

The Ring-tum Phi

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 101, No. 11

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1999

Freshman dies in car accident

Speeding truck driver causes massive pileup on Interstate 81

By Polly Doig
NEWS EDITOR

Slippery early morning conditions on Interstate 81 near Lexington and an out-of-control tractor-trailer combined to claim the life of a Washington and Lee University freshman on Sunday, Jan. 3.

Jonathan Owen Nabors, 19, of Alabama, was returning from Christmas break to begin his second semester at W&L when the car in which he was traveling with his family was crushed between two tractor-trailers in a 16-vehicle pileup. Nabors and his 15-year-old sister Leah Marie were killed instantly in the accident.

Nabors' mother was transported to Roanoke Memorial Hospital, where she was initially listed in critical condition and put on life support. As of Friday evening, she remained in critical condition.

His father Eddie Nabors also sustained injuries, but was released from Roanoke Memorial on Friday, and is expected to return to Alabama for a memorial service for his children.

Dean of Freshmen Mark Dalhouse

has been the school's contact with the Nabors family.

"I was just so impressed by the family," Dalhouse said. "They're just extremely close-knit, and are handling this tragedy extremely well under the circumstances."

The Nabors have no other children. "My heart goes out to them," Dalhouse said.

The accident began early on the morning of Jan. 3, with the occurrence of a relatively minor accident. The vehicles involved had been moved to the side of the road, and a State Police officer was helping travelers when a tractor-trailer traveling too fast for conditions hit the police car and jackknifed.

The driver of the tractor-trailer, Douglas Hubert Austin, 49, of the Memphis area, was killed in the wreck. Within moments, however, at least 11 other vehicles, five of them tractor-trailers, had piled up in one of the worst accidents local rescue squads have dealt with in years. A total of 28 people were injured, and the interstate was closed for approximately 12 hours with traffic backed up for miles.

See related story on page 4

Police arrest two on drug charges

Student calls police raid an act of 'madness,' questions methods

By Heather McDonald
STAFF WRITER

Senior Andrew Harrell and former W&L senior Alexander Chris Kurnellas were arrested on drug charges after a 10-man tactical team searched their three-story house in early December.

An informant purchased a quarter pound of marijuana from Kurnellas on Dec. 4, according to the Rockbridge Regional Drug Task Force.

The search warrant was served the night of Dec. 5 by a tactical team consisting of Virginia State Police, Lexington City Police Tactical Teams, a state police canine handler and deputies from the Rockbridge County Sheriff's Department.

After the search, Kurnellas was charged with 1) distribution of more than .5 oz. but less than 5 lbs. of marijuana, 2) possession with the intent to distribute more than .5 oz but less than 5 lbs., and 3) distribution of more than .5 oz. but less than 5 lbs. of marijuana.

The first charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years and a \$2,500 fine; the second charge carries a maximum penalty of 30 days and a \$500 fine; the third charge carries the same penalty as the first charge.

Kurnellas withdrew from W&L at the beginning of winter term. Harrell was charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

Harrell described the night that the search warrant was served as "madness."

"There were a lot of people, in full riot gear, and they dragged [all five residents] out of bed. . . It was just madness. I've watched COPS on TV before, when they bust people for illegal arms smuggling and they didn't use this many people. [The cops] scared the shit out of us," Harrell said.

"They wouldn't let us get dressed [during the search]," Harrell said. "I was sitting in just my boxers in the coldest room of the house, for like two hours, while they searched the house. They tried to

question me, and they refused to let me get dressed. I was like, 'No, this isn't illegal or anything.'"

Bob Chapel, of the Rockbridge Regional Drug Task Force, said the bust was routine in nature. In the past year, there have been more than 100 busts in the Rockbridge, Lexington and Buena Vista areas.

"We normally use seven or eight men on a tactical team," Chapel said. "But this house had three levels, so we used ten men."

Chapel said he was unsure how much the operation cost.

"[The DTF] doesn't add up the costs. However, the costs include things like man hours, vehicles, gas, wear and tear on the wires (for transmitting information), and money used to buy the drugs from the informant," Chapel said.

Harrell thinks what he viewed as the seriousness of the bust may have been due to what the informant may have told the police.

"[The informant] might have told them we had more stuff, but there really wasn't," Harrell said. "[The informant] lived at our house over the summer. We gave him free room and board, and he cut our grass. . . He used to be the main supplier [of marijuana] to W&L, but then when someone started selling it for less, he got mad."

"Nothing has made sense in the past few days," Harrell said. "It's all fascinating to me that they did all of this for a bunch of guys with a little pot. They're nuts. I've never seen anyone get guns pointed at them for having pot! Even the warrant just said marijuana. . . no cocaine, no hard drugs."

In addition to the marijuana, police found \$500 worth of highway road signs in the house. Charges have not been brought against the residents of the house for these signs. Harrell maintains the signs are not theirs.

"Some fraternity had the house for five years [before us]. We rented the house from a landlord. The road signs were stacked in corners when we got there, and we just left them there. . . They aren't ours," Harrell said.



Sorority rushees listen carefully to the rules they must obey during their last day of rush. During the next two months, these girls will be at the beck and call of their future 'sisters.' More about women's rush on pages 6 and 7.

Elrod recovers from surgery

By Polly Doig
NEWS EDITOR

Washington and Lee University President John W. Elrod underwent surgery last Thursday to remove a cancerous kidney.

The operation has been termed an initial success, according to W&L's director of communications Brian Shaw, and Elrod is resting comfortably at the New York Hospital where the procedure was performed.

"As far as we know he is doing very well," Shaw said. "The surgery proceeded as expected and his doctors reported that things 'looked good.' The final report on the analysis of the tissue around the kidney

that was removed will not be available until the end of next week."

The surgery was performed by W&L alumnus Dr. Darracott Vaughan '61, the head of the urology department at Cornell University.

Elrod was initially diagnosed with transitional cell carcinoma in his right kidney at the Augusta Medical Center. Dr. Vaughan confirmed the diagnosis when Elrod sought a second opinion.

"John experienced some discomfort and had it checked out," Shaw said. "The examination revealed the cancer. His first diagnosis was in mid-December. The second opinion was delivered just before Christmas."

Although risks exist every time a

patient undergoes general anesthesia, the removal of a kidney is not considered to be high risk, and Dr. Vaughan is optimistic regarding the operation. He said that no follow-up treatment will be necessary, if, as he suspects, the tumor has been caught early.

Elrod is expected to return to Lexington within five to seven days after the operation, according to Shaw.

"After he gets back he will recuperate at Lee House and probably do some work," Shaw said. "We don't really expect him to be back at full capacity until the first of February at the earliest."

Throughout Elrod's period of recuperation, his office is being managed by Farris Hotchkiss, vice presi-

dent of university relations, and Laurent Boetsch, vice president for academic affairs.

"We had to reschedule a few meetings at which John's presence was essential," Shaw said, "but basically it has been, and will be, business as usual until John is fully recovered and back working."

Shaw stressed that the operation is relatively minor in nature, and that Elrod is expected to make a full recovery.

"There are many people who have this operation and go on to lead normal, active lives," Shaw said. "There has been absolutely no talk of him stepping down. Aside from this problem, John is healthy, vigorous and ready to lead the university."

Hotline misdialers bother Lex resident

By Polly Doig
NEWS EDITOR

For Lexington resident Pam Mayo, snow is a bittersweet event. Her husband earns part of his living plowing snow. Yet, along with the season's first flakes, Mayo can anticipate a flurry of unwanted early morning phone calls.

Mayo's phone number is 463-GOOD, one digit away from Washington and Lee University's inclement weather line, 462-GOOD.

"Basically, anytime the weather gets bad, these calls start pouring in from students wanting to know what the road conditions are," Mayo said. "The majority of them occur before 7 a.m., and I've had people call at 2 in the morning before."

According to Mayo, the problem has been ongoing for more than a year now, with no sign of slowing down, as evidenced by last week's bad weather and subsequent calls.

"[Last week] when the weather was so bad, I got almost 70 calls between 7 and 10 a.m.," Mayo said. "And I have caller I.D., and most said W&L."

The common error is compounded for Mayo by W&L students' rude behavior.

"Most of the time, I answer the phone, and people just immediately hang up," Mayo said. "They don't even have the courtesy to say 'sorry, wrong number.' I've only spoken to one girl who was nice enough to tell me that she was trying to reach the weather line."

Changing her phone number, however, is not an option for Mayo.

"I've had my phone number for a good while now," Mayo said. "I

don't see why I should have to change my number. The university should do something about this problem. Brian [Shaw, director of communications] said that he's going to try and get another number, so he's working on it."

According to Shaw, the university is looking to make a change with the existing system, but is encountering problems.

"We are looking for a different number at this point," Shaw said. "However, the problem is that 463 numbers, in particular those that are easy to remember, are hard to come by."

For the time being, when the weather in Lexington takes a turn for the worse, not worrying about the phone ringing and getting a full night's sleep is an impossibility for Mayo.

"We run our business out of our home, and when my husband's out on the road I have to take these calls," Mayo said.

