

the
ct

LIVING THE DREAM

VCUarts students take Sponge exhibit to MoMA



News

May the best
business plan win · 3

Sports

Shockers shock men's
basketball at home · 6

Spectrum

30 years ago, married
couple met through
The CT · 10

Opinion

Visceral reaction to
re-election · 14

BRIEFS

On the cover:

VCUarts students traveled to the Museum of Modern Art with Sponge HQ for an interactive art installment.

Photo courtesy of Hope Ginsburg

Local & VCU

Poll shows Mark Warner heavy favorite to win Va. governor's race

Former Virginia governor and current U.S. Sen. Mark Warner would easily win re-election to the governor’s mansion if he decides to enter the 2013 Virginia race for governor, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released Nov. 14.

Warner, who said he will decide whether to run again by Thanksgiving, leads Republican candidate and current Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling, 53 percent to 33 percent, and would defeat Bolling’s rival for the GOP nomination, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, 52 percent to 34 percent, according to the poll, which was conducted two days after last week’s presidential election and has a margin of error of 2.6 percentage points.

The political landscape changes dramatically however, if Warner decides not to enter the race and the nomination falls to Terry McAuliffe, the former Democratic National Committee chairman turned green energy entrepreneur and the only Democrat who has declared his intentions to seek the office.

Brief by the Richmond Times-Dispatch

Va. attorney general blocks innocent man’s release

David Montgomery was jubilant when a judge ordered his son freed from prison, exonerated after the woman who accused him of molesting her admitted the story was a fraud. But that abruptly turned to agony when Montgomery learned Virginia’s attorney general was keeping his son behind bars.

“It was just another twist of the knife,” Montgomery said in a telephone interview Monday. “They need to release my son.”

Jonathan Montgomery, 26, was convicted in 2008 of sexually assaulting Elizabeth Paige Coast. The accuser, then 17, claimed Montgomery assaulted her outside her grandmother’s house in Hampton in 2000 when he was 14 and she was 10. Montgomery was sentenced to 7 1/2 years in prison.

The Associated Press does not typically identify alleged victims of sexual assault. However, Coast is being identified because authorities say she admitted to fabricating the story, and she has been charged with perjury.

On Friday, Hampton Circuit Judge Randolph T. West tossed Montgomery’s felony convictions and ordered him released from prison.

But when relatives went to pick Montgomery up at the prison in Jarratt, they learned Attorney General Kenneth Cuccinelli’s office had declared the order invalid because the judge lacked jurisdiction.

“This is a tragedy, and the attorney general is very concerned about it,” Cuccinelli spokesman Brian Gottstein said in an email. “However, Virginia law will not allow the release.”

Brief by the Associated Press

Foreign college students pump \$405 million into Va. economy

Nearly 15,170 foreign students attended Virginia colleges during the last academic year, contributing more than \$405.48 million to the state’s economy, the Institute of International Education reports.

Virginia Tech had the most international students at 2,578, but the University of Virginia, third in foreign-student enrollment with 2,141, had a greater economic impact, according to the annual Open Doors report and economic analysis by NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

The studies, released Monday, found that nationally the number of foreign students increased by 5.7 percent to a record 764,495, with a \$22.7 billion impact on the U.S. economy.

George Mason University was second in enrollment, with 2,159 students and a \$51.7 million impact.

Virginia Commonwealth University was fourth with 1,647 students and \$49.6 million in economic contributions.

Brief by the Richmond Times-Dispatch

National & International

France recognizes new Syria group, 1st in West

France on Tuesday became the first Western country to formally recognize Syria’s newly formed opposition coalition as the sole legitimate representative of the Syrian people.

The U.S. also recognized the leadership body announced in Qatar Sunday as a legitimate representative, but stopped short of describing it as the sole one, saying the group must first demonstrate its ability to represent Syrians inside the country.

The two announcements could start a trend toward world recognition of the rebels as the legitimate government of Syria, undercutting whatever legitimacy the regime of President Bashar Assad still has after 20 months of a bloody civil war.

“We look forward to supporting the national coalition as it charts a course for the end of Assad’s bloody rule, and marks the start, we believe, of a peaceful, just and democratic future for the people of Syria,” said U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner in Washington.

Under intense international pressure to form an opposition that includes representatives from the country’s disparate factions fighting to topple Assad, the anti-government groups struck a deal Sunday in Doha, Qatar, to form a coalition headed by former Muslim preacher Mouaz al-Khatib.

Brief by the Associated Press

McCain calls for Watergate-style panel to probe Libya

Sen. John McCain is calling for establishment of a Watergate-style congressional committee to investigate the deaths of four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens, at the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

The Arizona Republican tells “CBS This Morning” he believes the unanswered questions surrounding events at Benghazi on Sept. 11 require such a select committee.

McCain accused the Obama administration of making misleading statements. He also said U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice went on national television and said incorrectly that the violence was the result of a demonstration against an anti-Muslim movie made in the United States. Asked if he’d stand in the way of any nomination of Rice as the next secretary of state, McCain replied, “She’s not qualified.”

He said Rice spoke “in defiance” of the facts in the case.

Brief by the Associated Press

Toyota recalling 2.77 million vehicles worldwide

Toyota Motor Corp. is recalling 2.77 million vehicles around the world for a water pump problem and a steering shaft defect that may result in faulty steering — the latest in a spate of quality woes for Japan’s top automaker.

No accidents have been reported related to these two problems announced today, according to Toyota.

Some 1.51 million vehicles are being recalled for the steering defect in Japan and 1.25 million vehicles abroad — including 670,000 in the U.S. Affected models include the Prius hybrid, Corolla, Wish and other models produced from 2000 to 2011 in Japan, and from 2000 to 2009 overseas.

Of those vehicles, some 620,000 spanning five hybrid models, including the Prius, have a defective water pump in addition to the steering shaft defect. Those vehicles were produced from 2001 to 2010 in Japan, and from 2003 to 2011 overseas. Another 10,000 vehicles with only a pump problem are also being recalled.

Toyota has been trying to fix its reputation after a series of massive recalls of 14 million vehicles over the last several years, mostly in the U.S., affecting faulty floor mats, braking and gas pedals.

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

ALLISON BRAZELTON
Copy Editor
copyeditor@commonwealthtimes.org

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

ALLISON BRAZELTON
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

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

The Commonwealth Times strives to be accurate in gathering news. If you think we have made an error, please call Executive Editor Mechelle Hankerson at 828-6516 or email her at editor@commonwealthtimes.org. Corrections will appear on the Opinion page.

Limit one CT per person. Additional copies may be purchased through the Student Media Center for \$1 a copy.

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

NEWS

In this section:

Police raise awareness on larceny through prevention campaigns • 4
Dental students help the homeless • 4

Student entrepreneurs to compete for prize



PHOTO BY JANE TAYLOR

Potential entrants packed an auditorium in Snead Hall for a question and answer session to learn about this year's Venture Creation Competition.

Katelyn Boone
Contributing Writer

Over the next six months, teams of VCU students, faculty, staff and alumni will connect, innovate and present new ideas, concepts and technologies to prove to a panel of judges that their idea is one they simply can't live without.

