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The **independent** student press of Virginia Commonwealth University

commonwealthtimes.com

Who will your SGA president be?

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AP briefs

This week in the news

Disparate state-law interpretations breed dispute

The Virginia attorney general and the American Civil Liberties Union have interpreted differently a state law relating to in-state tuition for children of illegal immigrants.

According to a letter written to Virginia colleges Tuesday, the ACLU stated it is willing to offer legal representation to students who it deems have been denied in-state tuition rates based on their parents' status.

The ACLU bases its defense of these individuals on the equal-protection clause of the U.S. Constitution, said ACLU legal director Rebecca Glenberg.

Ronald C. Forehand, senior assistant attorney general, stated in a memo that students born and raised in Virginia usually are classified as in-state only if their parents hold legal residential status.

A student in this situation could acquire in-state tuition if he proves his own legal residence in the com-

monwealth, Forehand stated.

"If universities begin to reject students based on the attorney general's memo, this more than likely would end up in court," said ACLU executive director Kent Willis Wednesday.

The dispute between the ACLU and the attorney general comes from a query into the matter by the State Council of Higher Education, whose interest in the issue was prompted by a University of Virginia student's situation.

Brief by Larry O'Dell, Associated Press Writer

Va. hospital calls patients to test for hepatitis

More than 300 former patients of a Newport News hospital are being asked to return for blood tests.

A nurse, who has been suspected of infecting patients with hepatitis in Texas and who worked at the Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Va., from July through December, has been arrested this month on federal charges.

Retired Army Capt. Jon Dale Jones was arrested on charges for the fraudulent possession of a controlled substance and for assaulting three patients.

Federal prosecutors have said they think Jones spread hepatitis at an El Paso military hospital four years ago by diverting the strong painkiller fentanyl from patients to himself. Prosecutors think that by doing this, Jones infected at least 15 military service members or their relatives.

Jones denied the charges, pleaded not guilty and was released on bond.

Brief by The Associated Press

Proposed settlement leaves Va. Tech families divided

Families of the victims of last year's Virginia Tech massacre are divided about whether to accept the commonwealth's multimillion-dollar settlement proposed Tuesday.

The settlement offer would provide \$800,000 to injured victims and would extend the option to seek

additional compensation from a \$1.75 million hardship fund.

However, the settlement, which is to ensure \$100,000 for those representing each of the 32 killed, also comes with questions about whether the funds will be enough to honor the families' loved ones.

In October, both the deceased's families and the surviving victims received payments between \$11,500 and \$208,000 from the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund, which handled donations given via the university.

The language in the current offer is vague as to how exactly the funds will be allocated. The proposal states the distribution of money will be "based on a matrix acceptable to the commonwealth, with a maximum payment of \$100,000 to any individual."

Roger O'Dell, whose son Derek was wounded in the shootings, does not think the issue will be settled by April 15.

"I think there are too many question marks in the proposed offer," O'Dell said.

Brief by The Associated Press

Cover illustration by Rachel Larue

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The Commonwealth Times strives to be accurate in gathering news. If you think we have made an error, please call Executive Editor Rebecca Landau at 828-4770 or e-mail her at editor@commonwealthtimes.com. Corrections will appear on the Opinion page.

news

Today last day to vote in SGA elections

REBECCA LANDAU

Executive Editor

Today is the final day students can vote for candidates vying to fill the Student Government Association's executive and senate seats.

The executive-branch campaigns headed by Monroe Park Campus presidential candidates Steven Latimer and Jibrán Muhammad both said student involvement in the election process seems to have increased.

"Students seem to want to vote," said Joshua Ronk, who is running on Latimer's ticket as executive director.

Muhammad agrees.

"I really do feel we have touched a lot of students," he said.

Steven Latimer

'Real Change for VCU'



Latimer's ticket said it aims to increase transparency within the SGA, to decrease tuition and SGA spending and to improve dining services on campus. Latimer said most of the SGA's funding pays for its own positions, and of the nearly \$40,000 budget, payroll costs the SGA about \$28,000 a year.

"I think that's problematic," Latimer said.

To improve the students' relationship with ARAMARK, the company that provides food to Shafer

Court Dining Center, Latimer said he has attended food-advisory-board meetings about 10 times to discuss how to make food on campus better.

Jibrán Muhammad

'The Students for Positive Change'



Although Muhammad said he thinks the SGA needs to be reformed, working to increase financial aid, to cheapen textbooks and to encourage discussion about the formation of a VCU football team are his main talking points.

"My campaign is mostly based on what students want," Muhammad said. "I absolutely agree SGA needs to be reformed, but my major concern is what students are looking for."

Muhammad also said he thinks it's important that the students get involved, and he hopes this year more students

will vote than last year, when only about 1,800 people voted.

"Our university could be great if we wanted it to be."

E-mails stir controversy amid Latimer's bid for SGA presidency

REBECCA LANDAU

Executive Editor

Former President of Queer Action Jeremy Kidd said Wednesday students should not vote for Steven Latimer, a candidate for Monroe Park Campus student-body president, because of a complaint Kidd made against Latimer in 2005.

Kidd said both a 2005 e-mail, in which Latimer made a homophobic reference to the then-Queer Action president, and e-mail correspondence Latimer had with a female student, in which he called the student a "b***," indicate the candidate does not have the judgment to serve as student-body

president.

"We really need someone who is more fair-minded and wouldn't stoop to ... discriminations," Kidd said.

Latimer said Kidd's complaint about the 2005 e-mail's language was resolved years ago, as he formally apologized to Kidd in 2006 after the issue was brought before VCU's Office of Judicial Affairs. Latimer's campaign also said the timing of the incident's circulation online – days before the election – indicates a concerted effort to damage Latimer's candidacy.

"I should have chosen my words more carefully," Latimer said. "I don't think it's relevant to my campaign."

The correspondence with the female

student was taken out of context, Latimer said. Latimer also said he had been joking with the student in the e-mails, which as of last night were posted on a group page on Facebook.com. Gonzalo Aida-Brescia, Latimer's vice-presidential running mate, said Kidd's efforts are politically motivated.

"We know those who really are concerned with the issue will talk to Steven (Latimer) directly," Aida said.

Kidd, who is now a first-year medical student, said the 2005 e-mail expressed Latimer's objection to a letter Kidd wrote that was published in The Commonwealth Times.

Kidd said he has no connection to the campaign of Latimer's opponent,

presidential candidate Jibrán Muhammad. Though Muhammad said he has been informed of the information circulating about Latimer, he also maintains his Students for Positive Change campaign and Kidd's efforts are separate.

Muhammad said his campaign is focusing on the merits of its platform instead of using negative tactics, and he harbors no animosity toward Latimer.

"Steven (Latimer) is a good guy ... I like him," Muhammad said.

Efforts to inform students about the e-mail incident stem from concerns

LATIMER continued to CT5



STACEY R. HAMMAN
Copy Desk Chief & Staff Writer

Screenings inspire action for Ugandans displaced

Polaroid images of children's faces disappearing into black highlight the beginning of the documentary "Sunday – The Story of a Displaced Child."

Before illuminating the plight of the displaced children of Uganda, the film displays a quote by geographer George Kimble across the screen: "The darkest thing about Africa has always been our ignorance of it."

The documentary was screened Tuesday in an event organized by the VCU Invisible Children Club and the national Invisible Children's Movement Department.

The "Sunday" documentary tells the story of 15-year-old Okello Sunday, who lives in a displacement camp in northern Uganda, and features filmmaker Bobby Bailey as its narrator.

"A camera can't do justice to the abandonment of the internally displaced," Bailey says in the film as he describes the turmoil that still racks Uganda.

The people of Uganda have been terrorized for more than 20 years by the Lord's Resistance Army—one of Uganda's two main rebel groups, Bailey says. The people were given 48 hours to leave their homes and, after that time, were forced into displacement camps.

To realize the extent of the Ugandans' plight, Bailey and three others went to the town of Pader in northern Uganda, where they were displaced for 10 days.

The group lived as the displaced had been living for 10 years—with a single set of clothes a week, no toothbrushes or Colgate, no socks and no shoes. The four allowed themselves one amenity—toilet paper.

After Bailey met Sunday, the 15-year-old showed Bailey where he works the fields to afford his school tuition.

"He had to work the land to pay for school activities," Bailey says in the film, stating that Sunday wants to become a doctor. "Many people don't venture out of the land for fear of being abducted, but Sunday has no choice.

"The more I talked to Sunday, the more I realized every part of his life (was) affected with this war," Bailey says.

