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Local Business/State B

Jim Spencer
Columnist

Don't take EMPRESS suit lightly

I read that a group of concerned citizens has hailed the Navy into court to stop testing on a barge that generates electromagnetic pulses. The people who took the Navy to court claimed that the pulsations could possibly set off weapons at the Fort Monmouth Naval Weapons Station.

I might have written this off as the enterprising of a bunch of whackos or peace nuts if I had never met Rader. I like Rader. Our paths crossed in 1985 when I was doing a story about the Defense Department's small-business innovation research program. He was studying electromagnetic discharges from cloth that might be used for military uniforms. I promptly killed him the King of Static King.

He's back with me to understand what's going on in Yorktown with the EMPRESS II testing barge and the "hazards of electromagnetic radiation to ordnance," also known as HENO.

Most of the high-tech weapons operated by today's soldiers are controlled by extremely sensitive microelectronics. You can't feel your own static electricity until you generate about 4,000 volts. He told me Thursday when I called him to refresh my memory. "But a microcircuit can be ruined by less than 100 volts of discharge."

Unidentified body pulled from York



FBI, Coast Guard and State Police officials remove the body. Authorities say it is neither of the missing CNC students.

By BOB EVANS
Staff Writer

YORK — Authorities searching for two Christopher Newport College students found a body in the York River on Thursday, but the FBI says it is neither of the students missing since Sunday.

Personalities dominate Williamsburg race

Incumbent wins support with his affable nature

By CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
Staff Writer
WILLIAMSBURG — In a City Council campaign dominated by personalities at the expense of issues, Gilbert Granger may have an edge.

Quiet dignity marks campaign of challenger

By CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
Staff Writer
WILLIAMSBURG — As the sole challenger to three incumbents in the City Council race, Trist B. McConnell probably has the most influence on the tone of the campaign of any of the candidates.

Quiet dignity marks campaign of challenger

That suits McConnell's style, as he makes his way around city neighborhoods, shaking hands and listening to residents' concerns. "It's learning a great deal," said McConnell.



Gilbert Granger, with wife, Connie, is known for being eager to please.



Trist B. McConnell, with wife, Jennifer, is running a low-key campaign.

Area soaked — but intact — after storm

By DAVID CHERNIACK
Staff Writer
HAMPTON — Other than flooding in her yard, about the only damage Kathy Freese's family realized from Wednesday's storm was the loss of her Kristina's castles patch on the roof of her home in the city's Grandview section.

"It came up out of the ground and floated down to my neighbor's yard two doors away," Freese said Thursday. Freese said her 13-year-old son had spent the past three weeks working on the patch, and the plants had just started sprouting when the storm struck late Tuesday and early Wednesday.

Freese estimated that about 18 inches of tidal water from the nearby marsh, "the deepest I've seen it," covered her front and back yards Wednesday. But some of the water entered her house, which she elevated.

When she awoke about 1:30 a.m. Thursday, "the water was gone."

While Peninsula titles and property owners experienced minimal property damage, the powerful twoday storm's gale-force winds and pounding surf battered the Virginia Beach shoreline near Sandbridge, dismantling sections of at least four houses and washing out chunks of roadway.

"The only thing that's been reported to me is there were about four houses on Light-house Drive that had water in them. But we've not received any calls from those folks requesting any assistance."

At Virginia Beach officials continued their cleanup. Peninsula officials were relieved the storm spared their communities.

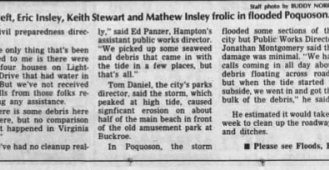
"We don't know of any significant damage anywhere," said John Tomasek, Hampton's civil preparedness director.

"There is some debris here and there, but no comparison to what happened in Virginia Beach."

Candidates debate in Denbigh

By MARK DAVIDSON
Staff Writer
NEWPORT NEWS — With one exception, the men running for the City Council and Denbigh residents Thursday night exactly what they wanted to hear.

During a forum sponsored by Concerned Denbigh Citizens, seven of the eight candidates present said they are against, or are at least very skeptical of, a proposed trash incinerator.



From left, Eric Insey, Keith Stewart and Matthew Insey flooded some sections of the city but Public Works Director Jonathan Montgomery said the damage was minimal.