What sounds like the premise of a reality TV show is now an annual event at the university: VCU's Venture Creation Competition.

The VCC is hosted by VCU's da Vinci Center for Innovation. The da Vinci program brings together art, engineering and business students and gives them real-life product innovation problems to solve with companies.

During the competition, faculty, staff, alumni and local residents can all work on a team, but at least half of the team members must be enrolled at VCU. At the end of the project, the final presentation to the judges will be delivered solely by VCU students.

The contest is meant to give students experience in developing a business plan

and pitching a concept. If they do well, the reward could be better than a passing grade.

The top prize gives teams \$5,000 to make the winning team's idea a reality. 2nd and 3rd place will receive \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively, and two other finalist groups will get \$1,000 apiece to help commercialize their concepts.

Jen Aranyi and Becky Moran are both VCU seniors in communication arts and participants at the da Vinci Center. They plan on developing a submission for the VCC together.

Aranyi said being involved with the da Vinci program is a great way to hit the ground running.

"You sort of realize what it actually takes to run a business and start a venture," she said. "It also helped me connect with people that I wouldn't have otherwise."

Moran noted that the da Vinci Center turned her on to branding and marketing and said she enjoys working on those kinds of tasks.

"I wouldn't know that if I wasn't doing projects all the time," she said.

The competition is entering its second year this fall and opened with a question and answer session for potential competitors. The Q-and-A included Kenneth Kahn, the Director of the da Vinci Center for Innovation and a number of the competition's judges: David Gallagher, CEO of Dominion Payroll Services; Darrell Jervy, CEO of Worth Products Group; and Scott Tolleson, head of cable and media industries at Ericsson.

Much of the discussion encouraged students to seize opportunities and take advantage of what is available.

"Here's your chance. Soak up everything you can (while in college)," said Gallagher, who served as a judge for last year's competition. "People say that they'll never use calculus later on, but guess what, you use those critical thinking skills, ability to interpret data, et. al."

Last year, the inaugural VCU Venture Creation Competition included 40 teams made up of 87 student and non-student members. Kahn said he hopes this year's competition will be even better than the last.

"VCU Venture is about students con-

necting with local professionals, peers and professors ... (and creating) a culture that brings together ideas and innovation," he said.

The winner from last year was the Quinn-Tyrell Corporation, made up of VCU Brandcenter students Katie Acosta, Brian Jang, Jerry Roback and Mena Xiong. Their concept was to enhance the in-home ice cream experience through uniquely flavored ice cream cones.

The judges instantly recall the team's enthusiasm during the panel discussion.

"They had everything. They were passionate and they had a well-thought out plan," Jervy said.

One new addition to the competition is the Alumni Pitch Slam, which will take place next April. The pitch slam is structured like a poetry slam, but with an audience of 12-15 local CEOs, professors and entrepreneurial gurus that will critique the presenter's ability to persuade the experienced panel. The event will be open exclusively to VCU alumni with a top prize of \$1,000 to invest in the pitch. **CT**

NUMBER OF LARCENIES SINCE AUG. 1

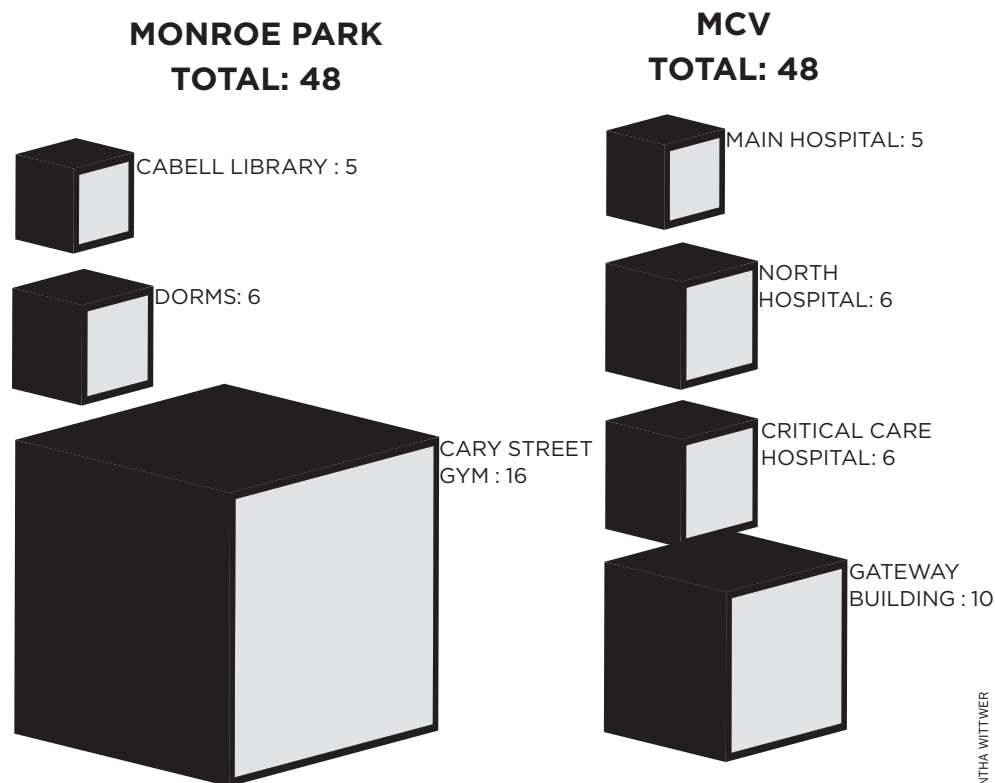


ILLUSTRATION BY SAMANTHA WITTWER

VCU Police awareness campaigns help keep larcenies down

Grace Douglas
Contributing Writer

Theft of personal property is the crime most likely to occur on a college campus according to community awareness campaigns by VCU Police. This is certainly true at VCU, where year after year, larceny far outnumbers any other reported crime, even alcohol-related arrests.

However, the number of larcenies reported by the VCU Police Department for 2011 was the lowest it had been since 2008, before the police began reporting figures from more law enforcement agencies than just campus police.

The department's 2012 Security and Fire Safety Report showed a nearly 30 percent decrease in larcenies between 2010 and 2011 even with the addition of statistics from the Virginia State Police and the Virginia Department of Alcohol and Beverage Control.

Officer Matt Ruland, VCUPD's community policing officer, said that larceny rates are on the decline because of the proactive efforts of the police department.

"I have seen numbers drop significantly because of campaigning," Ruland said.

Early this semester, VCU Police initiated their "See Something Shady" larceny prevention campaign to encourage students to report suspicious behavior to the police. The department also produced a commercial featuring VCU men's basketball coach Shaka Smart asking students to ensure that the basketball was the only thing stolen at VCU (the men's basketball team led the nation in steals last season).

Soon, police will be starting a holiday messaging campaign reminding students to lock up before going out and to be

mindful of the environment. The campaign will also encourage students to notify others when going out of town for the holidays so that someone can keep a close eye on their residence.

Ruland said there are a number of factors that contribute to larceny, but one is that sometimes people just let their guard down.

