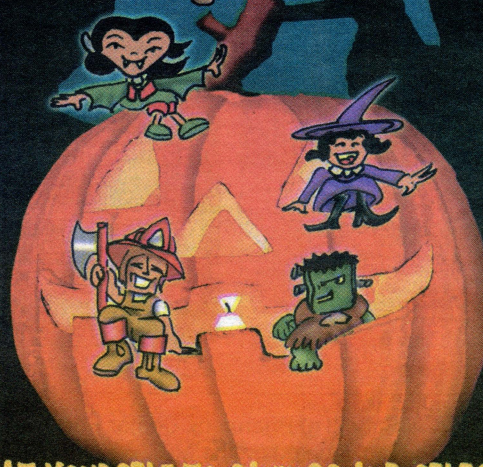
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# Spectrum

## Dragalicious

Drag Ball  
brings  
Richmond  
drag queens  
to VCU

Drag queens danced and shimmied at the 3rd Annual Drag Ball Saturday night.

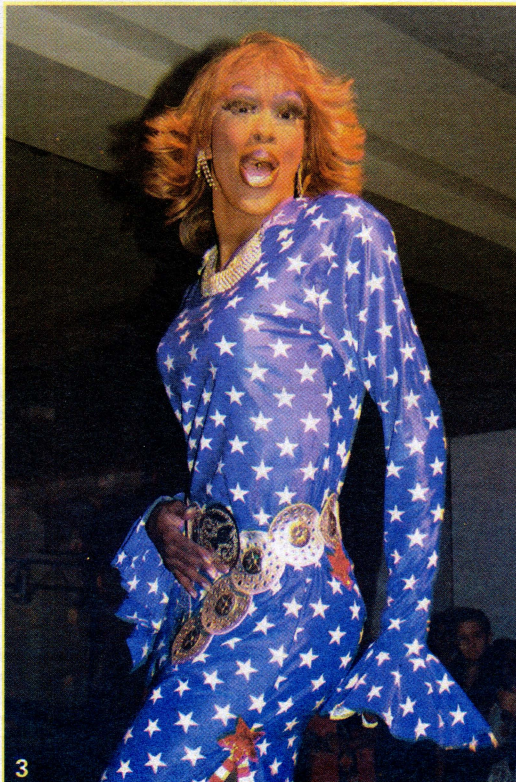
Queer Action sponsored the ball, and group representative Felicia O'Donnell said the event, which raised more than \$500 for the Fan Free Transgender Clinic, brought 125 people to the Commonwealth Ballroom.

"We had two sets of performers. We had professionals, and we had some amateurs," O'Donnell said.

Tiffany Devereaux of night club Godfrey's was among the drag queens featured.

O'Donnell said she is pleased with the turnout, but the first Drag Ball, which took place two years ago, still boasts the highest attendance numbers.

"I think that this year, if it hadn't been Halloween weekend, we would have had (a) higher (number of) attendees," she said.



Megan Waters photos

1: Fook Me Hong  
2: Tiffany Devereaux  
3: Angelica Spalding

Monday, October 29, 2007

commonwealthtimes.com · CT11



# 'Mythbuster'

## talks explosions, busts hit show's myths

REBECCA LANDAU  
*Managing Editor*

When Tori Belleci was 19, he wanted to blow stuff up. So, Belleci and his friends decided to ignite a pipe bomb in his backyard. "We're lucky we didn't get killed," Belleci said.

After the explosion sent shrapnel into a neighbor's lot, Belleci found himself on the run from police, who wanted to charge him with a felony. The next day, after Belleci returned home, the chief of police confronted him for putting his life and the lives of others in danger.

"It was one of those moments in my life where this guy had the opportunity to ruin my life," Belleci said.

But after the police chief learned Belleci was a good student who wanted to work in special effects, he let him off the hook.

More than a decade later, Belleci is paid to blow stuff up. As a cast member on Discovery Channel show "Mythbusters," Belleci's job is to conduct experiments involving models and explosions to determine whether popular myths are grounded in truth.

When Belleci spoke to a crowd of more than 250 at the University Student Commons Saturday, he said he still can't believe he gets paid to do something he loves.

"If I don't do this, I'll starve," Belleci said. "Believing in your dream, and if you keep going for it, it will come true."

