#### Contract Grading: Students Decide Marks?

By JOANN SULLIVAN

"I think it's a really fair way of grading."

"It wasn't someone up there giving a hum drum lecture every day, it was a lot more interesting.

"There's more pressure. When you contract for a B you think you've got to get a B." "It seems like they expect a whole lot more of

These were some of the opinions from students involved in a system called contract grading. In the basic contract grading form, a professor and a student decide on the amount of work necessary to earn a certain grade. In practice, the program

varies with the individual professor.

Dr. Jesse Liles, in a I II III program, allows his education students to choose their own activities for each grade. Others such as Dr. Pauline Council of the Sociology Department give their students predetermined plans. Dr. Lyn Fichter offers meteorology students a self-paced super-vised study contract called the Keller Plan. And in his teaching seminars, Dr. William Powell holds conferences with individual students to determine their contracts.

Yet all the contracts offered, from the I II III program to the Keller Plan, have one thing in common. They allow a student more freedom in deciding his own grade.

Dr. Jesse Liles, professor in the secondary Education and School Administration Department, explained the I II III contract plan used in his Philosophy of Education classes last semester.

'We agree as a class on a minimum of three activities identical to all which everyone must pass to get a C, "Dr. Liles said, "For an A or a B, I make suggestions and the class adds to them. They generally decide on conventional activities like reading books, looking at audio visual material and evaluating them, or an individual student may decide to work with a student in a

As for grade averages, Dr. Liles said that the essential feature of his program is grading on pass-fail. "The whole idea is to get rid of pressure and get people interested in things." Students are able to retake the three required quizzes until they pass, he said.

Dr. Liles' classes, as are the majority of those

offering contracts, are for upperclassmen in their major field of work. Few professors use contracts for basic level courses where students have little

knowledge of the subject matter beforehand.
One who has found it to work is Dr. Rose Mary Rummel. She uses a contract plan similar to that of Dr. Liles for her Health 200 classes. Students must earn a certain number of points for each grade which they acquire through participation in such projects as donating their eyes to Eyebank, stopping smoking for a full semester, or cleaning

Dr. Rummel bases the contract "totally on the honor system," and only those contracting for an A are required to pass an exam. Dr. Rummel, as did the majority of professors using contracts, did not feel that contracts should be used in all

classes.

"A variety is preferable. If a variety of methods is used than a person is exposed to a variety of things," she said. According to Dr. Rummel, every student should be exposed to a contract program at least once.

(Continued on Page 6)

# Bieeze

Vol. LI

Madison College, Harrisonburg, Va., Tuesday, February 11,1975

# By MIKE SMITH

#### But Can She Cook?

The first Kissing Marathon began at 10:00 last Friday night in Weaver Dorm and ended three hours later. The six contestants had a five minute rest every hour and while in action had

to-keep their lips moving. The winners , Beth Smith and Ron Kanzer took 20 dollars prize home with them. See story on Page 4.

#### **Faculty Senate Conducts Survey**

Fringe Benefits for Faculty?

Fringe:benefits for faculty members and the certification of students for graduation by faculty advisors received the highest number of responses as areas that needed study in a recent faculty wide survey conducted by the Faculty Senate.

The 78-item survey was the result of a decision that the faculty senate become more involved in the instigation of studies and investigations in problematic areas.

In the past the Faculty Senate nas\_been accused of acting only on items presented to them and not originating enough action within the senate.

Getting the most responses in the survey was a suggestion concerning the need to explore the possibilities of more fringe benefits for the faculty. Included in this area were free tuition for faculty children and spouse, free health in-surance for faculty families, built-in cost of living salary increase, and more money for travel to professional places.

The number two votegetter in the survey called for an end to faculty advisors certifying students for graduation. According to the survey this task should be left to the Records Office where more up to date records are

Other items that received 20 or more responses were faculty evaluation, faculty liability, College ombudsman, leave policy, committment to teaching excellence and

salaries tied to the cost of living.

The senate will begin investigating the areas of need as indicated by the survey immediately, with a immediately, representative of the college appearing at the next meeting to discuss the problem of fringe benefits.

#### PE Dept. To Offer **Options**

By BETH MAY

Beginning in September, Madison College's Physical Education Department will offer a new program for persons interested in nonteaching careers. Physical Education majors have previously been required to prepare for jobs in elementary or secondary education.

This new program, according to Dr. Marilyn Crawford, head of the P.E. Department, will include 4 new interdisciplinary concentrations leading to a B.S. degree. These concentration are: Arts and Aethetics, Journalism and Photography, Radio and Television, and Sports Management.

Anyone who chooses to concentrate his studies in one of these options will be required to complete, beyond Basic Studies requirements, 10 additional hours in Basic Studies, 25 hours in P.E., and 18 hours in his chosen option.



