



The Captain's Log

The Official Student Newspaper Of Christopher Newport University

www.cnu.edu/captainslog

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Volume 35, Issue 21

Governor Warner Calls For Compromise



Tom Storrer/The Captain's Log

Governor visits, talks about budget

Conflicting plans halt General Assembly

By Jenn Rowell
Managing Editor

Democratic Gov. Mark Warner said on March 25 that Virginia's budget is "structurally way out of balance" as he visited over 100 students, faculty, staff and members of the community in the Alumni Room.

President Paul Tribble opened the presentation by saying the state needs to provide for higher education.

"There is simply no higher priority," he said. "We need that kind of investment now and every year. On an annual basis, higher education is under-funded by \$420 million per year. The time has come for citizens to stand up and speak out."

Speaking of the General Assembly, he said: "Pass a budget now."

Dr. Glenn DuBois, Chancellor of the community college system in Virginia, continued the discussion of the budget.

"The way things are going

now, we might not have a budget," he said.

The lack of a budget is creating problems on all levels, he said.

"We can't predict whether, or if, we can hire more teachers," DuBois said of higher education.

He also said that, "the longer we delay, the more we jeopardize our AAA rating."

The state legislature, DuBois said, has made progress but needs to reach a final decision.

"Although close to getting it done, they appear to be stuck," he said.

DuBois called on everyone in the room to contact their legislators.

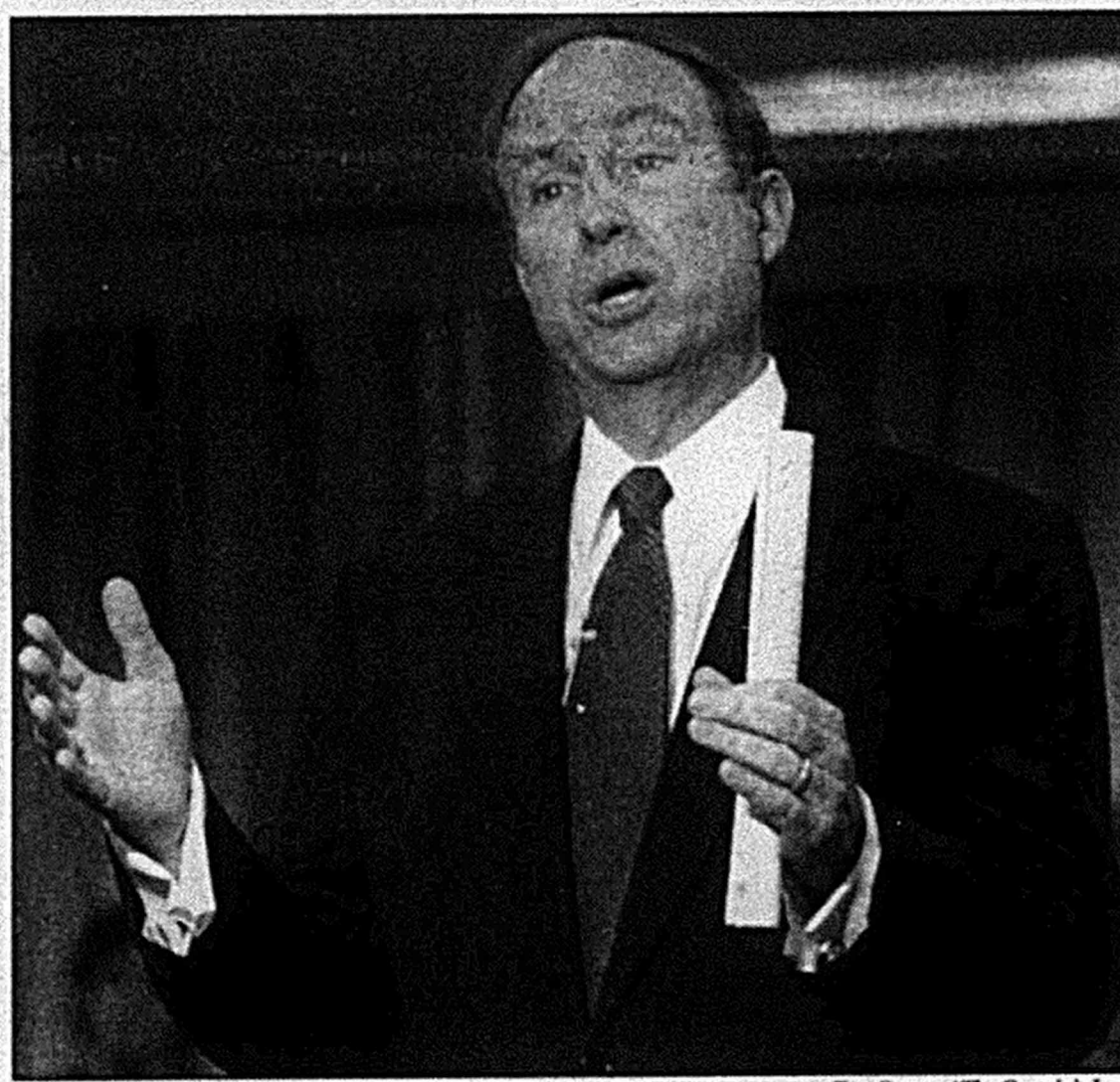
"Tell them to get the job done. Tell them to act on a budget now," he said.

Warner followed with his own plea for the legislature to pass the budget.

"Without a budget from the state, folks at the local level can't do their budgets," he said.

Warner called the GA into a

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Tom Storrer/The Captain's Log

Top: Governor Mark Warner addresses CNU students, faculty, and staff about the state of Virginia's budget. Among those in attendance were ODU's president Rosaenn Runte, Mayor Joe Frank and Glenn Oder.

Above: President Paul Tribble addresses the gathering about the importance of public education and passing a state budget that places education first.

University strategic plan nears approval

By Ashley Rich
Captain's Log Intern

Between Feb. 26 and March 12, students, faculty, staff and members of the surrounding community were asked to read a copy of the draft of the Vision2010 strategic plan and send in their response.

"Those who replied saw the plan as one that included them and that makes them interested in how they can make this plan happen," said Linda Gordon of the Vision2010 Strategic Plan. "Consequently, many people gave us other ideas, goals and strategies to consider."

The Vision2010 Web site calls the plan, "a strategic planning project that builds on CNU's aspiration to be a pre-eminent public liberal arts and sciences university."

Listed on the Web site were the five priorities of the draft. The first was to have a vital curriculum in which students are provided "a rigorous higher education rooted in the liberal arts and sciences and responsive to the values inherent in the University's mission."

The second priority was to have a culture of student learning and engagement in which there will be "independent, disciplined and dedicated students committed to learning and significant scholarship and to personal and civic responsibilities."

The third priority was to

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WCNU addresses complaints

By Lindsay Simpson
Staff Writer

Allegations of improper content on-air as well as improper lyrics in a song were in the center of controversy surrounding three programs on WCNU last week, said WCNU president Beth Atkins.

Last week, one show had been suspended for a week and another received a formal reprimand from WCNU and a third show had an investigation pending. The three shows brought into question were "Pandemonium," "Scrit and Smitty" and "The Mike, Kris and Kevin Indie Rock Show."

The controversy around both "Pandemonium" and "Scrit and Smitty" was based on content issues; controversy around "The Mike, Kris and Kevin Indie Rock Show" was due to certain lyrics within a song. "They [the DJ's] missed the mute button for the lyrics to that song," said Atkins.

"It [the situation] has already been dealt with," said Atkins. "The DJs for the 'Scrit and Smitty' show were both suspended automatically for 7-10 days, and in addition to that, they got another week suspension for that show. For the other two shows, while not 100% appropriate, they missed the mute button for the lyrics to a song, and they will be on the air later this week."

Although the allegations were clear to WCNU, some of the accused DJs were not as clear as to what the offense was.

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Animals have rights too, according to Finnegan

By Michael Combs
Staff Writer

Recently, a group has formed at CNU to educate students on the cruelty that many animals endure but that many people don't know about.

The Animal Welfare Coalition started at CNU three weeks ago as the only animal rights club on campus.

According to Cait Finnegan, the founder of the Coalition, the group was formed to educate the CNU community about what happens to animals that the zoos, circuses, and pet stores don't want.

"I formed the club to educate people at CNU on animal rights issues that they may know nothing about," said Finnegan. "People tend to turn a deaf ear to people who talk about not eating meat, and horrible cosmetic testing is—it is time that people learned what is really going on."

During the group's third meeting on Wednesday, 12 people came and discussed future ideas for the club and what they would like to see on campus.

The Coalition discussed how they would like to see more vegetarian and vegan foods offered at the cafeterias on campus. The group feels that the cafeterias need to be more aware of what are actual vegan foods. The club also feels the cafeteria can serve more soy milk and beans as a good start to a vegan friendly menu.

The topic of the cafeterias really affected the group who discussed at length of what could be done towards a solution.

"I know there is not a lot of vegetarian and vegan options in the dining halls," said freshman Annie Duffy.

At the meeting, the Coalition discussed future plans for this semester and next year. The Coalition

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North Carolina colleges racing to teach 'HIV 101'

By Cristina Breen Bolling
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Gregory Johnson lost two uncles to AIDS, so when he hears of fellow students at Johnson C. Smith University dallying with casual sex, he wants to stop them.

"That's one of the hottest issues on campus -- sex," Johnson said. As a dorm advisor, the 20-year-old junior from Woodbridge, Va., talks to students about the risks and tries to host AIDS-related events. "HIV doesn't affect you until it hits someone you know. When it hits home, that's when you care more."

AIDS has hit home. At JCSU and colleges across the Carolinas.

North Carolina researchers found a spike in HIV infection among black college males during the last three years. Since 2000, at least 84 N.C. college men -- including 73 blacks -- have been diagnosed with HIV.

The HIV-infected students attend 37 N.C. colleges and universities, but the study also identified

HIV-infected students at seven schools in five states who were linked to the N.C. outbreak.

Now, health officials at the schools are racing to make students aware of the danger.

In interviews with health officials, 60 percent of the HIV-infected male college students said they had sex with other men; 40 percent reported having sex with men and women. Most said they didn't consider themselves at high risk for contracting HIV.

At the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, AIDS educators are seeing more professors and student groups asking for programs on HIV and AIDS.

They've plastered dorms, academic and recreational buildings with posters about the virus. And they're creating a partnership between the counseling center, sports and recreation and the housing departments to expose more students to the information.

"We try to make it real to them,

See HIV, page 3

Campus In Brief

MLA style workshop

Dr. Tracey Schwarze will lead the last workshop of the semester March 31 at 4 p.m. in Ratcliffe 104.

The session offers practice in the basics of MLA parenthetical documentation, as well as constructing Works Cited entries.

Campus Twister

Santoro Hall Resident Assistants will host Campus Twister April 3 at 3 p.m. in the Freeman Center.

Students will play on a large board for five grand prizes, which are a stereo system, DVD player, two \$100 gift certificates to K-Mart and a Sony discman. Playing on the small board makes students eligible for DVDs, food and other prizes.

Kings Dominion tickets available

CNU's group tickets for the BET College Day at Kings Dominion April 10 are available for purchase in the Office of Student Life.

Tickets are \$40 and students must present a valid CNU ID. Cash or check payments only.

Young Constitutionalists Meeting

The Young Constitutionalists will meet April 1 at 4 p.m. in Student Center room 214.

Band Showcase 2004

The Class of 2007 is sponsoring the Band Showcase 2004 April 3 from 12-4 p.m. on the Great Lawn.

Bands include Note to Self, Tragedy Letters and Urban Style.

Admission is free and snacks will be available.

Mock Trial

Phi Alpha Delta will host a mock trial April 7 at 7 p.m. in the Alumni Room. The trial is based on fraternity hazing. Applications are available outside the PAD office for anyone interested in participating and are due March 31 by 3 p.m. Jurors, attorneys, bailiffs and a court reporter are needed.

College Republican Convention

The College Republican Federation of Virginia will host its Annual Convention at CNU April 3. The convention will begin around 9:30 a.m. and lasts all day. Discussions will be led by leading members of the Republican Party in Va. including Winsome Sears and Kate Griffin. Breakfast and lunch will be served to College Republican members for \$5.

-Compiled by
Jenn Rowell
Managing Editor

Governor Warner speaks at CNU

GOVERNOR, from page 1

special session following the unprecedented lack of budget at the end of the regular session.

"They have a defined period of time. They're supposed to finish the job. They didn't get it done," Warner said.

There are many consequences that come with not having a budget passed, such as losing the AAA rating, according to Warner.

"We've been on credit watch for the longest time of any state," he said.

Medicaid is also an issue on the table.

Currently, "two out of every three of every nursing home patient in Virginia gets reimbursed out of Medicaid," Warner said.

Warner posed a question in order to fully explain the current budget situation, "How did we get into this circumstance in the first place?"

In the late 90s there were 50 tax breaks.

"The fiscal hangover is what we're dealing with right now," Warner said. "It doesn't take a rocket scientist, it doesn't even take someone who passed Econ 101 to figure out that you can't continue to provide what you did in the past if you take the money away."

When Warner came into office the shortfall was \$3.8 billion. It is currently closer to \$6 billion.

Faced with those numbers, the Warner administration did "what any business would do, we tightened our belt," Warner said.

"I love the hypocrisy of no new taxes but open my DMV office," Warner said of the general public. "How are you going to pay for that?"

Long-term financial planning in the past has been done for a two-year

period, but Warner instituted the six-year financial plan.

"We assumed we would see good times. We assumed that the state of Virginia would not put another dollar into higher education. We assumed that we would not put any new money into transportation," Warner said. "We would put money into would be replenishing the rainy day fund" and other essential costs. Based on those assumptions, "We would see red ink to the end of the decade," Warner said.

"I've got three daughters. I don't want to live in that Virginia," he said.

Right now, the budget is in the hands of the General Assembly. Initially, the Senate wanted to increase taxes and the House was strongly opposed. The House has now opened itself to raising taxes. The debate has shifted from whether or not to raise taxes to how much should taxes be raised.

"In Richmond, they don't even use the word tax. They call it 'revenue enhancement,'" Warner joked. "The sales tax, as we call it in Richmond, is a 'used fee on food.'"

Of the House proposal, Warner said, "I find it a little disingenuous to say we don't like the numbers so we're just going to ignore them. That's not how you run a business. That's not how you run a state government."

If the House plan passed as is, "We'd lose out AAA rating. If we go with this plan, we're not going to be able to invest in higher education," Warner said. "I sure as heck will not invest in a plan that will simply pass the buck."

There is a large division between the House and Senate over the budget. So far, neither side is giving in.

"If you're going to make a deal, you have to have people who want to make a deal," Warner said. "Let's have a plan

that doesn't meet just this two years, let's fix it for the long term," Warner said.

"This really isn't a debate simply about CNU. It's about what kind of future we're going to have," Warner said.

When Warner opened the floor for questions, one citizen suggested that the state hold a referendum on whether should be raised. Warner responded, "I think a referendum is the wrong choice. I think that's what we were hired to do."

A short debate between Delegate Glenn Oder (R - Newport News) and Warner took place during the question and answer period.

Oder: "Would you be supportive of a special session?"

Warner cut him off and said, "We are in a special session."

Oder: "Do you know something about a compromise that we don't? I don't see it. I have not been encouraged. I see the two sides becoming more and more polarized."

Warner: "Both sides need to compromise. I'm confident that will happen."

While the floor was open for questions, Warner ignored the raised hand of Delegate Tom Gear (R - Hampton), who when finally called upon asked about VDOT and transportation spending.

Warner said, "Unless we do something about transportation in the next few years, we could be turning away federal dollars. We're making changes at VDOT now."

After almost two hours, Warner ended the discussion and said, "We've got to realize that passing the buck to local governments isn't going to cut it."

Virginia legislators in attendance included Gear, Oder, and Mayme BaCote. Other attendees included Newport News Mayor Joe Frank and ODU president Roseann Runte.

University's strategic plan, Vision 2010, nears approval

VISION 2010, from page 1

have a commitment to faculty "whose teaching, research and scholarship are valued and thrive in a community committed to higher learning and civic responsibility."

The fourth priority was to have a purposeful campus community in which there will be "an aesthetically pleasing campus of architectural beauty that affirms the ideas of the university."

Fifthly, there will be an engagement of the campus and larger community "whose members will transform and energize the cultural, intellectual, and economic life of society."

Within each of these five priorities, there are several goals with a list of possible strategies to pursue in order to maintain that specific priority.

"Since the beginning, this has been a collaborative process," Gordon said. "Everyone has been included: staff, faculty and students, as well as university friends and neighbors."

"The planning council knew it was important to continue that open process. Once the draft was made, we wanted everyone to be able to have to opportunity to see the draft and comment on it because it's a process for everybody on

campus. They created it, and they'll be affected by it." And that is exactly why students should care, Gordon said.

Junior Hattie Barber agreed that the plan was well made, but had some reservations. "It's a good idea to know where you're going and it's really nice that they have a plan," she said. "It seems as if they're trying to attract a particular sort of student but I hope that's not the case. It's not necessarily a bad thing, but if they give preference to a student because they look better on paper, they may be neglecting those who may not look as good but have just as much, if not more, to offer the university."

