**Fall graduation date changed**

Undergraduate fall commencement will be Friday, Dec. 19, instead of the following day, partly because of budget restraints by Erin Zlomek

Virginia Tech will hold both undergraduate and graduate fall commencements Friday, Dec. 19, repeating the same-day commencement practice first used last spring. The undergraduate ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. and will be followed by the graduate ceremony at 3 p.m. Both will be held in Cassell Coliseum.

Previously, the graduate ceremony had been held Friday evening and the undergraduate ceremony Saturday morning.

Many factors led to the change in scheduling, said Ed Henneke, chair of the university commencement committee.

“Our discussions came to a head last fall,” he said. “Because of the budget cuts, we almost ended up canceling fall commencement.”

The university had been flirting with the idea of a one-day commencement for a while before first trying it out last spring, he said.

“We felt a need to do it for spring, because we just didn’t have enough space to house modern.”

Henneke said. Things went smoothly for the spring commencement, so it will become a fixed practice for spring.

**RAFT center joins national hotline**

by Erin Zlomek

The RAFT Crisis Center — a program of New River Valley Community Services — officially became part of the National Hopeline Network on April 5, opening thoughts of suicide.

Residents of Southwest Virginia to receive ACCESS.

The call is linked to RAFT’s Emergency Hotline and the intermediary in Virginia utilizing Access.

Previously, local residents dialing 961-8400 and calling 911 had to contact RAFT, where immediate help could be provided.

With the old way, a real emergency took about 15 to 20 minutes to get the right kind of help,” said Nathan Reed. RAFT crisis hotline manager. “Now it will only take about 10 minutes.”

**RAFT**

The RAFT, Crisis Hotline system was not as popular, since contacts by dialing 961-8400. This procedure was not as popular, since

The existing Virginia extension network uses a 56K modem, which is too slow when time is a factor in notifying citizens of emergency situations, said Timothy Mack, assistant dean for information technology.

A verbal proposal to state legislators from a partnership including by Bryan Niefer

Television station, a social worker and psychologist who works with the public assistance program, said.

The procedure was not as popular, since the number was not easily recognizable.

Thebill that Congress sent to Bush was the $30 billion spending bill he signed on Thursday — the first ever for the new president.

**McDaniel recalls tragic night, fall**

Daryl McDaniel, who was injured in a fall at the Solar Haus on Sunday night, said if the Solar Haus continues to have performances, he will not attend.

Some of my favorite bands had played there and I think it’s a lot,” said McDaniel, a freshman at Radford. “You can’t blame anybody (for Sunday’s inci- dent).”

Jason Oliphant, a senior animal sci- ence major at Tech, who has lived at the Solar Haus for two years, said the incident is uncer- tain about having any future shows.

I would like to think this isn’t the end to Solar Haus shows — it’s important to us,” she said. “But we haven’t really discussed it too much.”

McDaniel said he remembers almost everything that happened during the show Saturday night and said he was one of the last of seven college-mates to fall from the third-story window.

“It was the kind of thing you see on a movie,” he said. “You see people fall before you and think ‘Hey, I’m going to die.’”

McDaniel said several of the men fell on the safety netting placed in front of the window, but he fell on the concrete steps just below James Martin, a Virginia Tech sophomore economics major who died as a result of the accident. McDaniel said he was shocked, but noticed James right arm and shoulder and extensive bruising all over his body from the fall.

**President approves $30 billion terror bill**

by Deb Rischmann

WASHINGTON — President Bush said the $30 billion spending bill he signed Wednesday — the first ever for the new Homeland Security Department — will help America protect its soil from terrorist threats.

On Sept. 11, 2001, enemies of freedom made our country a battleground,” he said. “Their method is the mass murder of the innocent and their goal is to make all Americans live in fear and to frustrate the plans of our ene-

“In the past, RAFT could be directly contacted by dialing 961-8400. This procedure was not as popular, since

**RAFT**

The Tele-Works office, located next to Gumby’s Pizza, tests computers and servers before they are shipped to customers across the country.
continued from page 1

The same site is expected to occur at AmuseBoite, General Manager Jeremy Allen said.

RACF can still be reached at its previous number, but Reed said he hopes the familiarity of the 1-800 number will help those who are calling.

RACF is the fourth center in Virginia to become part of the National Hopeline Network (branches in Arlington, Virginia Beach and Lynchburg are already members), and it is the 146th center in North America to change their place for the ceremony.

"Having the commencement ceremony Friday ... is a big inconvenience. Now my family has to take off time from work in order to make it to the ceremony," she said.

Peggy Sneowane

Continued from page 1

″Normally, we are sold out by Friday," she said.

"My sister would also like to be here to support me but she is not going to make it on Friday," Sneowane said.

"She doesn't have extra days of leave to take off time from work in order to make it to the ceremony," she said.

"I just think that RACF offers a great service," Sions said. "(Volunteering at the center) has been a very valuable use of my time for the past year."

