

COMMONWEALTH TIMES

Volume 17, No. 11

November 13-19, 1984



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Editorial

Senator amends criticism

Dear Editor:

The October 30th issue of the *Commonwealth Times* carried a letter I wrote which directed strong criticism at the newsmagazine. Although my critique centered solely on the publication's weaker moments, it was not a dismissal of its better ones, nor of the paper as a whole. More than one of the writers cited in my letter have done quality work in the past, and the managing-editor, Ronnie Greene, has the formidable task of overseeing an operation that is understaffed and inadequately financed.

Taking potshots at something is the easy part—even perversely enjoyable. It is fashionable for students to sit back and be smugly cynical about everything from their government to their press. We tend to enjoy it because arguing causes more than finding and implementing workable solutions. It is one thing to ladle out criticism, and another altogether to take action to assist in a product's improvement. So, what can we do?

To begin with, we have a Mass Communications department which has nearly enough students to become a school separate from Humanities & Sciences. The *Times* can always use another reporter. No, you probably would not get everything printed which you submit, nor is it likely an editor will hold your hand or pat you on the back for a job well done—that is not what it is about. A large pool of reporters from which to draw bits of information and research, as well as occasional stories, would go a long way toward establishing a reputation for thoroughness at the *Times*.

We have English and Political Science majors who could contribute to the paper's editorial and proofing departments. Students of the arts could contribute original ideas for layouts and designs, while those with a gift for analysis could give us a wider view of the cultural events at VCU, from concerts to plays to exhibitions. There must be a few business majors who could use experience in ad sales (as well as the ten percent commission involved.)

For my part, as a senator representing the students of the College of Humanities and Sciences, I have begun exploring the possibility of rectifying a major handicap placed on the executive and editors of the *Times*. Currently, their work is done without compensation; the result being that time which might otherwise be spent organizing writers and stories, and polishing the newsmagazine as a whole, gets lost between the crunch of balancing scholastics on the one hand and a full or part-time job on the other.

This is not the case at any other major college or university in Virginia.

The editor-in-chief of U. of R.'s newspaper receives \$500 per semester, with the other executives on the staff receiving \$450. James Madison pays its top three executives \$900 for a semester's work, while Va. Tech offers \$500 per quarter (or \$1500 per year.) To offer our own editors absolutely nothing for their average 30 to 40 hours a week, and then

The Commonwealth Times

complain about their performance, is pathetic and hypocritical.

It is time we took another step toward shaking this school's inferiority complex. Our approach to our university paper, which to some extent touches every student at VCU, must be brought up to date. Make no mistake: Our paper is the *Times*, not some yet-to-be-seen publication controlled by the administration. We cannot demand quality, then sit back and wait for it. We must accept some responsibility for inspiring and maintaining the quality of a restriction-free press.

I invite reader response in person, through my message box at the Student Organizational Office (2nd floor of the Commons), through letters to the editor, and via the Student Government Survey which is due out at the end of this semester.

Jeffery Daniel Smith
Student Senator
Humanities and Sciences

Abortion a woman's choice

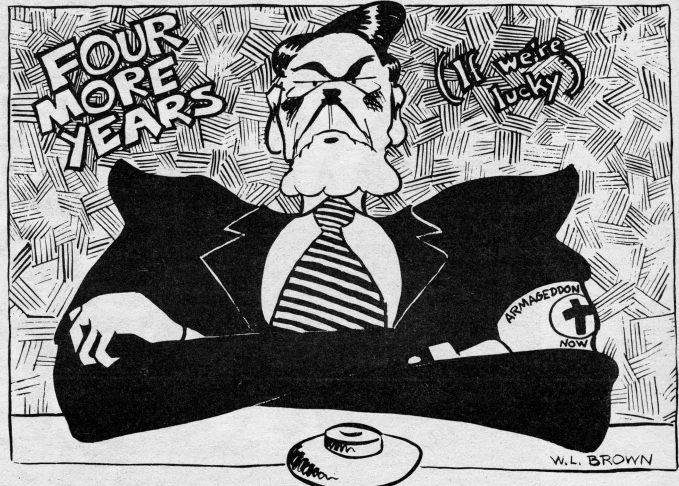
Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to your letter on casual abortion. I would like to first commend you for supporting abortions in the case of rape, incest or danger to the mother's life. Your support acknowledges in some way your concern for the woman. What you failed to realize is that in cases other than the above mentioned, it is the woman's choice to decide what to do with her body. I am pro-choice, or as you call it, pro-abortion. I must clarify this by stating that I personally would never have an abortion. This is my choice. However, if a woman should choose to have an abortion for any reason, you have no right to condemn her.

You made an excellent point that men are equally responsible for the consequences of an unplanned pregnancy. What you fail to elaborate on is that they are equally responsible for ensuring that these consequences do not result. If two adults choose to have a sexual relationship, they should both be responsible for birth control. The misconception that the woman will take care of everything does not suffice. I do not believe in abortion as a form of birth control. There are enough methods available to both men and women. People need to be aware of these methods and this can only be brought about through education.

Your idea of enacting a law "forcing the father to fulfill his obligations monetarily, socially and parentally," should a pregnancy occur, has very definite limitations. If the father is forced to support the child when he does not want to, the child may be supported monetarily but not emotionally or spiritually. The fate of the unloved child is in my mind worse than the fate of the unborn fetus.

Christina Ayiotis
Senior, Biology & Philosophy



This is VCU 'vacuous'

Dear Editor:

I trust you have seen *This is VCU*, the new publication designed to lure high school students to our university. In the tradition of modern education, *This is VCU* is beautifully presented and utterly vacuous.

I do not know how critically high school students read catalogues; perhaps they have developed antibodies that render them immune. But I am confident that they will not be well-served if we snooker them into believing that something of substance is being told them when we assert that VCU has a "personal atmosphere," that we shall "expose students to a breadth of interest areas," that VCU is "a university on the move" (nonpayment of rent, perhaps), or that the B.F.A. program in interior design is "oriented toward producing competent, creative designers whose realistic and inventive design solutions are based on human needs and considerations in the contemporary environment." One might forgive the School of Social Work for writing that it wants to prepare social

workers "dedicated to the enhancement of social functioning." Social workers may be too busy—they must "administer the delivery of social services"—to polish their prose. But to the polyglot who wrote that "Students who do not wish to major in language courses should seriously consider electing advanced language courses as a significant adjunct to their majors because of the career opportunities languages as a secondary skill offer," we can only explain that the inability to write English without jargon or fudd will not induce our students to fuzzle languages with us as a form of vocational training. Saying, "Even if you do not major in foreign languages, study some anyway; you will get a better job if you do" may not be elegant. It would, however, say what the author means without embarrassment or disguise.

This is VCU is a lamentable advertisement. Polished in form, vapid in content, it may indeed convince a few students that we can shine them up and fit them for careers, but that we can educate them? No way.

S. Johnson Jones

About The Cover

One-year-old Hyewon Gehring is as adorable a child as most. But his life will be much different than his peers, because Hyewon's parents are members of the Unification Church, better known as Moonies. An in-depth look at the Church, specifically in Richmond, begins on page 10

Photo by Mike Cope

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Shafer Ct. antics on election day

By Amy Satterthwaite
News editor

While voters were visiting polls all over Richmond last Tuesday, close to 100 VCU students gathered in Shafer Court. In what began as an impromptu campaign speech for President Reagan, evangelist Jeb Smock shocked, angered and humored the crowd of mostly students as he preached his philosophies on politics, morality and salvation.

Less than 75 feet away from Smock, the VCU Caucus on Peace was distributing literature from a table beneath a huge banner hanging from the roof of the Hibbs Building.

While the banner displaying the proposed 1985 federal government budget was eye-catching, it was no competition for the outdoor lecture nearby.

Wearing a three-piece suit and short haircut, Smock began his sermon by telling the growing audience that anyone voting for Mondale would, "surely burn in hell."

Several students surrounding Smock were wearing buttons pledging their allegiance to the Democratic party. They challenged the speaker as to his Christianity and his political authority.

"To be a good Christian is to be a good capitalist," Smock replied. There were loud groans from the group.

"Hey, I'm voting for Reagan and I disagree with you. There's nothing wrong with this girl standing beside me with a Mondale button on," said a clean-cut young male in the audience. "Who are you to say who God would approve of?"

As was the case with many questions members of the audience yelled to him, Smock avoided answering and changed the direction of his talk.

Homosexuals were next on his list of damnable sins. Managing to combine the topic of gays with that of capital punishment, Smock proclaimed homosexuality was a crime that should be punishable by death. There were loud protests from the group.

He would occasionally halt his dialogue to give someone a brochure; some were autographed. The pamphlet described his calling from the Lord and told about the book he wrote, titled *Who Will Rise Up?*

The handout told of a much younger and rebellious Smock—the picture could have been of any long-haired hippie—who was riding his bicycle through the parking lot of a Burger King restaurant in 1972. Somewhere between where the asphalt began and ended, the Lord made his intentions known to Jeb Smock.

"I am now morally perfect," he told the gathering.

"If you are modeled after Jesus," one student shouted, "did God tell you to alienate people?"