The steering committee examines each response, said Gordon, and each response will direct itself to a particular priority, goal or strategy. The committee looks at what each response addresses and how it might be incorporated to the plan.

Often it's just a matter of changing the wording to include the idea. In the end, it is the planning council that makes the judgment about where ideas are added and how.

After the committee revises the plan, it goes to President Triple. Once all the changes are made, the plan will

go to the Board of Visitors in April. Their responses will be considered, the plan revised again and the plan returned to the BOV in June for final approval.

After the plan's final approval, the implementation process will begin. The planning council has begun to think about the guidelines for implementation but it will be up to each department throughout the campus to create tasks to help make the plan a reality.

"Not only has everyone contributed to the crafting of the plan," Gordon said, "but everyone will be responsible for making it a reality."

"I think this is probably something that doesn't happen in all universities. I would say CNU is very special in creating this process. It's been a wonderful experience for everyone."

Gordon believes that work like this should not stop with the plan's completion in June. "Strategic plans are living documents. They should always be reviewed so that the strategic plan reflects where you are and how you're working toward your goal. "You have to keep looking at it to see that it's alive and breathing and taking you where you really want to be in the to see the changes you want to see in the world."

WCNU addresses complaints of improper conduct

WCNU, from page 1

Freshman and co-host of the show "Pandemonium" Garrett Thorpe said, "We don't know specifically what it [the complaint] was ... it was one listener who took offense and, since we aren't regulated by the FCC, any complaint should be taken seriously."

Thorpe's co-host freshman Timothy Roche agreed and said, "We're still suspended until further investigation, but we have not been told what we have been suspended for. One specific listener had a complaint and we believe it was based on the sex discussion we had on-air. That is our opinion, we

don't really know."

Specifically, Thorpe stated that one of the questions accepted from a listener may have triggered the complaints against the show. "We were taking questions from the listening audience through the Internet," said Thorpe. "It could have been one of the questions sent involving masturbation or it could have been the curse that the girl dropped that we had on [the show]."

Thorpe also said that while on air, the spontaneity affects how well a DJ can remember a show, even one as "particularly good" as the show that Thorpe and Roche were investigated for.

"When you are doing a show, you

really don't have time to think about what's going on and once it's over it's hard to remember everything that occurred because you are kind of in the heat of the moment," said Thorpe.

Atkins said that a general meeting on March 22 put, "everyone on the same page as to what they can and cannot discuss on the air."

"We understand mistakes happen, so we will let them [the DJs] back on-air," said Atkins.

Atkins also said that during the past week there have been no complaints to WCNU about any of the programs.

Animal Welfare Coalition educates campus concerning animal rights.

ANIMALS, from page 1

tion wants to have a vegan bake sale at Spring Fest to raise money for the SPCA. They talked of having a table setup in the Student Center to show the top ten reasons for being a vegetarian.

At future meetings, the Coalition will

discuss animal rights issues such as ways of life in vegetarianism and veganism, animal abuse at circuses and pet stores, dissection, and recreational hunting and fishing, said Finnegan.

While CNU's Animal Welfare Coalition is new, William and Mary has one and James Madison University has two

different animal rights groups.

The Animal Welfare Coalition meets every Wednesday at 4 p.m. in room 205 of the Student Center. The meetings are "open to anyone interested in animal welfare, and is compassionate to all living things. You don't have to be vegetarian, but many members are," said Finnegan.

Virginia In Brief

Giant and Safeway to close doors to vote

From 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 30, Giant and Safeway stores will be closed so that union employees may vote on a new contract proposal. This chain includes over 350 stores in the Washington, D.C. area, according to The Washington Post.

The union represents approximately 18,000 workers in the area.

The threat of a strike is still imminent. In the case of a strike, Giant has hired 1,500 temporary workers and Safeway has hired 1,700 to keep the stores open and operating.

A Northern Virginia television station, WJLA, said that a possible contract settlement was reached on March 29 but the details of the contract were not available.

Virginia Living Museum opens new building

The Virginia Living Museum finally opened the doors to its newest building, with \$22.6 million in construction of the building, boardwalk, and the parking lot and encompassing 62,000 square feet, said James Dean, the Living Museum's tourism and promotions manager.

The new building includes multiple walk-through habitats similar to those found in Virginia's forests, lakes, and rivers, such as "The World of Darkness" and "The Virginia Underground," Dean said.

Over 800 people came into the new building during the first hour of business on March 28, said an article in the Daily Press. Approximately 300 more people went into the new building during the last hour before the ticket booth closed at 4:30 p.m. During the preview on March 26, over 2,000 people visited the new building, which is approximately three times the size of its predecessor.

VCU Fire

Fire broke out in the 900 block of West Broad Street on March 26, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The fire began in a building that was under construction for Virginia Commonwealth University, which then started other fires in nearby buildings. Firefighters battled the blaze for over four hours before the fire was declared under control, according to the Times-Dispatch.

Several VCU buildings, including the Fine Arts building and the nursing center, dorms and local buildings were evacuated and damaged by the fire.

A relief fund has been established to help those affected by the fire. Checks should be made out to the VCU Foundation with "Carver Community Relief Fund" as a notation. Mail donations to VCU Foundation, Carver Community Relief Fund, P.O. Box 843042, Richmond, Va., 23284.

-Compiled by
Jenn Rowell
Managing Editor

Victims' Rights Week

April 18 -
April 24, 2004

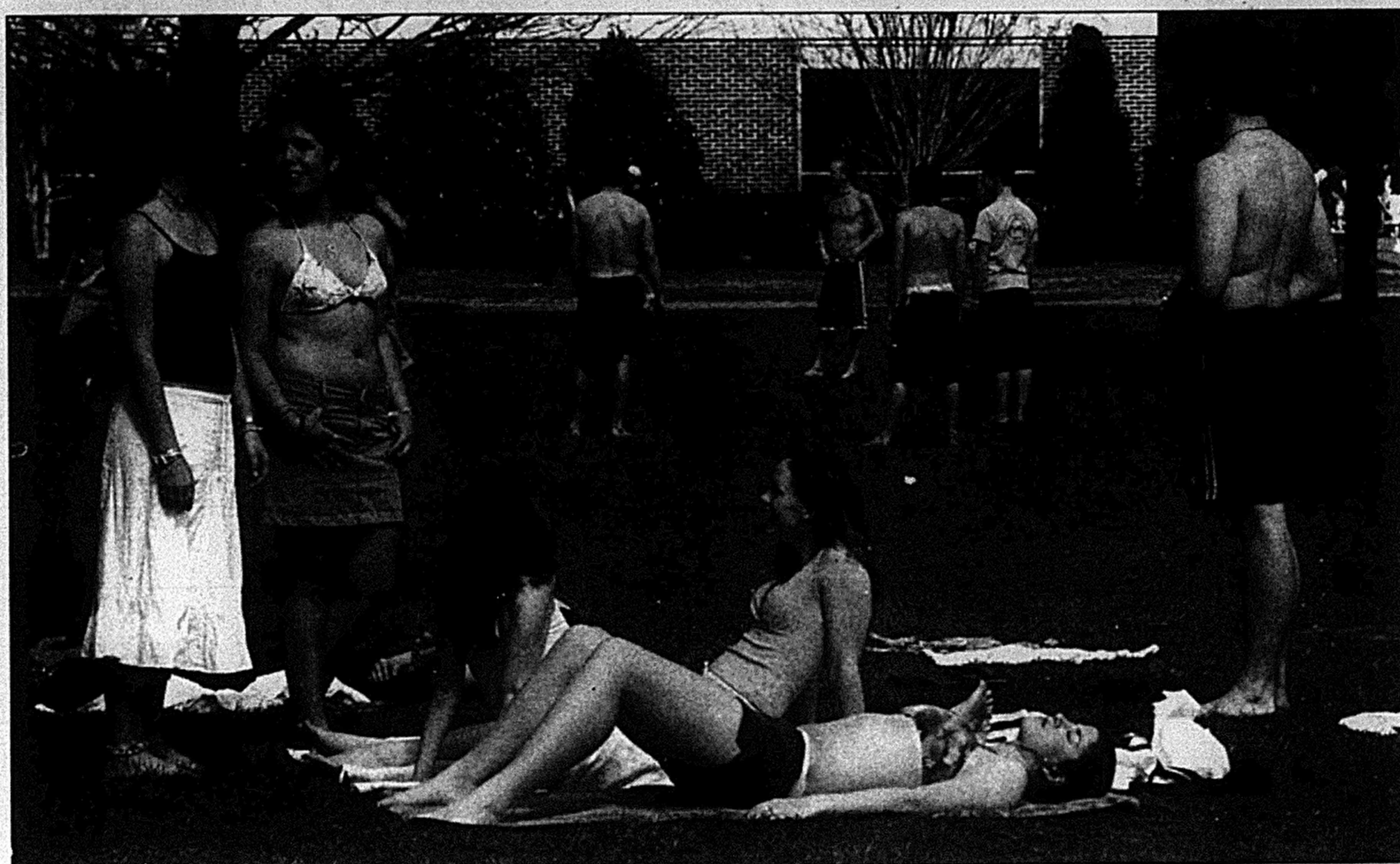
Candlelight Vigil
"honoring victims and survivors"
April 19, 2004
7:00 p.m.

Midtown Community Center Pavilion
570 McLawhorne Dr., Newport News

This event is free and open to the public
For more information call 928-7257.

Sponsored by the Newport News Victim Witness Assistance Program

Fun In The Sun: Spring Has Arrived



Tom Stormer/The Captain's Log

Warm spring weather brings sunbathers to Great Lawn

On Friday, March 26, temperatures rose into the 70's. Spring has finally arrived at CNU. The warm weather brought many students out of the residence halls to enjoy leisure activities. The Great Lawn was a place where many students gathered and took time off from their daily routine to be social. Friends and roommates, Freshmen Jessica Trebilcock, Kelly Scallion, Joanna Stancampiano and Janet Gruettner enjoy the warm weather, sunbathing, as their peers play Frisbee on the Great Lawn. This happens to be their second day out on the Great Lawn sunbathing. Scallion appreciates the warm weather. "Days like these are the days that make us like CNU," she said. Over the weekend, they plan to go to the beach to soak in some more sun.

Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, then CNU

Dr. Eric Duskin, Fulbright scholar and CNU's first Russian historian, inspires students around the world

By James Smithson
Contributing Writer

Dr. Eric Duskin, a Fulbright scholar who taught in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and many other places, began teaching history at CNU last year.

As the first Russian historian for CNU, Duskin hopes to bring some of the "warmth and wonder of Russia" to the United States by teaching about it. He believes that Russia, with its many "bad wars," "self-inflicted torture," art, literature and achievements and the rest of its fascinating history, is one of the more interesting countries of the world.

The one part of Russia he enjoyed the most in his many visits

was the people. He said that they were "warm and interesting and very welcoming" and that they "love to have philosophical conversations."

Duskin has influenced many students' lives here, as well as around the world.

Akram Mukamatkulov, a student of his from Samarkand, Uzbekistan, said, "Eric had a profound impact on me as an individual, a student, and a friend."

"Eric taught me to be sharp and persuasive in my argumentation ... Eric has given a considerable boost to my intellectual growth and desire to further pursue advanced academic training."

Mukamatkulov lives in a country where "the government denies people their basic rights, and where

no freedom of media or expression exists." Mukamatkulov's education with Eric Duskin went a bit further than history lessons. He was also "introduced to the western, and specifically American culture."

Duskin teaches his classes with high expectations from his students; he loves to ask questions so that students can think and come to their own conclusions. He only assigns two papers per semester, putting emphasis on the second. He hopes that the students learn from the mistakes made in the first one.

Always eager to teach, Duskin finds many ways to make his students question everything they learned in school before college, everything they learned from their parents and especially everything he tells them. He finds teaching to be "enjoyable and rewarding

— almost spiritual." He says it gives him a chance to really influence the lives of others and make a difference in society.

"No scholar I have known so far thinks more deeply about academic and social issues and addresses them with greater clarity and expertise than Eric Duskin," Mukamatkulov said.

Mukamatkulov also said that he knows "at least a couple dozen other students from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan who would be happy to express even more laudable remarks about Eric."

"I genuinely hope that Eric's current students at Christopher Newport University realize they are privileged to have a broadly erudite scholar and an amazing person as a professor."

Seniors Heath and Boyce recognized as Teachers of Promise

By Carrie Phipps
Contributing Writer

CNU seniors Jeromie Heath and Karla Boyce were recognized as exceptional teacher candidates at the Teachers of Promise Institute held at James Madison University March 19th & 20th.

From colleges and universities throughout Virginia, 113 aspiring teachers were selected to receive the honor.

"The Teachers of Promise Institute represents an exciting first-time recruitment to encourage

these outstanding candidates from the 37 teacher education programs to remain in Virginia," said Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jo Lynne DeMary.

Participants at the Teachers of Promise Institute had the opportunity to participate in a series of mentoring activities with recognized Virginia teachers and administrators. The Institute, co-sponsored by the Virginia Milton Education Network, James Madison University and the Virginia Department of Education, featured speakers Betsy Rogers, the 2003 National Teacher of the year, and Jo Lynne DeMary,

State Superintendent.

Boyce and Heath both felt deeply honored to be part of the Institute and acknowledged for their accomplishments.

"The conference only confirmed my dream and reason for becoming a teacher," Boyce said after attending the Institute.

"I was ready to get back to my classroom and inspire my students," Heath said.

Heath and Boyce are student teaching in Newport News City Schools. Heath is working at Riverside Elementary School with Susan Cram's first grade class. He

has dressed up as Abraham Lincoln to enliven a history lesson and as the Cat in the Hat to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. Heath enjoys the challenge of working with younger children and plans to teach at the elementary level in Newport News next fall.

Boyce is student teaching at Woodside High in Newport News in a tenth grade Honors World History class. She also has been hired to work in Newport News City Schools, as a history teacher for the upcoming school year.

Boyce is presently serving as state president of the Student Virginia Education Association.

Woman murdered at Auburn Chase apartments

By Jenn Rowell
Managing Editor

A woman was found dead in her apartment at Auburn Chase apartments at 3:54 p.m. on March 20, according to Newport News Police.

Tameca Holloway, 24, was found in the bedroom of apartment four in the 400 block of Turlington Road. She was pro-

nounced dead of multiple gunshot wounds, said police.

Holloway's boyfriend was brought in for questioning and was later served with a warrant for "murder and use of a firearm in commission of a felony," police said.

As of March 26, the boyfriend, Carl Washington, was being held without bond in the Newport News City Jail.

HIV Programs

HIV, from page 1

because there are a lot of false senses of security," said Rosemary Ferguson, a health educator at UNCC.

"We try to approach it from a campuswide perspective, instead of focusing on a certain population" like black men. "Just because these men are having sex with men doesn't mean they're not having sex with women."

At JCSU, counseling coordinator Maya Gibbons said students have become more sobered to the realities of unprotected sex.

"There has been more of a buzz ... more of a sense of responsibility among students," Gibbons said. Last fall, the school started requiring freshmen to attend "HIV 101," and when one campus group sponsored free, confidential HIV testing

on campus, they had more demand than they could handle.

This weekend, 300 students from a dozen historically minority colleges across North Carolina will gather in Durham for a conference called "Stomp Out HIV/STDs." The event is a product of the state's "Project Commit to Prevent," aimed especially at African American and Native American students, because minorities contract HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases at disproportionately higher rates.

State health officials asked college students to help plan the conference, which is designed to get student leaders educated about HIV and motivated to lead prevention programs on their campuses.

The program has been in the works since before the jump in campus HIV cases was discovered, said Phyllis Gray, project manager for the state's HIV and sexually transmitted disease prevention branch.

Etc.

SGA Election Results

President:

Melissa Bell

Vice President:

Thomas Welch IV

Senators at large:

James Deeley
Josh Dermer
Justin Egan
Erin Ireland
Christine Warner
Jason Scheel
Mehreen Farooq
Katie Mishoe
Katy Grace

Class of 2006 senators:

Jonathan Judkins
Laura Simpson
Kearsten Ruud

Class of 2007 senators:

Ryan Chandler
Jessica Morrison
Ashleigh Stacy

Shrout named Executive Director of Public Affairs

Thomas R. Shrout has been named the Executive Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations, according to a CNU press release.

Shrout is a former associate vice president for public affairs and director of university communication. He has worked at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, University of Missouri and the Ohio State University.

As a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Journalism, Shrout is also a former television reporter.

He is married and has one son who is attending graduate school in Los Angeles.

Webb assumes responsibility for IT Services

Dr. George Webb was appointed as Chief Information Officer for Academic and Administrative Computing and will assume responsibility of the Information Technology Services Department, according to an e-mail sent by Executive Vice President Bill Brauer.

Pay a penny

The SGA, exceeded the goal of 6,000 pennies by collecting 6,649 last week. The statewide goal of 150,000 was also exceeded with over 200,000 pennies collected.

Strange appointed to posting policy committee

Senator Edwin Strange was appointed to the posting policy committee at the March 29 SGA meeting. President Ashley Boyd made the appointment with the consent of the Senate.