In addition to discussing his experiences on the show, Belleci also busted show myths, such as the rumor that the show's main co-hosts, Adam Savage and Jamie Hyneman, are gay and speculation that he and cast member Kari Byron are dating.

Belleci also showed the crowd a blooper reel from the show's production and answered fans' questions about what to expect next season.

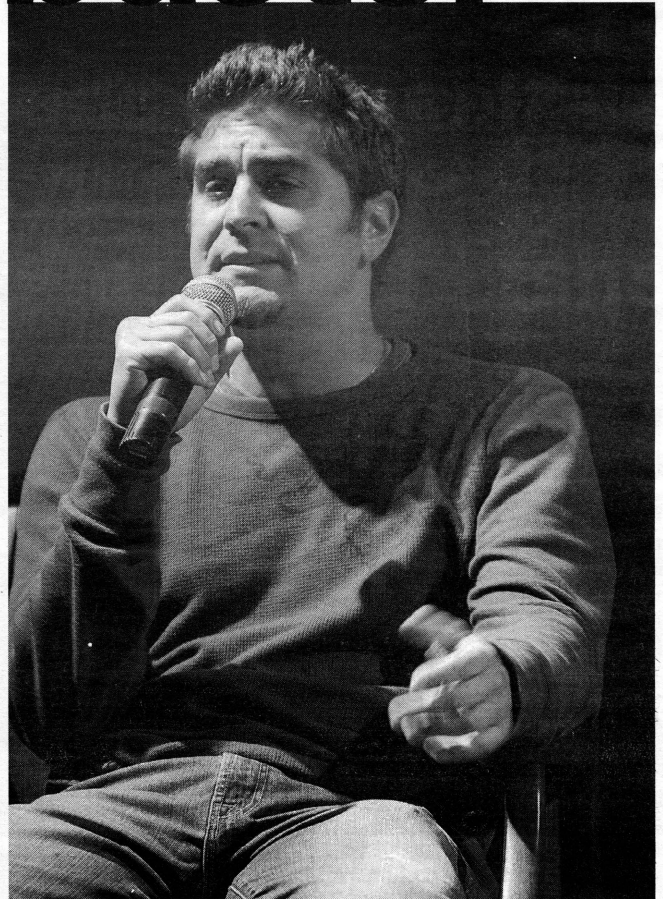
One of next season's new episodes is James Bond-themed, he said. In an as-yet-unaired segment, the crew shoots at a propane tank to test the feasibility of a moment in "Casino Royale" in which Bond shoots a propane tank, and its explosion kills a group of nearby villains, he said.

"I always wanted to shoot a propane tank," Belleci said.

The crew also tested whether it is possible to cut down a tree by shooting at it with a machine gun, he said.

Before joining the "Mythbusters" cast, Belleci received a degree in writing and directing from San Francisco State University. At Saturday's event, he showed a short film, "Sandtrooper," which he made as a student.

Belleci also showed a short film he made as an audition tape for "Mythbusters,"



**Tori Belleci from Discovery Channel show "Mythbusters" speaks to VCU students in the Commonwealth Ballroom on Saturday.**

Rachel Larue photo

which features him testing the myth that women do not fart. In the film, he installs a "fart-detector" under a booth at a Mexican restaurant and secretly observes its readings from an adjacent booth.

Before Savage invited Belleci to audition for a spot on his show, Belleci worked at George Lucas' Industrial Light and Magic. There, he made models for films, such as the latest Star Wars trilogy, the Matrix trilogy, "Van Helsing" and "Peter Pan."

"It was cool working with all these people I had idolized," he said. "When I was in high school, I had done a book report on special effects. I remember seeing a guy standing in front of the Millennium Falcon in front of a blue screen, and I was just thinking to myself, 'That's what I want to do one day.'"

Years later, when Belleci flipped through the pages of a magazine, he said, he saw a picture of himself in front of a Star Wars federation battle ship and an ILM blue screen.

"I flashed back to when I was a kid, looking at a magazine, in the library, and I was like, 'Whoa, it happened. That dream happened.'"



Karen Sagun illustration

## DVDs for a

BLOODY GOOD  
HALLOWEEN

GAYLAND HETHCOAT

Executive Editor

If you don't care much for the classic horror films on TV around Halloween, check out recent DVD releases "Death Proof," "Planet Terror" and "28 Weeks Later."

