



The NAACP filed a suit against Hanover County on Aug. 16 over two schools, Lee-Davis High School and Stonewall Jackson Middle School. Photo by Wessam Hazaymeh

Hanover County School Board shows no signs of changing name

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In a mostly white county about 10 miles northeast of Richmond, a petition has gained almost 7,000 signatures to keep the names of two schools named after Confederate officials, Stonewall Jackson Middle School and Lee-Davis High School.

The Hanover County School Board — which covers a district that is about 86% white according to the U.S. Census Bureau — shows no sign of changing the names

of the two schools, despite a recent lawsuit filed by the NAACP.

The NAACP suit argues that the usage of Confederate names forces students of color to “champion a legacy of segregation and oppression,” violating their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights to free speech and equal protection.

The suit states that requiring black students to attend schools that blatantly glorify Confederate figures — Lee-Davis’ mascot is the “Confederates” and Stonewall Jackson’s is the “Rebels” — forces them to experience “racial harassment” producing long-term injury.

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Mack Shank, VCU junior,
Lee-Davis drumline instructor

required to identify as ‘Confederates’ or ‘Rebels’ in order to participate in school activities,” the suit states, “they are required to endorse the violent defense of slavery ... and the symbolism that these images have in the modern white supremacist movement.”

Mack Shank, a VCU junior and drumline instructor at Lee-Davis, said he tries to educate his students on the history behind their school mascot, and how it may negatively affect others.

“I strongly believe the name should be changed,” Shank said. “I believe it has a deep negative impact on not just the students’ understanding of the Civil War, but their political sensitivity for their whole lives.”

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Police release photos from investigation of alleged Snapchat rape

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VCU police have relased images of two people of interest in a sexual assault that was reportedly recorded and posted on Snapchat.

Interim Chief of Police Mike O’Berry stated in an email release that police believe the assault occurred late Saturday night or early Sunday. The release states detectives don’t know where the assault occurred, but



Photo released by VCU Police

they believe it happened in an apartment or private residence.

Police said the two men were walking from Oregon Hill to the Monroe Park campus, as seen on VCU’s security cameras. Footage also showed the men walking along West Main Street near Gladding Residence Center, known as GRC.

Police are asking students and community members who were downtown Saturday night and early Sunday morning to contact 804-828-1196 or send a tip via the LiveSafe app.

“Students or community members ...

may have seen or met them at a party, restaurant or store or may know them personally,” the public safety advisory stated. “Any amount of information you can provide about their identities and whereabouts this weekend will help our investigation.”

The two individuals were asking VCU students about parties downtown, according to reports received by police.

A tweet went viral yesterday stating a VCU student was filmed on Snapchat while being raped, and that VCU Police couldn’t take action because officers “can’t do anything be-

cause they can’t determine the location.”

A tweet — posted by another user — includes a screenshot of a Snapchat message stating a man filmed his friend sexually assaulting a woman, and posted it on his Snapchat account.

VCU Police responded on Twitter yesterday that they were investigating the report. Police spokesperson Corey Byers said in an email that VCU Police began investigating the reports Sunday.



Photo released by VCU Police