The documentary records Sunday asking Bailey if the people in America would care about the situation in Uganda.

"They should know more about our suffering," Sunday says.

Sunday's story is only a segment of the documentary "Invisible Children: Rough Cut," which was created in 2003 by filmmakers and Invisible Children founders Bailey, Jason Russell and Laren Poole.

Tuesday's screening was just one in a lengthy series organized by the Invisible Children's Movement

Department for the national corporation's Spring Tour 2008.

Jennifer Welsch, a Mary Washington graduate and one of three roadies who came to VCU as part of the Invisible Children's Spring Tour 2008, said watching the "Sunday" film for the first time made her want to take action.

"I know I needed to do something about it afterwards," Welsch said.

Welsch is not the only person the documentaries have inspired into action.

Sarah Knowlton, president and founder of the year-old VCU Invisible Children Club, said the people featured in the "Rough Cut" DVD captured her heart.

"I didn't feel like there was a choice to be made about whether or not I should do something," Knowlton stated in an e-mail. "It wasn't about charity; it was about loving these people that I had never met and (about) using my resources to help them."

For the VCU club, three goals propel every screening, event and meeting the club plans, Knowlton stated. These goals are to give people knowledge about what is happening internationally, to raise money for rebuilding VCU's partner school in northern Uganda and to empower both VCU and the Richmond community to make a difference.

The spring tour, which the national non-profit launched in February, has Invisible Children roadies primarily "visiting colleges and universities across the States to encourage political action from this country's youngest advocates," the Invisible Children Web site stated.

Sophomore Caroline Sumner, an officer for VCU Invisible Children, said the roadies travel in vans coast to coast with all the equipment and merchandise they need for the tour.

"Their job is to live like nomads for a few months," Sumner said.

The roadies, though unpaid throughout the tour, hold film screenings to provide information about the ongoing war in Uganda, about the internal-displacement camps and about the people within those camps whose lives have been changed irreversibly.

"It's really cool because it's largely youth-operated," Sumner said, defining "youth" as those of middle-school-through-college age.

Shannon Episcopo, another roadie who attended the VCU screening, said she's seen how much the "Sunday" documentary has changed her.

"If you're anything like me ... it will change your heart."

According to Knowlton – after having only two-days notice – more than 85 people attended Tuesday's

screening.

"We had a lot of people come up to talk to us afterwards wanting to get more involved and sharing ideas with us," Knowlton stated.

Welsch said as the Invisible Children roadies tour the United States, they learn and pass on creative ideas for fundraising and raising awareness.

"When we go to other schools to tell them about creative ideas, about half of those ideas come from VCU," Welsch said.

A short film titled "Invest in Peace" was shown after the "Sunday" documentary. The film emphasized letter writing puts pressure on the U.S. government to make a difference on the international scene.

"Every letter written to a congressman or senator by law has to be read by someone in the office and reported to that congressman," Welsch said, with a call to give time, talent or resources.

"Wherever your heart leads you to go, if this inspires you to do it, that's success in our eyes," Welsch said.

As "Invest in Peace" states, "What will our generation be known as if we sacrifice for peace?"

Keep an eye on the news

Invisible Children roadie Dave Hong, who attended the "Sunday" documentary screening at VCU, said peace talks began in June 2006 that brought the war-torn nation of Uganda closer to peace than it's been in the past decade. This Friday, rebel leader Joseph Kony is supposed to be signing an agreement that would confirm the Civil War in Uganda has officially ended. If that happens, the real work will begin, Hong said.



CT action addresses miscommunication with SGA

MELISSA SHOWALTER
Managing Editor

The Commonwealth Times published a news brief March 24 regarding this week's Student Government Association elections.

The brief "SGA Voting," found on Page 6 of the issue, addressed an apparent lack of information about where and how students might vote and questioned which names might appear on the official ballots.

After further investigation, The CT's editorial staff found a single e-mail attempt by the news editor to request information from SGA Elections Chair Angela Bitter.

While contacting an advertising-department employee about acquiring a paid ad, Bitter gave the employee details about this year's election. Bitter said she thought the information also would reach the news desk at some point.

Because the advertising department and the newsroom are independent entities, this information

never was relayed to The CT news editor, who then reported a lack of communication by the SGA.

The editor also posted his opinion of an SGA candidate in The CT Web site comments section.

These actions breached the bylaws of The CT, and the news editor was fired. The CT removed inappropriate comments from the Web site in the interest of fair representation of all candidates.

In a meeting Wednesday afternoon, representatives of The CT and the SGA met to discuss communication issues between the two organizations.

"We've opened the door for a free flow of communication," Bitter said.

CT Executive Editor Rebecca Landau agrees.

"The CT has to protect its status as a publication that strives to be as professional, objective and as accurate as possible," Landau said.

"The CT apologizes to Ms. Bitter and to any candidates affected."

Official SGA election info 2008 Executive and Senatorial Candidates

All candidates are of the College of Humanities and Sciences, unless otherwise indicated.

Executive Ticket
"Real Change for VCU"
Steven Latimer
Gonzalo Aida-Brescia
Joshua Ronk

Executive Ticket
"Students for Positive Change"
Jibrán Muhammad
Adam Sowder
Soulmaz 'Solle' Taghavi

Senatorial Candidates
Ja'nel Edens
Jordan Harris
Josh Kadrich
Timothy J. Fox
Nathaniel Markson
Anahita Sarshar
Pankti Barot
Ben Nelson
Eric Murphy,
School of Engineering
Stephen Straus
Lauren Fevrier
Morgan E. McDowell
Natalie Vazquez
Neda Tara Kashanian
Jonathan Ward
Solen Iyassu
La Juana Chambers

LATIMER continued from CT3

if elected, Latimer might withhold funding from progressive organizations on campus, Kidd said.

However, Latimer said he has homosexual friends who support his candidacy, and he considers himself a proponent of diversity on campus.

"I've never waged a campaign to de-fund any progressive organizations," Latimer said. "It's a dishonest smear campaign. I add to the diversity of VCU, and I appreciate what they (progressive organizations) do to add to the diversity of VCU."

IT'S WHERE YOU WANNA BE!

apr 16--Gov't Mule w/Tea Leaf Green
apr 23--The Used w/ Straylight Run & Army of Me
apr 30-- Slightly Stoopid w/State Radio
june 11-- moe. w/disco biscuits
june 17-- Phil Lesh and Friends
june 18- Blues Traveler w/Avett Bros.

see it all at: www.innsbrookafterhours.com

tickets available at ticketstobuy.com, Plan 9, Spinnaker's Restaurant, Market Cafe, Richmond Music, the Home Team Grille or charge by phone 794-6700

sports

Basketball seasons in review

BASKETBALL

MATT DOYON
Associate Sports Editor

For the first time ever, the VCU men's and women's basketball teams qualified for the postseason in the same year. The men's team finished the season 24-8 and became the first team in the history of the CAA to win 31 conference games in two regular seasons. The women reached new heights with more wins in a season than ever before at 26-8. Their success earned them a win against Charlotte in the WNIT.

HEADLINES

Men claim conference crown

For the second time in as many years, the men's basketball team won the CAA regular-season title. It was the fourth time the team had the best conference record since joining the CAA in the 1995-1996 season. The Rams' 15-3 record won the league by a three-game margin, the largest since UNC Wilmington accomplished the same feat in 2002-2003.

Women achieve highest win total in program history

Things finally clicked for the Rams this season as they went 26-8. First-year associate head coach Curt Kassab helped the team defensively, and the team allowed just 56.4 points per game. The Rams' success nearly resulted in a CAA Tournament championship, but the team fell just short of beating Old Dominion, which has won 17 straight conference tourneys. The Rams were overlooked by the NCAA selection committee for an at-large bid but earned a trip to the WNIT. The team won 80-67, giving the program its first-ever win after the conference tournament before falling at Michigan.

Men's team qualifies for NIT

The men qualified for the postseason for the fourth time in five years. The team earned an automatic bid to the NIT by winning the CAA regular-season championship, but had its season ended in an 80-77 loss to University of Alabama-Birmingham at the Stuart C. Siegel Center. The Rams have not won a NIT game since 1988.

Maynor named CAA player of the year

Junior Eric Maynor (Raeford, N.C./Westover) was voted the preseason player of the year in October following his first-team all-conference performance in 2006-2007. He followed through, averaging 17.9 points (claiming third in the CAA and 5.39 assists (good for second) and won player of the year for the season. Maynor also earned a spot on the all-academic second team.