"He (God) told me not to bring peace, but a sword," Smock shouted back. There were hostile murmurings from the audience.

He brandished his sword several times by answering inquiries with comments such as, "Young girl, you have a boy's haircut. Shame!", and "You better judge people sharply because boys will say anything to get in your pants," to another female in the audience. There was laughter from the group.

When asked about the evidence for the theory of evolution, he said while staring at a male student with long hair, "The only evidence I have seen supporting evolution is here at this campus. Many of you look like the missing link."

"Jesus had long hair," answered several people.

"That's just in pictures and on television," Smock countered, "Jesus probably had hair like mine." The crowd was silent; perhaps wondering if he



By Richard Menustik-The Commonwealth Times

Jeb Smock delivers a sermon-like lecture in Shafer Court



By Richard Menustik-The Commonwealth Times

Smock's rantings have drawn a crowd of curious students.

was serious.

Meanwhile, at the much quieter Caucus On Peace table, pieces of cloth sheets had been cut into strips with messages written on them; turned into arm bands. "Ban Arms", "Johnny Doesn't Want Bombs In His Backyard" and "Ron's Wrong" were a sampling of the wearable signs.

Zonk Wasser, media coordinator for COP, denied Smock's allegations that protesters of the Reagan Administration were not Christians. "The peace movement is very much a Christian move-

ment," he said.

COP member Dean Buchanan said of the banner hanging above them, "We want to make sure people are aware of the 1985 budget. Three times as much money will be spent on useless hardware as is spent on human resources."

According to the organization's banner, \$370 billion will go to "military/weapons", as opposed to \$131 billion on "human resources."

While the arm bands designed to ban

arms were a popular item—the club had given them all away—most of the attention in Shafer Court was on Jeb Smock.

Several moments during his speech, there was a tension in the crowd; some students made threatening remarks like, "Where do you live?" However, when he had apparently said all he had come to say, Smock walked through the crowd, presumably to cast his vote for the President.

Booze abuse addressed despite small turnout

By Colleen Kearney
Staff writer

"I wish there was something hanging up around here, saying what all this is," said a chemical dependency counselor of her Richmond Metropolitan Hospital display.

With the VCU Student Commons hustle and bustle of chanting pledge lines, hungry students and long lines of Cashflow patrons, Alcohol Awareness Week went by with little awareness and minimal participation. Despite the publicity, lobby displays and free movies and lectures, the week's activities drew only a small handful of students.

According to Jennie Brooks, the counselor who manned the hospital booth, a few students came up and asked questions about alcoholism and the hospital. Many didn't seem to realize it was Alcohol Awareness Week, she said.

Tables and displays like Brooks' were placed around the lobby offering handouts on how to detect drunk drivers, estimating blood alcohol concentration levels and a description of the new drunk driving laws.

According to statistics from the VCU Alcohol and Drug Awareness Committee, 85 to 95 percent of students on college campuses consume alcohol. Of those students, 10 to 15 percent are negatively affected by the alcohol.

"Poor class attendance and performance, incidents of violence, accidents and strained relationships with family and friends," were some of the things named in a short article about the organization in the Activities Unlimited newsletter.

One of the lectures during the week was entitled "Substance Abuse and Relationships." The speaker was Lenore Gay, the clinical director of the division of alcohol services.

She called alcoholism a "feelings disease", explaining that those who are chemically dependent are "always chasing a feeling."

She also said she often refers to alcoholics as chemically dependent because "We don't see people who are exclusively alcoholic anymore. We are seeing more cases of poly-drug use."

In the Richmond area, there are 34,000 active alcoholics and 32,500 recovering, according to Gay. "I refer to them as recovering because it is an on-going process. One is never fully recovered."

She also pointed out it often takes more than one treatment for a person to maintain their sobriety. After the first treatment, chances are high the chemically dependent person will have a relapse in seven months to two years. "It is a very powerful disease, not everyone recovers from it," she said.

"Alcoholism is a family disease," Gay said. For every one person who is stricken by it, about three other people are detrimentally affected. These people can be spouses, children, parents or friends.

"The effects are enormous in scope," she said, "I haven't gone anywhere I don't meet at least somebody who knows an alcoholic. It gets to the point where I don't want to tell people what I do for a living."

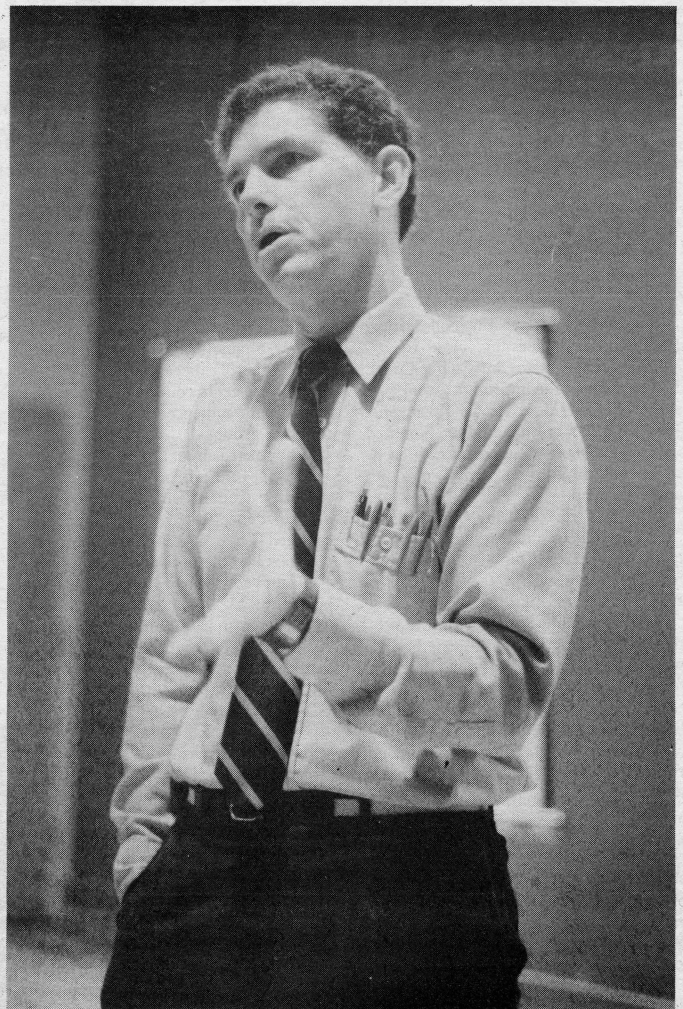
Gay also made an effort to dispel the belief that alcoholism is limited to the famous and the bums. "No one group in particular is hit," she explained, "96 percent of all alcoholics are working."

She also discussed a marked increase in the amount of female chemically dependents seeking treatment. She credited this to the fact there are now more women in the work force and women are more visible. When a housewife has a drinking problem, it is "behind closed doors" and she often has her family to cover for her, according to Gay.

Aside from talking about the statistics on alcoholism, Gay also discussed her approach to counseling. She works with the "whole person concept" developed by the Johnson Institute in Chicago, which has been studying alcoholism for 20 years.

The concept divides an individual into five categories: physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual and the will. While the physical component deals with the body, the mental relates to the person's ability to make conscious changes in his life.

The spiritual deals with the person's feelings about God, or "what gives their life meaning," said Gay. The person's



By Michelle Crowe-The Commonwealth Times

Dr. David Saunders speaks on abuse among young people.

ability to express their feelings is covered by the emotional component, and Gay defined the will component as "the power to be responsible."

A person who is chemically dependent has his will restricted and his physical body deteriorating. "As for the social, they may look like they have a lot of friends and are having a good time," she said. In reality, they have few friends and "mostly drinking buddies."

"When a person's primary relationship is with a chemical, it isolates them from other relationships. As it gets worse, they

become more preoccupied with the chemical and less with the relationships," she said.

In regards to their emotional side, Gay said they are often very hostile and angry, and the mental aspect takes up much time and energy.

"They are obsessed with trying to keep things looking like their all together," she said. Alcoholics spend a lot of time covering up and planning.

"People involved with a chemically dependent person need to educate themselves (about the problem)," she said.

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COLONIAL

Rapist sought in case

By Jodi Mailander
Staff writer

Police are still searching for a young black man who sodomized and raped a female student at knife point in the first floor bathroom of VCU's Life Sciences Building at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19. Police believe the rapist is between 20 and 23 years old, five feet nine inches in height and weighs approximately 150 pounds.

"We are working day and night on this case," says Lt. C.J. Palumbo of the VCU Police. "All of our officers have been given a description and composite of the suspect and a full-scale investigation is under way."

According to the police, the victim was

caught unaware Friday afternoon by the suspect who was carrying a set of books. Warned not to scream, the girl remained silent until the assailant left. Immediately afterward, she told a professor who then called the campus police. Officer William Fuller responded to the call along with the VCU Counseling Service.

Fuller said he was not shocked to discover that a rape had occurred in the middle of the afternoon. "Crimes can happen anytime," he reasons, "although this is the first time a rape has occurred in broad daylight on campus."