1999 Men's Rush and Pledge Statistics

Rush Statistics:

Number of rushees: 236
Number of upperclass rushees: 5
Number of transfer rushees: 4
Number of freshmen ineligible for rush due to grades: 26

Pledge Statistics:

Number of official pledges: 200
Number of upperclass pledges: 4

House	Pledges
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	21
Phi Kappa Sigma	18
Sigma Chi	17
Sigma Phi Epsilon	16
Phi Kappa Psi	16
Kappa Sigma	16
Phi Gamma Delta	15
Sigma Nu	14
Pi Kappa Phi	14
Phi Delta Theta	14
Chi Psi	11
Pi Kappa Alpha	9
Beta Theta Pi	9
Lambda Chi Alpha	4

—courtesy of the Interfraternity Council

The Ring-tum Phi

January 11, 1999

OPINION:

Parking problems persist, Independent complains about Greek pranks

PAGE 3

W&LIFE:

Phish album disappoints, tips for surviving cold weather

PAGES 4

SPORTS:

Men's basketball wins, wrestling wins

PAGES 5



Sorority rush results on pages 6 and 7

ARCH.
FOLIO
378.755
R552
1998/99
v. 101
no. 11
C.2

The Ring-tum Phi NEWS

PAGE 2

JANUARY 11, 1999

Phi congratulates students who achieved Dean's List

The following students have completed fall term with 12 or more credits with a term g.p.a. of at least 3.400 and cumulative g.p.a. of at least 2.000 and no individual grade below C (2.0). ** Indicates that the student is also on the Washington and Lee Honor Roll for completing fall term with a term g.p.a. of at least 3.750.