"We get too comfortable in our environment and setting," he said.

Ruland also advised students to be mindful of the fact that VCU is an urban campus and carrying valuables such as iPods, phones or laptops in visible sight may lead to unintended consequences and even if somewhere seems secure, students should be aware of valuables.

Though larcenies have been recorded this year in student residence halls, Ruland said that the highest-incident locations are "any open public areas, where there is a large area of people coming and going."

This includes Cabell Library and the Cary Street Gym. At the gym alone there have been 16 reported larcenies since August. Ruland said that students should be mindful of their surroundings and belongings at all times, even at the gym.

"I ran with my phone and school bag right beside me," said Ruland, who adds that students should only bring the necessities to workout. If a student does bring an iPod or phone, however, they should keep it on them at all times. **CT**

VCU dental students, faculty help homeless



PHOTO BY MARHESHA MALDONADO

Volunteers help coordinate services for those in need at Project Homeless Connect.

Marhesha Maldonado
Contributing Writer

The VCU community reached out on Tuesday to the city's homeless population to provide aid at the sixth annual Project Homeless Connect.

The event helped to provide medical care, dental care, vision screenings, mental health interviews, social security applications, employment resources and more for Richmond's homeless population.

About 55 VCU students and faculty from the VCU School of Dentistry volunteered at the Richmond Convention Center, using their skills to give back to the community.

This year, VCU dental students saw about 65 patients and performed dental care for those in need free of charge. Project Homeless Connect is one of many community outreach projects VCU dental students are involved in throughout the year.

"This is my second year doing this particular project and I hate that we have to turn people away. It shows that there is a need in the community," said Donna Cowherd, a patient care coordinator at VCU's School of Dentistry.

Mary Catherine McGinn, a third-year student doctoral student studying for a degree in dental surgery, has been working with Project Homeless Connect since she was a pre-dental student in 2007.

"I think it's so rewarding to help patients who don't have access to this," she said, noting that those in need don't just

get a cursory exam or a flossing, but a wide range of care. "At some projects we even do fillings," McCain said.

The event was put together by Homeward, a Richmond-based organization specializing in helping the homeless population. According to the latest counts by Homeward, more than 900 people in the Richmond area are currently homeless. Of those, more than half claim some kind of long-term disability and only about a quarter of them are employed in any capacity.

Melanie McDonald, Homeward's Operations Direction said events like Project Homeless Connect aren't about just rendering services.

"While it helps people in need it's also an opportunity for people in the community. It raises awareness," she said.

About 400 people showed up at the Richmond Convention Center to get help filling out paperwork and to receive free medical and dental exams. Some received work that they've needed for years.

"I'm getting an extraction, I needed it yanked out a long time ago," said Bryan David, who has been homeless for a number of years and did not have the money to have dental work done. He said he was grateful for the volunteers' efforts.

"It's great that they are helping, taking all their time to come in here and to help people in need," David said. **CT**

CRIME LOG 11/8-11/12

Thursday, Nov. 8th

Drug violation North Belvidere and West Grace streets - A female visitor was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Drug violation South Munford and West Leigh streets - A male visitor was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Assault offense Brandt Hall, 710 W. Franklin St. - A female employee advised that a known person assaulted her.

Grand larceny Cabell Library, 901 Park Ave. - A male student advised that an unknown person(s) removed an item from an unsecured location.

Damage to personal property/Assault Johnson Hall, 801 W. Franklin St. - A male visitor advised that a known person kicked his vehicle and physically assaulted him.

Drug violation 309 N. Laurel St. - A male visitor was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Alcohol violation West Main and Vine streets - A female visitor was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Disorderly conduct North Harrison and West Broad streets - A male student was arrested for disorderly conduct.

Theft from motor vehicle 916 Norton St. - A male victim advised that an unknown person removed an item from a secured location.

Alcohol violation/Disorderly conduct 1300 W. Cary St. - A female was arrested for being drunk in public and disorderly conduct.

Friday, Nov. 9th

Weapons violation Shafer and West Grace streets - A male visitor was arrested for possession of a concealed weapon.

Alcohol violation North Harrison and West Grace streets - A female visitor was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Alcohol violation Carriage House Apartments, 728 W. Franklin St. - A female student was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol.

Robbery commercial BP Gas Station, 600 W. Grace St. - A complainant advised that an unknown person robbed a business.

Saturday, Nov. 10th

Alcohol violation 100 Park Ave. - A male student was arrested for alcohol violation.

Alcohol violation Brandt Hall, 710 W. Franklin St. - A male student was arrested for alcohol violation.

DUI Lombardy and West Broad streets - A wanted male visitor was arrested for DUI.

Petit larceny Oliver Hall 1001 W. Main St. - A male employee advised that an unknown person(s) removed an item from a secured location.

Damage to state property/Underage consumption of alcohol Brandt Hall, 710 W. Franklin St. - A male student was arrested for underage consumption of alcohol and a second male visitor was arrested for damage to state property and underage consumption of alcohol.

Sunday, Nov. 11th

Drug violation/DUI 1000 block of Cary Street - Male visitor was arrested for drug violations and female visitor was arrested for DUI.

Drug violation Music Center, 1015 Grove Ave. - Male student was arrested for drug violation.

Petit larceny 948 W. Grace St. - A male visitor was arrested for petit larceny.

Drug violation GRC, 711 W. Main St. - A female student was arrested for a drug violation.

Larceny Siegel Center, 1200 W. Broad St. - A victim advised that an unknown person(s) removed a items from a secured location.

Monday, Nov. 12th

Drunk in public Siegel Center, 1200 W. Broad St. - A male visitor was arrested for being drunk in public.

Drug violation 1125 W. Cary St. - Two visitors were arrested for drug violations.

Drug violation West Broad and Belvidere streets - A male student was arrested for drug violation.

Drug violation 1011 W. Marshall St. A male student and male visitor were arrested for drug violation.

DEPOSIT CHECKS ON YOUR PHONE



Fewer fees, great rates
& convenient service
anytime, anywhere.



CALL
(804) 323-6800
(800) 285-6609



CLICK
vacu.org



COME IN
Visit a branch



CONNECT
Apple® & Android™
mobile devices



Federally insured by NCUA

SPORTS

In this section:

Rams see room to grow in loss to Wichita State • 7

Final play: Was it goaltending? • 8

Weekend sports schedule • 9

Wichita State shocks VCU in early matchup



Darius Theus and Juvonte Reddic combined for 37 of VCU's 51 points against Wichita State Tuesday night.

Zachary Holden
Staff Writer

The VCU men's basketball team lost 53-51 against Wichita State Tuesday night at the Siegel Center.

"It's a disappointing game for me as a coach and for our players because we weren't on edge and we weren't at our best," said VCU head coach Shaka Smart. "It's a valuable lesson to learn, but it's a tough lesson to learn anytime you lose a game that way."

Wichita State struck first after nearly two minutes played with a Malcolm Armstead layup. The two teams traded baskets with the Shockers going on top after each VCU equalizer. It wasn't until the 13:29 mark when the Rams finally grabbed their first lead of the game after a Darius Theus jumper.

