

# THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

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DECEMBER 10, 1996

## A Tangled Web

### Students busted for online profanity and pornography

By Melanie L. Stokes  
Staff Writer

Students venturing into cyberspace may be stepping into a tangled web if the content of their e-mail or web site falls short of university standards. Sending profane e-mail messages and displaying nude or pornographic photographs on CNU web sites turns students into defendants in disciplinary hearings which could eventually lead to academic suspension. While CNU provides free internet access to all students and faculty, users may sacrifice some speech and expression freedoms when going online through the university.

Students are beating a path to Drumont Bowman's office but they aren't visiting the dean of students willingly. Bowman has summoned students and issued warnings to internet users who violate new state and university computing policies.

"I have seen a lot of students this semester," Bowman said. "Students have used the e-mail services inappropriately and I've had to call several in to talk to them about the use of profanity."

When in CNU's system, users have an option of sending a message to everyone with a CNU

based e-mail account, including administrators. When a student sends such a message out to the university community including profanity, chances are they are soon to have an appointment with Bowman.

"E-mail is not as personal as the letter we send through the U.S. mail because the letter is sent to one person. Many students are sending their messages to the community. I am asking people to keep all of this quality and informative material and be a little more selective in what they say and how they represent themselves," Bowman said.

"I am not a dictator but a don't want people communicating in ways that offend or threaten others," Bowman said.

Bowman keeps a list of mailers who received a warning, checks his e-mail regularly, and often surfs the net paying particular attention to sites on CNU's server.

A severe first offense or a second offense sends students before a judicial board for a disciplinary hearing.

"Depending on the frequency and severity of the problems, students can receive a variety of reprimands including a disciplinary probation or suspension," Bowman said.

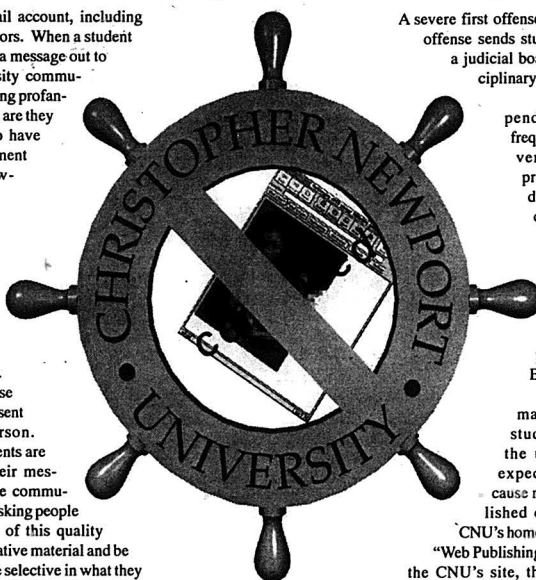
Bowman said that students know the university's expectations because rules are published on a link to CNU's homepage. Under "Web Publishing Policies" on the CNU's site, the following statement appears:

"CNU Web publishers are responsible for the content of the pages they publish and are expected to abide by the highest standard of quality and responsibility."

The policy speaks directly to web site publishing students but states no specific policy on page content. A computer use policy added to the 1996-1997 University Handbook states in full, "The University's communication and computing resources are intended to support the educational, research, and public service missions of the University. The acceptable use of these resources must be in accord with the University honor code, the policies and regulations established by the Computer Center and the University library, and relevant local, state, and international laws and regulations. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of these policies."

Regarding the nude and pornographic photographs he has seen on students' web sites Bowman said, "A mandate from the Governor forbids pornography on state funded computer systems. That material is a misuse of state funds."

"We are currently working to come up with a more detailed policy of expected conduct. We will always have people who get into the gray areas," Bowman



## Police Academy rents Ferguson space

By John Bailey  
Staff Writer

Three thousand law enforcement and jailer/court security officers will be attending classes at CNU over the next year. The Hampton Roads Regional Academy of Criminal Justice will be making its new home in the Ferguson Hall Annex. The Academy will rent space in the Annex for the next two years. It is hoped that this relationship between CNU and the Academy will eventually lead to the co-sponsoring of a permanent law enforcement academy facility at CNU. CNU administrators expect the exchange of instructors between the academy and CNU's Criminal Justice Program to be a by-product of the new relationship.

The Academy is a state funded criminal justice organization whose charter members include: Hampton, James City County, Newport News, Portsmouth, Poquoson, Williamsburg and York County.

Student response to the arrival of the Academy has been positive. "The move is a coup for CNU," criminal justice student Jeremy Kulm said. "The possibility of having additional experienced instructors working with the university will enhance the program."

CNU students who attend seminars can expect to hear discussions on subjects such as cellular phone fraud and drug enforcement issues said Academy Executive Director, Frank Kowaleski. "Academic training is important, but the combination of academic lessons with the field experiences of our instructors is invaluable to students."

