



Trump’s shocking win sparks days of civil unrest in Richmond

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More than 1,000 anti-Trump protesters marched through Richmond and shut down portions of W. Broad St., the downtown area and the Interstate 95 and 64-W on Wednesday night. Virginia State Police arrested 10 protesters and Richmond Police arrested two more during the course of the evening.

According to VCU PD spokesperson Corey Byers, six of the 10 arrested by State Police are currently VCU students: Mackenzie Werner, 21; Michael Strough Jr., 20; Madeline McElgunn, 19; Joseph Forcier, 20; Briana Collazo, 26 and Sofia Bugge, 23.

State Police also arrested Sawyer Camden, 25, who Byers said was a former VCU student, as well as three more individuals who do not attend the university: Madeline Lewis, 20; Trevor Clarkson 20 and Gregory Robinson, 22. All 10 are Richmond residents. Additionally, RPD arrested VCU students Haley Reynolds, 22, and Tion Edmonds, 18.

Byers said Richmond Police took the lead on handling last night’s protest throughout the city.

The group of protesters first gathered in Monroe Park at 9 p.m. after an image declaring “NO TRUMP, NO KKK, NO FASCIST USA” and advertised the meetup was shared widely on social media.

This proved to be one of the most popular chants of the night, along with “Fuck Trump,” “Black Lives Matter,” “Trans Lives Matter,” “VCU don’t fuck with you,” “Muslim Lives Matter” and “Refugee Lives Matter,” among others like “Pussy grabs back.”

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Area precincts helped Clinton secure Virginia

Sarah King
Executive Editor

In an unexpected victory that “reshaped” the electoral map, Donald Trump won the U.S. presidency by exceeding the necessary 270 electoral college votes early Wednesday morning.

Trump locked-in 290 electoral college votes across 32 states to beat Clinton’s 16 states and 228 electoral votes, according to the New York Times’ election results last updated Nov. 13.

Clinton called Trump to concede the election early Wednesday morning and delivered her concession speech later that day.

At press time, votes were still being counted in multiple precincts, but Clinton already has a margin of more than 660,000 popular votes than Trump, according to a Nov. 12 NPR report.

The majority of Trump’s support, and subsequent electoral college victory, is due to the voters from industrial precincts in midwestern states. In these areas, the majority of the population is white Americans without a college education.

National Election Pool data indicates whites without

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Protesters marched on the Interstate-95 and 64 before police were able to force them off the highway Wednesday. Six VCU students were arrested.

News

Stoney scrapes surprise victory

PHOTO BY SARAH KING

The 35-year-old will be Richmond’s youngest ever mayor when he takes office in January.

Siona Peterous
Staff Writer

Former Secretary of the Commonwealth Levar Stoney will serve the next Mayor of Richmond.

The mayor-elect won the necessary five of nine districts to win the mayoral election outright, fending off any chance of a runoff with former Venture Richmond director Jack Berry.

“Last night the City of Richmond chose a progressive leader to move our city forward and take our city to the next level,” Stoney said on Wednesday. “It is my commitment as the next mayor of the city to inject fresh energy, a new approach and new ideas to take this city to the next level.”

The 35-year-old won in surprising fashion. After coming in fifth and third in the two official polls during the election season, the former director of the Democratic Party of Virginia won the popular vote with 35 percent of the vote.

Berry was a close second with just more than 33 percent. Former Virginia Delegate Joe Morrissey, who lead in every poll during the campaign season, came in third with about 21 percent of the vote.

Stoney won the second, third, fifth, sixth and seventh districts while Berry took the first and fourth districts. Despite a challenging week leading up to the election, Morrissey was able to pull off victories in the eighth and ninth districts. Stoney said he was surprised by his win in the second district, which is mainly comprise of students at VCU.

“I’ve got to say the second district surprised me. We knew we were going to do well in the seventh district, but the second district surprised me,” Stoney said in his first press conference. “I’ve got to recognize the students at VCU who came out in force and supported my candidacy.”

At around 10 p.m., Morrissey conceded the race in a press conference, congratulating his opponents on a “very well-run race.”

“I was pleased to run with some really tough candidates and I want to congratulate Levar Stoney and Jack Berry, both of them are heading for a runoff,” Morrissey stated in a press release.

Morrissey, who has been unscathed by controversy in the past, could not do the same this time around.

A law client accused Morrissey of exposing himself to her 11 days before the election. The lawyer denied the allegation but admitted to exchanging

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Sports

Men’s soccer suffers in nailbiting finish

PHOTO BY ERIN GERTON

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Opinion

Trans Lives Matter

PHOTO BY SKYE ALI

See page 13



CRIME LOG

(All data obtained from the VCU PD daily incident log)

11/7/16

Theft From Building
Cary St. Gym. 101 S. Linden St.
Exceptionally Cleared.

Destruction of Property - State
1000 Floyd Ave.
Pending

Peeping Tom
Broad and Belvidere Resi-
dence Hall. 700 W. Broad St.
Closed.

Motor Vehicle Theft
9 S. Brunswick St.
Reported by Outside Agency

Simple Assault
1125 W. Clay St.
Reported by Outside Agency

Hit and Run
1000 W. Cary St.
Reported by Outside Agency

11/8/16

All Other Larceny
10 N. Linden St.
Pending

Impersonation
400 W. Grace St.
Reported by Outside Agency

Embezzlement
7-11 122 S. Belvidere St.
Reported by Outside Agency

11/9/16

Simple Assault/Abduction
100 N. Morris St.
Reported by Outside Agency

11/10/16

Destruction of Property - State
West Broad St. Deck 1111 W.
Broad St.
Pending

Obstruction of Justice
300 N. Laurel St.
Reported by Outside Agency

Sexual Battery
B900 Park Ave.
Pending

11/11/16

Hit and Run
822 W. Broad St.
Pending

Reporting suspicious or
emergency situations to the
VCU Police Department can
help solve crimes, provide
emergency assistance that
may save a life and help deter
criminal activity.

Download the VCU LiveSafe
mobile phone app to report
crimes anonymously.

To contact the VCU PD call
(804) 828-1196.

For an on-campus emergency
call (804) 828-1234.

For an off-campus emergency
call 911.

VCU, Richmond helped secure Clinton’s Virginia electoral votes

— continued from page 1

a college education favored Trump by 39 points this election. In contrast, during the 1992 and 1996 elections, Bill Clinton and the Democrats had a one point lead over the GOP on white voters without a college degree.

This may help explain the surprising twist to the demographic of Trump's voter turnout and consequential victory in states previously considered blue.

Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin all “flipped” in favor of Trump, despite President Barack Obama winning them in 2008 and 2012. In each of the latter states, the GOP gained the support of non-college-educated white voters by a double-digit point margin since 2012.

In other key states, such as Virginia, polls closed at 7 p.m., but the vote was too close to call a winner until nearly 11 p.m. Clinton ultimately gained Virginia’s 13 electoral votes, but only by a 4.9 percent margin over Trump.

The win in Virginia was dictated by small spots of blue across the predominantly-red state map. The blue precincts that swayed the vote in Clinton’s favor were primarily in Northern Virginia, the Richmond metro area and portions of the Hampton Roads region.

In Richmond, 102,766 residents showed up to the polls to cast their vote for president. Clinton had a decisive win in the River City — the hometown of her running mate, Tim Kaine — gaining 78.43 percent of the city-wide vote.

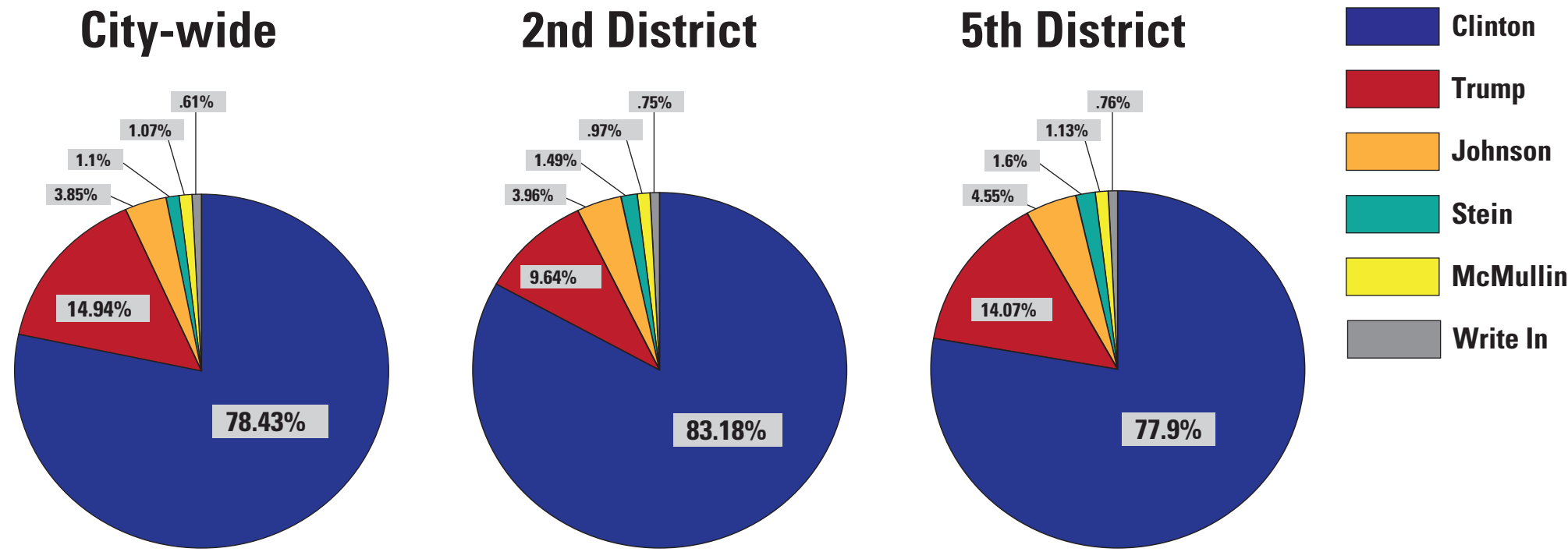
In contrast, Trump won 14.94 percent in Richmond; Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson won 3.85 percent; Green Party candidate Jill Stein won 1.1 percent; Independent Evan McMullin had 1.07 percent and less than 1 percent — 632 voters — wrote-in a sepearate candidate on their ballot.

In the areas of the city most-heavily populated by VCU students, Richmond’s Second and Fifth Districts, voters could be seen wrapped around the block,

waiting in line to vote, at nearby polling locations on Nov. 8.