They didn't hold that lead long though, and wouldn't have the lead for the rest of the half. VCU kept the game within two possessions to ensure it didn't get out of hand early.

The Shockers seemed to counter VCU's HAVOC style of play perfectly and didn't let it get to them at all.

"They were bringing multiple guys up," said Theus. "They did a real good job against the press."

Entering halftime, the Rams trailed the Shockers by four points and Smart didn't seem too happy with the performance up to that point. As usual though, his message during halftime seemed to work as VCU started the second half on a 9-0 run to take a five-point lead.

Armstead ended the Rams' run with a layup after being held scoreless for nearly four minutes.

Trading baskets back and forth, both teams and fans knew the game would come down to the wire. Between the 7:44 mark and 3:57 mark, neither team scored a basket.

With just under five minutes to go, Troy Daniels came down with a rebound and landed on teammate Briante Weber, causing Daniels to turn his ankle. He writhed in pain for a minute or so before being helped up and off of the court to get his ankle examined in the locker room. Daniels was deemed to be okay.

"I haven't talked to the trainer, (but) I would guess he'll miss a little bit of practice," said Smart. "Troy is a tough kid (so) I would guess he'll be back playing relatively soon."

In the final four minutes, VCU kept it close thanks to clutch play from

Theus and Juvonte Reddic. With 27 seconds to go, the Rams were down by 3 before Theus stepped up behind the arc and effortlessly drained the game-tying 3-pointer.

Wichita State then gained possession with 27 seconds to try and win the game. Malcolm Armstead had the ball and was letting the time tick away before calmly knocking down a mid-range jumper to put the Shockers up by two with 3.8 seconds to go.

"It's called the 'see play,' everybody get out of the way and see what (Armstead) can get you. It worked pretty well," said Wichita State head coach Gregg Marshall.

A VCU timeout came and coach Smart drew up a play hoping to tie the game and force overtime. The ball was inbounded to Reddic who drove to the basket and got off a layup before the whistles were blown with five-tenths of a seconds to go.

The officials called a shooting foul against the Shockers, sending Reddic to the line with two free throws and a chance to tie the game. The VCU bench, however, wanted goaltending called.

Reddic stepped up and missed his first free throw, then failed an intentional miss on the second free throw by not

letting it hit the rim first, thus ending the Rams' hopes of overtime.

"It's just one of those times it just didn't go," said Reddic. "It's one thing you can't control. You've got to move on now."

Reddic's double-double led the team as he finished the night with 22 points, 10 rebounds, two steals, one block and one assist. Theus added 15 points and five assists.

Smart said he thought Tuesday's game was a good reality check for his team this early in the season.

"Tonight served as a reminder that we have a long way to go," Smart said. "If we're not playing the way we need to play in terms of our approach, teams can beat us, even on our home floor."

VCU played Wichita State in the first round of last season's NCAA tournament where it upset the No. 5 seeded Shockers 62-59. They also met the season before in a regular season game where the Rams traveled to Wichita and won 68-67.

The Rams are now 1-1 on the season and face Winthrop on the road in their next game Saturday afternoon. **CT**

VCU experiences growing pains in loss to Wichita State



PHOTO BY CHRIS CONWAY

Troy Daniels twisted his ankle late in the second half against Wichita State Tuesday.

Jim Swing
Sports Editor

Shaka Smart recapitulated what was seemingly the central thesis Tuesday night: There was something off about VCU that night.

Perhaps the Rams “weren’t on edge,” or more simply put, weren’t themselves in the latest version of their usual nail-biting, palm-drenching battle with Wichita State.

The “edge” missing was the intense, suffocating defense that corners opposing offenses and doesn’t quit until a basketball squeezes loose. That kind of defense forced 25 turnovers against Florida Gulf Coast less than a week earlier.

It was unaccounted for in the Rams 53-51 loss to the Shockers.

“It’s a disappointing game for me as a

coach and our players because we weren’t on edge,” Smart said. “We weren’t at our best in terms of the intangibles of the game that make us good.”

Wichita State has been notoriously good at dealing with VCU’s full-court pressure. The Shockers coughed the ball up just 13 times and often pushed the ball past the defense and up the floor for easy looks.

The way the Rams persistently trap teams near the edge of the floor and force a turnover or a timeout was lost for the better part of the night. Briante Weber, VCU’s defensive pest that set the school’s single-game record for steals last Friday, seemed to be absent. Weber played undisciplined, picking up three fouls and failing to force a single turnover. Instead, he turned the ball over four

times by himself on offense.

But the defense wasn’t the only element not on edge; VCU’s offense was lackadaisical and a giant blunder for most of the night. Troy Daniels, a three-point ace for the Rams, tried the deep ball just four times after averaging nearly seven attempts a game last season.

The Rams took 24 less shot-attempts against Wichita State than they did in their season-opener, a direct product of the Shockers’ undying devotion to ceaseless defense.

“We’ve got to demand more of each other,” point guard Darius Theus said. “Tough loss for us, but we’ve got to get better.”

After all, the last thing VCU needed was to leave points on the floor. But that’s what the Rams did, shooting just 12-for-23 from the free-throw line, including the two that ultimately decided the game’s outcome.

With five-tenths of a second left, Juvonte Reddic earned a trip to the free-throw line with a chance to tie the game and send it to overtime after hauling a half-court distance to the rim in 3.3 seconds and getting fouled.

In what would be one of the many stories of the night, Reddic, who led VCU with 22 points and 10 rebounds, threw up

a shot that toilet-bowled out and essentially ended the game.

“I got confidence in myself to make the shot it’s just one of those times it didn’t go,” Reddic said. “Got to move on now.”

The Rams have been in this spot before. A little further along in last season, VCU had a night just like this. It was early January and the Rams shot an abysmal 27 percent and missed six free throws in a rare home loss to Georgia State. Much like Wichita State, the Panthers turned the ball over just 13 times, a dip below the norm on the HAVOC scale.

Nights like these can be chalked up to a number of drawbacks. Perhaps VCU shared a lack of ferocity on both ends of the floor. Maybe it was the opponent, a team that lost six seniors in the offseason, but never lost its discipline and composure.

At this point in what will become a long, strenuous season of college basketball, it’s best to draw up nights like this to growing pains.

“It’s a valuable lesson to learn but it’s a tough lesson to learn whenever you lose a game that way,” Smart said. “But being so early in the year, I’m far from glad that we lost, but it’s a lesson that – if we heed that lesson – we’ll get better.” **CT**

His Girl Friday (1940)
Distributed by Columbia Pictures (1940)
Discover images like this through VCU Libraries' resources.



an equal opportunity affirmative action university

Need help?
Let's chat.

VCU Librarians are waiting to chat online at
library.vcu.edu/askus

VCU Libraries

Virginia Commonwealth University

VCU, Wichita State ends in controversy



(Top) Juvonte Reddic goes up for a final shot in VCU's loss to Wichita State Tuesday night. (Top right) Wichita State head coach Gregg Marshall argues with an official.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS CONWAY

Jim Swing
Sports Editor

VCU and Wichita State have always had a flare for the dramatics and Tuesday night's game was no different.

