

## Blix: Iraq war misguided

### Former U.N. official says WMD evidence insufficient



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## Spectrum

'Bill' is back...

...but not for long.

A review of Tarantino's latest.

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## Sports

Men's tennis beats Old Dominion for ninth straight win. Page 9

## Editorials & Letters

Does Daniel Pipes care about the Bill of Rights? Page 19

# IN BRIEF

## CALENDAR

## APRIL 26 THROUGH APRIL 28

**Monday, April 26**

Learn about the **Origins of the Qur'an** in a lecture sponsored by the Muslim Student Association. The event begins at 6 p.m. in Virginia Ballroom A of the University Student Commons. For more information contact Hareem Hanphy at (804) 692-5537. Those with special needs should contact (804) 828-9502.

**Tuesday, April 27**

Help honor diversity. Attend the **Presidential Award for Community Multicultural Enrichment ceremony** in the Richmond Salon of the University Student Commons. The ceremony begins at 3 p.m. For more information contact Tim Reed at (804) 828-6500. Those with special needs should contact (804) 828-9502.

**Wednesday, April 28**

Want to learn how to **search databases and Web sites for up-to-date information on prescription drugs**? Register for a drug information resources class in Room 2-012 of the Tompkins-McCaw Library. The class begins at noon. To register, visit [http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/it/course\\_detail.asp?ID=1750](http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/training/it/course_detail.asp?ID=1750). Registration is limited to VCU students, faculty and staff.

### CAMPUS FORECAST


**Monday**  
**75/50**

**Tuesday**  
**67/40**

**Wednesday**  
**70/48**

**Thursday**  
**76/48**

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### Tree hugging takes on new meaning

After an odd Earth Day protest, police detained two gay males Thursday after the couple climbed into a tree in New York City's Central Park and performed sexual acts on each other. The couple, ages 32 and 17, were protesting because the 17-year-old's parents had allegedly disowned him after learning of the bizarre relationship. Onlookers reported that the man, who was only wearing a black dress and a thong, climbed around the top of the 55-foot tall tree before he began to perform oral sex on the boy. Police negotiators tried to talk the couple out of the tree for about five hours before they harnessed the two and pulled them down. Though no one involved in the melee was hurt, the couple was taken to the hospital for an evaluation. A NYPD spokesman said criminal charges would depend on the hospital's evaluations.

### Beef-eaters ejected from buffet

A couple was recently asked to leave a Salt Lake City restaurant after the manager said they had eaten too much roast beef. Sui Amaama, 26, and his wife Isabelle Leota, 29, are both on the low-carbohydrate Atkins Diet. Leota said she and her husband thought the restaurant had an all-you-can-eat buffet. The manager, however, says that the restaurant has never had an unlimited eating policy. He asked the couple to stop eating after Amaama went back to the buffet for a twelfth slice of roast beef. When the couple refused to leave, the manager called the police. At the time of the incident, the couple was finishing their second week of the

mostly meat diet and had been going to the restaurant twice a week for the convenient buffet. "You can just go there and just eat meat," Leota said. "I really feel like we were discriminated against." Since the incident, the couple said they have no desire to ever return to the restaurant.

### Rhino gets randy with a Renault

A crazed rhinoceros decided to have his way with a passenger car in a British safari park. A group of visitors got more than their money's worth as they watched Sharka, a 12-year-old 4,000-pound white rhino, get it on with a Renault Laguna. Dave Alsop, the car's owner, was trying to take pictures of the animal when the animal approached the vehicle. "The next thing I know, he's banging away at the car and it's rocking like hell," Alsop said. Alsop was able to drive his badly dented car away but not after being chased for a bit by Sharka. "Sharka has) got a bit of a reputation," said a park spokeswoman. "He was obviously up to it again."

### Child almost auctioned on Internet

A 41-year-old German woman and her male sidekick could be looking at prison time after they allegedly put the woman's 8-year-old daughter up for auction on the Internet. The state prosecutor pushing this case said the couple will face charges of human trafficking. The man allegedly posted a photograph of the child on an online auction system and asked for a starting bid of one Euro, approximately \$1.18. After about four hours, the unnamed auction company found and removed the

item, but not before three bids had been made, the highest reaching 25.50 Euros. The man who allegedly placed the child up for auction said he was only testing the auction system.

### Fake Hitler diary auctioned for thousands

Diaries faked to look like they belonged to former Nazi leader Adolf Hitler were auctioned Friday for \$7,700. Konrad Kujau, a painter and antiques dealer who died four years ago, forged Hitler's handwriting and sold 60 volumes of the fake records to Stern magazine in 1983 for nearly \$5 million. The diary sold was the last in the series. The final entry is dated the day Hitler committed suicide: April 30, 1945.

### Pooch eats golf balls

Libby, an 18-month-old German Shepherd, used to fetch golf balls at the English course where her owner, Mike Wardrop, works. Then Libby started coughing blood. Veterinarians operated on her and discovered 28 golf balls in the dog's stomach. Wardrop said he had no idea the dog had eaten the balls, but said she can fit five in her mouth at one time. Wardrop said he bought Libby, who needed 30 stitches in the surgery, two soccer balls — because she can't swallow those.

 Briefs compiled from  
 news sources

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# NEWS

## Blix: U.S. acted on faulty intelligence

**Former U.N. official says administration failed to question reports on Iraq**

**THOMAS GEHRING**  
Staff Writer

Former chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix last week said the Bush administration based its decision to invade Iraq in March 2003 on faulty intelligence and a lack of critical thinking.

"I think they were like witch hunters of past centuries," Blix said of the Bush administration.

The lecture was part of the School of World Studies and the University Honors Program lecture series "Crossing Boundaries" and drew about 1,500 people Thursday night to the Stuart C. Siegel Center.

For the next 90 minutes, Blix gave his impressions of the U.N. inspections in Iraq and the buildup and aftermath of the war there last year.

Blix said he doesn't think the U.S. government consciously misled its citizens to justify the invasion, but they are "likely to think that anything that supported their view was correct."

In his address to assembled faculty, staff, students and members of the Richmond community, he discussed the lingering questions surrounding the United States' intentions for invading Iraq last year, saying he didn't think it was about anything other than weapons of mass destruction.

"Could it have been to bring democracy to Iraq?" he asked. "Iraq had never had democracy before. If the ambition (were)

to make a democracy, it certainly has not helped it in that direction."

The big question, Blix said, concerns what to do next in Iraq.

"There are strong emotions about the war all over — this is all the more reason for attempting a rational analysis," he said. "We need to learn about the relevance of the Security Council, the U.N. charter, policy of containment, international inspections, acceptability of preemptive action, intelligence to counter illegal development, and ... our wish to be shown real reality rather than virtual reality."

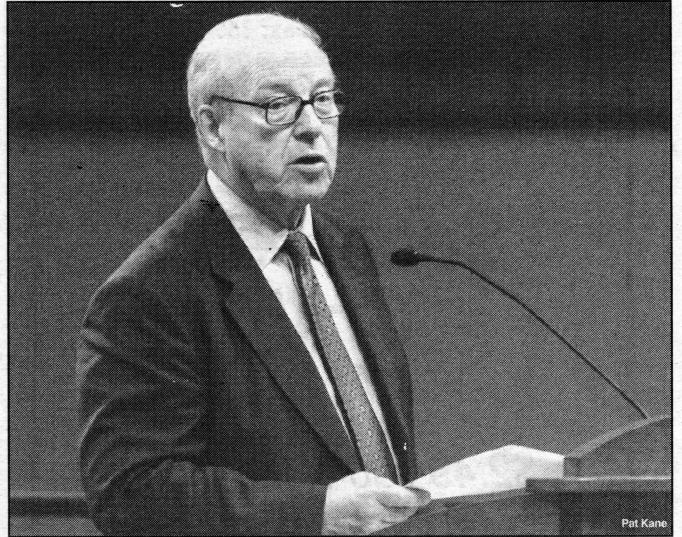
The former chief weapons inspector outlined the historical background of the United Nations and the global balance of power since World War II, specifically the policy of containment developed by the West in response to the Soviet Union. He also gave a summary of the history of Iraq's military programs since its war with Iran in the 1980s, saying Saddam Hussein would have had a nuclear weapon by the early 1990s had he not invaded Kuwait in 1991.

After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1992, containment no longer became necessary.

"It was like coming into a new world of hope and freedom. The effects of international cooperation were enormous," he said.

Referring to the coalition President George H. W. Bush put together in 1991 to oust Saddam Hussein from Kuwait, he said many world leaders thought "the security provisions of the U.N. charter were at long last coming to life."

Also, he said it was questionable whether the coalition would have marched on Baghdad because it included troops from Syria and from Egypt. He listed this as an example of the old policy of containment, which meant to keep Saddam "in his



Pat Kane

**"It should have been significant that U.N. inspectors went to 700 sites suggested by intelligence and didn't find anything," says Hans Blix, former chief U.N. weapons inspector.**

box" and to "defang him."

Following the Gulf War, the United Nations sent international agencies such as the United Nations Security Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect Iraq for nuclear, biological and chemical agents or programs to develop them. These agencies, he said, received "on-demand" inspection rights and from 1991 to 1997 went to more than 700 sites in Iraq, a nation roughly the same size as California.