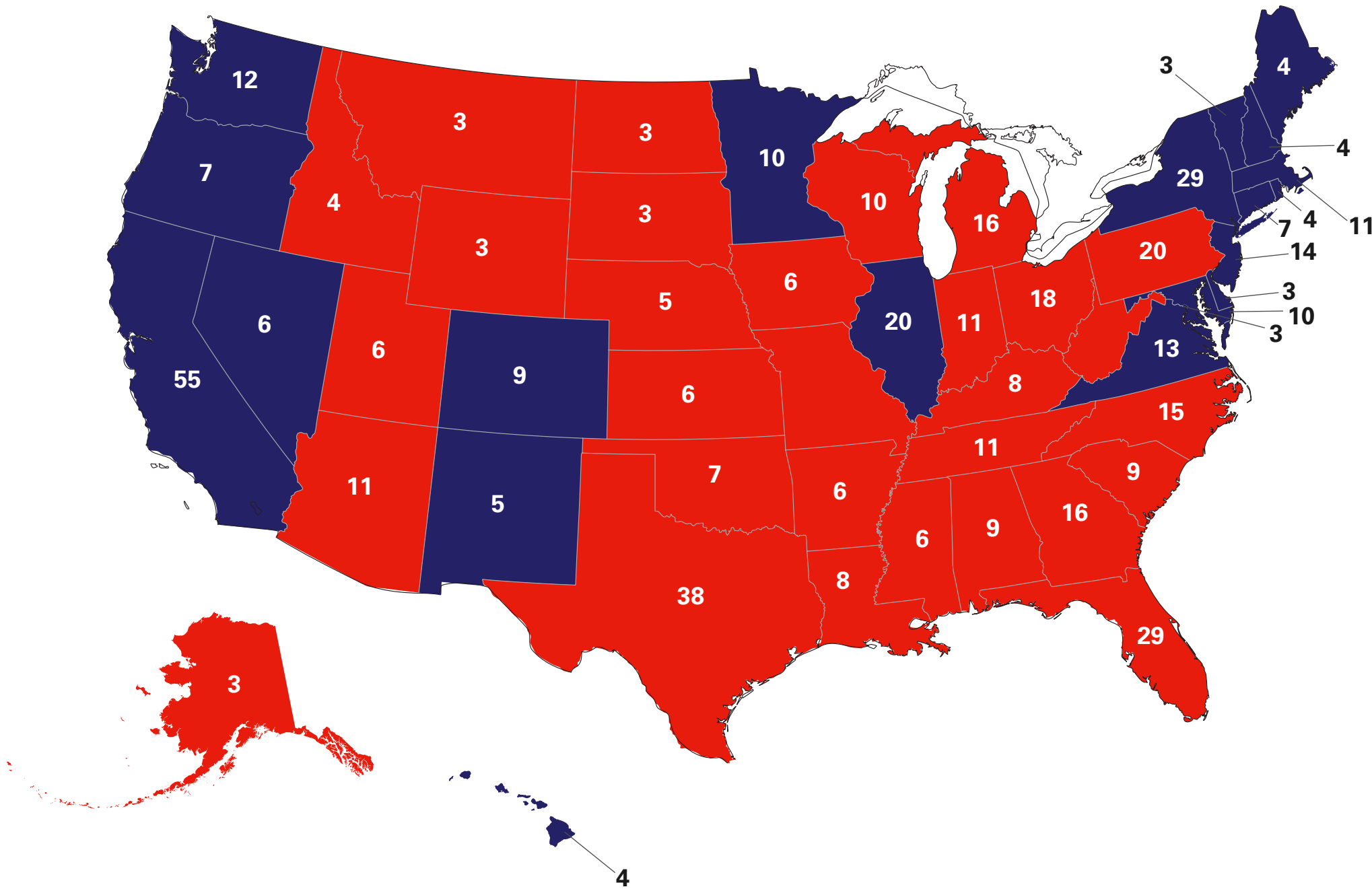
In the Second District, which largely encompasses the Monroe Park Campus, 13,094 people cast their ballot. Clinton won 77.9 percent of the vote to Trump’s 14.07 percent, Johnson’s 4.55 percent, Stein’s 1.6 percent, McMullin’s 1.13 percent and the 99 voters who wrote-in a candidate to again constitute less than a percent of the total.

In the Fifth District Fan neighborhood, 10,978 voted. Although the overall voter turn-out was smaller compared to the crux of VCU campus, Clinton beat Trump by a larger margin. Here, Clinton claimed 83.18 percent of the vote to Trump’s 9.64 percent, Johnson’s 3.96 percent, Stein’s 1.49 percent and McMullin and write-in candidates comprising less than 1 percent each.



Final national electoral vote count

228 290



McEachin wins Virginia’s Congressional 4th District

Brat trounces Bedell in the 7th Congressional District



PHOTO BY JULIE TRIPP



PHOTO BY ALI JONES

McEachin defeated Henrico Sheriff Mike Wade with 57 percent of vote.

Republican Dave Brat kept his seat despite a challenge from Eileen Bedell.

HIBA AHMAD
Staff Writer

Democratic nominee Donald McEachin brought home the win Tuesday night for the 4th District against his opponent, Henrico Sheriff Mike Wade.

The Virginia senator was welcomed by a cheering room full of friends, family and supporters at a watch party hosted by the Democratic Party of Virginia and Metro Area Richmond Young Democrats in Shockoe Bottom.

“This really is a dream come true folks,” said McEachin during his victory speech.

McEachin won the 4th District with 57 percent of the vote, while Wade had 43 percent.

After thanking the crowd, McEachin took his time to specifically thank his campaign’s volunteers for their work throughout the campaign.

He confirmed that Wade had called McEachin and given his congratulations to the senator on his win. In return, McEachin thanked him for a clean and challenging race.

“We know we’re out here making history and that history doesn’t come easy,” said McEachin.

McEachin currently serves as the senator for the 9th District but will now represent the 4th District as well, which includes areas of Chesterfield, Sussex and Colonial Heights.

At the time of his victory speech, Virginia had just been announced as a win for the democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton.

Early Wednesday morning the former secretary of state went on to concede to her republican counterpart, Donald Trump, who has been declared the president elect.

One of the notable characteristics about this election cycle, for national, state and local government, is the turnout of young voters. McEachin thanked the young adults for raising their voices and promised to work on issues that will directly affect them in the upcoming years, specifically climate change.

“They [young voters] need to know that they have a congressman who’s vouching for them and dealing with issues with the environment,” said McEachin. “The environment is the one issue that we have to grapple with that well will turn over to young people. It’s our responsibility to get it right.”

Republican incumbent Dave Brat saw off a challenge from Democrat Eileen Bedell last Tuesday to keep his seat serving Virginia’s 7th congressional district.

Brat won the heavily Republican district with 58 percent of the vote, compared to Bedell’s 42. The race was called for Brat a little bit more than two hours after the polls closed at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

As Brat’s victory appeared a foregone conclusion Tuesday evening, supporters, friends and family who had gathered at Keagan’s Irish Pub in Brat’s hometown of Glen Allen breathed a sigh of relief and the attention quickly shifted to the national election and Richmond’s mayoral election.

Brat turned heads in Republican circles when he upset former House Majority Leader Eric Cantor in the 2014 Republican primary to go on to win his seat in Congress. However a court-mandated redistricting earlier this year relinquished Hanover and New Kent counties – key bases of Brat’s support – to the 1st District, adding Powhatan, Amelia and Nottoway counties from the 4th District.

Brat dismissed concerns that this would have a meaningful impact on the race, saying redistrict-

ing “may have dinged (him) a point or two,” but he said he was confident of victory when he visited the new counties and found out they’re full of “strong, rural Republicans.”

Big poll margins for Bedell in North Chesterfield and central Henrico couldn’t compensate for Brat’s dominance in the rest of the district. With all precincts reporting, Brat and Bedell secured roughly 58 and 42 percent of the votes, respectively.

Volunteer Richard Roberts looked on as Brat delivered his victory remarks. Roberts said he’s been with the campaign since Brat was just an obscure economics professor at Randolph-Macon hoping to unseat one of the Republican party’s rising stars.

“Unlike other politicians, Dave has kept his word,” Roberts said.

He highlighted Brat’s consistent calls for action on balancing the national budget and imposing term limits, and that Brat retains an active presence in the district despite his new Washington job.

“And he’s no friend of Paul Ryan,” Roberts said.

“Dave’s kept his word and that’s the important thing for the people of the 7th District.”

Roberts said the race against Bedell was never going to be competitive.

“No one is buying Dave Brat, and that’s the important thing,” Roberts said.

Incumbents perform in City Council races

FADEL ALLASSAN
News Editor

A majority of incumbents won re-election to the Richmond City Council in last Tuesday’s election.

Reva Trammell was re-elected in the Eighth District with almost 79 percent of the vote.

In the Sixth District, Ellen Robertson kept her seat despite a challenge from Donald Moss, who was endorsed by the Richmond City Democratic Committee.

Fifth District Councilman Parker Agelasto won against Garrett Sawyer and Montigue Magruder.

In the Third District, Chris Hilbert, who was briefly a candidate for mayor, won re-election.

VCU alumna and two-term School Board member Kim Gray won her bid to replace outgoing Councilman Charles Samuels in the Second District. Gray’s victory over opponent Charlie Diradour was separated by 1,330 votes of the 13,037 ballots cast in that district, according to unofficial results. Rebecca Keel, another VCU alumna, came in third place with about 12 percent of the vote.

Four-term Councilwoman Kathy Graziano chose not to seek re-election in the Fourth District this year. Graziano will be replaced by Kristen Nye Larson, according to unofficial results. Larson came out on top against four other candidates.

The Ninth District Council seat vacated by Michelle Mosby, who ran on the mayoral ticket this election, will be filled by 49-year-old Village of Faith Church pastor Michael Jones.

Jones also competed in a crowded field that included Leon Benjamin Sr., another church pastor and bishop; Germika Pegram, a clinician policy consultant; and Marcus Omar Squires.

Monroe Park Campus representatives

2nd District 5th District



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY KIM GRAY

Kim Gray



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY PARKER AGELASTO

Parker Agelasto

Seismic changes on the School Board, Fifth District race still tight

FADEL ALLASSAN
News Editor

While the race for the Fifth District School Board seat remains uncertain, what is clear is the next School Board will have no more than two incumbents when its sessions begin.

Chair Jeffrey Bourne is the only member of last year’s School Board who is certain he will keep his seat. Bourne fended off challenges from Kevin Starlings and Jessee Perry to win more than 62 percent of the vote in last Tuesday’s election.

Fifth District incumbent Mamie Taylor has no such assurance in her respective race; opponent Patrick Sapini leads Taylor by 153 votes, according to the unofficial count at press time.