Among the three, you'll find hordes of zombies, enough blood and gore to fill a swimming pool and ample doses of humor to ease some of the thrills.

**'Death Proof'**

Quentin Tarantino's "Death Proof" harks back to the sexually fueled, politically incorrect exploitation fare that proliferated in the '70s and '80s.

Starring Kurt Russell as Stuntman Mike, a washed-up stunt car driver who was never more than a B-list act in his prime, the film debuted theatrically as the second feature in directors Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez's "Grindhouse." Despite his folksy demeanor, Stuntman Mike, as it turns out, has a penchant for terrorizing pretty, young women with his souped-up, supposedly "death proof" stunt car.

After disposing of a group of barhopping buddies in Austin, Texas, Stuntman Mike makes his way to the hills of rural Tennessee, where the film takes a sharp turn. While there, he sets his sights on another gang of young beauties, but these ladies are not the weaklings he presumes. The four friends are on location shooting a Hollywood film, and two of them (Tracie Thomas and Zoë Bell), no less, are daredevil stunt doubles like Stuntman Mike.

The film picks up speed toward the end, when Stuntman Mike suddenly becomes the prey instead of the hunter. What follows is a climactic, 18-minute-long car chase that will leave you catching your breath.

When "Grindhouse" premiered, many critics and viewers complained

about "Death Proof's" initial slow pace and meandering dialogue, especially in comparison with "Planet Terror." Although such contentions were valid then and are still valid for this extended and unrated cut, "Death Proof" proves it nevertheless can carry its own weight.

Indeed, by being separate from "Planet Terror," Tarantino's film makes for a better viewing. "Death Proof's" success is thanks largely to Russell, whose compelling Stuntman Mike character is charming, creepy and absolutely hilarious near the film's end.

Grade: A-

**'Planet Terror'**

While "Death Proof" retains a sense of realism, "Planet Terror" — definitely the most entertaining of the two "Grindhouse" entries — never strays from far-fetched fantasy.

The film follows several characters, including a go-go dancer (Rose McGowan), an adulterous anesthesiologist (Marley Shelton) and a mysterious soldier (Bruce Willis), as they fight their way through a small Texas town crawling with zombies. These zombies, however, are not the kind of zombies that rise from graves, but rather are local residents who have contracted a strange virus, DC2, that Willis' character and his rogue soldiers have unleashed upon the community.

As all hell breaks loose, the go-go dancer, Cherry, and her ex-boyfriend El Wray (Freddy Rodriguez) emerge as leaders of a ragtag group of locals, who care less about untangling the mystery behind the virus than simply staying alive. Armed to the teeth, they hack and shoot zombie after zombie, making "Planet Terror" a ripe red gorefest that rivals any of the graphically violent films of the grindhouse era.

Like Tarantino, Rodriguez flaunts his fanboy admiration for the grit and sleaze of bygone exploitation flicks. From



"Planet Terror's" synth-heavy score to the intentionally inserted "missing reels," Rodriguez proves he knows all the little details, both good and bad, that made grindhouse cinema so memorable.

*Note:* The "Planet Terror" DVD contains only one of "Grindhouse's" faux-trailers: "Machete." The other trailers are not on the "Planet Terror" or "Death Proof" discs. According to Rodriguez in one of "Planet Terror's" special features, a "Grindhouse" box set will be released in the future.

Grade: A

**'28 Weeks Later'**

Danny Boyle's gritty 2002 film, "28 Days Later," was no easy film for a sequel to follow.

Set in an apocalyptic London overrun by bloodthirsty zombies called "the infected," the film garnered critical acclaim uncommon for most horror films, and it ended in such a way that a sequel seemed unlikely.

What Spanish director Juan Carlos Fresnadillo delivers with "28 Weeks Later," however, is not a film that merely follows in the shadows of its forebear, but one that proves frightening and intense in its own right.

The film begins several months from when the first began, after all the rage-infected killers who had laid waste to Great Britain have been killed off or have died from starvation.

Working under the umbrella of NATO, the U.S. military has set up operations in London, where it has begun to

repopulate the city with a few thousand British survivors. When the film opens, the U.S. military appears to be good, but as the action builds, Fresnadillo conveys a clear message about the dangers of unchecked, aggressive U.S. military might.