Anti-terror policies deeply flawed for Bush and Clinton administrations

By Chris Mondics
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON—With a bitterly contested presidential election as the backdrop, the search for scapegoats in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center has begun in earnest.

But the picture of government mistakes, inertia and even at times seeming apathy emerging from an independent panel's investigation of the attacks makes clear that pinning blame entirely on the Clinton administration or on the Bush administration will be exceedingly difficult, try as the political parties might. When the panel issues its final report, due July 26, it is likely to show both administrations had ample warning that Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network posed a dire threat and that their policies for fighting terror networks were deeply flawed.

As Steve Cimbala, a professor of political science at Penn State and an expert on national security matters, said Friday, "In the Clinton administration, terrorism had a hard time getting to the top of the agenda because there were so many post-Cold War uncertainties that Clinton had to sort out, whereas with the Bush you had a new administration trying to set itself up."

Even those who are particularly critical of the Bush administration response say few national security experts had imagined that al-Qaida terrorists would be as ferocious, or effective. "Nobody took the problem as seriously as we wish we had now," says Stephen Walt, professor

of International Politics at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Now, seemingly disparate facts form distinct patterns that were not easily detectable before Sept. 11.

"Hindsight is so easy to have," says Michael Gunter, a terrorism expert at Tennessee Technological University. Gunter's belief that both administrations performed poorly is in distinct contrast to the thrust of testimony before the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States by former White House terrorism coordinator Richard A. Clarke that the incoming Bush administration didn't see the terrorism problem with the same urgency as the Clinton administration, and therefore bears more responsibility.

As more information emerges about what the government did—and didn't do—in the years before the attacks, the reaction in Washington, and across the country is beginning to resemble that of witnesses to a crime in the Akira Kurosawa film "Rashomon." In the film, each person sees the incident differently and a single truth is never revealed.

Information emerging from the Sept. 11 panel's investigation appears mostly to be feeding notions formed in advance about who ought to be blamed. Political partisans look at the facts and come to entirely different conclusions.

Yet the panel's investigation makes clear that both administrations dropped the ball.

In his testimony last week, Clarke pointed out that intelligence in the spring and early summer of 2001

indicated the possibility of a catastrophic attack was greater than ever. But at that point, the Bush administration hadn't even decided on a comprehensive strategy for dealing with bin Laden. It wasn't until Sept. 4, one week before the hijackings, that the administration agreed on an approach of phased diplomatic and military measures for dislodging al-Qaida's patron, the Taliban government of Afghanistan, a plan that was supposed to take three years.

Some of this is doubtless attributable to the difficulties of forming a new administration, though senior White House officials had received ample warning from outgoing members of the Clinton administration, notably former National Security Adviser Samuel L. Berger, that al-Qaida was a menace and ought to be a priority.

The critique of the Clinton administration response to al-Qaida and terrorism in general, laid out indirectly in commission staff reports, is that its approach was timid, relied too heavily on diplomacy and not enough on military power, and that senior officials insisted on unassailable intelligence before launching retaliatory strikes.

At the time, there was little public consensus for military action. Berger scored a powerful point by noting that critics in Congress and the press jumped all over Clinton in advance of the Kosovo war. Even though it considered a more muscular approach toward the Taliban government, the Clinton White House concluded from the reaction to Kosovo that there would be no support for aggressive military

actions in Afghanistan.

During the initial years of the Clinton administration, the staff report said, "the basic approach for dealing with them (terrorists) was that of law enforcement."

That was the case with the terrorist bombing of the Khobar Towers residential complex for Air Force personnel in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia in 1996, which killed 19 Americans and wounded 372. Instead of cruise missiles or special forces, the Clinton administration responded by sending FBI agents to Saudi Arabia, resulting in the June 2001 indictments of 13 members of the terrorist group Hizbollah. According to the commission staff, former FBI director Louis Freeh told it "in very strong terms" that he believed the Iranian government was involved in the bombing. He provided the same information to the Clinton White House in 1999.

But the Clinton administration took no retaliatory action against Iran. Both former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Berger told the commission that while the information may have pointed to individual Iranian officials, it did not amount to proof that the bombing had the endorsement of the Iranian government itself.

After Sept. 11, such a response seems tepid. "It's easier to see how puzzle pieces fit together when you have in hand the final picture," Berger said in his opening statement to the commission. "History is written through a rearview mirror, but it unfolds through a foggy windshield."

That is largely true. And in the case of Sept. 11 profoundly unsatisfying.

Rice faces down terror charges

By Bob Kemper
Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON—She was George W. Bush's tutor on the campaign trail and remains his right hand in foreign affairs at the White House. She dazzled official Washington over the last three years not only as the first woman to run the National Security Council but also as a concert pianist playing the Kennedy Center.

But the exalted stature that Condoleezza Rice, known for her strong work ethic and composure under fire, enjoyed in a town full of proud workaholics was damaged last week amid allegations that the White House had paid too little attention to terrorist threats before the Sept. 11 attacks.

The charges from Richard Clarke, Bush's former top adviser on counterterrorism, were a pointed assault on the president's handling of the war on terrorism, the cornerstone of his re-election campaign. But they also were a direct indictment of Rice, whose job it is to oversee the national security apparatus on the president's behalf.

Even if Bush wins in November, Rice is expected to step down at the end of this year. So this battle over her handling of terrorist threats in the age of Sept. 11 is for Rice a fight over her legacy and place in history.

"I would have to say that I don't necessarily know that Condoleezza Rice is going to look very good in the history books in terms of her stewardship of the NSC," said John Pike, director of GlobalSecurity.org, a private defense and military think tank.

Rice's NSC has been "dysfunctional," said Pike, with the Pentagon and State Department at ideological odds and top Bush advisers—including Vice President Dick Cheney and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld—going over Rice's head to the president on a number of foreign policy initiatives.

But Brent Scowcroft, national security adviser to Bush's father and a Rice mentor, defended her handling of the office. Above all else, he said, Rice captured and maintained the confidence of the president and created processes that allow him to make critical decisions.

"There are real (ideological) differences within the administration that make her job very difficult," Scowcroft said. "I'm proud of her."

Rice's office did not return phone calls requesting comment.

But in a 72-hour flurry of television interviews, a lengthy op-ed article in the Washington Post and unusual on-the-record meetings with reporters in her West Wing office, Rice fiercely defended Bush—and her own reputation and credibility.

"Let me be very clear, I really want people to know this story," Rice told

one group of reporters, at times losing her signature composure. "One of the reasons that I'm speaking ... to the press is that the American people need to have an answer to the scurrilous allegations that somehow the president of the United States was not attentive to the terrorism threat," Rice said.

Republican lawmakers on Friday came to the White House's aid with claims that Clarke's 2002 testimony before congressional committees investigating the attacks differed from his testimony last week before the independent Sept. 11 commission. Those lawmakers said they want to declassify all or part of Clarke's testimony to demonstrate that his story is inconsistent.

But even as Rice joined other White House officials in trying to discredit Clarke, she faced fresh criticism for making contradictory statements about Clarke and for refusing to testify publicly before the commission.

Commission members and some relatives of those killed on Sept. 11 questioned why Rice had time for live network interviews but not to testify publicly. When the White House sent Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage to the hearing in Rice's place, the family members walked out of the hearing room in protest.

The White House late Thursday publicly requested that the commission allow Rice to appear before the panel—though in private and not under oath, as she has before—to rebut what the administration called "a number of mischaracterizations" about her positions and statements.

"I would like nothing better than to be able to testify before the commission," Rice told NBC Wednesday night.

The White House said Rice could not formally testify before the commission because Congress created the panel and such an appearance would breach the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government.

There is a precedent for national security advisers to appear before congressional bodies, however. At least three times since 1980 presidents have allowed their advisers to testify.

But the White House maintains that those national security aides testified in instances of alleged wrongdoing and not about specific administration policy, a situation different from the Sept. 11 investigation.

Even as Republican lawmakers began to suggest publicly that it was hurting Rice not to testify publicly, Scowcroft defended her right not to do so. "She doesn't make the decision whether to testify," he said. "It's the president's decision."

Clarke saga fraught with political peril for Bush

By Dick Polman
Knight Ridder Newspapers

PHILADELPHIA—Week Two of the Richard Clarke saga began with a bang Sunday, as the former White House counterterrorism chief contended on national television that the Bush White House is conducting a "taxpayer-paid character assassination campaign" to wreck his reputation.

And regardless of whether that is true—the Bush team says it is merely defending itself from an unfair attack—the reality is that the Clarke imbroglio has already penetrated the public consciousness; that it will not fade any time soon; and that it threatens to sow doubt among swing voters about President Bush's credentials as a war leader.

There are two or more sides to most stories, particularly inside the Washington bureaucracy. But Clarke's core allegation—that the President "ignored" the terrorism threat, despite repeated warnings, before Sept. 11—is potentially explosive for a number of reasons:

Clarke hits Bush from the right, not the left. Most Bush critics tend to be liberals and Democrats. This Bush critic, a national security hard-liner for decades, cut his teeth on terrorism policy as an aide to Ronald Reagan. And on television Sunday, he brandished a handwritten note from Bush—sent to Clarke when he retired last year—praising him for having "served the nation with distinction and honor."

Clarke's allegations, contained in his new book and amplified on TV talk shows and in sworn testimony before the Sept. 11 commission, are distracting voters from the message of the Bush campaign's current TV ad—that the President offers "steady leadership in times of change."

Although Clarke said under oath last week that he seeks no position in a John Kerry administration, the inescapable truth is that every day he is out there contending that Bush was soft on al-Qaida, that Bush's greatest perceived strength is really his prime weakness, the Kerry campaign and the Democrats do not need to spend a dime on the issue.

The Clarke story will stay alive because the Sept. 11 commission will stay in business until midsummer. It has yet to meet with Bush (who wants to limit his time to a single hour), and it wants to publicly quiz national security adviser Condoleezza Rice under oath. (Bush says no to that—an act of refusal that Bush-friendly commissioner John Lehman on Sunday called "a political blunder of the first order" because it creates the impression that the White House has something to hide.)

Rice, quizzed Sunday night on CBS's "60 Minutes," said although her refusal to testify publicly is a matter of principle, she wants people to know that Clarke's allegations are wrong: "Of course (terrorism) was an urgent problem (before Sept. 11). I'd like to know what more could have been done."

Most Americans, already polarized, appear to be treating the Clarke affair in predictable fashion: The Bush bashers view him as the answer to their prayers, and the Bush loyalists view him as an opportunist who is out to make a buck on a book. What really matters is the reaction among swing voters—the independents who have the potential to sway close elections. And the evidence thus far is that Clarke has inflicted some short-term political damage on his former boss.

A barometer is a poll conducted by Fox News last week. Among surveyed independent voters, 55 percent said that Clarke was very or somewhat believable; 33 percent said otherwise. (Fox also found that 65 percent of all Americans still praise Bush as a war leader after Sept. 11. Sunday morning, Fox ran that statistic on the "crawl" at the bottom of the screen. But it did not run the numbers that found Clarke credible among independents.)

On the credibility front, however, one problem for the White House thus far is that its response to Clarke may have merely confused people. At first, Vice President Dick Cheney told Rush Limbaugh last week that Clarke's charges were not important because he had been "out of the loop." Limbaugh immediately responded, "Well, now that explains a lot."

Actually, it explained nothing, because—as Rice later pointed out, contradicting Cheney—Clarke was still

the counterterrorism czar when the terrorists struck on Sept. 11, 2001.

The White House also questioned Clarke's credibility for writing that on Sept. 12, 2001, he was pulled aside by Bush and told to find any possible link between the attacks and Saddam Hussein.

The White House insisted that such an encounter never happened. Then, after several news outlets produced eyewitnesses, the White House backed off.

And now we are heading into a period when declassified documents might be wielded as political weapons.

Some Capitol Hill Republicans want to declassify testimony that Clarke gave in 2002 to a joint congressional inquiry on Sept. 11; they suggest that Clarke may have given rosier testimony about Bush's antiterrorism efforts back in 2002, thereby impeaching his credibility now.

On Sunday, Clarke said that move would be fine with him, as long as everything else is declassified—including his Jan. 25, 2001, memo urging an antiterrorism action plan, which he says Rice essentially buried until Sept. 4, 2001.

On "60 Minutes," Rice was also confronted with a remark that Bush himself made to journalist Bob Woodward in the 2002 book Bush at War. Bush told Woodward that before Sept. 11, "I was not on point (about al-Qaida). ... I didn't feel that sense of urgency."

The Captain's Log is now accepting applications for all editing positions for the 2004-05 academic year. Applications are available in SC 223. Call 594-7196 for any questions.

World and Nation

Shiite cleric's newspaper shuts down, protests in Baghdad



Supporters of Shiite cleric Moqtadr Al-Sadr burn an American flag in protest of the U.S.-led occupation authorities that shut down the al Hauza newspaper on Sunday. The weekly newspaper is published by Sadr's organization.

By Ken Dilanian
Knight Ridder Newspapers

March 28—The U.S.-led occupation authority dispatched soldiers to shut down the newspaper of an extremist Shiite cleric Sunday, charging that the paper repeat-

edly published misinformation designed to incite violence against U.S. troops.

The closure prompted as many as 3,000 of followers of the cleric, Moqtadr Sadr, to assemble for an angry demonstration that blocked traffic on a main Baghdad thoroughfare.

The protesters chanted "Long live Sadr" and "America is just infidels," and some burned an American flag. Iraqi police were nowhere to be seen, and U.S. troops looked on from a distance. The newspaper closure and the protest illustrated the coalition's dilemma as it tries to promote democratic values in Iraq

while also combating what it sees as dangerous extremism.

Alaa-eldin Elsadr, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition, said he accompanied about 50 U.S. troops to the offices of the Sadr organization's weekly al Hauza newspaper. The soldiers ordered employees out of the building and sealed it. The paper will be closed for at least 60 days, Elsadr said.

Elsadr gave newspaper officials a letter from U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer that said the paper published misinformation, including articles blaming terrorist attacks on coalition forces.

"These false articles not only mislead readers but constitute a real threat of violence against coalition forces and Iraqi citizens who cooperate with the coalition in the reconstruction of Iraq," the letter said.

Sheik Mahmood al Sawdani, a Sadr spokesman, denied that the newspaper had incited violence, and said it was shut down because it "rejects the occupation."

"This is a contradiction to the new constitution," said Juma Khanjar, 44, a taxi driver who came for the protest. "The Americans said there is freedom of the press. Where is the freedom of the press?"

Iraq's interim constitution, which takes effect July 1, provides for freedom of the press and freedom of speech. It does not discuss when speech becomes incitement to violence. The coalition is setting up a news media commission that will come up with rules about such issues.

In the United States, courts have allowed state laws against incitement to violence. But the language has to be far more explicit than anything the Sadr newspaper said, according to coalition officials' translations of the offending passages.

On Feb. 26, an article claimed that a suicide bombing that targeted a Shiite town south of Baghdad, killing 53, was a rocket "fired by an (American) Apache helicopter and not a car bomb," Elsadr said.

Another article was headlined "Bremer follows the steps of Saddam," and criticized coalition work in Iraq.

Elsadr acknowledged that such a shutdown would not happen in the United States, but added, "Iraq is not America. Iraq is going through a very sensitive time right now, and, while there is freedom of the press, that freedom must be used responsibly."

Most of the protesters arrived after hearing about the closure on mosque loudspeakers in Sadr City, a poor Shiite enclave of Baghdad named after Sadr's father, who was killed by Saddam Hussein.

Radical Shiite groups have grown increasingly impatient with the U.S.-led occupation.

Oppressed under Saddam Hussein, Shiites make up a majority of Iraq's population. Many Shiites listen closely to their religious leaders, some of whom, including Sadr, regularly preach anti-American extremism. But so far, those leaders have not supported attacks against the coalition.

Army plans improvements in mental health care, suicide prevention

By Drew Brown
Knight Ridder Newspapers

March 25—The Army is taking steps to ensure that soldiers in Iraq and Kuwait have better access to psychologists and other mental health professionals after a spike in suicides last summer.

The Army has already appointed a consultant to oversee mental health issues for soldiers in the region, officials said Thursday.

Further steps include making sure that soldiers receive treatment nearer to their units and improving the soldiers' psychological care once they are evacuated from the combat zone for such care.

"War is an environment that is inherently stressful for our soldiers," said Col. Virgil Patterson III, chief of the mental health advisory team that visited Iraq last summer and fall.

"Our soldiers are performing magnificently. We believe that having well-trained and -positioned behavioral health professionals help our soldiers control combat and operational stress."

At least 23 soldiers in Iraq and Kuwait killed themselves last year, nearly a quarter of the Army's reported 76 cases of suicide.

An additional three cases remain under investigation as possible suicides. Army officials have reported one suicide so far this year.

While the rate in the region last year was higher than recent historical Army averages, it was still lower than suicide rates among comparable civilian populations, Patterson and other officials said.

Those deaths represent a rate of 17.3 per 100,000 soldiers during 2003, Patterson and other officials said.