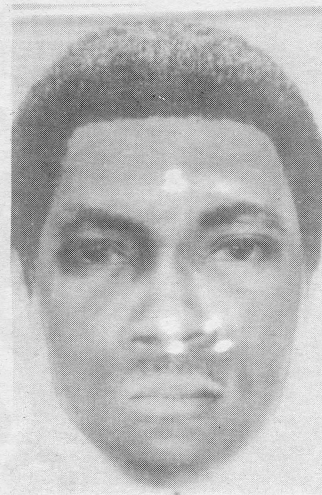
Going in pairs to the restroom is one suggestion Fuller makes for female students, but he admits that this is often impractical between classes. He also cites

mace as being an effective deterrent, although it does present a danger in itself.

"Someone should only use a weapon such as mace if he or she is practiced and skilled at using it," claims Fuller. "Many times a victim is ineffective and can miss the attacker's eyes, which only serves to anger the assailant."

Attending self-defense classes and rape seminars are the best deterrents to rape, according to Fuller. VCU currently offers several classes in Judo, Karate and other martial arts. Rape seminars are held throughout the school year at various posted times.

In the six years Fuller has been with the campus police, he has responded to six rape calls. The last rape on campus occurred Feb. 28, 1984 and involved a 26-year-old woman at MCV who was assaulted in the parking deck. The rapist in that case was arrested after returning to the scene of the crime the next day, and is now serving 30 years in the state penitentiary.



The above drawing is an artist's conception of the rapist based on known information. If anyone has information about the rape that occurred Oct. 19, please contact Lt. C.J. Palumbo of the VCU Police at 257-1209.

Shorts

Bomb threat at MCV

By Jodi Mailander
Staff writer

The following is the most recent crime report for the VCU campus. "So many items are left unattended behind unlocked doors it is unbelievable," says Sgt. Ralph Palmer, head of crime prevention for VCU, "Usually the victim is the only one aware of the crime and other students continue to be too trusting."

October 28

A window was broken out of a car parked behind Oliver Hall.

Someone was caught altering a medical prescription at the A. D. Williams Pharmacy, 1201 E. Marshall St.

October 29

Lady's wallet stolen from room 1056 in Oliver Hall; petty larceny.

October 30

A bomb threat was made to the main

hospital at MCV. The caller said, "At 10:30, I am going to blow up the hospital."

A telephone was stolen from the main hospital at MCV; petty larceny.

A Nikon camera and medical lens, valued at \$1,500 was stolen from a locked office in the Lyons Building at MCV; grand larceny.

A woman was knocked over by an assailant at 9:47 p.m. and her purse was stolen, containing several credit cards.

October 31

Vandalism occurred in room 1513 of Rhoads Hall.

November 1

Two purses were stolen from room 706 of Rhoads Hall while one occupant slept; petty larceny.

A desk clock, valued at \$7.00, was stolen on the sixth floor of main hospital; petty larceny.

Senate revises funding

By Amy Satterthwaite
News editor

Revisions of the Funding Committee's guidelines, appointments of students to various committees and the purchasing of buttons promoting VCU were discussed at the November 4 meeting of the student senate.

The Secretary of the Funding Committee, Charles Bruce, read the new policies his committee set forth, and the senate voted to approve them.

Two of the changes made were that the funding committee will not support campus Greek organizations or their auxiliaries, and funding for travel expenses various organizations would be kept to a maximum of 50 percent of room and board.

The senate is still discussing one proposed revision that would require a member of the funding committee to abstain from voting on the allocation of money to a particular organization if that person is also a member of the organization.

Senator Pat Hubbard was appointed


chairperson to the Appointments Committee which is responsible for making all appointments of students to university committees that need student representation.

There are several university committees at VCU, and Hubbard said her group must "interview applicants, make the appointments and train the selected students for the job."

Hubbard stressed the importance of student input on these committees, saying, "I'd like to see students competing for these positions. I'm looking for dedicated students who are will take their jobs seriously and are motivated to work. It's important that students are represented on these committees."

The senate is planning to order 5,000 buttons from the Richmond-based Top This company which will tentatively have the VCU logo and a phrase promoting the school printed on them. They will cost \$900 to order and be distributed free to students.

AUDITIONS '85



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Tickets available at Commons box office and at the door on the day of the show.



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Proceeds to benefit VCU scholarship fund
Tickets on sale at VCU Commons Box Office

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Folio

TUESDAY

Paintings by John Allan Stock are on display at Cudahy's, 1314 E. Cary St. The artworks will be shown until Nov. 20. For more information, call 782-1776.

It's not too late to make reservations for the "I Love a Mystery Cruise" to be held Saturday, Nov. 17. The cruise is sponsored by Richmond On The James. The cost is \$18. Send checks to Richmond On The James, 104 Shockoe Slip, Richmond, Va. 23219.

All accounting majors are invited to eat dinner at 5 p.m. in the second floor Hibbs Cafeteria with faculty from the accounting department. The meeting will provide students with an opportunity to discuss career plans. What better place?

WEDNESDAY

Want to be famous? Submit to the Richmond Arts Magazine today from 3 to 7 p.m. in room 307 of the Millhiser House.

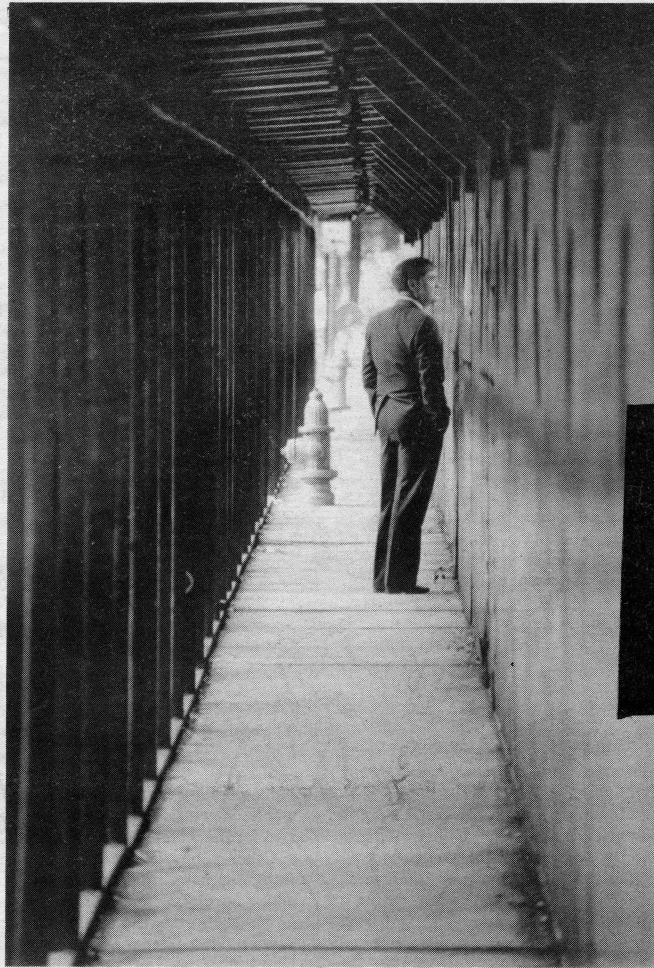
The New Virginia Review is sponsoring a program in the Poetry and Fiction Reading Series. The program is titled "Six Virginia Women Poets" and will begin at 8 p.m. at 1708 East Main St.

THURSDAY

The VCU Women's Student Organization presents "Woman in the Eighties," a lecture by feminist Gloria Steinem at 8 p.m. in the VCU Music Recital Hall at Grove Ave. and Harrison St. Admission is free to VCU students, faculty and staff. There will be a \$2 charge for the general public.

VCU Alternative Films presents Luis Bunuel's *Los Olvidados* at 10 p.m. in the School of Business Auditorium. This Spanish film represents a protest against conditions in Mexican slums. This film won grand prize at the Cannes Festival.

Those interested in a career in advertising should attend a lecture by Mike Hughes, Executive Vice-President of the Martin Agency at 5 p.m. The lecture, "The Last Thing You Want is a Job at the Martin Agency" will be held on the third floor of



By Michelle Crowe-The Commonwealth Times

the Martin Agency, 500 North Allen Ave., three blocks from VCU.

Can you get a ride to D.C.? If so, David Sutherland's *Paul Cadmus: Enfant Terrible at 80* is a must. Free screenings will be shown at noon and 6:30 p.m. at the Hirshorn Museum and Sculpture Garden,

7th and Independence Ave, SW Washington.

Come on out and support Rams basketball at the Richmond Coliseum at 8 p.m. Tickets are free to VCU students. The box office is open from noon until 2 p.m. and from 4 to 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Paul Bartel's highly acclaimed 1982 film *Eating Raoul*, which looks at sex, greed, modern times, and the quality of hamburger meat will be shown at 8 and 10 p.m. in the Commons Theatre.

SATURDAY

If you missed *Eating Raoul* last night, you get a second chance tonight. Showings are at 8 and 10 p.m. Admission is free to VCU students with a current I.D.

SUNDAY

Nancy Orr will speak at 6 p.m. at the First English Lutheran Church on Stuart Circle. She will discuss her past involvement with a religious cult.