While "28 Days Later" focuses mainly on one man's attempt to survive, "28 Weeks Later" concentrates on a close-knit family that tries to rebuild itself after being split apart. Their efforts to restore normality, however, are undercut abruptly when the rage virus is reintroduced in the city in a rather unexpected scene involving a kiss, after which utter chaos naturally ensues.

It doesn't take long for "28 Weeks Later" to reveal itself to be louder, more action-packed and much bloodier than the first film. This bigger-and-bloodier-means-better approach works for the most part, but some of the subtle elements that made "28 Days Later" so compelling are lost in the process. In that film, for example, the indie-rock score played a vital role in setting the film's tone and pace, but in "28 Weeks Later," the music is nothing but background sound.

In any case, Fresnadillo's sequel is largely a success, defying the curse that makes many sequels much worse than the films they follow. By engaging your brain, as well as your brawny instincts, "28 Weeks Later" will keep you on the edge of your seat without having to sacrifice a coherent story or character development.

Grade: A



The Bread & Puppet Theater preforms in Monroe Park. Rachel Larue photo

## Fresh homemade theater good for the soul

ROBERTO CURTIS  
Associate Spectrum Editor

Thoughtful dissent has seldom looked or smelled as good as the heaping helping served up by the Bread & Puppet Theater at Monroe Park on Sunday.

The oldest self-supported nonprofit theater in the country, Bread & Puppet is bringing its righteous message to Richmond, and from the looks of things, the theater was well received.

"Whenever a government becomes destructive, the people have the right to alter or abolish that government," read a train of performers dressed as mules.

That was the moral delivered in Bread & Puppet's most recent performance, "The Divine Reality Comedy Circus."

With its colorful hand-painted banners supported by a converted school bus as a backdrop, the performers donned an array of creative and colorful costumes to help get the message across to even the youngest of ears.

Truly a collaborative gem, the 21 performers brought smiles and maybe some unsettling criticisms to the ears of spectators.

In one scene, a giant tap offered water to a thirsty person, who was then confronted by several representatives of corporate America trying to sell her bottled water. The tap then proceeded to explain the steps it took to make such conveniences a reality.

"Invade three countries, make the plastic, import the water from Switzerland ..." the tap said.

Other thought-provoking questions spawned ideas for sketches, such as "the death of the family farmer," which involved a nicely arranged Wagnerian piece performed by sheep, turkeys and a cow.

The music, while at times lacking in rhythm and intonation, lent itself perfectly to the spit-and-glue style of the company. Among the traditional styles chosen to accompany the sketches were jazz, polkas, gypsy music and New Orleans street beat.

Among my favorites was a demonstration of different types of war, from civil to biological to reactive, which eventually resulted in all the performers falling over dead.

Following the show, the company gave out fresh-baked, sliced bread topped with a spicy Aioli sauce to all in attendance.

The company has another performance on Oct. 31. It will be joining forces with various Richmond groups for the second annual Halloween Parade starting at 7 p.m. in Monroe Park.

CT14 • commonwealthtimes.com

## Halloween happenings



ROBERTO CURTIS  
Associate Spectrum Editor

Trick or treat kiddies! In case you are new to Richmond or have no social outlet, Halloween is the most anticipated holiday for young adults. With this in mind, it is always good to know where the magic will be in the days leading up to this national pagan fest.

### → Monday, Oct. 29

7 p.m. "The Pillowman," presented by The Dead End Kids at the Shafer Street Playhouse. An author's bloody stories prove too similar to actual events to go unnoticed. Open to the public. Donations encouraged. Runs on Tuesday as well.

10 p.m. "The Blood and Gore" show at Empire Lounge, 727 W. Broad St. Live performances by Hot Lava, El Zombie and Microjoy. DJ dance party to follow. 21+

### → Tuesday, Oct. 30

6 p.m. "Frankenstein VS Dracula Round Two," presented by Paul Bilbeau at Fountain Bookstore, 1312 E. Cary St.