- Mims Eshelman Adams '99A
Brittany Anne Ahlstrom '00A
Sarah Lynn Aiman '99A **
Didem Akyel '01A
Charles Woodruff Allen '99A
Ashley Alliene Anderson '01A
Sergei Alexandrovich Antonov '99A **
Lee Anne Applegate '01A
Kendra Louise Archer '99C **
John Talbot Arnold '99C
Elizabeth Anne Arthur '99A **
David Neely Avery '02A
Michele Lee Backus '02A **
William Jeffrey Bahl '02A
Kathleen Evingston Baird '02A **
Kathryn Rhett Baldwin '01A **
Robert Renton Baldwin '00A **
Christopher McNeill Ball '00A
Joseph Bassam Barakat '01A
Rachael Elizabeth Barlow '99A **
Jeffrey William Barnes '01A **
Ann Cabell Baskerville '02A **
Evan Wareing Beale '01A
Jackson Talley Beardsley '01A
Taylor Beaupain '00C
Joshua Thornton Beckham '99A
Andrew Duane Beckler '99A **
Emily Ann Belcher '00C
Shannon Elizabeth Bell '00A
Kelly Elizabeth Benson '99C
Edmund Travis Benton '00C
Gerard Anand Best '02A
Joseph Michael Bestie '99A **
Morrison Curtis Betha '02A
Juliet Marie Bickford '00A
Daniel Moffitt Birdwhistell '01A
Erik Robert Bittner '99C
Richard Cappe Black '02A **
Thomas Gately Blair '99C
Tully Talbot Blalock '00C
Robert Worrell Bland '02A **
Suzanne Miriam Blum '00A **
Julie Alissa Boncarosky '01C
Christopher George Bond '99C
Isaris Bonilla '99C
Kristen Renee Bonnema '02A **
Kristine Ann Borden '99A
Elizabeth Eleanor Borges '01A
Bret Douglas Bowerman '99C **
Rachel Leanne Bowles '01A **
Lee Alexander Bowles '01A **
Heather Marie Bradley '99A **
Lauren Elizabeth Bradshaw '01A **
Christine Elizabeth Bragg '99A
Robert Roy Brigrance '99A
Elizabeth Calder Britt '99C
Ronald Norval Brown '00C
James Andrew Browne '00A **
Rebecca Ann Bruggeman '99C **
Virginia Ann Brumby '01A **
Allison Michelle Bruneau '01A
Erin Ashley Buck '00A **
Mary-Sommers Burger '99A
Kristen Elizabeth Burr '00A **
Amy Lynn Calce '01A
Mackenzie Smyth Caldwell '00A **
Ruth Elizabeth Caldwell '01A
Joseph Boyd Camak '00A
Scott Stewart Cameron '01A **
Amanda Lynn Cannon '02A **
Claire Anne Cannon '99A
Carolyn Lee Carlson '00A
Brian Christopher Carney '00C
Joshua Eben Carpenter '00A
Thomas Martin Carr '99A
Kristin Ellen Carroll '02A
Wendy Nadia Case '01A
John Brandon Chalk '00A **
Joshua Donald Chamberlain '01A **
Samuel Moore Chase '99A
Vanessa Louise Chen '01A **
Brent Tyler Christ '99C
William David Christ '01A **
John Paul Cimina '02A
Lance V. Clack '00A
Elizabeth Taff Clark '00A
Ladonna Blaine Clarke '02A
Edward Canteley Clarkson '00A **
Meagan Elizabeth Clement '02A **
Matthew James Clymer '00C **
Laura Michelle Cohen '99A **
Sarah Lauren Cohen '02A
Michele Kim Connors '00A
Jeffery Kenneth Cook '01A
Hillary Beth Coombs '99A **
David Paul Cooper '99A
Minton Truitt Cooper '99A
Timothy Francis Cormier '01A
Deirdre Rose Coyle '00A
Jordan Lorne Coyle '01A **
Andrew William Crawford '01A
John Aubrey Creek '02A
Robert Brian Crews '01A
Kathleen Grace Curameng '00C
David Jason Damiani '00A
Gary Cornelius Davis '02A
Jennifer Lynn Davis '01A
Joshua Isaac Davis '99C
Lillian Hallett Davis '99A **
Russell Alan Davis '01A
Enid Elizabeth Dean '99A
Mary Nelson Dickinson '99A
Benjamin Grant Dickson '02A **
Emily Barrington Dixon '02A **
Nancy Elizabeth Dixon '00A
Peter Gardner Dodge '99A
Allyson Ann Doiron '01A
Allison Agnes Doyle '99C
Mary Hagood Drennen '02A
Henry Charles Driscoll '00A **
Ruth Wakefield Duncan '01A
Keri Anne Dunphy '99A **
Ellen Rebecca Dupps '01A
Bess Jones DuRant '02A
Katherine Derbes Eagan '01A **
Dana Marie Early '01A **
Brooke Erica Easton '99C
Christopher Alan Edwards '99A **
George Frederick Eichley '01A
Ashley Elizabeth Eigher '99C **
Ryan Mark Elliott '99C **
Katherine Elsnab '02A
Courtney Leighan Emich '02A
Brian Jeffrey Eutermoser '00A **
Craig Sloan Evans '99C
Noelle Elizabeth Evans '02A **
Elizabeth Brooke Evenson '02A
Hiljary Camilla Everist '00A
MacNeille Everist '02A
Alicia Marie Faderewski '00C
John Lee Farringer '99A
Joel Patrick Fechin '01A **
Sarah Elizabeth Feinberg '99C **
Erin Kathleen Ferguson '01A **
Sean Brandon Fierke '99A
Shelby Ryan Fierke '02A **
Megan Poynter Fink '00A
Rebecca Helen Fitzsimmons '99A
Silvana Elizabeth Flinn '02A
Emily Thomas Forman '01A **
Lauren Ann Francis '99A **
Amy Michelle Frazier '99A
Tara Ann Friedel '02A
Jennifer Ann Frost '99C
Matthew J. Gallo '02A
Noelle Marie Gamble '00C
Thomas Henry Garrett '00C
Gregg Joseph Genetti '99C **
Russell Kingsbury George '00A
Kathryn Joan Giard '00A
Frances Norwood Gilbert '99C
Nicole Suzanne Gilkeson '02A **
John Michael Gilman '99C
Jordan Samuel Ginsberg '01A **
Carl Robert Ginther '00C
Jude Collin Gleason '00A **
Matthew Lee Gooch '01A
Sara Kate Goodwin '00A
Alysia Margaret Graber '99C
Tarah Shana Grant '99A **
Amy Hamby Gray '99A
Charles Tyler Green '01A **
Riley Erickson Greene '00A **
Frances Parnes Groberg '01A
Thomas Galen Grove '02A
Susan Ellen Groves '01A **
John David Grumbine '99C
Lee Ann Gschwind '99A **
Gerald Lionel Guilbert '02A **
Aaron Louis Haberman '99A
Eline Ely Haenebalcke '02A
Nathaniel James Hager '99A
Donald Clayton Hall '00C
Hayley King Hall '00A **
Leah Michelle Hall '99A **
Sarah Louise Hall '00A
Sarah Ann Hardee '01A
Mary Elizabeth Harmon '99A
Judson Ian Harner '99C
Malcolm Erskine Harris '99A
Mary Rebecca Harris '99A
Joshua Thomas Harvey '00A **
James Worrill Haslam '99C
Christopher Edward Hatzis '00A **
Joseph Pierce Hawkins '00C
Geoffrey Bradford Hayden '00C **
Lezael Andrea Haynes '00C **
Victoria Clark Hays '01A
Anne Cummins Hazlett '01A
Raquelle Alicia Headley '01A
Michael L. Healey '99A **
Warren Eliot Hedges '00A
Frederick Mark Heiser '01A
Shari Noelle Henderson '01A
Daniel Ewell Hendricks '99A **
Robert Lewis Hendricks '00C
Pamela Gray Herbert '99A **
Margaret Kelly Herring '99A
Wade Randall Hess '02A
Sara Naomi Heusel '02A **
Kenneth Brooks Hickman '02A **
Mary Kimbrell High '00C
Kristen Noel Hitchens '00A **
Margaret Anne Hoehl '99A **
Wesley Alden Hoke '00A **
Graham Davis Holding '02A
Marium Grace Holland '99A **
Scott McLean Hook '00A
Nathan Rollins Hoot '01A **
Stephen Day Hopkins '00A
Rosalie M. Taylor Horner '00A **
Stephen Christopher Hostetter '02A
Paul Daniel Hourigan '99C **
Heather Michelle Howard '02A **
Nadiyah Mateen Howard '99A
Matthew James Howenstein '01A
John David Huntington '99C
Elizabeth Parry Huston '99A
G-Yoon Im '02A
Sula Beatrice Jacobs '00A
Christopher Patrick Johnson '00A
Cynthia Ann Johnson '00C **
Deena Nicole Johnson '01A
James Gowen Johnson '99A
Tyler Scott Jorgensen '01A **
Teresa Kelley Joy '99A **
Stephen James Kalista '99A
William Alexander Kanner '00A
Chase Alvin Karsan '99A
Alyssa Rachel Kaufman '99C
Julie Ann Kelley '02A
Christoph Arne Kemnade '99C
Clayton Hughes Kennedy '02A
Mark Allen Kennedy '01A
Tyler James Kenning '01A
Martha Mason Kieckhefer '99A
HyeWon Kim '01A **
Kevin Maxwell Kimmel '99C **
Emory Frampton Kinder '99A
Isis Calculus Kirby-O'Connell '99A **
Jeremy Brian Kirkland '02A
Ellen Sue Klenk '00A **
Matthew John Klimas '00A
Jeremy Todd Knezek '00C
Jill Elizabeth Kosch '00A **
Matthew Lee Kozora '02A
Anne Monica Lachiewicz '02A
Jane Selden Lacy '01A
Lauren Elizabeth LaFauci '01A
Katherine Caulkins Lamb '01A
Corinne O'Hayer Lane '02A
Samuel Paul Langholz '02A **
Jennifer Rachel Law '02A **
Michael Joseph Leaser '99A
Charles Drake Leddy '99C **
Alice Saunders Lee '01A
Joyce Kerri Lee '00A
David Andrew Lehman '99C
Elizabeth Armistead Lemon '99A **
Ryan Matthew Lepine '02A **
Thomas Weckesser Leshner '99A
Aliya Imani Leslie '02A
Joe Spencer Liles '01A
Christina Elizabeth Lollar '01A **
Christopher Boyd Loohey '99A **
David Aaron Love '00C
Davidson Glenn Lucas '02A
Amie Marie Lucier '02A **
Kathryn Marie Luskey '99C **
Sarah Ashley Lyon '02A
Heather Elizabeth Mahaney '02A **
Margaretta Jamieson Maher '00C
Rebecca Rose Makkai '99A
J.T. Aquinas Malatesta '00C
Emily Lynn Malin '00A **
Michael David Malinzak '02A **
Kirsten Rae Malm '01A **
Elizabeth Blair Manning '02A **
Margaret Ashley Marano '00A **
Matthew Paul Marks '02A **
Elianna Joella Marziani '02A **
Jason Matthew May '01A
Denise Michelle Mayo '02A
Scott Hansen McClave '00C **
Sara Anne McCrone '99A **
Aaron Wayne McCullough '99A
Mary Crawford McFall '99A **
Margaret Houston McGregor '99C **
Lauren Lee McKeever '00C
Stephanie Ann McKnight '00A
Samantha Marie McLemore '02A
Stacy Lyn McLoughlin '02A
Wendy M. Meade '00A **
Warren Thomas Mechan '00A **
Sarah Nicol Meldrum '99A
Zebulon Stelley Mellett '99A **
Douglas George Metcalf '02A
Cory Kristen Mettee '99C **
Christine Anne Metzger '01A **
Tiffany Delana Miles '99A **
Christian Kenneth Miller '02A
James Raymond Miller '02A **
Jason Ryan Miller '00C
Stephanie Miller '01A
Matthew Thomas Mills '00A
Michael James Miraglia '01A
Darlene Antonia Mitrano '02A
Meredith Anne Mlynar '00C **
Kathryn Ross Mobley '02A
Thomas Vincent Monaco '01A
Lee Price Moncrief '01A
Abigail Louise Montgomery '02A **
Catherine Marie Moore '99C **
Erin Katherine Moroney '99A
Kathleen Moroney '01A **
Jordan Cameron Morris '00A **
David Whitfield Morris '99A **
Ezra Starling Morse '02A
Robert O'Connor Moynihan '02A
Daniel MacKenzie Myer '02A
Christian Kleven Myers '00A **
Elizabeth Anne Nacozy '02A **
Robert Partlow Naftel '02A
Matthew Paul Neumayer '00C **
Kristoffer Johan Neville '99A **
Elizabeth Ann Newton '02A
Erica Neyland '01A
Jason Allyn Nichols '00A **
Roshni Mona Nirody '00A **
Casey Conrad Nixon '01A
Kelly Elizabeth Norton '99C
James Matthew O'Brien '01A
Autumn Jean Oczkowski '00A
Ji-Won Oh '02A
Elizabeth Leigh Olson '01A **
Michael Dennis O'Neill '00C
Susan Irene Osnato '99C
William Overbaugh '99A
Eric Jay Owsley '01A
Herbert Mills Palm '01A
Brittany Ann Palmer '01A
Melissa Vile Palombo '02A
James Brewster Parker '00C
Shelley Rogers Parks '02A
Matthew Seamus Patrick '99A
Marlen Paschalidou '01A
Brooks Berg Paulsen '00C
Rachel Alaina Perdue '01A **
Gwendolyn Derbes Perilliat '99C
Elizabeth O'Brien Perry '99A
Stephen Matthew Pesce '01A
Sara Kristen Peterson '01A
Matthew Richard Petrussek '02A **
Martha Veil Pettyjohn '00A
Justin Ronald Pfeifer '99A
Stephen Lewis Phillipson '01A
Ginger Renee Phillips '01A
Jennifer Pinyan '00A **
Emily Weldon Pipkin '99A **
Gregory Legare Pleasants '00A **
Darren William Pohlmann '99A
John Michael Power '02A
Anne Drew Powers '02A
Carolyn Troutman Pressly '02A **
Catherine Connole Price '99A
Brian James Prisco '00A **
Erica Lynn Prosser '99A
Catherine Barry Quinn '99A **
Hugh Kirkpatrick Rabb '01A **
Matthew Ryan Raley '01A
Alison Forrester Ralston '00C
Lucy Wright Rankin '02A
Keith Daniel Rauch '00A
Maria Socorro Rayas '02A
Reagan Allison Reaud '01A
Sarah Elizabeth Rector '99A
Heather Melcher Reid '00C **
Nancy LeAnne Reinhart '00C **
Robert Carl Reitingner '02A
Patrick Joseph Renton '01A **
Cecily Audrey Reynolds '99A **
Charles Lee Reynolds '99A **
Jann English Rhea '99A **
Daniel Lewis Riberkof '02A **
Hampton Booth Richards '99A
Carolyn Marie Richardson '00C
Elizabeth Umstead Richey '99A
Brian David Ricketts '00A
Katherine Michelle Riddle '00A
Sarah Lynn Riggs '01A **
Leah Edwards Robinson '99A **
Jesse Alan Rockoff '02A **
Fon Rogers '02A
Angela Christine Roman '01A **
Leonard Calvin Rorrer '99A
Christopher Charles Rosen '99C
Jeffrey Scott Rotondi '99A
August Frederick Ruckdeschel '00C
Susan Lee Ruge '02A **
Kimberly Ann Russell '01A **
Nicholas Robert Ryan-Lang '01A **
Linda Marie Salerno '99A **
David Allen Saunders '99C
Paul Josef Saupé '99C **
Leah Michelle Sawyer '01A
Nicholas Warren Sayers '02A
Nicholas David Sberna '02A
Leah Camille Schaefer '00A
Sarah Elizabeth Schandler '02A
Peter Carey Schaumber '99A
Daniel Martin Schreeder '02A
Emily Lynn Schulz '99A
Carl Edward Schulze '00A **
Megan Lindahl Schwarz '01A
Kathy Summers Crane '00C **
William Michael Seganish '00A
Jennifer Marie Selder '99A **
Alyssa Christine Sellers '99A
Jonathan Wilkins Sewall '02A **
Harold Ellis Shaw '02A **
Timothy Norman Showalter '00A **
Ashley Elizabeth Shreves '00A
Alison Callaway Simmons '01A
Andrew Cary Simmons '01A
Caroline Tison Simons '99A
Crystal Ann Simpson '01C
Tejpal Bal Singh '99A
Kristi Lynne Slafka '00A **
Althea Kendall Smiley '01A
Ashley Claire Smith '99A **
Hudson Day Smith '99C **
Matthew Spencer Smith '02A
Paul Maxwell Smith '01A
Ralph Harrison Smith '01A
Robert Hunter Smith '00A
Susan Neisler Smith '00A **
Zachary Eben Smith '01A
Charles McLean Snyder '99C **
Joshua Jason Sotol '00A
Meredith Jane Sorensen '02A **
Kathie Soroka '01A **
Lindsay Sommerville South '00A
Ali Burcak Soydan '02A **
Katherine Lindley Spahr '99A
Juliana Marie Spencer '01A
Gina Lynn Spiezalotti '01A **
Amanda Jo Stallard '99C
Nicholas Andrew Stawasz '01A
Michael Jeffrey Stefan '02A **
Kelly Elizabeth Stewart '00A **
Brian Carr Stisser '01A **
Tracy Ann Stitt '02A **
Justin Douglas Stockdale '00A
Thomas Alexander Stoklasak '02A **
Everett George Stook '99A
Thomas Christopher Stover '99A **
Claudia Blair Stowe '00A **
Amy Kathleen Stowell '99C
Steven Charles Straub '00A **
Jennifer Ruth Strawbridge '01A **
Jonathan Paul Stroebel '02A
Margaret Lee Stuntz '99A **
David Edward Sugarman '99A
Marshall Hunter Sutton '99A
Elizabeth Lucille Swann '02A
Stephanie Frederick Sweet '02A
Andrew Harlan Tapley '99A
Susan Erica Terzian '00C **
Amanda Lauren Thayer '00C
Matthew Mike Theodorakis '99C
Corinne Carter Thomas '02A **
Elizabeth Colgate Thomas '02A **
Ben Randolph Thompson '00A
Matthew Adrian Thurlow '00A
James Taylor Thurman '02A
Gerald Morton Titus '00A
Jennifer Anne Titus '00A
Micah Paul Tolman '02A **
Alison Marie Trinidad '02A **
Abram Jonas Trosky '02A
Campbell Lanier Tuskey '99A **
Rebecca Ashley Tyson '02A
Sumnima Udas '01A
Julieann Veronica Ulin '01A **
Shannon Viar Upchurch '99A **
George Michael Urban '99C
Nathan Kyle Urquhart '01A **
Jennifer Marie Vallidis '99A **
Robert Chris Vanderbrouk '02A **
Geoffrey Brian Veale '99C **
Khanh Don Nhat Vo '00A
James Turner Vossler '00A **
Jodi Lynn Walberg '02A
John Robert Walker '01A
John Israel Wall '99C
Denise Kathleen Wallin '00A
Dylan Patrick Walsh '00A
James Augustine Waskovich '00C
Lauren Kathryn Weedon '99A
Jeffrey Scott Wehner '00A
Meredith Lynn Welch '00A
Natalie Ann Welle '99C
Katherine Elizabeth West 'E **
Michael Bryan Wheeler '99A
Katherine Alexis Wheelock '99A
Mary Elizabeth Whipple '00A
Valerie Janiece Widener '99C
John Bradford Wiginton '02A
John Martin Henry Wilbers '99A
Lindsay Alison Williams '01A
Benjamin Gray Wilson '01A
Charles Maxwell Wilson '99A
Harry Maurice Wilson '99A
Robert Michael Wilson '99C
Mary Elizabeth Winfrey '00C **
Stephanie Ripley Wolfe '99A **
Christine Karning Wong '00A
Mary Elizabeth Woodard '01A **
Erika Ann Woodson '99A
Scott Andrews Woodward '02A
John Clifton Woolley '99A
Jonathan Michael Wright '99C
Patrick Beaumont Wright '01A **
Adam David Yablonski '01A
Amanda Roxanne Yates '99C
Margaret Shepherd Yates '00A
Courtney Catherine Yevich '00A
Joshua Neely Young '99A
Dorothy Yuan '01A **
John Philip Zimmer '00A **