Two Rams named to all-defensive first-team

Senior Jamal Shuler (Jacksonville, N.C./Jacksonville) and freshman Larry Sanders (Fort Pierce, Fla./Port St. Lucie) highlighted the defensive efforts of the



CT file photo

Rams, who allowed a conference-low 57.2 points per game. Shuler guarded the league's top scoring guards, such as Antoine Agudio and Folarin Campbell, and tied for eighth place in the CAA with 1.67 steals per game. Sanders was 10th in the nation but first among freshmen with 2.97 blocks per game.

of the tiebreaker. In the conference tournament semifinals, the Rams showed they didn't need the higher seed. VCU eliminated JMU 69-60 to complete the sweep. The Jan. 20 win in Harrisonburg snapped the Dukes' 20-game home winning streak versus CAA foes.

Women sweep James Madison

The Rams downed the Dukes 61-60 and 62-56 in the regular season but finished 13-5 in the CAA—one game back of JMU – and couldn't use the benefit

Puerto Rico Tournament unkind to Rams

After a 1-point win over Houston, the Rams lost to Miami and Arkansas for the first back-to-back losses under

HEADLINES continued to CT8

THIS WEEK

BASEBALL

March 28-30, vs. UNC Wilmington, The Diamond

VCU sporting events are free to students with a valid student ID. For more info, visit vcuathletics.com or call 828-3440.

MEN'S SOCCER

Fri, March 28, vs. Longwood (exhibition), SportsBackers Stadium, 7 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS

Fri., March 28, vs. William and Mary, Thalhimer Tennis Center, 3 p.m.

Sun., March 30, vs. Radford, Thalhimer Tennis Center, 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Sat., March 29, @ William and Mary, Williamsburg, TBA

Sun., March 30, vs. Winthrop, Thalhimer Tennis Center, 10 a.m.

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

March 28-29, @ Fred Hardy Invite, Richmond, all day

March 28-29, @ Raleigh Relays, Durham, N.C., all day

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

March 27-29, @ Winthrop Invitational, Rock Hill, S.C., all day

Sweet 16 preview

JONATHAN HOWARD *Sports Editor*

Two rounds down, four more to go. There have been plenty of surprises thus far, but the top seeds all remain. Here is an overview of Thursday and Friday's Sweet 16 action.

	West Region (at Phoenix)	East Region (at Charlotte, N.C.)	Midwest Region (at Detroit)	South Region (at Houston)
The teams:	(7) West Virginia vs. (3) Xavier	(4) Washington State vs. (1) North Carolina	(10) Davidson vs. (3) Wisconsin	(3) Stanford vs. (2) Texas
The line:	West Virginia by 1	North Carolina by 8	Wisconsin by 4½	Texas by 2
What to watch for:	The Mountaineers are coming off of an "upset" victory over the No. 2 seed Duke Blue Devils. The Mountaineers play team ball and have been solid on both offense and defense. But West Virginia might meet its match — Xavier's balanced scoring (five players averaging more than 10 ppg) will present more of a problem than Duke did.	Tyler Hansbrough and co. lit up the scoreboard in the first two rounds, averaging 110.5 ppg in wins over Mount St Mary's and Arkansas. Washington State held first- and second-round opponents Winthrop and Notre Dame to 40 and 41 points respectively. Whichever team dictates the style wins the game.	Davidson's Stephen Curry has been a star up to this point in the tourney, averaging 35 ppg in wins over Gonzaga and Georgetown. The Wildcats will have to find a way to deal with the size and consistency of Wisconsin, which has eight players on its roster 6-foot-8-inches or taller.	The Lopez brothers have led Stanford to victory all season long, and Brook's jumper to be Marquette was no exception. Texas is at the opposite end of the spectrum as guards D.J. Augustin, A.J. Abrams and Damion James have led the way.
Editor's pick:	Xavier The Musketeers play in a weaker league (Atlantic 10), but they are for real. While West Virginia is balanced, Xavier has it beat.	North Carolina The Tar Heels only have been held under 70 points once this season—and they won that game by 11. Even if the Cougars slow the game down, they won't be able to outscore Carolina.	Wisconsin Davidson has made a good run, but Wisconsin's size and ability to dictate the pace will prove too much. Davidson did a good job canceling out Roy Hibbert in the win over Georgetown, but Brian Butch & Co. have played better down the stretch.	Texas At this point in the tournament guard play is key. Mitch Johnson dropped 16 assists in Stanford's victory over Marquette but there is no denying that Augustin is one of the best, if not the best, point guard in the nation.
The teams:	(12) Western Kentucky vs. (1) UCLA	(3) Louisville vs. (2) Tennessee	(12) Villanova vs. (1) Kansas	(5) Michigan State vs. (1) Memphis
The line:	UCLA by 12½	Louisville by 2½	Kansas by 11½	Memphis by 4½
What to watch for:	UCLA sports one of the best point guards (Darren Collison) and one of the best forwards (Kevin Love) in the nation. Western Kentucky is just happy to be here.	Louisville looked impressive in victories over Boise State and Oklahoma, while Tennessee struggled to get past American and Butler. Louisville's combination of athletic guards and forwards will be a tough matchup for the Volunteers who lack solid production at point guard at this time.	Scottie Reynolds has willed Villanova to victory thus far in the tournament. He is playing great basketball at the right time of year. Kansas has ripped into opponents of late, winning eight of its last nine games by double digits.	Drew Neitzel and Michigan State continue to make a statement come NCAA Tournament time after a big victory over Pittsburgh. After going down to the wire with another MSU (Mississippi State) this past weekend, the Tigers will have a bigger challenge in the streaking Spartans.
Editor's pick:	UCLA The Bruins weren't impressive in their 51-49 second-round win over Texas A&M, but they aren't going to let the Hilltoppers get in the way of another Final Four run.	Tennessee Call it a hunch, but Tennessee is due to show up for this one. After a week's break, the Volunteers won't come out as sluggish and should look more like the team that handed Memphis its only loss.	Kansas One player won't beat this Jayhawks team, and the Wildcats just aren't good enough to beat the region's top seed.	Michigan State This could be a genius pick or one of the worst. Memphis is good – scary good. However, Tom Izzo gets his guys ready for the NCAA Tournament better than for the regular season. Neitzel & Co. won't let the Tigers go without a fight, especially if they miss free throws.



CT file photo

SO LONG, FAREWELL ...

Seniors Michael Anderson (Virginia Beach/Landstown), Wil Fameni (Douala, Cameroon/Amelia Academy) and Shuler all finished their black-and-gold careers. Anderson led the team in rebounding nine times during the 2007-2008 season. Fameni was hampered by a nagging knee injury, which limited him to making 10 starts and kept him from playing in seven games. Shuler surpassed the 1,000-point plateau in his senior season. The Rams have signed upcoming freshmen Bradford Burgess (Midlothian/Benedictine) and Terrance Saintil (Opa Locka, Fla./Monsignor Pace) for next season and still have one scholarship available.

Vera Chistova (St. Petersburg, Russia/St. Petersburg), LaKea Jones (Fort Washington, Md./National Christian Academy), Brittany Pinkney (Clinton, Md./The Patterson School) and Krystal Vaughn (Baltimore, Md./Lake Clifton-Eastern) finished their VCU careers on the most successful team in the history of the program. Jones started all 34 games as a senior and led the Rams with 4.7 assists per game. Vaughn was named first-team all-CAA for leading the Rams with 15 points per game and averaged 6.2 rebounds per game.

