

B2 Daily Press, Thursday, Oct. 16, 1986

# College helps students deal with violent death

By BAY BETZNER Staff Writer

WILLIAMSBURG — The campaign to help students and faculty at the College of William and Mary deal with the violent and unexpected death of Rebecca Ann Dowds appears to be paying off.

The college administration has been working since early Monday to inform students and convince them there appears to be no evidence connecting Ms. Dowds's death with her attendance at the school.

Ms. Dowds, 21, and a friend, Catherine Marian Thomas, 27, were found dead Sunday in a car which had been pushed or driven off an embankment near the Colonial Parkway. Ms.

Thomas, a Virginia Beach resident, was a graduate of the Naval Academy and a stockbroker in Norfolk.

Sadler sent letters to college personnel on Monday and Tuesday telling them of the crime. Similar information has been printed in the William and Mary News, a weekly published by the college. Sadler said he is considering a similar information campaign for parents of students.

"I feel very good about the responsive action from several students. Providing them with an opportunity to ask questions seems to have been very helpful," Sadler said.

Ms. Dowds had transferred to WAM in January and had spent less than two semesters at the college. Still, the news that she and Ms. Thomas had been

found with their throats slashed, coupled with the lack of motive for the murders, is disconcerting.

"It was a little shocking last night," said Brian Letkous, resident assistant for Ms. Dowds's floor in Chandler Hall. He said few people in the hall knew her very well, and that by the end of the day, "things were slowly getting back to normal."

Jay Chambers, director of psychological services at the college, said the first emotion most likely to hit is rage and anger. The strongest emotions will come for those who knew Ms. Dowds well. Chambers said these people can help themselves deal with the death.

Probably the most helpful thing is to put her life into perspective, he said. "Those who know her feel she led a very meaningful life, very goal-directed life."

A memorial service may be held on campus for Ms. Dowds. Anyone interested in helping with the planning should contact the Rev. Brian Allport.

A private memorial service for family members only is set for Saturday in First Presbyterian Church in Patterson, N.Y. Ms. Dowds was a native of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where she was active in the Roberts Area Dowds Scholarship Fund, Poughkeepsie.

The family is asking that memorial donations also go to the Roberts Area Dowds Scholarship Fund, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12501.

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# Aiding foresters aim of bus tour

ISLE OF WIGHT — Owners of forest land in Tidewater can learn to make the most of their land and timber on a forestry and wildlife bus tour.

The tour, to be conducted Oct. 20, will include sites in Isle of Wight, Suffolk, Sussex and Southampton.

Buses will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the Wythebor Community House, located just off Route 660 in Windsor.

The first stop will be the Zane Fine Barrens in Isle of Wight, an area of deep sands characteristic of the South's sands for forests. The site was donated to the Dominion University by Union Camp Corp. Discussions here will center on the barren's ecology, logging sites and the use of fire in wildlife management. A winter maintenance burn will be demonstrated.

Next, the tour group will go to the Garland Gray Forestry Center in Sussex.

Here seedling production from seed orchard to plantation will be covered. Seed preparation, planting, care of beds and lifting seedlings will be discussed and various planting techniques will be demonstrated.

In Southampton, the tour will stop at the natural chomocum elm tree. The tree's discovery and the Virginia Forestry Association's program for locating the state's largest trees will be discussed.

After a catered lunch at Parks of the River Barton Community Center, the tour will travel to Suffolk. Here, Union Camp's intensive pine management will be featured.

Reforestation practices, thinning, control of competitive vegetation, harvest and the PLAS program for private landowners will be discussed.

A Union Camp holding pond will give tour participants a chance to see management techniques for various kinds of waterfowl. Water quality management, leasing hunting rights on forest lands and Operation Respect will be discussed.

The final stop will focus on strategies for dealing with the southern pine beetle. Current measures, how to prevent catastrophic damage and how to chain losses from the southern pine beetle as a casualty deduction will be explained.

The tour is sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, the Virginia Division of Forestry and state forest industries. A \$12 registration fee is required by Mon. Oct. 27, which covers transportation, lunch, program materials and a snack break.

For more information, contact your local Extension agent or a Division of Forestry representative at 357-3139.



## No more

The Newport News Department of Engineering will permanently close the 25th Street Bridge (left) today.

Materials will be using a recently completed overpass, the 23rd-25th Street Bridge. The engineering department also will be closed.

# Deadline passes for landfill closing

CHARLES CITY — The county may receive an "extended extension" from the state on closing its 15-acre landfill on Route 660.

The Board of Supervisors was given a 60-day closing extension on Sept. 1 from the state Department of Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials Management. The deadline, expired Wednesday, but the state appears ready to close the county's little slack in closing down the 13-year-old landfill.

"We're not going to hold them to any certain timetable," said Robert Davis, of the department's regional office in Amelia.

Once the county submits a closure plan for the landfill to Davis, it will be passed up the bureaucratic chain of command. After Davis' review, it will go to the state Water Control Board, and then to the Department of Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials main office in Richmond.

In late August, the county contracted with Resource International for a \$2,800 plan to close the landfill. A draft of the plan was given to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday and they will meet a continuation of a recessed session today to adopt the final language of the plan.

Aho, in a recessed session Sept. 28, the board agreed to use J. K. Timmons Associates, P.C., a Richmond engineering consultant firm, to develop plans for a transfer station on the site of the current landfill.

The company has proposed a cost of \$6,600 to develop a preliminary site plan, conduct design engineering, print plans and solicit construction contracts for the county, according to Jacqueline Wallace, acting county administrator.