Parents and alumni can subscribe to *The Ring-tum Phi* by sending a \$30 check to *The Ring-tum Phi*, University Center, Lexington, VA 24450.



TAKE
RISK
IN
LIFE.
(not in credit cards)

Introducing the American Express Credit Card for Students. Live for today. Build for tomorrow.

The American Express Credit Card for Students is a resource you can depend on. With benefits like big airfare savings, free credit information, and no annual fee, it'll help you get the most from your student years — and help you build a solid financial foundation for the future.



CALL TOLL FREE 1-877-NO-FEE-4U TO APPLY, OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.AMERICANEXPRESS.COM/STUDENT

JAMES G. LEYBURN LIBRARY
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY
LEXINGTON, VA 24450

JAN 12 1999



Craun presents class '62 lecture

Ed Craun, professor of English at Washington and Lee University, will present this year's Class of 1962 Fellowship Lecture on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in Northen Auditorium. The title of Craun's lecture is "Women's Voices, Men's Learning, and Moral Agency: Two Notorious Medieval Cases."

His lecture will explore how two late medieval bourgeois women, Geoffrey Chaucer's Wife of Bath and Margery Kempe, dealt with the male clergy's attempts to direct women's lives, especially their sexuality, their speech, and their desire to instruct others.

Expert discusses effects of alcohol

Dr. H. Scott Swartzwelder, a clinical professor of psychiatry at Duke University Medical Center and a senior research career scientist with the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, will speak on Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. in Northen Auditorium.

SARAH holds lip sync contest

Washington and Lee's SARAH (Students Against Rockbridge Area Hunger) will hold the 13th annual Lip Sync contest to raise money for local food pantries on Friday, Jan. 22.

The contest will be held at the Student Activities Pavilion. The admission charge is \$5 at the door or \$4 if the ticket is purchased in advance from the W&L Co-op.

Sign-up for the acts will be conducted at the W&L Co-op on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 20 and 21. The entry fee is \$30 per act. First prize is \$100 and a pair of tickets to Fancy Dress; second prize is \$50 and one FD ticket, and third prize is one FD ticket.

MSA sponsors MLK program

W&L's Minority Students Association is co-sponsoring a program on Martin Luther King, Jr. along with Lexington's First Baptist Church and Promji, the black student association at Virginia Military Institute.

The program will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16 at First Baptist Church, 103 N. Main Street in Lexington at 6 p.m.



Cards



Do you contemplate horrible tragedies wherever you go?

Does everyone want to be a hero? I know I sure do. A friend and I were talking over winter break about the strange thoughts and fantasies of heroism that cross our minds in everyday situations. Each of us was slow to admit these peculiar passions and desires, but after testing the water with one another, we discovered that we share some bizarre dreams.

Off His Rocker
Stephen Pesce '01

I thought that I alone entertain these ludicrous, often gory, fantasies of glory, but I was mistaken. At least one other demented soul holds such feelings. He is a great friend. And if he alone shares my plight, I am in good company. For he is a truly incredible person. But I'd like to ask

if anyone else shares our adventuresome state of mind. I'd like to admit my strange ideas, purge myself of my wild desires.

When on a plane, I would assume that many people read, sleep, listen to the flight attendant's instructions (well, maybe not) or listen to music. I, on the other hand, think about possible hostage situations and horrible crashes. I pick out the others in the plane whom I think would go over the edge. I also think about how the wacko is going to do it: gun, bomb, nerve gas, locusts, whatever. Then I establish a plan of action. How am I going to take the knave down? He will not succeed, and I am the stud-man who's going to make sure of that.

I think about crashes. The likelihood

of a water-landing on a flight from Roanoke to Atlanta is slim, but that doesn't stop me from deciding how to get every last passenger out of the smoldering wreck before it plummets to the depths of the ocean. Who is going to need the most help? The elderly gentleman in the front or the two-year-old

“I crave smoked ham and imagine my family gagged and tied up in the living room...”

twins in the back? I'll just have to rescue all three of them. Sometimes I even find myself a sidekick. First, we have some disagreement, hostility if you will, and then we resolve our differences and work together for the common good.

I never get bored on a three-hour flight. There is so much that could go wrong. And in my sick, twisted little head, I am the Renaissance man to overcome any of it. Liver transplant, open-heart surgery, Chinese tickle torture? I'm your man.

Sometimes when I am home with my family, I come back to the house very late — 3 or 4 in the morning. I would assume many people would just like to go to bed at that point. I crave smoked ham and imagine my family gagged and tied up in the living room while some psycho finishes the last of the ham from the refrigerator. I don't appreciate people abducting my parents, and nobody eats my ham. How should I deal with this situation? What's the best way to enter my house without making any noise? (One night my dad got nervous when he heard someone coming in through the bathroom window. Now he's learned to expect it. He says he wishes he'd have skipped the lecture on "better to be safe than sorry.") Well, then I have to decide how to deal with whatever weapon the criminal might have and choose my own weapon. Usually I decide to venture out with my bare hands. Of course, I am a little guy who has never even been in a fight, much less trained to fight. But, hey, that doesn't matter.