SEASON HIGHS

Men

Most points scored, team: 85, Dec. 2 vs. Maryland

Most points allowed, team: 80, March 19 vs. UAB

Fewest points scored, team: 49, Jan. 9 vs. Georgia State

Fewest points allowed, team: 39, Jan. 16 vs. Delaware

Most points scored, individual: 30, Shuler, Dec. 2 vs. Maryland; Maynor, Dec. 22 at Bradley

Most blocks, individual: 9, Sanders, Feb. 23 at Akron

Most assists, individual: 10, Maynor, Jan. 19 at Old Dominion, Feb. 9 at Delaware

Most steals, individual: 7, Rodriguez, Feb. 2 vs. Towson, Feb. 9 at Delaware

Most rebounds, individual: 15, Sanders, March 8 vs. Towson

Women

Most points scored, team: 98, Nov. 9 vs. Central Connecticut State

Most points allowed, team: 87, Feb. 21 vs. Old Dominion

Fewest points scored, team: 37, Feb. 7 at Delaware

Fewest points allowed, team: 33, March 2 vs. Delaware

Most points scored, individual: 28, Vaughn, Feb. 24 at Hofstra

Most blocks, individual: 5, Hollingsworth, Feb. 14 vs. UNC Wilmington

Most assists, individual: 8, Jones, March 14 vs. Northeastern

Most steals, individual: 6, Jones, Jan. 24 at UNC Wilmington

Most rebounds, individual: 17, Hollingsworth, Feb. 7 at Delaware

Scoring per game

Vaughn 15.6
Hollingsworth 13.3
Waller 9.7
Rorie 9.6

3-point shooting

Vaughn 40 percent (12-30)
Rorie 33.9 percent (43-127)
Bachvarova 33.7 percent (34-101)
Waller 32.2 percent (38-118)

Scoring per game

Maynor 17.9
Shuler 15.5
Anderson 7.2

3-point shooting

Kearse 56 percent (14-25)
Shuler 41.3 percent (78-189)
Maynor 39.4 percent (50-127)
Rozzell 38.1 percent (16-42)

Blocks

Sanders 95
Anderson 28
Pishchalnikov 10

Steals

Rodriguez 48
Shuler 48
Maynor 40
Anderson 25



Blocks

Hollingsworth 25
Jones 14
Vaughn 12

Steals

Jones 66
Rorie 55
Moss 41

HEADLINES continued from CT6

coach Anthony Grant.

ESPN2 jinx?

Dating back to a BracketBuster loss Feb. 17, 2007, to Bradley, the Rams have lost five out of six games televised on ESPN2. VCU has lost just five other games in that time frame that were not shown on that platform. The lone win on ESPN2 came Feb. 23 at Akron, which was also a BracketBuster.

Old Dominion earns first win in Siegel Center

Since the Siegel Center first opened its doors in 1999, Old Dominion had gone winless in men's basketball—0-8 to be exact. Things changed in 2008. Feb. 16, the Rams gave up a 6-point lead in the final two minutes and lost to the Monarchs 67-66 for the first time in their current arena.

Hollingsworth out for season

First-team all-CAA member Quanitra Hollingsworth (Chesapeake/Great Bridge) underwent season-ending surgery for her Achilles' heel, which she tore Feb. 14 in a game against UNC Wilmington. The junior had averaged 14.7 points and 9.6 rebounds through 12 conference games and is the school's all-time leader in double-doubles. Despite the loss, VCU finished 8-4 without Hollingsworth.

Rams turn around season in BB&T Classic

On the verge of sinking to 3-4, VCU knocked off another ACC foe to get back above the .500-mark. The Rams beat Maryland 85-76 to win the first of what became 12 wins out of 13 games, turning around their early-season woes.



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Think it's advantageous to be a two-seed? Not exactly

Terrible 2s

MATT DOYON
Associate Sports Editor

What a tough year to be a No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament. Do you know when the last time was that all four No. 2 seeds failed to make the Sweet 16? Never.

After the four No. 2s escaped first-round upsets, Tennessee barely survived a scare from Butler in the East region, and Texas skated by Miami in the South region in the second round. Duke and Georgetown were not as fortunate in the West and Midwest, respectively.

At first glance, this seems like a case of several major-conference teams hitting the snooze button on the alarm of the NCAAs.

That's not true at all, though. David-

son, which knocked off Georgetown, was ranked 23rd in the country the day after Selection Sunday. A school usually could expect to earn 6 seed in its region, maybe as low as an 8, with that type of performance – but the Wildcats are the Midwest's 10 seed.

Playing a top-25 team in the second round was an unfortunate matchup for Georgetown. Especially having to take on Stephen Curry, a man who became just the sixth player in NCAA tournament history to score at least 30 points in his first three tourney games.

Curry has been playing lights out. After falling to Maryland in the first round last year as a freshman, Curry led Davidson past Gonzaga and Georgetown (and for trivia's sake, his only other scholarship offer came from VCU).

But how many times have all four No. 2 seeds advanced to the Sweet 16 since the tournament expanded to 54 teams? Also zero. There have been plenty of upsets in the early rounds.

Just ask Tennessee of two years ago. The Vols fell to upset-minded Wichita State in the second round. They avoided the same fate this year and, for my bracket's sake, will play more-inspired basketball and advance to the Final



ON MATT'S MIND

Four.

The math would tell you that being a No. 2 seed means par is a trip to the Elite Eight, but it's not that easy. West Virginia beating Duke isn't a "David vs. Goliath," at all. The Mountaineers captured the NIT championship last year and are a play in the Big East – a conference that is now stronger than the ACC from top to bottom.

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spectrum

festivalsgalore weekend calendar extended

ROBERTO CURTIS
Spectrum Editor

With the 16th annual VCU French Film Festival starting Friday, Richmond is preparing for a tidal wave of travelers. Although this event alone has done a great deal to increase Richmond tourism and cultural enrichment, the weekend ahead has evolved into a spectrum of events. This veritable festival of festivals provides ample opportunity to experience nearly any art form one so desires, be it French film, Brazilian music, American theater, modern dance or bicycle porn. Cheers!

VCU French Film Festival: Taking place Friday through Sunday, this festival has been heralded repeatedly as the largest and most important French film festival in the U.S. by the French film industry. Offering a selection of 11 feature films



Film festival venue.

Rachel Larue photo

and 14 shorts with question-and-answer sessions with the directors and actors, this year's event looks to rival last year's attendance of 20,000 people.

→Friday 3/28

3 p.m. "Jacquou le Croquant"
Discussion with French actor Léo Legrand

6:45 p.m. "La Vérité ou presque"
Followed by the master class "From best seller to box office: adapting a novel for the screen" and discussion with French director Sam Karmann, American novelist Stephen McCauley (author of "True Enough") and French actress and lyricist Catherine Olson

10:10 p.m. "Deweneti," a short by Dyana Gaye
"Ulzhan" by Volker Schlöndorff, starring Philippe Torreton

→Saturday 3/29

8 a.m. First Short Film Series
"L'Evasion"
"Manon sur le bitume"
"Heureux qui comme Edouard"
"Pour quelques minutes de plus"
"Premier voyage"
"Les Hommes s'en souviendront"
"Juste une heure"
Discussion with French directors Gilles Cuvelier, Gabriel Jacquel, Valérie Müller, Elizabeth Marre, Olivier Pont, Vincent Burgevin, Franck Lebon, Matthieu-David Cournot, Valérie Müller, Virginie Peignien and French animator Mikaël Fenneteaux

10:15 a.m. "Michou d'Auber"
Discussion with French director Thomas Gilou

1:10 p.m. "Dialogue avec mon jardinier"
Discussion with French director Jean Becker

3:45 p.m. Presentation of the 2008 French Delegation, introduced by His Excellency Pierre Vimont, the French Ambassador to the United States, and presided by French director Jean Becker and French actor Thierry Lhermitte.
"L'Invité"
Discussion with French actor Thierry Lhermitte

7 p.m. Official reception at the Renaissance Conference Center

8 p.m. Gala Dinner at the historic Scott House

10 p.m. "J'aurais voulu être un danseur" by Alain Berliner

→Sunday 3/30

8 a.m. La Fémis Short Film Series
"Les Quarante Voleurs"
"All About Yvonne"
"Le Grand Bal"
"Parcours d'obstacles"
"L'Heure bleue"
"L'Arbre d'Hugo"
Discussion with directors and La Fémis graduates Thomas Favel, Karine Arlot, Sébastien Hestin, Noémie Gillot, Macha Kassian and Yoann de Montgrand led by Pierre-William Glenn – French director and president of the Commission Supérieure Technique de l'Image et du Son.

10:05 a.m. "On dirait que..."
Discussion with French documentary director Françoise Marie and French producer Annie Miller

12:20 p.m. "Jean de La Fontaine, le défi"
Discussion with French director Daniel Vigne

2:50 p.m. "Un secret" by Claude Miller
Discussion with screenwriter Natalie Carter

5:20 p.m. Closing Ceremony with French Delegation
"Ensemble, c'est tout"

Southern Graphics Council Command Print Conference: Every year, the SGC travels to a different city for its conference. This year, the conference has come to Richmond. To welcome the SGC's influx of artists, students and aficionados, galleries all over Richmond – from Main Street to Broad Street – will be featuring prints and paintings in the spirit of the conference.