The company has told the county it could complete the design work and contract the construction work out to complete transfer station by late March. Mrs. Wallace said.

If the state does decide to halt dumping at the landfill, the county may temporarily use rented, 100,000-gallon refuse containers that would be emptied periodically at the Henric County landfill. Supervisors discuss this in early August, but no action was taken.

# Professionalism urged

Education leader cites standards board for teachers

By DONALD LOEFF Staff Writer

NEWPORT NEWS — The president of the National Education Association on Wednesday urged local teachers to take steps to raise teaching from a job to a profession, like medicine and law.

"Simply put, we need to stop treating teachers like they are very tall children and start treating them like professionals," Mary Hatwood Futrell said.

Mrs. Futrell, leader of the nation's largest teachers' organization, asked the group to lobby the General Assembly to create a professional standards board for teachers.

The board, she said, would establish and enforce standards to be required of teachers. A majority of the members should be classroom teachers, and the board should be nominated by the governor, she said.

"This is not something you should be thinking about doing in three years. This is something you should be doing today," she said.

Mrs. Futrell came to Christopher Newport College to speak to a group of about 80 teachers and government officials about the recommendations of several recent reports on improving education, including the Carnegie Task Force on Teaching as a Profession, of which she was a member.

Most education reforms since 1983, when the new famous "A Nation at Risk" report came out, have been in the form of new state legislation, she said.

Future reform should be aimed at giving teachers more authority and ripping away at the bureaucracy, she said.

"Had policy makers treated teachers as professionals, America never would have been a nation at risk," Mrs. Futrell said.

"I can tell you, if we had something to say about schools we would not put 30 children in a classroom."

Teachers should have input into the curriculum, and on the standards required of new teachers.

Once those standards are toughened and teachers are trained "like professionals," they should be paid more, like \$60,000 to \$70,000 a year, she said.

Mrs. Futrell also criticized some recent proposals for reform, including the Carnegie group's proposal to make "lead teachers" who would earn more money and have a say in running the schools.

"I say the job of overly bureaucratic schools will not be solved by more bureaucracy," she said. "When the lead teachers are being leaders, who will teach the children who are assigned to them?"

She also criticized a plan to abolish the four-year college degree in education, abandoning it for a five-year graduate degree for all new teachers.

"The length is not the issue, quality is the issue," she said.

Mrs. Futrell, a high school business education teacher from Alexandria, has been president of the National Education Association since 1983. She was president of the Virginia Education Association from 1976 to 1980.



Mrs. Futrell spoke about recent reports on education.

# I charged in burning of cross

YORK — A 16-year-old white youth has been arrested and charged in connection with the Sept. 28 cross burning in the front yard of a home on Wilcox Drive in York Terrace.

A sheriff's deputy arrested the youth on an unrelated, outstanding juvenile petition Sunday, said Capt. Ron Montgomery. The juvenile was seen in the York Terrace area about midnight, and a resident called the sheriff's department.

Sheriff's deputies had circled the description of a boy who was seen in the area the night of the cross burning, but escaped police, Montgomery said.

The youth was interviewed Wednesday and charged with cross burning, which is a felony and punishable by up to five years in prison under state law, Montgomery said. After a detention hearing Wednesday, the youth was retained in custody, he said.

A 4-foot-tall cross was burned in the front yard of Rose Sutherland's home about 4:45 a.m. Sept. 28. The cross burning was the second racial attack on Mrs. Sutherland's home since she moved into the predominantly white neighborhood in the spring.

In addition, a cross was burned Sept. 11 in the front yard of a home on nearby Berkeley Drive. On Sept. 27 racial slurs were painted on the street in front of the same home.

Mrs. Sutherland, who works for James City County, said Wednesday she has nothing to say about the arrest until the youth is tried. Immediate neighbors have been supportive since the incident occurred, she said.

The Sept. 11 cross burning is still under investigation, Montgomery said.

# Councilwoman to hold meeting

NEWPORT NEWS — Councilwoman Margaret W. Keator will hold a "town meeting" next week to let Deshager-area residents air their concerns.

The four-year Democratic councilwoman said she is holding her first forum at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Deshager High School, to let residents know "basically what we do for you and what we plan to do."

# Concerns halt action on recommendations

By DOUGLAS ASHLEY Staff Writer

NEWPORT NEWS — Spurred by concerns over growing traffic snarls and fragile water supplies, the city Planning Commission agreed to delay recommendations on two large development projects in the city's Oyster Point and Lee Hall sections.

The commission also delayed a recommendation on a proposed townhouse-condominium complex at 2513 Chestnut Ave. at the request of the developer

and opposing residents.

One of the large developments, on 660 acres in Oyster Point, is part of a planned \$1 billion, residential, development called Kilo Creek that would straddle the city and York County line.

Developer R. G. Moore, of Virginia Beach, is seeking Planning Commission endorsement of his development plans.

But city staff told the commission they needed more time to assess the developer's impact on already congested roads

in the city's northern section, particularly Jefferson Avenue, and whether roads planned in the development will be built quickly enough.

The staff also is wrestling with legal questions over whether a proposed 18-hole golf course can be included in the development plan's formula for open green space.

The project was delayed until the Nov. 5 meeting.

The second large development, a 245-unit housing project on 95 acres along the banks of

Skiff's Creek, is being proposed by developer E. Kenneth Day.

Commissioners delayed action on his plans until Nov. 19, suggesting they were concerned about its potential impact on city water supplies from Skiff's Creek.

Planning staff also noted that the city is in the process of stiffening its rezoning protection laws, and that the proposed new laws would significantly curtail the developer's ability to develop along the creek bank.