

THE LITTLE HONEYBEE MAKES HIS CARTOON DEBUT – PAGE 18

# The Commonwealth Times

**FREE**

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## IN THE NEWS

*Compiled from wire reports*

### Olmert declares victory in Israel election

**JERUSALEM**—After declaring victory in Israel's elections, acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's Kadima Party said Wednesday it would quickly form a broad ruling coalition that will carry out its plan to pull out of much of the West Bank and draw Israel's borders by 2010.

Party officials said that despite a weaker-than-expected performance in Tuesday's election, Kadima has widespread support in parliament.

Kadima won only 28 seats in the election, less than the 35 it had hoped for, but still made for the largest party in the 120-member parliament. Like every other ruling party in Israeli history, it will have to form a coalition government with other parties.

Haim Ramon, a senior Kadima lawmaker, told Israel Radio that the party is confident it will get broad backing for its withdrawal plan in parliament.

"I believe we will have more than 70 legislators who will support the disengagement plan," Ramon told Israel Radio, referring to the expected West Bank pullout.

### Taylor to be repatriated to Liberia

**ABUJA, Nigeria** — Nigeria's president ordered Wednesday that captured warlord Charles Taylor be immediately deported to Liberia, where he is wanted on war crimes charges.

President Olusegun Obasanjo, who is on a visit to

the United States, ordered his "immediate repatriation" to Liberia, Information Minister Frank Nweke said in a statement.

Taylor, who vanished Monday after Nigerian authorities reluctantly agreed to transfer him to a war crimes tribunal, was caught at Nigeria's border with Cameroon, national police spokesman Haz Iwendi told The Associated Press.

### Democrats pledge to 'eliminate' Osama

**WASHINGTON** — Congressional Democrats promise to "eliminate" Osama bin Laden and ensure a "responsible redeployment of U.S. forces" from Iraq in 2006 in an election-year national security policy statement.

In the position paper to be announced Wednesday, Democrats said they will double the number of special forces and add more spies, which they suggest will increase the chances of finding al-Qaida's elusive leader. They did not set a deadline for when all of the 132,000 American troops now in Iraq should be withdrawn.

"We're uniting behind a national security agenda that is tough and smart and will provide the real security George Bush has promised but failed to deliver," Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said in remarks prepared for delivery Wednesday.

His counterpart in the House, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Democrats are offering a new direction: "one that is strong and smart, which understands the

challenges America faces in a post 9/11 world, and one that demonstrates that Democrats are the party of real national security."

### Moussaoui offered to testify against himself

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** — In another twist to an already convoluted case, the jury deciding whether al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui will be executed learned that he offered last month to testify for prosecutors against himself at his death penalty trial.

He also told agents he did not want to die in prison, the jury was told Tuesday.

The disclosure, which came at the end of the testimony phase of Moussaoui's trial, provides the firmest evidence yet that 37-year-old Frenchman is seeking to derail his own defense in an effort to obtain martyrdom through execution.

It also could provide fodder for the closing arguments of both prosecutors and Moussaoui's court-appointed defense attorneys.

Closing arguments in the trial were set for Wednesday afternoon on whether Moussaoui's actions make him eligible for the death penalty. The jury must decide whether the only man charged in this country in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks will be executed or imprisoned for life. If the jury finds he is eligible for the death penalty, a second phase would determine whether a death sentence is imposed.

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# NEWS

## Jackson remembered by family, friends

### Vigil for student, father held Tuesday

**BREE SISON**  
Staff Writer

More than 200 people gathered Tuesday evening at a candlelight vigil to honor the life of VCU student Angel Janel Jackson and her father Herbert Sharpe Jr..

Alicia Rasin led the vigil in front of Jackson's home in the Sterling Forest community of Henrico County. The family's pastor, The Rev. Adlai Allen of Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church, assisted with the ceremony.



**Angel Jackson**

"She was the loving kind. She loved to dance. She was so happy," said Rasin, founder of Citizens Against Crime, who organized the vigil.

Jackson, 25, a fashion design and merchandising senior, planned to graduate in May. Adam Snyder, who attended the vigil and worked with Jackson at H & M, a clothing store in Short Pump Town Center, described Jackson as "fun-loving, focused and very goal-oriented."

A light rain fell as the ceremony opened. Some stood under umbrellas while others stood in the rain. The vigil included prayers and songs offered by members of Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church, where Jackson and her family attended services. Sobs could be heard as the minister offered sympathies to the family and friends at the very home where Jackson and her father were slain.

"We love you Angel. We love you Junie," gatherers said as they raised their flaming candles in the air at the conclusion of the 45-minute vigil.

"You could feel the love of God in this house," Rasin said of the Sharpe's family home in Henrico. "Take a moment each day and pray for this family."

Two ribbons displaying pictures of Jackson and Sharpe hung on a young tree in the front yard. Members of Jackson's church laid flowers by the tree, while others stopped to pray or cry at the makeshift memorial. Jackson's grandmother, Mary Sharpe, collapsed as she passed by the tree making her way back to the house.

Memorial ceremonies for Jackson and her father will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church in Goochland. For more information about the services, call the church office at (804) 457-4559.



**Alicia Rasin (center) comforts Mary Sharpe, a family member of the victims at a vigil held Tuesday, March 29 by the victims' Henrico home.**

Pat Kane

## Slain student embodied style, grace

**ASHLEE THOMAS**  
Staff Writer

Funeral services for Angel Janel Jackson, a VCU art student, are scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Chief Cornerstone Baptist Church, 1056 Rock Castle Road in Goochland.

Jackson, a 26-year-old fashion design and merchandising major, and her father, Herbert Levi Sharpe Jr., 51, were stabbed to death Saturday, March 25, at their home on Point Hollow Drive in Henrico County.

Jackson's stepmother, Blondene Sharpe, 49, and her stepbrother, Bryant Sharpe, 19, also were injured in the stabbing attacks inside their home. At noon Wednesday, VCU Medical Center reported that the two were in stable condition.

"Angel was the epitome of style and grace," said Amanda Davis, her childhood friend. "She had a wonderful sense of humor, a giving spirit and placed a strong value on loving her

family and friends. The most important thing I want people to know is that Angel came from a very loving family that extended beyond the reaches of her immediate family."

Alicia Rasin, founder of Citizens Against Crime, said the Commonwealth of Virginia has charged Jason Andrew James, 20, nephew of Blondene Sharpe, with two counts of first-degree murder. He is being held without bond for the death of Jackson and her father.

Karen Guthrie, chair of the Department of Fashion Design and Merchandising, said Jackson was excited about her commencement and looked forward to moving to New York to begin her professional career.

"Plans are being made to have Jackson's degree awarded to her family posthumously at our departmental ceremony on May 21," Guthrie said.

Nearly three years ago, Jackson transferred to VCU from

*JACKSON continued to Page 7*



## 3.25

**10:00 p.m. – “Orientation”** – The Official Strut Week Launch Party at Element Lounge. Located on 18th & Main Street.

<http://www.classescanceled.com>

## 3.27

**7:00 p.m. - Movie Makeover Monday | Battle of the Sexes:** The sexes battle to win a makeover. Richmond Salons I, II.

**8:00 p.m. - Zoolander:** Fashion Comedy Richmond Salons I, II.

## 3.28

**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Talk Tuesday: Scion car show.** Strut's title sponsor will have their cars on display. Commons Plaza.