With the game tied, Malcolm Armstead hit the go-ahead jumper for the Shockers leaving 3.8 seconds on the clock for the Rams to let fly a final shot.

Treveen Graham tossed a Hail Mary pass to Juvonte Reddic, who received the ball near midcourt and drove to the basket before getting fouled by Wichita State's Carl Hall.

Reddic's bid for a game-tying layup with five-tenths of a second left on the clock clanked off the backboard then appeared to hit off the front of the rim bouncing inward toward the basket before being swiped away by Cleanthony Early. A whistle was blown, but the entire VCU bench wanted a goaltending call that would've tied the game and given Reddic a chance for the win.

"They said it's not reviewable," VCU head coach Shaka Smart said. "Games like this don't come down to one play. Was it goaltending? I'll have to look back at the tape."

Reddic needed both free throws to tie the game and send it to overtime, but missed the first before failing to hit the rim while trying to miss on purpose on his second shot.

In 2011, the Shockers were on the brunt end of a controversial foul call when VCU's Joey Rodriguez drove in the final seconds down by one and threw up a shot that missed badly. Wichita State's Joe Ragland was called for a foul with eight-tenths of a second remaining that allowed Rodriguez to hit two free throws and seal a win.

DANIELS EXPECTED TO SHAKE OFF INJURY

VCU sharpshooter Troy Daniels took a spill in the second half when he went after a loose ball and landed on teammate Briante Weber's foot, twisting his right ankle.

Daniels twisted back and forth in pain on the floor before finally being helped off by trainer Eddie Benion and strength and conditioning coach Daniel Roose. Daniels didn't put any weight on his right ankle when he was being helped off the floor and taken back to the locker room.

"I would guess that he'll miss a little bit of practice, but Troy's a tough kid, he'll be back relatively soon," Smart said. "I don't know if that's Saturday or next week."

VCU point guard Darius Theus offered an even more confident take on Daniels' status offering simply, "He's fine."

Daniels shot 2-of-5 from the floor with six points, six rebounds and two steals in 31 minutes of play.

CONTINUING THE RIVALRY?

VCU and Wichita State have never been members of the same conference but they've managed to cross paths three times in the past three seasons.

In 2011 the Rams edged the Shockers in an ESPN BracketBusters game that came down to Rodriguez's pair of free throws.

A year later, the two teams were paired together again in the second round of the NCAA Tournament, where a Darius Theus floater in the final seconds lifted VCU to a nail-biting win over Wichita State.

All three games have been decided by three points or less, which beckons the question: Why not continue this ongoing rivalry?

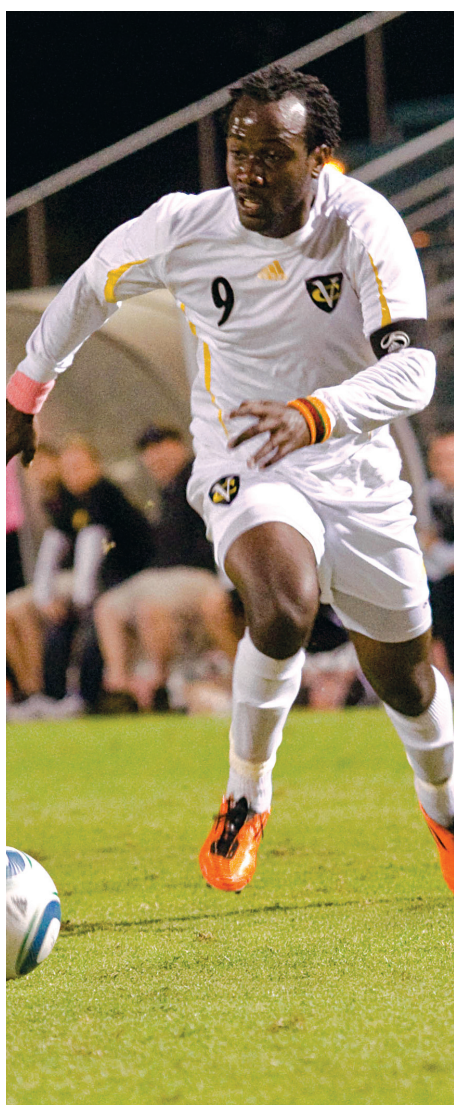
"It's something Shaka and I can discuss," Wichita State head coach Gregg Marshall said. "I told someone it's not a rivalry until we win one, so maybe now it's something we can continue."

Said Smart: "It's not really something that we've thought about."

The two teams are not scheduled to play each other any time in the near future, but if the two coaches were to agree on a home-and-home series, it would likely begin at Wichita State. **CT**

VCU Sports

Weekend Schedule



The VCU men's soccer team earned a 14 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

FRIDAY

VOLLEYBALL VS. BUTLER (ATLANTIC 10 TOURNAMENT FIRST ROUND) - 4:30 P.M. IN PITTSBURGH

SATURDAY

MEN'S BASKETBALL AT WINTHROP - 2 P.M.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL AT OLD DOMINION - 7 P.M.

SUNDAY

MEN'S SOCCER VS. SYRACUSE OR CORNELL (NCAA TOURNAMENT SECOND ROUND) - 7 P.M. AT SPORTS BACKERS STADIUM

RATED FPN*
* Full Puppet Nudity!

theatreVCU
P R E S E N T S

Avenue



The Musical

Don't miss the last 2 weekends of this saucy, funny musical!

Nov. 15 -18 & Nov. 29- Dec. 2

Music and Lyrics by **Robert Lopez & Jeff Marx** Book by **Jeff Whitty**
Based on an Original Concept by **Robert Lopez & Jeff Marx**

Directed by **Patti D'Beck**

Theatre VCU Box Office: 828.6026 • Email: theatretix@vcu.edu • Tickets: vcutheatre.showclix.com
arts.vcu.edu/theatre

General Admission: \$25 • Seniors, VCU Faculty & Staff: \$20 • VCU Students w/valid ID: \$10 • Credit Cards Accepted • David S. Leong, Chairman
Raymond Hodges Theatre • W.E. Singleton Performing Arts Center - 922 Park Ave., Richmond 23284

vcuarts

SPECTRUM

In this section:

VCUarts students travel to the MoMA with
Sponge HQ • 12
Rachel's Mailbox • 13



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BRUMFIELD FAMILY

Susan and Dale Brumfield were married in January, 1987. Their bridal party consisted of many friends made through The CT.



PHOTO BY AMBER-LYNN TABER

Jake (left) and Hunter (right) are the fraternal twin sons of a couple who met through The CT.

Newspaper Nuptials: A match made in CT heaven

Michael Todd

Assistant Spectrum Editor

Dale and Susan Brumfield celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past January. However, their story began thirty years ago, when the pair was brought together through the Commonwealth Times.

The Brumfields met in fall of 1985—soon after Susan then Susan Gross—began working as the advertising production editor for the Commonwealth Times. The couple is separated by five

years in age.

Though Dale graduated with a B.F.A. in painting and printmaking in 1981, Susan did not receive her degree in mass communications until 1986.