The race will not be decided until the official result is released by the City of Richmond. According to the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Richmond Elections Registrar J. Kirk Showalter said that “isn’t likely to happen before Tuesday.”

When the official result is announced, the losing candidate will have the chance to demand a vote recount.

In the Second District, Virginia Area Young Democrats Vice President Scott Barlow defeated Mariah White to assume Kim Gray’s vacated seat. Gray ran for City Council this election, and successfully claimed the seat in a three-way race.

Barlow, a 28-year-old Drexel Law School graduate, walked alongside anti-Trump protesters on Nov. 9. Barlow said he was pleased to see so many young voters in the Second District come out

in droves to visit their polling places last Tuesday.

“I think it’s fairly inspiring to see so many young people who are passionate and getting involved,” Barlow said. “I was really blown away yesterday. I spent most of the day at a precinct at VCU and saw hundreds of people wrapped around the block to vote.”

Liz Doerr won the First District, Jonathan Young won the Fourth District, Nadine Marsh-Carter won the Seventh District and Dawn Page won the Eighth District School Board seats.

Linda Baker Owen ran unopposed in the Ninth District.

Monroe Park Campus representative

2nd District



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY SCOTT BARLOW

Scott Barlow



I think it’s fairly inspiring to see so many young people who are passionate and getting involved. I was really blown away yesterday I spent most of the day at a precinct at VCU and saw hundreds of people wrapped around the block to vote.

Scott Barlow



PHOTO BY JULIE TRIPP

Richmond reacts

“No Trump, No KKK, No Fascist USA!”

Protests were held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in Richmond. Mayor Dwight Jones and VCU President Michael Rao encouraged students to keep the protests peaceful.

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A protester who only identified as “Tyler” said he and a group of anonymous friends created the viral image for the event, but left the direction of the event largely up to the protestors.

“It’s not about control,” Tyler said. “It’s about the people.”

The group of protesters in Monroe Park eventually spilled onto Broad St. and wound through the arts district and downtown. The VCU and Richmond Police eventually blocked off and redirected the group back toward campus.

But the protesters continued growing in numbers, and seemingly reacted in a way law enforcement was not prepared for when the group took an unexpected right on N. Belvidere St. and marched onto I-64 W, effectively stopping traffic on the highway.

The crowd emerged from the highway on the backside of Jackson Ward and stopped at VCU’s Cabell Library, gaining more chanting bodies before marching through Oregon Hill and taking an exit onto I-95.

Here, police were prepared on both sides of the highway. Most protesters hung back, while a bold few stepped up to challenge police.

“Department officers responded to the south side of the roadway and State Police responded to the north side,” said Richmond Police Chief Al Durham in a Nov. 10 email statement to the media. “Officers dispersed the crowd and made two arrests.”

Durham said at approximately 11:40 p.m. last night a large group of individuals walked down the Second Avenue off-ramps on both sides of the Downtown Expressway, walked across the travel lanes and sat down, blocking the roadway.

Meanwhile, dozens of police stood by with canisters of pepper spray, and the majority of protesters returned to the exit ramp. Police advanced and pepper sprayed the crowd, but dozens of protesters not on the highway were also injured due to the wind.

RPD spokesperson Koury Wilson said she could not confirm whether non-lethal weapons, including pepper spray, were used last night.

Haley Reynolds, 22, of the 1000 block of West Franklin Street, and Tion Edmonds, 18, of the 1180 block of Buchanan Court in Fredericksburg were arrested by RPD officers. Durham said both were charged with unlawful assembly and pedestrian in the roadway, were given summonses and released at the scene.

The roadway reopened at approximately 12:15 a.m. Thursday, according to Durham’s statement.

Meanwhile, protesters fled from police back up the exit ramp, and made their way in small clumps towards Monument Ave., growing along the way as students and nearby residents joined.

With phones illuminated and pointed outward protesters pooled at the foot of the Robert E. Lee monument, scaling its foundation and chanting “Fuck Trump! Fuck Trump! Fuck Trump!”

More protesters arrived by the minute, attracted by word-of-mouth and details provided by the hashtag #FUCKTRUMP, which was trending on Twitter.

After a moment of silence for refugees who passed away while seeking asylum, Americans murdered by police and protestors arrested and injured earlier in the night, the march made its way down Broad St. towards the state capitol and splintered into the arts district, downtown and VCU’s campus.

Police officers stationed along the route to the state capitol were equipped with gas masks and canine units. More than a dozen police cars trailed the mass of protesters on their way to and from the capitol.

According to VCU student Caitlin Ellmore, police threatened protesters saying they should “stop before we make America great again.”

The protest stopped at Broad and Laurel Streets, but Ellmore said police cars following behind the group continued to advance.

“One of the police cars tried to run through



PHOTO BY CASEY COLE

me,” Ellmore said. “I was yelling at him to stop. He was looking us dead in the eyes and kept running into me.”

Ellmore said police then accused her and her boyfriend, Mike DeBolt, of jumping onto the hood of the police cars.

“It was at the point the bumper was bending his leg. The cop yelled at him to get off the hood of the car,” said Ace Sarich, a witness of the incident. “He did. I could literally see him not touching the car. A five to six inch gap.”

According to Sarich, police continued to accuse DeBolt of touching the car, and he was subsequently arrested.

“Even though people all around were trying to tell the police (he wasn’t touching the car),” Sarich said. “Many people saw it. We were all telling them.”

Richmond was one of 13 major U.S. cities protesting as a direct result of Trump’s victory on Nov. 8 and Hillary Clinton’s concession Wednesday afternoon.

Scott Barlow, School Board representative-elect for VCU’s district, was observing the protesters on Broad Street around midnight. Barlow said he finds it inspiring to see young people passionate about getting involved.

“I was really blown away yesterday. I spent most of the day at a precinct at VCU and saw hundreds of people wrapped around the block to vote,” Barlow said. “So I understand where a lot of this frustration is coming from.”

Barlow said he’s also concerned about a Trump presidency, and hasn’t heard much regarding his education platform.

“I do think that if we look at how he has asserted himself throughout the campaign, he hasn’t set a good example for our country,” Barlow said. “I think we’ve seen a lot of bigotry and a lot of his supporters who are frustrated about the status quo and are channeling that in the wrong direction.”

Barlow said he was inspired by protests surrounding the Occupy movement while he was in law school.

“I learned that if we really want to effect change we need to get involved in the political process,” Barlow said. “So I hope to see that a lot of these young folks are channeling that energy into the political process and finding ways to get involved especially locally where we can make an important impact.”

In an email after the protest had quelled, Barlow emphasized he had only just become aware of vandalism on Monument Ave., and he does not condone that kind of behavior. Barlow said he was only aware of peaceful protesting at the Lee monument and march down Broad street earlier in the evening.



PHOTO BY JULIE TRIPP

“I hope to see that a lot of these young folks are channeling that energy into the political process and finding ways to get involved, especially locally, where we can make an important impact.”

Scott Barlow
Second District School Board



PHOTO BY AL JONES



PHOTO BY JULIE TRIPP



PHOTO BY JULIE TRIPP



PHOTO BY CASEY COLE



PHOTO BY AL JONES



PHOTO BY ERIN EDGERTON

Mayor-elect Stoney avoids runoff with Berry, Morrissey

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“flirtatious” text messages with her while he was engaged to his now-wife.

In 2014, Morrissey won reelection to the House of Delegates while serving a three-month jail sentence for contributing to the delinquency of a minor, who he is now married to.

Four days prior to the election, The Washington Post editorial board penned a scathing piece about the 59-year-old. In the article, the WaPo compared Morrissey to Anthony Weiner, the former New York congressman who resigned in 2011 when the first of his many sexting scandals went public.

“Voters can make up their own minds,” the editorial board stated, “but it would be a shame to elect a man, already a national laughingstock, whose odious behavior and scandal-smudged résumé would overshadow the city’s achievements.”

If no candidate was able to clinch five districts, the protocol would have been for the race to head to a runoff election be-

tween the two candidates with the highest share of the popular vote. For some time last Tuesday night, the race appeared to be headed in that direction

“**It is my commitment as the next mayor of the city to inject fresh energy, a new approach and new ideas to take this city to the next level.**

Levar Stoney

as Stoney had the lead in four districts.

A nail biting comeback in the sixth district, however, changed Stoney’s outlook when they race

was called after the last absentee ballots were counted almost 24 hours after the polls closed.

“While the outcome is not what we had hoped for, I know that Richmond will be in good hands,” Berry said, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch. “Richmond has elected a young, inspiring leader with a vision for the future and immense dedication to our schools and children. I congratulate Levar Stoney on his election as the next mayor of Richmond. I wish him the very best and will be pulling for him and the city.”

On Thursday, the mayor-elect announced the leadership of his transition team, which will consist of Tiffany Jana, the CEO of TMI Consulting and former Chief of Staff to Governors Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, Bill Leighty.

Thad Williamson, Associate Professor of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond and former Director of the Office of Community Wealth Building, will serve as the director of Stoney’s transition.



Levar Stoney as he entered his election night watch party at Wong Gonzalez on Nov. 8. Joe Morrissey conceded the race Tuesday night. Jack Berry conceded the next day.

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sports

Stat of the Week

Women’s basketball shattered its previous record of 2,259 attendees on Friday, when 4,132 screaming fans helped kick-off the season.

Women’s basketball seizes win for a record-size crowd



Senior guard Keira Robinson finished Friday’s game with an excellent all-around stat line — seven points, seven assists, six rebounds, two steals and a block.

NICK VERSAW
Contributing Writer

VCU women’s basketball kicked-off their 2016-17 season with a decisive 73-44 victory against visiting Coppin State University Friday morning at the Siegel Center.

Senior guards Isis Thorpe and Ashley Pegram led the way for the Rams, each posting double-digit scoring tallies with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

VCU head coach Beth O’Boyle said the playing experience of the backcourt was a major reason why the Rams were able to control the game against the Eagles.

“It’s just great to have seniors like

Ashley and Isis out there talking and being comfortable on the court,” O’Boyle said.

Senior guard Keira Robinson and junior forward Curteeona Brelove also played key roles in the victory. Robinson rounded out the stat sheet with seven points, seven assists, six rebounds, two steals and a block. Brelove dominated the boards with a game-high 10 rebounds, including five offensive boards, affording the Rams several opportunities for critical second-chance points.

However, the victory came down to a total team effort, as 13 different players each made their mark on the scoring sheet, helping the Rams hold a wire-to-wire lead.

O’Boyle said this sort of depth gives

VCU a serious advantage as they head into the new campaign.

“I think one of the things that’s great about this team this year is how balanced we are,” she said. “I think every game you’re going to come in here and there might be a different leading scorer or a different player that leads us in rebounds or assists. It really is exciting to have all those options.”

