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BRIEFS

On the cover:

VCU President Michael Rao addresses the VCU community at Thursday's security town hall meeting.

Photo by Amber-Lynn Taber

Local & VCU

Two home invasion robberies reported in Richmond

Richmond Police are investigating two home invasion robberies that occurred Saturday night in different parts of the city.

Richmond Police Lt. Darrell Goins said the first robbery took place around 7:30 p.m. in the 3400 block of Decatur Street in South Richmond.

The second incident occurred north of the river just before 10 p.m. on the 100 block of South Laurel Street, which is within VCU's core campus. The robbery involved five or six black males with their faces covered and armed with handguns, according to a VCU Alert email.

Nobody was injured in the home invasions, from which assailants took electronics and other items.

Brief by the Richmond Times-Dispatch

State OKs \$100,000 settlement for family of boy who died after VCU dental clinic visit

The state of Virginia has agreed to a \$100,000 settlement of a \$5 million wrongful-death suit filed by the family of a 6-year-old Henrico County boy who died two years ago soon after a dental procedure at Virginia Commonwealth University Pediatric Dental Clinic.

The settlement agreement, filed Sept. 25 in Richmond Circuit Court, is pending approval by a judge during a hearing Wednesday. The state denies any liability, but the Virginia Attorney General's Office has agreed to pay the boy's mother \$100,000 to resolve her claim, according to court documents.

Crystal L. Lewis, mother of 6-year-old Jacobi Isiah Hill, filed suit in May 2011 against Webb of the Center for Pediatric Dentistry and Sedation; the VCU Dental Faculty Practice Association; and Diane Howell and Jessica M. Hammond, both certified registered nurse anesthetists.

The suit claims the defendants negligently diagnosed, treated and cared for Jacobi, who died May 11, 2010. Jacobi was at the clinic to have caps, also known as crowns, put on several teeth, Lewis said in 2010.

During the procedure, the suit says, the defendants negligently failed to monitor the boy's pre-anesthesia, peri-anesthesia and post-anesthesia condition. The suit says the defendants also failed to monitor the boy's respiratory condition, cardiac condition and vital signs, along with his oxygen saturation levels.

Brief by the Richmond Times-Dispatch

Norfolk-based sub, cruiser collide off coast

The Pentagon is investigating why a Navy submarine collided with an Aegis cruiser off the East Coast.

The U.S. Fleet Forces Command said in a news release that the submarine USS Montpelier and the Aegis cruiser USS San Jacinto collided about 3:30 p.m. Saturday during routine operations. No one was injured, and the extent of any damage to the vessels was not clear Saturday evening, said Lt. Commander Brian Badura of the Fleet Forces Command.

Both ships are based in Norfolk.

"We have had circumstances where Navy vessels have collided at sea in the past, but they're fairly rare as to how often they do take place," Badura told The Associated Press.

Navy officials said the collision was under investigation, but declined to offer specifics on what happens next or on where the incident took place.

The news release says "overall damage to both ships is being evaluated," and that the sub's propulsion plant was "unaffected by the collision."

Brief by the Associated Press

National & International

At 0-32, gay-marriage forces seek 1st win at polls

Irene Huskens has the wedding venue picked out: a charming bed-and-breakfast in southern Maryland. But the wedding is no sure thing.

The plans made by Huskens, a 43-year-old police captain, and her partner, Leia Burks, hinge on whether Marylanders make history on Nov. 6 by voting to legalize same-sex marriage. A "yes" vote, and the wedding is on. A "no" victory? Huskens is loath to consider it.

"There are a lot of Marylanders who want to set the precedent of equality who will vote from their gut for fairness," she said at her colonial suburban home in Prince George's County, where she and Burks are raising two adopted children.

Dating back to 1998, 32 states have held votes on same-sex marriage, and all 32 have opposed it. Maryland is one of four states with Nov. 6 referendums on the issue - and gay-marriage advocates believe there's a strong chance the streak will be broken.

In Maryland, Maine and Washington, it's an up-or-down vote on legalizing same-sex marriage. In Minnesota, there's a measure to place a ban on gay marriage in the state constitution, as 30 other states have done previously.

Brief courtesy of the Associated Press

Belfast to open Ireland's first abortion clinic

A family planning charity plans to open the first abortion clinic in Ireland, challenging decades of legal confusion over the extremely limited access to pregnancy terminations in both parts of the island.

Officials at the Marie Stopes facility due to open next week in Belfast, capital of the British territory of Northern Ireland, said Thursday they plan to offer non-surgical abortions to women whose pregnancies are less than nine weeks in gestation. They expect protests and have declined to reveal the clinic's street address.

Women will receive medication that causes a miscarriage only if doctors determine that continued pregnancy would jeopardize their physical or mental health.

Abortions under such circumstances are supposed to be legal already in both parts of Ireland. But lawmakers have failed for decades to clarify the situation, leaving hospitals and doctors fearful of suffering pickets or lawsuits if they're publicly identified as an abortion provider.

Brief courtesy of the Associated Press

Rights group says Syria using cluster bombs

An international human rights group said Sunday it has obtained new evidence that Syrian troops are using cluster bombs - widely banned munitions that pose a grave risk to civilians because they burst into bomblets over large areas and often linger on the ground, detonating only when touched.

Steve Goose of U.S.-based Human Right Watch said cluster bombs "have been comprehensively banned by most nations, and Syria should immediately stop all use of these indiscriminate weapons that continue to kill and maim for years." HRW had previously reported cluster bomb remnants found in Homs and nearby Hama this summer.

"Syria's disregard for its civilian population is all too evident in its air campaign, which now apparently includes dropping these deadly cluster bombs into populated areas," said Goose, who is HRW's arms director. Syrian government officials had no immediate comment.

Brief by the Associated Press



MECHELLE HANKERSON
Executive Editor
editor@commonwealthtimes.org
757-323-2773

MARK ROBINSON
Managing Editor
managing@commonwealthtimes.org

JACOB MCFADDEN
Advertising Coordinator
ctadvertising@gmail.com
804-828-6629

RYAN MURPHY
News Editor
news@commonwealthtimes.org

JIM SWING and QUINN CASTEEL
Sports Editors
sports@commonwealthtimes.org

SAMANTHA FOSTER
Spectrum Editor
spectrum@commonwealthtimes.org

SHANE WADE
Opinion Editor
opinion@commonwealthtimes.org

TOMMY LOPEZ
Multimedia Editor
multimedia@commonwealthtimes.org

CHRIS CONWAY
Photography Editor
conwayc@vcu.edu

AMBER-LYNN TABER
Assistant Photography Editor
taberal2@vcu.edu

MARGO MAIER
Copy Editor
copyeditor@commonwealthtimes.org

YING CHENG
Lead Graphic Designer
designers@vcustudentmedia.com

ALEXANDRA FULTON
Graphic Designer
designers@vcustudentmedia.com

SAGAL HASSAN
Graphic Designer
designers@vcustudentmedia.com

SAMANTHA WITTWER
Graphic Designer
designers@vcustudentmedia.com

ADAM NACCARATO
Associate Advertising Representative
ctadvertising@gmail.com
980-875-7325

PETER PAGAN
Advertising Graphics Specialist
ctadvertising@gmail.com
804-828-6629

SMC STAFF

GREG WEATHERFORD
Student Media Director
goweatherfor@vcu.edu, 827-1975

LAUREN KATCHUK
Business Manager
827-1642

MARK JEFFRIES
Production Manager
mjeffriesVCU@gmail.com

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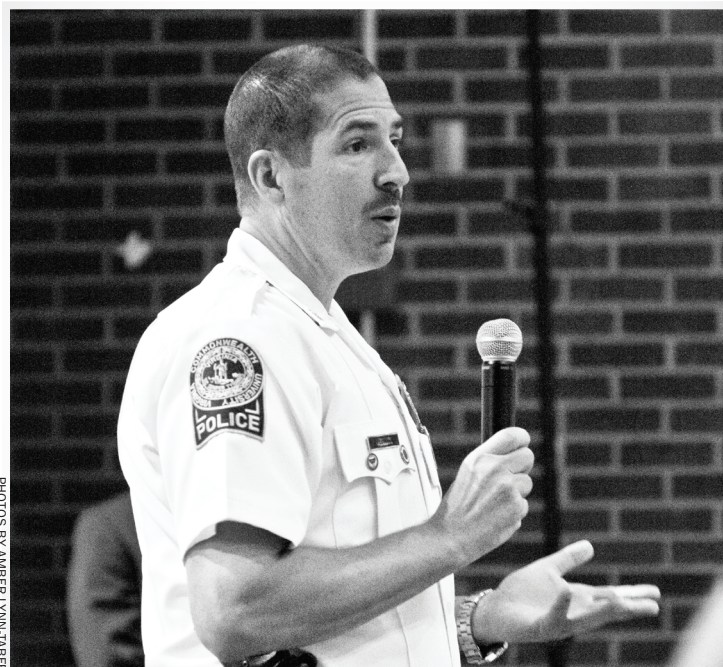
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**817 W. Broad St., P.O. Box 842010
Richmond, VA 23284-2010**

NEWS

In this section:

Fan Association holds debates with candidates for two City Council seats • 4-5
Cheating incidents on the rise at VCU • 6



PHOTOS BY AMBER LYNN TABER

VCU Police Chief John Venuti (left) took questions and comments from the VCU community including, alumna Clair Tuite's questions about VCU police's jurisdiction and arrest powers.