## Perspectives

# Scooping the Nation

By GREGORY BYRNE

Henry "Scoop" Jackson has announced his intention to run for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1976. In doing so, he joins the only other fully committed candidate for the office, Julian Bond of Georgia, in the big race. While there will doubtless be many other hopefuls in the running before too long, the beginning of the Democratic race is significant in itself as a herald of what is to come.

No two candidates could be more dissimilar in their basic philosophies and outlooks on the American scene. The difference is, if you will pardon a pun, like the difference between night and day.

Bond, the young, black politico from Georgiathe youngest man ever nominated for the Vice-Presidency-has a reputation as a maverick in Democratic politics. He is one of the new breed of politicians who fashion themselves as populists. Kind of a latter day George McGovern in black face.

Jackson is the veteran party man. He is almost indistinguishable, both physically and politically, from countless other mealymouthed Democrats currently experiencing hot flashes for the Oval Office. Stood alongside such party stalwarts as Muskie, Humphrey, and Wallace, Jackson tends to get lost in the crowd. One can imagine a divine puppetmaster pulling identical strings attached to the identical woodenheads, as one by one they espouse the tired old F.D.R. cliches and psuedo-profundities.

But things were not always this way. During the '72 campaign, Jackson was the nigger in the washroom. Old guns and butter Jackson was mister hard line Vietnam, just as he was hard line on dozens of other chic domestic issues. Making like Art Linkletter, Jackson came out in favor of strong anti-drug legislation, the kind that Nelson Rockefeller forced through in New York. That's the kind that puts kids behind bars for 20 years on a possession count.

Jackson fashioned himself as the poor man's answer to George McGovern, and while he never stood a snowball's chance in hell of getting the nomination, he did manage to give many McGovern Democrats a good case of enuresis at the thought of the senator from Washington sitting in the White House.

Somewhere along the line, hard-line Henry discovered God, acid, or more likely, the vote-catching power of MOR.From the protector of the right wing of the party, Scoop has shimmied into line with the other so-called "good Democrats" who muddle their way through life with an unshakable belief in the resurrection of John Kennedy.

So even this early in the race, the stage has been set for a potential repeat of the '72 fiasco. The lines have been drawn between the middle of the road leeches and the new leftist martyrs. Only this time around, Scoop Jackson is playing the role of Ed Muskie and Julian Bond the role of George McGovern.

Which raises an interesting question. Is it possible for the Democratic party to ever regain that magic coalition of labor, working-class, minority, and intellectual that was so effective in the past? Moreover, can it be that the Democratic party has outlived its usefullness? Something is certainly wrong when the first two candidates to declare are predestined to alienate at least one-third of that magic coalition.

Of course Democrats contend that one of the real strengths of their party lies in the great stratification of ideology within the same organization. "Any party that can contain both George Wallace and George McGovern," they say, "must be one helluva strong party."

Somehow or other the lessons of '72 seem to have passed over the heads of the Democratic big whigs. They seem to forget how that decrepit old lout Daley sat on his ass and let the McGovern deal go down without so much as a whimper. And Humble Hubert must still toss and turn at the memory of the hatchet-job he handed his good friend during the California primary.

But that's in the past, thank God. The fact remains, however, that no viable candidate has yet surfaced who can solder the Democratic power base back into its pre-Nixonian whole. And unless one does surface, and quickly, then Gerald Ford will be around for four more years, even if we're all eating sawdust and riding tricycles by then.

# Personal Freedom: Pros & Cons of ERA

By DEBORAH TOMPKINS

Focusing her lecture on the questions "Who are you?" and "Where are you going?" Dr. Lillian Jennings, assistant dean of the School of Education, spoke in the third program in the series "You're Half the Apple" last week.

The series, sponsored by the Student Life Committee, deals with issues pertinent to women.

Dr. Jennings began her speech, entitled "The Role of Women in 1975," with a discussion of freedom. Stressing the personal nature of freedom, she stated that freedom for one woman would not be freedom to the next woman.

She emphasized that freedom entails making your own decisions and choices and being able to take the good with the bad consequences.

Speaking of the Equal Rights Movement, Dr. Jennings cautioned women to make some considerations. "Women must consider

how far they want to go, how much change they want to make, and how much change can be accommodated at this point," she said.

Getting more in depth, Dr. Jennings discussed the Equal Rights Ammendent. She reminded the audience that even if the Equal Rights Ammendent is passed it may have some negative effects on poor women.

Evidently some other women have already thought of this. A group of women have gone before legislation to appeal that the ERA not be passed because of the negative effects that it may have on poor women. According to Dr. Jennings, however, it was surprising that the women who went before the legislators were middle-class educated women.

This raised a question from the audience.

In response to the question, "What actually brought about the interest by women to want equal rights?", Dr. Jennings said that the wars have been the largest contributing factors.

Dr. Jennings said that when so many men were called to war jobs left here had to be performed by someone. Therefore the women started taking other positions besides housewife, secretary, nurse, teacher, and saloon girl.

"There just aren't enough men who are able to take care of all the women," she said. As a result women are now making it on their own.