**6:00 p.m. - Fashion Industry Panel Discussion:** A discussion about careers in the industry. ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center.

## 3.29

**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Walk Off Wednesday:** Open to all who think they have the fiercest walk on campus in front of our panel of judges. Commons Plaza.

## 3.30

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Designer Tent Show:** We're bringing New York to Richmond! The tent show featuring some of Virginia's up and coming designers. Commons Plaza.

## 3.31

**8:10 p.m. - International School of Strut Fashion Show 2006:** Come join us at the most talked about fashion show in VCU history. ALLTEL Pavilion at the Siegel Center.

\* “Graduation” - Official After Party at Element Lounge with DJ Lonnie B. controlling the crowd.

# International School of Strut: Fashion Week 2006

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# NEWS

## Honor code revision is main topic at latest SGA meeting

**ASHLEY SCHUROTT**  
Staff Writer

Monday's Student Government Association meeting came to a sudden halt as students rushed outdoors when a fire alarm sounded in the University Student Commons.

Before the meeting ended, Reuban Rodriguez, associate vice provost and dean of student affairs, presented a draft of the proposed VCU's Honor Code revisions the senators will vote on Monday, April 3.

"An approved honor committee," Rodriguez said, "is mandated by the provost to review the Honor Code. This committee is made up of students and faculty and

began meeting in the fall semester."

The Honor Code must be revised every three years, Rodriguez said Wednesday.

"Usually some sorts of revisions are made," he said. "We like to get feedback and hear their (SGA's) voice."

Still, the final decision concerning the proposed revisions on the Honor Code or any University document eventually go to VCU's Board of Visitors.

The Senate also heard about "Operation Ram the Streets," a plan to paint the Ram logo at specific places on VCU's Monroe Park Campus. Sen. Bryan Banning told the Senate he was inspired by similar plans at U.Va. and other colleges. It is part of an attempt to unify the

campus and provide a sense of spirit and community for students and others, he said. If passed, the logos would be painted in five to 10 different places around campus in high traffic areas.

Senators questioned Banning about who would design the stencil, where the funding would come from and when the painting would begin.

"Operation Ram the Streets," Banning said, "is still in the beginning stages of development."

In further action, Joyvan Malbon, SGA's vice president, proposed establishing a debate team that would include all branches of the student government. Debates, she said, would address such controversial topics as abortion and homosexuality.

## Sniper suspect to represent himself

*"There is no reason at all why I should not be able to represent myself in this trial. If I am incompetent now, I have been incompetent since the day I was born."*

— John Allen Muhammad, D.C.-area sniper suspect

**STEPHEN MANNING**  
Associated Press Writer

ROCKVILLE, Md. — A judge ruled Wednesday that John Allen Muhammad can represent himself at his trial for six killings during the 2002 Washington-area sniper attacks, the second time a court has done so.

Montgomery County Circuit Judge James L. Ryan ruled that Muhammad is competent to represent himself despite evidence presented by his own attorneys that Muhammad might be mentally ill.

"There is no reason at all why I should not be able to represent myself in this trial," Muhammad said at his hearing. "If I had a mental disorder, then Rosa Parks had a mental disorder, because she didn't get up off that seat."

Muhammad is already under a death sentence for a sniper attack committed in Virginia.

Muhammad, 45, and Lee Boyd Malvo, 21, are accused of murdering 10 people and wounding three during the three-week rampage in October 2002 that spread fear across the Washington metropolitan area.

Ryan refused Muhammad's request to delay the trial, set for May 1, in the six Montgomery County, Md., slayings. He could get a life sentence. Malvo, who was also convicted in Virginia and sentenced to life in prison, is scheduled to go on trial in the fall.

Muhammad often rambled during Wednesday's two-hour hearing, saying his lawyers ignored his requests for court records and refused to tell the judge he wanted to represent himself. He eventually wrote a letter to Ryan, dated March 11, asking for permission to fire his lawyers.

At one point, Muhammad asked the judge for permission to sit with the prosecutors because they agreed that

he is competent. Ryan ignored his request.

He also vehemently denied a psychiatrist's report, presented by his lawyers, stating that he is paranoid, delusional and has a form of schizophrenia.

"If I am incompetent now, I have been incompetent since the day I was born," Muhammad said.

Prosecutors challenged the diagnosis by Yale University psychiatrist Dorothy Lewis, saying she had commented to the media before Muhammad and Malvo were arrested that the sniper was likely psychotic. Prosecutor Vivek Chopra said the psychiatrist's report was biased and had been crafted to fit the earlier conclusion.

Ryan said he believed Muhammad understood the gravity of deciding to represent himself. But he repeatedly warned the defendant that he was potentially hobbling his case by going forward with no legal training and little courtroom experience.

The judge appointed Muhammad's defense attorneys, Paul DeWolfe and Brian Shefferman, as standby counsel to help him prepare for the trial. They said they have not decided whether to accept the assignment.

They said afterward that the judge had refused to hold a full hearing with witnesses.

"We feel we didn't get a chance to present and document evidence of a serious mental illness," DeWolfe said. "He is very ill; he is mentally ill."

Muhammad has seven boxes of court records with him in prison and a DVD that contains 30,000 pages of documents, according to testimony.

Muhammad briefly represented himself during his trial in Virginia, delivering an opening statement and cross-examining at least one witness. He allowed his attorneys to retake control of the case after he complained of pain from an abscessed tooth.

## OMSA speaker: Road to civil rights paved by sacrifices of many

**MARY BOYD**  
Staff Writer

Judge Roger Gregory spoke about issues in a multicultural society Monday night in the University Student Commons. This year marked the first annual multicultural conference held by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Gregory discussed the history of the United States and the struggles of those who wanted to see a culturally diverse society. He said the road to civil rights for all was paved by the lives and sacrifices of many. Gregory mentioned former Alabama governor George Wallace's unsuccessful attempt in 1963 to prevent integration at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa as well as the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

People shouldn't tolerate injustice of any form, Gregory said.

"No problem can be solved at the same level of consciousness that created it," he said. "You must transcend."

A graduate of Virginia State University, Gregory grew up in Petersburg, Va., and later opened the law firm Wilder & Gregory with Richmond Mayor L. Douglas Wilder.

Gregory is currently a judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, and is the first African-American to attain that commission. Gregory is also the only person in the nation's history to be appointed to the Court of Appeals by two presidents of different political parties.

Senior Sheena Davis, 22, said she attended the lecture because she is familiar with OMSA's programs.

"OMSA usually has really good programs," Davis said. "I am interested in seeing what the judge has to say about affirmative action in the future."

Senior Amber James, a criminal justice major, said she expected to be inspired by the lecture.

"I hope to be enlightened on different issues, and not think of it as a race or gender thing but as more than that," James said.



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Please Contact Hillel Advisor, Lisa Looney at  
[llooney@weinsteinjcc.org](mailto:llooney@weinsteinjcc.org)

# NEWS

## JACKSON continued from Page 3

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, where she had completed many prerequisites for the art major.