I hope this isn't sacrilegious, but sometimes I drift off during church services. I'm sure we've all experienced a boring sermon or two in our day, and we've all probably daydreamed about something at that point. Again, I turn to thoughts of hostage situations. How will I use my masterful skills to save the congregation from ultimate peril? Artfully swinging from the support beams or yanking a rug in just the right way could save us from some religiously frustrated wacko. Then my Catholic background takes hold of my mind and I wonder if the pope has any type of Secret Service. Are there any men in black cassocks and dark sunglasses looking for suspicious characters? There must be. I could do that.

These thoughts pop into my head all the time. I can't control them. I hope they are not too abnormal. Perhaps those Hollywood adventure films have distorted my sense of reality. When I forced my dad to watch the Superfriends everyday during break, I knew I had a problem. Dad saw titles like "The Attack of the Giant Squid" and said, "What the hell are we watching?" I thought, "Cool, an Aquaman episode! His mental telepathy with the sea life is vastly underutilized by the Friends."

A LETTER TO ALL STUDENTS

Proposal to reform student governance

To All W&L Students,

As the initiative to reform our student body constitution moves forward, I find myself indebted to the many of you who have called or written to express your interest, share your ideas, and offer your support. Much has been done in the several weeks since my original study of student governance was published, and I have every hope that this important work will soon be completed. Although the final proposals have yet to be written, it seems most appropriate for me to begin circulating some of the more significant ideas as soon as possible. In this way I hope to heighten the general interest in the process of constitutional reform. Furthermore, I hope that I may provide a fully reasoned explanation for these initiatives before those with institutional prerogatives to protect distort my positions. So I ask you to please read this and any subsequent proposals carefully. Should you have any commentary, I encourage you to contact me directly or through the office of *The Ring-tum Phi*.

Sincerely,
Patrick McCormack

Proposal One: Division of Powers

The concept of divided powers in government is not a new one, but has

always proven a great success whenever it has been employed. Consider it a specialization of labor — if you break a large task into its component parts, you may then design the most appropriate strategy for dealing with each of the specifics. The classic example of this is the American national government, with its division of executive, legislative and judicial powers.

Now it should be completely obvious that governing our university is not nearly as complicated as the example above. We collectively agree that the proliferation of committees on campus, especially where the student judiciary is concerned, has gone too far. With this in mind, the question became one of realigning our current structure to our maximum advantage without making life more complicated or confusing. The answer I propose is not a new one, as I remember some minor discussion of the topic occurred two years ago when I was serving on the White Book Review Committee.

The two groups that should be involved in the realignment are the EC and the class officers — basically, a shift toward the latter. I realize that this can be a sensitive subject to many. They incorrectly assume that criticism of the Executive Committee translates into criticism of the Honor System. When I conducted my poll some weeks ago the vast majority of the respondents linked the two by saying that the primary role of the EC should be to safeguard the Honor System.

If you examine the EC's rules of procedure (such as the practice of closed deliberations), you will see that it is best suited for its basically judicial role. When we examine the other main duties of the EC (making committee appointments and distributing the revenue of student activity fees), one has to wonder if its procedures are as effective. This is why I asked students

whether or not they would support making the appropriation and appointment processes more open and inclusive.

Again, the vast majority agreed that this would be a good thing. I believe this can be best achieved by empowering the Class Officers and Big Three Officers to handle the routine tasks of government. In this way we will avoid hampering the ultra-important role of the EC in adjudicating honor infractions.

This new grouping, which I would style the Student Congress, would come with many added attractions: it could operate on a more open basis than the EC (I envision regular students being able to see just how deliberations are done), it would involve more students in our government (thereby making it more responsive to general concerns), provide a broader platform for students to affect policy changes on campus, give the class officers a substantial chance to provide service to their respective classes.

In short, though, it would allow the EC to concentrate on its role as arbiters of Honor and allow others to handle the more political processes. The whole idea has a lot to be said for it, but I am afraid that I do not have the chance to fully explore the benefits here. If you have questions or concerns, then I look forward to hearing from any and all of you. If you understand the benefits of the proposal, then I ask you to try to discuss it at some point in the near future with others on campus. Even if this proposal is ultimately rejected, perhaps our discussions will allow another alternative to arise to address some of the weaknesses on campus.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Students demand better parking situation

To the editors of *The Ring-tum Phi*,

I would like to address an issue that I am sure most students here care very deeply about. As a freshman last year, I did not really concern myself with the lack of sufficient parking facilities at this school. This year, however, I have found such difficulty finding a legal parking place on campus that I usually keep my car in front of the Delt House. On several occasions, though, after making a quick run to Harry Teet, I have been unable to anywhere near the House and am forced to park as many blocks away from home as the store.

Washington and Lee wants to solve this problem with an immense parking garage. Well, where is the alleged garage? It seems like a trick to sucker the students with cars into keeping a minimum number of complaints about this problem. I have only one thing to say: we will NOT be silenced.

Respectfully,
Hillary Bryant, '01

Independent claims fraternity activities should stay within the Greek system

Dear editors,

Early on the morning of January 8th, someone plastered Vaseline on the door-

knobs and handrailings of Woods Creek West. I don't know who did it, but since this is rush week, it's probably some kind of fraternity prank. In a snowbank outside Woods Creek, ice graffiti reads "Pika Sux" and "Go Beta Theta Pi." It's really unfair that independent students have to deal with fallout from rush week.

Rush should be confined to the fraternities. Let them scream and yell and smear Vaseline all over the doors over there. But keep it away from independents. Independents choose to live on campus in order to avoid these kinds of things. We enjoy the peace, quiet, and serenity of living on the other side of The Hill from the fraternity houses.

Independents are treated unfairly in a lot of ways already. When grades are calculated and averaged, fraternities are categorized on an individual basis, but independents are all lumped together. Every year, campus statistics announce that fraternities have higher GPAs than independents, when in reality, the students with 1.8 and below who are counted as independents because they can't get into a fraternity freshman year, lower our average below that of many frats.

Independents also get less attention from the student press, student activity committees, and even from the administration.

It seems disgraceful that we should have to tolerate dumb fraternity pranks during Rush week on top of all this.

Sincerely,
Robert Marmorstein

The Ring-tum Phi urges you to submit letters or comments.

Quote of the week:

“I want to get on him . . . Oh, but he's too short. But I guess it doesn't matter if you're lying down.”

— Anonymous Junior

The Ring-tum Phi

Executive Editors	Tarah Grant Hollister Hovey
News Editors	Polly Doig John Stewart
W&L Editors	Ginger Phillips Erica Prosser
Opinions Editors	Stephanie Bianco Stephen Pesce
Sports Editor	Frances Groberg
Last Word Editor	Kevin McManemin
Copy Editors	Sarah Meldrum Meredith Mlynar
Photo Editors	Emily Barnes Scott Cameron
Production Assistant	Cliff Woolley
Business Manager	Jason Williams
Advertising Directors	Matt Lorber
Circulation Director	Lionel Brown

The Ring-tum Phi is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA. Funding for *The Ring-tum Phi* comes primarily from advertising and subscription revenues. The Washington and Lee Publications Board elects the Executive Editors, but *The Ring-tum Phi* is otherwise independent.

The Ring-tum Phi welcomes all responsible submissions and letters. All submissions must be in the Phi office, room 208 of the University Center, by noon on Friday to appear in that week's edition. *The Ring-tum Phi* reserves the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters, columns and "Talkback" do not reflect the opinion of *The Ring-tum Phi* Editorial Board. Advertising does not reflect the opinions of *The Ring-tum Phi* or its staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

The Ring-tum Phi
208 University Center
Washington and Lee University
Lexington, VA 24450
Telephone: (540) 462-4060
Advertising Office: (540) 462-4049
Fax: (540) 462-4059
E-mail: phi@wlu.edu
http://wlu.edu/~phi

Annual subscription rate: \$30

TO A CLASSMATE DYING YOUNG

Freshman Jonathan Nabors' life had an impact that won't be forgotten by the W&L community

By Elianna Marziani and Erica Prosser
STAFF WRITER AND FEATURES EDITOR

On Sunday, January 3, Washington and Lee University lost a good student and a great friend.

Freshman Jonathan Nabors, a graduate of Montgomery Academy in Alabama, was killed in a 16-vehicle accident on Interstate 81, just south of Lexington. The accident also took the lives of three other people.

Nabors' sister died in the crash, and his mother remains in critical condition at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. His father, Eddie, was one of dozens of people injured in the pile-up that involved at least eight tractor trailers. Eddie suffered cracked ribs and a torn shoulder. He also received 10 stitches on his face.

State Police 1st Sgt. Joe Peters told The Roanoke Times that the accident was the worst he has seen in his 28-year career, and it was certainly one of the worst that has ever occurred in Western Virginia.