VCU holds safety town hall after string of crimes

Charles Couch
Staff Writer

University President Michael Rao and VCU Police Chief John Venuti hosted a town hall-style safety meeting Thursday in response a string of violent crimes on and near the university's core campuses early last week.

A shooting death in Jackson Ward early on Oct. 7 began a series of violent crimes near VCU campuses. Six armed robbery-related crimes occurred between 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. the evening of Oct. 8. Two men thought to be connected to those robberies were arrested on a previously unrelated robbery charge on Oct. 9. The same day, a woman was stabbed after an altercation a block from MCV.

An armed home invasion involving five or six armed men on Monroe Park's core campus occurred on Oct. 13, two days after the town hall.

The meeting, held in the Harris Hall Auditorium on VCU's Monroe Park campus, was an opportunity to inform students, parents and faculty of the steps the university is taking towards ensuring safety, said Vice Provost for Student Affairs Charles Klink. It was also an opportunity for the VCU community offer questions, comments and concerns.

"We are obviously very disturbed by some of the events that have taken place at the university and around the university," Rao said. "We are disturbed but we are not deterred. We have a mission that remains unchanged at this in-

stitution."

Rao said that an urban public research university like VCU must face the challenges of an urban environment presents, such as the recent incidents, but that VCU continues to make safety its top priority.

"We are going to do everything we can to ensure that VCU is one of the nation's premier research universities but we're also going to do everything we possibly can to using every bit of our power to ensure that this is a safe environment and one that fosters only the activities that are appropriate and certainly the activities that are leading to the focus of our mission," Rao said.

The VCU Police Department is taking several measures to increase safety at VCU, Venuti said. Currently, the department is in the process of upgrading their dispatch radios to match channels with the Richmond Police Department to improve communication between the departments, the chief said.

Additionally, the two departments are in the process of identifying crimes for which they will coordinate dual responses. "A very, very serious incident here at VCU would be a dual response incident that we want VCU and Richmond both responding to," Venuti added, but could not say specifically what crimes would fall under the dual response.

Starting next semester, the VCU Security Escort Service will be reformed with a new software system called RideCell to increase efficiency and rider satisfaction, which will allow students to

request the escort through their smart phones and track it via GPS, Venuti said.

Many students voiced concerns about a lack of details in the VCU Crime Alert e-mails and text messages, saying that suspect descriptions such as "a black male approximately 5'8" wearing a dark grey hoodie with his face covered," are too vague and can make anyone look like a suspect. Others asked why students didn't receive further updates as more details became available.

"When we have an issue that represents an ongoing threat, we immediately notify everyone," Venuti said, noting that after receiving an alert, students should visit the VCU Alerts webpage for further information.

Another major concern students and staff raised was potentially being targeted by a criminal when leaving night classes and walking home or to one's car.

"We're aware of when all those classes break," Venuti said. "I strategically put officers in the place where most people are when classes let out so when students, faculty and staff get out of class, they see the police."

Others questioned why had the VCU Police Department used a budget surplus from last year to contract G4S – an unarmed security firm with no arresting powers which, Venuti said, acts as extra eyes and ears for the VCU police – instead of hiring more officers.

Venuti said VCU added ten new law enforcement positions in July and that the police department is currently in the process of hiring and training new new officers. **CT**

Students push for university ADA compliance

Mechelle Hankerson
Executive Editor

VCU psychology junior Jenson Larrimore was finishing recreational therapy after a car accident left him paralyzed from the chest down. His therapist, who also uses a wheelchair, gave him advice that he still carries with him.

"The one piece of advice that he gave me when I left, right before I rolled out that door was ... 'Jenson, be your own advocate,'" Larrimore said. "I had no idea how much that meant until a couple of years down the road."

Larrimore, who has lived in Richmond his whole life, said he experienced some accessibility issues on campus and in taking the advice his therapist gave him, he formed Students for Disability Advocacy and Awareness (SDAA) on campus.

Larrimore formed the SDAA after administrators approached him last year to share his experiences to help them make the campus more accessible. He knew he wouldn't be able to explain all the challenges so he began to form a group of students with disabilities to advise the administrators and the group eventually became the SDAA.

SDAA held a panel discussion about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the university's compliance with the act last week. The panel was during Disability Awareness Week, which the group also organized.

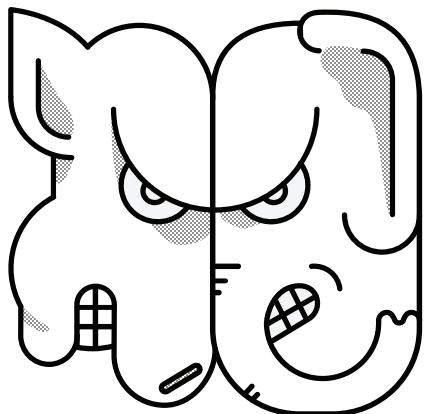
"It's a completely different experience when you become a wheelchair user after being an able-bodied person, the least of which is dropping about two feet in height," Larrimore said at the panel discussion. "A lot of things change and one of the things that you notice is that the world is not really built for people on wheels."

Joyce Knight, director of VCU's Disability Support Services estimates there are about 900 students with disabilities between the Monroe Park and MCV campuses. Due to equal opportunity laws, the university cannot ask if a student has a disability during the admissions process or when the student enrolls. The office's estimations are based on the number of students who choose to seek regular assistance and services.

Because VCU is a public university that accepts federal funding, they are also subject to the ADA, which requires buildings to be as accessible as possible

continued on page 6

Debates: Second, Fifth district cand



ELECTION 2012

Sam Isaacs
Staff Writer

Candidates battling for city council seats in the 2nd and 5th districts met on Oct. 10 in two debates open to the public. The debates were hosted by the Fan District Association and commenced at Fox Elementary School. NBC 12 anchor and VCU journalism professor Ryan Nobles moderated the debates and asked questions submitted by the public. Both debates touched on topics that heavily affect students, including street quality, parking, noise complaints and community safety. **CT**



(From left to right) Parker Agelasto, Councilman Marty Jewell and Lee Shewmake fielded questions from moderator Ryan Nobles during the 5th District debate.

5th District:

3 candidates discuss ideas on infrastructure, meal taxes

Parker Agelasto and Lee Shewmake faced off against incumbent Marty Jewell in the debate for the Fifth District City Council seat. Carytown, Oregon Hill, southern parts of the Fan and Belle Isle all fall in this district. The overall theme of the debate fell on what needs to be done to make the Fifth District a more livable place that families want to move to and stay in for more than just a few years.

Agelasto, a Virginia Beach native, has a master's in art history and an M.B.A. from the Darden Business School and has lived in Richmond for the past six years. After spending time with the VMFA, he has involved himself in the community promising to be a more responsive Councilman.

Shewmake, who was born in Richmond and has lived here for the past 17 years, focuses on city growth and development with an emphasis on bringing new business to the area. She is a VCU graduate with experience working management and finance with both for-profit and nonprofit organizations, according to her website.

Jewell has served as 5th District Councilman since 2005. A business owner and VCU alumnus, he's spent much of his time on the council pushing for new ways to bring and distribute revenue to the city. One plan involves selling off excess water to the counties.

Student-related issues including concerns about Richmond's infrastructure were featured in the debate.

Agelasto pitched the idea of using a rotational maintenance schedule to speed up the efforts in fixing rough spots on streets and sidewalks.

"Richmond is not hurting for money," Jewell said in regards to increasing the effort to improve the district's streets and sidewalks. "We have a \$271 million estimate worth of road and rebuilding needs

and we only put \$11 million in the budget this year."

Shewmake agreed with Jewell and had other ideas on how to fix up the streets.

"We need to do more for infrastructure, the money is there," said Shewmake. She also said that she thinks the city needs to look to outsourcing road maintenance due to the high prices the city has listed for projects to be completed.

Another issue that impacts the day-to-day lives of students is the six percent restaurant sales tax. In 2003, the city's sales tax was raised to six percent to help pay for CenterStage, a performing arts center funded via a public-private partnership between the city and Thalheimer's Department Store. With the theater completed, the candidates debated on whether or not that tax should still exist.

"We are surrounded by counties that are 15 to 20 minutes away ... we need to be on a level playing field with them," said Shewmake. Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover counties do not have any form of meal taxes.