"She decided to go to J. Sargeant Reynolds as a full-time student and transferred to VCU, where she began the fashion (and) merchandising program," Davis said. "Through this program, Angel found her passion for life in fashion."

Rose Regni, assistant professor in the department, described Jackson as a sweet and inquisitive person who was always ready to learn more. Regni taught Jackson's fashion forecasting class last semester. She also taught Jackson this semester in an advanced store development course that prepares students to open their own retail apparel store.

"While other students might come to class with their ragged jeans and oversized sweatshirts on, Angel always looked pulled together and fashion-right," she said.

Davis said after graduation, Jackson wanted to move to New York City to work in the fashion industry.

"This week, we were supposed to be ordering her graduation announcements and sending her resume to companies in Houston and L.A.," Davis said. "I told her Friday night that she didn't know what path

*"Angel was the epitome of style and grace. She had a wonderful sense of humor, a giving spirit and placed a strong value on loving her family and friends."*

— Amanda Davis, childhood friend

God wanted her to walk and that perhaps she should expand her job search past New York."

Chimene Freeman, a VCU dance choreography graduate was Davis' and Jackson's best friend.

"What I will always remember about Angel is her love for dancing," Freeman said. "We became close through the time that we spent dancing together. Angel was very passionate about dance and fashion, and you could see it in everything that she touched."

Freeman and Jackson both were involved in an art center program devoted to visual arts, dance, musical theater and drama at Henrico High School.

Lee Chanley, chairperson for the center, remembers Jackson as a peacemaker whose positive attitude helped bridge the gap between many teachers and students.

"Angel held a great appreciation for dancing," Chanley said. "You could always spot her in the dance studio because she was so tall, statuesque and graceful. We are all saddened by what has happened."

To honor Jackson, the center will dedicate Thursday and Friday nights' concerts, titled "Rituals Repetition of the Myths," to Jackson. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at Henrico High School.

While attending VCU, Jackson worked part-time at H & M, a retail clothing store at Short Pump Town Center. Jackson's co-workers said Wednesday they were shocked by the news of her death.

"The night before the incident, all of the girls had gathered to celebrate with Nina (an H & M co-worker) for her birthday," said Meg Sellers, the store's visual merchandiser. "Angel was such an asset because she kept all the girls together so

that they were more than co-workers—they were best friends."

When the Short Pump mall opened nearly three years ago, Jackson was there ready to assist customers.





"She was distinctive because she had an amazing personality and truly loved her job, her co-workers and working with customers," Sellers said.

Davis recalled her last conversation with Jackson last Friday.

"In our last conversation, Angel told me that she was exhausted but was going to celebrate her co-worker's birthday," Davis said. "She loved her friends and family and was always looking to celebrate their accomplishments even if it meant sacrificing a few extra hours of sleep."

Jackson, Davis said, could be found at home in her pajamas, watching soap operas and spending time with her family when she wasn't studying or selling clothes.

"She was a wonderful daughter, sister, aunt and friend. Her family embraced each of her friends into their lives regardless of how long Angel knew us. I have so many fond memories of Angel," Davis said, adding that it was a special occasion when the two went to buy their prom dresses "because something off the rack just wouldn't do."

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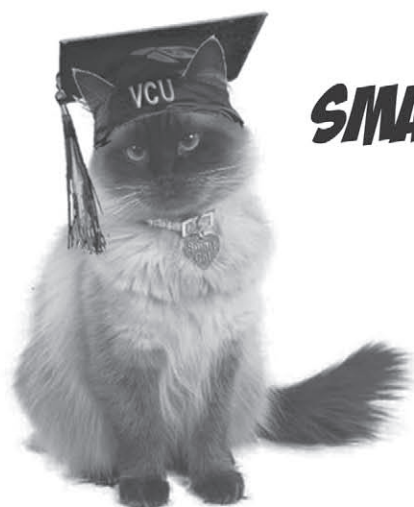
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## SPORTS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Baseball**

Fri. March 31  
vs. Georgia State, 7 p.m.

Sat. April 1  
vs. Georgia State, 3

Sun. April 2  
vs. Georgia State, 1

**Golf**

Sun.-Tues. April 2-4  
Forest Oaks Intercollegiate

**Men's Soccer**

Sat. April 8  
vs. VMI, Randolph-Macon,  
2 p.m.

**Women's Soccer**

Sat. April 1  
VCU Spring Invitational  
vs. Liberty, 11:30 a.m.  
vs. Reston Rockets, 5:30 p.m.

Sat. April 8  
at Wake Forest, TBA

**Men's Tennis**

Fri. April 7  
at South Florida, TBD

Fri. April 7  
vs. Louisville in  
Tampa, Fla.

**Women's Tennis**

Sun. April 9  
at Old Dominion, 1 p.m.

**Men's Track and Field**

Sat. April 1  
at UNC Charlotte, 1 p.m.

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at Christopher Newport, 1

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**MEN'S TENNIS****Rams make Blue Devils look sheepish**

*Lecloerec seals VCU's rally over No. 4 Duke*

**CLIVE WHITE**  
*Sports Reporter*

The reason why an odd number of matches are played in tennis was clear when Virginia Commonwealth University took on No. 4 Duke Wednesday at the Thalhimer Tennis Center.

No. 21 Arnaud Lecloerec (Plouhinec, France) took down the Blue Devil's top player and the nation's fourth-ranked Ludovic Walter 6-7, 6-3, 7-6, finishing off a Rams rally and sealing a 4-3 victory.

Down early from the start, the Rams showed both their coach Paul Kostin and the Blue Devil's coach Jay Lapidus their grit when the competition seemed to be coming to an end.

"I'm proud of my players," Kostin said. "We were down early and they showed their heart to win."

When Lecloerec came out on top against Walter in a tiebreak, Lapidus, along with the home crowd, clapped.

"They just played really well today," Lapidus said. "They were down, came back, and my hat is off to them."

The Blue Devils took the vic-

tory in doubles play, winning two of three matches. The premier match was a hard fought win with the 29th ranked team of Jonathan Stokke and Joey Atas defeating the 34th-ranked team of Petr Olsak (Novy Jicin, Czech Republic) and Lecloerec in a 9-8 match in which short points ruled and mistakes killed.

That momentum seemingly carried over to the singles portion of the competition, where the Blue Devils again won two of the first three matches. The only way the Rams were going to win was to sweep the three remaining matches, and with junior Sergi Arumi (Barcelona, Spain) already down 5-3, the outlook seemed to foreshadow a capital L.

Yet Arumi showed emotion and grit on the court, screaming and pumping his fists after each point, which affected his opponent Joey Atas' game.

"I was down 5-3, but I kept believing. Believing in myself that I can win, and I knew the team was coming back" Arumi said. "At any moment I was



Pat Kane

**Arnaud Lecloerec battles Duke's Ludovic Walter.**

going down at 5-3 but I saw he was struggling to end the set and I thought, 'Now it is my time'. I won four games in a row playing amazing. It was amazing."