Later an audience member asked if Dr. Jennings thought a woman would have a better chance if the Uniter States of America had a socialistic government.

Dr. Jennings responded to this by first elaborating that in the American government women are able to make choices, decisions, and demands about their lifestyles. This she said is not possible in a socialistic government. She stressed that if you're willing to work, the "good ole American way" can work for you also.

This was Jennings' whole concept. Women have apportunity to make decisions and choices in America. Women must merely be strong enough to make their own decisions and stand on their own two feet.

In answer to the question of where women are going, Jennings says she doesn't see full passage of the ERA very near in the future. But she also feels that struggle for equal rights will continue.

It will continue because, as the economy is, women will have to work with and for men in order for either sex to survive. According to Dr. Jennings, as long as both are needed equally in society, women will continue to demand equal compensations and rights for equal jobs and privileges.

# Douglas Discusses Career

"Face to Face with Melvyn Douglas," a program produced by the Madison Communications Arts Department, will be broadcast Thursday at 7 p.m. over Channel 51 (Cable Channel 7).

In the program Douglas will discuss his own career and his experiences with "blacklisting" during the McCarthy era.

The show will be rebroadcast Sunday at 6:30 p.m.

## Comm. Arts Seminar: A Battleground?

Sa or medicinalining in interior



By CYNTHIA CARNEY

Communication was the topic, beer was the catalyst and the floor was the battleground last Thursday evening at a communication arts department seminar.

It was an opportunity for professors, students and Chairman Donald McConkey to informally discuss the philosophy, goals and core curriculum of the Department of Communication Arts.

Not much was left un-

touched, and not many feelings were spared. Several courses were a "complete waste of time" and several professors swallowed their tongues and grit their teeth verbally but good-naturedly voicing indignations.

A typical statement from a student would begin, "I really liked Dr. X's class, but . . ." or The core curriculum - from which majors are required to take 15 hours - was generally attacked in its present form,

and labeled anything from a "bastard compromise" to an "excellent idea."

Your suggestions will be considered, said McConkey, wrapping up the meeting. However, changes take several years to incorporate, he said, and your suggestions may be irrelevant in the near future.

There is a strong possibility of the establishment of a School of Communications in the next several years.

## **World Briefs**

One In 12 Unemployed

unem-The nation's ployment rate last month reached 8.2 per cent, the highest level since the Depression.

The percentage means that nearly one worker out of every 12 was jobless in January.

A year ago, the unem-





4 1/16

PG

and as recently as September it stood at 5.8 per cent.

Last week the Ford administration predicted that unemployment would average about 8.1 per cent this year, then level off and possibly subside.

Jobless Join Up

The younger generation, who for years were told "Uncle Sam needs you," are now telling Uncle Sam that they need him-for a job.

With the job scarcity' the young are now standing in line to get into the military.

The Army, which fell short of recruiting goals for nine of its first ten months as an allvolunteer force, has exceeded its goals for the last five months.

#### **Ford Suggests Limit**

President Ford says that he will stop large-scale military aid to South Vietnam and Cambodia within three years if Congress will agree to appropriate necessary funds.

Ford has asked Congress to appropriate over \$500 million for military aid to Southeast

In an interview with representatives of the Chicago Tribune, Ford warned of continuing dangers to South Vietnam and Cambodia, saying that he felt it important

. . for South Vietnam and Cambodia to survive and have an opportunity for free

#### Soviets Arm Egypt

Soviet arms shipments to Egypt have been resumed, despite repeated public denials by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, according to Western and Arab sources.

Senior Egyptian political and military officials have privately denied to Western officials that any significant arms shipments are taking

The deliveries seem to be part of an existing contract with the Soviets for arms that had been held back since last spring, sources add.

#### U.S. To Train Arabs

The Vinnell Corporation, a private American contractor, is recruiting several hundredformer U.S. special forces Vietnam soldiers and veterans to train Saudi Arabian troops.

The \$77 million Defense Department contract calls for the training of troops belonging to the Arabian National Guard, whose primary responsibility is guarding the country's oil fields and its petroleum export facilities.

# 'Hedda Gabler': Contemporary

By LYNN BAKER

"Challenging," and "very exhausting," is the way cast members describe the work on their production of Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen's drama about a woman repressed by society.

Gail Purvis, who plays Hedda, says this is the most difficult role she has ever done. The difficulty, she feels, is not just in the enormity of the role, but in the "constant concentration" required. Gail. views Hedda as a "neurotic" woman.

"She is not a well rounded person, but she is a well rounded character.." Hedda is neither good nor bad, said Gail, and this is what appeals to her.

Jeff Dailey, who plays Hedda's husband George Tesman, also feels that his role is a difficult one.

"Most people who act are emotional people," Dailey says, and since Tesman is unemotional it is hard to, "loose myself and at the same time create a believable character."