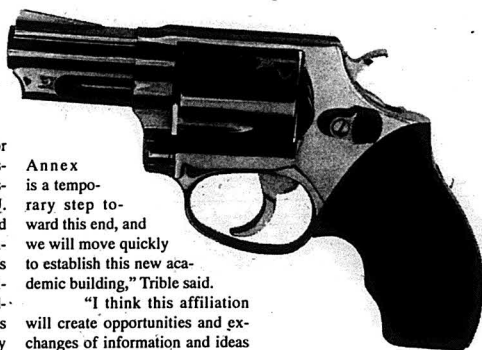
"The Academy and CNU are in the education business. Working together we will learn from each other and establish new academic programs, share resources and create a national model for the education and training of criminal justice profes-

sionals," said CNU President Paul Tribble.

Kowaleski said the move has been a little rocky for the Academy, which is still in session, but the Academy's administration is happy to be at CNU. The Academy originally occupied the former Army Reserve Training Center in Hampton. The costs for renovating the Hampton facility was not in the Academy's budget which was one reason for its move. However, the Academy will retain the city of Hampton as its fiscal agent.

In response to this opportunity, CNU offered the Academy the option of paying the university \$125,000 annual rent and a \$30,000 annual maintenance fee for the use of the Ferguson Annex. The rental money will be invested in the designing and building of a new academic facility for the academy and the university's program in criminal justice.

"Leasing of the Ferguson



Annex is a temporary step toward this end, and we will move quickly to establish this new academic building," Tribble said.

"I think this affiliation will create opportunities and exchanges of information and ideas that we haven't thought of before," said James City County Police Chief and chairman of the Academy, Robert Key. "We currently have a large number of instructors qualified to teach at the college level."

The Ferguson location gives the Academy more room to run seminars and classes. It will use the Ferguson cafeteria for calisthenics and self defense training. CNU is allowing the Academy to create its own Web site through

CNU's servers.

This is a first for us. A place on the Web will make communication between the Academy's charter members more efficient, and it will make the Academy more accessible to the public," said Kowaleski. "Overall, the level of cooperation has been outstanding from the university."

Newport News Mayor Joe

Web / Continued from page 1

said. The dean said he plans to look at each student's web site over the semester break. "I want students to use the web and all that is available to them. Students are selling themselves short. When something goes on the web it's out there for the world. Millions of people see it and students are not always putting the best representations of themselves out there," Bowman said. "I want students to use the resource and have an outstanding web site."

As the U.S. Supreme Court reviews the currently unenforced Communications Decency Act of 1996, debates rage across the country over the constitutionality of world wide web content regulations. Justices are pressured to decide how the first amendment applies to the Internet as state and local governments create mandates of their own.

As an agency of Virginia, CNU follows the state's code. On March 31, 1996, the General Assembly amended the Code of Virginia to restrict state employees, including employees in "institutions of higher education," from accessing "sexually explicit content."

The amendment does not mention

students in state institutions but Virginia schools, including CNU and Old Dominion University, expect students to follow the employees' guidelines. ODU's data security administrator Margie Rogis said, "We're in the process of writing an electronic media policy for our students because we've had many problems. We really went through a spell of it. The number of online users here is in the thousands and we get the good with the bad. We've seen a growing incidence of the bad," Rogis said.

"ODU has a basic online computer usage statement telling students very briefly how they should behave. If a student proceeds to set up an account, they are accepting ODU's policies," Rogis said. "I'm surprised that students do not use more common sense."

Rogis said that many students are going through disciplinary procedures for web pornography and for distributing chain letters.

"Our computer center steps in when people do things to back-up the system. We do not usually catch students with inappropriate web sites until we get a complaint from outside. When we get a complaint we can not ignore it," Rogis said.

Students at the Norfolk school go through hearings, also.

"Students lose their online accounts and sometimes get community service and have to go through counseling," Rogis said.

Rogis said that online procedures are vague but that students are getting the word out to each other that rules exist. Like at CNU, students get the message when their fellow students get busted.

CNU student Patrick Bethea scanned models wearing bikinis onto his web site. Though Bethea never received a call from the dean, he recently trashed the models' photos.

"I never knew there were rules for the web," Bethea said. "I had looked around and seen a lot of adult material and worse so I put a few bikinis on my page." Bethea received warning from a friend who was in trouble for his link to an adult site and from a professor.

"At first I didn't see why the school would care what's on our pages. Now I know that they need to have some rules and it's good that they provide us the online service," Bethea said.

CNU computer science major Jon White said, "They are violating our consti-

tutional right to free speech. We pay money to go to this Virginia school and we pay our taxes. Just because we are students do we give up our rights as citizens?" White said. "There is no federal law banning adult material or profanity on the web. If CNU tries to tell us what we can and can not say, they will be slapped with a few civil suits," White said. "It is an insult that they think we need to be told how to speak. Anyone smart enough to use e-mail or create a web site is literate and able to make his or her own decisions."

Police / continued from page 1

Frank, said "This kind of interagency cooperation will help upgrade the condition of learning for the officers at the Academy. The access to CNU's library resources and other educational services such as computer data bases will be highly beneficial."