With the home crowd yelling encouragement at Arumi's back, he secured the set 7-5 and won his match. With Georges-Alexandre Israel (Marseille, France) soon after defeating Kiril Dimitrov, the stage was set for all eyes to focus on Lecloerec and Walter trading volleys at center court for the

deciding match.

The two men played an incredibly even match, with each breaking the other's serve once. The tension was getting tighter and tighter as the match wore on, with each player inspecting calls when earlier they had played through. The even match was taken into a tiebreaker, where Lecloerec pulled away by hitting winners and forcing Walter to attempt shots his racquet did not want to make, giving the Rams the victory.

The Blue Devils had their chances to end the day early several times but could not get lady luck on their side, and that mixed with the character of the Rams cost them a win.

"We were up 5-3 and lost, and it's rare that (Walter) loses a set 6-3," Lapidus said.

It is also rare for the Rams to defeat the Blue Devils, who came to Richmond holding a 23-1 winning record over VCU. Still, as tough a victory as this was over a high-ranked opponent, Kostin reacted normally, clapping his hands and congratulating his players.

"It's unbelievable, I am happy, but I am happy every time we win," he said.



Pat Kane

**Petr Olsak (right) returns a volley as doubles partner Arnaud Lecloerec looks on.**

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS



VCU's Quanitra Hollingsworth stands head and shoulders above the competition.

Pat Kane

### Hollingsworth named All-American

**Quanitra Hollingsworth** (Chesapeake/Great Bridge High School) became the first-ever freshman named to the Women's Basketball News Service's Freshman All-American Team. Hollingsworth led VCU in scoring, rebounding, blocked shots, free throws and field goal percentage. Her 11.1 rebounds-per-game average is second only to freshman of the year Courtney Paris among NCAA freshman. Paris is seventh over all in rebounds nationally.

### Three men's tennis players honored

VCU's **Francesc Lleal** (Barcelona, Spain) was named Colonial Athletic Conference Player of the Week, for the week ending March 20.

**Arnaud Lecloerec** (Plouhinec, France) and **Petr Olsak** (Novy Jicin, Czech Republic) were named doubles team of the week during the same week.

### Women's tennis rolls against cross-town rival

**Tatsiana Uvarova** (Minsk, Belarus), **Marianna Yuferova** (St. Petersburg, Russia), **Olga Borisova** (Minsk, Belarus) and **Vera Petrashevitch** (St. Petersburg, Russia) earned victories in singles and doubles as the Rams claimed their 20th straight victory to begin the season, dropping cross-town rival Richmond 6-1 on Tuesday.

The 14th-ranked pair of Yuferova and Borisova cruised to an 8-2 win at the top doubles position, and Uvarova and Petrashevitch prevailed 8-4 at the No. 2 doubles position.

### Men's basketball to play in 'paradise'

Coach **Jeff Capel** announced that the Rams would travel to the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam in St. Thomas in November to compete in the eight-team tournament.

— Compiled from CT resources

# STANDINGS

## CAA BASEBALL

	CAA		Overall
	W	L	W-L
Old Dominion	9	0	(25-3)
James Madison	9	0	(19-5)
UNC Wilmington	4	2	(20-6)
Northeastern	4	2	(9-8)
<b>Virginia Commonwealth</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>(13-11)</b>
George Mason	6	6	(11-15)
Georgia State	4	5	(11-14)
Hofstra	3	6	(10-16)
William & Mary	3	9	(8-16)
Towson	1	8	(8-17)
Delaware	0	6	(11-10)

(Updated through March 28)

## UPCOMING GAMES

	Fri. 3/31	Sat. 4/1	Sun. 4/2
<b>Georgia State at VCU</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
UNC Wilmington at Northeastern	2:30	1:00	1:30
Delaware at Towson	3:00	1:00	1:00
Georgia State at Hofstra	3:00	2:00	1:00
James Madison at Old Dominion	7:00	5:00	2:00
Hofstra at William & Mary	7:00	4:00	1:00



Pat Kane

## SCORES

### Tues. March 28

Navy 11, George Mason 9 (10 innings)  
 Towson 12, George Washington 9  
 Delaware 8, UMBC 2  
 Marist 5, Northeastern 2  
 Hofstra 8, Fairleigh Dickinson 1  
 Mercer 7, Georgia State 2

### Wed. March 29 \*

Marshall 8, James Madison 6  
 Marshall 9, James Madison 8  
 Towson 8, UMBC 7

\* incomplete list — results of other games not in at press time

# Spectrum

## Ze French films return to Richmond

**TOM NASH**  
Spectrum Associate Editor

The 14th annual VCU French Film festival, which has been said to be the largest festival of its kind in the United States, will open 3 p.m. Friday with "Coup de Torchon."

Legendary director Bertrand Tavernier will be presenting a 6 p.m. Friday showing of his film "Ça commence aujourd'hui," which translates as "It Begins Today."

"He's a landmark film director," associate festival director Richard W. Haselwood said. "He's set a standard for many years."

Tavernier will also be hosting a master class and lecture on filmmaking 2 p.m. today at the Shafer Street Playhouse.

Student VIP passes for the French Film Festival are already sold out, leaving students with the option of buying individual tickets to film showings for \$10, which will be available 20 minutes before the showings begin.

"Last year was the first time that happened," festival director Peter S. Kirkpatrick said of the sellout. "Last year it happened three days before, but this year they sold out on March 15."

Kirkpatrick feels the sellout is indicative of the growth of the festival, which he began as an attempt to expose American audiences to current French filmmakers and has ballooned into a world-renowned event attended by the French Ambassador to the United States and some of the biggest names in the French film industry.

"We're excited that it's festival time," he said. "Last year we had 17,500 entries, and this year we got 19,000, so it's good to see growth."

The festival will run from Thursday through Sunday evening at the Byrd Theatre in Carytown. A \$175 gala dinner will be held 8:30 p.m. Saturday at Richmond's Landmark Theater.

More information and a schedule of the film screening can be found at [www.frenchfilm.vcu.edu](http://www.frenchfilm.vcu.edu).



### Friday, March 31

3 p.m. **Coup de torchon** (*Struck by a dishtowel*) Set in a 1938 French African colony, the police officer of a small village goes from washout to "angel of death." Discussion with French director Bertrand Tavernier and French Cinematographer Pierre-William Glenn.

6 p.m. **Ça commence aujourd'hui** (*It begins today*) The kindergarten schoolmaster of a small French mining town faces challenges brought on by the closure of the town's mining industry. Discussion with French director Bertrand Tavernier and French actor Philippe Torreton.



8:40 p.m. **Je ne suis par là pour être aimé** (*I am not here to be loved*) A 50-year-old bailiff is displeased by life until he opens the door of a tango school. Discussion with French director Stéphane Brizé and French actress Anne Consigny.

11 p.m. **Imposture** A critic turned literature professor abducts a student to steal her ideal text, but the two become ensnared by their love for each other. Discussion with director Patrick Bouchitey and French actress Laetitia Chardonnet.

Schedule compiled by Omar Yacoubi

### Saturday, April 1

7:30 a.m. First Short Film Series *Le Manie-tout, Esperanto, Le Suicide du ventriloque, Le Serment, Comme un air*. Discussion with French directors Georges Le Piouffle, Marie-Paule Anfosso, Mathieu Guetta, Samuel Hercule and Yohann Gloaguen.