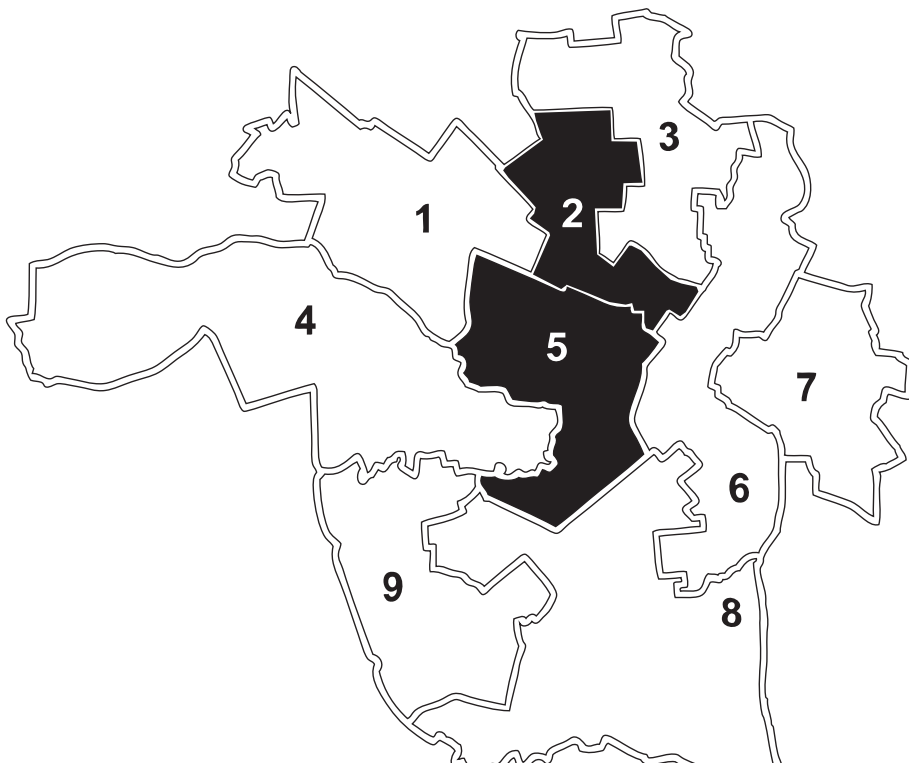
Jewell noted that many of the the cities tax policies haven't been altered in 15 to 20 years and need to be revisited. "A meal tax at six percent is ridiculous, we are chasing customers to the counties," the councilman said.

Agelasto noted that Carytown and Uptown, both in the 5th district, have some of the highest concentrations of restaurants in the city and it is important to price them fairly to draw in customers from the surrounding counties.

The issue of public school funding was the most discussed issue. Each candidate had a differing perspectives on the issue, but all generally agreed that strengthening the public school system would encourage more families to stay in the city. **CT**

2nd District Geography

Richmond's 2nd District is bounded by Adams and 2nd streets south and north of Broad Street, respectively. The district encompasses much of VCU's Monroe Park Campus, including all of the VCU student dorms located north of Monroe Park. The district also includes almost all of The Fan, between campus and North Boulevard and north of Floyd Avenue between Laurel Street and Shields Avenue, as well as north of Main Street west of Shields. The 2nd includes Carver, ending at the highway in the north.



5th District Geography

The 5th district includes areas north and south of the River. North of the river, the district includes Cary Town, Uptown, the southern half of the Monroe Park campus including the Gladding Residence Center.

idates square off

PHOTOS BY CHRIS CONWAY



Charles Diradour, who is running to unseat 2nd District Councilman Charles Samuels, answered questions during the evening's second debate.

2nd District:

Heated debate features safety, noise complaints

The second debate of the evening featured candidates for the city's 2nd District. Incumbent Charles Samuels, who has served as the 2nd District's representative to City Council since 2008, is an attorney with the Samuels Law Firm. His challenger, Charlie Diradour, is the founder and owner of Lion's Paw Development and briefly campaigned unsuccessfully against Eric Cantor in 2009 for the 7th U.S. Congressional District seat.

The 2nd encompasses most of The Fan, Carver, Jackson Ward and most of the student dorms on the Monroe Park, including Brandt, Rhoads, Johnson, the Honors College, West Grace South and the Broad and Belvidere dorms.

The debate featured some heated discussion on a number of topics, especially on the issue of safety in the community.

With recent crimes on and around campus, safety has become a huge issue for both students and families in the area. The candidates butted heads on solutions to this problem.

"It is important to take care of where we're going and how we're going," Samuels said. "I've been in touch regularly with the police to make sure we're doing everything we can and make sure they have the resources they need to combat this spike."

Diradour felt that there was a more specific action that would make the police force more effective: a more unified force with better job security. He suggested a rift in the salaries between police on the streets and higher ranking officers may be lowering morale.

Samuels responded by saying that the council approved of the the budget proposed by the police chief and was told no when asked if the department needed more money.

"The top brass, the chief and deputy chiefs all got pay raises, five percent pay raises, and yet the rank and file police officers did not. That's unfair," Diradour said. Samuels and Richmond Police Chief Brian Norwood have both since

contested what Diradour said about the five percent salary increase, saying that there was no such pay raise in the recent budget.

Another issue integral to city living that the candidates discussed was noise complaints and the current noise ordinance, specifically how noise level is gauged.

"We chose to live in an urban area, 55 decibels is really not realistic," said Diradour. "65 to 75 decibels is a lot more realistic of a number ... if you live in an urban dense zone ... there is going to be noise that you are going to have to deal with."

Samuels suggested that there was more to the issue than just the decibel level specified in the current noise ordinance.

"It's not where the sound is coming from, it's from where it is offending. To just suggest a number isn't giving the full story," said Samuels. "The most effective way for the standard to be enforced is to be good neighbors."

The current councilman pointed to his record and enumerated the issues facing the city in his closing statement.

"When you are looking to enhance your quality of life, when you are looking to revitalize neighborhoods, that's what I've done," said Samuels in his closing remark. "We have to address some issues in our city. We have to address poverty and we have to address education I'm in this with you."

Diradour evoked a personal history with the 2nd District and said he hoped to be chosen as someone who could look out for the community's interests.

"I understand this neighborhood, I grew up in this neighborhood with my father... It's a unique community that deserves unique representation," said Diradour. "I want to be your pair of eyes, I want to be that person that is out there looking out for you every day on the street." **CT**



PHOTOS BY CRAIG ZIRPOLO

Gary Johnson spoke to members of the Richmond and VCU communities on Oct 11.

Libertarian presidential candidate dares students to 'waste a vote' on him

Craig Zirpolo
Contributing Writer

As recent debates exhibit the two major candidates to voters, third-party candidates have struggled across the nation for inclusion. Though the American Civil Liberties Union and other interest groups and as politicians endorse his presidential campaign, former New Mexico Governor and current Libertarian candidate for president Gary Johnson spent much of his campaign stop at VCU on Oct. 11 simply asking students to inform their peers about a third choice on Election Day.

"I want you all to know that I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't think I could do a really good job as President of the United States," Johnson said to open his speech to a crowd of about 200 students and Richmond residents at the Commons Plaza on Thursday afternoon.

Johnson's Richmond visit marked his first official appearance in Virginia during his 2012 presidential campaign. After making a stop at the Maggie Walker Governor's School, he gave a brief speech and answered questions concerning his views on Syria, the Second Amendment, drone strikes and Israel. Afterward, he met with his supporters for pictures and autographs.

Johnson spoke candidly about his professional career, from building his one-man handyman business into one of the largest construction companies in New Mexico to vetoing over 700 bills as Governor of New Mexico. He also tried to showcase his personal drive to potential voters with stories that included his scaling of Mt. Everest after breaking his leg in 2003 and a near-fatal hang-gliding accident in 2005 after which he used medical marijuana for three years to

cope with the pain.

In an effort to inform his audience and bolster support, Johnson spoke about many of his specific views, including foreign non-interventionism, gay marriage as a constitutional right, repealing the NDAA and the PATRIOT Act, establishing a flat tax, holding Congress accountable for a balanced budget and ending trade embargoes to promote free market interests in Iran and China.

"How about challenging Democrats on what they are supposed to be good at, civil liberties," Johnson asked during his speech. "And then on the other side... imagine Republicans griping about a Libertarian president who wants to spend less."

Johnson summarized his views as socially liberal and fiscally conservative, which many attendees regarded as the clear advantage of his platform.

"The whole event just exuded simplicity and sensibility and I can't think of two things America needs more right now," said VCU junior Rose Bono after the speech.

Though Gov. Johnson asked attendees to disregard traditional notions of "wasted" votes, some still weren't convinced and were unsure of Johnson's potential impact on the overall election.

"I agree with Johnson on some issues, it's just the big picture (of the election) that makes me cautious," said Trey McMillan, another VCU student who attended event.

Despite huge odds, Johnson was both impassioned and optimistic about his chances.