The Academy offers entry level law enforcement programs which last 10 to 12 weeks each session. Jailor/Court Security programs are slightly shorter in duration. The Academy also provides 911 dispatcher training and certification, Kowaleski said. There will be 300 different programs over the next year.

## Convenience store coming to Ferguson Hall Shop opens Jan. 13, needs a name

By Melanie L. Stokes  
Staff Writer

Candy by the pound, frosted donuts, espresso, and all the conveniences of a 7-11 are coming to Ferguson next month when dining services opens CNU's first convenience store. While the mart-to-be is under construction, Steve Pappas, director of auxiliary services, hunts for a store name.

Pappas, soliciting name suggestions, offers a \$50 dining gift certificate to the faculty, staff, or student who submits the winning name.

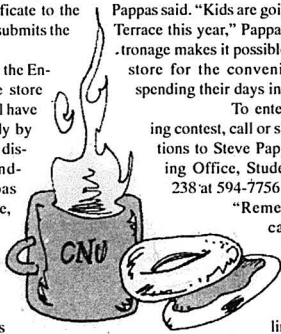
Located across from the English department office, the store opens Jan. 13. "The shop will have the beautiful display of candy by the pound in the plexi-glass dispensers, pre-wrapped sandwiches, and salads," Pappas said. "We'll also offer coffee, soda, and the usual assortment of convenience store items." Pappas showed off the blueprints of the store with pride.

Revenue from campus

restaurants funds the shop's opening, Pappas said. "Kids are going crazy over the Terrace this year," Pappas said. "The patronage makes it possible for us to open a store for the convenience of people spending their days in Ferguson."

To enter the store naming contest, call or send your suggestions to Steve Pappas in the Housing Office, Student Center room 238 at 594-7756.

"Remember the name can include the word mart, express, shop, or any variety along those lines," Pappas said.



## A Message from our SGA President

During the Christmas season, pace quickens and stress shortens tempers. We begin frantically worrying about finals and trying to cram in those last minute study sessions while still trying to deal with all of the hustle and bustle of holiday shopping. Sometimes things become so frantic that we wonder whether this "secular" holiday is worth all of the trouble.

Before we leave for break and get involved with all of the frantic goings on of the Christmas Season, I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank Michele Bates and the members of Act One, Melanie Stokes and the staff of The Captain's Log, and the Executive Council and Senators of the Student Government Association. The dedication and hard work put forth by these organizations along with the combined efforts of all of the student organizations have made this one of the most enjoyable semesters that I have had here at CNU.

All of our success would not have been possible if had not been for all of the support, advice, and long hours invested into our organizations by Dean of Students Dru Bowman, Associate Dean of Students Douglas Gallar, Director of Student Life Cathy Banks, and the staff of the Office of Student Life. Our success this semester is not just limited to student development. As students we have had the opportunity to enjoy another semester of first class teaching from a first rate faculty. We have also had the privilege of being able to take our concerns, ideas, and suggestions to an administration which truly strives to "put students first." On behalf of all of the students of Christopher Newport University, thank you for your dedication and hard work.

During this time of year the secular society in which we live seems to be overwhelming us at every opportunity. Our legal system tell us prayers cannot be offered in public schools; baccalaureate sermons are against the law; and nativity scenes cannot appear on city property. To suggest that the framers of the Constitution even remotely intended to remove God from influencing our daily activity ignores history.

We must remind each other of the true significance of this holiday. We are not constrained in the slightest from calling attention to the fact that Christmas is a religious holiday, not a secular event. We ourselves must not forget why we celebrate this season. We have no "legal" excuse not to acknowledge this season for what it really is, a special time to observe the Birth of Christ. We are celebrating a birthday, the most important one ever. Through it all we must remember what we are celebrating, and occasionally give a little prayer thanking God for the Gift He bestowed on humanity.

It has been a very distinct privilege and honor to serve you as Student Body President this semester. God willing next semester will be even better than this one. If SGA can ever be of any assistance don't hesitate to stop by and see us. We are located in room 208 of the Student Center. May this Christmas be a special one for each of you and your families.

Sincerely,  
Dave Edwards

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## Terrace Renovations Begin Menu Goes Italian

By Andrew Berrigan  
Staff Writer

The Terrace, one of CNU's three on-campus dining facilities, will be undergoing some drastic changes in the coming months.

Recently, the Terrace's carpeting was replaced with tile. Director of Auxiliary Services Steve Pappas said, "This is just the beginning of a long series of changes. These changes are still in the conceptual stages but are definitely going to occur."

Paul Lubic, President of Alpha Kappa Psi, noticed the initial differences after the Founder's Day celebration. "The Terrace has a more old fashioned diner atmosphere. The floor is a nice change; the rug got old. I also like the cushioned seats," said Lubic. "But I don't understand why there is so much Kellogg's stuff on the walls."