→Thursday 3/27

1-2:30 p.m. Demos: CMYK Planographic Monoprints, Etching Studio Room 340
LowTech - High Def, Lithography Studio
Printing with Wood and Metal Type, Pollak Building Room 309

FESTIVALS continued to CT12

FESTIVALS continued from CT11
1-2:30 p.m. Panels

Sample This: Appropriate Appropriations, Richmond Salon A
 Caught in the Web Navigating Narratives, Richmond Salon B
 Printmaking is the Discourse, Commons Theater

2:45-3:30 p.m. Artist Talks
 Lesley Dill, Commons Theater

3-5:30 p.m. Demos: Digital Imaging and Four Color Polymer Plate Printing, Etching Studio
 Digitally Designed Japanese Woodblock Printing, Lithography Studio
 Expanding Instruction Beyond the Four Walls, Fine Arts Building Room 313

4-5:30 p.m. Panels: Bits and Atoms, Richmond Salon A
 Shortcuts for More Pleasing Realities, Richmond Salon B
 Construction of Malleable Language, Commons Theater

6 p.m. Main Street Gallery Openings (Main Art, Artemis, Rentz, Reynolds, Uptown)
 Bus Trip to University of Richmond Hartnett Print Biennial
 Ongoing

12-5:30 p.m. Artist in Residence Cassandra C. Jones Center For Digital Print Media

12-6:00 p.m. Vendor Fair: VCU Commonwealth Ballroom, Commons

→Friday 3/28

8-8:45 a.m. Morning Coffee, Landmark Theater

8:45-9:45 a.m. SGE0 Meeting, Richmond Salon A

9-11:30 a.m. Demos Digital Fabric Printing, Pollak Building
 Digital Inkjet films for Contact Printing
 Leopard Server Technologies with Apple, Fine Arts Building Room 313

10-11:30 a.m. Panels: Syntax of the Print revisited, Richmond Salon A
 Teaching with Digital Savvy, Richmond Salon B
 Printmaker in War Time, Commons Theater

11:30-2:30 p.m. Member Portfolio Pick-up
 Fine Arts Building Room 122

11:45-12:30 p.m. Artist talks: Sandow Birk, Commons Theater
 Cassandra C. Jones, Richmond Salon

12-2:30 p.m. Demos: Sharpie Marker Lithography, Lithography Studio
 Energy to Image—Process and Artifact, Screen Print Studio

1-2:30 p.m. Panels: Archiving with Digital Media, Richmond Salon A
 Mediated, Richmond Salon B
 New Dresses, Old Questions, Commons Theater

2:30-4 p.m. Artist talk: Kerry James Marshall, Landmark Theater

4-5:45 p.m. Awards Ceremony, Landmark Theater

6-10 p.m. VCU Design Center and Quirk Gallery host: Shahneshein Foundation's 2007 Shrinkage Worldwide Awards
 Ongoing

8-6 p.m. Vendor Fair: Commons Ballroom

12-5:30 p.m. Artist in Residence Cassandra C. Jones, Center For Digital Print Media

5:30-7:30 p.m. Graduate Open Studios, Fine Arts Building

6 p.m. Broad Street Gallery Openings (ADA, Quirk, Transmissions, Studio 23, Gallery 5, 1708)

→Saturday 3/29

9-9:45 a.m. Morning Coffee, Landmark Theater

10-11:30 a.m. Featured Panel, Landmark Theater

12-1:30 p.m. Open Portfolio, Landmark Theater Ballroom: Round One

1:30-3 p.m. Round Two

3-4:30 p.m. Round Three

4-5 p.m. Artist talk: Virgil Marti, Visual Arts Center

6-11 p.m. Private Banquet
 Plant Zero Openings
 Ongoing

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vendor Fair: Commons Ballroom
 Experiencing Villa-Lobos: An International Festival: Arguably the most influential Brazilian Composer of all time, Heitor Villa-Lobos has garnered the respect of an entire genre.

The VCU Department of Music will hold a three-day festival of concerts, guest artists, master classes and discussions in honor of the late composer. For those who remember Doug Richard's recent premier of his epic masterpiece "A Mare Encheu," the VCU rendition will be featured in Friday night's concert.

The ensemble will feature the Greater Richmond Children's Choir, VCU Jazz Orchestra 1 and the VCU Symphony Orchestra. Events will be held in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall, W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts (922 Park Ave., Richmond, Va.), unless otherwise noted. The festival registration fee (\$125) covers admission to all events listed below, including the opening reception and the Saturday luncheon. Tickets to individual events went on sale March 1 and may be purchased through the VCU Music Box Office, 828-6776.

→Thursday 3/27

5-6:30 p.m. Opening reception at the Scott House

7 p.m. Keynote address in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

8 p.m. Opening Concert featuring VCU faculty, alumni, and guest artists in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall (pianist Sonia Rubinsky will perform at this concert). Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

→Friday 3/28

8-9:30 a.m. Presentation of papers in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall and at Grace and Holy Trinity Church (concurrent sessions). Admission: Free, ticket not required.

9:30-11 a.m. Sonia Rubinsky piano master class in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: Free, ticket not required.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Concert by selected artists in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall and at Grace and Holy Trinity Church (concurrent sessions). Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

1:30-3 p.m. Presentation of papers in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall and at Grace and Holy Trinity Church (concurrent sessions). Admission: Free, ticket not required.

3:30-4:30 p.m. Performance by high school ensembles and soloists in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall and at Grace and Holy Trinity Church (concurrent sessions). Admission: Free, ticket not required.

5-6:30 p.m. Vocal concert featuring VCU students/faculty/alumni and the Commonwealth Singers in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

8:00 p.m. VCU Symphony Concert in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall featuring saxophonist Albert Regni. Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

→Saturday 3/29

9-10:30 a.m. Presentation of papers in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall and Business Building Auditorium (concurrent sessions). Admission: Free, ticket not required.

11-12 p.m. Round Table discussion on the life and music of Villa-Lobos, (Sonia Rubinsky, members of Cuarteto Latinoamericano, other guest scholars). Admission: Free, ticket not required.

12 p.m. Luncheon reception for Round Table panel and symposium participants at the VCU Alumni House. Admission: Included in symposium fee (individual tickets not available).

1:30-3 p.m. String Master Class featuring members of Cuarteto Latinoamericano in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: Free, ticket not required.

3:30-5 p.m. "The Brazilian Guitar – from Villa-Lobos to the Present," featuring VCU faculty/alumni/students/guest artists in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

5:30-7 p.m. Concert by selected artists in Concert Hall and Business Building Auditorium.

FESTIVALS continued to CT14

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FESTIVALS continued from CT12

Admission: \$10 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

8 p.m. Closing concert by Cuarteto Latinoamericano in the Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: \$25 adult, \$10 student. Reserved seating. Free for VCU music students and faculty.

10 p.m. "Green Mansions Film," starring Audrey Hepburn and Anthony Perkins. Musical score by Villa-Lobos. Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall. Admission: \$5 gen. adm., free for VCU faculty, staff and students with VCU ID.

VCU Dance NOW: Featuring works by faculty members and guest artists, VCU Dance NOW will take place Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Grace Street Theatre. The concert will feature choreography by guest artists Tania Isaac, Heidi Weiss, Daniel Gwirtzman and Meisha Bosman, as well as faculty works by Judith Steel, Scott Putman, James Frazier and Martha Curtis. Tickets are \$15 for the general public and \$5 for VCU students with a valid I.D. Rambucks are accepted. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Grace Street Theatre box office, 828-2020.

Cycle Slaughterama 5: What started out as a simple idea among a few thrill-seeking, bike-loving friends about five years ago has evolved into a full-scale Richmond event. The first "Evil Fool's Day Cycle Slaughterama," which took place in the cul-de-sac at Albermarle and Belvidere has expanded its territory, with its

main events taking place on Belle Isle.

→Thursday 3/27

6 p.m. A tall bike-only ride leaving from Holly St. Park will eventually ride to NY Deli in Carytown.

12 a.m. Showing of "The Pornography of the Bicycle" at the Byrd Theatre

→Friday 3/28

4 p.m. Scavenger Hunt/Registration. Holly St. Park. Evening, location TBD - Warehouse show featuring Free Cocaine, Matt & Kim, the Read and Show Me the Pink

→Saturday 3/29

12 p.m. Belle Isle. Events include chariot races, bike jousting, "chicken fight derby," "whiplash," "piggy pile" and "six-pack attack."

9 p.m. Canal Club. Concert starring the East City Rivals (ft. members of Avail, Ann Beretta, ATP etc.) with Antlers, Mark Lind (of the Ducky Boys) and Pedals on Our Pirate Ships. \$7.

→Sunday 3/30

Holly St. Bicycle Polo Tournament. Events at Slaughterama are free to the public. A "survival pack," which includes a T-shirt, slap coozie, stickers, posters and a spoke card, will be available for \$7.