9:25 a.m. **Genesis** An African storyteller relates the early times of the universe and stars. Discussion with French directors Marie Pérennou and Claude Nuridsany.

11:25 a.m. **Iznogoud** A covetous vizier plots to take the place of a benevolent caliph in ancient Baghdad. Discussion with French director and actor Patrick Braoudé.

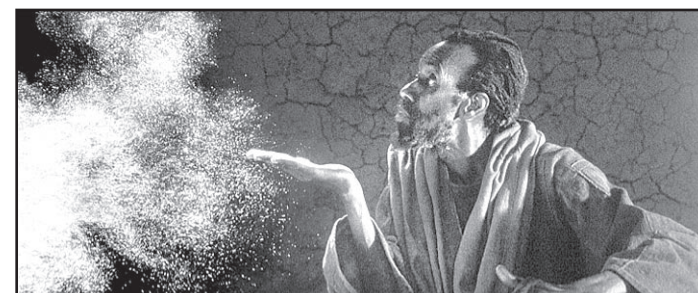
1:40 p.m. **Anthony Zimmer** A workaday Frenchman accepts an irresistible invitation to visit a supermodel's palace – until someone tries to kill him and she disappears. Discussion with French director Jérôme Salle.

3:50 p.m. Presentation of the 2006 French Delegation, introduced by His Excellency Jean-David Levitte, the French Ambassador to the United States and French director Bertrand Tavernier.

4:20 p.m. **Jean Jaurès: naissance d'un géant** (*Birth of a giant*) On August 16, 1892, 2,000 miners rebel against a mining company's decision to force out the town's elected socialist mayor. A promising young politician joins their cause. Discussion with French director Jean-Daniel Verhaeghe and French actor Philippe Torreton.

Midnight **Mon Ange** (*My Angel*) A boy's life is linked inextricably to a woman who was called out of the blue to pick him up after his mother was released from prison. Discussion with French director and screenwriter Serge Frydman.

**RIGHT:** An African storyteller recounts the origins of the universe in **Genesis**.



### Sunday, April 2

7:30 a.m. Second Short Film Series *Peter Pan a grandi et John Lennon est mort* (Peter Pan has grown up and John Lennon is dead), *For Intérieur, Paul, Regards Libres, Suzanne*. Discussion with French directors Alexandre Charlet, Patrick Poubel, Cécile Rousset, Romain Delange, Mona Achache and Chiara Malta



9:10 a.m. **Ze Film** Hollywood wannabes get the chance of a lifetime when one of their friends, mistaken for a crew member, is asked to drive some filmmaking equipment off the set. Discussion with French director Guy Jacques and French actor Clément Sibony.

11:25 a.m. **Le Promeneur du Champ de Mars** (*Walking on the Champ de Mars*) A French journalist extracts the dying confessions of former French President François Mitterand. Discussion with French actor Jalil Lespert.

2:05 p.m. **Narco** A narcoleptic lives life through his dreams and starts group therapy, where his shrink finds that he has been turning his dreams into amazing comic strips. Discussion with French director Tristan Aurouet.

4:35 p.m. **De battre mon cœur s'est arrêté** (*The beat my heart skipped*) A cross between "The Piano" and "Save the Last Dance," this 5 César award-winning film – César is the French equivalent of the Oscars – catalogues the struggles of a pianist who must overcome the wishes of his father and everyday life to prepare for a perfect audition. Discussion with French director Jacques Audiard and French actor Romain Duris.

## Spectrum

**Weird News****Eagle journeys 200 miles to find former owner**

An eagle made a 200-mile trek back to its former owner.

After being sold for \$5,000 by Titus Wardle to a fellow bird enthusiast, Lucy, a three-year-old African tawny, went missing soon after it was transported to the new owner. Two weeks later, the eagle turned up at its former home.

"I was flying my hawk and looked around and there was Lucy sitting on a dry stone wall," Wardle said. "I couldn't believe it."

Wardle was surprised that the eagle was able to travel so far.

"I have been involved in falconry from the age of nine but the furthest I have known them to stray is about 10 miles."

Wardle has decided to keep Lucy and has returned the \$5,000 he received for the bird.



"Lucy obviously likes it up here and is going to stay," he said. "It was a huge shock to say the least when I found her again, or should I say when she found me. I was sad to see her go, so it was nice that she felt the same. How could I give her back?"

**Artist creates meat art**

Belgian artist Jan Fabre's "Temples of Meat" exhibition, made out of steak, mince and bacon, will be on display for three days at the Museum of Modern Art in Ghent.

The exhibition includes a coat made of steaks and a tent of bacon with sleeping bags made out of steak.

"Meat is a very erotic material," Fabre said. "A lot of my work is about the cult of decay and death."

"I also loved to create something that will be destroyed after three days. It's a lesson in modesty for every artist who confesses his love for eternity."

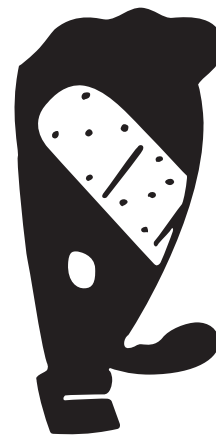
**Wrecked Ferrari caused by pretty woman**

German Alphons Edberg, 33, crashed a Ferrari during a test drive after trying to impress a woman walking by the side of the road.

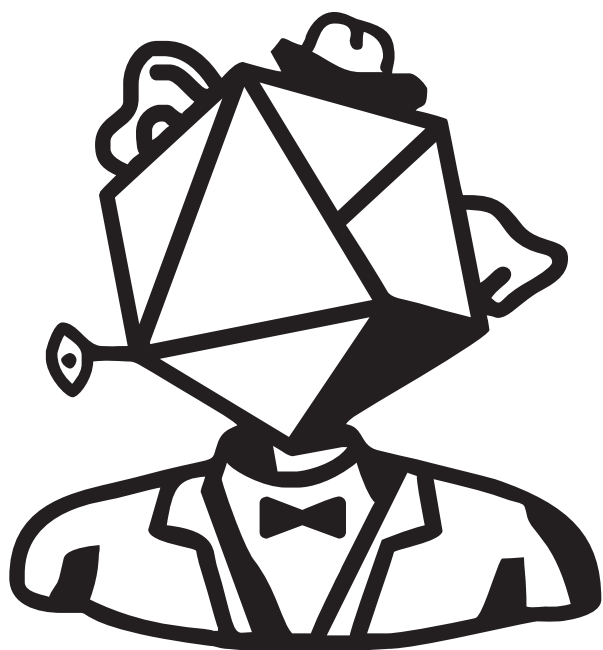
Edberg was driving a Ferrari 360 Modena, which he was considering buying.

Police say the inexperienced driver lost control after speeding up to impress the woman. He crashed the car into a tree, a road sign and a fence before being stopped by a lamppost.

The car was a totaled and Edberg is currently in the hospital being treated for head injuries.