Additional changes include booths with pendant lighting along the wall of the hallway entering the Terrace. Umbrella

tops may be placed over the tables in the rear section. The booths will possibly be decorated with wooden edges carved to look like ocean waves. Pappas encouraged student input in ideas for the new look. He invited students to stop by his office and look at the displays of possible decoration schemes.

Food Operations Manager Kevin Ososkie said, "the renovations will not only make the Terrace look better, but make service better and faster." According to Ososkie, the restaurant may take on more of an Italian atmosphere. Service will also become more line-oriented.

The counter will be expanded to increase serving space. In addition the renovations will include some equipment changes.

The Terrace will keep its fryer while the grill will be moved to Christopher's.



Andy Mansfield, Operations Assistant, brings in blue chairs to match the new, blue and yellow check Terrace floor.

Photo by Melanie Stokes/The Captain's Log



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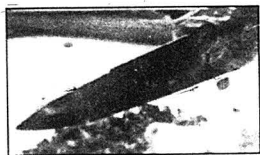
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Margo Douset chops the onion and green pepper she uses in her meatball recipe.



She shapes them, and places them on extra large baking sheets.



John Gallows cracks eggs to make the crust for the peach cobbler.



while Ann Mathis slices the bread.



No one enters or leaves the kitchen without being greeted by Margo. Edna and her husband, Larry (not pictured) bring sandwiches from Warwick Assembly of God. Churches such as Trinity Lutheran, First Baptist, and groups from Langley Air Force Base Wives and Carver Middle school contribute food or volunteer time at St. Vincent's.

(right) Hot food takes the edge off the cold ground beneath a woman enjoying St. Vincent's Thanksgiving Dinner, Nov. 27.



## Feeding Body and Soul

By Karen DiGiorgio  
Staff Writer

With the arrival of Thanksgiving, many people catch the spirit of giving and look for ways to help others in need. Each year, area businesses and churches join together to provide Thanksgiving dinners to the hungry and homeless; some even provide a place to stay the night. Everyone agrees that no one should be without during the holidays, but the Backdoor Ministry at St. Vincent de Paul Church goes one step further to see that no one is without one meal a day, six days a week.

The Backdoor Ministry provides a home cooked meal every Monday through Friday at 11 a.m., and on Fridays, a bag lunch for Saturday. The ministry was organized 20 years ago by then parish priest, Father Dorgan, and Clara Cherry, whose son, Bill Cherry, is now employed by St. Vincent's, and helps with the Backdoor Ministry.

"A few of the locals help me carry in supplies, and keep the people orderly while meals are prepared and served," said Cherry. Cherry credits his own recovery from drugs to his mother and the ministry provided by St. Vincent's.

Ann Mathis supervises the crew of mostly volunteers who prepare and serve 70-100 meals a day. On this day, cook Margo Douset is making her homemade meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, sliced bread, peach cobbler, and hot chocolate. Cooking begins at 9 a.m. sharp in order to be ready to serve at 11, although most of the regulars are lined up long before that. In addition to Douset, Mathis' Tuesday crew includes Ellen

Williams, Mike Martinez, John Gallow, and Dale Broyles, who uses her lunch hour to help serve the meals.

Father Michael McCarron, pastor for both St. Vincent de Paul and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church, fondly calls his downtown parish "culturally diverse."

"Our members are both well off and less affluent, black and white, Asian, elderly, young couples just starting out, single parent households, professors from CNU and HU, professionals, and some are just plain middle class folks," said McCarron.

Despite the apparent mass exodus from the downtown area, St. Vincent's is committed to staying and serving the area. McCarron admits he would like see the City of Newport News spend more time revitalizing downtown, and less time rezoning the Harpersville area for the controversial East-West Expressway, but St. Vincent's is there to stay.

As to the people who benefit from the Backdoor Ministry, McCarron said, "They are mostly male, and chronically homeless. They often come to Mass after experiencing this outreach ministry, and they are the ones who keep the grounds clean, and assist in the upkeep of the parish."

McCarron is quick to add that those who prepare and serve the meal also benefit from the Backdoor Ministry in that they symbolize the presence of Christ in the community. "Ours is a hands-on ministry that feeds both body and soul."



Hiding behind a frying pan, camera shy Mike Martinez is the "Wilson" of the Backdoor Ministry.



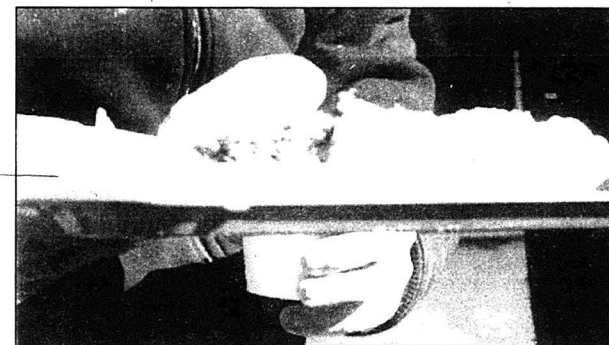
Food is handed through a half-opened back door by Carver Elementary volunteer John.