"What's more of a wasted vote than voting for someone you don't believe in?" Johnson asked the assembled group to close his speech. "If you 'waste' your vote on me, guess what - I might be the next President of the United States." **CT**

Students push for university ADA compliance

Continued from page 3

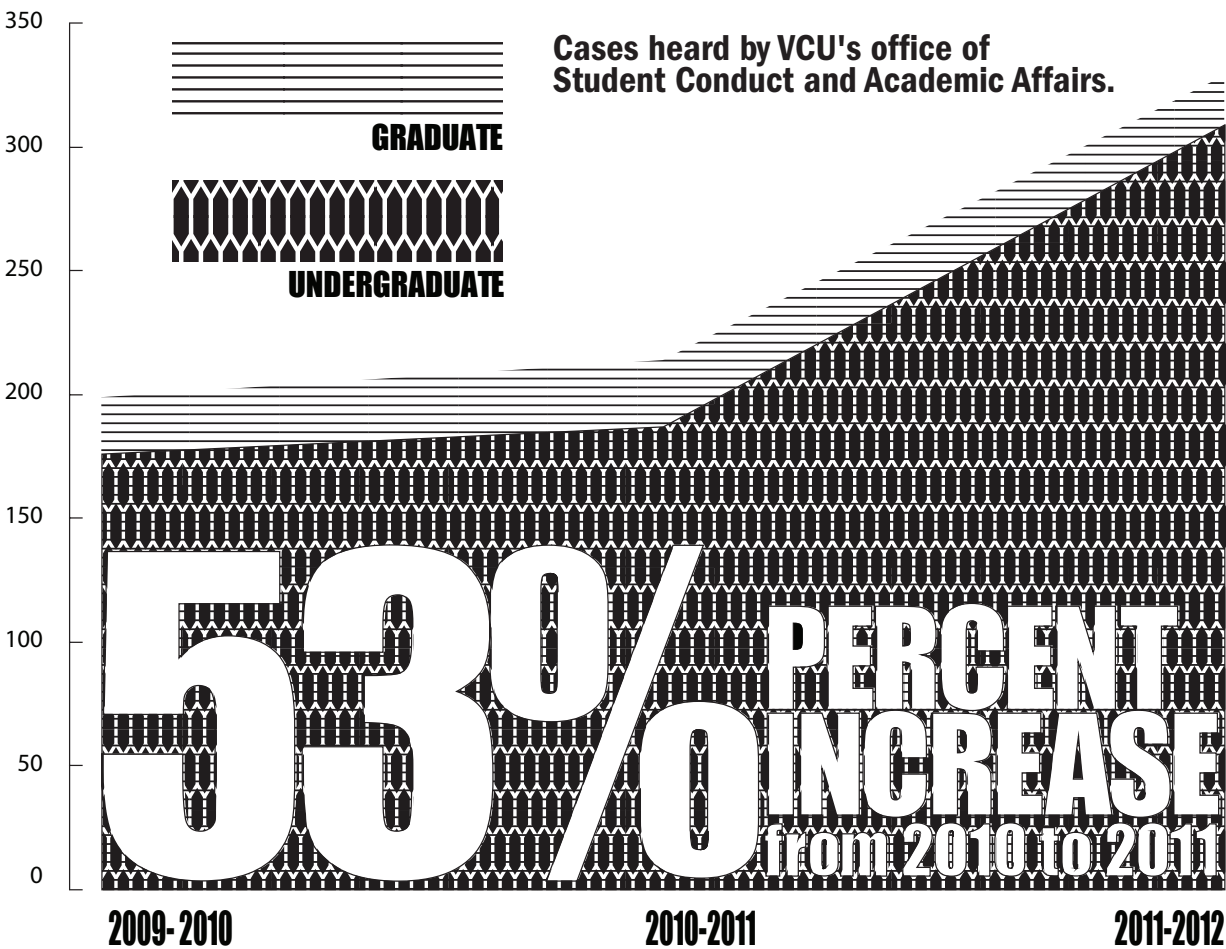
in order to keep receiving federal funds. At VCU, ADA compliance is complicated by the university's historic buildings, new construction and the urban campus. VCU's historic buildings, such as the university's offices on Franklin Street, are subject to the ADA, but they only have to be made "as accessible as possible." For most of those buildings, having a ramp and an elevator are as accessible as they can and legally need to be. Larrimore said one of the biggest issues on the VCU campus for students with physical disabilities is the condition of the sidewalks. SDAA, according to Larrimore, is working on developing some sort of plan to engage the city of Richmond in talks to find realistic solutions to the problem. Otherwise, the panelists also said education was key in making VCU more welcoming for students and other community members with disabilities.

Michael Chenail, one of last week's panel members, works with Compliance Alliance, which evaluates buildings to make sure the building is abiding by the ADA. Chenail, who has used a wheelchair for 26 years after a motorcycle accident left him partially paralyzed, said the ADA is easily misunderstood and difficult to implement.

"The ADA has made a lot of impact, its also had some issues that come along with it and that's primarily due to the way they introduced it," Chenail said.

The ADA is an act, not a law. Chenail said this means it is up to the individual to report any non-compliance, which can be a daunting task.

VCU Facilities Management and the Office for Institutional Equity and Diversity, which deals with ADA compliance, could not confirm, but Larrimore said the university has approved installing two new hydraulic lifts in the Hibbs Hall to help make the building more accessible. **CT**



Information from : Annual Report for the VCU Honor System

Instances of cheating spike at VCU

Liz Butterfield
Staff Writer

Last year saw a dramatic increase in the number of cases related to cheating and plagiarism at VCU, reported the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Affairs for academic year 2011-2012.

The majority of cases involved cheating and plagiarism. A total of 329 cases were heard for student violations of the VCU Honor System, an increase of 115 from the previous year according to the Annual Report for the VCU Honor System 2011-2012.

The report was published by the Office of Student Conduct & Academic Affairs, formerly the Office of Judicial Affairs and Academic Integrity, and detailed a rising rate of cheating compared to previous years. Director of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity Karen Belanger is not concerned. Belanger said the increase is due to a rise in awareness and compliance with the honor code by students and faculty. She also noted the number of heard cases in which students were found not at fault for breaking the Honor Code has also increased.

"I don't know if it truly reflects a greater number of students violating the policy," said Belanger, "but it does appear to reflect a greater number of faculty or community members utilizing the policy."

The rise of students found at fault, however, is has still increased, which worries some students about the possible rise of cheating in the classroom. Wael Elmisurati, a double major in biology and business at VCU, believes that cheating is a common and growing temptation in the classroom, commonly perpetuated by technology.

"(Technology) has made it much easier ... I can pull out my phone and get on the internet with two clicks," said Elmisurati.

"That's pretty easy, and now they're all pocket sized so I could hide it from a professor very easily."

Elmisurati believes students are tempted to cheat because of a need for ever-higher academic performance.

"We all want the good grades, we all want an A," he said. "It's usually times when you haven't studied that I think the temptation rises more."

Belanger said the most common sanction applied for Honor System violations is typically a zero, but if the student has a history of infractions or a significant portion of the assignment was plagiarized, failure of the course is also frequently applied.

When a student is formally charged, the academic integrity coordinator for the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Affairs undertakes an investigation of the infraction. The student then has the opportunity to respond to the charge during the investigation and the follow-up conversation is usually sufficient to determine whether or not an infraction has taken place, said Belanger. The coordinator must then determine what consequences should be applied.

Most Honor System infractions, Belanger said, occur in courses for credit and the faculty member is typically the accuser. She noted that allegations come not just from teaching faculty but also from students and members in the community, increasingly as awareness and compliance with the Honor System is applied. Belanger believes that a culture of intolerance to cheating is growing, albeit slowly.

"I think some are reluctant to ... [look] at it as protecting the institution or the value of the degree that they're receiving or reinforcing the value of the time and effort that the non-cheater has put in," she said.

The most common sanctions applied for Honor System violations are a zero on

the assignment or a failing grade for the course, stated the annual report. Belanger said the most common sanction is the lesser of the two penalties, typically a zero, but if the student has a history of infractions or a significant portion of the assignment was plagiarized, the recommended failure of the course is also frequently applied.

Exercise science major Kiersten Phillips feels that a zero for the test or assignment is an appropriate punishment for cheating and not failure of the class.

"A lot of students put a lot of money into school," she said. "I think that they really should just be given probably a second chance and take that as their warning that the professor means business," she said. But prevention of cheating in the classroom also lies with the actions of teachers, Phillips believes, and blames too-lenient professors for some cheating in the classroom.

The contemporary centralized format of the Honor System makes it easier for professors and faculty to use the Honor System, said Belanger. All instances are reported directly to the Office of Student Conduct & Academic Integrity and all responsibility for investigation and enforcement stems from them.

"I think as we continue to participate in new student orientation and new faculty orientation and training ... that the more people who understand the process will find themselves utilizing the process," the director said.

Belanger does not anticipate a dramatic increase in cases this year but is already seeing marginal growth.

"An increase is probably more reflective of the efforts to this office and the university to promote academic integrity and awareness of the policy," she said.. **CT**

36.3 million
people have a disability in America.

They represent
11.9%
of the civilian non-institutionalized population.

SPORTS

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Rams move to third in A-10 with pair of weekend wins



(Left) Junior Forward Brianne Moore defends against Butler in VCU's 1-0 win Sunday. (Right) Heather Hovanesian clears the ball out of the defensive zone vs. Butler.