When tragedies like this one occur, it can be easy to get lost in the statistics and lose sight of the fact that the victims are real people. Members of the W&L community are less likely to become desensitized, though, because in losing Jon, they have lost a well-liked and well-respected classmate.

The W&L counseling services are available to help students deal with his death, but in exploring his impact on campus, we chose to celebrate his life. Maybe students who didn't know Jon personally can get a small idea of who he was and how valuable his time here was to those who knew him.

Jon Nabors was 19 years old and an avid Alabama football fan; he even went to the New Year's Day game against Georgia Tech. He was planning to rush Kappa Sigma this winter, which is why some of the Kappa Sigs are flying their flag at half-mast for him.

He loved Dave Matthews Band, Phish and Widespread Panic. On campus, he was a politics major and a Summer Scholar. Jon did not lack faith, either; he was a practicing Baptist who planned to go to the University of Virginia law school, then work at an Atlanta law firm for a while before returning to Alabama. In the fall, he took religion, politics,

art and math, and he took golf in P.E. He even found time for volunteer work; he was a member of the Big Buddies program and had already taken his Little Buddy out to eat and to go bowling.

Beyond his interests, though, Jon was generally regarded as smart, kind, compassionate and motivated. Suite mate Mike Reynold said that he, Jon and other suite mates Micah Tolman and Claiborne Taylor would hang out together, playing two-on-two basketball, going to parties and staying up until 3 a.m. talking.

"We all enjoyed ourselves," Reynold said.

In his recollections, he remembered an example of Jon's determination: Jon had decided that he wanted to go to Mardi Gras over February break this year. Jon's parents were not at all happy with the idea, and

they had not given their consent. But Jon was still making arrangements, calling hotels and getting all the details worked out for the trip. When Jon's father met with Jon's suite mates Thursday night, he said that even though he had said that Jon would not be going to Mardi Gras, he and his wife knew that Jon would go anyway. He had set his mind to it, and everyone who knew Jon knew that, when he was determined to do something, he did it.

Taylor agreed with that observation.

"Jonathan was one of the strongest-willed people I have ever met," he said. "He had well-thought out and many times elaborate explanations for his thoughts on just about any subject."

"I always admired this about him, and believe it to be the quality of a very determined person. He knew exactly what he wanted and thought about life and he never was afraid to share it, even if it came in direct opposition to your own beliefs. And while this quality often translates into people who are very hard to get along with, this was not the case with Jonathan, and that is one of the things that is so special about him."

"While he may have disagreed with or flat-out hated the view you could take, he always honored it and was interested to hear your thoughts on it. And even if you argued with him over some certain topic, when all was said and done, he would think of you no less and treat you no differently," Taylor said.

Professor Alexandra Brown of the religion department had Jon in her New Testament class fall term, and she also

caught a glimpse of his tolerant and thoughtful determination. She said that, while he was quiet in class, he could be

passionate about some topics and shared that passion with his classmates.

"He did a report around the last day of the term about poverty and wealth in the New Testament," Brown said. "He obviously had some passion about it. The subject was that we are privileged here... he seemed to be dealing with the responsibilities of his privilege." Brown said that she was impressed by his responsibility and by the fact that he did an oral presentation instead of a paper; few students chose to stand in front of the class and present their thoughts.

"[That presentation] is an enduring image for me of Jon," she said. "It meant an awful lot to me, looking back on his life."

Through his determination and passion, though, Jon was also a laid-back and happy person. Reynold said that he could only recall one time when Jon lost his temper.

"It was during a Nintendo game," he said. Otherwise, Jon was relaxed and full of smiles.

Professors George Bent and Mark Rush also taught Jon during the fall, and both agreed that he was a quiet but friendly student.

"He seemed to be very pleasant, a very nice guy," Bent said.

Taylor had many similar impressions of his friend to share. "He had qualities that made it hard for people not to get along with him," Taylor said. "His upbeat attitude made it hard not to be excited just when you were around him."

"In him was a quality of genuineness, which could even be seen in his smile, and sincerity that made him the great friend to many that he was," Taylor said. "He always could remember people's names and things they had told him better than I could ever imagine, and I know it is because he wholeheartedly cared about what each and every one of these people had to say."

Overall, Jon is remembered as friendly, kind, strong, determined and irreplaceable.

"I could be having a terrible day and just the sight of him and his big smile made it hard not to just smile back and forget about crap that was bothering me," Taylor said.

Jon Nabors, you will be missed, and we will never forget you.

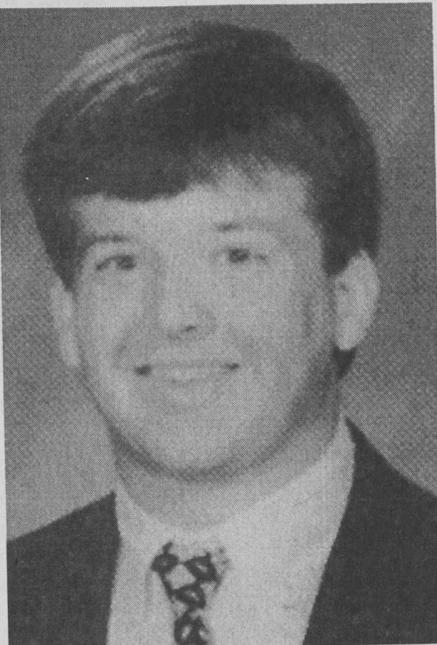


Photo courtesy of Brian Shaw

Freshman Jonathan Nabors, a native of Alabama, was killed January 3 on Interstate 81 in a 16-vehicle pile-up. His absence is deeply felt at Washington and Lee.

Phish album not up to group's potential

By Matt LaMotte
MUSIC REVIEWER

Phish has a whole lot going for it right now.

Its last two summer festivals, Lemonwheel and the Great Went, stand as two of the most grandiose testaments to musical worship in American history.

Phish has wealth beyond belief, a never-ending tour that seldom fails to sell out almost every venue visited, and the most faithful fan base of any band since the Grateful Dead. It's an enviable state of affairs, to say the least.

Commercial logistics aside, Phish has four of the most talented musicians of our generation.

Few musicians have their uncanny ability to combine jazz, rock, barbershop and bluegrass, laid underneath their uniquely pleasing pop exterior. One is

forced to wonder how these walking surveys of American musical accomplishment have avoided the commercial pop market for so long.

The answer to this conundrum emphatically reveals itself on Phish's latest studio effort, *The Story of the Ghost*.

Phish has become a victim of its own attributes: glimpses of genius abound, but musical ideas are continually scrapped for an opportunity to display the unparalleled ability Phish feels obligated to cram into every measure.

Some songs survive this self-indulgence: "Guyute" skips along on a fun rhythmic idea coupled with an engaging melody, changing continuously yet never compromising the catchy sophistication inherent in a well-written song. "Limb by Limb," possibly the album's best song, features melodies that con-

jure up Jimi Hendrix, tastefully accompanied by light, jazzy instrumentation that is some of Phish's best to date.



Photo courtesy of www.phish.com

Album cover for *The Story of the Ghost*, Phish's latest (but not very impressive) release.

Even "Wading in the Velvet Sea," despite its compositional predictability, floats pleasantly with a spare drum groove and delightful melodies that have become one of Phish's trademarks.

Unfortunately, the fun stops here. On excruciatingly tedious

tracks such as "The Moma Dance," "Fikus" and the first single, "Birds of a Feather," Phish goes to incredible lengths to demonstrate its skills, sadly at the expense of the listener.

Melody and texture are abandoned for tricky time changes and advanced compositional techniques that the average Phish fan can neither understand nor appreciate.

Good intentions are evident, but if Phish intended to cut a legitimate studio album, the group should have realized that more goes into the process than merely cutting concert jams to four minutes.

Worse still, Phish attempts to squeeze all of its musical ideas into these four-minute bursts.

Albums like *Rift* used this compositional technique successfully, carving and molding Phish's ideas into comfortable, flowing song structures.

In *Ghost*, however, the virtuosity is continually overzealous, and the quilt of musical diversity Phish has resided under for so long seems gaudy and incomplete.

Die-hard Phish fans claim the band shouldn't try to work in the studio, and that the live show is the only appropriate forum for its brand of performance. Albums like *Junta* and *Rift*, however, render this argument false.

Phish has the ability to record, when the group puts their self-indulgent, abstract demonstrations aside and focus on the craft of songwriting.

On this album, Phish fails to transfer its live abilities to record because of its unwillingness to sacrifice style for substance.

The Story of the Ghost stands as a testament to what happens when musicians, in their frantic attempts to impress their audience, lose sight of their songs and lose touch with their listeners. It is a disappointment; Phish has proved that it can do better.

Oh, baby, it's cold outside

Tips for surviving winter in Lex

By Erica Prosser
FEATURES EDITOR

Look outside, kids: winter has officially arrived. What does that mean to those of us cradled in Lexington? Well, it means new rules for getting around and having fun.

Drive with care: No matter what, take your time when driving around. Four-wheel drive does nothing on ice, and for those of us used to flatter lands or warmer temperatures, the road conditions can be unpleasantly surprising.