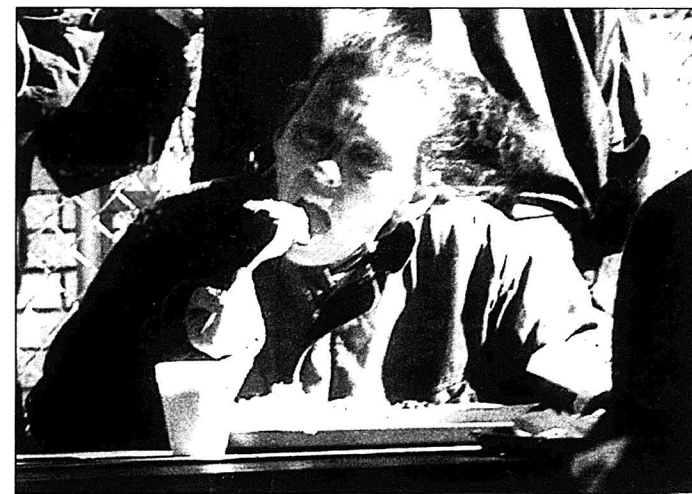
Most of the people who enjoy lunch at St. Vincent's know every church or shelter where they can eat and sleep.



The regulars show up as the volunteers cook



Thanksgiving Dinner with all the trimmings.



The holidays and the end of the month always attract more people than usual.



A wooden shelter covers picnic tables where hungry people can sit and enjoy a hot meal, and an occasional gospel song by one of their own.

Collection boxes for gifts to be taken to St. Vincent's Family Christmas Party are located outside the Student Life Office in Student Center, and the lobby of Santoro Hall. The Backdoor Ministry will be preparing the food for the party. For more information, contact Dr. Mazzarella at 594-7187.

Photos by Karen DiGiorgio/  
The Captain's Log

# "Collins" sheds light on Irish revolt

## True story is tragic and powerful, not just film fluff

By Elizabeth MacGahan  
Staff Writer

"Michael Collins" picks up the struggle for Irish independence during the forming of the Irish Republican Army (IRA). Defense minister Michael Collins, played by Liam Neeson, and Irish president Eamon de Valera, played by Alan Rickman, were straining to create a legitimate government. The focus is on the title character, an enigmatic and energetic man who wrestled hard with the occupying English, but was murdered by his own countrymen. Rickman as de Valera is the perfect opposite of Collins. He is carefully controlled, soft spoken, and committed to bringing about Irish Independence diplomatically, asking Collins to back off the violence because he is "making it possible for the British press to call us murderers."

"Michael Collins" is not a Danny-Boy, St. Patrick's Day sort of movie. Irish people will most likely not feel a rush of ethnic pride. Director Neil Jordan did not pull his punches. The violence is grim, dreary and disorganized. He shows scenes of violence shot in grainy, grey light, with fear and horror on the faces of shooters, victims and bystanders.

Nearly all of the movie is told in bedrooms, living rooms and bars. Collins' work with the budding IRA takes place on a background of lace curtains and flowered wallpaper, evoking the homegrown passion and the homemade quality of the army. Faced with overpowering violence so many times, the people of Ireland in the 1920s were torn between the struggle for home rule and the desire for a moderate path. Jordan shows us Collins welcomed by the Irish.

Neeson's Collins is brusque, blunt, and eager. Neeson brings a dimly lit historic figure to the foreground, showing us a

vigorous, inventive man and a relentless strategist. Collins used guerilla warfare to buck British coercion, eventually winning the Irish Republic a truce and treaty session. De Valera sent Collins to negotiate Irish home rule because he felt Collins' strength would weigh the talks in their favor. Jordan uses his movie to suggest de Valera expected the talks to fail and wanted to keep himself blameless.

Jordan takes us out of the homes and into parliament to show us de Valera's abandonment of



Collins. De Valera later refuses to ratify the home rule treaty, rejecting Collins' earnest hope that the treaty will lead to wholesale independence, and bringing

about civil war.

When de Valera storms out of the assembly looking as if he might cry, Jordan intends for us to believe his outburst was staged. Rickman plays him as an impossibly stiff-faced man who suddenly throws a temper tantrum. The peacenik-turned-war-monger.

Denizens of both camps set up a meeting between Collins and de Valera in Cork, Collins' home county. De Valera sends a boy to set up a meeting with Collins. Collins agrees, so the boy gives him

directions to the meeting place. The boy returns to de Valera, but we never see him tell his boss the meeting is set. Collins is murdered on his way to the meeting by a pack of men led by the boy. Jordan intimates that de Valera may have been responsible, but that the boy could well have acted alone. Grim satisfaction spreads across the child's face; the end of the movie

could not have been more hopeless.

