SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

"I always told my husband that God didn't want this case solved, because once we learned about it, we would find out it was worse than what we thought. And it turned out to be just that."

- JoAnn Compton, mother of Laurie Ann Powell



JoAnn Compton in her daughter's bedroom on April 1,1988, in Gloucester County. Her daughter, 18-year-old Laurie Ann Powell, had been missing since March 8.

MORE THAN A PERSON CAN HANDLE'

Young woman's family suffering fresh heartache after serial killer's link to her murder alters long-held beliefs

By Peter Dujardin | Staff writer

t was March 8, 1988. A car with several young people inside careened down a deserted stretch of Hickory Fork Road in Gloucester County.

About 11:30 p.m., Laurie Ann Powell, 18, and her boyfriend of three years, Chris Cutler, began to argue. She demanded he stop the car and let her out. "Laurie Ann stormed out of the car near Route 17 in White Marsh," the Daily

Press reported at the time. Powell's mother, JoAnn Compton, now 74, said her daughter was upset the 20-year-old

Cutler was driving erratically. "She wanted him to let her drive, and he wouldn't do it," she

About 40 minutes after he dropped off Powell, Cutler returned to look for her. But he couldn't find her. Residents at nearby homes and employees at a convenience store also hadn't

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Laurie Ann Powell was found dead in the Elizabeth River on April 2, 1988. COURTESY

Student-athletes deal with dark side of sports gambling and social media

ODU players say they are increasingly facing formerly taboo issue

By David Hall Staff writer

NORFOLK - If there has been a celebrity walking among Old Dominion University's student body for the past two academic years, it's been Colton Joseph.

The football team's starting quarterback since early last season, Joseph has had rightful praise heaped upon him as the Monarchs, under his on-field leadership, have barreled toward the third bowl appearance in program history and their first

winning season in nine years. A sophomore from Newport Beach, California, Joseph has benefited as much as perhaps any athlete on campus from Name, Image and Likeness rules that have afforded him financial compensation. In September,



Old Dominion Monarchs quarterback Colton Joseph greets teammates after a game against the Georgia State Panthers at S.B. Ballard Stadium in Norfolk on Nov. 29. PETER CASEY/FOR THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

Joseph joined a group of college football players from Clemson, LSU, Michigan, Florida State and other major programs in being paid to promote a national fried chicken chain.

As the program grows in popu-

larity, so does the quarterback.

But being the face of the team comes with unseen consequences, especially in today's climate.

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12 killed in South African mass shooting Saturday

By Gerald Imray Associated Press

CAPE TOWN, South Africa A mass shooting carried out Saturday by multiple suspects in an unlicensed bar near the South African capital left at least 12 people dead, police said. The victims included three children aged 3, 12 and 16.

Another 13 people were wounded and being treated in the hospital. Police didn't give details of the ages of those who were injured or their conditions.

Police adjusted the death toll after they said a 12th victim died in the hospital.

The shooting happened at a bar

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INSIDE

Evictions rise

Data shows eviction filings in Virginia are returning to pre-pandemic levels. Page 2

Show goes on

Peninsula Town Center movie theater is back open with with new operator. Page 3

LOW CLOUDS AND FOG High: 51 Low: 36

Details on the back page of news