Zachary Holden
Staff Writer

The VCU women's soccer team won 1-0 in a hard fought game against the Butler Bulldogs Sunday afternoon at Sports Backers stadium.

The game started strong with an early through ball to Wendy Acosta that nearly saw the Rams go on top, but strong defending ended the chance.

Butler came back with a chance when a cross into the box was poorly cleared by the Rams and the follow-up shot was a low one that gave goalkeeper Kristin Carden some trouble, but she kept it out.

The Rams then had another chance in the 17th minute when a cross headed towards Acosta, who then attempted a side volley, but it was deflected out. Cristin Granados followed up on the

deflection with a shot from distance that is saved.

After a slow 15 minutes, the Rams had what appeared to be a goal. A through-ball to Courtney Conrad saw her in on goal and converted the shot, but a questionable offside call negated it.

The first half came to a close with a VCU free kick that was easily saved by Butler's goalie.

"I think it's always hard to be sharp on Sunday because mentally you're a little bit down from Friday," said coach Tiffany Roberts Sahaydak.

A quiet start to the second half didn't see much action until the final half hour of the game.

A free kick from the Rams in the 67th minute was sloppily punched out by Butler's goalie and then the follow up shot by VCU missed narrowly.

A few minutes later, Conrad played a through-ball in the box to Acosta who was taken down during her shot. The referee did not award the penalty even with the shouts pleading for it.

With 10 minutes to go, the Rams finally had the play that changed the game. Acosta was in on goal when the Butler goalie took her down in the box and the referee immediately pointed to the spot and awarded the penalty kick.

Taking it upon herself, Acosta stepped up to the spot and converted a low shot to the left to give the Rams a 1-0 lead.

"We have been practicing during the week...the (coaches) said they were nervous," said Acosta. "I was so confident in myself and I just shot it and that's it."

Just one minute later, Granados sends in a low, skimming shot on goal

that went just wide left.

A few final attempts from the Bulldogs kept the Rams on their toes, but thanks to the dominant goalkeeping from Carden, the lead was preserved.

"(Carden) is just a real presence...she brings a lot of confidence to our back four," said Sahaydak. "She's able to make big game changing moments."

The win gave the Rams their second of the weekend after beating Saint Louis 2-0 on Friday and moves them into third overall in the Atlantic 10.

"I'm really proud of them to be able to get six points against two strong teams in our conference," said Sahaydak.

The Rams will be back home Friday, Oct. 19 to face cross-town rivals Richmond in the final home game of the season. **GT**

Bradford Burgess' departure opens door for breakout sophomore season from Treveon Graham



Quinn Casteel
Sports Editor

Even as a freshman playing behind VCU's fourth all-time leading scorer Bradford Burgess, Treveon Graham earned a great deal of respect from players, coaches and fans by showing he has potential to be an offensive threat comparable to Burgess later in his career.

At Atlantic 10 Media on Oct. 4, Shaka Smart said he thinks Graham is poised for a huge season as one of the primary scorers for the Rams. Graham got to the line at a higher rate than any other VCU player last season and averaged seven points per game despite playing just 16.7 minutes mainly behind Burgess.

Last season, Juvonte Reddic was the biggest breakout player for VCU as he averaged 10.3 points per game and let the team in rebounding with 6.7 as a sophomore. Reddic played an average of 16 more minutes a game from his freshman to sophomore seasons, and we can expect to see a similarly elevated role for Graham this year.

"I think he can take an even bigger step than Juvonte actually," said Smart of Graham. "He will benefit from Brad moving on, and I'm really excited about him. The thing I'm most looking forward to about him is he's going to have more opportunity."

"Last year he was at times stuck be-

hind Brad. He played with him at times, but now it's his deal and he knows that," he continued.

Though he is a sophomore at VCU, Graham is still only 18 years old, his birthday being Oct. 28, 1993. Reddic put on about 25 pounds between his first and second collegiate seasons, and even grew about an inch which helped his game tremendously. Because Graham's scoring style is based around power, attacking the basket and getting to the free throw line, any sort of growth similar to Reddic's would make him an even more dangerous scorer.

"You're talking about a kid who's very young for his grade he's still 18 years old and he's a sophomore in college," said Smart of Graham. "He's still shooting the ball well and he's extremely strong so we're excited about him."

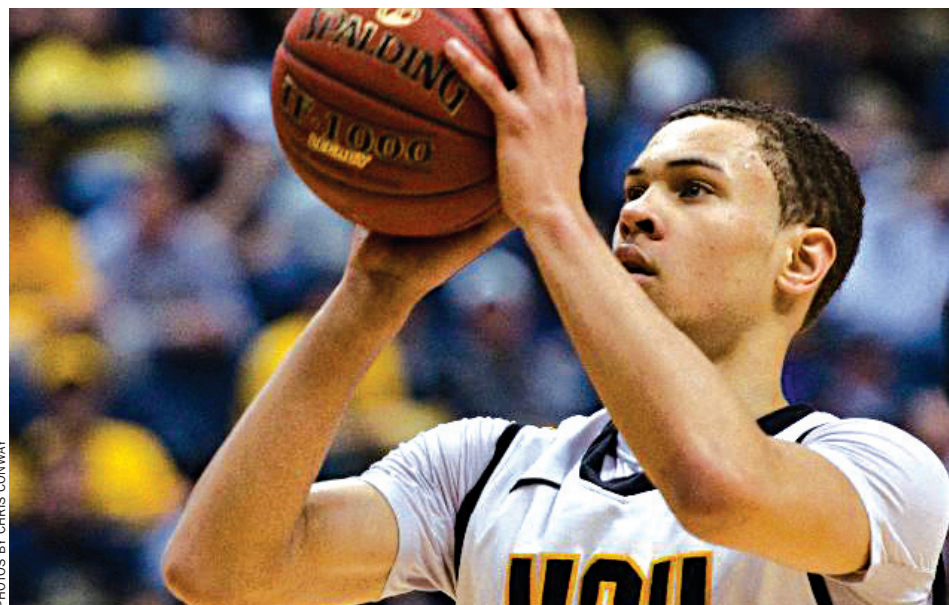
As for the comparisons to Burgess, which became natural ones to make after watching how Graham flourished behind Burgess last season, there is still a great deal of work to be done for the shooting guard out of St. Mary's Ryken in Washington, D.C.

However, when the most important aspect of your individual offensive game is strength, it's hard to go into a shooting slump when you're outmuscling opponents and earning trips to the line. Expect Graham to be a top three scorer for VCU this season. **CT**

Treveon Graham is expected to log significantly more minutes, somewhere in the range of 16 more per game as Juvonte Reddic did in his sophomore season.



VCU takes HAVOC to Italy



PHOTOS BY CHRIS CONWAY

Sophomore point guard Teddy Okereafor put up impressive numbers in Italy, including a 17-point, 9 assist, 7 rebound effort in a 118-71 win over Amici Del Campero.

Quinn Casteel
Sports Editor

On VCU's trip to Italy in early August, the Rams came away with a 48-point win and a 71-point win, but more importantly, the team spent time focusing on appreciation, which head coach Shaka Smart said at Atlantic 10 Media Day on Oct. 4 is a core value of the men's basketball program.

VCU opened its trip with a 118-71 victory over Amici Del Campero, a game in which Teddy Okereafor had 17 points,

nine assists and seven rebounds. The Rams followed that up with a 103-32 win over Kosarkaski Klub Zeta from Montenegro. VCU forced 39 turnovers in the game and shot 54 percent from the floor.

"Basketball-wise, the competition was not very good," said Smart. "You saw the scores, but we did not by any means try to run up the scores. We stopped pressing at halftime, it could've been a lot worse but we're aggressive because that's how we play. We wouldn't be any good if we weren't aggressive."

Smart added the team's three or

four best players played the least out of anyone, which opened opportunities for other players such as a second year point guard like Okereafor to get minutes and show what they can do for an extended stretch.

Despite not being challenged much on the court in Italy, Smart said the team got more out of the trip beyond basketball, focusing on appreciation especially since no one on the team including Smart had been to the country before.

"The core value of our program is appreciation and I thought the trip was great from that standpoint because the reality is, everyone on that trip, me included, had never been to Italy, had never seen the Vatican, or the Roman Coliseum

or the Tower of Pisa," said Smart.

Although they may not have been facing the gold standard of basketball on the trip, it was still an opportunity for second-year players like Okereafor and Treveon Graham to gain new confidence from the coaching staff.

"To be able to go experience those things, and do it together, we really appreciated it," he continued. "I think there's a great deal of entitlement sometimes in college basketball and college athletics, so that's what this trip was all about, just being appreciative of what's available for us." **CT**

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CONTACTS

WVCW radio
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Rams Review
editor@ramsreview.com

Shafer Bird
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River City Fashion Uprising
campbellam@meshrva.com

Potboiler Podcast Network
potboilervcu@gmail.com

The Horn RVA
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SPECTRUM

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“DON'T DREAM IT, BE IT”

Dr. Frank-N-Furter was played by Noah Page, who also acts as the stage manager for *Orgasmic Rush of Lust*.