Between the scenes of violence, Jordan shows us awe-inspiring scenes of Irish hills—the greenest of landscapes—and scenes of Collins' fiancée trying on

wedding clothes. The contrast is dispiriting. Scenes pound out of this movie, so don't get up for popcorn. The pace changes, however, with every appearance of Collins' fiancée, Katy Kiernan, played by Julia Roberts. The music softens, the light yellows, and Roberts makes faces and babbles in her southern accent. The highlight of her character is the love triangle between her, Collins, and Harry Boland, played by Aidan Quinn. Roberts' presence throws a chick into a mick flick for the sake of popular marketability.

"Michael Collins" is heartbreaking. Collins' assassination left me feeling emptier than I would have felt at the death of a fictional character. During the course of the movie, I began to understand how my family wound up in America, abandoning Ireland and Irishness like a shameful secret. The credits rolling and the theater silent, a call of "up the republic" jarred the audience. The only response I heard was a heavy sigh.

# The making of "Hype"

## Tracking the grunge rock phenomenon

By Ian Spelling  
College Press Service

Not that long ago, grunge music was an underground thing. That was before it landed mainstream playtime, fueled a fashion trend and helped make Seattle a hip place to live. Now grunge is passe, says filmmaker Doug Pray, who directed a film about the grunge music phenomena called "Hype!"

The acclaimed "Hype!" tracks the evolution of grunge rock phenomenon that helped put Seattle on the map. "Therein lies why I would strongly urge people who think the timing [of the film] is terrible to go see the film. It's really about the birth, explosion and mass consumption of an underground culture. We could not have come out with 'Hype!' in 1992. It took four years to tell the story because the story is really about a four-year period."

Over lunch at an Italian restaurant in midtown Manhattan, Pray and his "Hype!" partner, producer Steven Helvey do their bit to promote the film. Both Pray and Helvey come across as decent guys thrilled that their film is seeing the light of day. "I want to clarify one thing Doug just said," Helvey says. "What would be absurd is if we came out now with a movie that said how cool grunge is, because it is now so passe. People in Seattle in 1992 were telling us it was over, though it really wasn't. If you look at

'Hype!' 10 years from now, it will still have its valid sense of the scene. The film looks back and captures a pop culture cycle in which Seattle was the focus of all the energy. But no one should look at the film as a puff piece about grunge or Seattle."

Indeed, "Hype!" is clearly a labor of love that evolved over a long period of time. Like most first-time filmmakers, Pray and Helvey struggled to raise funding, lived off credit cards and struggled to get some of the bigger names in grunge to participate in the project. "Early on, we didn't have Nirvana, Soundgarden or Pearl Jam in it," says Helvey. "We had Mudhoney, The Fresh Young Fellows, Screaming Trees and other groups like that, who were instrumental in creating what became known as grunge. We didn't have stars, so we got a lot of potential investors saying, 'Nice to meet you' and 'Good luck. I'm pulling for you.'"

Eventually, financial backers came through with money. Soundgarden agreed to appear in the film, and Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder sat for an interview. Pray and Helvey also landed footage of what's purported to be Nirvana's first live of the grunge anthem, "Smells Like Teen Spirit." The filmmakers eventually had countless feet of material which took a year to edit into a final form. "You never knew exactly what you got until you looked at it," Pray says of the editing process. "You'd conduct

an interview that seemed totally bad. You'd sit and think, 'I'm wasting film right now, which is too bad, because this guy SHOULD be interesting.'

"Then, later in the depths of editing hell, you'll go back to that interview you thought was a waste and find what you need. It suddenly comes to life and is right in context. That happened again and again. Other interviews you think you're nailing while you're doing them, but they're not usable. They may be impossible to edit."

Pray and Helvey know "Hype!" could be their foot in the door for careers in Hollywood. The two are looking for projects to do together and apart, documentaries and features alike. All that, however, is a bit down the road. First, Pray and Helvey must criss-cross the nation in their effort to hype "Hype!"

"We're learning, right now, first-hand, a lot about what the bands in the movie are talking about," Helvey says. "We made a film, somehow got it made. We got it seen, very fortunately, at the Sundance Film Festival. Suddenly, we're meeting all these industry people and all these media people. Now, the film's getting released, and we're doing more interviews. It's so ironic. Doug and I are not Pearl Jam, but we've gotten a sense of what people went through in Seattle. It's exciting and scary, and we'll see what it leads to."

## Alternate Route

By Joe Atkinson



### Joe knows stocking stuffers

Hello Christmas shoppers. Having trouble finding that perfect gift? It's hard to go wrong with the gift of music. If you're not sure what they like, take a look through their CD/cassette/record collection and then refer to this little list I've made for you when buying that perfect present. Oh! and if they don't like it, don't blame me. I'm just making recommendations.

For all the Oasis/Beatles/60s pop lovers out there, try one of these...

Any number of the current British bands waiting to make it big in the states, including: The Bluetones, Cast, Blur, Kula Shaker and Ocean Colour Scene.

The Swedes have been kind enough to give us the Cardigans, who combine jazzy arrangements with top-notch pop hooks and sweet, girly vocals.

