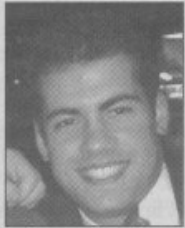


Homosexual bias in The Collegian disturbing



By Grant Garcia
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I have been disgusted and disappointed by the tasteless articles recently published regarding homosexuality and homosexual behavior on our campus. I feel these articles inaccurately represent life in our campus community and the beliefs of most Richmond students. I am ashamed to associate such liberal propaganda with our predominately conservative campus. As a straight, conservative, Christian male at this university, I feel that it is necessary to take action against these articles in The

Collegian promoting such open homosexuality.

I understand that I am probably offending many people who attend UR, but quite frankly, you have offended me. In four out of the last five publications of The Collegian, articles about homosexuality have had a large presence on the opinion page. When I opened the first edition after arriving back to school, I could not believe, "Curious? Come check out New Directions," was the first letter to the editor. I was stunned that such an article was written portraying the university as an accepting place for "out, raving homos," as stated by the author. I have yet to see very many people of this kind; ironically, I feel as though this rather homogeneous campus is, in fact, not so accepting of such openly homosexual students. I think many students would agree that they chose to attend UR because of the similar student body and a

social scene they expected, not in hopes to find a sexuality preference.

Furthermore, amidst reading the most recent of related homosexual articles titled, "Coming Out Week is a must-see for UR students," I couldn't think of a worse "must-see" for the majority of students in our community. These students believe in the conservative principles and traditions that have guided our university since its founding in 1830. It is not hard to recall that Richmond was first established as a southern Baptist seminary for men, ideals that would not support a week of homosexual rejoicing. Perhaps a week dedicated to seeking a traditional heterosexual relationship would be more beneficial for the student body, considering the large amount of students that want to see more dating between men and women on campus. While there should be a certain level of understanding for all sex-

ual preferences, I am tired of The Collegian's promotion of in-your-face homosexuality that is an entirely inaccurate representation of what the University of Richmond is today and strives to be for the future. There are several groups on campus that address homosexual issues. These groups should be afforded the same print space as all other groups, not the current disproportional representation. If homosexuals feel so uncomfortable at Richmond, then stop flooding The Collegian with your whining complaints about equality, and transfer to a more accepting institution.

Speaking on behalf of conservative students in the university community, I would like to be able to enjoy The Collegian in the future without having to tolerate yet another biased homosexual article. I have absolutely no disrespect toward the homosexuals on campus, but I will not tolerate The Collegian's endorsement of a

predominantly homosexual lifestyle on our campus. Furthermore, I am aware that there are many parents, alumni and outside readers who have been shocked by the amount of homosexual material in The Collegian and question the direction of the university as a whole. Rather than placing the university's reputation in jeopardy, I suggest publishing articles which accurately portray student life at Richmond. If appropriately representing life at UR means more articles about homosexuals, certainly continue this trend. But, I strongly believe there is a vast majority of students here that will not agree with articles promoting homosexual lifestyles at the University of Richmond. Speaking for these students and myself, I would like to see the Collegian publish a more proportional distribution of articles that truthfully represent the student body.