‘Rocky Horror Picture Show’ shadow cast returns to the Commons

Samantha Foster
Spectrum Editor

With a cast and crew of less than a dozen people, Richmond’s own “Rocky Horror Picture Show” live shadow cast, *Orgasmic Rush of Lust*, laced up their corsets to perform this past Friday at the VCU Student Commons Plaza.

“The Rocky Horror Picture Show” originated as a staged musical in 1973 and was adapted into a movie in 1975. In both the original play and the movie, Tim Curry plays Dr. Frank-N-Furter, the “Sweet Transvestite” and mad scientist from Transsexual, Transylvania.

In the movie, Janet Weiss and Brad Majors step into Dr. Frank-N-Furter’s

castle to use the phone (in the days before cell phones) and are quickly taken captive by Frank and his servants, Magenta, Riff Raff and Columbia.

While Brad and Janet are there, Frank introduces them to his newest creation, Rocky, a muscular, blonde-haired man in gold lamé hot pants. Drama and hilarity ensue and at the end, Riff Raff and Magenta take over the castle to return to Transylvania, their home planet.

While the film was not a success by any standards, it quickly gathered a cult following when a New York City movie theater starting screening the film at midnight. Moviegoers began shouting jokes and insults in between the awkward

pauses of the songs and dialogue.

By 1978, Rocky Horror gathered a nation-wide following, bringing people dressed as the characters together to shout at the screen.

Orgasmic Rush of Lust (OROL) is Richmond’s live shadow cast which mimes the film in front of the screen while the movie plays behind them. They perform twice a month at Bowtie Movieland at Boulevard Square. Normally, the shows are the first Friday and Saturday of the month, but the October screenings are on Oct. 26 and 27.

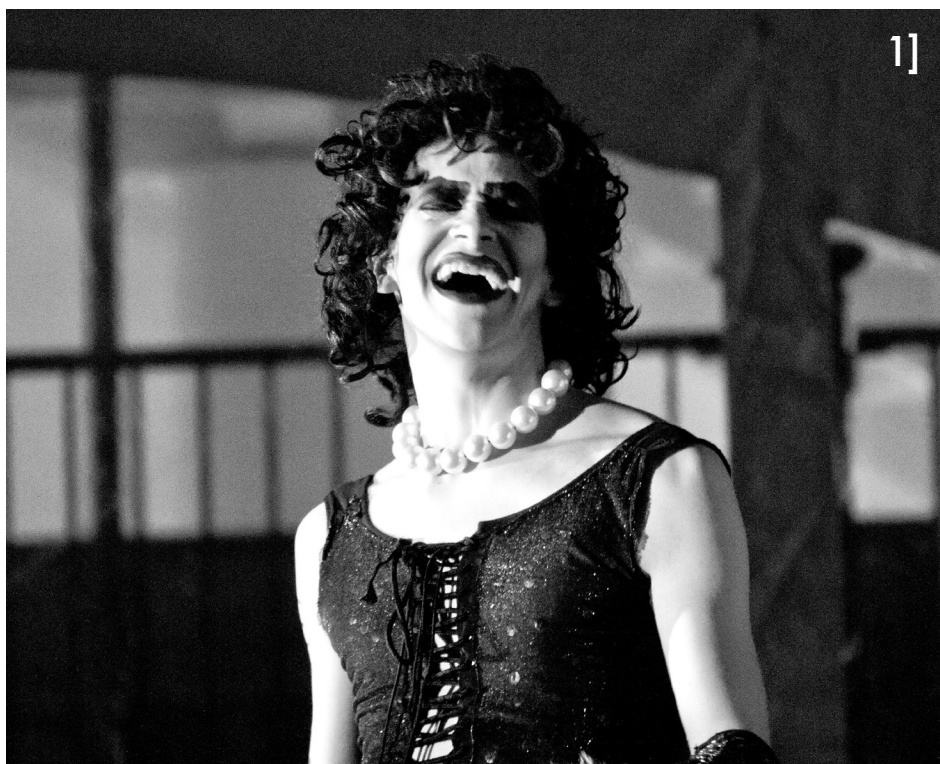
For OROL performances, each actor is in full costume and makeup for his or her character, and lights are brought in to increase actor visibility during

the movie. Costumes include immense quantities of glitter, corsets, fishnet stockings and feather boas.

VCU sophomore Jack Miller, who performed as Riff Raff during the OROL show in the Commons Plaza this past Friday, said “(As Riff Raff), I win the movie, so that’s pretty decent. There’s not a whole lot of costuming and changes that I have to do, which makes it easy. I like the end. I like my costume for take-over a lot.”

Miller’s costume for take-over is a banana tied to the top of his head, which he said he eats as soon as the show is over. Miller has been a part of the OROL cast for a year, with his first show being at the Commons Plaza last

Continued on Page 14



Continued from Page 13

year.

Another key aspect to live Rocky Horror shows, besides dressing in thigh-high fishnet stockings and garter belts, is the props used by the audience during the movie. OROL allows flashlights, noise makers, water spray bottles, newspapers and toast in the theater.

VCU sophomore Alan Kyte brought a backpack full of props to Friday night's screening, including rubber gloves to snap along with Frank during the film and rice to throw in the air during the opening wedding scene.

"I used to have toast but because I have so many other props, I gave my toast to a friend," Kyte said. Toast is used as a prop during a dinner scene when Frank calls for the guests to toast the occasion.

Each of the members of OROL has

a main character which they often play. VCU freshman Cathy Quigg has been a part of OROL since December 2011 and played Columbia on Friday. Quigg said that Columbia has always been one of her favorite characters.

"(Columbia) is all sparkly and is always happy, and then she's angry and pissed off and depressed because Eddie (Columbia's boyfriend) is gone," Quigg said. "I turned 18 in April... and that was the night I got to play Columbia for the first time, before that I was one of the 'transies' and prop people."

OROL is constantly seeking more people to join their cast. Anyone who joins the cast starts as a prop person, setting up the minimal sets and helping face characters change into their costumes.

After time spent as a prop person,



the next level is known as a 'transie,' a small acting part which refers to the people of Transylvania, the planet from which Frank, Riff Raff and Magenta originate.

From the role of "transie," actors can upgrade to face characters, such as Frank, Columbia, Riff Raff and Magenta. "We've all gotten really close," Quigg said of the OROL cast. "They're like my second family, pretty much. I feel accepted here. We see each other in our underwear constantly."

Another tradition of the culture surrounding Rocky Horror is the initiation of newcomers, or "virgins," as the cast calls them. At the beginning of every show, including this past Friday's show, the host asks the audience to stand, and then to sit if they've seen the movie a certain number of times, such as 100,

to which the audience adds "Sit the f*** down and get a f***ing life," and 42, to which the audience adds "read a f***ing book."

All those left standing are asked to stand in front of the movie screen and are hit on their rears with a large wooden paddle. Friday's show had a larger number of "virgins" than the usual show, so "virgins" were lined up in groups of roughly two dozen people at a time as the host ran down the line-up with his paddle, spanking each with full force.

"Virgin" and VCU sophomore Tereza McInnes said, "I thought that getting paddled made the experience more fun. It was some crazy thing that my friends and I could bond over. Next time I come, I'm going to dress up." **CT**



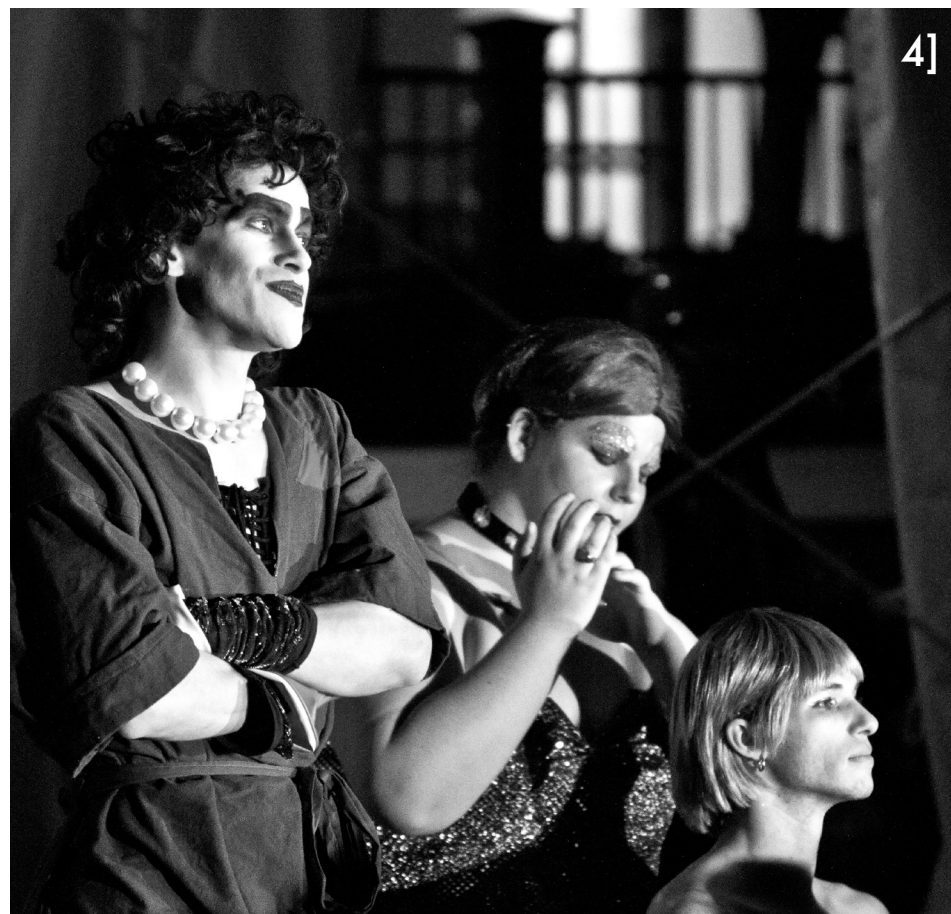
"ORGASMIC RUSH OF LUST (OROL) IS RICHMOND'S LIVE SHADOW CAST WHICH MIMES THE FILM IN FRONT OF THE SCREEN WHILE THE MOVIE PLAYS BEHIND THEM."