Blix said it became clear that while the Iraqis declared a high number of weapons at these sites, they didn't declare every-

thing. Saddam's son-in-law, Gen. Hussein Kamal, the former director of Iraq's Military Industrialization Corporation, defected from Iraq to Jordan in 1995, claiming he gave an order in 1991 to destroy chemical and biological weapons without weapons inspectors there so the inspectors wouldn't know how much was destroyed.

In light of all of this, Blix said, it was surprising the Bush administration didn't question its intelligence reports leading up to the invasion.

"It should have been significant that U.N. inspectors went to 700 sites sug-

*BLIX continued to Page 6*

## MCV SGA president seeks recognition for university

**ANGIE CASTLEBURY**  
Staff Writer

Third-year dentistry student Gaurav Agarwal last week began his reign as VCU's Medical Campus Student Government Association president.

"I feel privileged," Agarwal, the former SGA treasurer, said. "At the same time I also feel a little bit nervous because it is a lot of responsibility. I'm looking forward to it because I would like to make a difference and get more of what we (the students) want out there."

Agarwal, an active member of the Virginia Dental Association, said as president he wants to create more of a college atmosphere by displaying VCU and MCV flags in the area so people will recognize VCU's

presence.

"People say that they drive through and don't even know that they are in (the) VCU or (the) MCV hospital areas," he said, "until they're right in front of a building."

Besides recognition, he said some facilities need a facelift.

"I'd (also) like to see a little more improvement on some of the buildings," he said, adding that President Eugene Trani has addressed that issue with the university's master-site plan.

Kenney, this year's SGA president and a second-year medical student, said the SGA connects the five schools of the Medical Campus that include the allied health professions, dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy.

Before the day of the election, he ex-

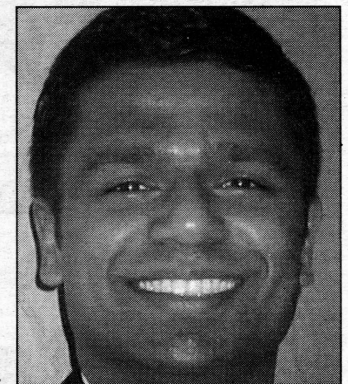
plained that any medical student could throw a hat in the ring. Once the candidates are on the slate, SGA members consider the candidates' interests and experience before casting their ballots.

"Willingness to fill your duties and availability," Kenney said, represent the key characteristics of an officer.

Robert Clifton, dean of student affairs for the Medical Campus, further explained that because students spend so much time studying, they do not have time to research the candidates before the election.

"The student body wants it that way," he said, adding that the Medical SGA includes representatives from each school.

Kenney said the SGA sponsored many



*MCV continued to Page 6* **Gaurav Agarwal**



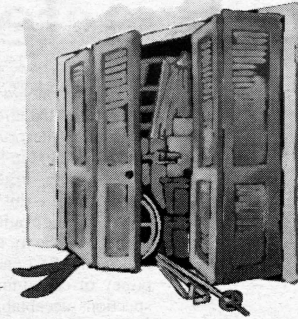
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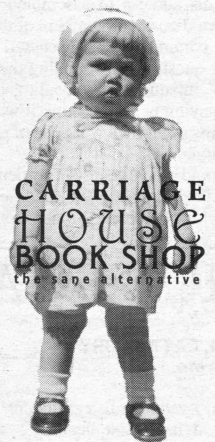
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## NEWS

## VCU built Phase 3 with students in mind

SHEENA DAVIS  
News Writer

As a part of the celebratory events surrounding the April 15 Grand Opening of the University Student Commons, Tim Reed, director of Student Commons and Activities gave a presentation on the design and construction of the new building.

"The hardest part of this whole project was trying to keep the building and services available to students," Reed said. "Heating the building and keeping the food courts open really slowed down our progress."

Phase 3 was designed by Architects at the Norfolk-based Clark Nexsen company. The project, which began in June of 2002, added more than 35,000 square feet to the existing building.

"We really wanted to create more quality spaces, and I think we have," Reed said. "There are quiet areas on the second floor where students can study, interact with professors and catch up on some extra sleep."

In addition to lounge spaces, the new building boasts a renovated theater and the Richmond salons and Virginia Ballroom.

Reed said the engineers who worked on the building were chosen through a bid process.

"We received bids from companies all over the country," he said.

VCU students were an integral part of the building project, Reed said.

"We had students serving on each of the committees in order to get an idea of what students actually wanted," he said.

The areas in which students participated were preliminary design, architect selection, design committee and interior design.

In addition to creating more space for students, the Phase 3 team wanted to improve services for students with disabilities and make the building more secure.

"We wanted to create multiple ways to get into the Commons," Reed said.

He also said there were a number of federal standards that had to be met.

The university plans to continue working on the new plaza. This outdoor area should be complete by mid-May or early June, Reed said.

"This is a place where we can have speakers, summer concerts, festivals and other events," he said.

Although the actual construction of the plaza is paid for, Reed said this does not include any amenities such as plants and furnishings. The construction team hopes to attain these funds through individual donations to the Commons Plaza Campaign. The landscaping company hired to layout the plaza's green space was their first big donor, he said.

"Student organizations can donate



"We had students serving on each of the committees in order to get an idea of what students actually wanted," says Tim Reed, director of the University Student Commons and activities.

money to the campaign and get a bench named after them," Reed said.

Alexa Merchant, a Commons Go-Guide and third year-nursing student, said the new Commons will help to promote President Trani's idea of a student-centered university.

"Here, you get the chance to interact with a diverse group of students," Merchant said. "I think students will really feel a sense of community and increased school

spirit."

When asked about the university's future construction plans, Reed mentioned plans for the Business Building Auditorium and the Student Commons on the Medical Campus. He said the team plans to implement the same techniques in renovating Hunton Hall, the Medical Campus Student Commons, in the next three to four years.

"There will not be a Phase 4," Reed said jokingly.

## Lawmakers kill amendments to feticide, civil-unions bills

KARA GLASCOE  
Capital News Service

Legislation to criminalize feticide is back in Gov. Mark Warner's hands.

Last week, the Republican-controlled General Assembly rejected Warner's proposed amendment to bills making it a felony to kill a fetus.

The Democratic governor's amendment stated that legislation would not apply to legal abortions. But on Wednesday, lawmakers voted against the amendment, leaving the bills untouched.

Now Warner must decide by May 11 whether to sign or veto the legislation or allow it become a law without his signature.

Ellen Qualls, the governor's press secretary, said Warner might not decide immediately because he has 30 days to act on the bill.

The feticide legislation was one among dozens of bills lawmakers considered during Wednesday's reconvened session, when they act on the governor's vetoes and proposed amendments.

The legislation would make the deliberate and malicious termination of a fetus a

Class 2 felony punishable by up to 40 years in prison.

Warner announced his amendment April 16.

"Let me be clear: I fully support legislation that punishes violent acts against women, especially any violent act that results in harm to or the death of a pregnant woman and her fetus," he said.

But the governor quoted abortion-rights advocates as saying the legislation "may be an attempt to chip away at a woman's right to choose recognized by the Supreme Court. Supporters have denied that the bill has anything to do with abortion."

So Warner said his proposed amendment "should resolve that debate to the satisfaction of both sides. I have offered an amendment reading, 'Nothing in this section is intended nor shall be construed to limit a woman's rights as recognized by the Supreme Court of the United States in Roe v. Wade.'"

Abortion-rights opponents and many legislators objected to Warner's amendment.

"I don't see how any state legislation could have an effect on Roe v. Wade, which is a federal court decision to begin

with," said Del. Allen Dudley, R-Rocky Mount.

He said the proposed law would apply only in rare criminal cases where a fetus is killed when its mother is murdered.

"I think it is going to bring those people to justice," he said.

The House voted 31-69 against Warner's amendment. The amendment lost 15-25 in the Senate.

The Family Foundation of Virginia, a conservative action group, called on Warner to approve the legislation in its original form.

"The governor's amendment was unnecessary and added nothing to the purpose of the bill — protecting women," said Victoria Cobb, the foundation's director of legislative affairs. "We would ask the governor to lay aside his partisan leanings and simply sign the bill into law."

Also during the session, legislators rejected Warner's amendment to the Affirmation of Marriage Act, which would ban civil unions and other same-sex partnerships in Virginia.

The original measure then passed by

## How Richmond's legislators voted

## Feticide criminalization

## For Warner's amendment

Delegate Viola Baskerville - D  
Delegate Franklin Hall - D  
Delegate Sen. Benjamin Lambert III - D

Sen. Henry Marsh III - D  
Sen. John Watkins - R

## Against Warner's amendment

Delegate Dwight Jones - D  
Delegate Bradley Marrs - R  
Delegate John O'Bannon - R  
Delegate John Reid - R  
Sen. John Chichester - R  
Sen. Walter Stosch - R

## Affirmation of Marriage Act

## For

Delegate Bradley Marrs - R  
Delegate John O'Bannon - R  
Delegate John Reid - R  
Sen. John Chichester - R  
Sen. Walter Stosch - R  
Sen. John Watkins - R

## Against

Delegate Viola Baskerville - D  
Delegate Franklin Hall - D  
Delegate Dwight Jones - D  
Sen. Benjamin Lambert III - D  
Sen. Henry Marsh III - D

# NEWS

## BLIX continued from Page 3

gested by intelligence and didn't find anything," Blix told the audience. "It would have been reasonable to conclude sources of intelligence weren't very good."