Ibsen's play deals primarily with a woman constricted by society. According to Chester Jordon, the show's director, Hedda recognizes her abilities, but is repressed by the role forced upon woman. Ultimately she is destroyed by society.
Though set in 1890, the

actors feel that Hedda Gabler is "very contemporary." Many women today will identify with Hedda, the actors said, who is in an unsuccessful marriage and faced with an unwanted pregnancy. Dailey commented that Ibsen writes about "real people," and this makes his plays "relevant for today."

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At one point in the play Hedda says sarcastically that all she is suited for is "boring myself to death."

All of the cast agree that the play requires total concentration. Rosemary Zullinger, who says she plays a "young 65 year old woman," has observed the older women on campus to imitate posture. But Rosemary feels that "its hard to get up to that (the character's) energy level," even though her role is of an elderly woman. Rosemary practices walking "in character" to and from

Another problem of a different nature facing the actresses is adjusting to the corsets and bustles worn by Victorian women. Mary McGowan, who suffered bruises from wearing her corset, remarked that this was another way that Victorian women were repressed.

Other members of the cast are: Ann Luttrell, who appeared in last year's Summer and Smoke; Barry Carter, who played Kent in King Lear; and T. Lewis Martin, who was Dr. Rance in What the Butler Saw.

Hedda Gabler will run February 20-22,27,28, and

#### Dukes

(Continued from Page 8)

Dukes jumped in front 56-47. The Hornets called time-out and when they returned from the bench they were confronted with the 3 out, 2 in offense; the Dukes stayed in command for the remainder of the game.

With the Dukes maintaining an undefeated 4-0 mark in the Western Division of the VCAA, and with only four games remaining in their season, the word "playoff berth" has been heard buzzing around Godwin Hall. Coach Campanelli sited the Dukes chances for a playoff position: "We are one of a number of teams in the region who are being considered for a playoff berth. Alot will depend on how we do over the next two

weeks." The Dukes next home game is February 26, against the University of Pittsburg -Johnstown. This is the Duke's last home contest!

#### 'Cabaret' Shown

The Academy Awardwinning film, "Cabaret," starring Liza Minelli and Joel Gray, will be shown Wednesday at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. in Wilson Auditorium.

Admission to the CPBsponsored movie will be 50 cents with ID.

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# Kissing Marathon MC First

By DEB SEMPLE

The Kissing Marathon held at Weaver dorm Friday night was a Madison first and if lack of audience appreciation or participation is a valid indication, it will probably be the last as well.

But it was an enjoyable farce.

As the live band rocked and the people danced, the six contestants swayed in rhythm while attempting to mobilize their lips and win the prize money of \$20.00.

The Marathon began at 10:10 and the last couple puckered out at 1:10.

The rules called for a five minute break every 55 minutes, and during this time the contestants passed around chapstick, grabbed a quick drink, and rested their aching lins

Mike Louden, president of Weaver dorm, officiated the contest with the help of wisecracking on-lookers who did their best to cause the contestants to laugh and lose concentration on the business at hand.

The first couple dropped out of the contest shortly after twelve. Soon after the contest was conceded by a couple who had to get up for work in the morning.

The winners, Beth Smith and her date, a frat man from TEX, finalized their osculation at 1:10 a.m., setting Madison's first kissing endurance record of 3 hours.

(An interesting fact about this particular couple is that they met just last week at another party. This match seems to have payed off for them!)

Mike Louden, who fathered the contest idea, said that the dorm would probably lose money because of the lack of student participation.

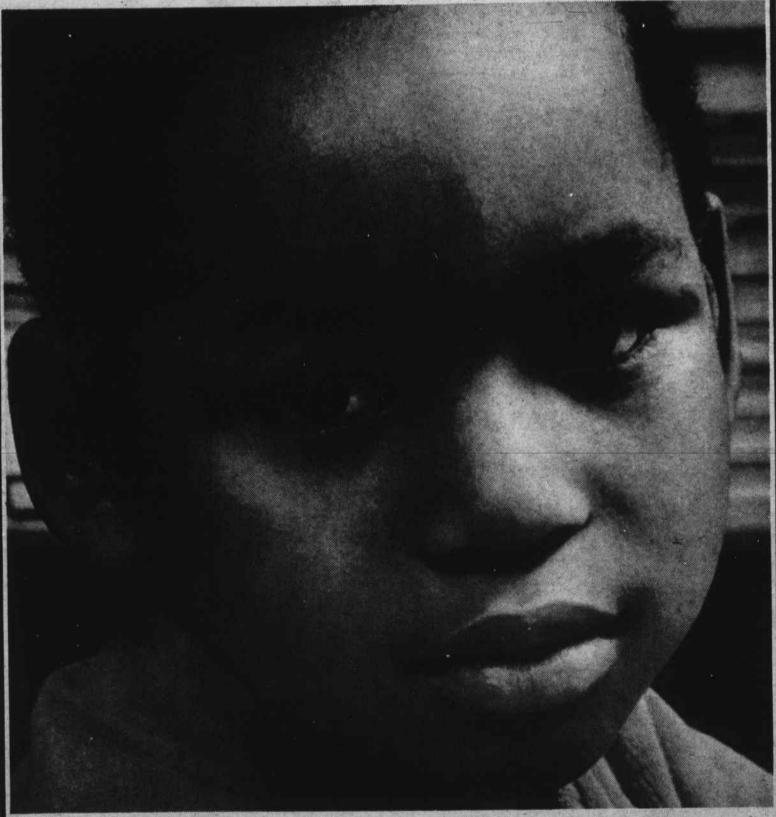
Perhaps if there hadn't been three other live bands on campus Friday night, Weaver's marathon may have have generated more enthusiasm.