### → Wednesday, Oct. 31

4 p.m. Grave Robbing, Goblins and Ghouls Lecture, presented by VCU Libraries. Jodi Koste will speak about issues of anatomical study in Richmond during the 19th century and how procurement of cadavers was accomplished. Includes a ghost walk through the MCV Campus. Sanger Hall, Room 1-044. Seating is limited. Advanced registration is encouraged. 828-0017

5 p.m. APB's Halloween Festival in the Student Commons Virginia Rooms. Open to the public. Goes until 8 p.m.

7 p.m. Richmond's Second Annual Halloween Parade. Starts in Monroe Park, ends in the depths of Hell! Performances by Bread & Puppet Theater, All the Saints Theater, No BS Brass Band and others.

8 p.m. VCU presents "The Creature from the Black Lagoon" in 3D in the Student Commons Commonwealth Ballroom. Open to the public. Glasses and popcorn will be provided while supplies last.

10 p.m. Costume Contest at Emilio's Tapas Bar, 1847 W. Broad St. Live music by 11th House and the Boulevard Duo. \$5. 18+

10 p.m. Fight the Big Bull performs Michael Jackson's "Thriller" at Cous Cous, 900 W. Franklin St. Get there before 9 p.m. if you want to get a seat. \$5. 18+

10 p.m. "Nightmare on Grace Street" at Club 534, 534 N. Harrison St. Sponsored by Henry and Need Supply, the event will feature fashion and DJs.



## 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 Recreational Sports Fitness/Wellness Program

## FALL 2007 SESSION II GROUP EXERCISE CLASS SCHEDULE

Classes run September 4 - October 17, 2007  
For class descriptions, visit [www.recsports.vcu.edu](http://www.recsports.vcu.edu)

**VCU Recreational Sports**  
Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Services

## STUART C. SIEGEL CENTER 1200 W. BROAD ST. 827-1100

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:00 am - 8:00 am				Yoga II Carolyn P		Yoga for Runners Mary S	
8:00 am - 9:00 am		Yoga I Carolyn P	HHP200 Eric W	Yoga Rob C	HHP200 Eric W		
9:00 am - 10:00 am			Pilates Becky F		Pilates Becky F		
9:30 am - 10:30 am		Cycle/A.B.S. Becca T					
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Wild Card Cardio Galen H		Body Sculpting Becca T		Boot Camp Becca T	Pilates Becky F	Turbo Kick Toni P
11:00 am - 12:00 pm		HHP200 Only Eric W		HHP200 Only Eric W		HHP200 Only Eric W	
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm			Yoga I Carolyn P	Yoga I Carolyn P	Yoga II Carolyn P	L.A.C. Samantha N	
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm							Yoga Carolyn P
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm		Beginning Taiji (Tai Chi) Jonathan S	Yoga I Lori S		Yoga II Lori S		
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm							Hip Hop Borisha D
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm		Intermediate Taiji (Tai Chi) Jonathan S					
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm							Body Sculpting Don S
3:30pm - 4:30pm							A.B.S. Mo S.
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm		L.A.C. Samantha N	Turbo Kick Toni P				
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm		Body Sculpting Russell S		Interval Training Kerry M	A.B.S. David E	Body Sculpting Russell S	
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm		Kickin' Butt with A.B.S. Jessica R	Boot Camp David E, Ryan S & Eric W	Yoga for Runners Mary S	Cycling/Spinning Russel A	A.B.S. Mo S & Ryan S	
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm		HHP214 Eric W	A.B.S. David E & Eric W	Cycling/Spinning Russell A	L.A.C. Samantha N	A.B.S. Jamari P	
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm		Cycling/Spinning Kerry M	Hip Hop Borisha D	A.B.S. Mo S & Ryan S	Cycling/Spinning Kerry M		
9:00 pm - 10:00 pm			Martial Arts Berkeley D	A.B.S. Victor C	A.B.S. Victor C		
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm			Martial Arts Tricks Berkeley D				

## CARY STREET GYM 911 W. CARY ST. 828-6219

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm		A.B.S. Victor C					
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm					Point Sparring Berkeley D		
9:00 pm - 10:00 pm					Martial Arts Tricks Berkeley D		

## FRANKLIN STREET POOL 817 W. FRANKLIN ST. 827-1100

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm		Deep Water Exercise Heather		Deep Water Exercise Heather			