Lady on the Bus, a Brazilian film by Neville D'Almeida dealing with a bride's discovery of her frigidity on her wedding night and her ensuing misadventures will be shown at 3 and 7 p.m. in the Commons Theatre. Admission is free to VCU students.

National Family Week begins today. The 1984 theme is "Families Strengthen America." The local observance of this event is sponsored by Family and Children's Service of Richmond. Bill Keane will not be there.

Entries close today for the holiday basketball tournament, at the Cary St. Recreation Complex.

MONDAY

Monday Night Football comes to the Common Ground once again at 9 p.m.

"Sermons in Paint," an art exhibition at the University of Richmond's Marsh Gallery continues. The exhibit is part of the Howard Finster Folk Art Festival.

Editors note: The deadline for all copy intended for the Tony award-winning calendar section is Thursdays at 5 p.m. Violators will be subjected to harsh ridicule and sent straight to bed without supper. Thanks!

Forever thinking like Tom Wolfe

It was the type of situation that Tom Wolfe would have written about in *Esquire* in the sixties: a famous, well-regarded author standing on a small stage in the middle of a basketball court, talking about architecture. It was an absurdity Wolfe would have relished.

In fact it *was* Wolfe out there on the court at the University of Richmond's Robins Center. And on the night Ronald Reagan received his resounding mandate for four more years, to boot. The author of *The Right Stuff*, *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid*, and the architectural primer, *From Bauhaus To Our House*, the arbiter of the New Journalism (he wrote the book, literally), master of the unforgiving metaphor, and sharp dresser as well, had returned home to Richmond to open UR's current lecture series.

Wolfe's mellifluous voice (with just a hint of a southern accent still clinging to his vowels after all these years) filled the gym for ninety minutes, holding forth on the topic of "The Avant-Garde to the Rear." Under this heading came an attack on America's "cultural amnesia," which included a note on the mainstreaming of the avant-garde, a quick swipe at the disappearance of amateur athletics in this country, and a good deal of dissertation on the last few decades of American architecture, accompanied by an extensive collection of slides.

Now, despite *From Bauhaus To Our House's* best-selling status, architecture is a rather esoteric subject to be lectured on, and one that could easily have led to boredom on the part of the audience. In fact, when the references to the exuberance of

the architects of the 1930's and the in-jokes started flying fast and furious, there were a few walkouts, as if Wolfe were just another lecturer with a boring subject.

Which he was, in a way. But his enthusiasm for some of the more beautiful specimens in his slide show (and his disgust with some of the more egregious), along with his clever asides and undeniably charming manner, carried the day. Wolfe really did seem taken with new uses of molding and the return of cleverness and subtlety to the architectural field.

And certainly he is sharp enough not to talk just to hear the sound of his own voice.

Still, one wondered if the whole thing wasn't some elaborate joke, a giant ruse concocted as a stab at the intellectual

establishment (whose cage he has often rattled). It wouldn't surprise me a bit if a similar episode turned up as a future installment of *The Bonfire of the Vanities*, Wolfe's current *Rolling Stone*-serialized novel-in-progress.

On the other hand, Wolfe really did seem sincere, and you can't blame him for not wanting to spend the rest of his natural life talking about astronauts and Phil Spector and the Haight-Ashbury.

One thing's for sure: with his white suit, white shoes, and the best haircut seen on a human being in years, Tom Wolfe certainly *looked* like Tom Wolfe. And, by leaving us guessing, he proved that he will forever *think* like Tom Wolfe.

—Rickey Wright

A MOON OVER RICHMOND

Story by Ronnie Greene
Photos by Mike Cope

The first interaction I can remember having with a member of a religious cult occurred when I was nine years old and walking through an airport with my father. While the two of us searched out a relative, a heavy set blond-haired female, about 20 years old, approached my dad and starting talking to him. The girl was pleasant, and before leaving us, had pinned a button to my father's shirt. Boy, that was nice of her, I thought. Apparently, my father disagreed. He was short and gruff with her, and within a split second of her departure removed the button and tossed it in a trash can.

At that time, I thought of the girl as someone who enjoyed good conversation and chose my uncooperative father to talk with. In retrospect, though, I realize she was a member of a religious cult trying to spread her group's word.

I know that because I have heard a number of horror stories about cults--about how the young people who join them have been brainwashed by evil-minded leaders. I have been warned to stay away from such people; to act just like my dad did 11 years ago. In short, I knew that religious cults were just plain bad for me.

During my first two years at VCU, I was constantly exposed to such *religious freaks* in the form of Moonies, members of the Unification Church. Everyday, it seemed, there would be two or three Moonies in Shafer Court passing out literature. Remembering what I had heard from friends and family, I did my best to avoid them. On the rare occasions when I was confronted, I made it a point to take whatever was being passed out and throw it in the nearest trash can. In a way, I felt like I was serving society by destroying cult propoganda.

Public reaction to cults has been overwhelmingly negative since their invasion on American culture in the early seventies. Researchers Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman, in *Science Digest*, 1982, studied the effects of cults on members and quickly called for "more deprogramming." In other words, the team was asking the public to help excommunicate young people from cults. The researchers added that cults "create information disease; [they cause] a high percent of nightmares, hallucinations, violent outbursts and suicidal tendencies," among members.

A 1982 article in *Christianity Today* centered its attention on *How Moonies win friends and influence people*. Written by Rodney Clapp, the story told of how Moonies "invite dignitaries to come to social events," knowing that the people usually decline via telegram.

At that point, Clapp noted, the Moonies take positive statements like William F. Buckley sending his "heartiest wishes," and former New York City Mayor John Lindsay writing, "New York appreciates the contribution of the Unification Church," and transform them into public relations gimmicks. Said Clapp, "A flair for public relations is probably the most important asset for cults wanting legitimacy in the eyes of society."

Massive murder chains by such cult
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Another form of opposition, said Frederick Sontag in *Sun Myung Moon and the Unification Church*, "came from parents accusing Rev. Moon of kidnapping their children."

Amidst all of the negative reaction to cults have occasionally surfaced positive reports. An excerpt from Saul Levine's book, *Radical Departures*, appeared this August in an issue of *Psychology Today*. Levine, a cult expert who had studied dozens of such groups for over 15 years before writing the book, stressed that cults aren't as bad as they are made out to be.

"Leaving home to join an ideological commune is a desperate move," Levine wrote, "but in the end, it is usually a benign, even therapeutic, experience."

Levine pointed out that 90 percent of cult members leave their groups within two years, but almost without exception, "rarely feel joining was a mistake."

I decided early this semester that the best way to find out about a religious cult was to actually spend time with one. My interest took me to 2503 Park Ave., headquarters of the Unification Church of Virginia.

Over a period of five weeks, I spent approximately 30 hours interviewing and observing Moonies. The members were candid and personable in responding to inquiries, and were more than willing to discuss all aspects of their religion.

The 30 full-time members of the Church live in two buildings on Park Ave. One is in the form of a large and imposing Church, and the other, a smaller connected apartment.

In the basement of the Church is the Unification Video Center, which is where the members spend most of their time. The room is dark, tranquil, comfortable and relaxing. Four 12-foot pictures of the moon and winter settings dominate the room. Visitors to the Church are welcomed

with invitations to watch videos dealing with the Moonie faith, discuss their religious beliefs, or question the Unification message. The atmosphere is relaxed; visitors are often times offered food and drinks.

In a way, the room mirrors those individuals who inhabit it. The members are relaxed and tranquil individuals who are at almost all times smiling. Contrary to popular belief, Moonies do not lack nourishment; in fact, members eat well and appear very healthy.

Founded in 1954 in South Korea by the controversial Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the group started weak, but membership has built to be stronger and more united with every year. The Church claims more than two million members worldwide, with over 30,000 located in the United States.

The beliefs the Church, outlined in Rev. Moon's *The Divine Principle* are centered around two aspects: service to God and a perfect moral society.

According to State Director John O'Conner, members are expected to devote their every working moment to the Church. Among the principle duties are "fund-raising," and "witnessing." Fund raising is selling flowers, pictures and other assorted materials on the street. The money raised by this activity totaled \$70,000 in Virginia last year, according to O'Conner, who said it constitutes 95 percent of his organization's revenue. The money goes to paying for food and rent for the members of the Church.

Other money, O'Conner noted, comes from national Unification headquarters and is normally allotted for specific programs such as media and science conventions and freedom banquets which help spread the Unification message.

The Church is also involved in organizational food drive programs with other churches, thereby helping to feed Richmond's poor.

Witnessing is when members venture into the city's streets and talk to people about what the Unification Church rep-

resents. Headquartered in Richmond, the Church also has localities in Norfolk, Lynchburg and Charlottesville. Traveling is as much a part of the Church regime as anything; members are expected to take daily, weekly and monthly journeys to other cities and countries to fund raise and witness.

Members normally wake up at about 6 a.m., beginning the day with a few hours of prayer. Later, many venture to the streets for a twelve hour work day, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., to fund raise and witness.

One of the Church's major tasks has been to create a favorable impression with other ministers, priests and Rabbi's. They have compiled a number of videos concerning teachings of Rev. Moon, and devote every Sunday to spreading their word to religious leaders in the area.