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Erykah Badu's new album presents funky 'New Amerykah'

KEMI OWENS-HART
Associate Spectrum Editor

Erykah Badu never has been known to produce bubblegum pop, and her recently released album "New Amerykah, Pt. 1: 4th World War" certainly has followed suit.

Badu, who has not produced an album since "Worldwide Underground" was released in 2003, is showing no definite signs of stopping. "New Amerykah" boasts Badu's signature style throughout.

"Amerykahn Promise," the first song of the album, is an obvious nod to the musical funk movement that was popular in the '60s and '70s. Conjuring images of bell-bottoms and Afros, this track is not the only disco-worthy song on Badu's album, which was released late this past month. "The Cell," which chronicles a "light skin honey with the cinnamon smell," has a bass-guitar line and drumbeat that also is reminiscent of times past.

Erykah Badu has come a long way from the off-key, pleading croonings of "Tyrone," her inexplicably popular single from the late '90s that earned her two

Lady of Soul awards.

"New Amerykah" certainly reflects the Texas native's eccentric style. Though interspersed with some generic-sounding slow-tempo R&B tracks, the album occasionally breaks its monotony with songs like "Twinkle." This piece – within an interlude in an unidentified language – also contains a spoken-word commentary about the state of affairs in the modern world. The speaker urges the listener to "get angry" and relinquish his or her complacent position in society.

Although some selections on this album caught my attention with their interesting beats or somewhat thought-provoking lyrics, the majority of Badu's creations came off as generic "neo-soul" fodder. Though obviously talented as far as vocal proficiency is concerned, Erykah Badu has done little to diversify her musical approach. For those die-hard Badu fans, I'm sure "New Amerykah" will satisfy, for it is undoubtedly Badu-esque. I give her points for maintaining her musical integrity but, overall, I found the album to be nothing special. Perhaps we'll wait and see what another five years will yield.

My grade: C+



cd
review

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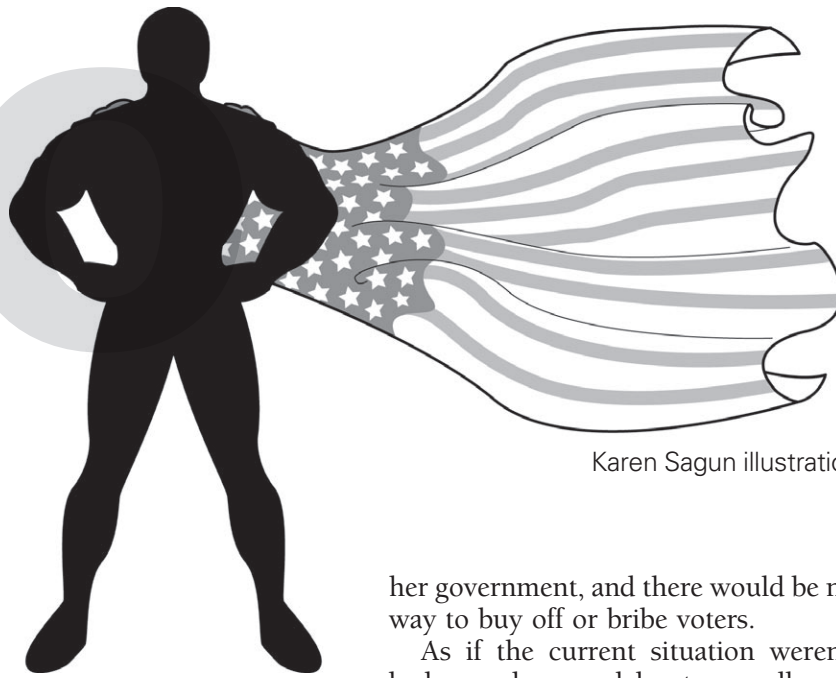
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opinion



Karen Sagun illustration

RICH GRISET
Opinion Editor

With such a close race for this election year's Democratic presidential candidate, the candidate might be decided by superdelegates. Like most people, I had no idea what in the world superdelegates were until this election.

Were they jettisoned from the planet Krypton shortly before its destruction and are invincible to all but Kryptonite? Are they politicians that have been bitten by radioactive spiders and thus possess superhuman powers? Sadly – for both questions – the answer is “no” ... and Howard Dean, current chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has no superpower except his “Beeeeeehy-aaaaahhhh!!!!”

In an effort to explain the term “superdelegate,” I shall do my best to break down how the system works.

For the Democratic Party, there are pledged delegates and unpledged delegates.

Pledged delegates are, for the most part, directly representative of the state vote in a primary. If 75 percent of Alaskan residents vote in the presidential primary for Barack Obama, 75 percent of the

It's a bird, It's a plane, It's Howard Dean

Alaskan delegates will go to Obama.

The Republican Party utilizes a different, winner-take-all system in most states. In Arizona, John McCain received 47 percent of the vote and Mitt Romney received 35 percent. Because of the winner-take-all system, McCain gained all 50 delegates in the state.

A “superdelegate” is an informal term for an “unpledged party leader and can elected official delegate.” Superdelegates are used only in the Democratic Party and only matter if no candidate can get the majority of regular pledged delegates—the required majority is 2,024 delegates. As things stand currently, Obama has 1,617 delegates, and Clinton has 1,498 delegates, according to the Associated Press, and it is very possible that neither will attain the 2,024 needed.

If neither candidate attains the required number of delegates, the nomination would be decided by the superdelegates. Superdelegates can be current or former office holders or party officials. Not all of them have been elected into office; they are party insiders and leaders and are not representative of the common person.

The use of superdelegates is nothing more than a further impediment to the idea of a “government of the people.” Instead of voters choosing their candidate in the primaries, the decision will be left to an elite group.

Call me old-fashioned, but you could say I'm an Athenian democrat. I am a proponent of direct democracy, where everyone – not just a select few – votes on legislation. This scenario would allow everyone to have a direct say in his or

her government, and there would be no way to buy off or bribe voters.

As if the current situation weren't bad enough, superdelegates are allowed to change their vote at any time before the national convention. Superdelegates can give their vote to candidates who already have dropped out of the race. Even the number of superdelegates can change before the beginning of the convention.

This is all ridiculous, and I write as a concerned citizen—not as a supporter of either Democratic candidate.

Currently, Obama and Clinton are only 29 superdelegates apart. The fact that some elite group of political officials will control who is the next presidential candidate is preposterous; this system should be changed so future elections will be more democratic and less elitist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In my four years at VCU, I have been a lot like the rest of you, fairly apathetic about the Student Government Association. Other than free pizza during exams, rarely did I feel inspired or motivated by the SGA.

A few weeks ago, I was approached by Steven Latimer, Gonzalo Aida and Joshua Ronk and asked for my support for their run for the SGA Executive Branch. I listened to their ideas, took some time to look into the opposing side's platform and returned to them offering not only my support but also my help in getting the word out.

I finally felt motivated.

These candidates' ideas on pushing for reforms within the SGA, dealing with appropriations to student organizations, fighting tuition hikes and building a better overall relationship between the SGA and those of us going to VCU struck a chord. Here was a slate of candidates who got it, guys who understood that there was apathy among the students and knew that to deal with that, they needed to reform the SGA and turn it

into something relevant and that fights for our needs.

It wasn't a promise for a football team. It wasn't a reliability on unsustainable endowments. It wasn't attacks against those who truly cared about this university.

It was real change.

Something that makes the words on that piece of paper we all hope to get when all is said and done mean something more than a bunch of debt and years of our lives. Something that could turn VCU into a school we could all be proud of.

I ask each and every one of you to take a moment and look at the Latimer-Aida-Ronk platform. Get to know what these guys stand for and understand that this is a great opportunity for VCU to really move forward in how it interacts with all of us.

Let's vote for real change. Let's vote for effective leadership. Let's vote for Steven Latimer, Gonzalo Aida

LETTERS continued to CT17

the
ct

REBECCA
LANDAU
Executive Editor

RICH
GRISET
Opinion Editor

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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.

LETTERS continued from CT16

and Joshua Ronk and help make VCU something we can all be a part of.
Jason Kenney



Friends,

Real change at VCU begins with real leadership.

For the last few weeks, we have had an opportunity to speak with our fellow students on what that real change means. Fighting for greater transparency and accountability in regard to our tuition, fighting for greater transparency and accountability in regard to the allocation of our student-activity fees, fighting for greater transparency and accountability in how the SGA operates: All of these have been to create an environment that is open to and representative of every student at VCU.