—Compiled from wire reports



**The Commonwealth Times will hold elections for Managing and Executive editors April 10, 2006.**

Application are due April 7 at noon. For more information contact Katie Gantt at 828-6516 or ganttkt@vcu.edu

## Spectrum

## MP3 player alternatives

JAMES APPLEBACH

Spectrum Writer

The most sought after media device in the United States is the Apple iPod, and for good reason. No other device rivals its ease of use, its sleek style or its newly acquired video capability. We see the iPod everywhere, being used by people of all ages. For some, the device is actually used to its capacity.

However, there are a substantial number of college students who don't need an MP3 player with that much space, or if they did they certainly wouldn't need an iPod, the most expensive player on the market.

The reality of this situation is that there are actually quite a few alternatives to buying an MP3 player. After all, what are you paying for but a small portable computer?



Therefore, you are paying for the parts of a computer: hard drive space, a screen and tools to communicate with that device, such as the glide wheel on the iPod. It all comes down to one question: If you are surrounded by computers at home and at school, and that's where you get most of your work done, do you really need something portable?

The answer for some is actually "no," but they get sucked into purchasing MP3 players anyway. The alternative is to purchase a flash drive of up to two gigabytes and dedicate it to music. It will connect to any computer through its USB port and voila, you have music with an on-screen display to help you direct it. These are the parents of the iPod.

If two gigabytes is not enough space for you, you can dedicate an external hard drive to such an endeavor. These can be purchased for about the same price, are lightweight and can hold up to 200 gigabytes of hard drive space. You could get a bigger one, but why one would need that is beyond me. The only problem with an external drive is that you need a separate power source for it to run.

All of these things can be avoided, however, if you just get a laptop. That is the ultimate investment because you will be able to take all your media wherever you go, except maybe jogging.

# CALENDAR

## Thursday, March 30

### VCU Happenings

#### Evening Climbs at Peak Experience

Join VCU Recsports for College Climbing Night at Peak Experiences Climbing Gym. The price is two for one, so bring a friend. Transportation is the only thing provided. Buses leave at 6 p.m. from the Cary St. Gym and will return at 10:30 p.m. Shoes and harness can be rented at the Outing Rental Center before you leave. Two Students (with VCU IDs) \$11, and \$3 each for shoes and harness if needed. 828-6004.

#### Trombone Recital Presented by VCU

Music. 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. 828-1169.

### Around Town

#### Music

**Dance Party** Pre-fashion show dance party. 10 p.m. Nanci Raygun, 929 W. Grace St. \$4. 18 +. 353-4263.

**Producer Battle** Featuring Zay-Liphe, Dip, Jayburn and Bean. \$100 cash prize. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Alley Katz, 10 Walnut Alley. \$6. 18 +. 643-2816.

**More Music** The Season with special guests. 6 to 9 p.m. Alley Katz, 10 Walnut Alley. \$7. 643-2816.

**The X** Come check out the best of Richmond at 102.1: The X's Local Xposure featuring Love.Hate.Fear, Red Line, Red Anthem, Fail Safe and Engage. 8 p.m. Canal Club, 1545 E. Cary St. 643-2582.

## Friday, March 31

### Music

**Nanci Raygun** Check out Apsci, A.D.M. and Home Team. \$7. 9 p.m. 929 W. Grace St. 353-4263.

**Alley Katz** Rock out with Municipal Waste, Face Down In S\*\*\*, DeadBird and Baroness. \$7. 6 p.m. 10 Walnut Alley. 643-2816

**The Canal Club** Groove with Mix Master Mike from the Beastie Boys. Free. 6:30 p.m. 18 +. 17th and Dock streets.

### Around Town

**Landmark Theater** Come enjoy Bellini's "Norma." The opera will be performed in Italian with English supertitles. \$20-\$85. 6 N. Laurel St. Ticket Master: 262-8003.

(continued)



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## Spectrum

# CALENDAR

### Saturday, April 1

#### VCU Happenings

**Symphony** VCU Music presents the VCU Symphony Orchestra in concert, directed by Dr. Jean Montes. 8 to 9:30 p.m. Vlahcevic Concert Hall, Singleton Center for the Performing Arts. 828-6776.

#### Around Town

##### Art

**Chop Suey Marathon** 4th Annual 24 Hour Bookman, featuring poets, writers, comedians and live music from Josh Small, Liza Khate and more. Schedule of events can be found at [www.chopsueybooks.com](http://www.chopsueybooks.com). Free.

##### Music

**At The Raygun** I Love You but I've Chosen Darkness, Haram, Now Sleepyhead. 10 p.m. \$7. 18 +. 929 W. Grace St. 353-4263

**In the Alley** bands show off onstage at Alley Katz: The Hanks, Waiting for Yesterday, Searching for Timothy, Kippax Highrise and Stars Fell On. 5 to 10 p.m. \$7. 643-2816

### Sunday, April 2

#### VCU Happenings

**Guitars, Guitars, Guitars** This popular annual guitar get-together featuring VCU faculty and alumni will highlight the unique and diverse styles of classical, flamenco and jazz guitar. Faculty performers will include classical guitarists Kathy and David Robinson, John Patykula and flamenco guitarist Charlie Moeser. The concert will also feature classical banjoist John Bullard, jazz guitarist Kevin Harding and jazz bassist Rusty Farmer. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts, Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. 828-1169.

**'No Man's Land'** A Bosnian film of two enemies on a common ground. 7 to 9 p.m. University Commons Theater. 243-0336.

#### Around Town

##### Music

**Ally Katz** Check out Fall Of Transition with The Half Jeffersons, Satori and 12 Step Revenge. \$7 6 to 10 p.m. 10 Walnut Alley. 643-2816

# Recognized Worldwide?

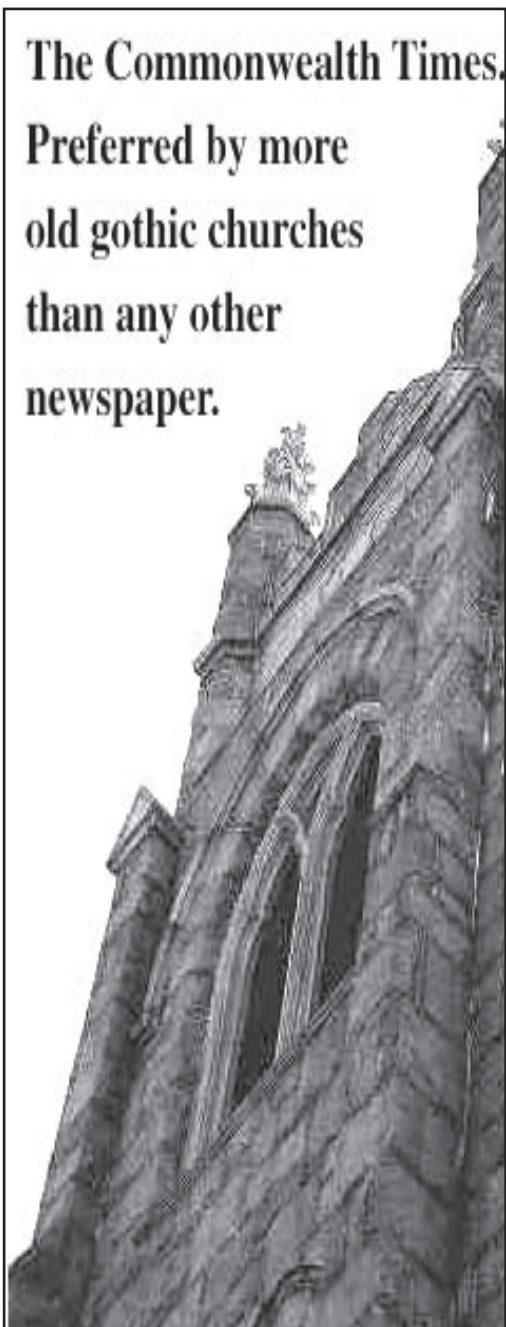
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**Sunday, April 9, 2006**

Check in: 11:30 am

Lunch will be provided.