The annual Army average is 11.9 per 100,000. The average suicide rate for civilian males ages 20 to 34, the common ages of those serving in the military, is 21.5 per 100,000.

The Army surgeon general sent Patterson's team to survey the mental health of soldiers in the combat zone after five suicides last July.

The 12-person team, composed of military and civilian psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and a chaplain, interviewed 756 soldiers between August and October.

Among those surveyed, 82 percent had been engaged in combat, 67 percent had seen dead bodies and 59 percent reported knowing someone who had been seriously injured or killed.

The survey also found that 77 percent reported experiencing no stress or low levels of stress. Only 7.3 percent reported heightened levels of anxiety, 6.9 percent reported experiencing depression, and 15.2 percent reported experiencing traumatic stress.

Fifty-two percent reported "low" or "very low" personal morale, and 72 percent reported low or very low unit morale.

Patterson and other officials said the findings indicated that the Army mental health care system was working well but could use improvement.

Col. Bruce Crow, a psychologist and suicide prevention expert, said the team found nothing among the suicide cases to indicate a common cause or contributing factors.

All but two of the soldiers who killed themselves were male.

All but one shot themselves. The other overdosed on Tylenol and other medications. Nine of the soldiers were married.

Five of the suicides occurred during the first 17 days of July, and the rest averaged out at two a month for 2003. All of the suicides occurred after the war began in March, Crow said.

The most common factors in suicide are failed relationships or financial or legal problems. But none of the soldiers who killed themselves showed any warning signs, Crow said.

Last summer, U.S. troops in Iraq were living in austere conditions, with infrequent contact with their families and no set date for many to return home.

While these conditions contributed to low morale, it's unclear what role they might have played in the suicides.

Among the prevention measures the Army is implementing is the use of the "buddy system" to report the warning signs of suicidal behavior.

But officials warned that these measures wouldn't completely eliminate the problem.



Palestinian youth Hussam Abdo stares at journalists as Israeli soldiers present him to the media at the Hawara checkpoint near the West Bank city of Nablus, March 24. Israel says Abdo approached the crowded checkpoint wearing a suicide bomb vest. Israeli Sappers later detonated the bomb.

Anger expressed over use of vulnerable teen as suicide bomber

By Michael Matza
Knight Ridder Newspapers

March 25—The uncle of a Palestinian boy caught trying to cross an Israeli army checkpoint in a vest stuffed with explosives was hopping mad.

If he finds out who sent his nephew on the aborted mission as a suicide bomber, said Khalil Abdo, he'd gladly kill the dispatcher himself.

"I would serve a life sentence for it," Abdo told Israeli Army radio. "One must never do a thing like that."

Abdo's anger was only part of the uproar across Israel and the Palestinian territories on Thursday at what many viewed as the exploitation of a troubled and vulnerable child.

Exactly who was to blame remained unclear. Some suspected a setup by Israeli collaborators, but Israel maintained the incident was genuine and symptomatic of a growing problem as militants turn increasingly to children to launch terror attacks.

Hussam Abdo, 16, a 10th-grader at Omar Ben al Hatab school in the volatile West Bank city of Nablus, was caught Wednesday

at the heavily guarded Hawara checkpoint south of the city. Soldiers noticed a suspicious bulge beneath his sweatshirt and ordered him to freeze.

News photographs and videotape of the panicked teen held at gunpoint and cutting off the vest with scissors delivered by a remote-controlled robot played around the world.

Israeli spokesmen went into overdrive after Abdo's capture, decrying the ruthlessness of an enemy that took advantage of a boy who was easily swayed to prove himself by detonating a bomb among the soldiers at the checkpoint.

The government press office followed up with a massive file of background information.

Among recent examples: a 17-year-old boy who killed only himself in January when his bomb belt exploded prematurely and two 17-year-olds who blew themselves up at the Israeli port of Ashdod, killing 10 Israelis on March 14.

Two days later, troops stopped an 11-year-old boy as he allegedly tried to smuggle explosives through the same checkpoint where Abdo was caught.

The boy, who worked for tips carrying bags as a porter, said he thought he was carrying a heavy

bag of car parts.

Early Thursday, Israeli troops entered Nablus and arrested six people.

The Web site of the Israeli daily newspaper Haaretz reported that three of the six were students at Abdo's school. An army spokesman declined to elaborate.

Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militia affiliated with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah party, at first claimed responsibility for Abdo's thwarted attack, but withdrew the claim Thursday and said Israel had set up the attack to discredit the faction.

In an interview with the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot, Abdo said that, after years of bullying by classmates who teased him because he's small for his age, he wanted to reach the paradise he had learned about in Islamic teachings in school.

"A river of honey, a river of wine and 72 virgins. Since I have been studying the Quran, I know about the sweet life that waits there," the newspaper quoted Abdo as saying.

"But when the soldiers stopped me, I didn't press the switch. I changed my mind. I didn't want to die anymore," he said. "I'm sorry for what I did."

Opinions

Where We Stand

On Virginia's budget: Learn the plans and push the legislature for a decision

It's truly amazing how much incompetence can inconvenience others who are simply trying to do their jobs. It happens everywhere, all the time.

But now, it's getting serious. The legislators of your General Assembly were recently ordered into a special session because of their inability to settle on a budget—that is, a state budget, something that dictates to local governments how much they will be funded. A 63-day legislative session is obviously not a long enough time to make a decision; the dividing issue seems to be over how much taxes should be increased.

The deadline for the budget is June 30, but continuing to wait until the last minute only makes things more difficult for localities who, in the meantime, must prepare budgets with an indefinite amount of money and make blind decisions concerning real estate taxes, state-maintained roads and, what was that other thing? Oh yes, higher education.

There's no denying that higher education (that's us) faces challenges, as financial-aid offices are unable to tell incoming freshmen the exact amounts they will be able to receive for paying tuition. Many students here, for example, have no idea how much their financial-aid bills will be. Over the next biennium, the House's proposal has set aside \$9 million for aid, and the Senate's proposal has set aside \$15.6 million.

As CNU is under-funded by about \$10 million a year, the university awaits some hint of direction for setting next year's tuition rates.

Last Friday, James Madison University had to cancel its Board of Visitors meeting to postpone setting tuition. Depending on what Virginia's budget will end up being (hopefully, there will be a budget), Longwood University is planning to increase tuition by either five, eight or nine percent. But it obviously can't decide yet.

As of now, the General Assembly has failed in its duty to keep state institutions running smoothly by passing next year's budget.

Others' incompetence has inconvenienced others who are trying to get things done. Then again, is it incompetence or close-mindedness? After all, Senator Glenn Oder (R—Newport News) said on Thursday that all he sees is people getting more entrenched in their positions, "more polarized."

So for those of you who would like push the people in Richmond to make a decision, quickly consider an analysis the Virginian-Pilot released by the Virginia Business Higher Education Council.

Over the next two years, public colleges would receive \$326 million from the Senate's proposal, \$133 million from Gov. Mark Warner's plan and \$122 million from the House's plan. With the Senate's plan, professors would be given raises, according to the Pilot.

"Only the Senate budget will help keep classes from overcrowding, make sure people can graduate on time and keep tuition low," said junior Dylan Lloyd of Radford University in a letter to the editor published by the Daily Press.

All three plans have their pro's and con's, but for CNU's audience, the best choice is obvious.

-Facts and figures were gathered by reports from the Daily Press, Virginian-Pilot and Washington Post

The Captain's Log

2003 - 2004 Staff

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The Captain's Log is the Official Student Newspaper of Christopher Newport University.

The Captain's Log is published on 24 Wednesdays throughout the academic year.

New contributions are accepted by fax (594-8759), by e-mail (clog@cnu.edu) or in our office (SC 223).

Circulation inquiries, advertising rates, and policies are available upon request by telephone, (757) 594-7196, e-mail or on our Web site. The Captain's Log

is created with Apple Macintosh computers, using Adobe InDesign.

The Captain's Log reserves the right to edit letters according to style and length, as well as to refuse publication. The Captain's Log welcomes letters from its readers. Send letters to: The Captain's Log, 1 University Place, Newport News, VA 23606. Letters may also be brought to our office or sent to us by e-mail at clog@cnu.edu. Anonymous letters may be printed, but writers must sign the

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Lost in a landslide of legislation

America must stop jailing non-violent drug offenders

By Stefan Veldhuis
Contributing Writer

Hey, let's be honest, we've all tried it. From the sweet girl down the hall to the President of the United States, just about everyone in America has at least experimented with some kind of drug or another. According to Time magazine, more than three out of every four Americans admits to having smoked marijuana at least once in their life and one in three has tried harder drugs. So, remember back to when you threw that party at your house, and had a few too many to drink. Someone was passing around a joint, so you figured why not have a go. Just imagine, however, having the police roll in just as you put it to your mouth. The next thing you know, you are at the station, on the stand and in prison for refusing to rat on your friend who bought and brought the pot. Sound a little far-fetched? Then feel free to ask the thirteen employees of Mellow Mushroom in Charlottesville how their prison term is going.

Earlier this year the Drug Enforcement Agency caught one employee with a quarter ounce of marijuana and two psilocybin mushrooms. Although he had no prior history of violence, no gang affiliation and no criminal record, he was sentenced to one year in a medium security prison in Virginia. It seems that the judge felt it necessary to make an example out of this young man and his co-workers, sentencing them to a total of 10 years behind bars, even though all of them were peaceful, employed, full-time college students with no prior criminal record whatsoever. The DEA spent hundreds of thousands of dollars tapping phones, putting up surveillance cameras and coercing these students

into disseminating information as to the source of their drugs. Now, the taxpayers of Virginia will have to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars more out of their hard earned paychecks to keep these students behind bars so they may "pay their debt to society." In reality, however, the only true debt lies in the hands of American lawmakers, whose political perversion has spawned a flagrant misappropriation of resources, thus causing non-violent drug-offenders to be cast into the same dens of iniquity that violent, hardened criminals call their home. Sadly, the unfounded logic and biased social tradition in which most politicians are legislatively immersed has brought this legislative travesty to an all too sobering fruition.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, at the Petersburg medium-security prison, over one half of all inmates present at that institution have been imprisoned for non-violent drug offenses. While it is true that many involved in drug trafficking are forced to use violence, such a problem would be negated if there were a legal market for narcotics. Dr. Peter Carlson, who was honored in 1996 with the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive, had this to say about the issue, "I do not support drug use in any way, but I have come to the conclusion that decriminalization of specific narcotics may be the only way to remove the financial gain that is driving the trade." Carlson, who has over 30 years experience in Corrections, also stated, "Until we curtail the profit aspect of the narcotics trade, we will not make significant progress in our war on drugs. Money has always been the primary motivation in criminal activity, and it is certainly driving the drug trade. When we

investigate, arrest, prosecute and confine one significant dealer, three more line up to take his place." As the Warden of three separate federal prisons, Carlson surely accrued a large amount of knowledge regarding the detention, sentencing and imprisonment of a multitude of individuals, and oh, how urgently Carlson's words need to be regarded by the lawmakers of this country, and how desperately the war on drugs needs to be ended. To imprison a peaceful drug user in the same cell with a rapist, a pedophile or a murderer is a pernicious act, one that only serves to breed violence and contempt for the system, while draining billions of dollars in taxpayers money. America is fighting a war it will never win. No matter how much time, energy and money the DEA and CIA spend attempting to squelch drug usage and distribution, the appetite for such substances remains a constant, and the motivation for pecuniary recompenses only proliferates over time. Surely, many people scoff at the notion of decriminalizing drugs or the idea of legalizing narcotics. Yet, ask yourself: Should America keep fighting a war it will never win, at the expense of its hard-working, peaceful citizens? Should America continue to allow oppressive government agencies to imprison non-violent drug users, who are otherwise law-abiding citizens? Or can we instead sacrifice the outdated and unfounded social and political traditions of our land, for a country with more individual responsibility, more rights and ultimately more freedom. The overwhelming quandary at hand has an overarching theme of overcrowded prisons, overtaxed citizens and lawmakers who consistently overlook logic and reason.

America must hear from Rice

Knight Ridder/Tribune
News Service

The following editorial appeared in the New York Daily News on March 25:

The proceedings of the 9/11 investigating commission became even more distressing Wednesday as they revealed new failings by the Clinton and Bush administrations to take the fight effectively to Osama bin Laden. The need for national security adviser Condoleezza Rice to testify also became screamingly urgent.

Testimony and the findings of commission staff disclosed that, during the Clinton years, the CIA fruitlessly tried to get at bin Laden in Afghanistan only through proxies, never setting a pair of U.S. eyes on him.

At the same time, agency operatives were confused about an issue as basic as the authority to kill bin Laden, with many believing the objective was the much harder task of capturing him.

This kill-as-a-last-resort thinking, which was not shared by CIA Director George Tenet, was debilitating enough that one former operative told the commission, "We always talked about how much easier it would have been to kill him."

Another agent reported that the leader of America's Afghan allies laughed at the CIA's policy, saying, "You Americans are crazy."

After George W. Bush came into office in January 2001, the new administration struggled for eight months to formulate a policy for pursuing bin Laden and turning back the al-Qaeda threat. Richard Clarke, the former terrorism adviser whose new book has hit the administration like a cruise missile, testified credibly that Rice and

Agency operatives were confused about an issue as basic as the authority to kill bin Laden, with many believing the objective was the much harder task of capturing him.

other Bush national security officials did not approach al-Qaeda as a matter of the highest urgency.

The commission's staff supported Clarke's perspective, revealing that in June and July 2001, top CIA officials became deeply frustrated that the Bush White House had not come to grips with the seriousness of the al-Qaeda threat. Two veterans assigned to bin Laden were so concerned that "they

considered resigning and going public," according to the commission staff.

Then, in August 2001, the CIA got a record level of intelligence predicting an al-Qaeda strike without indicating where or when.

The best thinking was that terrorists would attack U.S. interests in the Mideast, but a U.S. strike was a possibility. Rice's response appears to have been far less aggressive than it should have been.

When the government picked up similar warnings of an attack in 1999, the White House assembled a task force of agency heads that headed off a plot to bomb Los Angeles International Airport.

There was no such coordinated action under Rice, according to the testimony. Nor was there an aggressive focus on tightening air security—despite past indications that al-Qaeda had plotted to hijack planes.

Rice and the Bush administration say they are standing on the principle that allowing a close presidential adviser to testify before a congressionally authorized commission would violate the constitutional separation of powers.

This is wrong. Many in her position have appeared before Congress, so the conclusion is inescapable that Rice doesn't want to face the heat that would most appropriately be directed her way.

Correction

An article last week about the Miss Essence Pageant misspelled Shannon Hunt's pseudonym, Miss Euneke. Also, during the show's intermission, a step show was put on by members of Norfolk State University's Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., not Kappa Alpha Sigma.

Arts & Entertainment

CAB hosts last Karaoke Night of the semester

Students hit the books, instead of the mics: Karaoke night turns out small crowd

By Lindsay Simpson
Staff Writer

Few people attended the usually overcrowded and popular CAB Karaoke Night March 24, the last of the spring semester. Out of the over 20 available tables, there were approximately seven with people sitting at them; only one of those tables was full.

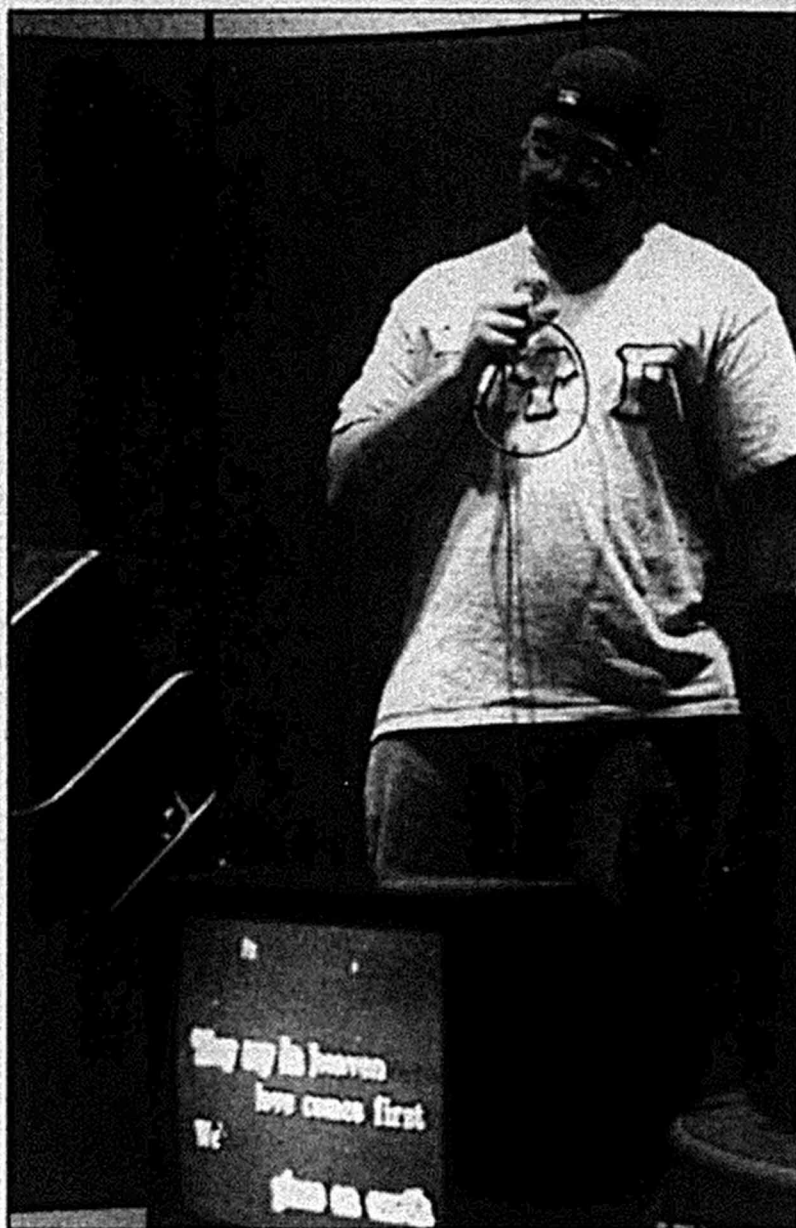
"Honestly, it [the turnout] depends on the day. There's no way of predicting when we'll have a big turnout" said senior Allen Brooks.