But unfortunately, the small and, for the most part, apathetic crowd in attendance, combined with a cynical attitude, kept the Kissing Marathon from being a total success.

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# Pictures talk. Some little boys don't.



Some inner cities have special schools. For little boys who don't talk.

Not mute little boys. But children so withdrawn so afraid of failure, they cannot make the slightest attempt to do anything at which they might fail.

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Kodak responded by working with the teachers.
Showed them how, through the language of pictures, the children could communicate as they never could before. And the teachers sent the kids out to take

And then the miracle. Little boys who had never said anything, looked at the pictures and began to talk. They said "This is my house." "This is my dog." This is where I like to hide." They began to explain,

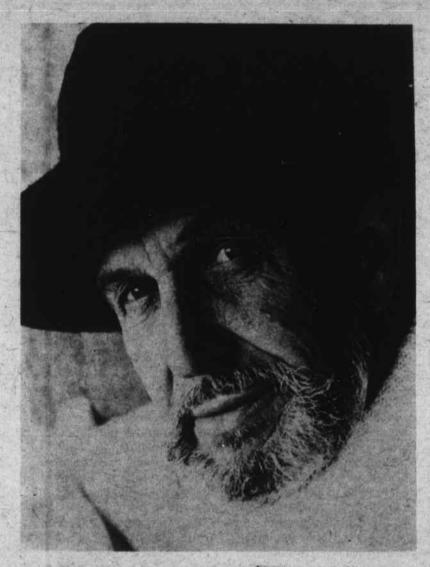
to describe, to communicate. And once the channels of communication had been opened, they began to learn.

What does Kodak stand to gain from this? Well, we're showing how our products can help a teacher—and maybe creating a whole new market. And we're also cultivating young customers who will someday buy their own cameras and film. But more than that, we're cultivating alert, educated citizens. Who will someday be responsible for our society.

After all, our business depends on society. So we care what happens to it.



Kodak. More than a business.



HORROR FILM ACTOR Vincent Price will read selections from authors such as Walt Whitman and Tennesee Williams when he appears at Madison tonight. The show will begin at 8:00 p.m. and the tickets will be free for students with I.D.

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#### Vincent Price To Perform Here

By ELMORE LOCKLEY

Vincent Price, the master of horror-movie acting, will appear tonight at 8:00 p.m. in Wilson Auditorium under the auspices of the Artists and Lecture Series.

During his performance Price will read selections from Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass," James A. Whistler's "The Gentle Art of Making Enemies," and Tennessee Williams' "The Last of My Solid Gold Watches."

Price has starred in more

than 100 films and has appeared in over 500 major television shows and 1000 radio programs.

Initially, Price's aim in life was to become a teacher and art collector, but after his debut in the London production of "Victoria Regina," his thoughts permanently turned to the theatre.

Among the best-known films he has worked in include "Song of Bernadette," "Dragonwyck," "House of the Seven Gables," "The Pit and

the Pendulum" and, the most recent one, "The Madhouse."

Besides his talent as an actor in bone-chilling and nerve-breaking movies, Price also has established a reputation as a gourmet cook. He is the author of "Treasury of Great Recipes."

Tickets' for Price's appearance will be available at the door. The cost for adults will be \$2.50 and for students, \$1.50.

Madison students will be admitted free with I.D.

#### **Announcements**

Twelve members of the Class of '75 have been named as Outstanding Seniors by the Senior Class Committee.

Those chosen were picked on the basis of being "representative of the whole school," a committee spokesman said.

The twelve include Wes Welch, Mari Rechin, Linda Perrotta, Carol Lempe, Steve Holley and Larry Hixson.

Also chosen were Bill Heisey, Andy Fields, Jerry Davis, Lana Caldwell, Jan Burke, and Kevin Alston.

Neither fraternity or sorority membership, athletic participation, nor grade-point average had any bearing on the selection made, the committee spokesman said.

Tickets will go on sale Thursday for the Junior Class dance to be held Saturday, Feb. 22 at Belle Meade.

"Jarbo" will be the featured band, supplying the music from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Dress is semi-formal to formal.

Tickets are \$5.50 per couple for those juniors who have paid class dues, and \$8.50 per couple for those juniors who have not. Set-ups are provided in the cost of the ticket.