## MCV CAMPUS RECREATION &amp; AQUATIC CENTER 10TH &amp; TURPIN 828-6100

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7:00 am - 8:00 am			Yoga I Carolyn P		Yoga I Carolyn P		
10:00 am - 11:00 am						Yoga II Carolyn P	
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		Interval Training Kerry M		Cycling/Spinning Kerry M		Cycling/A.B.S. Kerry M	
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm				Hip Hop Borisha D			
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm			Shallow Water Exercise Crystal		Shallow Water Exercise Crystal		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm		Yoga for Runners Mary S	Cycling/Spinning Kerry M	Kickboxing Galen H	Step Galen H		
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm		Hip Hop Borisha D	L.A.C. Samantha N		Turbo Kick Toni P		

All Group Exercise Classes are FREE to VCU Students and Recreational Sports members. Bring your VCUcard and obtain a wristband/pass at the service desk before entering class. All classes subject to change.

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# Classifieds & Comics

## TRAVEL

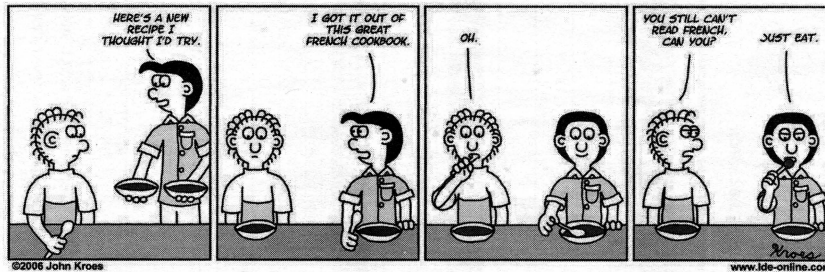
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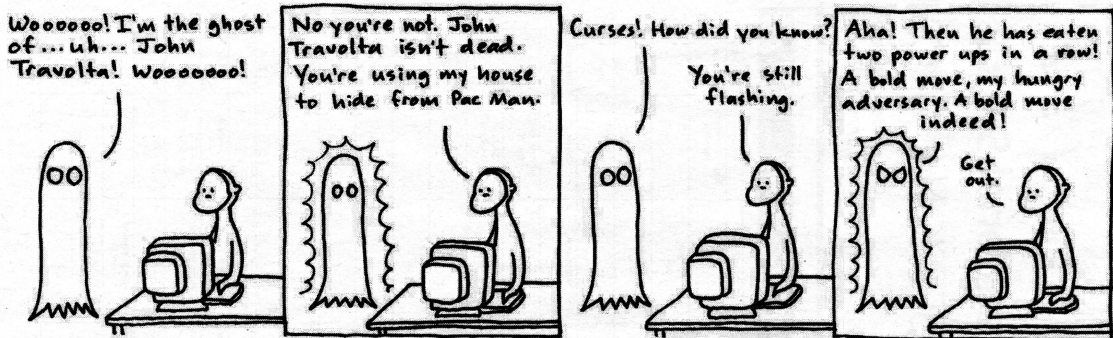
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# Opinion

## College Halloween hang-ups, revisited

RACHEL VAMENTA  
Opinion Editor

Many Halloweens have passed since the last time most of us went trick or treating.

In high school, we acted as if we were too cool for lots of things, including getting dressed up for candy. But in college, celebrating Halloween has suddenly become cool again.

Granted, college students don't have many ways of celebrating Halloween without incurring the disapproval of society – or at least the Richmond Police Department – but we have managed to find some nonetheless.

For example, unlike Hugh Hefner's Playmates, who get paid to wear (or not wear) ridiculous outfits, normal women can go out in these outfits and enjoy being hooted and hollered at on Halloween, the one night of the year it's considered OK.

But if we have to go out there and spend money to look "good," we deserve a better selection than costumes sold in

most stores. And for some reason, all the catalogue models are pictured wearing three-inch, porn-star heels, which can hardly be the standard of comfort or style.

Nearly half of women's costumes are variations of Halloween staples, such as witches, vampires or fairies. The other costumes are the sexy costumes. You know what I mean: sexy nuns, police-women, nurses, pin-up girls, dancers and pirate wenches.

What if stores offered more unusual costumes, such as sexy werewolves or sexy zombie nuns?