The Church also sponsors International Freedom Seminars, inviting leaders from nearly every religious sect to attend. The seminars are held in such places as Myrtle Beach and the Bahamas and are cost-free.

O'Conner says that response by other ministers is "generally good," but that only 10 percent become actively involved with learning the Unification teachings.

"The people I've dealt with have been very nice and pleasant," says Ginter Presbiterian minister Hugh L. Eichelberger, who was invited but declined invitation to one of the seminars, "but my perception in the past has been that it is something of a personality cult centered around its leader, who has certainly given the impression of significant manipulation of people in their lives."

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One of the more controversial aspects of the Church is the way it constructs relationships within the sect.

Working under the premise that pureness is goodness, members are permitted to marry only after two to three years of service to the Church. Once married, they are not permitted to begin a family until three years later, says O'Conner. Included is a substantial separation period between husband and wife. Says Verena Fluckiger, a nine-year member, "We have a pure period to build up a foundation extended on God. This, in a way, is an extreme--it is a period of deeper relationship."

The most unique aspect deals with *how* members are married. In July of 1982, Rev. Moon brought together



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O'Conner explained that there are a number of other differences that distinguish the Church. For one, Moonies disagree with the school of thought that says Jesus is God. "We believe that Jesus has a divine spirit of God in him, but is a human being."

The Church also believes that Jesus is the model for human beings, while other religions theorize that He can't be repeated. Finally, the followers of Rev. Moon are preparing for the second coming of Christ, which Moon has stated, "will occur in our age."

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In 1981, the Internal Revenue Service investigated Rev. Moon's tax status and found violations dealing with tax fraud. Consequently, Rev. Moon was fined \$25,000 and sentenced to 18 months imprisonment in Connecticut. To his skeptics, the indictment added justification to already negative beliefs. Clergymen nationwide have criticized Moon's propensity to mix religion with business, pointing directly to Unification business ventures such as the *Washington Times*, the *New York Tribune*, and the 1982 box office flop *Inchon*.

But to followers of Rev. Moon, such talk is nonsense. Members consistently placed Rev. Moon on a pedestal higher than any other living being.

Two-year member Peter Stewart may have echoed the view of Rev. Moon's followers best when he said, "He is saving my life. I'm tremendously grateful to him. What he's done is given me hope for a family and hope for the world."

The majority of my time during the study involved speaking individually to members of Church. I was able to interview six members at great length, posing the same 20 questions to five members and an additional 10 to State Director O'Conner.

During the discussions, members came across as likable and intelligent people; the answers appeared sincere and were often times contemplative. Each had some characteristics separate from all others, yet five of the six had the same rigid belief systems concerning their religion.

The first interview was with 29-year-old Verena Fluckiger, a Swedish woman who joined the Church at age 20 after being told of Rev. Moon and his principles by one of her brothers.

"The first impression I had of the Church was that it was complicated," Fluckiger said. "Soon, though, my interest became very deep. The experience moved me like none other."

Pleasant yet rigid in character, Fluckiger was raised in a religious family and spent time taking care of elderly individuals and children before joining the Church. She sees black/white racial conflicts as



Picture of Rev. Moon, his wife and oldest son decorates the Church.

a problem that must be met head first, "by all Christians, not just members of the Unification Church."

To her, internal gains heavily outweigh external ones. "I'm happiest when I feel connected with God and feel a purpose with God."

Twenty-three-year-old Fred Baylor isn't quite sure if he is ready to devote his life to the Church. Still at odds with at least one aspect of Rev. Moon's teachings, Baylor has served for the past half-year as a part-time member, which means he doesn't live in the Church and carry as many responsibilities as full-time members.

A thin black man, Baylor is polite and contemplative. Raised in Hanover County, he spends much of his time working around his house and taking care of his grandparents.

When he is not at home, Baylor can often be found at the Moonie headquarters. Approached on the street one year ago, Baylor was educated by the Church and invited to attend Unification workshops and meetings.

After contemplation, Baylor decided to visit the Church and said what he was told, "seemed to make a lot of sense." Still, he remained undecided as to whether to join until one night, he "had a dream that I'd become a member—I couldn't believe it. Something told me that I should try it out."

After deciding to serve full-time, Baylor changed his mind. "I just can't get enough purpose out of it right now," he says, but added, "I'd like to become full-time someday."

Raised in a Baptist Church, he enjoys the idea that Moonies "spread joy, peace

and love to people." Still, Baylor has difficulty understanding the manner in which relationships are conducted.

"That's the part I still don't understand—the fact that you have to wait three years to get married and then three more to begin a family."

British descendant Peter John Graham has always said that he wanted to marry a woman from another country. So when the opportunity to marry an oriental woman was given to him in 1980, Graham was ecstatic.

Today, Graham is still delighted about his relationship with his wife, who lives in England. For her birthday, he recently sent her a card with a picture of a street that has signs saying, "I love you," everywhere.

"We've really developed a good relationship," Graham says. "I trust her 100 percent and am doing my best to make myself trustworthy, also."

Growing up, Graham was interested first and foremost in music. Although having, "strong religious beliefs," he went to Church only on special occasions.

Approached in London by a member of the Church in 1975, Graham's interest was immediately heightened. "The girl's first words were, 'Are you interested in the world's problems?' The mere fact that she asked me got me interested."

Shortly thereafter, Graham says he "had an experience with prayer, telling me God was there. I felt a warmth coming to me that was very strong and powerful."

Very sure of himself, the 32-year-old takes regular trips to Lynchburg, where he hopes to create a solid Moonie backing by teaching interested people about the

Unification message. While both of his parents are associate members in England, Graham says the best thing the Church can do for him is to, "get my spiritual life organized. I want to be the best person I can be."

Graham denied allegations that members are brainwashed, and added, "My mind was pretty dirty before I came to the Church and to wash it out was a good idea."

An intelligent and sincere individual, Peter Stewart's character is dominated by an external nervousness. Although contemplative by nature, Stewart's voice is shaky and, at times, uneven.

As a child in California, Stewart grew up in a home dominated with tension. "I had an unusual family life," Stewart concedes. "My father was disabled when I was 7 years old, and was forced to always stay at home while my mother worked."

That, he says, made his father frustrated and created an uneasiness "throughout the whole family." A few years later, he became interested in Rock-n-Roll and began regularly using drugs.

To make matters worse, Stewart attended a high school that was one-third black, one-third white, one-third Mexican, and racially tense. "Every year, there were riots at school; I really didn't accomplish much."

Lacking direction in his life, Stewart decided at the age of 25 that change was needed. After years of traveling and looking into various religions and cults, Stewart says he has finally found a home in the Unification Church. He says the relationships that brothers and sisters of the Church share are very important to

see CHURCH, page 17

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"We've really developed a good relationship," Graham says. "I trust her 100 percent and am doing my best to make myself trustworthy, also."

Growing up, Graham was interested first and foremost in music. Although having, "strong religious beliefs," he went to Church only on special occasions.

Approached in London by a member of the Church in 1975, Graham's interest was immediately heightened. "The girl's first words were, 'Are you interested in the world's problems?' The mere fact that she asked me got me interested."

Shortly thereafter, Graham says he "had an experience with prayer, telling me God was there. I felt a warmth coming to me that was very strong and powerful."

Very sure of himself, the 32-year-old takes regular trips to Lynchburg, where he hopes to create a solid Moonie backing by teaching interested people about the

Unification message. While both of his parents are associate members in England, Graham says the best thing the Church can do for him is to, "get my spiritual life organized. I want to be the best person I can be."

Graham denied allegations that members are brainwashed, and added, "My mind was pretty dirty before I came to the Church and to wash it out was a good idea."

An intelligent and sincere individual, Peter Stewart's character is dominated by an external nervousness. Although contemplative by nature, Stewart's voice is shaky and, at times, uneven.

As a child in California, Stewart grew up in a home dominated with tension. "I had an unusual family life," Stewart concedes. "My father was disabled when I was 7 years old, and was forced to always stay at home while my mother worked."

That, he says, made his father frustrated and created an uneasiness "throughout the whole family." A few years later, he became interested in Rock-n-Roll and began regularly using drugs.

To make matters worse, Stewart attended a high school that was one-third black, one-third white, one-third Mexican, and racially tense. "Every year, there were riots at school; I really didn't accomplish much."

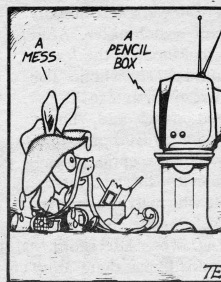
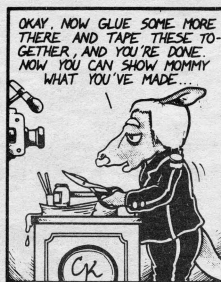
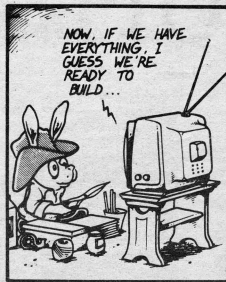
Lacking direction in his life, Stewart decided at the age of 25 that change was needed. After years of traveling and looking into various religions and cults, Stewart says he has finally found a home in the Unification Church. He says the relationships that brothers and sisters of the Church share are very important to

see CHURCH, page 17

November 13-19, 1984

Suburban Tails

by
Tom
Edwards



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Sports

Coaches agree, from Sun Belt's top to bottom

HAMPTON — Luckily, the Sun Belt Conference championship tournament doesn't get under way at the Hampton Coliseum until March. By then, the echoes rebounding around the Sheraton-Coliseum Hotel during the conference's Media Day last Wednesday will have stopped.