Tickets will be on sale in the P.O. Lobby from 10:00 to 4:00. Tickets can also be purchased during the same hours on February 14, 19, 20, 21.

The National Federation of Student Social Workers will hold a meeting for all social work majors Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Ha. 9.

There will be a panel discussion on Social Work Placement and Idea's for semester projects will also be discussed.

Dr. Filimon D. Kowtoriuk, under the sponsorship of the Committee on Russian and Sino-Soviet Studies, will speak on "Two Weeks with Solzhenitsyn" Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Campus Center Ballroom.

The public is invited and admisssion is free.

The first "Viewpoint" program produced entirely by Madison College will be broadcast Sunday at 1 p.m. over WSVA-TV, Channel 3.

The show, entitled "Madison College Lifestyles is intended as a pilot to determine the feasibility of a future series dealing with the college.

Lynn Loeffler, associate director of the Office of Student Life, will serve as host of the program.

Her guests will include Dr. William Hall, vice-president for Student Affairs, and Jim Bowles, Jane Wesley, Byron Matson and Diane Spellman all Madison students.

PK German of the University Union at U.Va. in association with the Black Student Allliance

Presents

#### WEATHER REPORT

Josef Zawinul, Wayne Shorter, Al Johnson Alyrio Lima, Chuck Bazemore

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# **Grades Fall to Inflation**

(CPS)-Food, gas and tuition prices aren't the only victims of inflation these days. Enter the new martyr: grades.

Across the country, a high grade glut has spread. At many schools, the normal bell curve distribution has been jarred out of whack as B has replaced C as the average grade.

At Yale, almost half of the undergraduate spring term grades were A's. And at Stanford University the average grade point accumulation has spiralled to 3.4. In the last ten years, the University of North Carolina has doubled the percentage of A's it handed out.

"A few years ago, a C would put you in the middle," said Douglas Hobbes, a political science professor at UCLA. "Today it puts you in the bottom third of the class. A number of educators have voiced concern over grade inflation -- and the resulting devaluation. Graduate school officials, they have warned, have begun to dismiss the grade transcripts of their applicants plainly as misleading, and are concerned instead on test scores.

And since everyone seems to be getting A's and B's, graduate schools and employers have begun resorting to elitism in their selections: better a Princeton A, they reason, than an equal mark from a less familiar school.

Grade grubbing has been cited as a prime factor behind the soaring grades. The tumultuous 60's are over and

#### Writing Lab Open

The Writing Lab, located in Keezell B1, is available to help students improve many aspects of their writing.

Essay exams, papers, grammar, and job applications may all be simplified by a trip to the lab.

The lab is open Monday-Thursday, 1:00-5:00 p.m. For more information call Betty Hoskins at 6401. students are again hitting the books. With the depressed job market and the increased number of undergraduates, competition has toughened for graduate school admission, particularly to medical and law schools.

In a broader sense, students may be grasping for grades as a token of their own worth. "A 'B' is saying to students that they're only "B" persons," one Stanford University professor said.

In any case, competition has become the name of the game. "Its moved beyond grades," Jerome mere Harvard Kagen, psychologist, said of the phenomenon in a recent New York Times report. "It's moved to a point where the anxiety and the concern is unrealistic, and it's approaching a phobia on the part of the students. It has the characteristic of a small neurosis."

If students are afflicted with a grade neurosis, the disease is rooted within the academic grading system, some observers believe.

"Students have been taught since grade school that good grades are where its at," says one professor at University of Wisconsin-Madison. "How can they be expected to dismiss this idea when they reach college?"

The Preface, student mewspaper of Indiana University at South Bend offered this analysis: "Professors . . . tell students at the beginning of class that learning is more important than grades. Most students are not influenced by this argument. They have already been convinced that grades are important, often more important than learning."

Back in the 60's, however, anti-grade fever hit academia, resulting in what is believed to be the second major cause of inflated grades: non-punitive grading procedures.

Many professors gave high

grades to help students avoid the draft. Dissatisfaction with traditional marking spread, pass-fail options came into vogue and some schools

grades.

At many other schools, the effects of D's and F's were minimized by extended time periods for class withdrawals. Students who were in danger of failing a course could simply drop it, often late into the semester, and escape a low grade.

completely eliminated failing

Explained Pittsburgh University Dean Robert Marshall: "We've gotten away from the old concept that people should be required to jump through hoops."

But the gradual extinction of failing grades has been termed "ludicrous" by at least one professor. "There is this idea going around that any grade other than an A has to be explained by the professor," complained Stanford history professor David Kennedy.

"It's gone too far," said Kennedy. "The whole purpose of grades is being destroyed."

In such an event, not every one would be disappointed.

#### ★ Contract Grading

(Continued from Page 1)

Further variations of the I II III plan are used in Dr. Pauline Council's sociology classes and Dr. Stephen Thomas's 360 education courses.