Post-graduation, Dale continued frequenting the Richmond area as a participant in the local art scene. Using his mechanical skills, the freelance artist struck a deal with multiple successive editors of the Commonwealth Times. Brumfield maintained the publication's equipment in exchange for use of the copier, which he used to publish mostly

fake periodicals meant to fool readers.

Dale and Susan met through the Commonwealth Times, but it wasn't love at first sight. Susan often saw her future husband at parties, and recalls appreciating his humorous personality, but she didn't really think he was "her type."

"He really could care less about clothes (and) dressing," she said. "He wasn't like the suit-and-tie guy at all that I... saw myself with. He was much more the artistic type."

One day, Susan found one of Dale's design cards in her mailbox with a

pickup line that read: "Sue, give me a call, it's cheaper than buying one." She still wasn't sure if she would give him a shot.

One 45-minute phone call later, she declined his invitation to see the Woody Allen film "The Purple Rose of Cairo," because she had the evening shift at a local hospital. Weeks later when then-news editor Amy Satterthwaite casually revealed that she saw the film with Dale instead, Susan started to reciprocate Dale's advances.

The couple's first official date hap-

Continued on page 11



PHOTO BY AMBER LYNN TABER

Although their parents both worked for the Commonwealth Times, Jake and Hunter Brumfield admit to not having an interest in working for a newspaper.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BRUMFIELD FAMILY

Susan and Dale Brumfield both attended VCU. Their son Hunter (left) is currently a VCU student while their other children Jake (right) and Hollis (center) are considering transferring to VCU.

the black infrastructure and yet, there has been virtually no major response from any black organization. This is simply pathetic. I believe that whenever a minority student attends a college or university, it's a matter of principle that they should, at an early point, begin to differentiate between self-enhancement and self-entertainment.

Nonetheless, there are many black students who simply dwell on immediate short term gratification rather than long-term meaningful products.

It's academic that we are dying, and that's no lie. It can be attributed to the facts that many black students are dropping out of school in record numbers and to the lack of any strong representative

The Times Staff

Executive Editor	Rich Radford
Managing Editor	Ronnie Greene
Business Manager	Darrell Rison
Editorial Page Editor	Ed Christina
News Editor	Amy Satterthwaite
Folio Editor	Don Harrison
Sports Editor	Nelson Williams, Jr.
Associate Sports Editor	Paul Wallo
Chief Photographer	Mike Cope
Advertising Director	Robin Irby
Classifieds Manager	Dawn Craze
Calendar Editor	Pamela Kiely
Design/Production Director	Patrick McGeehan
Advertising Production Director	Susan Gross

The Commonwealth Times, a newsmagazine serving the Virginia Commonwealth University community, is published weekly except during holidays and examinations, by students of VCU.

The offices of the Times are located on the second floor of the Millhiser House, 916 W. Franklin St. Richmond, Virginia 23284-0001.

Continued from page 10

pened a month later, during a weenie roast that took place during the Kentucky Derby on May 4, 1986.

Susan, who lived at home at the time, still recalls her mother's reaction as she was leaving the house. "I just remember her saying, 'Why is he 25 years old and what is a weenie roast? You're not going to a weenie roast.'"

The couple dated during the summer of '86 and became exclusive the following fall. When the pair visited Nags Head, N.C. together in September, Susan was already thinking about marriage.

"Things just went together really fast... I was just like, 'This is really going somewhere,'" Susan said of the trip. "I was thinking then... it seemed like it would work out."

One Sunday morning in February, Susan was reading the paper when the couple's cat was suddenly catapulted out of the bedroom of Dale's apartment on Boulevard and sprinted under the television stand. Something glittery on its collar caught Susan's eye.

"I had to drag her out—and that cat did not want to come out," she said. "But, you know, when a girl sees a ring, she's pretty determined... I knew she had something that I thought belonged to me."

The couple married in January of 1987. A number of their friends made through the Commonwealth Times were present at the wedding, including Satterthwaite, who ended up as a bridesmaid.

The couple's fraternal twins, Hunter and Jake, were born on Dec. 19, 1991. Their third child, Hollis, was born three years later.

Thirty years after his parents met, Hunter Brumfield is pursuing his B.F.A. in film at VCU.

"I decided to go to VCU because of its highly ranked art program," Hunter said. "...It was the only school that I actually applied to... plus the fact that my parents went here."

Jake is pursuing an interdisciplinary public relations and political science degree at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, but intends to transfer to VCU next semester. Hollis attends American University, but is also considering transferring to VCU.

"They're so close, they're almost like triplets," Susan said of her children. "We kind of look at them as the one great thing we've done with our lives. We've been really fortunate."

Hunter said he and Jake occasionally read the Commonwealth Times, but neither has any interest in working for the paper.

Either way, its place is already cemented in their family history. **CT**

The Sept. 18-24, 1984 issue of The CT includes Susan Gross (now Brumfield) as the advertising production director. Much of the staff, including Amy Satterthwaite, were in the Brumfield's wedding party.

PHOTO FROM CT ARCHIVES



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOPE GINSBURG

VCUarts students and volunteer monitors at Sponge HQ in the Anderson Gallery traveled to the Museum of Modern Art on Nov. 11 to install a temporary exhibit which included sponge information, photographs, honey tastings and felting demonstrations

VCUarts students travel to MoMA for cross-disciplinary exhibition

Michael Todd
Assistant Spectrum Editor

For most student artists, exhibiting work in a museum like the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) is still more of a dream than a goal. Eight VCU art students who volunteer as monitors for the collaborative Sponge HQ art space in the Anderson Gallery, were able to fulfill that dream a little sooner than other art students.

On Nov. 11, practicing artist and VCU professor Hope Ginsburg, along with eight Sponge HQ volunteers, participated in "Common Senses," an ongoing exhibition through the education and research section of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

Similar to Sponge HQ, "Common Senses" features community building with a crossover between science and art through workshops and projects for all age groups. The exhibition features a different artist or group each weekend, with an ongoing, installation-style archive to which each presenter contributes.

Sponge HQ-known simply as "The Sponge" or "HQ" by those who frequent it-serves as a collaborative workspace

where the arts meet biology.

Established by Ginsburg in 2010, the workspace is housed on the third floor of the Anderson Gallery and plays host to a wide variety of cross-disciplinary resources. Among these supplies is a library with literature ranging from plant life to art practices, an aquarium and a colony of honeybees.

"Prototype for Preserving the Phylum Porifera," Sponge HQ's four-hour installation at the MoMA, included

"WE ARE THE PROJECT. PEOPLE LIKE US ARE THE POINT OF THE SPACE... WE'RE AS MUCH OF A FEATURE AS THE HONEY... OR THE SPONGES." -JOJO HUFF

graphic information on different sponge types, photos by Ginsburg from a scuba diving trip, material on Ginsburg's cross-disciplinary studio and biology course, Colablablab, a video prepared by a few of the volunteers and tastings of honey from the Sponge HQ honeybees.