The VCU defense was stout throughout the game, as the Rams held the visitors to just over 30 percent shooting from the field and 0-for-13 from beyond the arc.

O’Boyle said she was happy with the performance of her squad, but admits there is always room for improvement.

“I was pleased with our effort today. Those first games you have a little bit of nerves and you’re trying to work through some of those things and there were moments that we showed how well we can play together,” she said. “We have a long way to go, but it’s always great when you can earn the first win of the year.”

The fans seemed equally happy to kick the season off with a victory, as a record-attendance of 4,132 had the Siegel Center rocking throughout the contest.

“That was the best part,” O’Boyle said. “You come out and there’s 4,000 screaming fans and it feels great.”

Nearly 30 Richmond-area elementary

and middle schools made the trip down Broad Street to cheer on the Rams for Education Day, helping VCU shatter their previous women’s basketball attendance record of 2,259.

“The atmosphere was beautiful,” Thorpe said. “The kids were fun. They gave a lot of energy for us as players to come out and just put on a show for the kids and represent VCU in a positive way.”

The Black and Gold host the second game of the season against University of Minnesota at the Siegel Center on Nov. 15.



Redshirt-freshman guard Samir Doughty contributed to the Rams’ well-rounded attack. Doughty scored 10 points on 60 percent shooting from the field.

Forwards sparked Rams’ win over UNC Asheville

SOPHIA BELLETTI
Sports Editor

VCU’s big men were the heavy hitters Friday night in 80-65 win over the University of North Carolina Asheville at the Siegel Center.

Forwards Mo Alie-Cox (redshirt-senior), Justin Tillman (junior) and Ahmed Hamdy (senior) combined for a total of 35 points.

“We threw that thing (the ball) inside and the big guys finished down there,” said coach Will Wade. “We did a good job on the glass and a nice job keeping them out of transition. I liked our balance scoring tonight and JeQuan didn’t even score a lot.”

The Black and Gold dominated the paint, outscoring the Bulldogs 44-30 down low and out-rebounding them 35-25.

VCU had 11 offensive rebounds, which fueled 13 second-chance points.

For the first time in 73 games, Alie-Cox was on the bench at tip-off. Wade said he started Hamdy over Alie-Cox simply because he was producing more in practice.

“We scrimmaged Virginia and he (Hamdy) was by far our best post player in that game,” Wade said. “What you lose a little bit with Hamdy is defense but I didn’t think Mo was guarding anybody. Mo’s defense had been terrible up until tonight. He played much better defense tonight.”

Alie-Cox came off the bench with a restored sense of energy. He collected six rebounds and led the Rams in points with 15. The Alexandria, Virginia native knocked down 5-of-7 field goals and 5-of-7 after the line in 28 minutes.

Still restless after the loss to Division II Queens University of Charlotte in last week’s exhibition match, the Rams showed more chemistry on both sides of the ball. The Black and Gold struggled with protecting the ball, getting it to the rim and guarding against Queens.

VCU had 14 turnovers Friday against UNCA compared to the 25 they had against Queens.

After VCU’s 75-73 loss to Queens, the players came to the mutual agreement that a players-only meeting was needed.

“Everybody just chimed in on what they can do better,” Alie-Cox said. “We just hit the reset button. Everybody came in with a whole different mindset, more coachable. Players were talking to each other, and everyone realized what we needed to do in order to be a successful team. We came out tonight and just played really hard.”

Wade said leadership emerged from senior guards Jordan Burgess, Torey Burston and JeQuan Lewis. The Rams appeared to be prepared better and paid closer attention to detail in practices leading up to Friday’s game.

“We just came together,” said senior guard Doug Brooks. “We were like, we’re not as good as we thought. Everybody needs to look in the mirror and check themselves. If we don’t, we’re going to have a bad year.”

Brooks played one of the best performances of his career as a Ram. The Wake Wales, Florida native recorded 12 points, four assists and three steals. His tight on-ball defense bothered the Bulldogs for much of the evening — VCU caused 13 Bulldog turnovers.

Junior point guard Jonathan Williams had 10 points and fueled a 10-2 run early in the second half that gave VCU separation after a tight first half.

The Rams took smarter, open shots in the second half, shooting 63 percent, compared to 48 in the first half.

UNCA kept Ram fans on their toes in the first half, nailing tough shots, meriting praise from Wade. “We guarded them pretty well and they hit some really tough shots,” Wade said. “I know we gave up 65 points but I think 10 or 12 of those points were really tough points.”

Junior guard Ahmad Thomas led the Bulldogs in scoring with 20 points.

“Ahmad Thomas is really good,” Wade said. “You know he’s Troy Daniels’ cousin? He’s a really good player and a great kid I’ve known him for a really long time.”

Wade and the Rams hit the road for the first time this season on Tuesday, Nov. 15, when they take on Liberty at 8 p.m. at the Vines Center.



Players were talking to each other, and everyone realized what we needed to do in order to be a successful team. We came out tonight and just played really hard.

Mo Alie-Cox
Forward, Redshirt-senior

TRUMPED: the sports world speaks out

Press Box

ZACHARY JOACHIM
Sports Editor

The sports world watched in aaw along with the rest of the globe as the race for the U.S. presidency came to its dramatic conclusion last week. Amidst one of the most tumultuous and controversial elections this country has ever seen, reactions to the results were fittingly emotional and varied.

The NFL and NBA are comprised of over two-thirds Black players. What’s more, coaches or executives who may not be able to understand the plights of these players first hand still understand them much better than many outside the sports world because they have spent so much time around people and in communities that have been affected by racism, classism and so on.

As a result, reactions from the two major in-season American sports to Trump’s election have, for the most part, been wrought with anger and dismay. Some dissenting voices expressed a desire to hope for and reserve judgment on our President-elect, while others portrayed a disenchanted indifference to the whole election.

MLB is not in season, but for what it’s worth, the World Champion Chicago Cubs have reportedly reached out to President Barak Obama and requested that they make their White House visit before his departure.



DeAngelo Hall, Washington Redskins cornerback

“I actually like Donald Trump the biz man. I guess we have 4 years to see what Donald the politician has to offer. Congrats Donald.”



Colin Kaepernick, San Fransisco 49ers quarterback

“To me, it was embarrassing to watch that these are our two candidates. Both are proven liars and it almost seems like they are trying to debate who is less racist. I’ve been very disconnected from the systematic oppression as a whole. So, for me, it’s another face that’s going to be the face of that system of oppression. To me, it didn’t really matter who went in there. The system still remains intact that oppresses people of color.”



Stan Van Gundy, former NBA head coach

“Millions of Americans don’t think that racism and sexism disqualifies you to be our leader. ... we should be ashamed for what we stand for as the United States today.”



Gregg Popovich, San Antonio Spurs head coach

“I’m a rich white guy and I’m sick to my stomach thinking about it. I can’t imagine being a Muslim right now, or a woman, or an African-American, a Hispanic or a handicapped person -- how disenfranchised they might feel.”



Brandon Marshall, New York Jets wide receiver

“We have a flawed man leading our country, and I think that’s a good thing because we try to put certain people in certain positions on a pedestal and we expect perfection. That’s not the case. There’s only one perfect man who walked this earth. It gives hope to those who are flawed. People get second chances. I hope he does a great job.”



Conor McGregor, Global UFC icon

“I just could not give a b******s, the whole thing is just weird to me. I don’t think anything is going to change.”



Doc Rivers, Los Angeles Clippers head coach

“The election didn’t go the way I wanted it to go. I personally know Donald Trump. I’ve golfed with him and I know him. I don’t think there’s anyone who runs for president that wants to do bad, I really don’t. So, you know, he won. My take on it; let’s give him a chance and see what he can do. You’ve got to give him a shot.”



Vincent Kompany, Manchester City F.C. defender

“WTF...let’s put all the idiots around the world in power and see what happens, next generation reality TV. #sadworld”



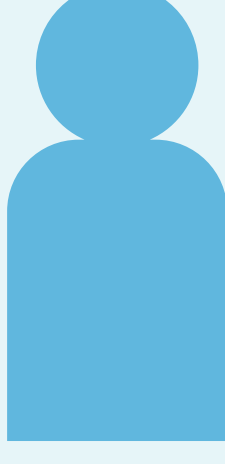
Lebron James, Cleveland Cavaliers forward

“Yes we all wanna lace up the boots, put on the hard hats and strike but that’s not the answer. Love, genuine LOVE and FAITH will be the only thing that can get us through this. Minorities and Women please know that this isn’t the end, it’s just a very challenging obstacle that we will overcome!”



Tom Brady, New England Patriots quarterback

“I talked to my wife. She said I can’t talk about politics anymore. I think that’s a good decision.”



Brandon McCarthy, Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher

“Tonight’s result affects me none because I’m rich, white and male. Yet, it’ll be a long time until I’m able to sleep peacefully.”

Pro golf returns to Richmond

NICK VERSAW
Contributing Writer

The Greater Richmond area hosted its first professional golf tournament in over 25 years when the Country Club of Virginia held the Dominion Charity Classic at The Country Club of Virginia’s James River Course Nov. 4-6.

“Richmond is the perfect place for our kind of golf,” said Champions Tour pro Loren Roberts. “You’ve got a good size community of people that love to play golf around here.”

The weekend’s festivities kicked-off with a pro-am event held Thursday before the official tournament Friday through Sunday.

Thursday’s pro-am featured local collegiate golf coaches, including University of Richmond’s Adam Decker, Virginia Union University’s E. Lee Cobble, Virginia State University’s William Perkins and Randolph-Macon College’s Ed Turnage. The foursome teamed up with Tom Pernice Jr., the winner of the tour’s previous tournament, the PowerShares QQQ Championship, in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

The Champions Tour event welcomed a stable of well-known golfers such as Fred Funk, Jay Haas and Miguel Angel Jimenez and featured three World Golf Hall of Famers: Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie and Mark O’Meara.

“This week, we’ll witness the season’s best here in Richmond,” said PGA Tour Champions President Greg McLaughlin prior to the tournament.

Proceeds from the event benefitted the Virginia Values Veterans, or V3 program, which aids transitioning military veterans by creating employment opportunities around the state.

“This exciting tournament provides our community with the chance to cheer on

legends of the game as well as honor our nation’s heroes,” said Jerry Jenkins, the country club’s president.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe stated in the event’s promotional material he thinks the tournament will provide a spark for Richmond and the Central Virginia region.

“PGA Tour fans from all across the country have traveled to Richmond to watch the top-ranked golfers in the world compete,” McAuliffe stated. “These events are essential to our tourism industry and contribute greatly to the new Virginia economy.”