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for details and registration.

Deadline: Friday, April 7. First 60 teams to enter are in.

Fee: \$75

Players and teams bring canned goods.  
Proceeds benefit the Central Virginia Food Bank.



Only students enrolled in a participating school can enter male, female and co-ed teams.  
Team that brings the most canned goods will win a special "Team with the Most Heart" prize.

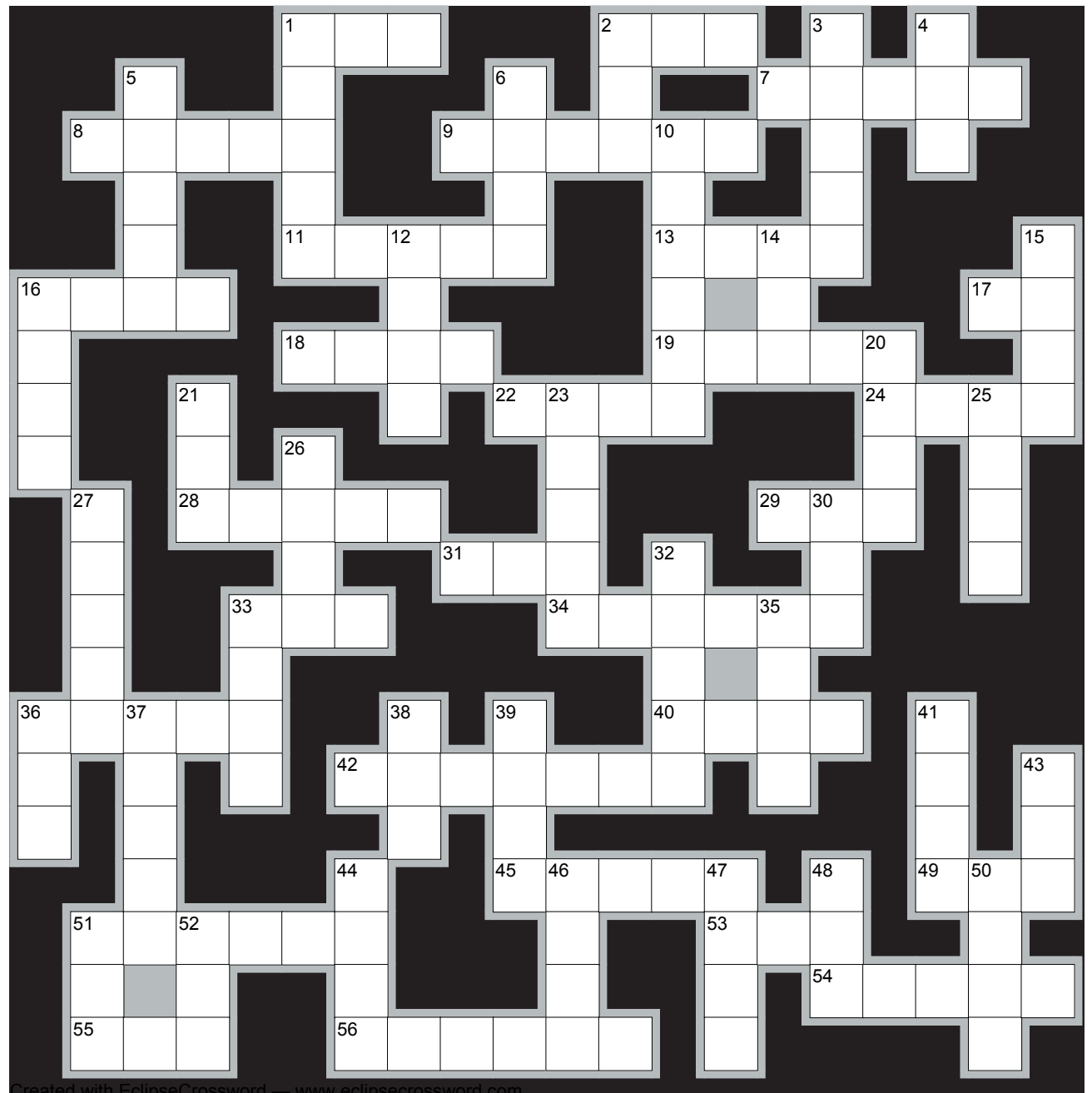
# THE COMMONWEALTH TIMES CROSSWORD

## Across

1. Shy, demure.
2. Bang! Bang!
7. One cent.
8. Beans that, when ground-roasted, can be prepared into chocolate.
9. Victor Von Doom's title.
11. To be.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ and Eve.
16. Bad luck.
17. "Was up?"
18. Fable, legend.
19. Generally gas or charcoal, meant for cooking.
22. Destiny.
24. Professional tennis player. Born on July 10, 1943, in Richmond, Va.
28. Tired.
29. A relative.
31. Stein.
33. Oink!
34. Fairness.
36. Jargon.
40. Something you can do in the water.
42. Term for radioactive substances sent skyward as they return to Earth.
45. He is considered among the most influential figures in the development of rock'n'roll music.
49. "West-southwest"
51. Allow, consent to, authorize.
53. Gorilla.
54. Gibe, jeer.
55. Worn-out horse.
56. The fabled "Spear of Destiny" was sought by this man, who believe it would grant him ultimate victory . . . at the expense of everyone else.

## Down

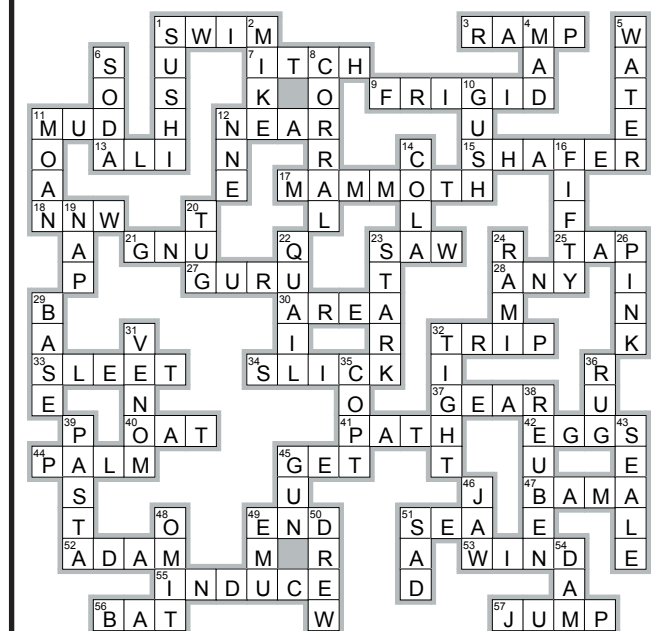
1. Snow and ice sometimes force schools to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. "\_\_\_\_ at me" — call me.
3. Eddie Brock's alter ego.
4. The last part.
5. Claw.
6. A creator of poetry.
10. Colorful fruit.
12. Mote, speck, small.
14. Born Cassius Clay.
15. Deep, soggy ground.
16. Jupiter.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ mower.
21. Mandible.
23. Proverb.
25. Cavity, pit.