Stateside we have Guided By Voices, who make up for their scratchy, home-recorded production by tossing off great, Beatles/Kinks/progressive-rock influenced songs as if it were nothing.

From Canada we get Zuppano, who don't seem to have listened to any music that came out later than the 60s. Their Zombies/Beatles/Burt Bacharach influenced music is nothing short of superb.

For all the No Doubt/Rancid/pop-punk-ska lovers, give one of these a shot...

Dance Hall Crashers make a ska-punk concoction that puts No Doubt to shame. Flawless pop hooks and great girl group harmonies are their signature.

The Muffs hail from California and while ska isn't part of their sound, great pop-punk is. I bought their album, "Blonder and Blonder" over a year ago and I still catch myself humming the songs at the most inappropriate times.

The Fastbacks hail from Seattle and have been around longer than any of other Seattle bands. They're old enough to be your parents, but they'll rock your socks off with the great guitar playing of Kurt Bloch and the super harmonies of Kim Warnick and Lulu Garguliano.

Velocity Girl broke up recently but their last album, "Guided Stars and Zealous Hearts" was a winner. Their new-wave influenced, squeaky clean pop is propelled forward by Sarah Shannon's amazing voice.

For all the Dave Matthews Band, Hootie and the Blowfish (Ugh!), roots rock lovers, here's a few suggestions...

Billy Bragg comes to us from England and brings along a wonderful, folksy, pop tinged album called "William Blake." He's one of those few who actually sings with a British accent.

The Kennedys call Washington D.C. their home. They play listener friendly folk-pop that deserves to be heard. Great melodies and a massive guest list help make their album, "Life is Large" a winner.

Wilco just released a great double-album called "Being There." It's among the best of the year and it tackles everything from country sadness to Stoners rave ups. And it only costs as much as a single album.

Yo La Tengo has been around for years. They keep one foot firmly planted in American music roots and keep the other planted in layered, blissful guitar work. Their records are just plain dreamy and their most recent one, "Electro-Pura" is near perfect.

Merry Christmas everyone!



## Wes's World

### It could be worse

By Wesley Cline  
Staff Writer

With final exams quickly becoming a frightening reality, it is hard to find a convincing reason to look forward to them with anything but fear and trepidation. The only consolation that I can find in these trying times is the wisdom found in the words of a great philosopher whose name slips my mind at the moment, "Hey, it could be worse!"

For everyone not graduating, just be thankful that you still don't have to take the big plunge and find a full time career to finance the rest of your life. Your student loans aren't coming due for at least another semester. You can bask in the warm waters of the academic womb. Hey, these exams are just a chance to insure that you will be here for many months and possibly years to come.

Those who are graduating, well, hey, these are your last exams. You could be like the poor shmucks who think it is some kind of joy to stay in school. After these last tortures, that sheepskin will be received and then it is on to the big bucks in that high paying job as a McDonald's franchise manager. No more teachers. No more books. No more campus police's dirty looks. In retrospect, you kind of liked the dirty looks, didn't you?

You could be dead. A morbid thought, I know. Eighty-seven percent of the deceased people polled said they would rather be having an exam than filling their current position. The rest said they would rather be at the beach; at which point, the eighty-

seven percent changed their answer to "rather be at the beach." If they were banned from the beach, all of the un-living

the alarm clock just up and died on the eve of his or her exam. It would seem just a little too convenient to have an extra few



claimed that they'd rather be in your shoes than where they are now. So, you'd better get some Dr. Scholl's because I don't think they have washed their feet in quite some time.

Your alarm clock could have died at some point last night and now you are missing the exam because you didn't wake up. I don't think any professor will believe that

hours of study time gained for your exam by a mechanical failure. This brings back memories of the two friends who claimed they had a flat tire before an exam. The professor quickly found out the truth with his first exam question, "Which tire was it?"

Instead of having to take these final exams, you could be the one who has to grade them. There isn't anything more depress-

ing than to see the end result of four months of hard work sitting before you. I think that the only people more depressed than you about your failed exam are your professors. They must be asking themselves why they became professors as it becomes evident they are not teaching you anything.

You could be your parents, who look at your grades and wonder what they sent you to college for in the first place. They might wonder if maybe your tuition money wouldn't have been more wisely spent on a cruise to the Bahamas and a bribe to the mail-order diploma company. Instead, they now have confirmation of what they always suspected — that their child was partying and having fun at their expense for the last four months. The midnight collect calls with loud music and the faint sound of someone being sick in the background should have clued them in. Maybe they should have noticed the fact that the charges came from a place called BA Bar and Karaoke Lounge.

You could have extra papers to write on top of those already due for your exams. You could be some poor, misguided soul who thinks he or she is in some way funny and has some altruistic desire to make others laugh. Can you imagine having the pressure of another long paper, say, a column, to write along with all of your other papers? I don't know anyone who would be so crazy as to do that, do you? Imagine being someone who would waste time reading that person's stuff. I know, it is pretty mind-boggling.