1] Noah Page entertained audiences this past Friday night in the Commons as Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

2] Jack Miller and Stephanie Langenes played the brother and sister pair of Riff Raff and Magenta who take over and return to Transylvania at the end of the movie.

3] In true "Rocky Horror" culture, anyone who had never seen the film with a live shadow cast was spanked with a large wooden paddle.

4] Dr. Frank-N-Furter and Columbia, played by Noah Page and Cathy Quigg, witness the birth of Rocky.



RICHMOND FOLK FESTIVAL

Rosanne Cash | Epitome of country values



PHOTOS BY AUDRY DUBON

Johnny Cash's daughter, Rosanne Cash performed at the Richmond Folk Festival on Saturday at the Altria Stage.

Hannah Coates
Staff Writer

The Folk Festival had many entertainers and a variety of musical acts, but none pleased the crowd more than Rosanne Cash, the daughter of the music legend Johnny Cash.

This American singer-songwriter, nominated for 12 Grammys, graced the Folk Festival's Altria Stage this past Saturday. Those who grew up listening to Rosanne's music and those hearing it for the first time listened as she played country classics.

Not only was her musical performance well-executed, but her humorous quips between songs showed her expertise at live performance; she definitely knew how to please a crowd.

During one of Cash's stories she explained the background of her latest album titled "The List." The album is based off of a list her father gave her at 18, just as she was about to join him on his road show.

This list included one hundred essential country songs, according to Johnny Cash himself, which she was required to learn before she could perform with him. She chose her favorites from that list to share with the crowd at the Folk Festival, as well as a few original numbers.

Even though Cash cherished the list, she found it in need of an addition. She took the liberty of making it into the top 101 country songs and added the song "Ode to Billy Joe," originally performed by Bobbie Gentry. During her performance of the song, the crowd's energy escalated. Many clapped and

cheered, while others joined her in singing of the classic.

For a fairly well-known artist, Cash's free performance on Saturday was a rare occasion. She explained that she has worked closely with an organization called Children Incorporated for the past 25 years.

The nonprofit provides long-term assistance to underprivileged children in the United States and in 22 other countries under the belief that children everywhere deserve education, hope and opportunity. According to Cash, they are "lacking an arrogance that so many other charities have," so when they asked if she would encourage donations at their booth this year she jumped at the idea.

But it wasn't just her appearance that raised money for her beloved charity – it was her absence. On Friday, the first night of the festival, there was a fundraiser for Children Incorporated, which she could not attend.

Her flight from New York to Richmond, which usually takes 30 minutes, took nearly 13 hours due to an unexpected delay on DELTA airlines. After landing, Cash turned the delay into an opportunity and tweeted a joking plea for DELTA – which she said stood for "Doesn't Ever Leave The Airport" – to donate to her cause for the inconvenience.

Although it cannot be confirmed if DELTA airlines donated money to Children Incorporated, it cannot be denied that Rosanne Cash still tried to instill the country spirit of good company and good music upon the crowd. **GT**

Buster Keaton in *The General* (1926)
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RICHMOND FOLK FESTIVAL

Super Chikan and The Fighting Cocks | Delta blues and ‘cocka-doodle-doo’s



PHOTOS BY AUDRY DUBON

Everything from the Hector Del Curto Tango Quartet (pictured left) to the traditional New Orleans jazz band Dr. Michael White and the Original Liberty Jazz Band (pictured right) performed at the Richmond Folk Festival this past weekend.

Samantha McCartney
Staff Writer

James “Super Chikan” Johnson had no problem getting down on his knees and yelling out a “cocka-doodle-doo!” to entertain the crowd at the Richmond Folk Festival this past weekend.

The 61-year-old Mississippi delta blues singer hammed it up to the crowd, while simultaneously posing for pictures.

Growing up moving from town to town in the Mississippi Delta, Johnson would work on his family’s farms to get some extra money. He became most fond of the chickens on the farm, and

as a child would walk around and talk to them. Because of this, the name “Chikan Boy” was bestowed upon him.

After becoming a truck driver as an adult and playing with other bands, “Super Chikan” began to record and write songs. He is known to be a favorite at Morgan Freeman’s Ground Zero blues club and for being Freeman’s favorite blues performer.

His sound takes people back to the time when blues was new. Between the deep tone of his voice and the high pitched twang of the diddley bow, Mr. Chikan’s music is reminiscent of the music of Muddy Waters and Howlin’ Wolf.

“He sounds just like the old southern blues records my dad used to play around the house,” VCU student Tia Smith said at the festival.

Mr. Chikan gave the crowd a little bit of blues history before his last song of the night by taking out a diddley bow. “It’s every blues musician’s first instrument,” he said.

He demonstrated how the diddley bow was different from a guitar by putting his finger under the strings to get a strained, soul lifting sound.

“You have to play with a slide,” he told the crowd. “Back when I was a boy, we didn’t have no slides so we used old bottles and things we found around.”

Super Chikan and his band The Fighting Cocks had the crowd in an uproar. Almost everyone was dancing, with strangers dancing with strangers coming, all together to just enjoy his music. Super Chikan only encouraged it by occasionally yelling “Shake that thang!” at the crowd.

“Every time we get good, we run out of time!” Super Chikan told the crowd after his 45-minute set, but he didn’t leave stage without shouting out his signature “cocka-doodle-doo! And that means I love you.” **CT**

Alumnus nominated for National Book Award

Michael Todd
Assistant Spectrum Editor

Nine years ago, alum Kevin Powers made a decision that would shape his early career as it is currently unfolding today.

In 2003, Powers re-enlisted in the National Guard after having enlisted directly out of high school in 1998. Powers made this decision knowing that he would be sent overseas to fight in a war that was, at the time, only a few years old. Now, years after his tour ended in 2005, Powers’ war experiences have manifested in the form of his highly acclaimed first novel, “The Yellow Birds.”

Told from the point of view of 21-year-old army grunt John Bartle, the novel details not only the trauma of warfare as it occurs but also the continued trials encountered after returning home

and the effects inflicted on the families of those fighting abroad.

Last week, Powers was nominated as one of five finalists in the fiction category for the National Book Award. The winners of his and other categories will be announced during a ceremony taking place at Cipriani Wall Street Nov. 14.

The novel is more a work of fiction than a recount of Powers own experiences, informing readers of the horrors of war.

In an interview with Richmond Magazine last week, Powers admits that, regardless of being semi-autobiographical, the novel “(is) a work of the imagination that probably wouldn’t have happened if I didn’t have the experiences I had. The characters aren’t based on anybody I know. ... Some of the descriptions come from places I saw ... or things I might have heard people say in passing,

but the story isn’t real. It isn’t anything I experienced.”

Powers was a heavy reader in his youth but not too concerned with academic excellence while in school. Though he wrote in private from the age of thirteen, it wasn’t until he attended VCU for his undergraduate degree that he began to consider the passion as a career.

“My time at VCU was essential,” said Powers in a VCU press release. “Getting the permission to think of myself as a writer, learning how to engage with literature and my own writing in new ways: all of this happened at VCU.”

“The Yellow Birds” was receiving extraordinary praise and gathering momentum well before its official release a month ago, when it was published by Little Brown and Co. on Sept. 11.

At the beginning of this year, the

novel was placed on a short list of the ten most promising books of 2012 by Entertainment Weekly.

A review by Publisher’s Weekly in July of this year foreshadowed the popularity the novel would quickly gain among both the publishing and reading worlds.

Traditionally scrupulous New York Times critic Michiko Kakutani called the novel “a classic of contemporary war fiction” relatable to Tim O’Brien’s “The Things They Carried,” which focused on the Vietnam War.