Or what about something decidedly less sexy? Going door to door for candy might be more acceptable if women's costumes didn't display their wearers' tricks and treats.

It would be great to be able to go trick or treating again without having to chaperone younger children – maybe if girls dressed a little less seductively, it would be less awkward.

Also, some schools, such as VCU, already foster activities, such as haunted



to settle for Halloween party-hopping to see and be seen.

We might be older, but we haven't completely outgrown pumpkin carving, decorating, visiting haunted houses or taking hayrides. Nor have we outgrown scary movies, although everyone has a different idea of what constitutes "scary." For the record, nothing in any scary movie has ever terrorized me half as much as Gloria Swanson in "Sunset Boulevard."

And although we can't pass up free candy, we can all agree that candy corn is disgusting, especially Hershey's candy corn kisses – no matter how much you might want to get into the Halloween spirit, stay away from those.

houses, ghost tours and pumpkin-carving contests. What harm is there in having some sort of trick-or-treating event around the Fan?

I can't think of any really bad points of adult trick or treating, besides the fact that it might be a little weird to see a costumed adult standing at the front door. But until that happens, we will have

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fellow students,

This week, the Student Government Association will hold an election to fill the 25 senate seats that are up for election in the fall. I would hope that many of you will vote in this election. I believe this is the most important election in the short history of the SGA.

At the end of this year, the majority of the leadership, and those who have been with this organization since its inception and shortly thereafter, will be graduating and moving on. This election, by and large, will determine and select an entire new generation of student body leaders. Your vote will shape the SGA for years to come, so please use it.

I know many of you wonder what SGA does. The SGA funds student organizations and is the first point of contact between the administration and the student body. People often forget that this organization is still a relatively new organization, and as it grows and develops, it will take on more responsibility. In fact, I hope one day it will actually be the body that directly governs the student body, as it should be.

These are the people who will fund your organization or not; these are the people who will speak for and defend your interests to the administration or not; and soon in the future, they might be the people who will vote to impose penalties on you or not. The point is, whatever SGA does or does not do is dependent on the standard held by you, the student body.

At the end of the day, no matter how jaded or cynical we may be about the process, we have the government we choose for ourselves, then rest assured someone will choose the right government for themselves. Is that government going to care about you? Don't ever let your representative forget they joined SGA to help you.

Over the next week you will meet many of the people who are running for the student senate. Take note of them, ask them questions, demand answers, make an informed decision, and take five minutes and vote!

Yours truly,  
E.J. White

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GAYLAND  
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Executive Editor

RACHEL  
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Opinion Editor

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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.