### Alumni Profile: Banking Cooper style

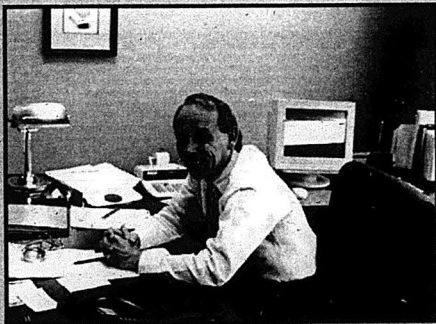
By Terri Haynie  
Staff Writer

Gordon Cooper wants to be your hometown banker. A 1974 graduate of Christopher Newport College and Vice President of Harbor Bank on Warwick Boulevard near Hilton, he is witnessing changes in the banking industry that are leading to more dependence on electronic service and less personal contact with customers. "I'm seeing the transition from the previous generation, the 'passbook' generation, to the next level — the baby boomers," says Cooper. "They've seen automation come into the business and have accepted it, but they still want that personal touch."

And that's what this Newport News native wants to give them. "Hopefully, Harbor Bank will be a throwback to the era of personal service. We are a local institution with foundations in the community. We feel there's a niche that will support us."

If anyone knows about niches, it's Cooper. He found his, accidentally, in banking. "I had no thoughts whatsoever about entering banking. I wanted to go into public administration and city planning," he says. Instead, he cashed in on the experience he had gained with United Virginia Bank as a part-time employee since 1971. Upon graduation, political science degree in hand, United Virginia

Bank offered him an internship. Since then, he has worked for 14 different financial institutions, becoming an expert in mergers, acquisitions, and other challenges of the industry. "It's been interesting," he says



with a smile.

A typical day, says Cooper, is "definitely not the 10 to 2. More and more, banking is becoming extremely competitive. It's not the way it was 10 to 15 years ago. You can't wait and let people come in off the street — you have to be out in the marketplace."

Recently, Cooper added his name to the list of employers willing to introduce students to their chosen field through the Career Advisory Program for Networking, or CAP'N. Run by the Office of Career and

Counseling at CNU, its database will match a student with someone in the profession he or she is interested in entering. Aspiring bankers are more than welcome to get in touch with Cooper through the auspices of CAP'N.

Pictures of Cooper's children share desk space with his computer, and he admits he spends most of his free time enjoying them. "In summer, I still play organized softball, and of course, golf." He grins broadly; this is obviously his sport. Describing himself as an avid golfer, he says, "I can't think of anyone you can't get to know in a round of golf. It not only gives you an opportunity for networking, but I play in a lot of charity tournaments, including the CNU alumni tournament. It's an

excellent means of raising funds. It's a great game. The best part is, when you play well, you get all the credit!"

Cooper is still settling in at Harbor Bank, which opened this past July. The quiet polish of newness greets customers in the lobby and glows in the buffed wood of his desk.

"I'll be here as long as Harbor is here, hopefully," he says. "Right now we feel comfortable about being here for the next seventy to 10 years."



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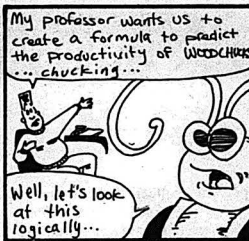
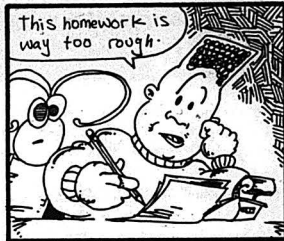
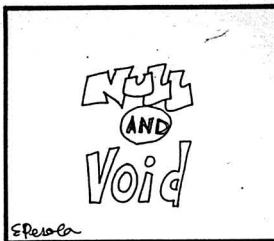
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 The Captain's Log is seeking business students (marketing, management, etc.) for positions as Staff Ad Representatives. Assist Advertising Director with soliciting clients, ad design and layout. Learn valuable skills. Meet local business people. Make contacts in the business community. Potential for advancement. Call Jeremy Kulm, Advertising Director at 594-7196 or jkulm@cnu.edu for more info.

### Announcements

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Tax season is fast approaching!!! To ensure that all employees receive their W-2 for 1996 without delay, please inform the Payroll Office of any address changes as soon as possible. Address change forms are located in the Payroll Office. For further information call the Payroll Office at 594-7030. Also, all employees filing exempt tax status must complete new tax forms for 1997. New forms are available in the Payroll Office.

Check out **Great Outdoors Online** at [www.cnu.edu/~mleonard/greatoutdoors.html](http://www.cnu.edu/~mleonard/greatoutdoors.html) And email me your comments. (Please refrain from using the word "crap")

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[www.cnu.edu/~clog](http://www.cnu.edu/~clog)

### For Sale

1987 Dodge Colt Vista, 90,000 miles, excellent condition, power brakes, power steering automatic transmission, A/C, AM/FM Stereo. Asking \$2000. Call Shelly at 595-6150. Please leave message

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