"It was a really awesome opportunity that I didn't necessarily expect to get when I became a Sponge monitor," said Jojo Huff, a sophomore sculpture major. "(Ginsburg) made an effort... (to ensure) it was not only her project, but also very

much an educational experience for us... (because) in a way, we are the project. People like us are the point of the space... we're as much of a feature as the honey... or the sponges."

The monitors intentionally brought bursts of bright colors into the normally stark, white spaces provided by the MoMA by using felt, sponge and supplementary graphics of the installation.

Throughout the afternoon, viewers were invited to participate by assisting

the monitors in dry felting the foam sponge replicas. Dry felting, which is done with sheep wool, occurs by repeatedly puncturing the fibers with a specific type of needle, which in turn binds the fibers together. In this way, felting further symbolized the collaborative efforts of Sponge HQ.

Originally, the monitors planned on felting actual sponges. However, after finding out about sponge harvesting processes and the resulting death of the animal, they sought alternative solutions.

Foam proved the most successful felting material, although the group also experimented with casting honey bee wax from the HQ hive. From their experiments, the group contributed a cast bronze sponge, printed material and bee honey to the exhibition archive at the MoMA.

Though the group intended for the installation to appeal to all ages, sophomore craft and material studies major Colleen Brennan found she worked mostly with children throughout the course of the day.

"(The kids) were very open to talking to us. They wanted to learn how to do what we were doing, even if they didn't question it the way a critical mind would," said Brennan. "They were still interested enough to stay for half an hour and felt with us." **CT**

The Sponge HQ is open from 12 - 2 p.m. weekdays and is located on the third floor of the Anderson Gallery. The space is free and open to the public.



ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL WHISENHUNT

Dear Rachel,

I have been in a relationship with a guy for two years and he has never told me that he loves me. Last year, I asked him if he loved me and he answered with, "What does love mean?" Is it time for me to move on? What does love mean?

He Loves Me Not

He Loves Me Not,

I'm not going to say you have outright wasted your time on this guy, because you haven't, but you do sound frustrated and that's not an easy position to be in — especially in a romantic relationship.

For the sake of argument and your sanity, let's pretend this guy has so much emotional baggage that he has a physical aversion to saying "I love you." Perhaps he will literally vomit on you if he has to say it. Maybe he cannot say words that start with 'L' without crying. I don't know, those were just a few amazing guesses.

But if he was injured so much in a past relationship, why is he with you? Two years is a long time to only be going through the motions of what it means to be a boyfriend. Vulnerabilities and problems are normal, but it cannot be one-sided. Relationships are supposed to be symbiotic, not parasitic.

Your boyfriend knows what you want and he does not want to give it to

you for whatever reason, so if you like, you can continue to figure it all out on your own and carry that burden. Your boyfriend does not seem to mind that situation at all!

If you're happy in this relationship without having to rationalize your cares away, then by all means stay with this guy. I like getting free dinners and having a constant companion as much as the next girl, but I also like guys who like me as more than just a date. If you're the same way, I suggest you find another guy who actually wants to be in a relationship with you.

If this was too long and you didn't read it, here's what I have to say plain and simple: He doesn't feel the same way you do.

Rachel

If you would like Rachel to answer your questions, please email spectrum@commonwealthtimes.org.

ADVERTISEMENT

FREE AQUATICS CLINICS

Survival Swimming
December 5



Freestyle/Front Crawl
December 19



For more information, visit:
www.recsports.vcu.edu/aquatics/swim_classes.html

VCU RECREATIONAL SPORTS
www.recsports.vcu.edu
804.827.1100



OPINION

In this section:

Post-election havoc reveals America's true colors • 14

Students fight for future environment • 15



ILLUSTRATION BY SAGAL HASSAN

The slap heard 'round the states

Olivia Talbott
Staff Columnist

Fear has been invoked and pandemonium has erupted.

If you haven't witnessed it, then you must've deactivated all of your social networking accounts, avoided all verbal statements made within an earshot of you the past seven days, and rejected your response of senses to all media sources in existence.

The election was called on Nov. 6. The winner was Barack Obama. And while quite a few people aren't thrilled about that, it's important that Americans assert themselves as only Americans would.

Riots broke out, people dusted off the old soap box in the closet and everyone and their grandma, boyfriend, fourth cousin and ex-best friend from third grade took to their social media accounts to hash out their own piece of the chaos pie. The only problem was that there could only be so much.

It's been a week, but people are still posting polarizing opinions and links to response articles. In a week, we have learned more about those we follow on Twitter and our Facebook "friends" than any of us truly wished to know. The news has run rampant with lasting

remnants of anger stemming from those in opposition to the re-election of our current Commander in Chief. "United we stand, divided we fall" used to be a motto that united the American people. But in a time where Drake defines the motto of how to live life, we see truth in that we "can't see (our fellow man) 'cause the money in the way," we all wonder where we can go from here.

I was raised to believe that coming together with humanity was the only way to create effective development. The greatest American ideology is that we are masters on the frontier of what it means to be resilient. On behalf of this socially engrained doctrine, many of our fellow Americans have decided that there is a new answer to the problem and it doesn't include compromise or coming together: Secession.

Thirty-five states, including Virginia, have deemed themselves capable of two of the most popular American adages: standing on their own two feet and picking themselves up by their bootstraps. Their petition for succession has been achieved through the Obama administration's "We the People" section on the White House website, which allows citizens to file petitions. Over 25,000 individuals have voiced their opinion through petition with

the justification that "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and institute new Government."

There is no doubt that our government is in a place where the options of survival have become either limited or destructive and pits the American people against their own.

A study by the American Legislative Exchange Council conducted in April of this year found Virginia to have the third greatest economic outlook in the country, trailing only Utah and South Dakota. The study also showed the commonwealth to have the eighth greatest economic performance. If any state could stand on its own, Virginia has good numbers to make a case.

These petitions stand in their own right and should be acknowledged. Neither I, nor anyone who has not signed the petition, can fully grasp the complainants' reasoning for supporting secession.

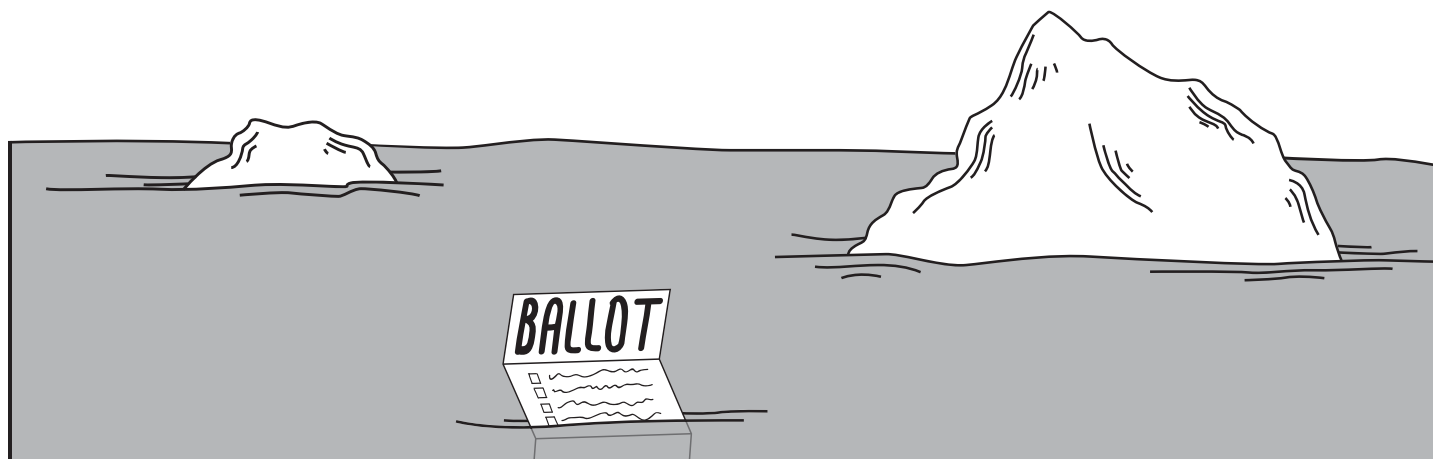
Are they a proclamation of independent thought? Or a modern demand for a new and improved Declaration of Independence? Do those who stand