It was reported in Wednesday's Collegiate Times that four nukers were taken and three recovered. After checking police records again, Curtis Cook, an investigator with the Jackson police, said four nukers were taken and four recovered. The four recovered belonged to the Sigma Nu, Phi Gamma Delta, Pi, Lambda Phi and Lambda Chi fraternities.

Alpha Kappa Psi, a business fraternity, had a banner stolen on the night of the RAFT's annual checkup. A representative of marketing, Cook said this incident is unrelated to the four nukers taken.

The Collegiate Times regrets this error.

The phone will ring in our Blacksburg health center.
**Fall: 5 students released from hospital**

“The last thing I thought of that night was ‘Oh, there’s a woman and a child I wanted to get away from.’” McDaniel said. “As soon as that happened, I helped me up, sat down and covered my head with towels. They tried to keep me calm.”

The House passed the bill to set up a $300 million Fund for the Victims of the War on Terror. Continued from page 1

**Terror: Senate passes bill 93-1**

Continued from page 1

**Alert: Company founder graduates Tech**

The founder of the company, a 34-year-old computer engineer from Virginia, was recruited Tech engineers in Vienna to his team. The company, Schellhammer Biomedical Research, was already employing 25 staff members, according to the company.

Schellhammer said he was very thankful to be working in the field of biotechnology. Continued from page 1

**Suspected spies may have hurt terror war**

If any damage done by the Guantanamo Bay workers would be minimal by late 1990s

One official said that any damage done by the Guantanamo Bay workers would be minimal by late 1990s.

by Lisa Goddard

**Tammy: Man gets 40 years in parents’ murder**

by Lisa Goddard

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**Suspected spies may have hurt terror war**

If any damage done by the Guantanamo Bay workers would be minimal by late 1990s.
True Outkast fans should be used to the often-changing sound of this Atlanta outfit, but separating the two artists seems to be a lot harder this time around. Both André 3000 and Big Boi are responsible for a shared vision, and the effect is a new direction that is both edgy and hip hop.

The lead single, "Ghettomusik," the album's first track, goes from breakdown speed to a slow,ZZ Top-style thud on a note and stresses Outkast's edgy hip hop.

The group is best known for their ever-changing sound of musical entity. The beats are obvious Andre's love for musical blend of sounds. But the beats are as much a note and stresses Outkast's edgy hip hop.

"The song "Way You Move" has a fine line between making you want to dance and then walking away with fans who count on Outkast for a few lulls and misses.

Outkast album houses some hits, misses

Features

Outkast album houses some hits, misses

Phil Comey

The fact is, Big Boi's album lacks only a few songs that remind listeners that Outkast is still not afraid to give up those verses he so eloquently split, emerge soon. But, if you choose to listen to this album, it's pretty amazing television.

One of the most successful combinations of sound and style is that of Outkast and their two children, signed up to show effects of physical poverty, unappetizing food, and deplorable civil rights, and to show what life was like for these early American communities. The Virginia exhibit began in fall 2002 and consists of 23 photographic graphs of 15 of the 235 communities that have once enjoyed economic opportunity and supports research and educational programs. The exhibition also was in College Park, Maryland, at the US Naval Academy, and this fall it will be in Des Moines, Iowa. If someone gives the tour, it may be safe as anyone else who has been to the website.

The Virginia exhibit will on display in the Rauh Family Gallery through October 17.

Now Open and Ready to Serve YOU
Number of candidates could hurt Democrats election hopes

Retired Gen. Wesley Clark, after much
hanging, has entered the presidential radar.
Now, the number of Democratic candidates has risen to 10 — that is a good sign for the
Democrats has risen to 10 — but that is a good sign for the
Democrats. The numbers include
New York Sen. Hillary Clinton, who isn’t
likely to make a decision until after the
Democratic Primaries in 2004. And a lot of
Democrats has risen to 10 — but is that a
Democrats. But by agreeing with each other,
the individual candidates will not stand out
and cannot focus what separates them
from their opponents. Senator John Kerry
and former Sen. Joe Lieberman and Al Sharpton. While
Democrats has risen to 10 — but is that a
Democrats. It will be much more appealing to
have 10 candidates simply tell the people
what they will do as President than have 10
candidates fighting over why the other
candidates are wrong. The Democrats are very
close to winning the election and a growing
number of candidates can be
diversity. The diversity of the candidates
is a large blessing and a curse. Although
large, the diversity can mean a lot of
discussion inside the party — not good
discussion or complete lack of discussion.
The diversity has the potential to
upcoming year shall be very interesting to watch as Clark and his
nine others fight to capture the White House.

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Drillfield belongs to the public

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Easlick prepares to play in hometown

**The Hokies start-**ing tonight and look to carry over their winning momentum from last weekend when they defeated the University Scarlet Knights 24-12.

The Virginia Tech football team took on the Rutgers Scarlet Knights last Thursday night and won 24-12. The Hokies started slowly but eventually took control of the game.

Rutgers had a 12-6 lead after the first quarter but the Hokies quickly took over with three touchdowns in the second quarter to lead 24-12 at halftime. The Hokies continued to dominate in the second half and the final score was 24-12.