While it’s been nearly three decades since the area last hosted a major golf tournament, the city boasts a rich golf history.

In 1945, Hermitage Country Club hosted the Richmond Invitational, where golf legend Ben Hogan shot a final-round 73 to win by four strokes. A decade later, the James River Course hosted the national amateur championship, which featured another legend in Jack Nicklaus, playing in his first-ever amateur tournament at the age of 15.

From 1983 to 1990, Richmond hosted the Crestar Classic, and in 1988, witnessed Arnold Palmer earn his last professional victory.

The top 36 players on the points list following Sunday’s final round advanced to the season-ending \$2.5 million Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

“I think it kind of resets the whole season,” Roberts said. “And with a real 50-yard dash here to the finish, I think it’s going to be great.”

Scott McCarron won Dominion Charity Classic after defeating Tom Byrum on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff, taking home the \$305,000 top prize and securing second place in the points standings heading into the season’s final tournament.

Volleyball drops final games



PHOTO BY ERIN EDEGERTON

Eight talented freshman have the future looking bright for volleyball.

JESSICA WETZLER Contributing Writer
SOPHIA BELLETTI Sports Editor

VCU volleyball faced a tough weekend on the road, dropping both games against Atlantic-10 top contenders. The Rams were able to lock-up the five seed in the A-10 conference and finished the season 8-6 as they look ahead to tournament play.

Dayton

VCU’s offense managed to compete with the No. 23 Dayton Flyers (28-1) but it wasn’t enough to come out victorious.

Sunday afternoon the Rams lost three sets to one at the Frericks Center, leaving the Flyers undefeated in the Atlantic 10 for the fourth year.

Dayton ends the 2016 regular season with the nation’s best winning percentage (.966) with its 28-1 overall record. The Flyers finished A-10 play with a perfect 14-0 mark. VCU moved to 18-13 on the season and 8-6 in league action.

The Black and Gold kept Dayton within reach all match. VCU lost the first set by four points and the second set by two. In the third set the Rams cranked up the heat and beat Dayton 25-17, the biggest deficit of the game.

Unfortunately for the Rams, the flame died and Dayton won the final set decisively 25-14, sealing their 17th win in a row.

The last time the Flyers and Rams met in October, the game ended in a similar 3-1 fashion with VCU’s lone win coming from the third set.

VCU hit .265 compared to Dayton’s .303. The Rams also recorded 53 digs against the Flyers.

Freshman outside hitter Vicky Giommarini hit .300 and scored 12 kills for the Rams. Freshman middle back Jasmin Sneed was a force to be reckoned with, hitting .533 with 10 kills, three blocks and three aces.

“Jasmin Sneed had another good match for us,” said coach Jody Rogers. “Our setters did a great job today. Good

distribution.”

Junior outside hitter Alica Kandler also provided 10 kills, 10 digs and hit .290 for VCU, while junior libero Rebekah Strange kicked in with 15 digs.

“Tough weekend against the top two teams in the conference, but we played better today than Friday,” Rogers said. “The girls had a lot of fight in them. We made too many errors later in the set. We need to be better later in the sets, and that’s what we’re going to work on this week as we prepare to play for an A-10 Championship.”

Saint Louis

Despite sophomore middle blocker Tori Baldwin’s six kills and six blocks for the Rams, Saint Louis handed VCU a 3-0 loss Friday night at Chaifetz Pavilion.

Freshman opposite hitter Gina Tuzolo swung a team-high seven kills for VCU while hitting .284. She added one block. Strange aided the Rams defensive effort with 14 digs.

Giommarini added five kills and hit .273 for the Rams, while Sneed recorded five of her own.

Billikens junior outside hitter and Atlantic 10 Conference Player of the Year candidate Danielle Rygelski put on an impressive performance Friday, blasting 21 kills on 33 attempts for a .485 attack percentage. Behind Rygelski, Saint Louis hit .384 on the night. SLU also served up five aces, including two by Rygelski.

VCU out-blocked Saint Louis 7-6 but that wasn’t enough for SLU to record .384 hitting while holding VCU to a .136 attack percentage. The Billikens also out-dug the Rams defensively 33-24.

The Rams travel to St. Louis to compete against in the tournament quarterfinals against No. 4 Duquesne on Friday, Nov. 18 at 8:30 p.m. The Rams last played the Dukes in Pittsburgh, ultimately losing 3-1.

Men lose A-10 final in O.T. penalty kick shootout



Senior attacking midfielder Jorge Herranz scored in the quarterfinal match. Herranz hails from Madrid, Spain.

GABE HAUARI
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team made a spirited run in the A-10 tournament last week. The Rams won their quarterfinal and semifinal matchups before eventually falling to Fordham University in penalty kicks in the championship game.

Quarterfinal: UMass

The fifth-seeded Rams began their march with a 2-1 overtime victory over the University of Massachusetts at Amherst on Thursday.

VCU senior midfielder Brandon Eaton equalized in the 89th minute, sending the Rams into overtime. Senior forward Jorge Herranz scored a goal from 30-yards out in the last few minutes of overtime to send the Rams to the semifinals. Herranz is second on the team with six goals on the season.

VCU outshot the Minutemen by an astounding 19-3 margin. They held UMass without a shot in both the second half and overtime periods.

"First off, all credit to UMass who are one of the most well coached teams we have seen," said head coach Dave Giffard "They played their hearts out and fought for 99 minutes. We got contributions from a ton of people. That's what we will need to have a chance to do it again tomorrow against an excellent Dayton team."

Semifinal: Dayton

On Thursday, VCU defeated Dayton 1-0 on a 28th minute goal from redshirt senior midfielder Dakota Barnathan.

Thanks to tough VCU defense and a clutch save by junior goalkeeper Pierre Gardan in the 89th minute, the Rams held off Dayton to secure the victory. Redshirt junior midfielder Luc Fatton notched his 16th point of the season on the assist to Barnathan in the 28th minute.

The Rams outshot the Flyers by a 9-5 margin, with eight of those shots coming in the first half. The clean sheet marked the fifth one of the season for Gardan, who made two saves on the day.

The win sent VCU to their second consecutive A-10 tournament final on Sunday afternoon against the second-

seeded Fordham Rams.. Previous to the win, the Black and Gold had last their last two meetings with the Flyers, including last year's championship

Final: Fordham

It took all of regulation, overtime, and penalty kicks for the A-10 champion to be decided, but Fordham's sophomore goalkeeper Rashid Nuhu was the difference for the "other" Rams, as they won 3-2 in penalty kicks.

Fordham had an early scoring opportunity on a header from just outside the six-yard box, but Gardan stood tall and made the save by his fingertips. Later in the half, VCU emerged and played a dangerous ball into the box but it was frantically cleared by the Fordham defense.

Each team recorded 12 fouls and two saves on the match, while VCU held a slight 11-10 shot advantage. Fordham took a slight advantage with seven corner kicks to VCU's four.

Eaton led the way with six total shots on net, while Herranz grabbed two.

VCU was the first to shoot in penalty kicks, and junior defender Steven Dal Molin converted. Fordham equalized and made it 1-1.

VCU's next two kicks were stopped by Nuhu and Fordham managed to convert one of them, giving them a 2-1 lead heading into the fourth kickers.

Redshirt junior midfielder Greg Boehme tied things at 2-2, giving the Black and Gold a new restored sense of hope but Fordham's fourth kicker put them back on top to make it 3-2. VCU's fate rested on the shoulders of redshirt-sophomore midfielder Eli Lockaby, but his attempt was also saved, giving Fordham the win.

"Our players played their hearts out not just this week, but all season long," Giffard said. "This time of year, games have to be decided somehow and unfortunately sometimes they go to penalties.

We say goodbye to a tremendous group of seniors who have left their mark on VCU and on our program. However, there is always a light at the end of the tunnel. We have a very strong group of returners and will get back to work right away to make sure that we get to play deeper into the postseason next fall."

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Your body produces roughly one liter of mucus each day.



“(Rams) in the trap sing McKnight” at Altria



“Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight,” which released on Sep. 2, is Travis Scott’s second studio album to date.

MUKTARU JALLOH
Staff Writer

Rapper Travis Scott headlined RamFest, VCU’s annual concert celebrating Homecoming week, on Nov. 10.

RamFest was hosted at the Altria Theater for the first time this year. The venue played the sold-out Homecoming concert, which featured opening acts DMV and 757-area rap artists, GoldLink and Masego.

Local FM station iPower 92.1’s radio personality Paris Nicole hosted the show and kept up the energy between artist sets. A radio DJ also helped hype up the crowd, which included a venue-wide rendition of the internet phenomenon “The Mannequin Challenge.”

Newport News-native Masego appeared on stage soon after with his live band. With his trademark “Trap House Jazz” sound, Masego not only rapped but played several instruments. While on stage, he played the saxophone and drummed much to the crowd’s delight.

In addition to performing his songs, “Girls That Dance,” “Throwin’ Shade,” “Love Be Like” and “Melanin Man,” he also did covers of classics like Floetry’s “Say Yes” and Frankie Beverly and Maze’s “Before I Let Go.”

A mere 22-years old, Masego is a rising star who this year has been touring all over the world, including a Europe leg.

After Masego’s set, things turned wild when concertgoers rushed the pit section of the stage. The concert took a brief intermission when a piece of the floor was ripped off as a result of a moshpit made by fans.

When the show resumed, Washington D.C. rapper GoldLink performed a short, fiery and charged set 30 minute set. In light of this week’s election results, there were many anti-Donald Trump chants.

Much to the crowd’s delight, GoldLink dedicated a portion of his set to this initiative, bringing a poster of the President-Elect on stage and stomping over it. Throughout his set, he performed his songs “Spectrum,” “Hip-Hop,” “Smells Like Teen Spirit” and the Masego-assisted “LateNight.”

After his set, the crowd grew antsy, pleading with “Where is Travis chants?” At about 10:45, the G.O.O.D Music rapper appeared onstage to a resounding applause from the crowd, proceeding to perform cuts from his brand new #1 album, “Birds in the Trap Sing McKnight.”

Scott played songs like “Way Back,” “Sweet,” “Goosebumps” and “Pick Up the Phone.” He also performed cuts from past albums including “90210,” “Mamacita” and “Upper Echelon.”

Known for his high energy and mosh-pit style performances, Scott didn’t disappoint the audience and repeatedly performed in the crowd. When a fan jumped on stage, he proceeded to close the show with the concert-goer, playing his hit, “Antidote.”

Richmond lo-fi artist DAZEASES releases first album “C R U M B S”



JESSE ADCOCK
Spectrum Editor

Richmond-based artist London Perry as DAZEASES released her first full-length album “C R U M B S,” an exploration into emotional patterns and romantic fallout through lo-fi pop.