He next addressed questions about Iraq's behavior during the 1990s, specifically why its leaders behaved as if they had weapons of mass destruction.

"Iraq lost its credibility in 1991 and never regained it," Blix said. "It was natural to construe their denials as lies after finding nuclear and chemical programs" that Iraq claimed it didn't have.

"It's hard to prove a negative," because the leaders of Iraq contributed to the situation by "the way they conducted themselves."

He speculated that Iraq's leaders withheld information during the 1990s for several reasons.

For one, Blix said Saddam was told incorrectly that the U.N. would only lift sanctions when he was gone. Also, Saddam possibly wanted the U.N. to think he had weapons of mass destruction, because it would make him appear as if he were defying the United Nations and United States, which would enhance his status in the Arab world.

Since the Iraqis were also naturally suspicious of the United Nations, Blix said, they had to assume the United States and United Kingdom had spies planted among the inspectors, and as time would tell, they were correct in that assumption. It was widely known that UNSCOM had electronic apparatus to spy on Iraqi security.

The U.N. inspectors, Blix said, tried to create incentives for the Iraqis to cooper-

ate. They would exercise all rights granted by the United Nations, but they would not try to humiliate or provoke the Iraqis. Blix said he isn't 100 percent sure none of his inspectors reported to their home countries, but he doesn't think any did.

Blix then discussed how containment worked during the 1990s. With a combination of inspections and military pressure, the United Nations had "succeeded in disarming (Iraq) without knowing it." The final conclusion was that Iraq had destroyed most of its banned weapons in 1991.

Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Blix said, he saw how U.S. views began to change. He doesn't think there was anything more than military planning going on during summer 2002, but he compared it to putting a train on a rail:

"The train can switch tracks, can speed up, slow down, but it is still on a course."

He said right-wing motives in the United States and United Kingdom inspired the early 2003 decision. The decision to invade was made despite the U.N. inspectors' report that they didn't have a "smoking gun." It took the IAEA less than a day to conclude that the report alleging Iraq bought yellowcake uranium from Nigeria to build nuclear weapons was a forgery, he said, and they reported that the aluminum tubes found were for rocket casings, not centrifuges.

"The evidence was certainly falling apart by February and March of 2003," Blix said.

Several members of the Richmond Conservative Forum protested Blix's appearance. Alpheus Pope, leader of the protest and a Gulf War veteran, said they were protesting because Blix and his new book are against U.S. action in Iraq.

"What we are doing (in Iraq) is right. Things are definitely improving," Pope said.

"Are preemptive strikes justified?" an audience member asked.

Blix responded by asking if the U.S. would have found it acceptable to attack Pakistan before its nuclear test, or if it would have been acceptable for India to attack Pakistan.

"The more distant a danger is, the less justification there is for preemptive action, which rests on intelligence. If there is some, then certainly, support by the U.N. Security Council could give it legitimacy."

He explained that there were very few U.N. members that excluded armed action later if more inspections were precluded.

"Neither the U.S. or U.K. was faced with an armed attack to justify self-defense. Saddam was a danger to his own people, but not a great or immediate danger to his neighbors."

Finally, Blix addressed the long-term consequences of the Bush administration's tendency to turn its back to the United Nations.

"There is no way a nation can extract itself from multilateral cooperation," he said.

Blix was head of UNMOVIC (United Nations Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission) from March 2000 to June 2003. He previously headed the International Atomic Energy Agency from 1981 to 1997, when he oversaw inspections of Iraq's nuclear program.

—Managing Editor Kent Brockwell contributed to this report.

## Warner cracks down on DUIs

SARAH E. KITE  
Capital News Service

Gov. Mark Warner has signed into law 980 pieces of legislation, including 20 bills to attack drivers under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

One measure, by Sen. Nick Rerras, R-Norfolk, will deny bail to motorists arrested for DUI if they have three previous DUI-related convictions within the past five years.

"My signature on these bills will provide Virginia with some of the toughest laws in the nation to combat drunk driving," Warner said. "Our message is clear: We will not tolerate those who endanger innocent Virginians by drinking and driving."

A blood-alcohol level of 0.08 percent is considered intoxicated.

Under the new laws, which take effect July 1, drivers with a blood-alcohol content of at least 0.12 percent will receive a mandatory two-day jail sentence. Those with a 0.15-percent level will receive a 10-day sentence.

"I am pleased to support these efforts to protect our citizens by increasing penalties, providing more tools for law enforcement, revoking driver's licenses, requiring ignition-interlock devices and seizing vehicles," Warner said.

## MCV continued from Page 3

events this past year such as a Christmas toy drive and a formal for the medical campus.

"It's really nice to get together everyone on our campus for social events," he said, because usually the different schools are isolated from each other.

"(Another) of the main purposes of the SGA is to represent the whole student body to the administration."

Clifton said the SGA stands in the position as the organized portion of the student body.

"Students often don't realize how influential they truly are if they are organized," he said, re-emphasizing the importance of the SGA. "(Medical) SGA leaders get heard when they speak up. People listen to what they have to say."

### Other 2004-05 officers:

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student life co-vice presidents

**Rozelle Baltazar**  
social vice president

**Helen Lawler**  
philanthropy vice president

**Michael Webb**  
treasurer

**Ryan Foley**  
secretary

**Thomas Turner**  
honor council chair

## BILLS continued from Page 5

veto-proof margins — 69-30 in the House and 27-12 in the Senate. The bill will become law on July 1.

The legislation will "prohibit any civil union, partnership contract or other arrangement between persons of the same sex purporting to bestow the privileges or obligations of marriage."

Even though Warner opposes same-sex marriage, he said this law is unconstitutional. This legislation, he said, could bar business contracts between people of the same sex or even joint bank accounts between mothers and daughters.

Supporters of the bill said it would ensure that Virginia does not recognize civil unions and other marriage-like relationships approved by other states.



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## SPORTS

## Upcoming Sports Events

Tuesday, April 27

Baseball  
at Wake Forest 3 p.m.  
Winston-Salem, N.C.

Friday, April 30

Baseball  
at William & Mary 7 p.m.  
Williamsburg, Va.

Saturday, May 1

Baseball  
at William & Mary 4 p.m.  
Williamsburg, Va.  
100.3 FM Radio

Men's Track and Field  
George Mason Invitational  
Fairfax, Va.

Sunday, May 2

Baseball  
at William & Mary 1 p.m.  
Williamsburg, Va.  
100.3 FM Radio

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# Glass half full

## Men's tennis wins 9th straight CAA title; Women fall short to Tribe

From news sources

WILLIAMSBURG – VCU's men's tennis team took three singles points and swept doubles competition to win the Colonial Athletic Association Championship for the ninth straight season.

The Rams, 24-3, have won the conference championship every year since joining the conference in 1996.

While last season's CAA player of the year Pedro Nieto dropped his No. 1 singles match with this season's CAA player of the year Izak van der Merwe 6-2, 6-4, Marton Ott, Florian Marquardt and Sergi Arumi came through for the Rams in singles competition. CAA rookie of the year Arnaud Le Cloerec lost in straights to ODU's Zoltan Csanadi 6-2, 6-2, but teamed with Marquardt to win No. 1 doubles 8-3.

Pairings and host sites for the 2004 NCAA Men's Tennis Championships will be announced May 5.

William and Mary topped VCU's women's team for the second time in three years. The Tribe defeated VCU 4-3 in the 2002 finals, but the Rams pulled out a 4-3 win over W&M last year to claim their first CAA crown.

Aside from being absolutely flawless, Virginia Commonwealth women's tennis team did all they could to win the CAA championship.

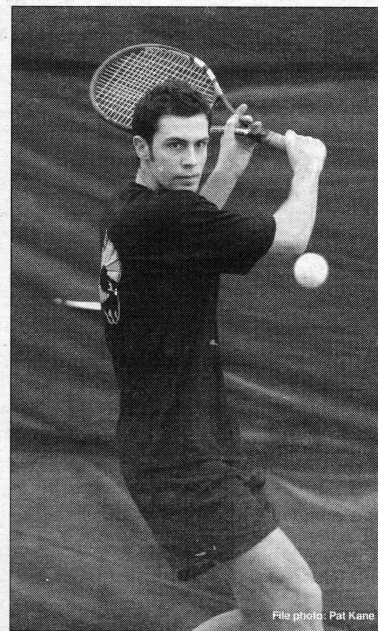
They took the doubles point from William and Mary with relative ease and won two of the five actual singles matches for a 3-3 tie, but the Tribe won the deciding point by default because the Rams had no one to play at the No. 5 spot.

William and Mary's Megan Muth, ranked No. 24, had a tight match at the No. 1 spot with No. 71 Silvia Urrikova. Muth won a tiebreak in the first set then held off Urrikova to win in straights, 7-6 (2), 7-5.

CAA women's rookie of the year Olga Borisova, ranked No. 59 in the nation, beat the Tribe's Lena Sherbakov in straight sets 6-3, 6-0, then teamed with Cristina Arribas to down Muth and Amy Wei in No. 1 doubles.