We are a community with as many ideas and opinions as we have fellow students. And each and every one of those ideas and opinions deserves to be heard, to be given a proper forum with the power to truly advocate for it. The Latimer-Aida-Ronk ticket will be that advocate.

As we enter the final day of voting, we ask that you give us your support and show that you stand for open governance by your elected representatives, open operating procedures by the administration of VCU—and that you stand for a conversation among the student body so that we can effect real change for all of us.

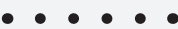
We appreciate this opportunity to represent you, this opportunity to engage in a discussion to make VCU a school we can all be proud to be a part of.

Each and every one of us is part of this school. Each and every one of us deserves to be heard. Each and every one of us can create real change.

Thank you for your support.

Please vote Latimer-Aida-Ronk at www.vcusga.com.

Steven Latimer



Dear Editor,

I have tried my best to find out as much as possible on both tickets running for SGA president and all I find from Jibran Muhammad are lame, hollow promises and negative attacks against Steven Latimer, including an 11th hour attempt to smear him as intolerant. Steven Latimer will represent all students at VCU and will not attack those he disagrees with as Jibran seems to want to do.

I, as a student of VCU, do not want to be led by a man that would bring

such negativity to the table. I do not want hypocrites to lead us; how can a candidate be part of the “Students for Positive Change” party when he - the leader of the party - is so negative? What I want is real change and real leadership, not negative slander that does nothing but deter student interest and keep the SGA locked in the same hands year after year.

We need to take a stand against this mud. Vote Latimer for President!

Daniel Fink

*Editor’s note: Jibran Muhammad said he has not contributed to any negative campaigning against Steven Latimer.



Thank You!

Today is the final day of the SGA election. Let your voice be heard! Join the chorus! As this campaign ends with your song, our hearts are filled with your music.

You have our gratitude and deep appreciation.

To all of you, thank you.

Thank you for all you have given in so many ways.

Thank you for your patience in wading through and responding to our position papers.

Thank you for all the encouragement and help you offered during this campaign.

Thank you for your invitations to join you in your many diverse activities that make this a wonderful university, including the Alternative Spring Break trip to Minnesota.

Thank you for your ideas and your vision for creating the VCU of tomorrow.

Thank you for your earnest sincerity in opening our eyes to your reality, to your perspective on what is truly important.

Thank you for reaffirming the wonderful miracle of democracy where the many come together to select the few to represent them in a more-perfect union.

And, finally, thank you most humbly for your votes. With this gift, if elected, we will reciprocate during the entire year ahead, giving you in return the better government you deserve, the better university you imagine. We will demonstrate every day that, indeed, Actions Count at VCU.

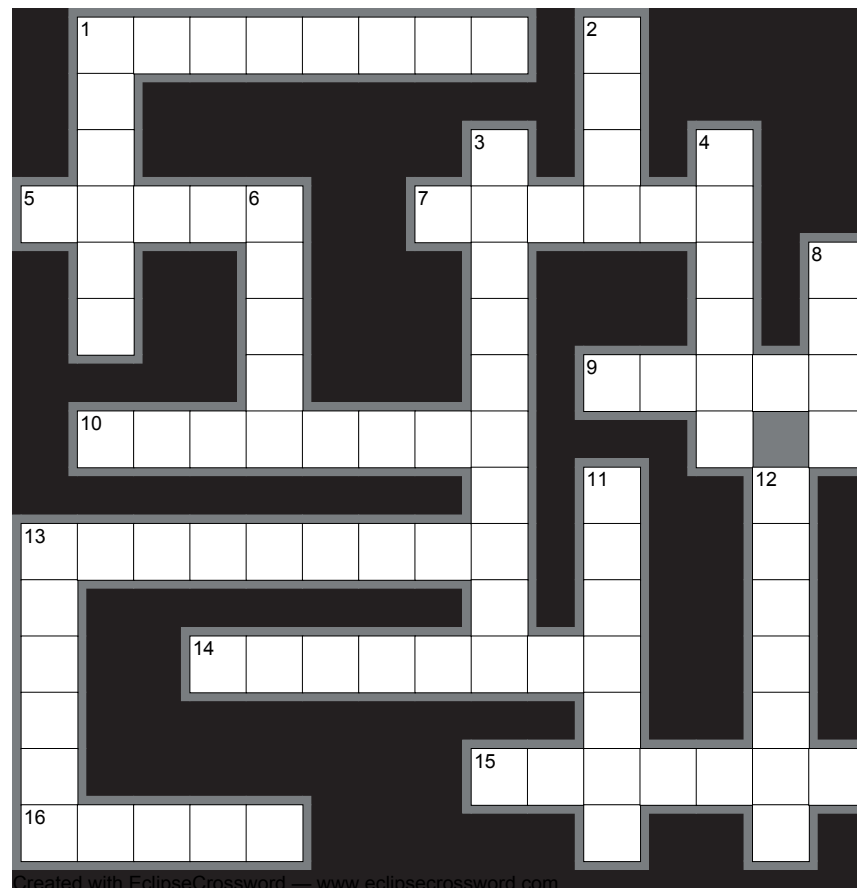
Students For Positive Change

Jibran Muhammad

Adam Sowder

Solle Taghavi

U.S. Presidents

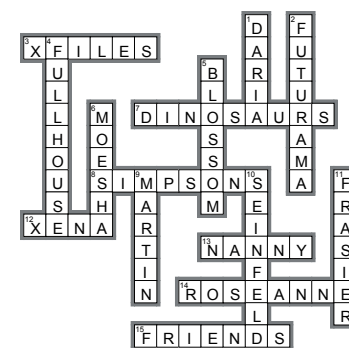


Across

1. 1897–1901. During his tenure, the U.S. fought the Spanish-American War.
5. 1869–1877. The leading Union general in the Civil War.
7. 1977–1981. Created the Department of Energy and the Department of Education.
9. 1797–1801. Before becoming president, he was vice president under George Washington.
10. 1841. Died 30 days after being sworn into office.
13. 1901–1909. Teddy. Leader of the progressive movement.
14. 1857–1861. The only bachelor president.
15. 1809–1817. “Father of the Constitution.”
16. 1969–1974. Watergate scandal.

3. 1789–1797. \$1 bill.
4. 1945–1953. World War II ended during his presidency.
6. 1841–1845. Was the first vice president to assume the office of president after the death of his predecessor.
8. 1989–1993. Was also Ronald Reagan’s vice president.
11. 1961–1963. Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated this young president.
12. 1993–2001. Second president to be impeached by the House of Representatives.
13. 1981–1989. He was elected at the age of 69. He was the oldest person ever to be elected president.

Answers from March 24:



Down

1. 1817–1825. His presidency was during the Era of Good Feelings.
2. 1909–1913. Also served on the Supreme Court.

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JOBS

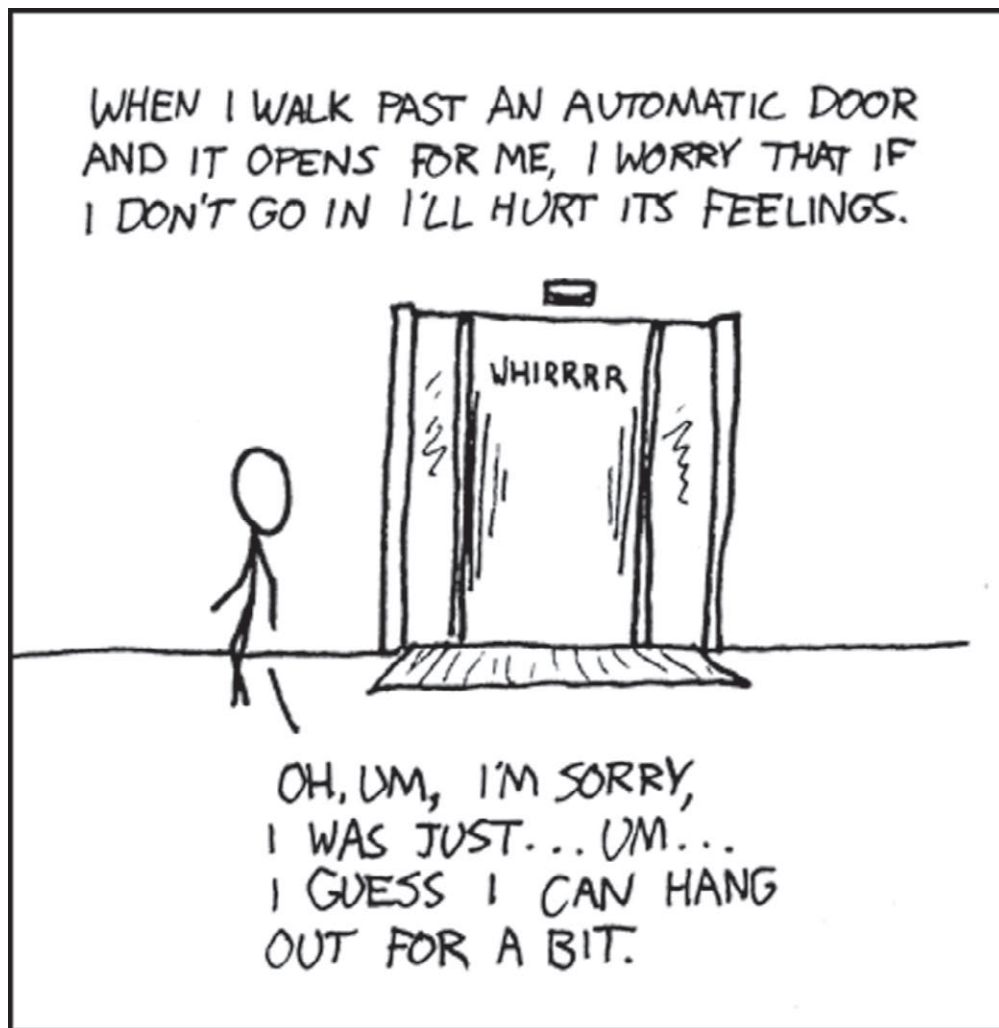
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xkcd — "Automatic Doors"