# Crossword

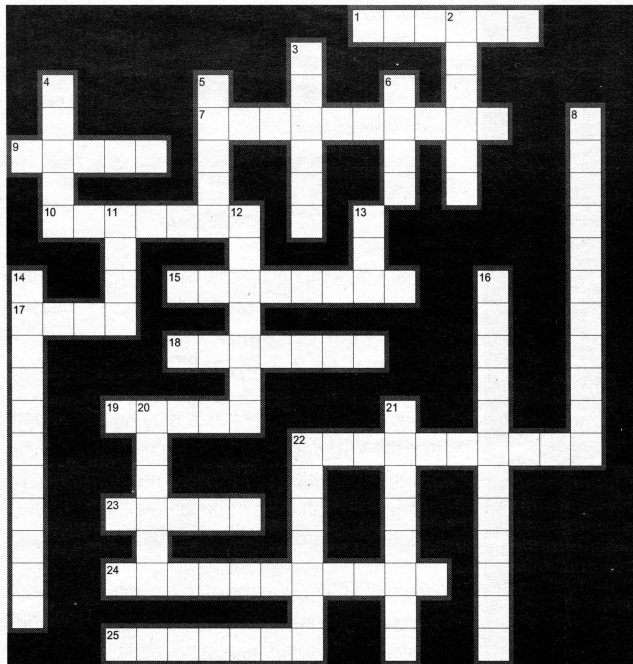
## Phobias

### Across

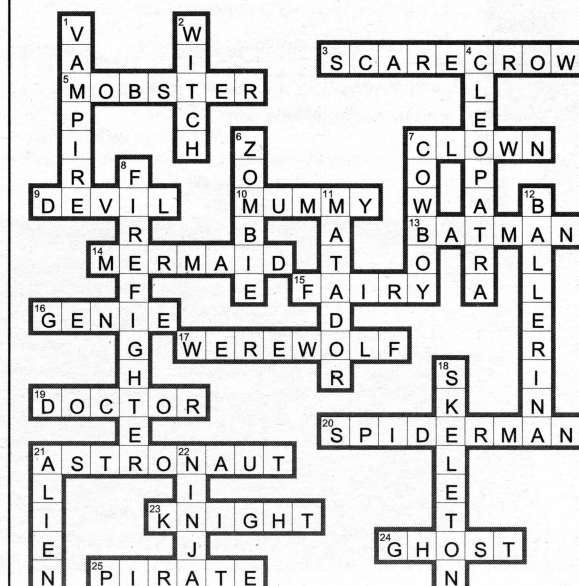
1. Cnidophobia - fear of insect \_\_\_\_\_. Bees, hornets and wasps are killers.
7. Fear of being alone.
9. Gynophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Girls become them.
10. Latrophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Physicians, surgeons and the MCV Campus are scary.
15. Phonemophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Brains do this.
17. Apiphobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A buzzing fear.
18. Enetophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A doctor's item.
19. Microphobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A dirty and gross fear.
22. Fear of homosexuality.
23. Noctiphobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. The opposite of day.
24. Fear of open spaces.
25. Gephyrophobia - fear of crossing these high structures.

### Down

2. Gymnophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A naked fear.
3. Brontophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. I can't stand the rain.
4. Hemaphobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A heart-pumping fear.
5. Hydrophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Oceans and lakes are scary.
6. Ergophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Playtime is every time.
8. Fear of driving or riding in vehicles.
11. Elurophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Meow!
12. Arachnophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Eight legs are just too many.
13. Androphobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Boys become them.
14. Fear of gaining weight.
16. Fear of public speaking.
20. Phagophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. A hungry fear.
21. Emetophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. It's sick.
22. Acrophobia - fear of \_\_\_\_\_. Elevation causes this fear.



### Answers from the Oct. 25 edition



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Spring semester decals also may be purchased from the VCU Parking and Transportation Services customer service locations on either campus, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, beginning **Monday, Jan. 7, 2008.**

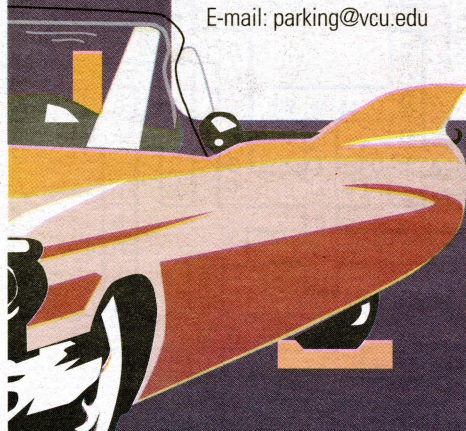
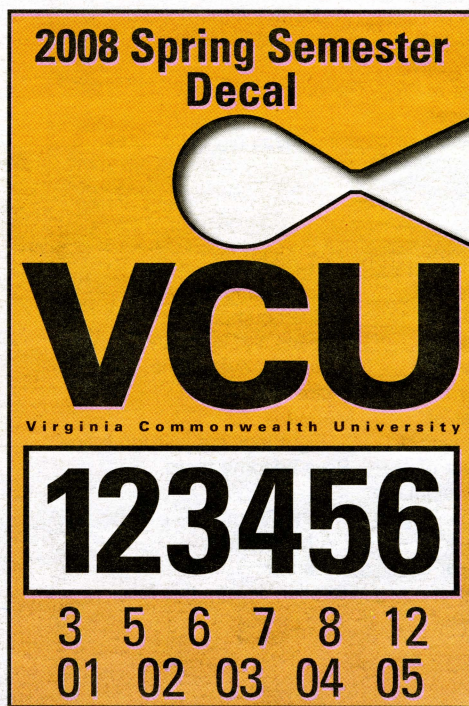
A valid VCUCard is necessary to purchase a parking subscription from VCU Parking and Transportation Services. Assignments will be made based on availability.

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