Allow extra time to get where you need to go, keep an ice scraper in your car, don't slam your brakes in slippery spots and don't go out at all if you're worried about it. If you're going someplace where you might get trapped in your car, bring along blankets and water.

Walking hazards: The sidewalks around here can be worse than the roads, and slick-bottomed shoes are a fall waiting to happen. Stay as much as possible on concrete that's only wet, but if you must walk on something frozen, snow might be better than ice. At least snow has a chance for traction, especially on the hills around campus.

Dressing for the weather: Don't sacrifice your health for the sake of fashion. It's cold outside, so dress for it! Coats and gloves are a must, hats are helpful (much of your heat is lost through your head), and even snow boots come in handy for this time of year. Layer your clothes if you need to, especially if you have a long walk to and from campus. When the temperatures plummet, don't stay outside longer than you absolutely must.

Keeping warm at home:

Whether you live on campus or off, you might be feeling a bit chilly in your room. Stay warm, but be careful. Check for drafts near windows and doors, and try to block the ones you find. Electric blankets can be a big help overnight, but be wary of space heaters. Almost every week, there's another story in the national news about a deadly fire caused by an unsupervised space heater. If you must use one, keep it away from curtains and other flammables, and don't let it run all night while you sleep.

Staying well: Even if you didn't get your flu shot last fall, there's hope for you. Eat healthy, avoiding fatty foods and empty calories. And above all, exercise! You'll stay warmer and fitter if you can find time to work out in these cold months. If the outdoor conditions are unsuitable, head to the gym and ride the exercise bike for an hour. Winter is an easy time to forget about fitness, so don't let it happen to you!

Fun winter activities: There's snow on the ground, so sand volleyball is out of the question. Now what? Well, the Homestead resort in Hot Springs is probably the nearest ski spot, so the intrepid can try out the slopes there. The Homestead also features ice skating.

Locally, the snow can be a source of fun, as well. You can build a snowman, have a snowball fight, make snow angels or just watch the snow fall. Stock up on hot cocoa, surf the Internet or plan your spring break vacation.

Above all, think warm thoughts and remember: summer is just around the corner.

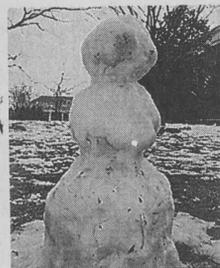


Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Bundle up, W&L: winter is here.



Photo courtesy of www.phish.com

Phish could disappoint its fans with its latest recording.

Econolodge

540-463-7371

Parents' Discount

Newly Renovated

Free HBO with Remote

No Smoking Rooms

Free Continental Breakfast

FLORIDA SPRING BREAK FROM \$159 PER WEEK*

SANDPIPER BEACON BEACH RESORT PANAMA CITY BEACH

2 OUTDOOR HEATED POOLS • 1 INDOOR HEATED POOL
HUGE BEACH FRONT HOT TUB
LAZY RIVER RIDE • SUITES UP TO 10 PERSONS
SAILBOATS • TIKI BEACH BAR • JET SKIS • PARASAILS

"HOME OF THE WORLD'S LONGEST KEG PARTY"
FREE DRAFT BEER ALL WEEK LONG—CALL FOR INFO!
1-800-488-8828
www.sandpiperbeacon.com (*rates per person)

17403 FRONT BEACH ROAD • PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32413

Men's basketball come up short against 'Noke

By Brendan Harrington
STAFF WRITER

Although the names and faces change year after year, the Roanoke Maroons have simply dominated the Washington and Lee Generals during the past decade.

The trend continued on Saturday afternoon at the Warner Center as the Maroons (5-6, 2-3 ODAC) used a lightning quick 20-2 run in the middle of the second half to down the Generals (3-7, 2-4 ODAC) 72-63 in an emotional contest.

Roanoke has now defeated the Generals eight straight times dating back to the 1994-1995 season, when Verne Canfield was still at the helm for the Generals. All told in the 1990s, W&L is 2-17 against the Maroons, their biggest rivals.

"Streaks are streaks, you can't get caught up in that," said W&L head coach Kevin Moore. "It's basketball — we have to play to our ability and win the game."

Early in the second half, it did not appear as though the Generals would be headed toward their eighth straight loss to Roanoke. W&L led 41-30 with 16:04 left to play when Roanoke stole the momentum away from the Generals, using a 20-2 run over a period of 6:48 to take a 50-43

lead that the Maroons would never relinquish.

"They just kicked our [butts] on the glass," Moore said. "We're right there battling for it but we don't box out and we try to tip it. We're not going to win jumping contests."

"They came out real hungry in the second half," junior forward Scott Hudson said, who led the Generals with 14 points. "I don't know how much time it was, but I looked up at the clock and couldn't believe we went from being up 11 to down by eight in what seemed like a couple of minutes."

At the height of the run, Roanoke scored six points in less than 20 seconds after sophomore guard Brad Dunleavy stole freshman guard Ben Johns' inbound pass from underneath the Generals' basket and dunked it home, cutting the Generals lead to 43-39 with 12:36 left to play.

Things then went from bad to worse for the Generals, as junior forward Rich Peterson picked up his fourth and fifth personal fouls in a span of 19 seconds and was sent to the bench with 12:03 remaining in the game after scoring only two points. It was the second consecutive game in which Peterson fouled out, and was virtually ineffective because of foul trouble.

"We need Rich out on the court," said senior captain Kevin Cobbin. "Even if they're questionable calls, he can't be getting in foul trouble."

Unhappy with the call that sent Peterson out of the game, an illegal screen away from the ball, Moore picked up a technical foul for arguing with the referee. The Maroons capitalized on both of the technical free-throws and then junior forward Kyle Murphy nailed a three-pointer on the resulting possession, giving the Maroons the lead 46-43 with 11:53 left in the game.

"The tide had turned already before the technical foul, I'll take the blame for the technical, but that's not the difference in the game," said Moore. "But I felt there was some injustice with Peterson. [The official] needs to show me where that fifth foul was."

"I don't usually criticize officiating because it's not usually a big factor in the game," Hudson said. "But I think it was today. The last two games I think the officials have taken Rich out of the game. I think we're getting robbed."

During the next eight minutes of the game, the Roanoke lead hovered around five points, but the Maroons pulled away in the final three minutes to claim the 72-63 victory.

Dunleavy added his second dunk of the game as time expired to put a final exclamation point on the comeback.

"I don't think we buckled down the way we should have and we let it slip away," Cobbin said. "But we will learn from the mistake and move on — we've got to."

Roanoke guard Paris Butler led all players with 16 points and three other Maroons finished in double figures. Sophomore Jason Strickland scored 15, Murphy had 14, and sophomore center Alex Phillips had 11.

For the Generals, sophomore guard Will Ballard had 12 points and sophomore guard Chad Braley added 10 to go along with Hudson's team-high of 14.

Roanoke shot only 28% from the field for the game, while W&L shot 42%. The Maroons held a significant advantage at the foul line as they visited the charity stripe more than three dozen times and were 21-37. The Generals took only 16 foul-shots and hit nine of them.

The Generals next travel to Dickinson on Monday night for a non-conference match-up.

"We'll do our best to try and get a win up at Dickinson and get back on track," Cobbin said. "That's all we can do, we have no other options."

Women's basketball marooned

By Tod Williams
STAFF WRITER

The Generals had played the Roanoke College Maroons only eight times prior to Saturday's matchup in the Warner Center. In Washington and Lee's history, the Generals have never beaten the Maroons. For a brief moment on Saturday afternoon, things appeared it might be different this time.

The Maroons raced out to an early 18-6 lead only five minutes into the game, but the Generals quickly responded with their own run of 23-11 to tie the game at 29 apiece with just over four minutes to play in the first half. Both teams managed two more free throws as the half expired, leaving the game in a 31-31 tie at the break.

The Generals continued to hang with Roanoke as the second half began, jumping up 34-31 on the Maroons. The game was again tied at 36-36 with 16:20 left in the game after W&L freshman guard Sarah Schmidt banged what seemed to be a three-pointer, but her toe was on the arch. On Noke's ensuing possession on the other end of the court, junior Maroon center Sarah Dingleddine dropped in an easy two on a hard backside cut as Roanoke went up 38-36 and earned the lead for good.

The lone senior on the General squad, co-Captain Chrissy Burghardt, nailed a 12-footer with 14:25 left in the game to pull the Generals to only three away at 41-38, but that was the closet W&L would get. Roanoke (7-2, 5-0 ODAC) took care of business as they closed out their 71-56 win over the Generals.

The story of the game for the Generals was the dominant presence of freshmen in the lineup. Two freshmen started, and within the final minute of play,

four of the five Generals on the floor were freshmen. The box score backs this up as well. Freshman Jessica Mentz posted a 19-10 double double, which included his career high points total. Freshman Megan Babst came in off the bench to give her own 11-11 double double performance. Junior guard Ansley Miller dropped in 10 for the General's cause.