The low attendance, unusual for CAB's bimonthly activity, did not seem to dampen the spirits of those who decided to perform on stage.

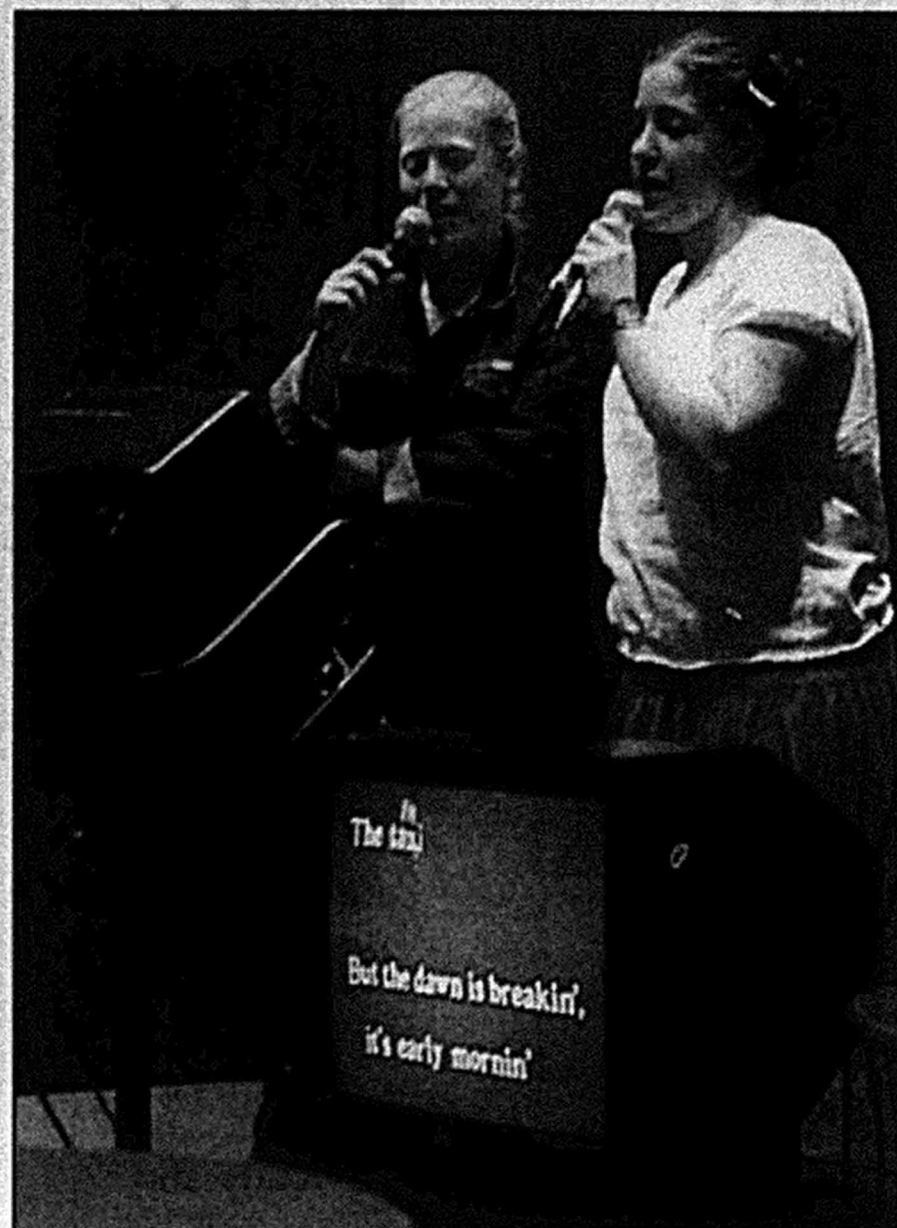
Brooks was the first person on stage, singing Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Sweet Home Alabama" along with a group of friends. The group set the stage for the night with a theme of well-known songs with goofy style and actions to accompany the song.

The next singers included freshmen Catlyn Sullivan, Caroline Leyden, Krysta Wojszynski and Becky Witherow who attempted to sing Jessica Simpson's "With You" through constant fits of laughter.

Following "With You" was CAB's movie chair Nick Clark, senior, who sang Belinda Carlisle's



Left: Movie Chair Nick Clark, senior, sings 'Heaven is a Place on Earth' at last week's Karaoke Night.



Right: Freshman Sam Pelstring and sophomore Margaret Hasty sing 'I'm Leaving on a Jet Plane.'

"Heaven is a Place on Earth." During the course of the song, Clark seemed to enjoy the Karaoke spotlight as the small audience sang along with the chorus.

The bursts of song from the audience quieted as freshman Jenn Strait took the stage to perform Kelly Clarkson's "A Moment Like This." After she left the stage, the audience burst into a round of ap-

plause.

Before long, Alan Brooks and Nick Clark returned to the stage to perform The Knack's "My Sharona," which had the audience singing along once again. Both Brooks and Clark found themselves dancing, jumping around, and doing air guitars during the instrumental parts of the song. They performed five songs during the night.

This was Brooks, Clark and Executive Chair KT Peterlin's last Karaoke Night, because they all will graduate in the spring.

"Building CAB up, and taking it from a bad reputation and making it into an organization that this University can and should be

See KARAOKE, page 8

The Great Lawn is not a tanning bed, people

Not everyone seems to realize we all live less than thirty minutes from at least five beaches

By Taryn Cornelius
Staff Columnist

When the governor came to campus the other day, the weather just happened to be beautiful.

The sky was blue, birds were singing, leaves were turning green and the Great Lawn was littered with half-naked students.

Wait ... say what? I understand when students at schools like JMU, UVA and Tech feel the need to go sun themselves on the vast lawns of their institutions: the poor kids are landlocked.

Unfortunately, apparently not everyone at CNU got the memo that we aren't.

Huntington, Yorktown, Virginia, Buckroe, Sandbridge - pick a beach people, we have plenty to go around. Some of them don't even take 10 minutes to get to.

Heck, you can go lay out by the James River at the Lions Bridge ... it's within walking distance!

Granted, I wouldn't go into the water at most of the beaches here, but do you really want to go swimming in March or April anyway?

I'll admit that in the thinner days of my freshmen year I could occasionally be found trying to get a tan out on the Great

"Huntington, Yorktown, Virginia, Buckroe, Sandbridge - pick a beach people ..."

Lawn. The difference between me and the other people though was that I would be wearing shorts, or something that length.

For common decency if nothing else, there is no cause to be out on the Great Lawn in a bikini or the like.

Yes, the shirtless guys are nice to look at, but even their shorts cover more than most women's bathing suits.

Maybe I am just jealous that I look more like a beluga whale than a Baywatch babe, but I really just don't see why I need to bypass a half-nude lawn on my way to and from work and class.

Supposedly CNU has a dress code. The Freeman Center has one and I've even had some professors enforce one, so why not the Great Lawn too?

I'm not saying that we should go to the extremes of the Freeman Center banning clothing that would be appropriate in any other similar environment.

Still, guys, could we please stop hanging out half-naked all over campus?

It seems to make more sense to hang out in front of the dorms working on a tan.

You live there, you shower there and, if need be, you can run back in there half-naked much quicker than you can sprint from the Great Lawn.

So why walk all the way from your dorm to the Great Lawn?

The sun isn't any stronger there than in front of the residence halls ... unless there's a giant tanning light over it, paid for of course by the latest wonderful tuition hike.

The Melting Pot melts the heart and the wallet

By Chanelle Layman
Asst. Layout & Design Manager

By this time in the semester, you're probably sick of eating at Harbor Lights and Regatta's and you've had pizza so many times, your dorm room has furniture made from the boxes.

Even local Chinese or Mexican restaurants have probably lost their appeal. Now is the perfect time for a change of pace like no other.

The Melting Pot in Virginia Beach offers what no other restaurant in the area can even come close to: fondue.

Entirely centered around various fondues, the Melting Pot is unlike anything campus dining could dream of becoming.

Before your visit, you need some words of warning.

First, come with a hefty amount of cash - you won't leave the restaurant paying less than thirty dollars a person.

Second, make reservations. If your dining day is a holiday, call at least three weeks in advance.

For normal weekend plans, you should call early in the week to get your desired time.

If you call the day of, the time slots available are either early afternoon or late night.

Third, allot about four hours for your evening out. Travel to and from takes approximately an hour and a half, assuming there is no traffic.

In addition, the meal will take approximately two hours to finish.

For your dining options, obviously the food is served fondue style.

This breaks down to cheese fondue entrees, salads, a main course fondue and a dessert fondue.

Should you choose the Fondue Feast, your dinner

will include all of these fondues. However, if your funds are limited, you can opt for just one or two of the courses.

Cheese fondues come in four styles; the cheddar cheese option included two different cheddar cheeses, oils, spices and peppers.

The cheese fondues are served with a bowl of various breads, green apples and assorted vegetables.

Salads are served without a fondue, of course. The chef's salad, one of three options, includes fresh tomatoes, lettuce, cucumber, ham and hard-boiled egg topped with a sweet and tangy dressing.

Following the salads is the main entrée fondue. This course involves two sets of choices.

First, you must decide what selection of meats you prefer, which range from lamb and chicken to pork and seafood.

Options include "The Continental," the "Surf & Turf" or the "Pacific Rim."

Second, you must choose a cooking style. These styles combine different wines, spices, and oils to create a spicy, tangy, or classic taste.

For the brave, there is an option including canola oil, which allows you to deep-fry your food; however, be careful, because this is the only choice in which you can burn your food.

Main courses are served with vegetables and dipping sauces.

Dessert fondues are most definitely the highlight of your dining experience.

From s'mores to white chocolate to cookies 'n' cream to any combination you can imagine, there is definitely a dessert fondue for any visitor.

They are served with cheesecake, brownies,

See RESTAURANT, page 8



Charlize Theron and Christina Ricci star in 'Monster,' a movie based on the life of serial killer Aileen Wuornos. Wuornos was deemed America's first female serial killer.

Theron proves her skills in 'Monster'

By Annie Ferenbach
Contributing Writer

Since "The Devil's Advocate" and "The Astronaut's Wife," I've been a fan of Charlize Theron. She's always been a passionate performer, but has been written off because of her beauty and because she hasn't had quite the right role to prove herself and gain respect.

In fact, Theron recently said that she was often turned away from roles for being too beautiful. It's also been said that she has "played everyone's wife."

I think it's quite safe to say that she's gained the respect she's been due with "Monster."

With her Golden Globe win for the role, buzz has peaked about this film, her role and, most notably, her massive physical transformation.

This isn't one simple change; this was a physical upheaval to the point where I don't think her own mother would've recognized her had she bumped into her on the street.

None of this really matters, however, unless Theron has the acting chops to really become Aileen Wuornos, America's "first female serial killer." Physical changes don't make a

performance, acting does.

Gone is her elegant posture and natural grace; as Aileen, she's got entirely new body language, a southern accent and a masculine bravado she's never displayed before.

The only downside to the perfection of Theron's performance is that Ricci's is overlooked. The barely 24-year-old actress has proven herself time after time as an acting force to be reckoned with and "Monster" is another film for her wildly successful resume.

Her character is alternately innocent in her strong love for Aileen and shocking in what she demands of her.

Aileen has had a life most of us in "middle America" can't even begin to imagine. Physically and sexually abused as a child, Lee began working as a prostitute at 13 to help support her brothers and sisters, who disowned her a few years later.

When we come in, Lee's truck has broken down and she's on the verge of suicide when she walks into a bar (a gay bar, unbeknownst to her) and meets young Selby (Ricci).

Eventually, she gives in to her attraction to Selby, and they begin a passionate and tumultuous love affair. Throughout it, Lee

continues to prostitute herself along the Florida highways.

After a violent and near deadly encounter with one of her "John's," Wuornos develops a near phobia of the men she prostitutes herself to—or maybe just a taste for killing.

"Monster" is hard to watch sometimes; it brings a new meaning to the word brutal. We're allowed so few moments of happiness, moments of beauty and moments of peace, that it really pulls you down into the depths of hopelessness that really defines Wuornos's short, violent life.

It's not an attempt to exonerate Wuornos of her crimes in any way (though some critics believe otherwise), but an attempt to bring to light the fact that the villains of this world—the killers, rapists, thieves—have often been victims of villains themselves.

Directed by Patty Jenkins

Starring Charlize Theron, Christina Ricci, and Bruce Dern

Rated R for graphic and disturbing violence, sexual content, brief nudity and explicitly sexual language
Rating: 5 out of 5 stars

KARAOKE

proud of is an amazing feat" said Peterlin.

Though the attendance at the end of Karaoke Night was higher than when it began, attendance and participation was considered low. At one point during the night, Brooks offered a dollar to anyone willing to perform next.

The low attendance was probably due to others in a predicament similar to freshman Erin McElrath, a two time karaoke performer and attendee. "I had a speech due and I needed to make sure that I was not going to

fail, which pretty much takes precedence over karaoke," she said.

Jared Kreiner, a freshman who also attended two separate CAB Karaoke events, agreed. "I think [the low attendance] could be accredited to a week from hell for everyone, with lots of papers and tests," he said.

Another reason McElrath suggested was, "Because it was so popular, people don't think they would have been able to get up on stage to perform, or they would possibly embarrass themselves in front of everyone."



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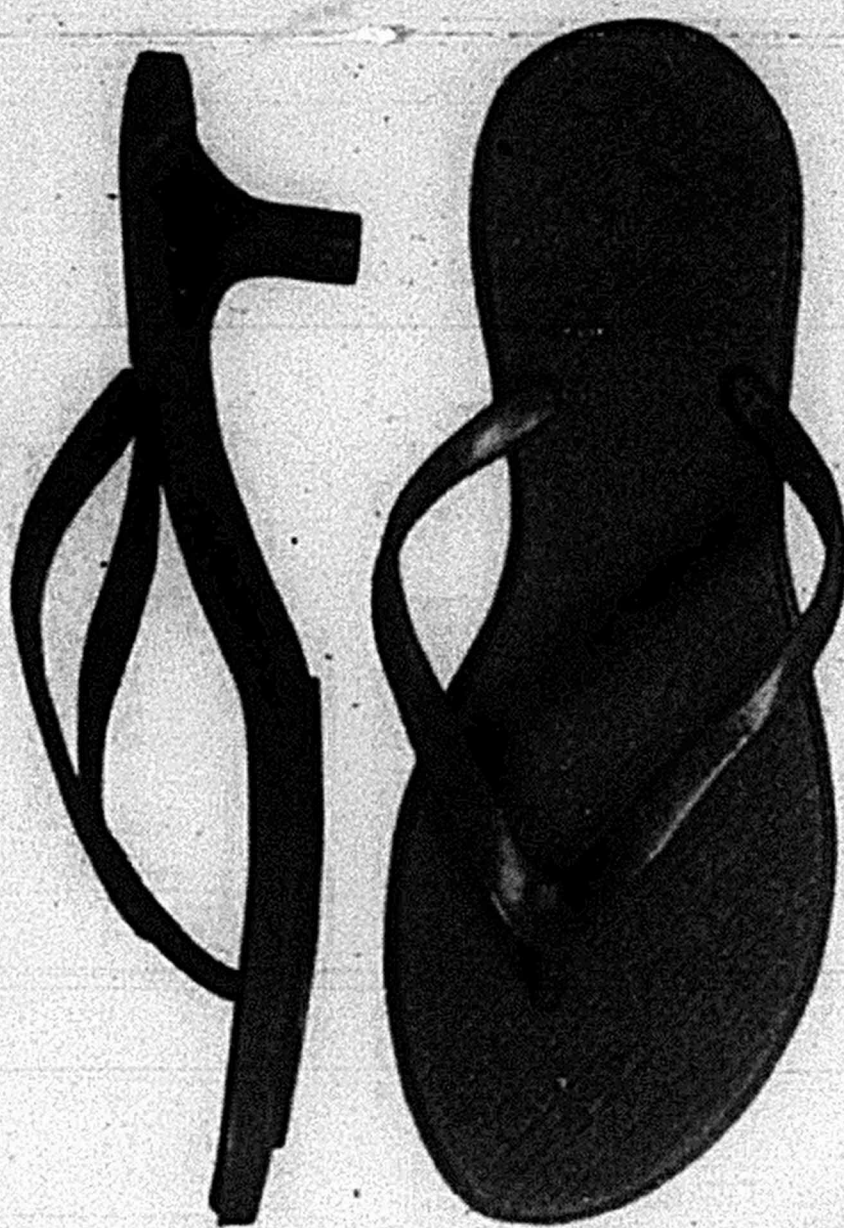


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By Amber Lester
Staff Writer

Ah, the joys of spring: new romances blossoming, the steady approach of summer break and most importantly, frequent flip-flop days.