"This is going to be the strongest field from top to bottom in the Sun Belt," Old Dominion coach Paul Webb said.

"The league is so good from top to bottom, it makes the job of an incoming coach that much tougher," said first-year South Alabama coach Mike Hanks.

"We'll be better," VCU coach J.D. Barnett said, "but the league is very strong from top to bottom."

Rich Radford

The words "top to bottom" were repeated so many times during the day that it sounded as if each coach were trying for the voice of the man that repeats a phone number 13 times during a 30-second commercial.

The writers in attendance were no better when it came to voting for the preseason all-conference squad. Their selections mirrored last year's postseason all-conference team as they picked South

Alabama's Terry Catledge, VCU's Calvin Duncan, South Florida's Charles Bradley, Jacksonville's Ronnie Murphy and Alabama-Birmingham's Steve Mitchell.

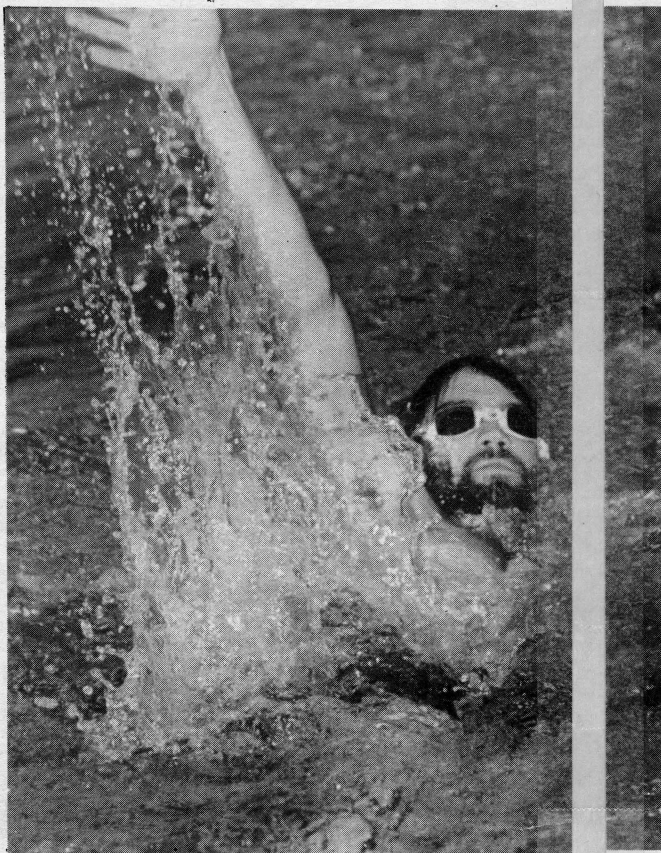
In the coaches balloting for the preseason poll, VCU was picked to win the conference, with UAB and Old Dominion tied for second, followed by South Alabama, Western Kentucky, Jacksonville, South Florida and Sun Belt doormat UNC-Charlotte.

But few could fault the writers or the coaches. Both groups were betting on the past performances of the teams and the players.

VCU returns its starting five, as does ODU. The two Virginia-based schools finished tied for the regular-season title last year, but both fell to UAB in the conference tournament, making the Blazers the other logical selection. As for the rest, it was a toss up until the coaches got to the No. 8 slot.

"Championships are won by returning players," Barnett said, indicating that he, too, thought VCU to be the proper pick. "We are better than last year. I'm not sure if we're good enough to win the Sun Belt or 23 games [as the Rams did last year while losing seven]. Only time will tell."

Even UNC-C coach Hal Wissel agreed **See Writers, page 17**



The sky's the limit

Junior Craig Clift appears to be reaching for the sky as he stretches his arm out of the water during a recent Rams' swim team practice.

Clift, who already holds four school records, is expecting more from himself and his team this year. (See related story, p. 15).

By Mike Cope-The Commonwealth Times

On slate this week:

VCU
vs.
Yugoslavia
National Team

Where: Richmond Coliseum

When: Thursday, November 15 at 8 p.m.

Five members of the bronze-medal winning Yugoslavian National Team will suit up for the Yugoslavian Cibona team as it continues its tour through the Sun Belt Conference with a stop in Richmond to play the regular-season defending conference champion Rams.

The Yugoslavs will have played four games by the time they reach Richmond (Alabama-Birmingham, Western Kentucky, South Alabama and UNC-Charlotte) and should be game ready, if not worn out by their extensive eight-games-in-13-days trip.

Leading the Yugoslavs will be 20-year-old Drazen Petrovic, a 6-4 guard who has verbally committed to play for Notre Dame next year.

Shorts

Schuurmans showing new athlete of the week, again

Compiled by Paul Wallo
Associate sports editor

Updating VCU sports:

Athlete of the week

Cross country star Inge Schuurmans became VCU's first two-time Athlete of the week with a first-place finish at the Sun Belt Women's Invitational last week in Charlotte, N.C.

Schuurmans, who captured the initial award of the 1984 season, ran the 5K course in 17:41, five seconds off her course record set in the UNCC Invitational.

"Inge was the only runner I brought," said head coach Jim Morgan. "She ran well and would have topped her course record (17:36) if she had had more competition."

Field Hockey

The Rams sandwiched 1-0 triumphs over cross-town rival Richmond and Radford University between 5-0 losses to top-ranked Old Dominion the weekend before last to close out the 1984 season 12-9-1 and place second in the state field hockey tournament, their best finish ever.

Juniors Beth Petite and Vicki Martin were selected to the All-Conference team. Petite finished the season with six goals, five assists and 17 points, all team highs. Martin finished with a 1.36 goals against average in 21 games and notched eight shutouts.

Men's Cross country

Jim Morgan's men ran to a seventh-place tie with ODU in the

Sun Belt Cross Country Championships in Charlotte, closing out the season at 20-16, their best ever.

Six out of seven runners set personal best times. Junior Winters led the way with a 26:44 finish 25th overall. Freshman Clayton crossed the line for 33rd place. Senior was 35th with a time of 26:44. Freshman Trampas Ri had a career-best of 26:44.

Volleyball

The Rams defeated Wake Forest while falling to West Virginia, Providence and George Washington in the Colonial Athletic Association in the Colonial Athletic Association for a record of 11-15.

Meet in the 1984 record blocked Dennis 6:12 to a Scott 26:44 Allen 52, and as 36th

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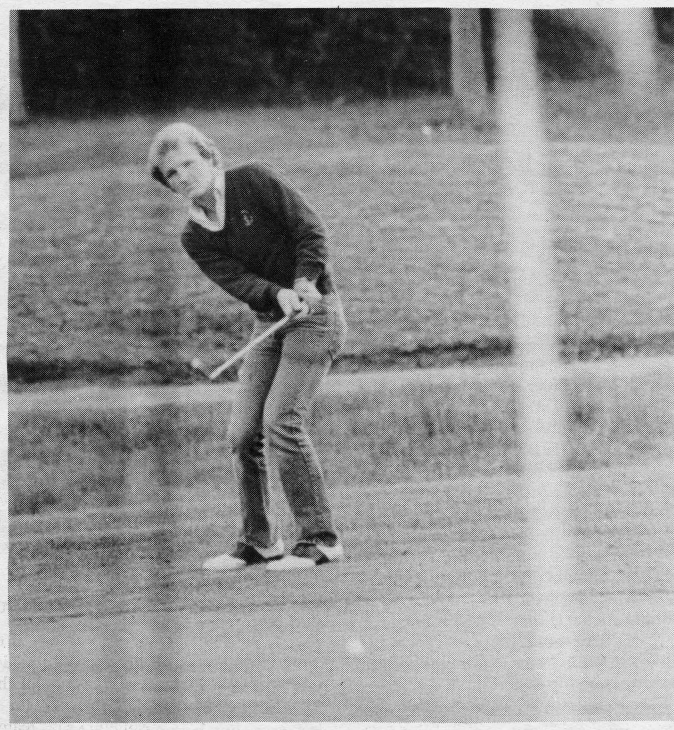
These guys are playing for keeps