Cristina Gago's 7-6 (5), 6-3 win over Lingda Yang gave VCU its other singles point. She and Silvia Urrikova topped Yang and Kate Boomershine 8-3 to win the doubles point.

The Rams can still receive a bid to the NCAA regionals, which begin May 14.



File photo: Pat Kane

Arnaud Le Cloerec

## VCU's tournament results

## Men's Tennis

## Quarterfinal

#11 Virginia Commonwealth 4, Towson 0  
Singles: 1. No. 28 Pedro Nieto (VCU) d. Chris Rowland (TU) 6-0, 6-0; 2. No. 122 Arnaud LeCloerec (VCU) vs. Itai Dvir (TU) suspended; 3. Florian Marquardt (VCU) d. Doug Ferguson (TU) 6-0, 6-1; 4. Francesc Lleal (VCU) d. Todd Nagel (TU) 6-0, 6-0; 5. Daniel Lohff (VCU) vs. Dan Selzer (TU) suspended; 6. Doug Daub (VCU) vs. Joel Young (TU) suspended.  
Doubles: 1. Lohff/Marquardt (VCU) vs. Mike Edison/Navin Khan (TU) suspended; 2. Nieto/Marton Ott (VCU) d. Nagel/Rowland (TU) 8-1; 3. Sergi Arumi/Lleal (VCU) d. Dvir/Ferguson (TU) 8-0;

## Semifinal

Virginia Commonwealth 4, UNC Wilmington 0  
Singles: 1. No. 28 Pedro Nieto (VCU) vs. No. 111 Danilo Mendes (UNCW) suspended; 2. No. 122 Arnaud LeCloerec (VCU) vs. Caio Piacentini (UNCW) suspended; 3. Marton Ott (VCU) vs. Rahul Rujkheva (UNCW) suspended; 4. Florian Marquardt (VCU) d. Tim Merwid (UNCW) 6-3, 6-2; 5. Sergi Arumi (VCU) d. Scott Curry (UNCW) 6-2, 6-0; 6. Francesc Lleal (VCU) d. Grant Holland (UNCW) 6-0, 6-3  
Doubles: 1. LeCloerec/Marquardt (VCU) vs. Mendes/Piacentini (UNCW) suspended; 2. Nieto/Ott (VCU) d. Curry/Holland (UNCW) 8-0; 3. Arumi/Lleal (VCU) d. Meredith/Rujkheva (UNCW) 8-1.

## Championship

VCU 4, Old Dominion 2  
Singles: 1. No. 18 Izak van der Merwe (ODU) d. No. 28

Pedro Nieto (VCU) 6-2, 6-4; 2. Zoltan Csanadi (ODU) d. No. 122 Arnaud Le Cloerec (VCU) 6-2, 6-2; 3. Marton Ott (VCU) vs. Calin Milos (ODU) DNF; 4. Florian Marquardt (VCU) d. Henrique Cancado (ODU) 6-3, 6-4; 5. Sergi Arumi (VCU) d. Niklas Oskarsson (ODU) 7-5, 6-4; 6. Francesc Lleal (VCU) d. Nate Grover (ODU), 6-1, 6-2.  
Doubles: 1. Le Cloerec/Marquardt (VCU) d. Grover/van der Merwe (ODU) 8-5; 2. Nieto/Ott (VCU) vs. Csanadi/Milos (ODU) DNF; 3. Lleal/Arumi (VCU) d. Cancado/Adriano Mello (ODU) 8-2.

## Women's Results

## Quarterfinal

Virginia Commonwealth 4, George Mason 1  
Singles: 1. No. 53 Silvia Urrikova (VCU) vs. Maricel Ballester (GMU) suspended; 2. #71 Olga Borisova (VCU) d. Jennifer Dektas (GMU) 6-1, 6-1; 3. Cristina Arribas (VCU) vs. Jamie Delorie (GMU) suspended; 4. Cristina Gago (VCU) d. Katie Sloper (GMU) 6-1, 6-0; 5. Camille Ripert (VCU) d. Natalie Oudar (GMU) 6-0, 6-1; 6. Default to George Mason.  
Doubles: 1. #59 Arribas/Borisova (VCU) d. Dektas/Delorie 8-0; 2. Gago/Urrikova (VCU) d. Ballester/Sloper 8-1; 3. Default to George Mason.

Virginia Commonwealth 4, George Mason 1  
Singles: 1. #53 Silvia Urrikova (VCU) vs. Maricel Ballester (GMU) suspended; 2. #71 Olga Borisova (VCU) d. Jennifer Dektas (GMU) 6-1, 6-1; 3. Cristina Arribas (VCU) vs. Jamie Delorie (GMU) suspended; 4. Cristina Gago (VCU) d. Katie Sloper (GMU) 6-1, 6-0; 5. Camille Ripert (VCU) d. Natalie Oudar (GMU) 6-0, 6-1. 6. Default to George Mason.

## Mason.

Doubles: 1. #59 Arribas/Borisova (VCU) d. Dektas/Delorie 8-0; 2. Gago/Urrikova (VCU) d. Ballester/Sloper 8-1. 3. Default to George Mason.

## Semifinal

VCU 4, Old Dominion 1  
Singles: 1. #53 Silvia Urrikova (VCU) vs. #31 Nataly Cahana (ODU) suspended; 2. #71 Olga Borisova (VCU) d. Kerstin Endlich (ODU) 6-5, ret.; 3. Cristina Arribas (VCU) d. Fernanda Luiz (ODU) 6-4, 7-5; 4. Cristina Gago (VCU) vs. Larissa Santos (ODU) suspended 5. Camille Ripert (VCU) d. Coralie Herrmann (ODU) 4-6, 6-3, 6-0; 6. Default to Old Dominion  
Doubles: 1. #59 Arribas/Borisova (VCU) d. Cahana/Endlich (ODU) 8-3; 2. Luiz/Santos (VCU) d. Gago/Urrikova (ODU) 8-1; 3. Default to Old Dominion.

## Championship

William & Mary 4, VCU 3  
Singles: 1. No. 24 Megan Muth (W&M) d. No. 71 Silvia Urrikova (VCU) 7-6 (2), 7-5; 2. No. 53 Olga Borisova (VCU) d. Lena Sherbakov (W&M) 6-3, 6-0; 3. Amy Wei (W&M) d. Cristina Arribas (VCU) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; 4. Cristina Gago (VCU) d. Lingda Yang (W&M) 7-6 (5), 6-3; 5. Emily Mowery (W&M) d. Camille Ripert (VCU) 6-1, 6-0; 6. William & Mary won by default.  
Doubles: 1. No. 59 Olga Borisova/Cristina Arribas (VCU) d. No. 34 Megan Muth/Amy Wei (W&M) 8-3; 2. Cristina Gago/Silvia Urrikova (VCU) d. Kate Boomershine/Lingda Yang (W&M) 8-3; 3. William & Mary won by default.

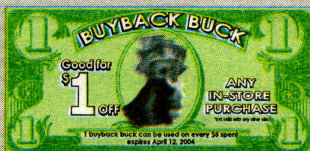
# What's in it for U?



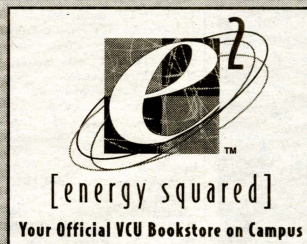
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## SPORTS

One death,  
two casualtiesJULIAN BENBOW  
Sports Editor

With all due respect to the family of fallen soldier and former Arizona Cardinal Pat Tillman, I'm going to have to extend my condolences **COMMENTARY** to Tampa Bay Buccaneers defensive lineman Simeon Rice.

In February 2003, fresh off a Super Bowl victory, Rice went on the Jim Rome Show to talk with the edgy radio host. Tillman had joined the U.S. Army 10 months earlier, and Rice played with Tillman in Arizona before leaving for Tampa Bay, so Rome asked Rice what he thought about Tillman's sacrifice.

Rice's response?  
"He really wasn't that good, not really... Maybe it's the Rambo movies, maybe it's Sylvester Stallone, Rocky, whatever compels him. Maybe it's the 9-11 tragedy. Kudos to him."

Last Thursday Tillman was killed in an ambush while serving in Afghanistan.

Try getting any sleep after hearing that news.

The past few months haven't been great for Rice as is. Sure he was a Pro Bowl selection for the third time after a season with 15 sacks and two interceptions, but he didn't even get to stay the whole weekend in Hawaii.

He suffered through a 7-9 season with the defending-champion Bucs, then was sent home from Honolulu for disciplinary reasons.

Not even three months later, Rice finds out that the scrub he wrote off as an XFL talent that watches way too much TV died in Afghanistan protecting his country.

For the next week, Rice is going to flip from channel to channel and see Tillman as an American hero that gave up the pampered lifestyle of a professional athlete to do what he felt was his duty.

He's going to open the newspapers and read about how Tillman didn't want any media attention or PR. He wanted to be treated like any other soldier.

He's going to have to hear about how the University of Arizona will establish a scholarship in Tillman's name and how the Arizona Cardinals will retire Tillman's No. 42 after the 2004-2005 season.

All the talk about how good Tillman was as a person will have to eat away at Rice.

I'm not at all sorry for Rice if he loses anyone's respect, but if he is haunted by the utterly stupid words he said on a talk radio show and slowly loses his sanity, he has my condolences.

