

W&M anti-abortion demonstrator hit

The student was handing out cards on campus. Police are looking for the assailant. **C2**

DAILY PRESS 7/19/08

Pro-life student assaulted at W&M

BY CAROL SCOTT

cscott@dailypress.com | 223-5686

WILLIAMSBURG — A College of William and Mary student was punched in the face as she handed out anti-abortion cards on campus Tuesday night, a university spokesman said.

The victim, a William and Mary junior, was taking part in a demonstration when another woman struck her and pushed her to the ground around 7 p.m., according to police reports.

"Physically, she's fine. Emotionally, she's a little bit shaken," said Danny Cogut, a junior at the university and a member of William and Mary Students for Life, which organized the demonstration. The university isn't releasing the name of the student.

"I would hope that (this is) a campus that prides itself on a tradition of respect and tolerance of different viewpoints," Cogut said.

Police are looking for a white female with wavy brown hair who is around 5 feet 8 inches or 5 feet 9 inches tall. They have no way to tell if the woman was a student, said university spokesman Bill Walker. Cogut said he thinks the assailant was a student.

Tuesday night's rally was meant to be a "memorial for victims of abortion," according to a news release from Students for Life. The demonstration, near the college's Crim Dell Amphitheater, included six or seven students who were passing out cards with statistics on abortion. ■