“(C R U M B S) is definitely an evolution, a finer articulation of what I first started writing about in 2014,” Perry stated.

According to Perry, “CRUMBS” is an emotional study of parting with a former lover, and an exploration of her own construction of self-worth.

“For a long time I didn’t have a solid sense of self-worth,” Perry stated. “(I) let people into my life partially out of self-destruction and partially to take what I could get. I wouldn’t walk away and ultimately broke myself bending for other people.”

“C R U M B S” is an evolution of what Perry said she began writing about in 2014 when she began her journey as DAZEASES. She said she has since begun to incorporate increased feelings of anger into her mu-

sic, whereas in her past EPs has explored her sadness and disappointment with emotional attachment.

“I’m proud that I expressed anger on this album,” Perry stated. “If anything I see my anger as a sign of personal and artistic progression.”

“C R U M B S” is a collection of seven songs, which Perry said are composites of old songs, pieces she had until now only performed live, and entirely new content.

Perry said this project represents her growth in both production and composition, and places particular focus on honest expression. She said she’s uninterested in pretending she’s okay, or that she’s forgotten personal mistakes and past wrongs inflicted on her by emotional and sexual partners.

“This album, melodically and lyrically, most accurately represents me as an artist,” Perry stated. “I want to use this as a calling card, for people to be able to understand what I’m really about.”

Listen to “C R U M B S” on Bandcamp at <https://dazeases.bandcamp.com/>

Da-na-na-na *snap snap*

TheatreVCU stages A New Musical through December

MARY LEE CLARK
Staff Writer

VCU Theatre opened “The Addams Family,” on Nov. 11, and will run the show every weekend until Dec. 4.

The production draws inspiration from “The Addams Family” story, featuring the classic mysterious and spooky family living in New York City.

The original show ran on Broadway from 2010 - 2011, and continued on tour after.

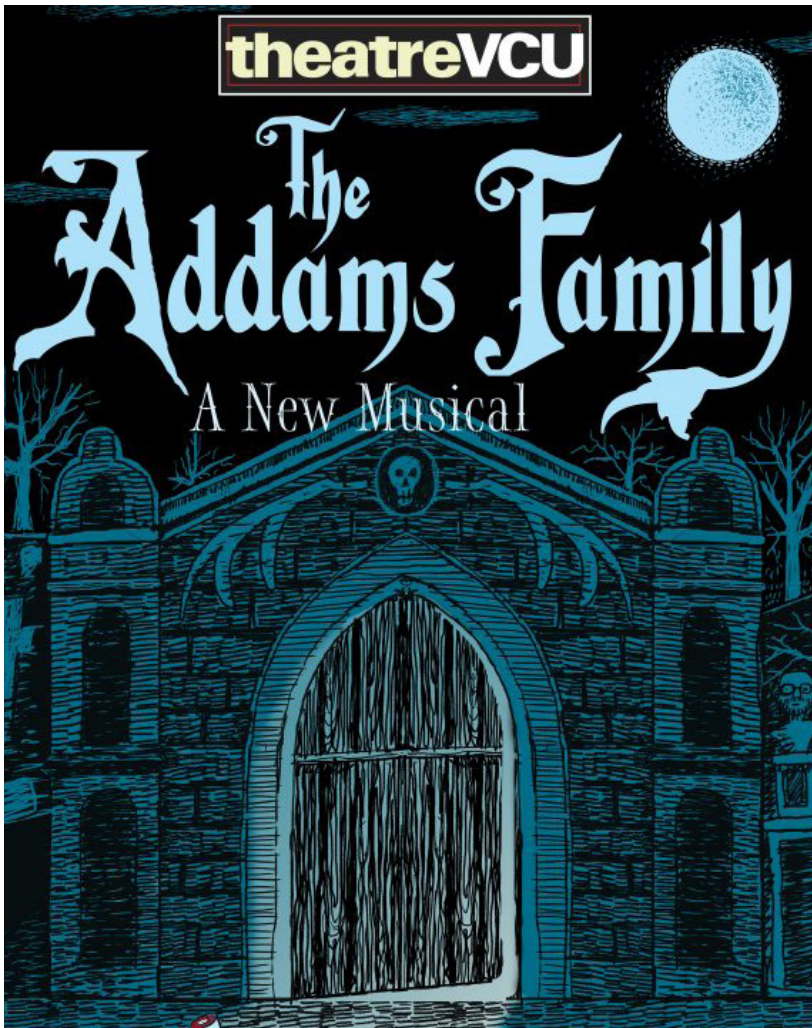
Wednesday Addams, played by Kaitlyn Tate, is now all grown up and has fallen in love and hopes to introduce her “normal” boyfriend to her “not so normal” family.

“Wednesday is growing up, and she wants to get married and she wants to be normal,” said Director Patti D’Beck. “The Addams family is very tipsy-truvy, upside down and macabre.”

Musical numbers include “When You’re An Addams” and “Happy, Sad,” and are accompanied by energized choreography by cast members.

The moving set in the Raymond Hodges Theatre is dark and cartoonish, to reflect the original Addams family which were brought to life in a series of cartoons during 1940’s in The New Yorker by cartoonist Charles Addams.

“The design and style of this is more like Charles Addams cartoons as opposed to the television series,” D’Beck said. “A little more suggestive and a little darker. But the design came from his drawings.”

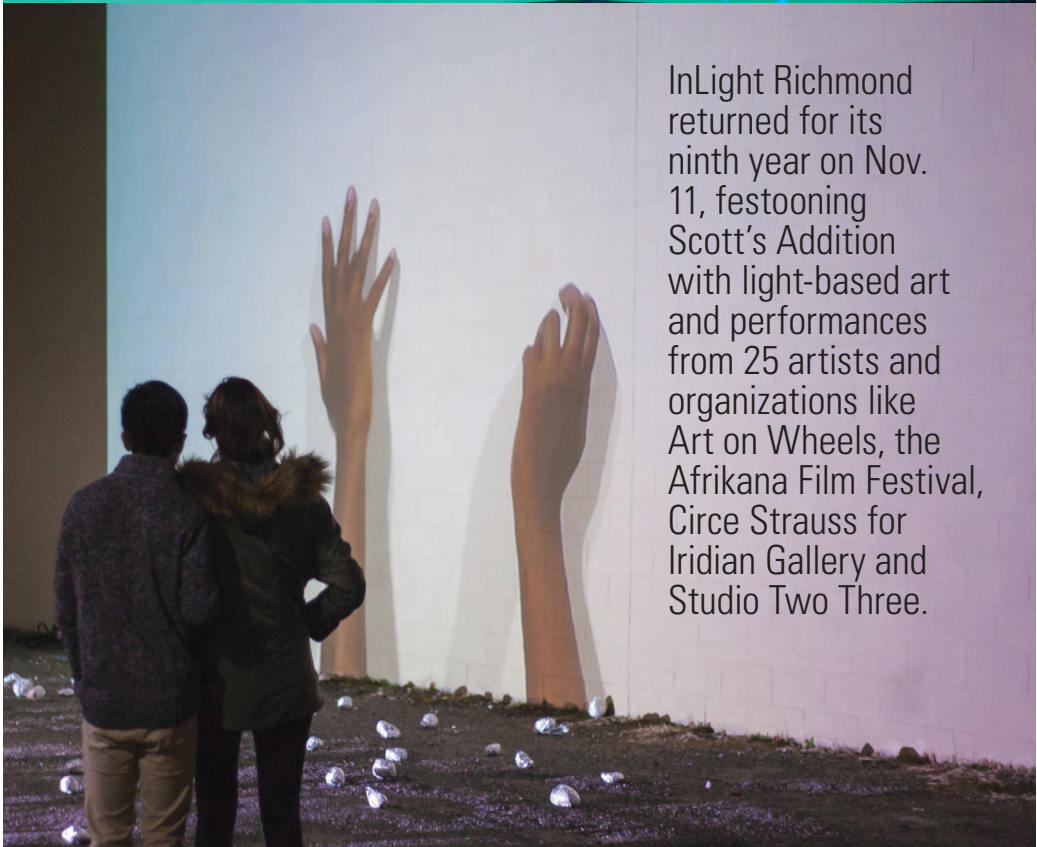
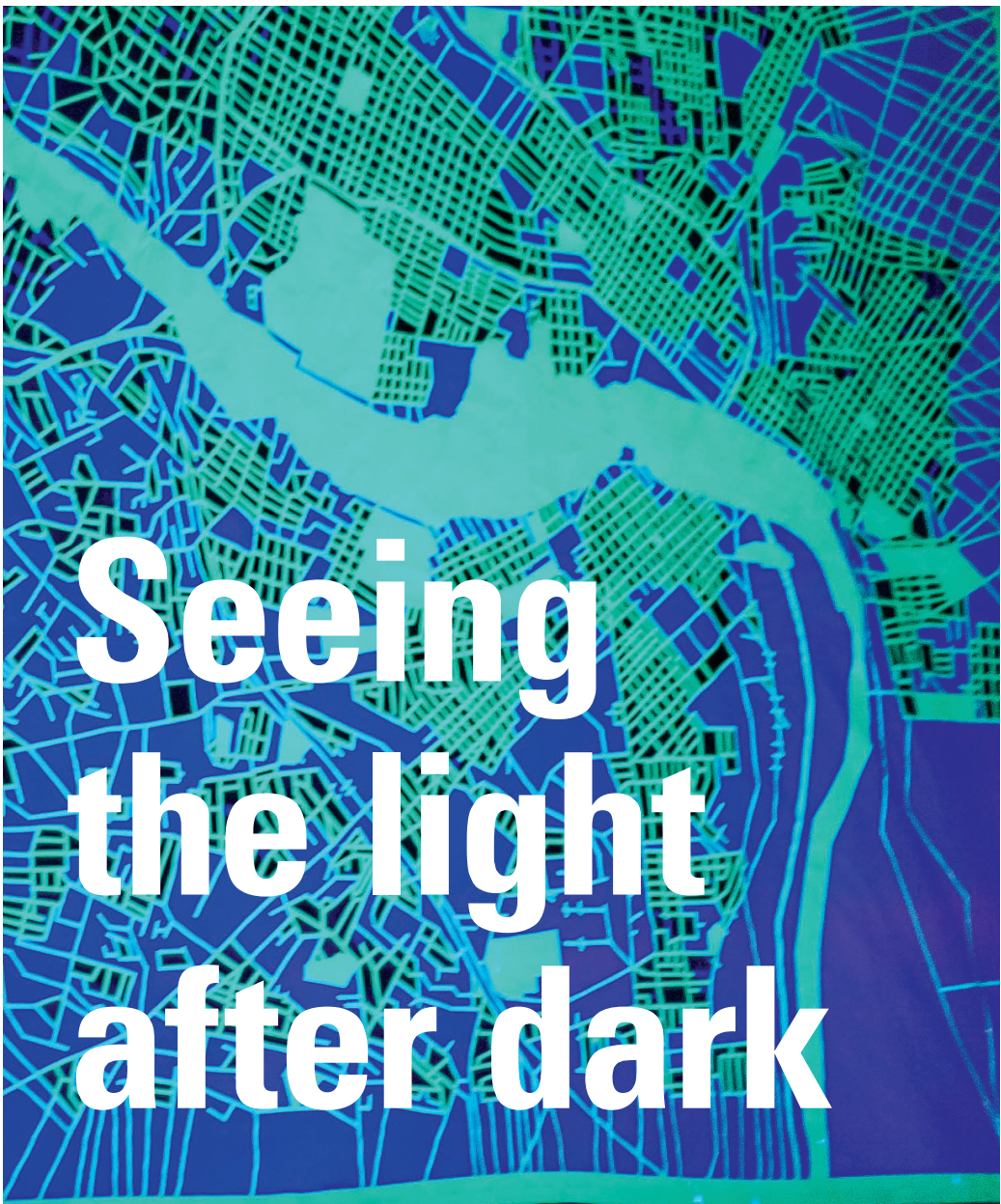


“The Addams Family” will run every weekend until Dec. 4.