Created with EclipseCrossword — www.eclipsecrossword.com

26. Spider-man director.
27. Popular pant color.
30. Vine.
32. A journey, pursuit or geas.
33. Abbreviation of professor.
35. Vacation.
36. Fall behind.
37. A place or position particularly suited to the thing that fills it.
38. Mode of transportation.
39. Disposed of in the arctic.
41. Fish or meat usually with vegetables prepared by stewing.
43. Cutting instrument.
44. Scratch it.
46. Corner, border.
47. Lawn.
48. A domesticated animal kept as a companion.
50. Beach, grain.
51. Writing utensil that uses ink.
52. Bad hairpiece.

## Answers from March 27 edition



Created with EclipseCrossword — www.eclipsecrossword.com



# CLASSIFIEDS

## SERVICES OFFERED

2006 Graduates! Relocating for new job, graduate school? Free Relocation Package, any area; **home/apartment search assistance**. Email Pam, Moving.on@verizon.net

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[www.studentorg.vcu.edu/amendment](http://www.studentorg.vcu.edu/amendment)  
[amendmentvcu@gmail.com](mailto:amendmentvcu@gmail.com)

If you have experience in writing, editing, publishing, graphic/web design or studying art, **Amendment** needs you. **Amendment** is looking to revamp its editorial staff with style. The following positions need to be filled: associate editor, copy editor, publicity coordinator, web designer, research editor (fact checker) and treasurer for the fall 2006-2007 school year. We would also like to increase our membership and make the VCU student body more aware of who we are and what we can do to serve you since you pay us with your student fees! Our mission is to promote tolerance, equality, and open up a broader dialogue amongst VCU students about various social and political issues.

Meetings are held Mondays at 3 p.m. and Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at 817 W. Broad St. at the VCU Student Media Center. Please contact [amendmentvcu@gmail.com](mailto:amendmentvcu@gmail.com) if you would like to join **Amendment's** staff or to learn more about us. If you can't make the scheduled meeting times let us know that as well.

# COMICS

## Pizza From Scratch

Bill Lemmond

### LASER POINTERS FOR EXERCISE

CATS IN SPACE USE LESS OF MOST SUPPLIES, BUT NOT ALL AIR FILTERS FOR FUR, AND LITTLE BATTERIES



IT'S A TRAP! YES, THEY COLLIDE, BOUNCE & SPIN AWAY, WEIGHTLESS  
\*YES, THEY'RE "DRY CELLS." YOU'RE GIVING US NERDS A BAD NAME!

## Words of Wisdom from the Little Honeybee

W.A.P.



# EDITORIALS & LETTERS

## Opinion in Brief

Terri Schiavo may be dead but the end-of-life brouhaha she inadvertently started is not. Friday marks the one-year anniversary of her death, so of course her former husband and her parents released books earlier this week about their experiences.

This will be sure to thrill those who didn't get their fill last year of the talks on persistent vegetative states or the legal maneuvering from every single branch and level of government. And there must be people out there who didn't think that hearing details of Schiavo's private life and seeing multiple photos of her in various states was intrusive enough.

Everyone else probably feels as if the media and Schiavo's family members outwore this issue long ago, and understandably so. At first the coverage had at least a vestige of purpose. Schiavo's situation brought uncertainties about end-of-life decisions to light. But the whole thing quickly turned into a circus, jugglers and all.

It's bad enough that media and protest groups across the country embroiled themselves in the issue, but congressional and executive meddling went way too far. Nobody should have gotten that involved in Schiavo's personal situation except for her family. It's not a debate for anyone else — a concept that Schiavo's own shameless kin has yet to grasp.

### Editorial Cartoon | Andrew Babb



## Broad categories

**ALEX JONES**  
*Op/Ed Writer*

During the past few weeks, I've come to the conclusion that it may be necessary to become a chauvinist. I have been in the company of a large percentage of women who, in the waiting room of heaven before they were born, checked the box labeled "large breasts" instead of the one labeled "common decency."

Giving them the benefit of the doubt, not all women are bad — just the vast majority. As I was saying, in the past week I have encountered a tease, a mother-hen jerk and a bar predator. We'll start with the tease.

A tease is defined in the evil female dictionary as someone that uses sexual flirtation and the male response to this flirtation to improve her self-esteem without any benefit to the male. Women know perfectly well how a guy reacts to these come-ons and have no regard for the guy's feelings. To be blunt, this is bull; you can't tease a guy and then expect him not to make a move. By being a tease you are making guys like me depressed and lonely, and in some cases putting your self in danger (seedy bars and clubs), so just stop.

The next type of woman I have come across is the mother-hen jerk. This is the one in the little horde of females who claims the mother role (usually the least attractive of the flock). The mother is usually extremely rude to any male in the vicinity out of bitterness over the cards that life has dealt her in the mating scene. To compensate for her problems she prevents everyone within at least a 20-foot range from having any fun whatsoever. I even saw one of them knitting in a bar once. I personally don't want to even talk to this type of

woman. They are the foil to the males as well as their own sex and in my opinion should be treated accordingly.

The last type of woman I would like to mention is the predator. Until recently I had never encountered one of these firsthand. The predator is a branch of the tease, but more aggressive and harmful to the male. A predator can range from your simple greedy party chick to a gold digger or even, at an extreme, Hilary Clinton. This is the female who will climb the ladder of men in front of her in pursuit of self-esteem, wealth and power. The predator is usually the most attractive in the group, wearing the name-brand clothes and the sunglasses on top of her head in the middle of the night.

If this woman isn't in a "relationship" with a rich attractive guy she is complaining about how her BMW her daddy bought her has a broken taillight. Most of the time the predator will appear dumb and blond. Both of these are probably a lie; they aren't dumb or actually blond. To flirt your way to status doesn't just take a nice body — it takes charisma, the charisma that can only be gained through a Faustian contract. The purpose of these women is to give you a taste of heaven in exchange for your soul, dignity and worldly possessions. The predator should not be trusted ever.

It's a sad thing when a group must be judged because of the actions of a few. Seeing all three of these types of females in one place at the same time was the icing on the cake. Women have struggled for equal rights for most of human history and I'm all for giving it to them. But ladies, I just ask you stop playing your dirty little tricks with us. When your boyfriend does something bad to you, don't call all men dogs. Some of us are nice. Don't use sex to get what you want; it's an insult to us and an insult to you.

### The Commonwealth Times

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Letters must be sent from a valid VCU e-mail address or signed with daytime and evening telephone contact. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, style and space.