In Dr. Council's classes, students choose from three predetermined grade plans. In addition to the work, which primarily includes research projects, students must meet the grade requirements for their plan. Failure to meet the requirements results in the lowering of one letter grade even if extra project work is completed.

Students in Dr. Thomas' classes are given a "framework" of the essential things they must have for the class.

"I provide a list of activities and they generally decide what they want to do," Dr. Thomas said. Students have the option of a test, class presentation, or writing three critiques.

Under the Keller Plan, or "self-supervised study" contract systems, students are given the freedom of choosing their own grades as well as the pace at which they wish to work. Dr. Fichter has divided his 320 Meteorology course into nine units of work. The students masters the objectives for each unit and is required to take an exam over the material until he passes

"The essence of the course," according to Dr. Fichter, "is people being able to take tests whn they want to and get immediant feedback." Although there are no lectures, it is very demanding of time and effort, with a minimum of five to seven hours of work a week required from each student, he added.

The greatest amount of freedom for students to determine their own grades may be found in Dr. William Powell's teaching seminar classes. Dr. Powell uses the most basic contract form in that special studies program.

"Each student decides with me what they want to do for a grade" Dr. Powell explained. "It all depends on what they want to learn," he said.

The seminar is composed of last semester seniors, with a maximum of five students in any given seminar. In evaluating the students, Dr. Powell requires them to demonstrate what they have learned.

A problem facing students interested in contract grading is that there is no listing of courses that offer that option.

Fewer than 25 professors at Madison offer any form of contract grading, which exists as an individual grading preference, and is not a part of any department policy.



WHAT'S WHAT

Movie: The Harrad Experiment
Sponsored by Phi Beta Lambda

Date: Friday, February 14

Time: 7:00 and 9:00 P.M. in
Wilson Auditorium

Admission: 50¢ and I.D.

An Adventure in Gourmet Shopping in Downtown Harrisonburg

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Plus Foods From Around the World
Kosher, Italian, Polish, German, American

ALL LEGAL BEVERAGES

Spanky's Delicatessen
60 W. Water St. Harrisonburg



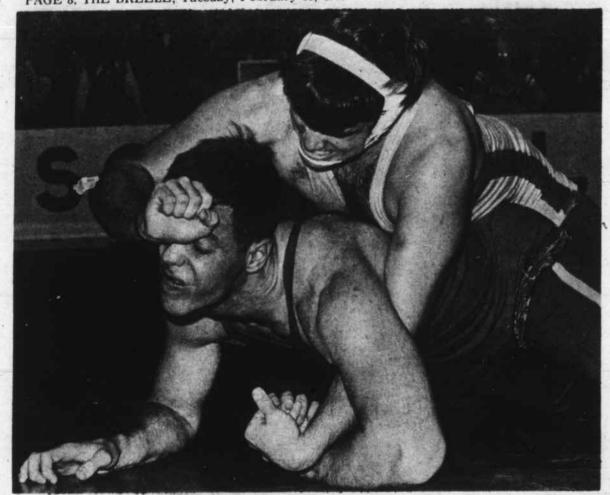


The Thrill Of Victory





RELATED STORY ON PAGE 8



Madison wrestlers were successful Saturday as they won the VCAA Wrestling Tournament which was held at George Mason University.

Madison's Robert Peach was voted the tournaments Outstanding Wrestler. (Hixon Phot)

# **B-ballers 4-0 In VCAA**

By STEVE LEEOLOU

The basketball team tallied up another victory in VCAA competition with a 79-61 triumph over Lynchburg College last Wednesday evening.

Lynchburg previously had a record of 13-4 and was ranked 15th in the nation among Division III teams in scoring, with an 85 point per game average. The win maintained the Dukes undefeated VCAA record of 4-0 and boosted their overall mark to 15-5.

Coach Campanelli can be accredited with a major part of the victory. He applied his "3 out, 2 in" offense-which has also been referred to as "the stall offense" by some fans-earlier than usual; first late in the first half then with 12 minutes still remaining in the final half.

The second time, the Dukes had a slim 54-47 lead and were obviously tiring, so Campanelli decided not to take chances. With the outside ball-handling of Leon Baker, Joe Phaler and Wilbert Mills, the Hornets defense soon became flustered allowing the Madison threesome to penetrate and pass off to Dave Correll or Sherman Dillard for the easy inside bucket. Seven minutes laterthe Dukes had a comfortable 15 point lead.

"We had just come off a long road trip and my guys were tired out there" explained Campanelli. "This type of offense gives our big men a chance to rest while we protect our lead."

Campanelli also said that the use of the 3 out, 2 in offense is not just limited to the final minutes of the game, "We are so confident with its execution now that we can use it at anytime" added Campanelli.

The Dukes applied the stall for the last few minutes of the first half to protect a 44-35 lead prior to its lengthy application in the second half.

The first half was an aggressively fought defensive battle with the Dukes taking a slight edge due to a height advantage. Both squads forced a number of shots due to the tenacious defenses.