## Pats take series from Rams

From news sources.

FAIRFAX — Gone. Matt Prendergast's perfect record, his streak of 35 starts without a loss in the Colonial Athletic Association, Virginia Commonwealth's streak of seven CAA ROUNDUP CAA series

wins, and its four-game winning streak over George Mason all gone.

Brent Hitz allowed one run in seven innings, and Bruce Baldwin went 3-for-4 with a RBI triple in a three-run eighth inning as the Patriots (13-2 CAA, 27-11) beat the Rams (10-5, 26-16), taking two of the weekend's three games for the first time since 2002.

Hitz (3-0) retired the Rams' first 12 batters and tied his career high of five strikeouts in just his fifth start of the season.

Prendergast (8-1) threw seven innings, giving up a pair of runs on nine hits, but opened the floodgates in the eighth by walking GMU left fielder Adam Innerst to lead off the inning.

Reliever Cla Meredith finished off the eighth for VCU, but allowed Innerst and two more runners to score.

The Rams plated their only run in the fifth inning. Barrett Ripley's sacrifice fly drove in right fielder Joe Meader, who led off the inning with his team-leading sixth triple.

The Patriots, No. 4 in the CAA preseason poll, are now three games ahead of the Rams in the standings. GMU has held down the top spot since it started conference play with a sweep of William and Mary.

George Mason has three conference series remaining at Towson, at home against Delaware, and at James Madison. The three teams combine for a 16-22 record in the CAA.

The Rams, face William and Mary this weekend, UNC Wilmington the next, and sandwich a home game

between trips to Delaware to end the season - an 18-17 combined mark.

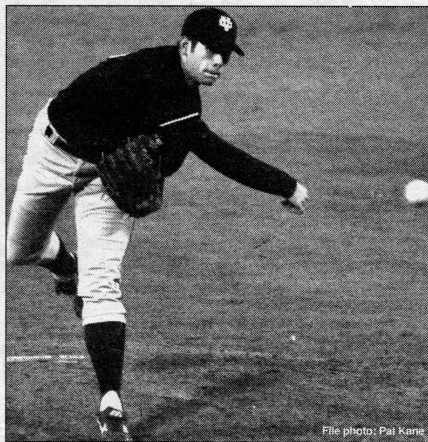
VCU.....000 010 000 - 1 6 6  
GMU.....001 010 03x - 5 11 0  
Prendergast, Meredith (8) and Parrish; Hitz, Morrison (7) Mills (9) and Jacobsen. W - Hitz. L - Prendergast.

In other CAA games:

■ **Dukes 6, Pride 5:** James Madison hit five doubles and starting pitcher Brian Leatherwood pitched a complete game to sweep Hofstra, at University Field. Shortstop Davis Stoneburner went 3-for-5 for the Dukes with his 13th double of the season. The Pride only managed two hits off Dukes starter Brian Leatherwood through the eighth inning. This marks the second time this season the Pride has been swept at home.

■ **Blue Hens 11, Tigers 8:** Kelly Buber went 2 for 4 with three RBI to extend his hitting streak to 17 games and Brian Valichka also drove in three runs as Delaware downed Towson after blowing a 7-0 lead. The win extends the Blue Hens streak of 20-win seasons to 32 years while the Tigers lost for the fifth time in their last seven games.

■ **Monarchs 9, Tribe 3:** Steven Harris had three hits and two RBI, while pitchers Dana Arrowood and Ricky Shefka and held the Tribe to three runs, fanning nine as Old Dominion defeated William and Mary. Keith Hahn had three hits and scored twice, Bryan Cipolla had two hits and Brandon Carter scored twice along with his two RBI.



Orenduff went nine innings Friday in VCU's only win of the series.

| Baseball standings | Conference |    |      | All games |    |      |       |      |     |
|--------------------|------------|----|------|-----------|----|------|-------|------|-----|
|                    | W          | L  | Pct. | W         | L  | Pct. | H     | A    | N   |
| George Mason       | 13         | 2  | .867 | 27        | 11 | .711 | 14-4  | 9-6  | 4-1 |
| VCU                | 10         | 5  | .667 | 26        | 16 | .619 | 20-9  | 6-7  | 0-0 |
| James Madison      | 7          | 5  | .583 | 26        | 13 | .667 | 19-7  | 7-6  | 0-0 |
| William & Mary     | 8          | 7  | .533 | 28        | 14 | .667 | 19-4  | 7-9  | 2-1 |
| UNC Wilmington     | 6          | 5  | .545 | 20        | 16 | .556 | 18-6  | 6-10 | 0-0 |
| Old Dominion       | 6          | 9  | .400 | 17        | 24 | .415 | 14-14 | 3-8  | 0-2 |
| Delaware           | 4          | 7  | .364 | 20        | 16 | .556 | 13-7  | 6-9  | 1-0 |
| Towson             | 5          | 10 | .333 | 14        | 24 | .368 | 10-11 | 4-13 | 0-0 |
| Hofstra            | 3          | 12 | .200 | 11        | 24 | .314 | 8-12  | 3-12 | 0-0 |

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

From news sources

## Tennis racks up CAA honors

VCU's men's and women's tennis teams took half of the Colonial Athletic Association's end-of-the-year awards. Ranked No. 122 in the nation, Arnaud Le Cloerec became the eighth VCU player in the past nine years to claim CAA Rookie of the Year honors. Le Cloerec went 14-7 dual match record at No. 1 and No. 2 singles with victories over three nationally-ranked opponents this season.

On the women's side, Olga Borisova became the first VCU player since 2000 to receive CAA Rookie of the Year honors. Borisova, ranked 53rd nationally in singles in the latest ITA rankings, posted a 16-5 overall record at the number one and two positions, winning matches over four nationally ranked opponents this season in singles. She is also ranked 53rd nationally in doubles with partner Silvia Urickova and 59th nationally in doubles with partner Cristina Arribas.

Paul Kostin earned his seventh CAA men's Coach of the Year award in the past nine seasons after guiding No. 11 Virginia Commonwealth to a 21-3 record. The Rams defeated 12 nationally ranked opponents this season, including four who are currently ranked in the top 25.

## Wilson leads track at Penn Relays

Virginia Commonwealth's men's and women's track and field teams continued their 2004 spring season by participating in the prestigious Penn Relays on April 22nd and 23rd, highlighted by a school-record performance from senior Fallon Wilson in the women's shot put.

Wilson tossed 41 feet, 11 1/4 inches Thursday to best the previous school mark of 41-5 set by Nicole Beatty in 1994. She placed 21st overall in the event, three spots better than freshman teammate Ashley Rodgers, who put forth a throw of 39 feet, 8 3/4 inches.

Sophomore Tanika Brown tied for 10th in the women's high jump preliminaries after clearing 5-7.

On the men's side, VCU's 2004 CAA champion 4 x 100 relay team of freshmen James Frierson, Juron Williams, Eric Coleman and Marcus Tyus placed sixth in their heat in a time of 41.70 seconds. The women's 4 x 100 unit of sophomores Zanishia Usher and Courtney Green, junior Cheri Manning and freshman Tesonia Twine finished in 48.87 seconds to finish ninth in their respective bracket.

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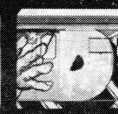
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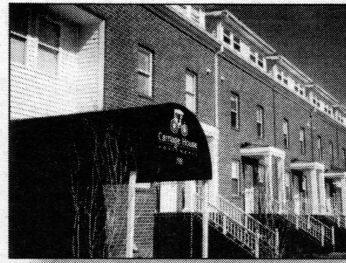
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## Spectrum

## ‘Kill Bill’ back for round 2

MELISSA LYNCH  
Spectrum Editor

“Kill Bill, Vol. 2” will shake you to the core.

Interwoven with expository sequences, director Quentin Tarantino pierces and drags you through action scenes. While it has less blood than “Vol. 1,” the violence is more psychologically grating.

Uma Thurman returns as the Bride who wants revenge. While the tone of the movie turns darker and more disturbing than its predecessor, the actors carry the heightened acting style throughout both movies.

Be forewarned: If you are expecting “Kill Bill, Vol. 1” again, you won’t get it.

The pace is far from the nonstop samurai action of the first, but “Vol. 2” fleshes out the story. It starts out slowly and builds up to scenes you will be talking about the next day.

Pai Mei (Gordon Liu) is the highlight of the “Kill Bill” saga. He appears in a flashback where the audience learns how Thurman’s character got so good. The sparring between the Bride and Pai Mei recaptures the energy of “Vol. 1.” Gordon Liu’s

Kill Bill: Volume 2  
Rated R for violence, language and brief drug use.  
★★★★ (out of five)

genius comes out through Pai Mei. His facial expressions and body language fills the film with much-needed comic relief.

No villain except Bill really adds up to O-Ren Ishii (Lucy Liu) from “Vol. 1,” but those are some big shoes to fill.

Budd (Michael Madsen), a former member of the Deadly Viper Assassination Squad turned pathetic white trash bouncer at a strip club, isn’t one of the more physical roles and therefore is the most

forgettable. However, Madsen’s subdued nature really highlights Thurman’s energy, which is phenomenal throughout the film.

The fight between Thurman and Elle Driver (Daryl Hannah) is priceless, but short. Hannah plays a great villainess, but there isn’t much depth to her character. There is no real connection between Hannah and the audience. Lucy Liu and Thurman are both captivating, while Hannah is more obviously over-the-top.