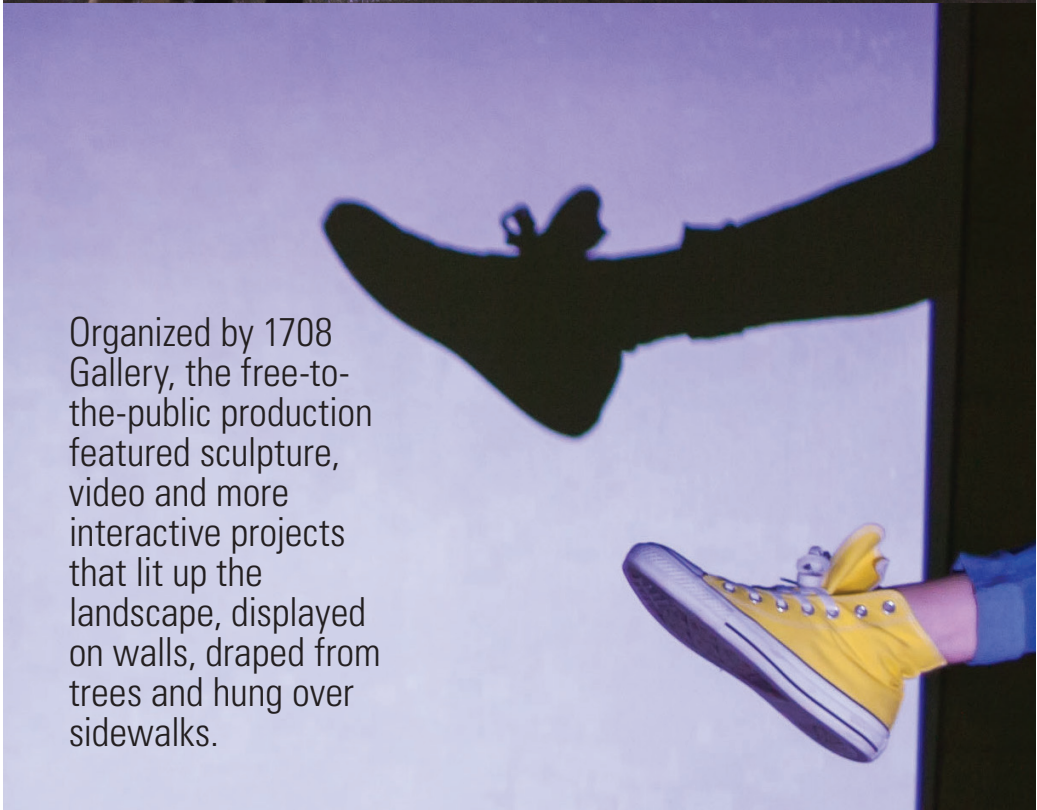
The cast is bills a combination of undergraduate and graduate students, except for Quiocasin middle school student Jay Davis, who plays Pugsley.

The cast encourages audience members to dress in costume, to complete the Addams Family feel.

The show is \$10 for students. For tickets visit VCU theatre’s website at <http://arts.vcu.edu/theatre>



InLight Richmond returned for its ninth year on Nov. 11, festooning Scott’s Addition with light-based art and performances from 25 artists and organizations like Art on Wheels, the Afrikana Film Festival, Circe Strauss for Iridian Gallery and Studio Two Three.



Organized by 1708 Gallery, the free-to-the-public production featured sculpture, video and more interactive projects that lit up the landscape, displayed on walls, draped from trees and hung over sidewalks.



InLight Richmond first debuted in 2008 to celebrate 1708 Gallery’s 30th birthday.

Administration speaks on First Amendment rights

VCU can not warn students about groups lawfully assembling on Compass

JESSE ADCOCK
Spectrum Editor

Sometimes, going to class can be exciting in the wrong way. Occasionally, the route to class through the Compass might inform you of your eternity of damnation to suffering and hell-fire. Other times, like on Halloween this year, some students are inadvertently accused of murder and publicly shamed.

Many students called on VCU for some warning when The Center of Bio-Ethical Reform came to campus on Oct. 31 and prominently displayed imagery of

“
It’s our campus and it’s up to all of us to do what we can.”
Sarah Gertler
VCUarts student

dissected fetuses beside victims of lynchings, hate crimes and genocide to make a statement likening abortion to genocide.

“It sucks that people have to experience it before we can fight back as a student body,” said VCUarts student Sarah Gertler.

Gertler was one of the counter-protesters who assembled to combat the rhetoric of the Center of Bio-Ethical Reform when they came to campus.

In contrast, Dean of Student Affairs Reuban Rodriguez said there’s no concrete mechanism to deny a group from assembling on



Students demonstrated in the Compass in opposition to a display by The Center for Bio-Ethical Reform that compared abortion to genocide.

the Compass.

“The only classic example (of denying a group) is if someone is going to advocate imminent violence,” Rodriguez said. “It’s kind of narrowly defined.”

With more than 30,000 students and 15,000 staff, Rodriguez said the university tries to tend to individual needs the best it can.

“We are the beneficiaries of a democracy and sometimes that can be very painful,” Rodriguez said. “Hopefully it’s another piece of their education experience to better meet the next challenges that

may come up.”

VCU administration can not warn students about groups such as The Center for Bio-Ethical Reform coming to campus, Rodriguez said, because it would constitute an unlawful limitation on free speech protected by the First Amendment.

“The University allows speech for all types of speakers,” said political science and constitutional law scholar John Aughenbaugh in an email. “It cannot restrict speakers whose content might offend some members of the University community.”

According to Aughenbaugh, the only terms the University can lawfully exercise over such groups are conditions of time, place and manner of assembly.

“For instance, the University and the Richmond police department can restrict and even prohibit speech at the corner of Broad and Harrison during rush hours,” Aughenbaugh said, “Because speech at that location at those times of day would cause a public safety problem.”

Gertler, who joined the counter-protestors on Oct. 31 in

response to the abortion exhibit, said the bigger issue is when groups spread misinformation.

“(The counter-protesters) formed a wall between students and demonstrators,” Gertler said. “If we are just able to provide unbiased information and break down the kinds of misconceptions these groups are trying to push, we can take it from an emotional fight to a rational one.”

Gertler said this is important to protect members of the student body that may have suffered emotional or physical trauma in the

past that makes them vulnerable to such groups.

“If you can handle it, there’s nothing stopping you from being out there and countering their misinformation. It’s our campus and it’s up to all of us to do what we can.”

VCU offers individual and group-setting counseling services available on both Monroe Park and MCV campuses. To find

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(P) 11/16/16 to 11/22/16	11/26/16 to 11/27/16	11:00am - 9:00 pm
	Winter Break 2016	
(D) 11/30/16 to 12/8/16	12/10/16 to 12/17/16	5:00am - 5:00pm
	Spring Semester 2017	
(P) 1/2/17 to 1/10/17	1/12/17 to 1/17/17	11:00am - 9:00 pm
	Spring Break 2017	
(D) 2/27/17 to 3/2/17	3/3/17 to 3/5/17	5:00am - 5:00pm
(P) 2/27/17 to 3/2/17	3/10/17 to 3/12/17	11:00am - 9:00 pm
	Summer Break 2017	
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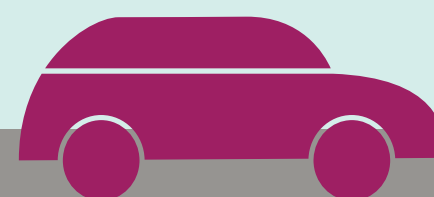
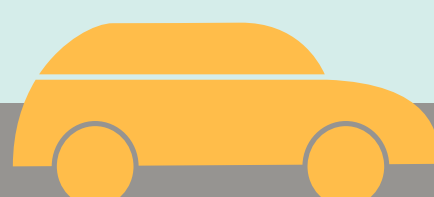
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4

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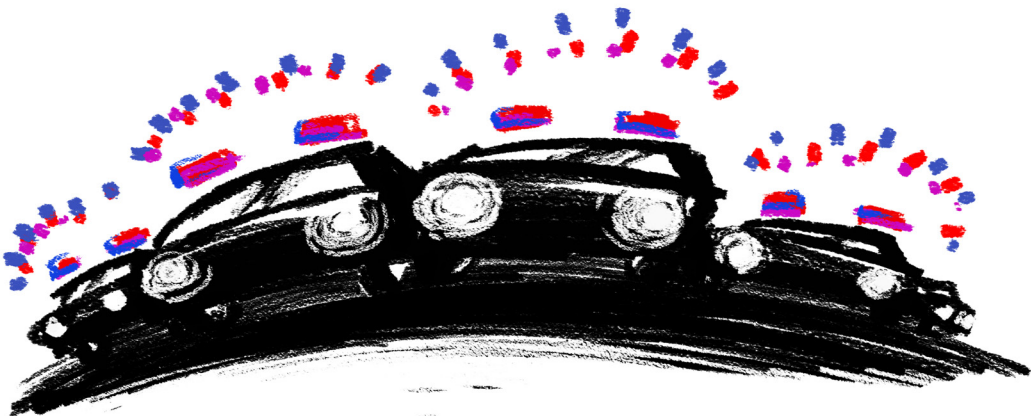


opinion

Quote of the week

“If you stand behind democracy and the first amendment, you have no choice but to also stand behind the right to protest. with.” —Eleanor Fialk

My way and the highway: Response to NBC12’s Curt Autry’s Facebook Post



ELEANOR FIALK
Opinion Editor

Devoured by an eerie silence and sense of disbelief, VCU’s campus resembled a ghost town as televisions flashed the message most students were severely unprepared for -- Donald Trump was voted the president elect.