The Hornets were kept in the game by the outside shooting of newcomer, Jimmy Crawford and the inside scoring of 6'6" Steve Wheeler. Madison's spark was kindled by Dillard who burned in 14 first half points and finished with 26 for the evening.

Correll, who's shooting arm was hindered by five stitches, still produced 17 points and 15 rebounds. Pat Dosh cleaned up the rest of the loose balls with 9 rebounds and also contributed 9 points.

John Cadman was handed a starting assignment in place of Van Snowden. Cadman fouled out early in the second half but not before he had used his 6'9'' frame to score 6 points in the early part of the game. Phaler used his ball-handling skills to penetrate the Hornet defense and pass off for 9 assists.

The first six minutes of the second half was a basket trading exhibition spiced with a multitude of fouls. Finally after two side-line jumpers by Correll and a bomb by Dillard that rippled the cords, the (Continued on Page 3)

# Duchesses Win 2

The Duchesses won two basketball games this past weekend, defeating William and Mary College 68-56, Friday night, and crushing Emory and Henry, Saturday, by a score of 67-43.

Madison's record is now 10-3 with the three defeats coming against Immaculata, East Carolina and Bridgewater.

Madison's high scorers in Friday's game were Lynn Abott and Pam Barnes with 14 points each, Gayle Freshwater with 10, and Katherine Johnson making 9.

In Saturday's game,
Madison dominated the offensive rebounding and
scoring. The closest the
Wasps came to catching the
Duchesses was about 10
points. Madison held a 12
point edge at the half and then
eased away to their final 24
point difference.

Again Abott was high scorer, shooting for a good percentage while connecting on 18 points. Katherine Johnsons was next with 16 points. Freshwater grabbed 10, and Barnes hit for 9.

Freshwater had a third of the Duchesses assists, with 5. Pat Reynolds and Patty O'Donnell each had two. Top rebounders were: Johnson, 11, Barnes, 8, Abott, 6, and Freshwater and Roan, 5. They stole the ball 14 times as Johnson took 5, Barnes, 3, and O'Donnell, 2. No girl fouled out for Madison, though Freshwater and Reynolds each had 4.

The University of Maryland will be the next opponents, Thursday February 13th. February 15th the girls travel to Longwood College, and Thursday, the 27th, they participate in the VFISCU State Tournament at Lynchburg.

#### Peach Outstanding:

# Wrestlers Capture Tourney Crown

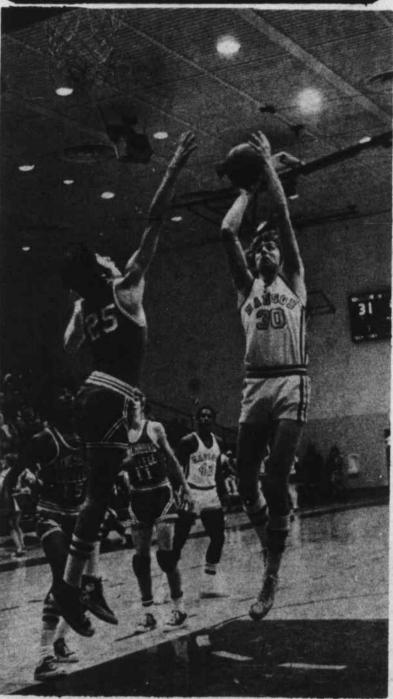
By WADE STARLING

Madison College won the Virginia Collegiate Athletic Association Wrestling Tournament which was held Saturday at George Mason University. Included in the seven-team tournament were Madison, Washington and Lee, George Mason, Eastern Mennonite, Lynchburg, Hampden-Sydney, and Va. State. Madison won the title with 77 1/2 points. Washington and Lee placed second with 74 points, followed by George Mason with 68 points.

None of the Dukes' 10 wrestlers placed lower than fourth. Robert Peach at 126 pounds, Kevin Sampson at 134 pounds, and Mike Baron at 142 pounds won their individual weight classes by decisioning their opponents in the final round. Phil Hartwell captured second place in the 118 pound class, as did Roy Hines at 150 pounds and Brian Grainer at 190 pounds. Terry Bruiser at 158 pounds, Dale Eaton at 177 pounds, and Jim Burgess at the heavyweight placed third in their weight classes. Bill Randolph, wrestling at 167 pounds, placed fourth.

The Dukes received all three trophies which were given out at the meet. Robert Peach won the Outstanding Wrestler trophy for his performance of the day. Coach Jim Prince won the Coach of the Year trophy in his first year of coaching at Madison. The Madison team received the team trophy for winning the meet.

# Breeze Sports



PAT DOSH PUTS the ball up for two of his nine points last Wednesday as the Dukes defeated Lynchburg 79-61 in an important VCAA game. The win gave the Dukes a 4-0 record in the Western Division of the VCAA, and kept their hopes for a post-season playoff berth alive. (MORGAN PHOTO)