By Paul Vallo
Sports editor

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CU's golf team captured fifth place in the Old Dominion/Seascape tournament in Nags Head, N.C. last week, brought to a close another campaign. In compiling 74 wins at 28 losses, Jack Bell's golfers were win shy of their all-time best in 1975-28-1, set last fall. The season included a first-ever finish when the Rams grabbed the top spot at the Methodist Invitational and two fourth-place finishes, no lower than 13th, when they struggled through the John Ryan Memorial at the University. The 1984 season has also been a year of the inconsistency and frustration of past years. Bell has been able to recruit his strongest golfers and use their youth and experience to produce consistent tournament play. "They are definitely getting better," Bell said. "We've got 10 strong golfers and we have the strongest team ever." The way are sophomores Matt Ball and Penn Dunaway, who are tied for honors for stroke average at 76.40. Dunaway finished two strokes better. According to Bell, the Rams need to fire the most competitive sub-par rounds for the rest of the season," Bell said. He added that Ball and Dunaway provide much of the tournament firepower. Ball and Dunaway garner sub-par rounds, Bell has another weapon in the form of senior David Newland. Newland looked to be the team leader. The most consistent, Newland is expected to keep the Rams in the top while posting consistent numbers on the leaderboard. "David is the most reliable golfer on the team," Bell said. "He's our captain, our example. Every team has a leader and his is been it." Newland sees himself as a golfer who needs to improve his game. "I'm working hard the way I've played," he said. "You set goals for yourself, and everyone should. And you always go by

Newland looks at each tournament as a learning experience in that he can find weaknesses in his game and work on them. "That's the biggest thing I like about the tournaments," he said. "If I see some flaws [in my game], I'll take them to the practice tee. That's where you learn." Learning has been a part of Newland's approach to golf ever since he first discovered the game when he was ten. "I had a neighbor who played golf. He was outside one day, swinging a golf club. I took a swing with it and it went flying out into the road," he said. "I had to buy him a new one [a five iron] and we went out and played." Growing up in golf-rich Annandale, Va., Newland was able to learn the game and refine his skills. "There was a tournament virtually every day," he said. "I didn't play in all of them, but I did play in a couple of Fairfax County tournaments. I knew I wanted to play in high school. Competition really builds up your game." During his senior year, Newland's high school team, Annandale, won the AAA state championship. Becoming the Rams' most consistent golfer was a matter of practice and refinement of skills. "You can play and play and you think you know it all, but then you run into someone who has different ideas," he said, adding that he watched televised golf tournaments when he was learning how to play. "I won't watch it [televised professional tournaments] unless a great golfer is winning," he said. "I watch [Tom] Watson and [Jack] Nicklaus. They know something about the game." "That's what Jack [Bell] preaches, you've got to go by the best." The Rams did their best in the opening tournament of the season when they grabbed first-place honors at the Methodist Invitational. And, said Newland, that tournament turned the team around. "It gave us a taste of victory," he said. "We knew we could go out there and win. Once you taste victory, you want it again." Bell also preaches hard work in the classroom. Since the Rams play all their matches away, they have to study on the road, a problem in the past. "The boys are taking their books along



By Mike Cope-The Commonwealth Times

Freshman Mark McGibbon shot 72 in last round of fall season

with them," said Bell. "They set aside an hour on road trips to study. It was a problem in the past. There was more goofing around than studying then." "[Missing classes] has been hard," said Newland. "If you don't study, you really suffer. On these trips, we've had a room to study in, which we've never had before." And the hard work, in the classroom and on the practice tees, has paid off. Bell's squad has the depth which it had lacked in recent seasons. While Newland, Ball and Dunaway provide the experience, freshmen Mark McGibbon and senior transfer Rae Keller have started to develop. Keller is third on the team in stroke average at 77.00. McGibbon has played in three tournaments this fall, and boasts a stroke average of 79.57. McGibbon

posted a 72 in the final round of the Old Dominion tournament in 40 mph winds. With veteran Lee Wells' 79.0, four golfers sport averages below 80. This spring, Bell will have yet another proven golfer join the squad when much travelled Mike Gordon joins the team. Gordon, a junior, went to East Tennessee his freshman year, but the golf team there folded. Then he went to Mississippi State for a semester before transferring to VCU. Bell's squad travels to Jacksonville, Fla. in December and to Hilton Head, S.C. to get in some winter rounds before starting the 1985 season. "In winter, the weather can be tough," said Newland. "We're out on the course practicing when it's cold. The trips will help us keep our game in shape [for the spring season.]"

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Craig Clift: 'We should win all of our meets'

By Charles Pannunzio
Staff writer

As the VCU men's swim team opens its 1984-85 season, junior Craig Clift is expecting an even better year for both himself and the team. Big expectations, considering what Clift has accomplished in his previous two years at VCU.

Voted the team's most outstanding swimmer for the second year in a row last year, Clift holds a number of school records, and has participated on three record-setting relay teams.

Clift was three years old when he started swimming, and by the time he was eleven, he was nationally ranked in the backstroke, butterfly, freestyle and individual medley.

Clift, from Dahlgren, Va., attended King George High School where he played basketball, baseball, golf, football and ran track. He played quarterback and defensive back and once threw a 99-yard touchdown pass.

Upon his arrival at VCU on a swimming scholarship, he promptly got to work erasing old school records. While swimming on last year's 9-3 squad, he set records for the 50-yard freestyle (20.98), 100-yard freestyle (46.39), 100-yard butterfly (49.91) and 200-yard butterfly (1:52.27).

He also was a member of the record-setting 400- and 800-yard freestyle relay teams and swam butterfly for the

squad that holds the 400-yard medley relay mark.

Last year, his 49.91 time in the 100-yard butterfly was eight-tenths of a second shy of the cutoff point for the NCAA championships.

"I think I'll be in the NCAAs this year, however," Clift said. "I'm swimming the fly in about 51 seconds right now. But we haven't really been going for speed yet, so that should come down."

For his time to come down, though, he has to get up early. Three days a week the team is in the water by 5:30 a.m. Clift usually gets up just after five. The team also practices every afternoon for three hours.

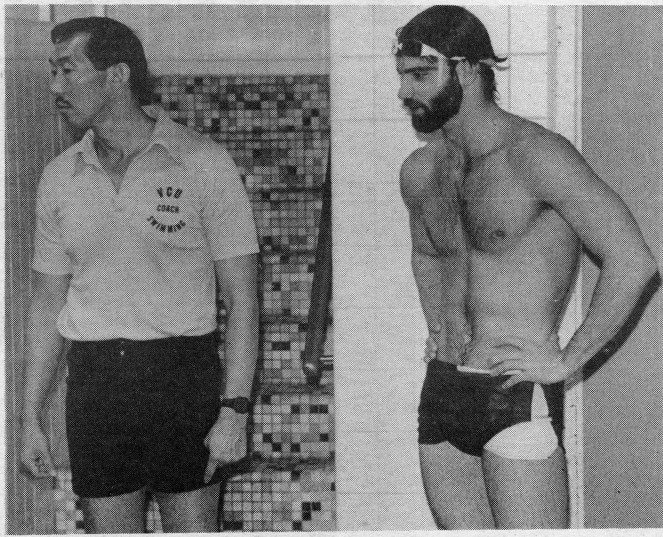
"Practice usually includes weight-lifting and about 12-14,000 yards a day in the pool," he said.

The swim season stretches through April and Clift believes that this year's team is one of the better ones that coach Ron Tsuchiya has had to work with.

"We should win all of our meets," Clift said, "but Duke and UNC-Wilmington will be tough, and James Madison is a big rival."

Clift hinted that the long hours that the team is together have helped improve the squad.

We have a very closely united team, and a good team relationship," he said. He also added that Tsuchiya's "dyna-



By Mike Cope-The Commonwealth Times

Swim coach Ron Tsuchiya and Craig Clift watch practice

mic workouts" is one of the reasons this season's squad looks so good.

Clift is one of this year's captains, along with John Leino and Scott Rolland. The team was only able to schedule a few home meets this season. The only one this semester will be on December 1 against UNC-Charlotte.

The NCAAs are in mid-March.

In a year that appears to hold much promise for Clift, he does have one thing that bugs him.

"I have one pet peeve, and that's getting up a five in the morning business," he said. "I wish it wasn't that early."

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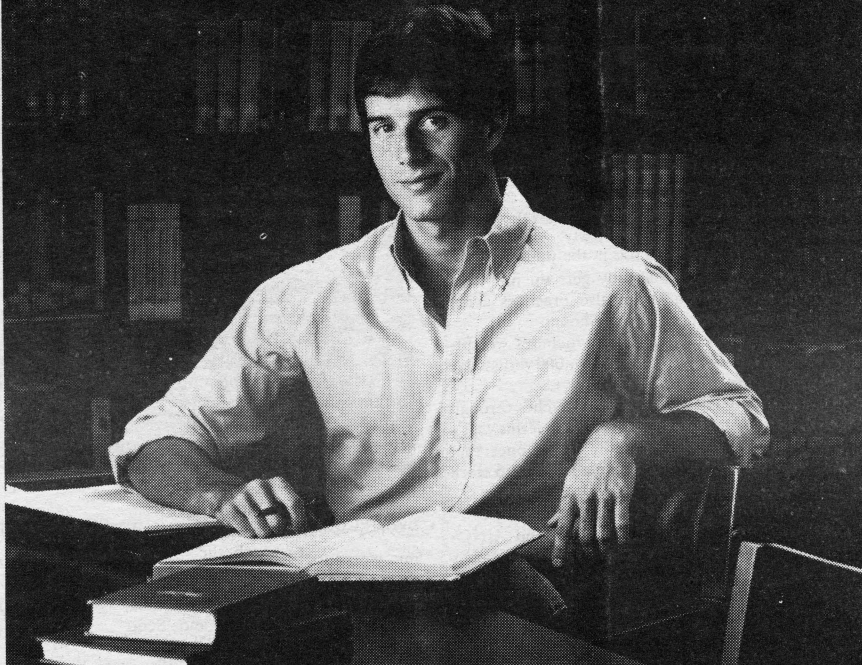
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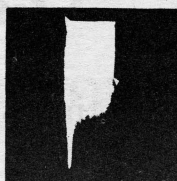
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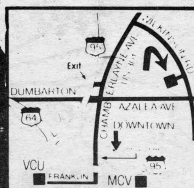
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CHURCH

him. "I know I can talk to people. The theology of the Church is something I really appreciate."