“We were a little bit sluggish in the first quarter,” said Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer. “But we played well in the second half and put the game away.”

Easlick, who is a senior on the football team, said he was excited to play in front of his hometown fans.

“I’ve been looking forward to playing in front of the hometown crowd,” said Easlick. “It’s always great to play in front of your friends and family.”

The Hokies will travel to Connecticut next week to take on the UConn Huskies. The game will be held at Rentschler Field and is set for a 7:00 PM kickoff.


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**Petree adjusts to minor-league circuit**

**The crew chief who led Dale Earnhardt’s team to two Winston Cup championships is trying to accomplish the same feat on the ARCA circuit by Paul Newberry Associated Press**

TALLADEGA, Ala. — Andy Petree knows how things are working out for Dale Earnhardt Jr. These days, the former 40-something-year-old race car owner is trying to get things moving in his new home — the ARCA circuit.

“Things are going well,” Petree said.

Petree said he recently received a call from Talladega Superspeedway, so no one had to tell him what was going on.

“I wasn’t heavily recruited,” Petree joked.

The 23-year-old Menard has an earring in his left lobe, a soul patch under his bottom lip and a fuzzy mustache.

“If Petree gets back to the big time, he’ll be a 60-minute game if the offense wants him,” said Beamer.

However, some 20-something-year-old drivers are pondering the same thing.

“From what I’ve seen of Paul, that’s the speed,” Petree said.

“I was beat down last year, that’s for sure. I’m pretty good at reading the game and it’s been going pretty well so far,” Petree said.

“I have a decent vertical and I’m pretty good at reading the game, so I’m going to try and do slightly better. I can’t do as good as I did last year, but I’m not going to be as bad.”

Easlick came to Blacksburg from southern Virginia at the age of 21 and had just about one month left of practice, or if they want to call it the defense-off guard.

Welcome to the life and times of Virginia Tech fullback Doug Easlick, perhaps one of the most important cogs on offense who may get the least recognition.

Sure, running backs like Kevin Jones, Terry Williams and Mike Imoh get the yards, touchdowns and the recognition, but Easlick is the guy running ahead of them trying to steamroll linebackers and safeties that might be in his running back’s path.

“Andy has so much experience,” said Beamer.

Petree wasn’t celebrating a NASCAR win to hasten his new driver’s learning curve, but was getting to know the driver and to try and do the best he can.

The game sets up to win the full 500 at Talladega. Their car had to start in the back of the field, but was able to take the lead for the first time, capturing the ARCA series’ season-opening race.

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HELP WANTED

Move in time unconditional. No experience required. All tasks are available, including some that may require a six-month commitment.

Call 900-420-0100, ext. 5021

HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT/SALES CLERK

Minimum wage, 40 hours/week. Please bring your resume and call 900-420-0100, ext. 5021.

HELP WANTED

NIGHT STAFF

A part-time night staff position is available in our new store. Experience preferred. Call 900-420-0100, ext. 5021.

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This is a part-time position with flexible hours. Experience preferred. Call 900-420-0100, ext. 5021.

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Tech swim team has successful intrasquad meet

The Hokies held their annual Maroon/Orange alumni meet last Saturday and 40 former team members were in attendance.

By Chris Bayne
Staff Writer

The Virginia Tech men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams were preparing for their second annual intrasquad Maroon/Orange & Alumni Meet. The meet officially began at 8:30 a.m., but the team held a 7 a.m. practice before the competition.

The meet kicked off the team’s alumni weekend, an event featuring nearly 40 alumni in attendance.

All alumni were encouraged to compete with the teams during the meet.

Ned Skinner, who is beginning his sixth year as the Hokies’ head coach, said he was impressed with the alumni attendance, and he thinks the meet was a good way to showcase the program.

“The team’s following is getting bigger and bigger,” Skinner said.

“We have some alumni here today from decades of the 50’s and 70’s. It’s a good chance for all of us to interact, share some fun and build some camaraderie,” he said.

Saturday’s meet was important because it was the first time the teams have had the opportunity to compete, respectively.

“With the season just two weeks away, a meet like this really helps us know where we’re at right now,” Ned Skinner head coach, even & dive said.

The Hokies have a number of key returning swimmers for the 2003 season.

On the men’s team, junior Kevin Fanning made the NCAA Championships last year. Senior Christian Lindberg is world-ranked in the 50-yard freestyle and has qualified for the Olympic trials.

Returning senior Jamie Syfridin and junior Katy Peterson look strong early on and will help anchor a competitive women’s team.

“We’re really excited about where we are headed right now,” Skinner said.

Tech’s swimming and diving programs are likely to become even stronger after the Hokies join the Atlantic Coast Conference next year.

“Affiliation with the ACC has already helped us with recruiting,” Skinner said.

The Hokies will host their second intrasquad meet at 3 p.m. Oct. 10.

The first meet of the season is against the University of Louisville at 5 p.m.

Both events will be held at War Memorial Pool.