Randall Munroe



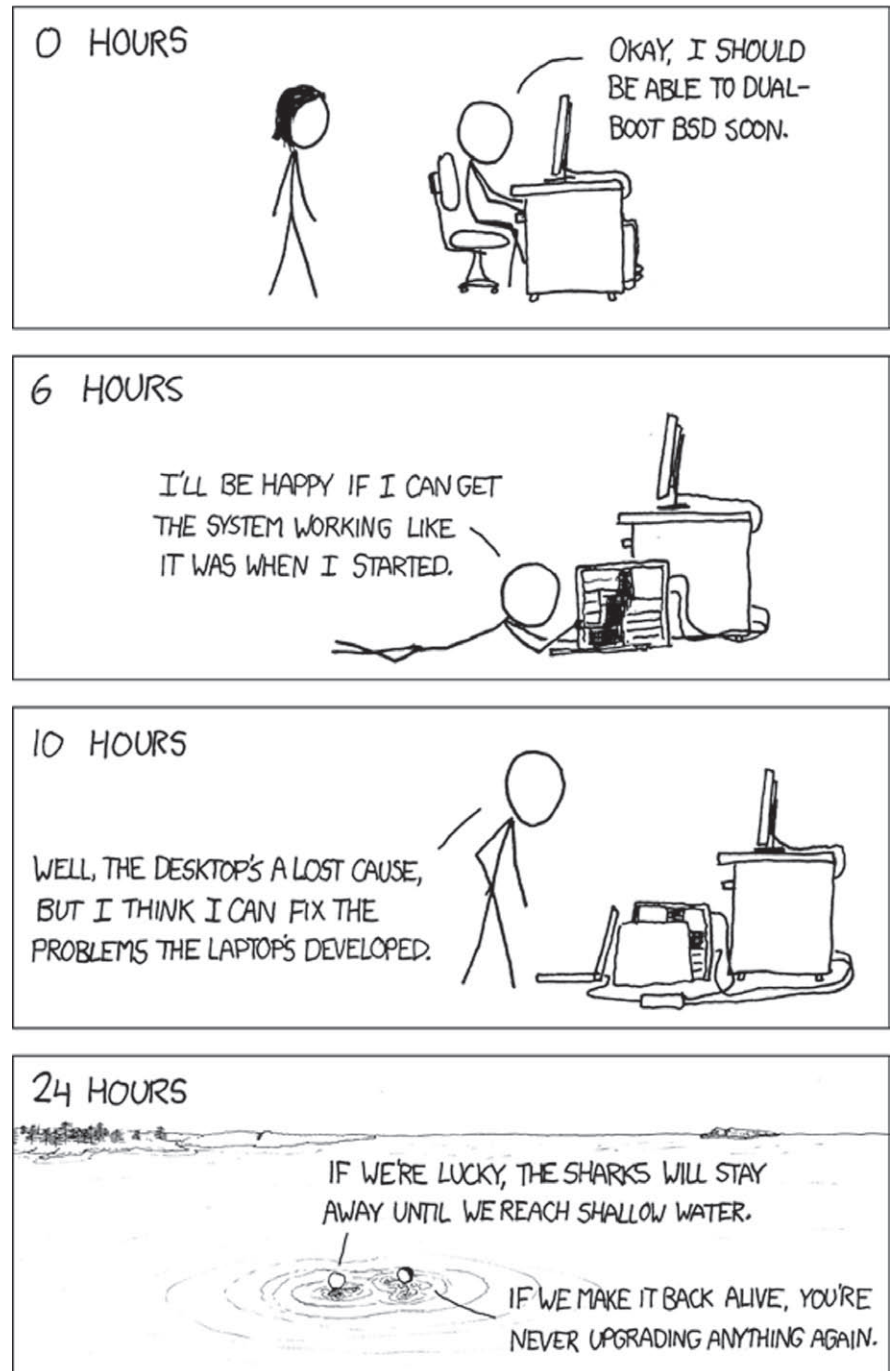
Piled Higher and Deeper

Jorge Cham

xkcd — "Success"

Randall Munroe

AS A PROJECT WEARS ON, STANDARDS FOR SUCCESS SLIP LOWER AND LOWER.



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John Kroes

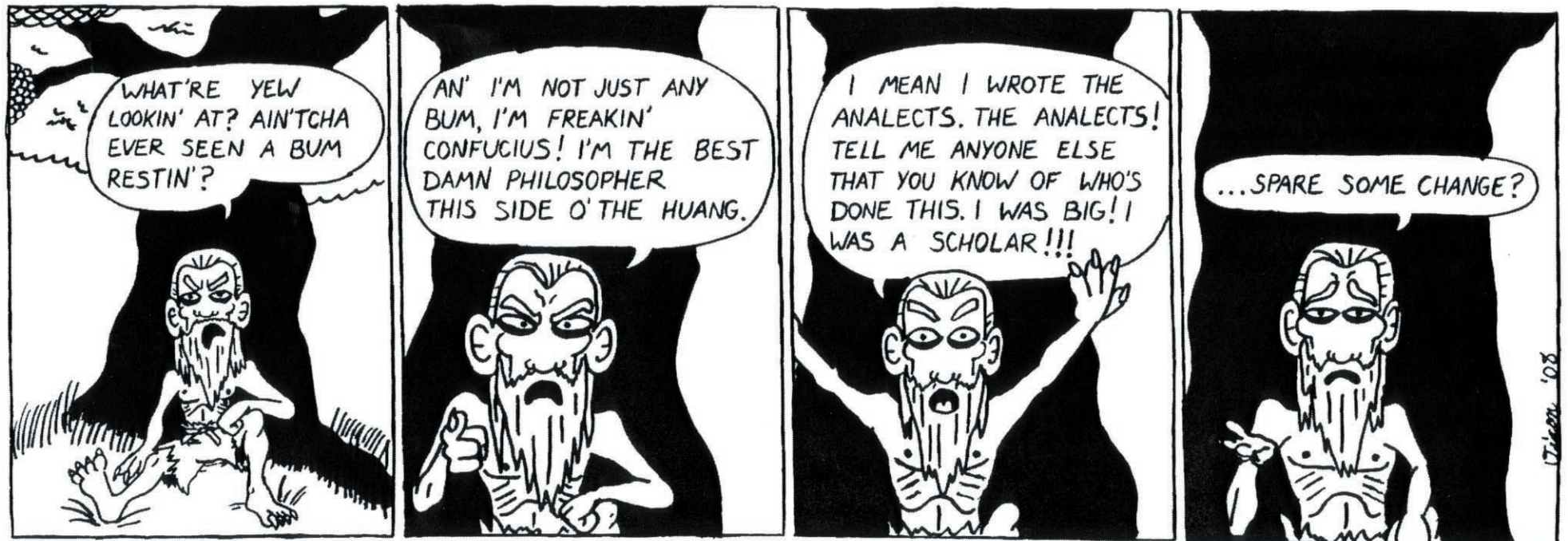


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