Now that the last of the snow days seem to have passed, the sweaters and boots can be packed away in favor of lighter, brighter clothes.

Here is everything you need to help you navigate the malls in search of high fashion looks at student-friendly prices.

Quite possibly the biggest trend of spring is the return of the trench coat. Several designers put a new twist on the classic, with Karl Lagerfeld of Chanel lining his trench in tweed, Burberry cropping it to mid-waist, and everyone from Michael Kors to Perry Ellis brightening it with off-beat colors.

To have your very own classic trench, look no further than Gap, where a cropped and belted trench can be bought in black and light blue (and other colors if you manage to hit a sales rack in time) for \$49.99. Old Navy also sells a longer baby-blue trench for \$39.50.

Athletic-inspired clothing has gotten a luxurious makeover in the fashion world for this spring. Erase the images of velour sweat suits and expensive sneakers you have in mind; this fashion is pure country club-inspired chic. Imagine the outfits of luxe sports like golf, tennis, and polo with their pale pastels and whites, their crisp pleats and

slouchy sweaters.

Hot young designers like the Proenza Schouler boys and Derek Lam sent models down runways in oversized v-neck sweaters draped over breezy skirts, as seen on www.style.com. You can capture the look easily with any slightly oversized sweater, a light-weight skirt (like chiffon or linen), or a neat pair of capris.

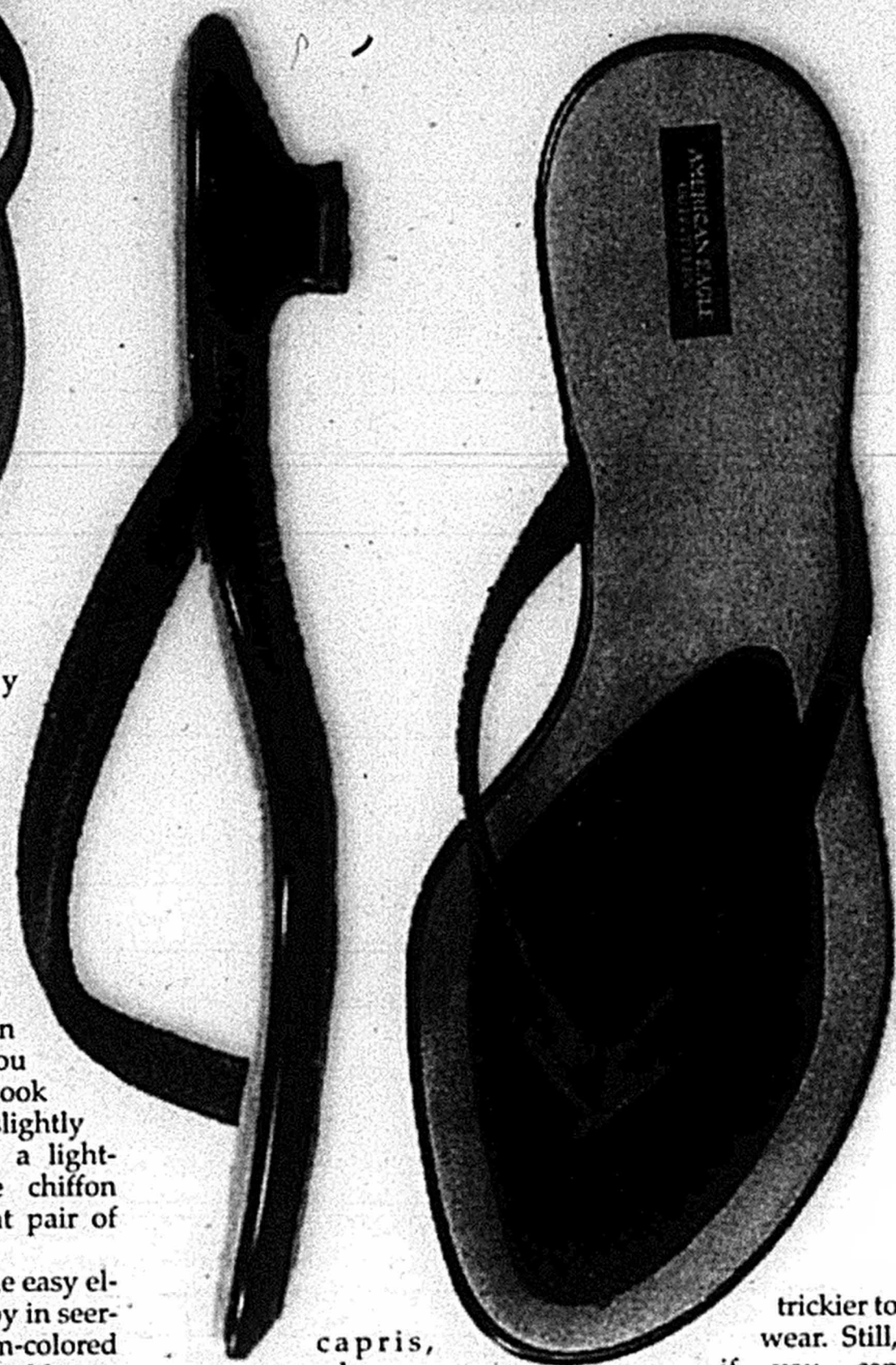
Also, imitate the easy elegance of Jay Gatsby in seersucker or ice cream-colored blazers. Seersucker blazers are available at American Eagle for \$58.00 and Isaac Mizrahi for Target at \$30.00.

Get in the mood for summer vacations with what www.style.com calls "travel chic." Miucca Prada modeled her spring line on the 50's tourist in Italy, with printed and tie-dyed skirts that looked like postcards, while Armani's models looked like a perfect yacht-party in nautical stripes and anchor-logo sweaters.

Even western shirts fit for cowgirls made an appearance at Marc by Marc Jacobs' show. Pay homage to Texas on your own with one of Gap's five Western shirts, available in classic white, denim, striped, solid color, or floral, all ranging in price from \$24.99 to \$29.99.

Nautical-inspired stripes can be found almost anywhere. Capture a classic Brigitte Bardot look with a striped boat neck tee, white

Spring Trends



capris, and espadrilles. Finally, kitschy travel shirts are easy to find at American Eagle, Abercrombie and Fitch, thrift stores and probably your own closet.

As far as colors go, the brighter the better. After the minimalist 90's, nudes are suffering a backlash.

Now designers, department stores and suburban chains are embracing colors not seen since the 80s. Blame VH1's nostalgic special "I Love the 80's" for the neon yellows, greens, and pinks that will be found in every store from Target to Ralph Lauren.

Green, by far, is THE color of spring and summer. Do not expect last year's army greens, however. Think Irish grass-green, mint julep green, jade green and olive branch green.

Second only to green is yellow, which is infinitely

trickier to wear. Still, if you can pull it off, now is the time, with Banana Republic offering pale yellow tweed coats and American Eagle selling sunshine-yellow polos.

Finally, celebrate spring with fun accessories. The kitten-heel flip-flop will, quite possibly, become the ideal college student shoe because it is cheap, available everywhere you look, and can easily dress up an outfit without ruining good heels. The shoe can be found at Gap, Old Navy, American Eagle and department stores. As for jewelry, grab the longest strand of pearls you can find to celebrate the current 1920's retro look.

This spring offers all the solutions to the winter blahs with bright colors and classic throwbacks. Have fun with layering colors and playing with trends, all while enjoying the much-anticipated sunshine!

Carytown is VA's little piece of SoHo

By Amber Lester
Staff Writer

Virginia can boast quite a few tourist attractions. The state is home to such historical landmarks as Colonial Williamsburg and the Appomattox Courthouse and the amazing natural beauty of the Blue Ridge.

It even boasts an irresistibly catchy slogan, luring the lonely hearted to the state of "lovers." But let's face it: Virginia is not nearly as hip, interesting or exciting as New York.

Just an hour away from campus, however, is a little piece of SoHo.

On West Cary Street in Richmond, from Thompson Street to North Boulevard, is an area called Carytown that features numerous boutiques, restaurants, vintage shops and much more.

The Galaxy Diner, a retro 50's-style diner, is

complete with Jetsons-style décor. The affordable menu is classic American, with "Galaxy burgers," hot dogs and sandwiches.

Each sandwich comes with a fried pickle and a choice of two sides.

To get the full diner experience, order a delicious Sunkist float, which tastes like a creamsicle.

F.A.O. Schwartz is arguably one of the cooler toy stores in the world, but nothing compares to House of Mirth.

The kitschy-cool toy store is a toy store for hipster adults, with Jesus and Buddha bobbleheads, Andy Warhol wrapping paper and much more.

They even sell hipster-cool buttons at the register with sayings like "Everything I needed to learn in life I learned from banned books."

Shop for vintage clothes at Bygones, where clothing

is organized by decade. The store not only sells clothing, but also fun accessories. Behind the glass counter is costume jewelry galore from every decade, while atop the counter sits a display of flasks, cigarette holders and powder-puff blush.

Bygones is one of the few stores to have an extensive collection of vintage menswear, with a backroom full of suit jackets, tuxedos and fedoras.

They even have a rack of vintage wedding gowns and veils.

A couple doors down from Bygones sits the historic Byrd Theater. The Byrd Theater was built in 1928 and made a historical landmark in 1979.

The fully functioning art deco movie house still shows movies at low prices, with matinees costing 99 cents and nighttime movies at \$1.99. They show cult

favorites at midnight, such as "The Princess Bride" and "Office Space."

No trip to Carytown is complete without a stop at Plan 9, the perfect record store for obscure CDs.

Plan 9 features CDs upstairs and vinyl records and vintage tapes downstairs. They even have a stack of vintage Rolling Stones and Spins to sift through.

Remember the cast of "High Fidelity?" Their Richmond counterparts are the kids that work the counter at this record store.

The store also sells posters, buttons and other music memorabilia. Next time you and your friends are sitting around, talking about how there is nothing to do and nowhere affordable to go, fill up the tank and head down to Carytown for a day.

The shopping is fun and the food and movies are incredibly affordable.

RESTAURANT, from page 7

strawberries, pineapples, bananas, marshmallows and more.

To compliment your courses, there is an extensive selection of wines (about nine page's worth).

Throughout your meal, service is impeccable.

Polite waiters walk you through the fondue process, giving instructions and cautions for each course. They also arrive with the next course just as you are finish-

ing the last.

As far as cost, The Melting Pot is certainly only for special occasions.

Prices range from \$30 to a \$100 a plate, not including the wine menu.

Add in a tip, and you won't be going to the movies much after dining there.

The atmosphere is cozy and refined.

Perfect for not only couples, but also groups, the Melting Pot allows any party to feel secluded, yet well-

taken care of.

If your taste buds are looking for something different, and you happen to have an extra hundred dollars lying around, pay a visit to The Melting Pot.

They are located at 1564 Laskin Road, Suite 182, Virginia Beach, 23451. Call for reservations at 757-425-3463.

On the finger-lickin' good scale, The Melting Pot receives five out of five fingers.

Comics and Crosswords

Mystic Stars

Weekly Horoscope
For March 29-April 4

By Lasha Seniuk
Knight Rider/Tribune News Service

Aries (March 21-April 20). Facts, figures and past documents create workplace controversy over the next few days. Early Tuesday, expect key officials to review progress and ask for faster results. Team leadership or vague instructions may be strong concerns. Avoid group discussion, if possible, and wait for added help. Social relations are also bothersome. After Friday, watch for new friendships to be mildly strained. Competing family values are highlighted; remain diplomatic.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). Over the next few days, watch for unique social proposals or unusual declarations of love. Friends and lovers may reveal their private ideas, feelings or needs. If so, expect the next nine days to bring detailed romantic discussions, fast social changes and complex home decisions. Rekindled love or new promises are needed; remain attentive. After Saturday, home finances may require revised legal agreements or detailed property negotiations. Be consistent.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Use your own talents to further the knowledge or vision of a fellow worker this week. At present, positive contacts and worthwhile ideas will arise from business cooperation. Watch the medical fields, community services or public relations industries for fast advancement. Wednesday through Saturday, close family members may ask for greater freedom. Restlessness and social boredom are key influences in home relationships. Take time to finalize new group plans.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Outdated friendships or business partnerships may reappear over the next few days. Although new proposals are promising, clearly state your present-day plans, accomplishments and aspirations. Before next week, firm boundaries will be needed in social and workplace relationships. After Saturday, some Cancerians, especially those born in July, will experience a surprising romantic invitation. Go slow. Unexpected social or family information may soon arrive.

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22). Before Wednesday, loved ones may reveal unexpected opinions, ideas or expectations. Areas strongly affected are relations with older relatives, siblings or long-term family friends. Encourage an atmosphere of positive discussion. Progress and shared understanding are difficult, but available. Thursday through Saturday, financial restrictions will steadily fade. Almost five weeks of limited resources or strained work relations are due to end; plan wisely.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Social politics or minor differences between friends may be draining over the next few days. Before Thursday, expect friends or loved ones to appear emotionally distant. Allow others their needed private time. Deep thoughts and new revelations will soon lead to sustained growth. Wednesday through Saturday also accent rare business discussions. Authority figures or older relatives may demand serious revision of long-term plans. Remain patient; passions will be high.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Business and social contacts may lead to surprising opportunities. Remain open to all invitations, comments or proposals. Group activities will soon provide a new level of career growth. Expect friends and co-workers to provide valuable advice. Later this week, romantic or social plans may be quickly canceled. Unusual family demands and forgotten obligations are prime concerns. After Friday, watch for rare emotional triangles to become temporarily annoying.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22). Colleagues and older officials may request special advice or assistance. Joint ventures and delicate projects will bring a steady stream of compliments or opportunities. Early Wednesday, discuss new business or job plans with loved ones. Shared ideas will be helpful. Thursday through Sunday, a close friend may announce a group event or planned celebration. Marital status and family decisions are highlighted. Expect sudden announcements.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21). Early this week, ask friends or close relatives for detailed explanations of past events, family gatherings or emotional decisions. Important insight is available. After midweek, watch for key relationships to experience peaceful discussions or renewed intimacy. In the coming weeks, many Sagittarians will rekindle affections with loved ones or resolve past family disagreements. Late Saturday, your ideas, needs and expectations will be taken seriously; don't hold back.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Romantic attraction and flirtation are strong influences. After Tuesday, watch for new friends or co-workers to offer rare invitations or sultry comments. Use your best judgment. Over the next six days, emotional proposals may be purposely vague or easily misinterpreted. Remain patient, however, and expect clarity by early next week. Wednesday through Saturday, business and financial resources expand. Carefully study new legal documents. Job proposals are genuine.