Tarantino really set the bar too high with Lucy Liu in “Vol. 1,” because Madsen and Hannah really don’t come close to touching her, which is rather disappointing.

Bill (David Carradine) really scratches that spot that’s been itching since the beginning of “Vol. 1.” He is charismatic and even likable in an evil kind of way. Most importantly, Carradine doesn’t make him too big. And Bill still has enough mystery about him to keep “Kill Bill” chat rooms buzzing.

“Vol. 2” finishes the saga well. Before you realize it, it will be over and you’ll be begging for another round.

‘Volume 2’ reveals the Bride’s backstory, including how she was trained.

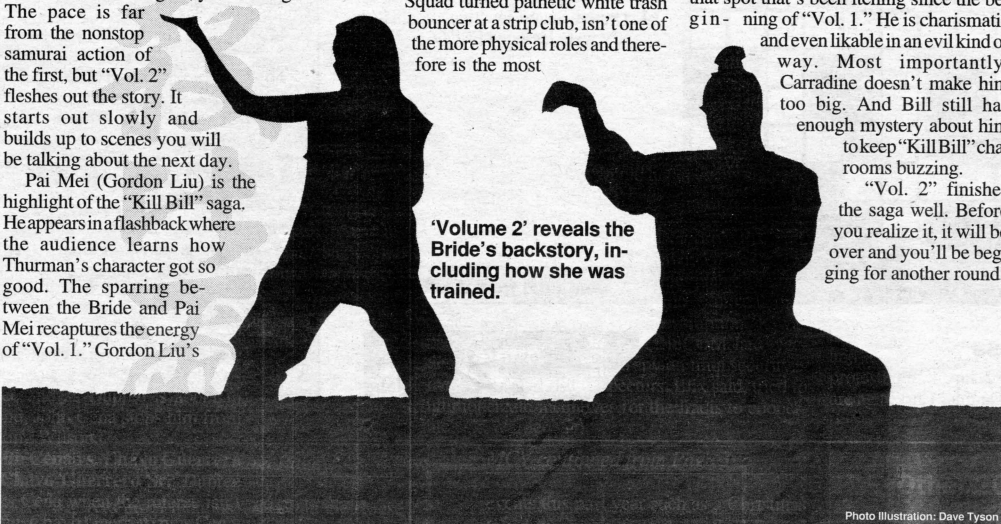


Photo Illustration: Dave Tyson

## Carbon Leaf gives back to city

BENJAMIN GIBSON  
Spectrum Writer

“Are we boring you?” asked singer Barry Privett, lead singer of Carbon Leaf, a Richmond band that performed at a benefit concert for the Hanover Habitat for Humanity in a Mechanicsville church.

The crowd response was overwhelming: No.

Carbon Leaf opened the concert early to the glee of the crowd.

Privett joked that the band had to be calmer in the church because band members “couldn’t hide behind the instruments like we can hide behind the acoustic amplifiers which are common at our normal shows.”

Privett said Carbon Leaf has a new CD coming out and they will be performing again at Brown’s Island.

The crowd was mostly high school students and some were involved with the Habitat for Humanity project.

“It was lovely and I’ve always wanted to see the band,” said Cathy Loving, an audience member.

Event volunteers like Marcia McGoward said the members of Carbon Leaf are “fantastic and down to earth guys.”

The set list included “American Tale,” “Get Me to the Church on Time” and a song about maintaining friendships.

Privett said Carbon Leaf also donates to a few charities.

“Each year we give a box of nails to Habitat for Humanity,” he jokingly said. “We feel pretty good about that.”

Before the concert Millard Fuller, the founder and president of Habitat for Humanity International, spoke urging people to get involved in Habitat for humanity. He especially encouraged teenagers to volunteer.

Fuller said Hanover Habitat for Humanity hopes to build between five and 10 houses each year. Currently, they build one house each year.

## About Habitat for Humanity

Millard and Linda Fuller established Habitat for Humanity on the concept of building simple housing in partnership with those who lack adequate shelter.

Homeowners and volunteers build the houses under trained supervision.

Habitat for Humanity built more than 150,000 houses since 1976.

Its efforts have provided housing for more than 650,000 people in about 92 countries.

Houses are sold for no profit, with no interest charges on the mortgages.

For more information, visit [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).

WHILE  
You Were Out

## WWE SmackDown!

**Rob Van Dam vs. Booker T:** A pyrotechnic explosion goes off and while RVD is distracted, Booker T rolls him up for a pin.

Paul Heyman says he is in charge while Kurt Angle recovers. Heyman accuses RVD of disgracing ECW. He also accuses the Dudley Boyz of becoming caricatures of their former ECW selves. In response, the Dudley Boyz attack RVD. Heyman calls it “a good start.”

**Charlie Haas and Rico vs. Rikishi and Scotty 2 Hotty, Tag Team Championship match:** Haas is disturbed at being Rico’s partner. Haas pins Scotty 2 Hotty.

**Bradshaw vs. El Gran Luchadore:** Mexican wrestling champion El Gran Luchadore challenged Bradshaw at the airport. Bradshaw wins by pin.

Torrie Wilson is the first guest on the new Café Rene segment. Renee Dupree says Wilson is responsible for Angle’s injury. Wilson slaps Dupree and as Dupree is about to respond, John Cena stops him from attacking Wilson.

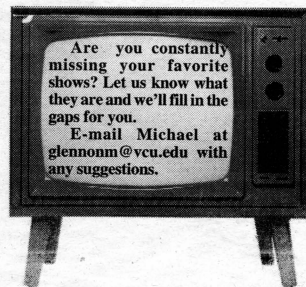
**John Cena vs. Chavo Guerrero and Chavo Guerrero Sr.:** Dupree attacks Cena when the referee isn’t looking. Chavo Guerrero pins Cena.

Booker T says he’s the biggest thing to hit “SmackDown.” The lights dim and the Undertaker’s trademark bell tolls, so Booker T runs away.

**Eddie Guerrero vs. a Dudley Boy:** D-Von Dudley ends up being Eddie Guerrero’s opponent. Both are counted out, but Heyman insists the match much re-start until there is a winner. D-Von pins Eddie Guerrero, although Bubba Ray Dudley held D-Von Dudley’s feet for leverage. After the match, Bradshaw attacks Eddie Guerrero.

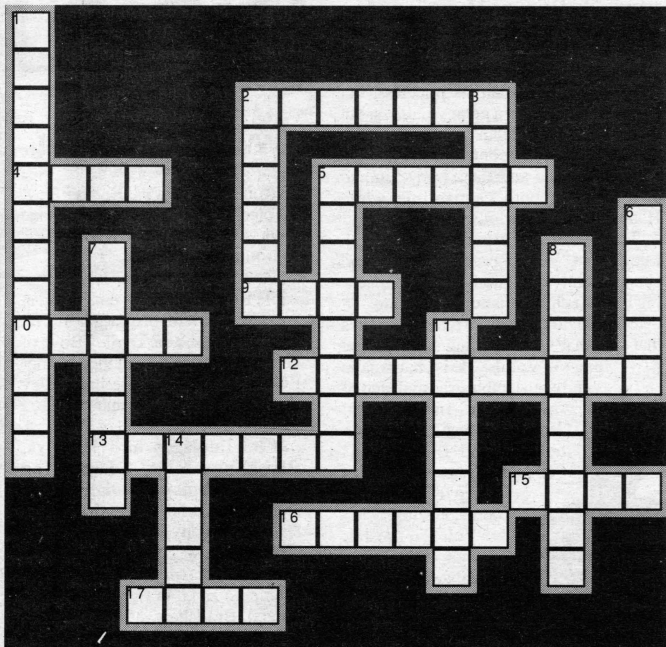
Are you constantly missing your favorite shows? Let us know what they are and we’ll fill in the gaps for you.

E-mail Michael at [glennom@vcu.edu](mailto:glennom@vcu.edu) with any suggestions.