It was not until the following day that students’ initial grief and mourning from election night soured into anger and backlash. Multiple protests erupted across Richmond on Wednesday night as students marched throughout the city and onto highways, chanting anti-Trump slogans while carrying signs demanding equal rights for all.

As social media exploded with videos and photographs of the protests, NBC 12’s Curt Autry took to facebook later that night to address the protests himself. In his post, Autry commended the police departments for their

handling of students’ “stupidity” and condescendingly implied a lack of parenting was to blame.

While both VCU’s and Richmond’s police departments did indeed handle the rowdy protests rather well, it was Autry’s patronizing tone many found offensive and unnecessary. “Trust me --”

Autry stated, “in many cities across the country, tonight’s stupidity would have resulted in tear-gas and busloads of students with their hands zip-tied behind their backs.”

No, Autry. I will not trust you. You refer to yourself as “a Richmond news anchor with an opinion” on your “fan page” yet that is contradictory in and of itself. Your responsibility as a journalist is to report the news, and to do so as free from bias as humanly possible. Your role is to provide the public with factual, nonpartisan information and to allow your audience to form their own opinion.

You are to inform, but never to persuade -- that’s my job.

Your disdainful post was both biased and unprofessional. You criticize students for holding their own opinions while your entire career is based on neutrality and yet you still spew your own judgments all over social media.

Your work is unethical and lacks any form of journalistic objectivity or credibility. Good ratings and high rankings do not justify a breach in ethics.

Aside from the fact that intertwining your opinions into your news reporting is intrinsically

immoral, the statements you make in regard to the parents of protesters and the practicality of protesting are speculative.

“Some of your precious children mistakenly believed that risking their lives by walking into the path of 70 mph traffic in the dark -- was a good idea,” Autry stated.

You make this statement as if many of these protesters’ lives were not already at stake by Trump’s election. Sure, blocking the highway and screaming profanities was not the brightest of ideas -- but neither was voting a man into office who wants to deport them, to take away their rights to their own bodies, to silence them.

Yes, the blocking of highways may be illegal but compared to rioting and other alternatives it is a far more peaceful and acceptable form of civil disobedience. If you are so immensely offended by their actions, you may just have a weak stomach.

These students, or “precious children” as you snobbishly referred to them, were exercising their

first amend-

ment

right to

protest.

Parents

of said

students

should not be

ashamed nor

embarrassed

of their

children’s

actions, they

should instead

be proud to

have raised their

children to stand

up for what they

believe is right.

You may doubt the

efficiency or the need

for protesting, but you

must recognize

protests are

protected

under the first

amendment and

play as vital of a

role in democracy

as voting. Protesting

provides individuals

with a platform for

their voices to be

heard when they

may otherwise not

be.

If you stand behind

democracy and the

first amendment, you

have no choice but

to also stand behind

the right to protest.

You cannot simply

pick and choose which

aspects you do and

do not agree with.

With that being said,

I will agree with Autry

in regard to the chants

protesters chose to use,

“F--- Trump” and “F---

the Wall,” were not

particularly classy --

but these protests took

place only a day

after the election when

the wound was still

fresh.

VCU students have

since shifted their

focus from rebellion

to activism and demonstrated

their ability to

peacefully protest

without vandalism or

violence.

Students assembled

in the compass on

Saturday afternoon

for “Richmond Grabs

Back,” a civil

and nonviolent six

mile march throughout

the city. Protesters

held peace signs high

in the air as they

chanted exclusively

empowering and

positive slogans,

including “They go

low, we go high,”

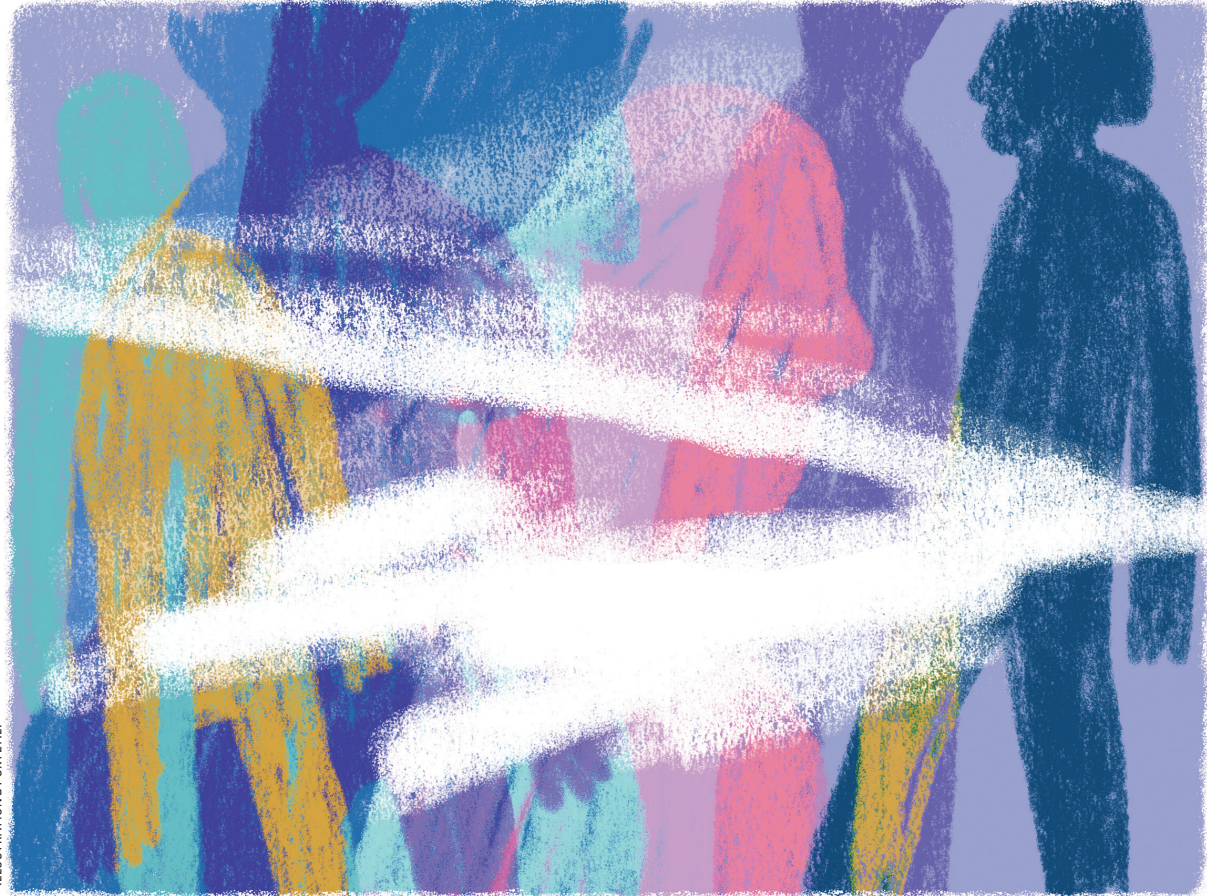
and “Say it loud,

say it clear, Muslim

lives are welcome

here.”

It’s time to rewrite the trans erasure narrative



SHAUN JACKSON
Staff columnist

Noonie Norwood was found dead after being fatally shot around the 2700 block of Hull street last week.

Norwood’s murder has garnered attention as it signifies the second LGBTQ minority killed in the Richmond area in less than a month -- The murder of Ava Tucker, a Henrico native, in October marked the first.

Recent murders aside, lest we forget Sage Smith, a trans girl from Charlottesville, has been missing since 2012, her case remaining unsolved.

While trans lives and those of minorities are constantly undermined by our society, the constant subjugation of the LGBTQ community must be advocated for, especially at times like this -- when the cultural climate in America has become as ominous as it was in the era of Jim Crow.

At first, articles published pertaining to Norwood’s death severely misgendered her, though some of these outlets had comments from the

Richmond Police Department who had spoken to Norwood’s mother earlier this week and was told by her that Norwood used female pronouns, since then Norwood’s friends and allies from the LGBTQ community have come forth to reaffirm that Norwood was indeed beginning the process of transitioning and seeking to become more active in the LGBTQ community in Richmond, making Norwood the first confirmed murder of a trans person in the Richmond area since the 2013 murder of Amari Hill, which also took place in Richmond’s Southside.

As people who are in the margins of our society begin to live in fear for their lives as a result of Tuesday night, we must remind a vast majority of the population that the lives of the disenfranchised are not disposable. While the existence and reaffirmation of trans identities coming to the forefront of the American zeitgeist, the crimes against them that have been occurring since the events of Stonewall must be spoken about in an unabridged manner.

While investigation in Noonie

Norwood’s death is still very early and still very much ongoing, I hope the Richmond Police Department and the city as a whole will finally become more responsive to the needs of city’s trans inhabitants. Not only do they face discrimination and subjugation on a daily basis due to a lack of understanding surrounding trans identities (and gender identity in its totality) there are very few places within Richmond for trans individuals to seek safety or to receive proper medical care for that matter.

People must come together to choose to maintain the beauty of equality and rise above. I was always taught not to regret because you can always grow flowers from where dirt used to be. Norwood’s death is extremely indicative of the internal struggle of the LGBTQ community has steadily had over the past couple of years: the actual inclusion of trans individuals in the movement.

A movement such as this inherently fails if any of the groups included falls behind. This is something to remember as we move forward and try to make our communities safe and conscious.



comics

SOME THINGS ARE STILL OK. by Emma Sullivan and Kelly Macrae





THE TIGER POPULATION IS INCREASING



INDIA PLANTED 50 MILLION TREES IN 24 HRS



BOB ROSS IS ON NETFLIX NOW



THE JUNO SATELLITE MADE IT TO JUPITER



DOGS PROBABLY DREAM ABOUT THEIR OWNERS



SOMETIMES GOATS WEAR SWEATERS TO KEEP WARM



HARRIET TUBMAN IS GOING ON THE \$20




THE OZONE LAYER IS REPAIRING ITSELF



POKEMON GO WAS FUN?

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Clear, concise and compelling contributions are welcome by email at houstonm@commonwealthtimes.org, by mail or in person at 817 W. Broad St.,

Correction: In last week’s issue, published on Monday, November 7th, the illustration credit on page 6 should have said “Illustrations by Jiaqi Zhou, Julie Wang, and Steck Von”.