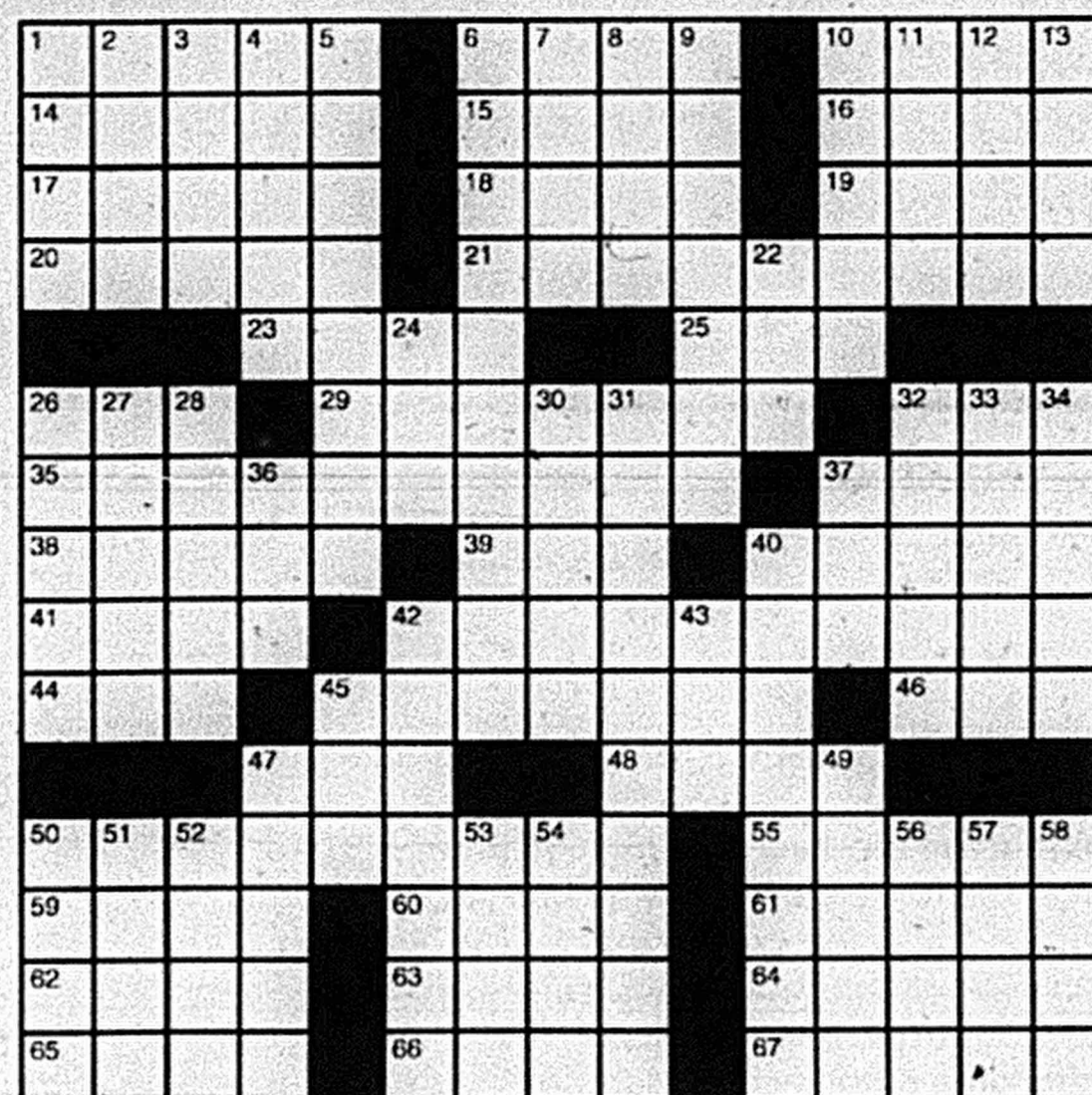
Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). New projects or a secondary application for recent research, paperwork or policies changes may inspire lengthy discussions. Share all suggestions and ideas. Over the next three days, older colleagues will expect active participation. Career options may expand in the coming weeks. Remain attentive to minor legal details. After Thursday, a friend or lover may reveal private social fears. Public embarrassment or family isolation may be key issues; offer heartfelt support.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). Loved ones may request special advice concerning family relations, financial diplomacy or changing roles in the workplace. Don't avoid difficult subjects. Others may need to rely on your awareness of group politics or emotional guidance. After midweek, delightful flirtations and rare social overtures arrive without warning. Someone close may soon offer controversial romantic options. Remain open to sudden love affairs and renewed sensuality.

If your birthday is this week ... Political complications in the workplace will not be easily resolved before the end of April. Several months of disjointed business progress and social distrust are fading. Over the next five weeks, watch for long-term friends and close colleagues to admit their past mistakes. Avoid criticism. The group will follow your emotional generosity. After June 9, social and romantic decisions are needed. Passionate relationships will prove reliable by late September. Use this time to finalize shared goals and prepare family members for lasting change. Much of 2004 will bring fast emotional improvements to strained or poorly defined relationships. Stay open to creative suggestions.

Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Standee's handgrip
6 Elliot's Bede
10 Rolled sandwich
14 Some Semites
15 Dealer's model
16 King of the road
17 Linda (Nixon Library site)
18 Colorado resort
19 Mid-month
20 Harden
21 On and on forever
23 The clink
25 Pen fill
26 Long, fluffy scarf
29 Main courses
32 Bigwig in D.C.
35 Things set in between
37 Cinders of comics
38 "Misery" Oscar winner
39 Took a chair
40 Falling ice
41 Legal claim
42 Ill will
44 Make a mistake
45 European nation
46 Remunerate
47 Capp and Capone
48 Hair line
50 Basker
55 Spring bloomer
59 "A Death in the Family" writer
60 Jeans man Strauss
61 Mature insect
62 Payphone aperture
63 Important times
64 you mind
65 Immoral deeds
66 Wrapped up
67 Test result
- DOWN
1 Utters
2 Fox chaser?
3 Infrequent
4 French clerics
5 Church books
6 Calls attention to
7 School official
8 In the center of
9 Aquarium fish
10 Kitchen whip
11 Reels' partners
12 First victim
13 Nosegay
22 Tennis doubles?
24 \$ from a bank
26 Sacred book
27 Where lovers walk?
28 Fall bloomer
30 Facetious tribute
31 Venture
32 Hypnotist's command
33 Actress Verdugo
34 Dapper
36 Post-dusk
37 Blighted tree
40 Myna's relative
42 Stole livestock
43 Long or Peeples



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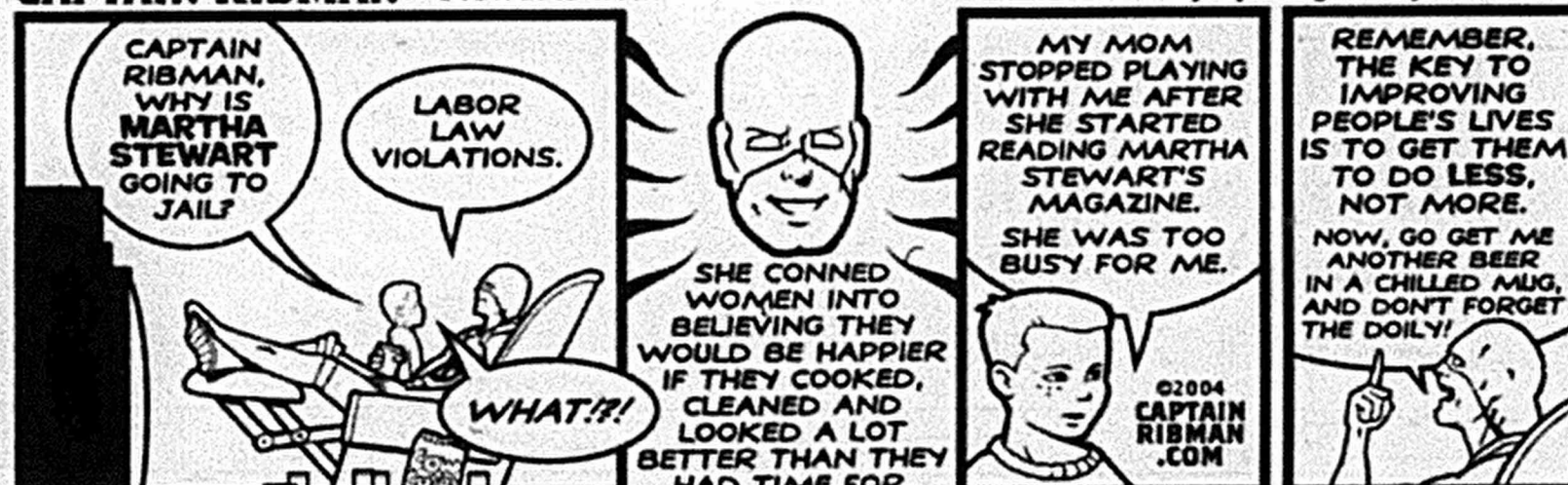
Solutions



- 45 Chicken-king connector
47 Encourages in wrongdoing
49 Track official
50 Back talk
51 Citrus hybrid
52 Dodge model
53 Deli sub
54 Hunter or Connell
56 Volcanic flow
57 Ripened
58 Pith

CAPTAIN RIBMAN in SteWarts & All

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

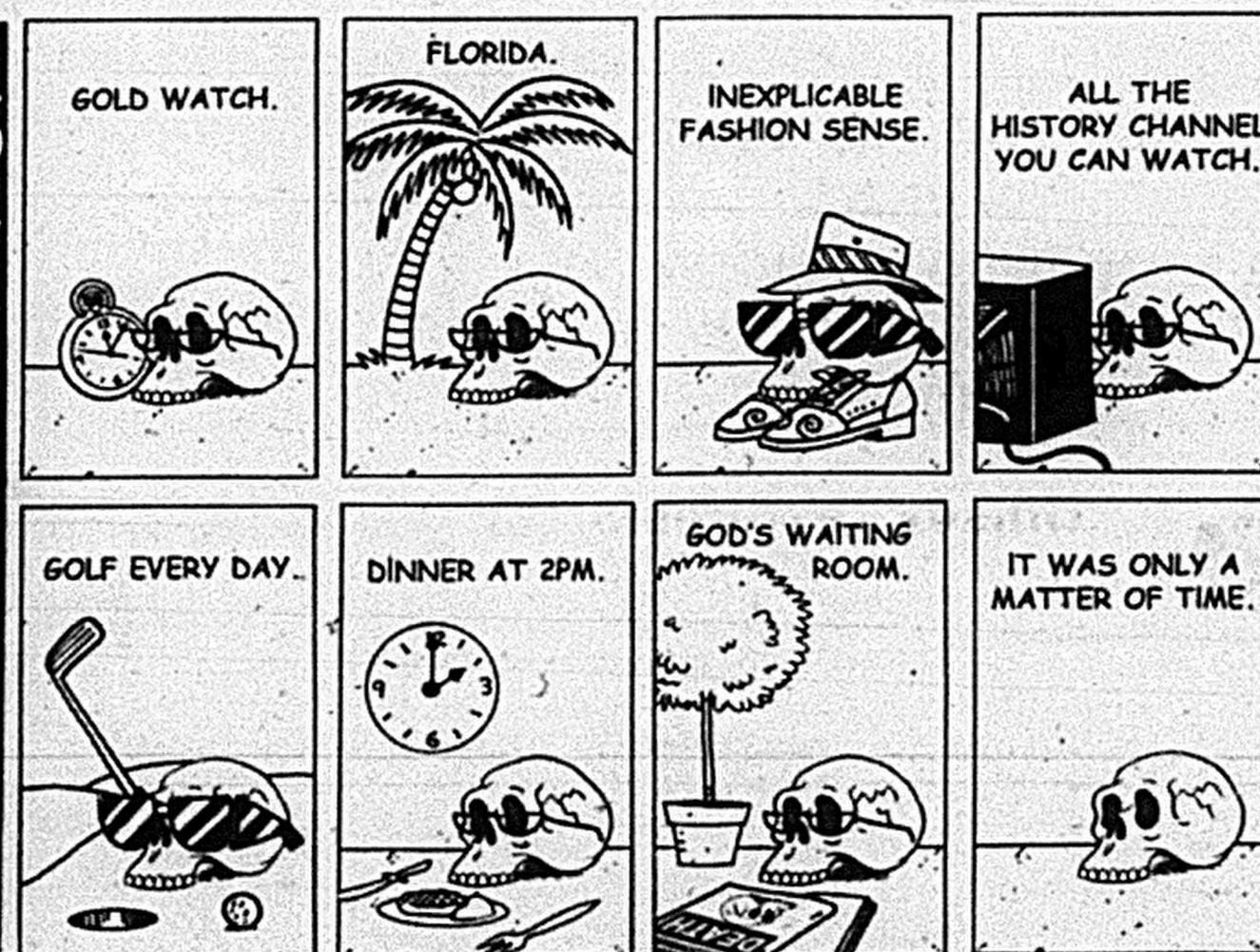


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#186

Sports

Lacrosse team drops to Methodist 11-10

By Meredith Schmit
Contributing Writer

CNU Lacrosse fell to Methodist 11-10 in a hard-fought match that was close down to the buzzer. Methodist went ahead with 2:27 left in the game and CNU was unable to answer.

CNU ladies drew first blood with 24:42 left in the first half on Kristen Conques' shot in the net. Methodist quickly answered with 23:19 remaining when Lauren McGonagle went around the back of the net and put it in for the score.

Shortly after the score, the game's intensity picked up a notch when Carlina Figueroa was carded for allegedly hitting a Methodist player in the head. In a game filled with contact and intensity on both parts of the field; the referee finally intervened. So much so that the official issued an entire field warning with instructions to, "Settle it! Now!"

Methodist established a 7-3 lead with 2:20 left in the first half on a shot made by Lindsey West. With seconds left in the first half, CNU got the momentum back with a penalty shot by Celia Malory.



April Fecura/The Captain's Log

Amy Zucharo carries the ball down the field on attack. She is quickly pursued by Methodist players. The Lady Captains lost a tough game this weekend to Methodist falling 11-10.

See LACROSSE, page 11

Baseball team takes a win in weekend's double-header

Brower still struggles for consistency as Captains look to the mound for leadership

By Rob Silabee
Assistant Sports Editor

The Captains are beginning to be tested. After losing four games in the USA South already this year, CNU was set to play a series with the Shenandoah Hornets last weekend. The Hornets were 3-9 in the conference coming in and facing off against both of the Captains' aces, Eben Brower and Mike Cosby.

In the first game, Brower was on point for most of the game.

Brower struck out three and only allowed one run in his first five innings. The Captains earned him a 4-1 lead behind Jason Moody and John Corbin. Both had RBI's in 3 at-bats.

However, Brower couldn't keep his intensity in the sixth, as he struggled to find the strike zone. Brower loaded the bases and gave up three before handing the ball over to Matt Tignor.

Tignor barely had a chance to settle in before Josh Bosley blasted a ball over the fence for a grand slam.

See MEN'S BASEBALL, page 11

Women's tennis team undefeated in USA South

Lady Captains improve to 8-1 overall and 3-0 in the USA South

By Sean Kennedy
Contributing Writer

No one can argue with the CNU women's tennis team's record and performance.

Over the weekend, the Lady Captains improved their record to 8-1 and 3-0 within the USA South by defeating two other USA South conference opponents, Shenandoah on Saturday, and Greensboro on Sunday.

On a warm Saturday, CNU enjoyed only its second home game of the season and defeated Shenandoah 7-2.

In doubles action, Anne Stephenson and Tammy Bullock defeated Joanna

McCandlish and Katrina Murphy (CNU) 8-5; Melissa King and Natalie Pitts (CNU) defeated Courtne Rutherford and Lyddall Bugg 8-0 at number two and Caroline Hallum and Joy Brantley (CNU) won at number three by forfeit, because Shenandoah did not have enough players to play the third set.

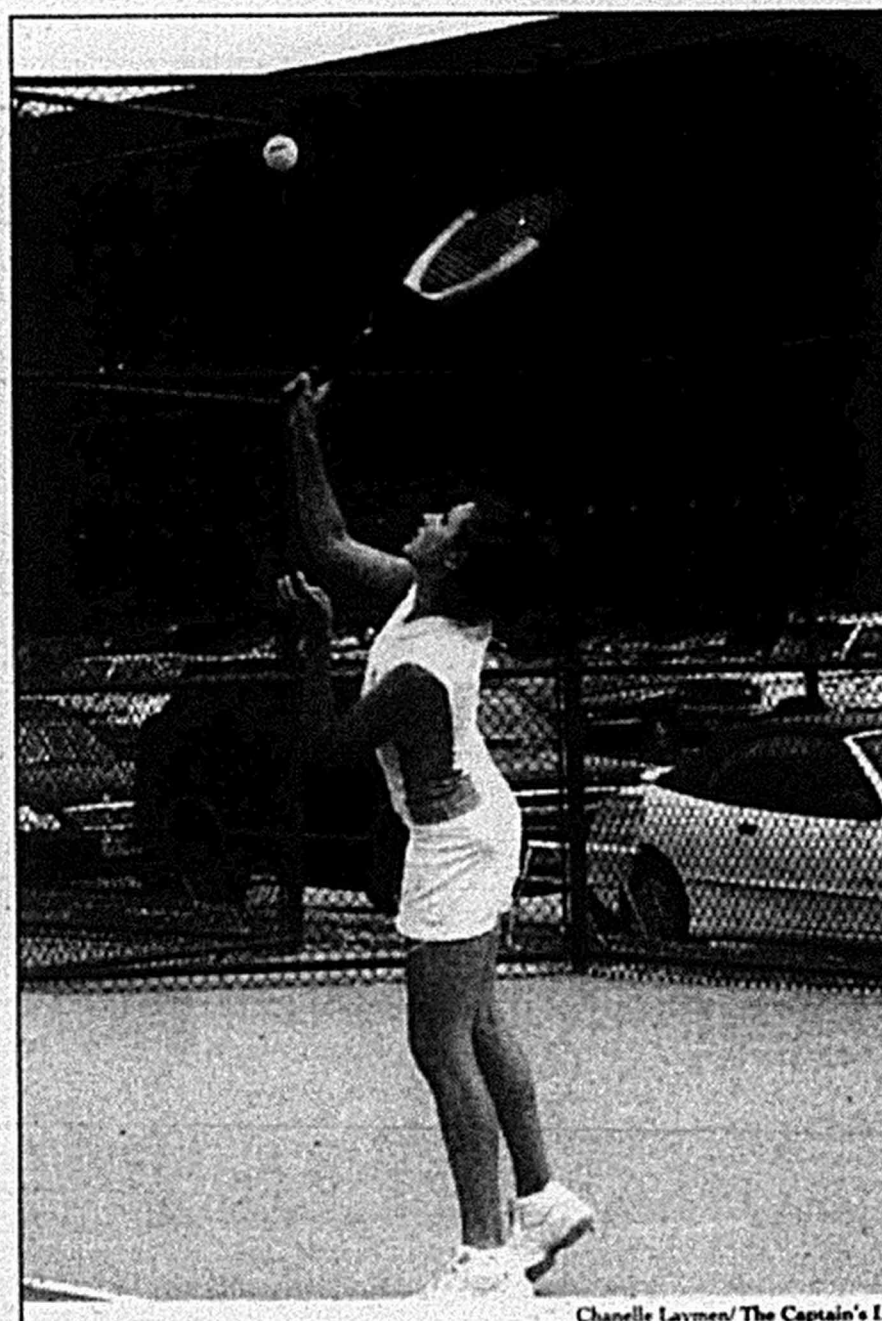
In singles action, Stephenson defeated McCandlish (CNU) 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (8-6) at number one; Hallum (CNU) defeated Bullock 6-2 at number two, 6-4.