“The Yellow Birds” is said to be the first significant novel surrounding the Arab wars, and as the next step or generation in a line of similar novels by Stephen Crane and Ernest Hemingway, contributing to an already rich literary history with apparent success. **CT**

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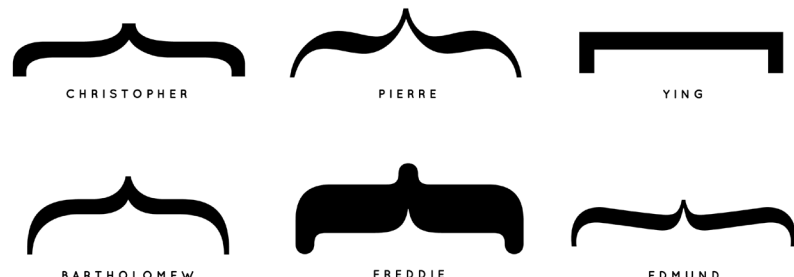


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OPINION

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New Rodney embodies VCU more than we think

Shane Wade
Opinion Editor

Two years might be a long time to wait for a mascot makeover, but VCU couldn't have picked a better time to debut the new Rodney the Ram.

Rodney's improved looks were a necessary change for our expanding university. VCU is looking to take on not just a new sports conference, but a new student populace and a new administrative environment. Not only will we be facing new teams in the coming months, but we'll be entering a new strata of academic competitiveness.

Now, is that too much acclaim and extrapolation for a simple mascot? No. As simplistic and juvenile as it may appear, representation matters to the

public, whether it's prospective families or prospective professors. As much as our mascot physically represents us, we must also metaphorically represent our mascot. Just as Rodney now looks fresh, challenging and focused, so must our student body and administrative officials.

It's easy to be dismissive of the symbolic value of mascots. It's easy to criticize the university for even taking the time to facilitate the change. But, at a university that caters to 31,000 undergraduate, graduate and first-professional students, it is of paramount importance to keep student engagement and school spirit at a high level.

An active student populace is what keeps VCU from being a mere commuter school; that student population

is kept active by an administration that's supportive of student endeavors. Whether that support comes through funding, advisory staff or a fiercer mascot, it matters and makes a marked difference.

Granted, a new mascot won't solve all our problems. We had six robberies last Monday and a home invasion two nights ago. A meaner-looking mascot isn't going to help fight crime rates, but it shows how VCU is progressing and evolving as a university of (and for) its students. Rodney isn't Batman, but the makeover shows that VCU's administration is active, responsive and engaged in the student community.

If you need further proof of those qualities, look at the progress we've had just over the past year: We asked for

more residence halls. We received West Grace South (and West Grace North next August), and to accompany that expansion, the Laurel Street parking deck was constructed. We asked for more dining options. Three more were added, with many slated for the coming years. We asked for a new mascot. Rodney the Ram looks stronger than ever.

There are a number of faults in the system when it comes to VCU, but every semester we see adjustments and improvements. We're not the same school we were in the past, and our mascot, as well as our student body, needs to reflect that change. VCU listened to student input and met our expectations.

Let's hope they can emulate that response in other aspects of student life.

CT

Former candidates out of the spotlight

Katherine Johnson
Staff Columnist

As you probably haven't heard, former Republican presidential candidate, Herman Cain, will be making a stop in Richmond tomorrow for his "College Truth Tour."

The tour emphasizes how the economy is negatively affecting recent college graduates. Cain is focusing on students because they will play a large role in determining the presidential election.

Cain didn't move past the primary in his bid for president, and since then, much hasn't been heard of him. Because of this, students aren't aware of his tour, let alone the message he's attempting to spread.

While Cain is right about job prospects for college graduates and young adults in general, he isn't reaching as large an audience he would have a few months ago because he's been out of the media's spotlight.

If the press were more focused on Cain's attempts, he would draw in a larger crowd at events and possibly change the minds of college students that are undecided or even supporting President Obama.

The economy is the number one issue for many voters this year. Listening to the back and forth arguments of the Romney and Obama campaigns discourages many. Instead of being educated, voters are left confused about fact and fiction and who to trust.

An outside opinion from a former candidate may influence some voters. The employment rate, job prospects and debt after graduation are critically important factors relevant to college students and the numbers can't be argued with.

Cain, however, doesn't have enough influence to change the election's outcome; not because of what he's pitching, but because of the lack of awareness.

Once finalized, the media focuses on the candidates from the two major political parties. Former candidates that lost out at the primary are left in the dust, as all attention is shifted to who will be on the ballot in November.

It's often a criticism that the press doesn't give coverage to candidates running from third parties, so how can it be expected that they'd give time to former candidates?

These people may have great insight into the race, or even the candidates

themselves. While they no longer have a personal stake in the election, voters may be more willing to accept their message. They have nothing to lose by peppering their speech with talking points and all to gain by being brutally honest.

It's unfortunate that once a candidate's time is up in the race that they lose all relevance, and conversely, they lose their ability to directly impact elections.

Recently, the only former candidate that's gone on to play a larger role has been Hilary Clinton. After Obama won out in 2008 for the Democrats, he chose Clinton to be his Secretary of State.

This is a rare occurrence, and it's doubtful that Romney, if elected, would bring back a candidate from the primary for his cabinet. This is yet another reason to write former candidates off.

Cain definitely has an important message for college students but his influence won't be felt due to an uninterested media and news consumers.

It's up to Romney and Obama to provide the information for voters, which adds to the endless cycle and emphasize only those who will be on the ballot. **CT**

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Executive Editor

Shane Wade
Opinion Editor

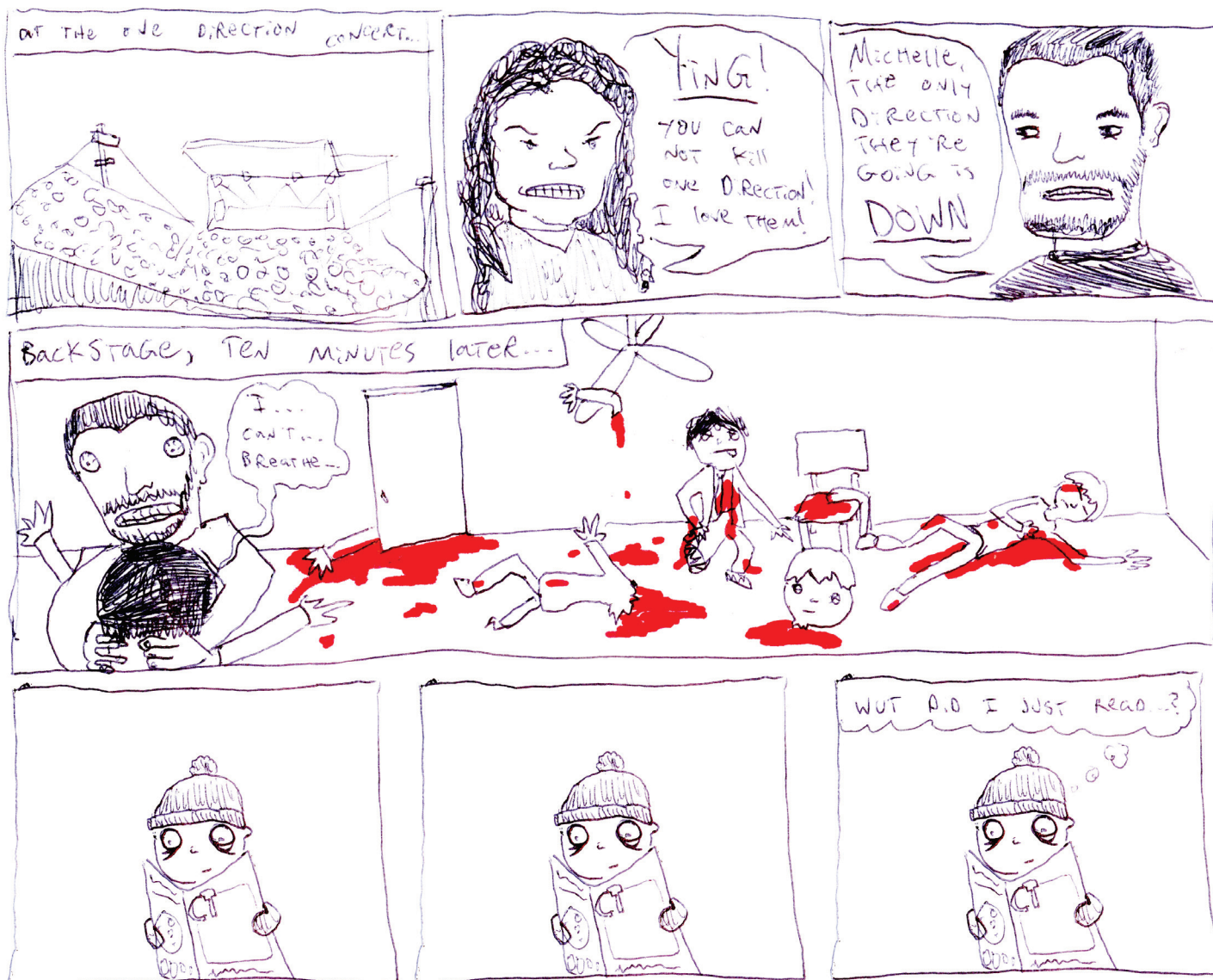
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