# Spectrum

## CT Crossword: Current Events



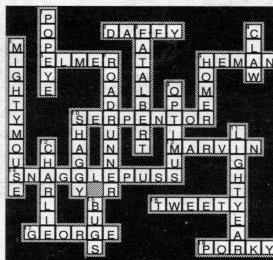
### Down

1. County in which a grand jury has indicted Michael Jackson
2. Greek voters rejected a U.N. plan to unify this territory while Turkish voters supported it
3. Two of these collided in North Korea
5. Hundreds of thousands gathered in Washinton, D.C. to rally for this
6. South Africa's re-elected president
7. President Bush opposed publishing photos of these, citing privacy concerns
8. The government can seek the death penalty against this man, the Richmond federal appeals court decided
11. It's going up for VCU students
14. United States sanctions against this country were lessened Friday

### Across

2. Not in the draft, not at Ohio State; what's this football player to do?
4. The National Zoo closed its display of these animals after a Tuberculosis scare
5. Ariel Sharon said targeting this man is no longer off limits
9. China's first death this year by this illness happened Friday
10. Iraqi police arrested five Iraqis in connection to suicide bombings in this city
12. Japanese automaker parting ways with Daimler Chrysler
13. Ex-NFL player killed in combat
15. Positive AIDS tests have nearly ground this industry to a halt
16. Arrested "7th Heaven" star
17. The world's largest ocean liner, named after this queen, completed its first Atlantic crossing

### Solutions from April 22



## Happenings

### Monday, April 26

**Melinda Johnson and Craig Beaven** read work at 1708 Gallery's Moveable Feast. 6 p.m.  
319 W. Broad St. 643-7829

**Vesna Stankovic and the Richmond Symphony** play music of Russian composers Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich at St. Michael's Catholic Church. \$40. 8 p.m.  
4491 Springfield Road 788-1212

**The Chinese Stars and Hallelujah** play at the Nanci Raygun. \$6. 10 p.m.  
929 W. Grace St. 353-4263

### Tuesday, April 27

**Shawn Mullins opens for the Indigo Girls** at the Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts. \$30.50 or \$34.50. 7:30 p.m.  
600 E. Grace St. 225-9000

**Members of Sublime and the Long Beach Dub All-Stars combine in Long Beach Shortbus**, which will play at Alley Katz. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. 6 p.m.  
10 Walnut Alley 643-2816

The Anderson Gallery holds VCU's **MFA Thesis Exhibition Round 1**. See work from all the tracks: painting, printmaking, communication arts and design, sculpture, crafts, photography and interior design, now through May 2.  
907 1/2 W. Franklin St. 828-1522

### Wednesday, April 28

**ArtWorks exhibits** work by graduate photo students at VCU through the April 30.  
320 Hull St. 291-1400

Over 50 original works of various forms by **VCU alumna Jennifer Goldberger** are on display at Old World Prints Ltd. through April 30. Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2601 Floyd Avenue 213-0600

**Got something going on? Have the inside track on some hot info? E-mail Melissa at lynchmd@vcu.edu**

## Zodiac Cookies



## Zodiac Cookies

- Taurus:** Rule out nothing, except the unruly.  
**Gemini:** Keep your head about you. It'll do you no good to leave it at home.  
**Cancer:** You're set. Nothing can stop you now except a brick wall. Just to be safe, think about plaster or wood for your new home interior.  
**Leo:** It's time to finish things. Invest in a good wax or polish.  
**Virgo:** You embark on a new enterprise. Sorry, it's not a spaceship.  
**Libra:** You debunk an old theory. Now where's the poor old theory going to sleep?  
**Scorpio:** You get the best of both worlds. Unfortunately, the worlds are Neptune and Pluto. Enjoy your frozen rock.  
**Sagittarius:** Something happens this week. Or not.  
**Capricorn:** You're a superstar; just avoid going supernova.  
**Aquarius:** You're out of the running, which is good. You can rest your legs.  
**Pisces:** Now is a good time to find yourself. Maybe you're at home. Try there.  
**Aries:** Count your blessings. It won't take long.



# COMICS

## Shoulder Chips

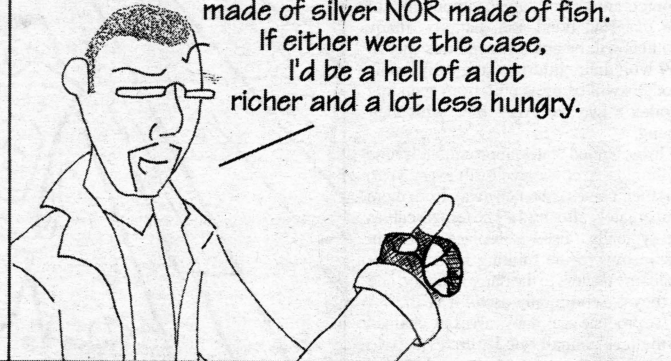
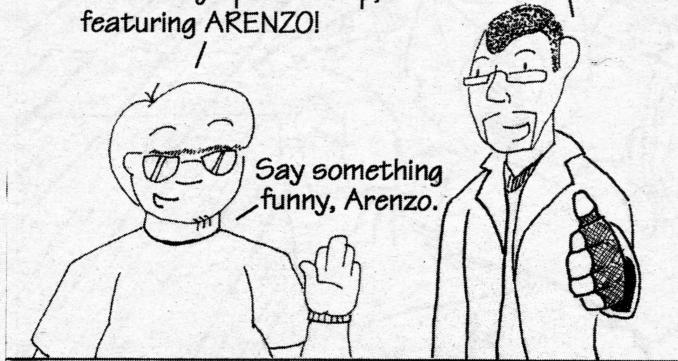
Pete Temple

Hey there, loyal readers!  
We have a very special strip,  
featuring ARENZO!

Hello ladies!

Good people, I'd like to make a statement  
regarding silverfish. They are neither  
made of silver NOR made of fish.  
If either were the case,  
I'd be a hell of a lot  
richer and a lot less hungry.

Say something  
funny, Arenzo.

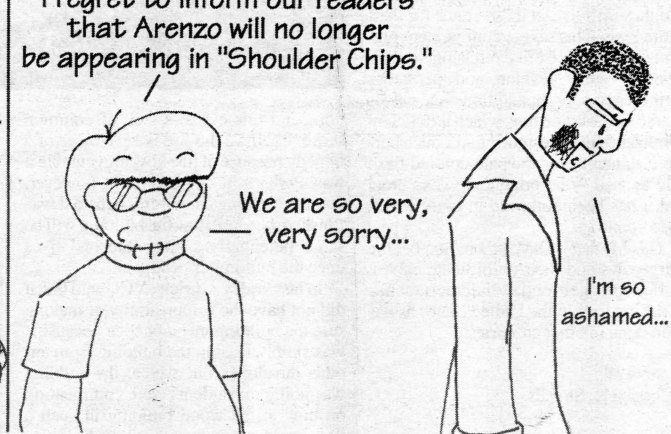


JOEBO,  
SIC HIM!

I regret to inform our readers  
that Arenzo will no longer  
be appearing in "Shoulder Chips."

We are so very,  
very sorry...

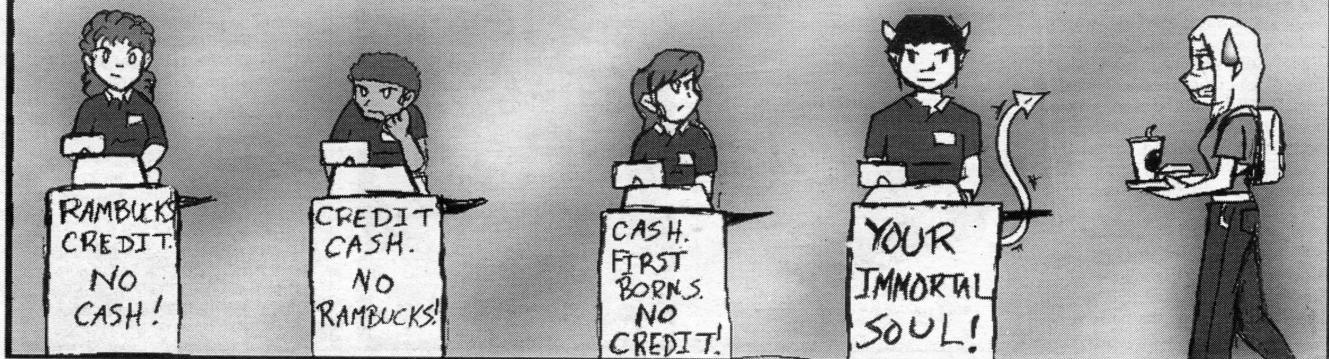
I'm so  
ashamed...



## KAYSODEEYAS!

Erik Walton & Miki Owen

Commons Lunchline: A variety of ways to pay!



# EDITORIALS & LETTERS

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Mother's Day is a time for honoring our mothers and celebrating the importance of the maternal bond and, happily, many mothers will be able to spend this special day with their children. Tragically, some mothers will be prevented from spending Mother's Day, or ANY day, with their young.

In the United States, approximately nine million dairy cows give birth every year, and their calves are taken away from them immediately after birth. The female calves are typically raised to replace worn-out dairy cows in the milking herd, but the males are useless to the dairy industry, and so they are commonly used for veal.

To produce veal, baby calves are chained by the neck in small wooden crates just two feet wide. They cannot turn around, stretch their limbs, or even lie down comfortably, and they will live in these crates for their entire lives. This severe confinement prevents the calves from exercising so their muscles cannot develop, and this keeps their meat tender. In addition, veal calves are fed an all-liquid diet, which is deficient in iron and fiber—designed to produce borderline anemia and the pale-colored flesh sold as veal. Veal production is so cruel that it has been outlawed in other developed countries.

This Mother's Day, let's remember the dairy cows and their unfortunate calves, and let's pledge to outlaw the cruel practice of raising veal in the United States as has been done in other countries.

Sincerely,  
Jessica K. Stovall

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Editor,

I was appalled to read on last Friday's front page of the Richmond Times-Dispatch that the 933 W. Broad St. student housing development, the building that caused the Broad Street fire, failed to meet city building codes. This failure, I believe, is a large reason the damage from the fire to surrounding buildings was as extensive as it was. Had the walls been constructed out of something other than wood, as the code specified, the damage to nearby buildings like the Broad Street Parking Deck and the arts building might have been more limited.