King (CNU) defeated Rutherford 6-0, 6-0 at number three; Jenette Auchter (CNU) defeated Bugg 6-1, 6-0; and Murphy (CNU) at number five and Pitts (CNU) at number six each won by forfeit.

On a surprisingly cold, windy Sunday, the Lady Captains defeated the Pride of Greensboro 7-2 at home on the CNU Courts.

In doubles action, Greensboro's Kate Creasy and Elise Broverman defeated CNU's McCandlish and Murphy 8-5 at number

See WOMEN'S TENNIS, page 11



Chanelle Laymen/The Captain's Log

Sophomore Melissa King serves the ball during the Lady Captains' match this weekend. The Lady Captains defeated both Shenandoah and Greensboro.

Ladies track team grabs nine first place finishes

Battleground relays results in eleven total wins for CNU

By Meredith Schmit
Contributing Writer

CNU's track team had an impressive showing this past weekend, including 11 first place finishes. The team traveled to Fredericksburg to participate in Mary Washington College's Battleground Relays.

CNU was one of 19 teams to compete in the annual meet. On Friday, the team's top finish was

in second, when Rob Rodriguez recorded 44ft 10 in. in the triple jump. The reason for the generally lower finishes on Friday was not due to lack of performance, but rather lack of events.

"Day one had limited events. The bulk of the meet was on Saturday," said Coach Keith Maurer.

Day two showed much improvement, when CNU sent eleven members to the top spot in their respective events. Among the winners was Ben Smith in the 400-hurdles (56.60) and the men's A team in the 4X400 (3:24.25).

The women racked up a total of nine first place finishes. Marquita Mines finished first in the 100-meters with a time of 12.83. She was followed by Karen Simon, who placed first in the 110-hurdles

in 15.49. In the 400-hurdles, Vanessa Tabor excelled with a time of 1:07.65.

Sophomore Emily Low added another first place finish for the Captains by finishing the 3000 steeplechase in 11:45.43. Brandy Kind was the last of the women to record a first place victory in a solo performance. She placed first with a vault of 11ft 9 in.

The women's relay teams recorded victories in the 4X100, 4X200, and the 4X400, with times of 49.22, 1:45.21, and 4:03.43 respectively.

The women track members topped off their strong showing with a first place finish in the Sprint Medley Relay with a time of 1:48.90.

Besides the various first place finishes, CNU track members posted excellent numbers in many other

events. The CNU A men's team finished third in the 4X800 relay on Friday and the A team finished second in the 4X200 on Saturday.

The men also had a good showing in the 100-meters with fourth, fifth, seventh, 12, and 13 place finishes. A complete list of results can be found at CNU's Web site under athletics.

The Captains continue to make a name for themselves as a dominant force in track.

"Both teams are very strong. It has a lot to do with the nature if the competition they are up against," said Coach Maurer. They will continue competition on April 2 at the Colonial Relays.

How young is too young?

Professional sports continue to lower the age of players

By Tom Geary
Staff Columnist

This past weekend, Grace Park birdied a six-footer on the final hole to edge Aree Song and Michelle Wie for the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship.

Song and Wie shot well all weekend and threatened to capture their first major championships.

But Song and Wie, an amateur, are not your average golfers - neither is old enough to vote yet.

At 17, Song is already showing signs of an experienced golfer in her game and composure. At 14, Wie is being heralded as the future of women's golf.

What's wrong with this picture?

Sure, Wie is a prodigy on the greens, but let's not get ahead of ourselves - she's 14.

Fourteen. Is she old enough to drive a golf cart?

Don't get me wrong. I'm all for the youth movement. It was amazing to see a major league baseball player my age (Josh Beckett) named MVP of the World Series after a shutout of the New York Yankees.

But there has to be a limit on what age athletes can start playing professionally.

The barriers are breaking every year with more and more teenagers finding a way into the pros.

NBA phenom LeBron James wasn't the first, but he went straight to the NBA from high school. At 18, he was already worth over \$100 million.

Athletes aren't eligible to play in the NFL at 18 years old.

Former Ohio State standout Maurice Clarett pushed the limits this off-season by becoming eligible for the draft after only one college season, but the rules remain intact for now.

Allowing these rules to be broken is not a good way to set the standard.

Ten years from now, we might see athletes skipping high school to go to the NBA.

There are plenty of arguments that support having teenagers in professional sports:

■ You can get a higher education later in your life.

■ It's better to get the guaranteed money now instead of risking a career-ending injury or a poor college season that might affect your draft status.

■ The only way to get better is to play competition at a higher level. Carmelo Anthony, for example, already reached the highest level in college basketball by winning the NCAA championship.

But these arguments don't account for athletes like soccer star Freddy Adu. At 14 years old, Adu is already being called the next Pele.

Just think of the pressure being put on the kid. The next Pele? That's as ludicrous as LeBron being called

See GEARY, page 11

WOMEN'S TENNIS, from pg 10

one; King and Pitts (CNU) defeated Sara McGlynn and Alli Meek 8-2 while Hallum and Brantley (CNU) defeated Caroline Rose and Bonnie Watson 8-4 at number three.

In singles play, McCandlish (CNU) defeated Broverman 6-1, 6-1; King (CNU) defeated McGlynn 6-2, 7-5 at number two; Creasy defeated Hallum (CNU) 3-6, 6-1, 6-4; Murphy (CNU) defeated Wilson 6-2, 6-1 at number four; Pitts (CNU) defeated Meek 6-1, 6-0; and Jenette Auchter defeated Rose 6-0, 6-3 at number six.

Amid all of the success the team has had, one of the most important things to remember is that the team

“We hope to keep working and each match makes us better and better and better.”

Jenny Nuttycombe
Head Coach

does not have any seniors currently on the squad.

Normally when a team does not have any seniors on the team to provide some veteran leadership, the team would falter.

However, as their record indicates, this women's tennis team seems to thrive because they are able to come together as a team while at the same time learning to work together.

“It helps us because we can build off of that,” said Coach Jenny Nuttycombe.

Although the team has generally been successful against USA South opponents, Methodist is an exception.

Last season the Lady Captains came in second in the USA South Tournament, Methodist came in first. CNU also lost to Methodist in the regular season.

Coach Nuttycombe wants that trend to end this season, and with Methodist losing some of their top players, she believes they have a real shot to claim the conference championship.

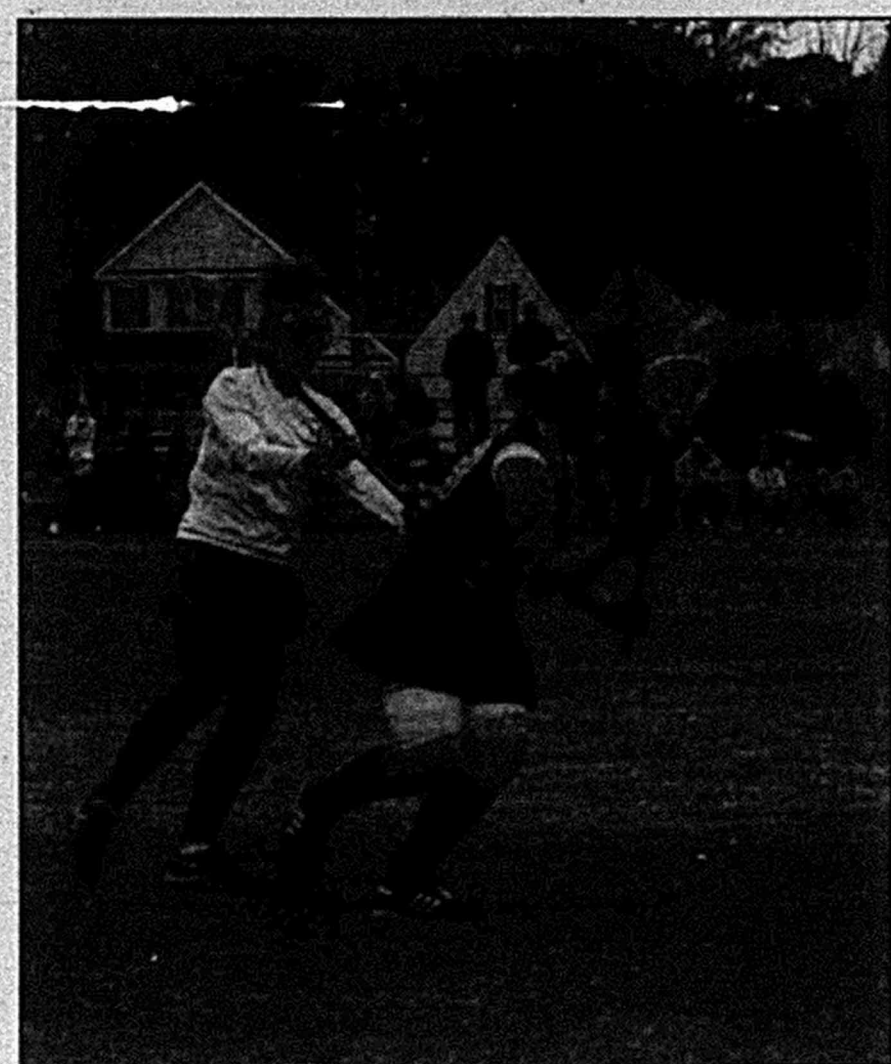
“We hope to keep working and each match makes us better and better and better,” she said.

Coming up: The team travels to Emory & Henry on Friday, April 2nd, with match time set for 3 pm.



Chanelle Laymen/The Captain's Log

During the CNU tennis match this weekend, Jen Auchter swings, striking the ball back at the opposing team. The women's CNU tennis team faced a double header against Shenandoah and Methodist.



April Fecura/The Captain's Log

Amy Zucharo defends after losing the ball to the Methodist defender. CNU fell to 3-7 on the season dropping to Methodist.

LACROSSE, from pg 10

Returning from half-time, it was evident CNU had new life. “Everyone was just ready to come back,” said Mallory. They scored three times within four minutes to tie the game. Elaine Kirby hit a shot at the 27:15 mark. At 24:05, she scored again. Ten seconds later Sally Alstadt went the distance to tie the game at seven.

Methodist answered shortly after with scores by McGonagle and Emily Neilsen. After numerous blocked shots on both ends, the Captains finally got two in to tie the game a second time with goals by Mallory and Kristyn Hankins.

CNU then went ahead with a little over five minutes left when Amy Zucharo crossed behind the goal, and put the shot in the net.

It didn't take too long for Monarch player, Lindsey West to respond. She was followed by McGonagle, who scored, what came to be, the winning shot with 2:27 remaining. The Captains tried to fight back, but Methodist defense held tough.

The Monarch defense, led by goalie,

Sarah McLamb was the difference the entire game.

The Captain's offense played tough, taking 39 shots compared to the 20 shots made by Methodist offense. “We came off a strong showing yesterday. We had connections we had been waiting for all season,” said freshman, Kristyn Hankins. “We just had to execute them.” McLamb however, made eighteen saves, as her team stopped the Captains. “They were very aggressive. It's hard to get your mindset back into the game after they knock you down,” recalled Hankins.

Nielsen led Methodist with five goals; followed by McGonagle with four and Lindsey West finished up with two goals.

Leading the Captains with two goals each, Elaine Kirby, Celia Mallory, Kristen Conques, and Kristyn Hankins. Sally Alstadt and Amy Zucharo finished up with one a piece.

Goalie Elizabeth Werbiskis had five saves in the net; Methodist goalie Sarah McLamb finished up with 18 saves. CNU outshot Methodist 39-20.

The Captains fell to 3-7 overall and 2-1 in conference play, as Methodist improved to 5-4 and 2-1 in USA South. CNU returns to action on Tuesday when they travel to Virginia Wesleyan.

MEN'S BASEBALL, from pg 10

The Captains couldn't recover offensively and lost to the Hornets 8-4.

Brower took the loss and fell to 4-3. Mike Cosby, the other ace of the staff, was on the hill for the second game.

The offense of the Hornets did not disappear for the second game.

Cosby, like Tignor, found it difficult to settle in against the bats of the Hornets.

Shenandoah scored once in the first and added six on Cosby in the second.

Cosby gave up five hits and seven earned runs in just the two innings pitched before handing the ball to freshman Ricky Allred.

The Captains responded in the third, cutting the lead to two, with five runs of their own in the bottom of the third.

However, Allred gave up four runs in the next two innings to put the score at 11-5.

Again, the Captains would not just go away, and closed the gap to two at 11-9.

The offense was provided by Matt Lewellen who went 2-for-5 with two RBI's and two runs scored.

Corbin also finished out a good day at the plate with another RBI.

Freshmen Alan Compton and Leon Schabaker came on in relief after Allred.

Compton pitched a per-

fect inning, 1-2-3, before Schabaker came on.

The Captains would inch no closer than 11-9 as they were on their way to a 14-9 loss.

Before the final game of the series on Sunday, the Captains dropped to 8-6 in the USA South.

On Sunday, the Captains avoided the sweep in a 10-inning nail biter.

The Captains' Steven Mingee allowed four runs in the first three and pitched shut out ball the rest of the way.

From the fourth to the ninth inning, Mingee only gave up three hits giving his team a shot at the win.

Corbin, Dave Diebler, and Collier were the stars at the plate all game.

Corbin finished 3-for-5 with three runs scored and Collier grabbed two RBI's on a 4-for-5 night.

Diebler sacrificed Corbin to third twice setting up the tying and game-winning RBI's from Collier. The ten inning game kept CNU from a three-game sweep over the weekend. Tignor pitched a scoreless tenth inning in his second win of the year.

The Captains squeaked through the win to put their overall record at 14-9 and the USA South record at 9-6.

CNU returns to action this Tuesday hosting Virginia Wesleyan. The game is set for 3 p.m.

GEARY, from pg 10

the next Michael Jordan.

Sure, both of these athletes are well ahead of their time, but you can't predict a career.

The NBA's Tyson Chandler was supposed to be the next big thing.

And now he's getting minutes off the bench for one of the worst teams in the league, the Chicago Bulls.

Flashes of brilliance early in one's career do not guarantee longevity or overwhelming success.

Sometimes it's better for the athlete to just stay in school and refine his or her skills. It worked for Carson Palmer, the NFL's No. 1 draft pick last season.

His stock increased with every year that he stayed at USC and eventually he won the Heisman Trophy.

Staying in school also gives these athletes a chance to live their life a little before they jump into the spotlight. Adu and Wie will be under the sports media's radar for the rest of their lives. They're celebrities now.

Adu surely appreciates the \$500,000 he's earning to play for D.C. United, but does he even know what to do with it at his age?

Should he spend it on G.I. Joe's or a Corvette he won't be able to drive for another two years?

Teenage prodigies like Wie and Adu can't be held back from showcasing their extraordinary talents, but we

can't let this evolve into a generation of sports enthusiasts out recruiting kids with acne problems to play for their professional teams.

England's Manchester United soccer club has been doing this for years.

It's almost like they breed soccer players over there.

In order to avoid this happening in the U.S., we have to stop it before it gets worse.

Golf fans have never seen someone play like Wie at her age, and they never should have.

Give her a few more years to refine not only her golf skills but also herself and then she'll be ready to take the world by storm.

For now, let her live a little.

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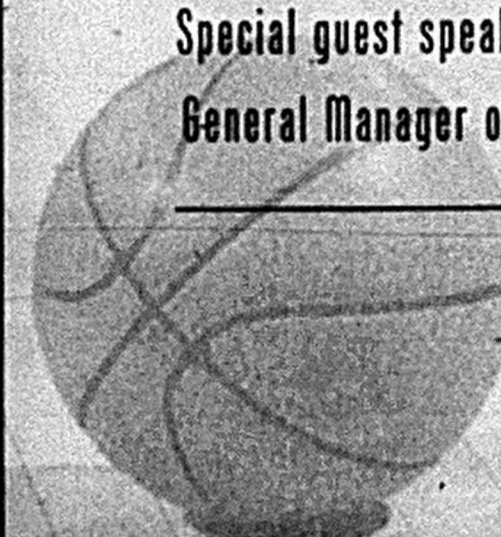
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