A two-year member, Stewart's time for marriage has not come yet. But when it does, he'll be ready. "I approve completely of the way the marriages are done," he says. "It's now just a matter of trying to prepare myself internally--to be the best person I can be for the woman I will marry."

As a member of the Church since 1970, 35-year-old Yoshiko Gehring is looked upon by her associates as a leader of sorts; a stabilizing force.

A senior member in Virginia, Gehring says the purpose of the Church is to "make a world of peace," and adds that her Church knows just how to do that.

"To reach that stage, our religion is based on the theory of a perfect man and woman. When united with God, the husband and wife create a child, and this unity becomes goodness."

In other words, pureness begins in the family and spreads to society.

Before joining, Gehring was an education major who hoped to become a teacher. She says she is happy she made the decision to become a Moonie. "Today, my relationship with God makes me proud and happy. We are made by his image."

When speaking of Rev. Moon, she has nothing but praise. "He's my messiah. He teaches me how to reach God and Jesus. I believe he came because Jesus appeared and gave him this message."

During her time with the Church, Gehring has had occasion to be exposed to some unpleasanties. "In 1975, when we witnessed in the streets here [America],

people would say, 'I want to kill Rev. Moon.' After that I became very sad."

John O'Conner, an outgoing type who grew up in Kansas, "playing sports and working on a farm," realized in his sophomore year in college that something was missing in his Catholic religion. "While I was in college, I found too many gaps--I got along very poorly with my priests," he says. As one who generally has faith in people, O'Conner said he was "disillusioned to the political corruption" he found in his college priests.

After two and one-half years of college, O'Conner decided to drop out of school. "From there, it was quite a philosophical search for life," he said.

That search led him into the truck driving profession until 1979, at the age of 29, he decided to become a member of the Church. "I had found the teachings very real," he says. "I had done a lot of thinking in my lifetime, so it wasn't at all a brand new feeling to commit."

After spending time in a national seminary, O'Conner was named state director of Virginia. His job includes organizing the 30 full-time and 20 part-time members of the Church, while also orchestrating group activities and programs.

One of the most important issues O'Conner feels he can address is Communism. He says he does this by spreading the Church's views to other ministers in the area. "Communism is a God-less ideology, it is materialistic and its dignity is low," he said.

"My job is to help overcome the problem--If the Christian world doesn't respond, Communism will. In the end, it could all amount to human destruction."

WRITERS

continued from page 13

with the 49ers' unanimous last-place kick in the shins.

"I knew at the end of the tournament that we'd be a unanimous last-place pick," he said. "We lost our top three scorers from a last-place team."

As for the selection of the players, who else was there to chose from? Catledge, Duncan and Bradley are all previous conference players of the year, with Catledge winning last year and Duncan and Bradley sharing the honor the year before.

Mitchell wheeled and dealt for 13.5 points per game and 4.2 assists while playing with a partially separated shoulder during much of the year. Murphy scored 17.9 ppg and pulled down 5.8 rebounds from his guard position as a freshman last year. If anyone were to break this stronghold on conference honors over the summer, he would have had to play for the U.S. Olympic team, and probably had a significant impact on the outcome.

Catledge, Duncan and Bradley will be an interesting lot to watch this year, as the three are viewed by many as first-round draft picks.

Hanks, showing a bit of humor, feels fortunate to have entered a situation in which he gets to coach the 6-8, 235-pound Catledge's senior year.

"I feel like Racquel Welch's husband," he said. "He knows what he's got at night and what's expected of him. Now he's got to see if he can make things interesting."

"We have two rules on this team. No. 1, get the ball to Terry. No. 2, get out of his way."

Lee Rose said he is expecting to see every fancy defense imaginable when

Bradley is on the floor.

"Each time he goes out, he knows he has to carry the offensive burden," Rose said. "He's the only player in the league who has to contend with gimmick defenses designed to stop him. He's always being triple-teamed."

Barnett, killing two birds with one stone, took 6-8, 235-pound senior center Mike Schlegel to the conference as his lone player representative rather than Duncan. The move gave the people on hand a chance to chat with the player chosen by his teammates as VCU's MVP last year and kept Duncan out of the limelight that Barnett thought had a significant effect on Duncan's subpar junior campaign.

The crowd, though, was inquisitive as to Duncan's progress so far this year.

"Calvin has improved and wants to get back to the level he was at as a sophomore," Barnett said.

Barnett, once again, stated that senior Rolando Lamb is "much improved. He got serious about basketball."

For those thinking about going to Thursday night's preseason meeting between VCU and the Yugoslavian National Team, there's one simple answer.

Go.

It will be a chance to see a spectacular young man named Drazen Petrovic test his skills *against* college ball for the last time. Next year, the 6-4, 20-year-old will be playing for Notre Dame.

Petrovic is a two guard, so he will match up against Duncan on offense and defense.

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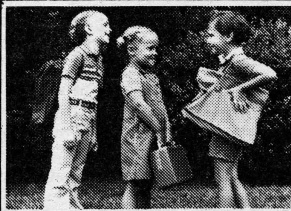
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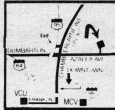
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- Cable television available

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Exit I-95 at US 301, then south to Kestler Avenue. East on Azalea just past Henrico High School to entrance at Pony Farm Drive. Office 5501 Pony Farm Drive.



FOOSBALL TOURNAMENT

Student Commons Game Room

Nov. 14 \$25.00

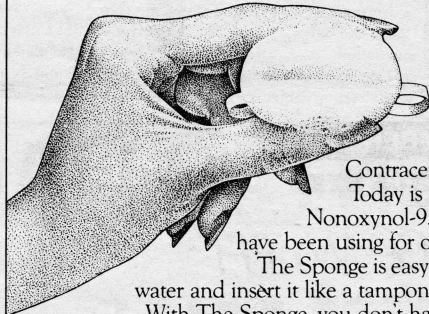
7 pm * CASH PRIZE! *

* Entry limited to VCU Students.

* \$2.00 entry fee per team.

* MORE INFO : 257-1981

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Classifieds

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Campus rep to run spring break vacation trip to Daytona Beach. Earn free trip and money. Send resume to College Travel Unlimited, P.O. Box 6063 Station A, Daytona Beach, Florida 32022. Include phone number, please.

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Personals

ASA Sisters and Pledges-- We have to get together for another afternoon of football and games real soon!! Laura B.

ASA: Don't forget you were told to wear white and gold (ribbons) for our newest chapter: *Epsilon Delta* in Minnesota--Nov. 16-19. Yours truly, *ASA Chaplain*

Beta Class of Phi Omega! Some of the hottest pledges around. From a sisterly friend

Crazy Legs: Don't forget to carry your dictionary or is that dictionary? Smiley

GOOFY! How do you get yourself into these predicaments? How should I know? What I think you should worry about is how to get yourself out of them (if you want to). *GOOFY*

G.P. jr, I was talking about two, three, no, make it at least five guys. Two which work with me, one nicknamed Mouse, Mr. "N.C. State," and a Henrico sheriff. "Who's it gonna' be baby, do you want him..." *G.P.*

Nikki, I wish you would take your break with me more often. I enjoy grinding with you. *Stu*

Where is it? All information will be appreciated and kept confidential. *ASA--406 GRC*

Wife, The other day, while battling an extremely bad case of self-pity and regret, I found your wedding dress in the attic. Ah, the memories it brought back... the happy times, the joyous times, the whips and chains, Niagra Falls... I tried on the dress but it just wasn't the same. It looked better on you. Sentimentally, *Your Husband P.S. Junior has only got four months to live. Please come back to us.*

"Who's the owner of that gorgeous bod laying on the beach in the Oct. 30 issue? I think I'm in love. Please respond!"

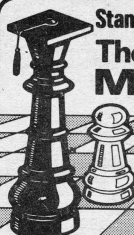
Dearest Skipwith--You're Always So Awesome. I love you--more Smiley

"Happy 83rd Birthday," Alpha Sigma Alpha! November 15, 1901.

Happy Birthday Karen! Love your big sis--Laura, in *ASA!*

JULIE: Happy related Birthday! If it were not for you, I might be passing Physics.--*SENATOR CHUCK*

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The moon was up, the stars were out and—pffft!—your rear tire was down. Good thing there was a phone nearby. And a few good friends who were willing to drive a dozen miles, on a Saturday night, to give you a lift. When you get back, you want to do more than just say “thanks.” So tonight, let it be Löwenbräu.



Löwenbräu. Here's to good friends.