In addition, an April 9 article links the cause of the fire to discarded cigarettes. Discarded cigarettes! Cigarettes, which are flammable, were mixed right in with ordinary trash. Between the code viola-



BY MATT MACHADO

tions and this careless lack of common sense, I believe the fire is even more of a tragedy because of just how preventable it was. Perhaps it is a good thing, however, that the building caught fire before it was finished, because now the building will be safer, potentially saving students' lives once the building is occupied.

In last Friday's article, VCU said that it did not have the responsibility of making sure the building met city code because it was simply leasing the building from another developer, but even as the building was going up students were commenting on how an all-wood building in such a dense urban area was an incredible fire hazard. I would hope that in the future the university would take a more active role in ensuring quality, adherence to standards and the safety of its students when procuring services like student housing from third-party contractors.

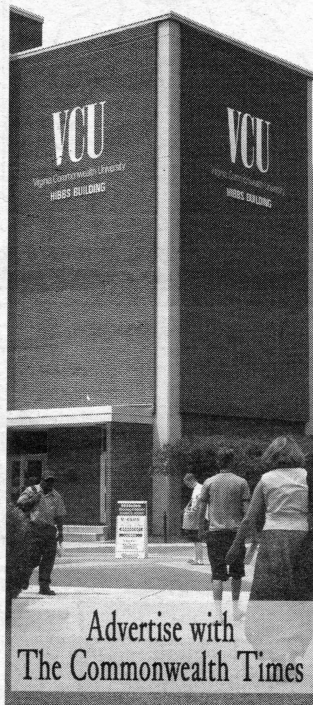
Sincerely,  
Omar Yacoubi

We want to hear from you!



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## THE Commonwealth TIMES

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Executive Editor

**PATRICK RYAN**  
Editor of the Editorial Pages

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Michael Dickinson • Terry Burton  
Alexander Marra • Erik Naimon  
Jeffrey Z. Qureshi • Lisa Chun  
Sean Van Damme

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We reserve the right to edit all letters for grammar, style and space. Letters should not exceed one single-spaced typed page. Letters must be signed and must include daytime and evening phone numbers.

Please send letters to [CTeditor03@yahoo.com](mailto:CTeditor03@yahoo.com). Mailing address: P. O. Box 842010, Richmond, VA 23284-2010. Drop box location: Room 1149, T. Edward Temple Building.

## Op/Ed

## Oh Danny Boy, the Pipes are appalling

LISA CHUN  
Op/Ed Writer

On Tuesday, April 27, the well-known political analyst and commentator, Daniel Pipes, will present a lecture at VCU titled



"U.S., Israel, and the Politics of Peace" at 7 p.m. at the VCU Student Commons. I look forward to this event, which is free to VCU students, because our university will prove its support for true American values by offering students the

chance to hear words from a true American patriot.

My source for this admiration is from Pipe's Jan. 24, 2003 article in The New York Post called "The Enemy Within." In this article Pipes calls for Americans to show their dedication, concern and respect for the security of this nation. Of course

this dedication, concern and respect must come in the form of religious profiling, according to Pipes. Pipes stated, "There is no escaping the unfortunate fact that Muslim government employees in law enforcement, the military and the diplomatic corps need to be watched for connections to terrorism, as do Muslim chaplains in prisons and the armed forces. Muslim visitors and immigrants must undergo additional background checks. Mosques require a scrutiny beyond that applied to churches and temples."

I ask, why not agree with him? As Americans it is part of our job to save our freedom by scrutinizing Muslims. We must protect our liberty by butchering our core values on liberty. Part of our problems lies in mosques, in the presence of Muslims around us daring to live their

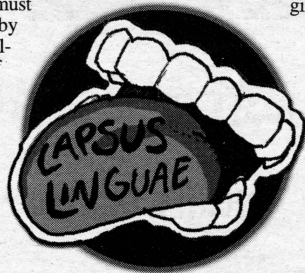
lives in America.

Then again, if this is true, do I still want to be an American patriot? Well, what I really believe is that these are not actual American values. Despite my previous sardonic views on America, I have faith in this nation. I have faith that even though we can skew our good intentions and that even though we mess up every now and then, we are a good nation. My loyalty is conditional though. I believe that our government is what it intended to be: an institution to serve the people that will only gain and keep authority if it fulfills its principals, including its promise to respect every race, ethnicity and religion.

So I disagree with Pipes, even though I understand his reasoning. I understand that as a nation we are facing some intimidating threats from certain Muslim

extremists. Yet we cannot give in to the lowly desires that arise from fear. Our defense for America must not only come in iron fists and scrutiny but in standing by our ideals that make this a country worth fighting for in the first place. I believe that if our government intrudes their hunt inside such places as mosques that they are again skewing their good intentions, and as I said earlier, I will not stand by or uphold such actions. Profiling is not a value I will respect and that is why I have reason to doubt Pipes and this upcoming presentation.

So I will not show support for Pipes on April 27 because I believe that he has poor views on our nation's beliefs. I'd rather have our country face danger than fall into a crazed movement of prejudice and lose our decency. I also must say to Pipes that if he loves this country and hates terrorism, he will tell the students of VCU that our country is strengthened by its unity and respect for each other, not by suspicion and discrimination. And then I can call him a patriot with a serious heart.



## Women deserve tolerance and support

TERRY BURTON  
Op/Ed Writer

Tolerance. With controversial bills being signed into law recently, such as the Laci and Connor Bill which makes it a separate crime to harm a fetus during the commission of a felony, and a proposed amendment to ban homosexuals from being allowed to marry, tolerance is bound to be a big political issue this election year.

Yet one doesn't have to look to the national level to see the need for increased tolerance of others viewpoints. Sadly, examples can be found right here on our campus. Allow me to explain. Early this past week, coming from one of my classes I noticed fliers posted on one of the bulletin boards in Hibbs suggesting ways to end violence against women and steps men can take to help put an end to it. Glancing over the fliers I saw that they included rarely broadcast facts, such as, "One in four women will be the victim of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime," and that most violence against women does not come from strangers but from intimates of the women.

Being a women's studies minor, I was already aware of these facts and was glad to see that they were being given public expo-

sure, as the first step to solving any problem is to make people aware of it.

Unfortunately, not everyone seems to share the view that violence against women is a major problem in our society and men need to take an active part in stopping it. Two days later as I was walking out of class I noticed the fliers had been defaced. Someone had written in red ink "bulls—t" on one of them and "men rule" on another.

Ironically, it is the fact that men do indeed "rule" in this society that the problem of violence against women goes largely ignored. For example, the major news networks cover the continuing violence in Iraq and yet pay little to no attention to the war against women that is going on in our own nation.

They don't report on the fact that every four days a woman dies, in Virginia alone, as a result of domestic violence. Nor do they report that approximately every two minutes a woman somewhere is raped. In fact, rape only makes the news if it is particularly brutal, or involves a celebrity trial. In such instances, the media often puts the victim on trial despite laws that make her past inadmissible as evidence in court.

Never mind the fact that the woman has been victimized once already — dredging up every facet of her past makes for a much better story for the viewing audience. Of course, the perpetrator's history is rarely, if ever, brought to the public's attention. Why? In large part due to our continued acceptance of sexual double standards where men

are "studs" for sleeping around, whereas women are looked down upon for equally enjoying their sexuality freely.

There are those who still believe that a woman is "asking for it" if she is beaten or raped, as I imagine the mentality is of the individual who defaced the fliers.

However ignorant and backwards I may feel those opinions are, it is the right of the individual who defaced the fliers to possess

*"Violence against women is not just a woman's problem; it affects all of us and only by standing together can we stop it."*

them in this country, and I respect their right to their opinion. While that may be, it is a sad commentary that whoever defaced the fliers did not show equal respect for the opinion of those who created them and felt the only way to express his or her opinion was by attempting to censor and deride facts that they did not agree with or believe.

Perhaps most disturbing is the fact that this individual is not alone on this campus in holding these beliefs. On Wednesday, April 20, I approached one of the young women working with the Clothesline Project, a project intended to bring attention to the

plight of women who have been sexually assaulted or abused, because she was handing out copies of the fliers I had seen in the Hibbs building and I informed her of their being defaced. While the news seemed to bother her, it did not come as a surprise. She informed me that she had put some up in the restrooms, only to find later they had been torn down.

On the flier titled, "Things Men Can Do To Prevent Violence Against Women," one can find suggestions such as, "Support candidates for political office who are committed to the full social, economic, and political equality of women. Actively oppose candidates who are not."

Another statement found on the flier is, "Rapists speak in a male voice and act in our name. If it's not OK, say so in your voice, others will listen."

While the individual who wrote "men rule" on the fliers in Hibbs may have no problem with rapists hijacking our sex in the name of their masculinity, I certainly do have one.

Rapists no more have the right to speak in our name than does the individual who defaced the fliers. Violence against women is not just a woman's problem; it affects all of us and only by standing together can we stop it.

Men, as well as women, need to speak out against it and most importantly we need an atmosphere of tolerance for an honest dialogue to occur if we wish to see any real changes in the world.

# GEAR YOURSELF



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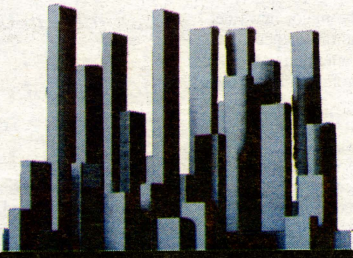
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