behind the petitions simply want attention? Or do these states wish to abandon their fellow Americans in regards to the circumstance (which is largely difficult)? To answer these questions, we must consider the facts.

Each petition appeared following Election Day. Louisiana was the first state to petition for secession, although Texas has proven the most successful in gaining signatures quickly, almost tripling the 25,000 signatures needed for a response from administration in less than a week.

In days ahead, it will become the slap heard around the states. Ohio and Michigan, the two worst economic performers of years 2000-2010, have at it. Run wild and free on your own. Your fellow and future ex-Americans wish you well. We are paying attention and there will be a response, somehow, someday. I don't wish to take great liberty in harsh judgment. I only wish to remind my fellow Americans of what makes us who we are, our unity and belief in our strength to rebuild ourselves.

If President Obama does respond to these petitions, then hopefully those who haven't yet found anything good about his leadership will view him differently. **GT**



the
ct

Campus climate activists encourage youth voters

Michael Perreault
Guest Columnist

The last few weeks have brought attention to Virginia for its place in the election as a battleground state and the political impact of Hurricane Sandy.

Young voters played a crucial part in this election, with Obama capturing 60 percent of ballots cast by youth voters. Here on campus, there was a group of student activists bringing attention to the importance of their votes and the importance of the climate crisis.

The group, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, managed to gather 600 signatures of VCU students who pledged to go out and vote for candidates who would address the global crisis of climate change. These 600 are part of a statewide effort, the total reaching just below 2,000 pledges from student voters.

While maintaining a nonpartisan position, we encourage voters to take the climate situation into account when

making daily decisions. This situation is the reality that global warming is causing more frequent and extreme weather events, some of the causes being the rise in sea levels and heating of our oceans.

On the note of the hurricane, as mentioned in "Obama solidifies re-election with response to Sandy," published on Nov. 5 in The CT, the two candidate's relief efforts were greatly influential in the poll results. The focus of President Obama on the climate won him two sets of praise from influential politicians in Virginia and an endorsement.

The climate crisis is something we cannot ignore any longer.

One of the biggest talking points at VCU is the issue with Dominion being the biggest polluter in the state. According to the EPA's pollution inventory, Dominion utilities emit the most carbon in the state of Virginia. Nearly all students responded in surprised distress when informed of Dominion's monopoly according to a survey conducted by the Chesapeake Climate

Action Network.

While touting a green power program, Dominion doesn't actually have any utility-scale wind or solar power. This is coupled with the fact that they are the biggest non-party donor to the state's General Assembly.

Climate change is an alarmingly real thing and we cannot afford to maintain a philosophy of instant gratification: Our children and our children's children will inherit these problems. The issues we put off solving will continue to get worse. We need to work toward a permanent solution, not add to the problems at hand.

The youth of this generation are beginning to recognize this and their impact in today's politics resounds with a message of hope for the climate crisis. Even though there is no instant fix, with diligence and cooperation our children can inherit a world set on the path to a true solution: Renewable energy. **CT**

Mechelle Hankerson
Executive Editor

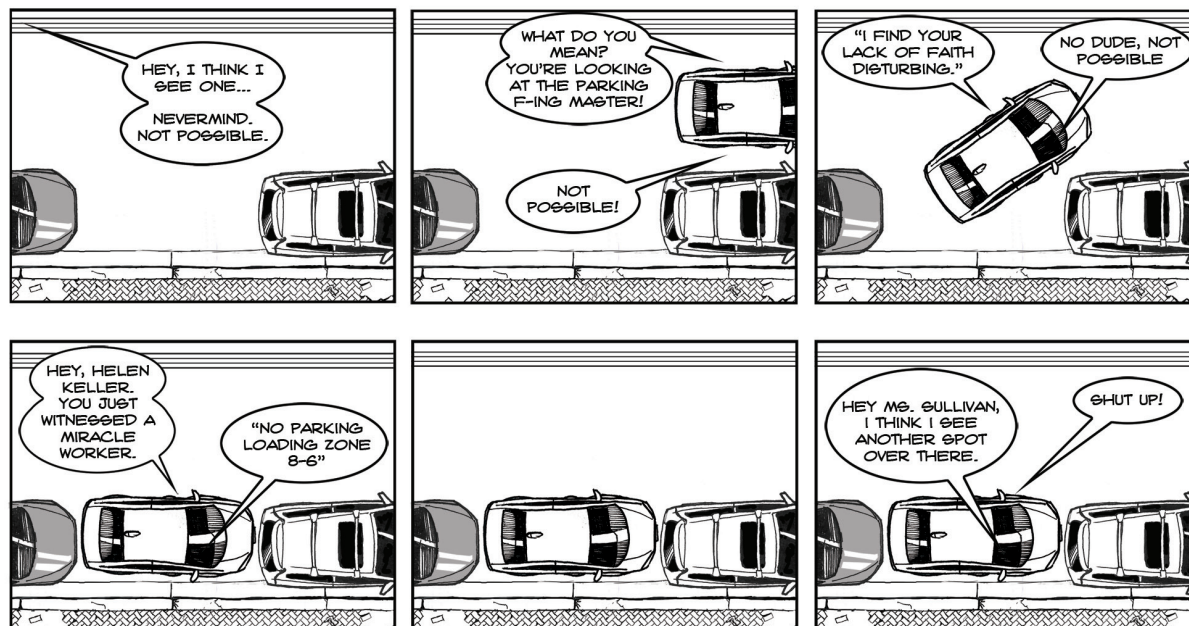
Shane Wade
Opinion Editor

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

Add Your Voice

The opinion pages of The Commonwealth Times are a forum open to the public. Clear, concise and compelling contributions are welcome by e-mail at opinion@commonwealth-times.org, by mail or in person at 817 W. Broad St., Richmond, Va. 23220-2806.

FANATICS | By Eman Kim



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. Letters to the editor can be sent to editor@commonwealth-times.org



Looking for The CT online?

Check out the new
commonwealthtimes.org
for all your VCU news!