Miller knew that the Generals loss came from their own shortcomings. "Our defense was okay," she said, "but we just couldn't score. We shot a lot better in the first half, but we just didn't get it done in the second half." The statistics back up Miller's statements. The Generals shot 36 per cent in the first half, but fell to 27 per cent in the second. The team was very consistent from the charity stripe, shooting 62 per cent on the day. Miller also said another thorn in the Generals' side was the absence of Jessica Morton, who only played 12 minutes, and only two minutes during the second half.

On Thursday evening, it was a different story at the Warner Center, as W&L rolled over Eastern Mennonite 71-41. Again, both Mentz and Miller chalked up double-digit totals, 14 and 13, respectively. Freshman Carter Thomas also had a stellar night. Starting at guard she had eight points and six rebounds, but more importantly, Thomas came within one assist of W&L's record of 10 in a single game.

The Generals (2-7, 1-4 ODAC) have an ODAC-filled week ahead of them, as they travel to Lynchburg College on Tuesday to face the 3-7 Hornets. On Thursday W&L will host Hollins, and on Saturday the girls will travel to Randolph-Macon.

Miller looks for a strong showing from the team on Tuesday. "[The game] is on our hands," she said. "We just have to take care of business."

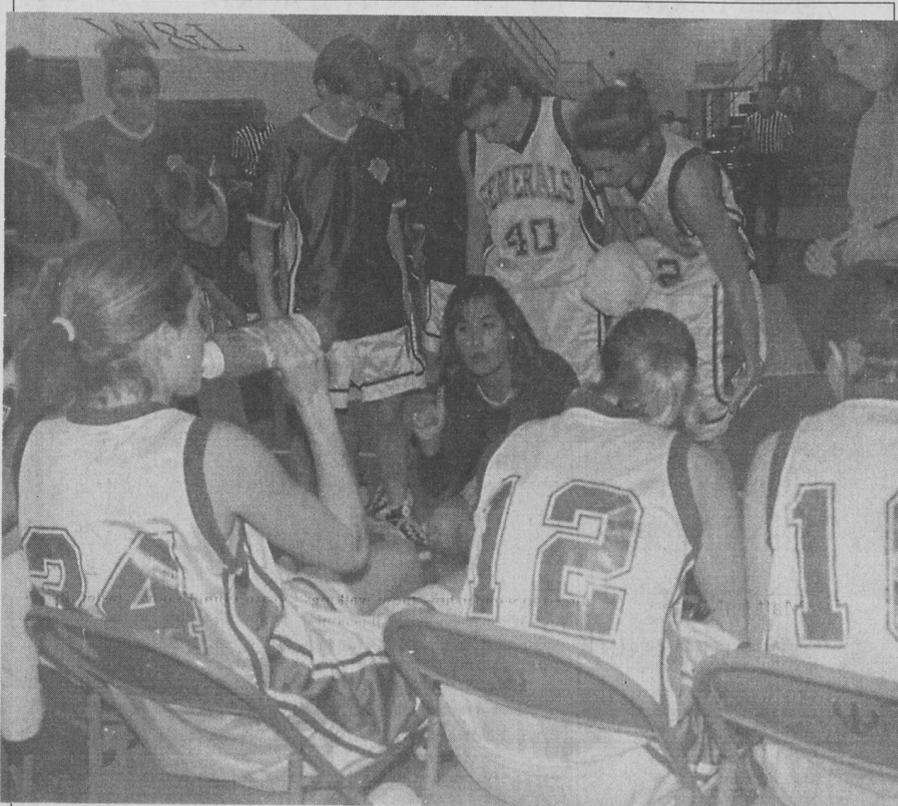


Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Coach Dadio-Campbell gives the team a pep talk before Saturday's contest against Roanoke.

This week for the Generals

Monday

Men's basketball @ Dickinson

Tuesday

Women's basketball @ Lynchburg

Wednesday

Men's basketball @ Lynchburg

Thursday

Women's basketball vs. Hollins 7 p.m.

Friday

Women's swimming vs. Buffalo State 7 p.m.

Saturday

Men's basketball vs. Randolph-Macon 3 p.m.

Women's basketball @ Randolph-Macon

Women's swimming vs. Catholic 2 p.m.

Wrestling pins down victory

By Steele Cooper
SPORTS WRITER

The Washington and Lee wrestling team posted its first Centennial Conference win since joining the conference this year. The Generals defeated Johns Hopkins University (37-12) during the W&L Quadrangular Meet on Saturday morning. W&L fell to Davidson (10-32) and Pensacola Christian (21-31) at Saturday's meet.

Junior 133-pounder Chad Casto led the Generals once again with two wins and a forfeit. Casto won his match against JHU with a 3-0 score and won his

Davidson match with a 7-1 score. His third victory of the day came from a Pensacola Christian defeat.

Several wrestlers that scored two wins on the day also led the Generals. Sophomore John Valentine (174 lbs.) won his matches against JHU and Davidson. Freshman 157-pounder Ivan Zdanov defeated his JHU and Pensacola Christian opponents. Junior Alex McManimen (184 lbs.) scored wins in his matches against JHU and Davidson.

Next Saturday, W&L will travel to Swarthmore to wrestle in the Swarthmore Invitational. The Generals will be back in the Doremus Gymnasium on Saturday, January 23 for the W&L Invitational.

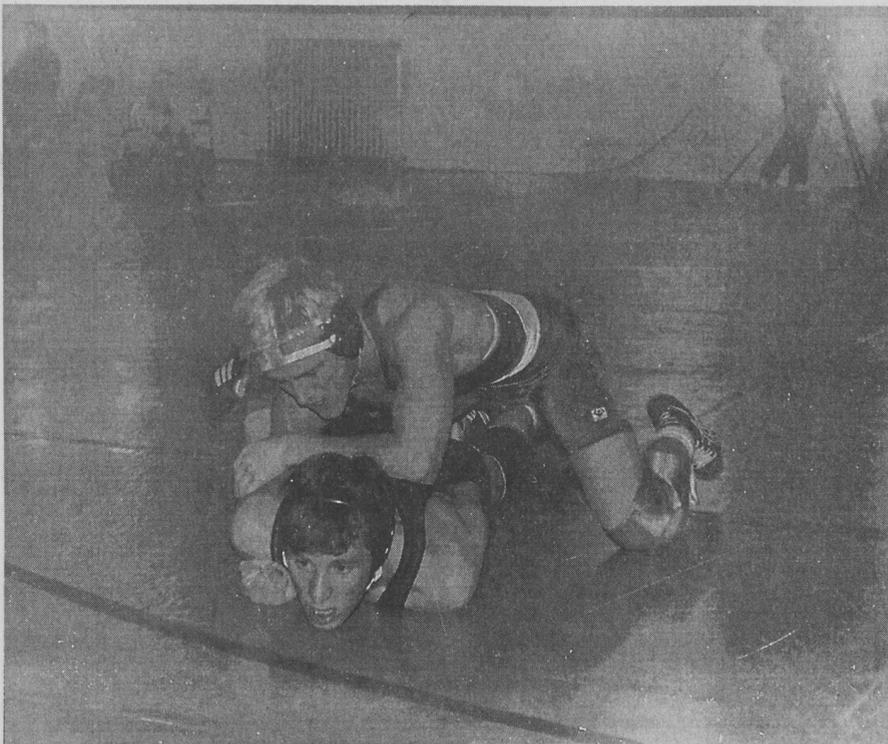


Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Sophomore Jeff Paul pins his opponent during the W&L Quadrangular on Saturday.

1749 1999

Bicinquagenary Bulletin

Need another reason to be kind to strangers?

Consider the story of Doremus Gymnasium. In 1910 a student met Commodore and Mrs. Doremus, northern philanthropists, as they were walking on campus. The young man put aside his books and proceeded to give them a tour of the university. They were so impressed by the student's friendliness that Commo-

dore Doremus bequeathed a substantial amount of his estate to Washington and Lee. Upon the Commodore's death Mrs. Doremus gave the \$75,000 necessary for the construction of Doremus gymnasium. Upon her death the University received \$1,500,000 from their estate.

The King-Tum Phi
SORORITIES '99

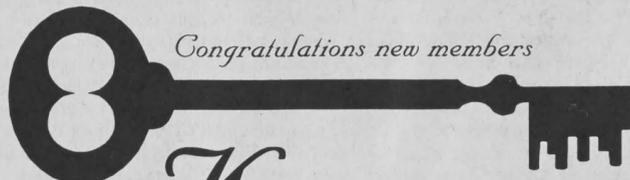


*Congratulations
pledge class of '99!*

Kappa Alpha Theta

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Jenny Alley | Elizabeth Kelsey |
| Kate Bidwell | Anne Lachiewicz |
| Kate Blocher | Berry Lowden |
| Alicia Brandt | Alexis MacDonald |
| Liz Brustin | Heather Mahaney |
| Katie Cedarholm | Blair Manning |
| Lee Charbonnet | Shelby McGrain |
| Sarah Cohen | Sam McLemore |
| Maggie Fagan | Jess Mentz |
| Leslie Fishbeck | Drew Powers |
| Courtenay Fisher | Kristin Pranke |
| Eline Haenebalcke | Lindsay Ruckert |
| Ricka Hildebrand | Lizzie Swann |
| Diana Hoshall | Carter Thomas |
| Laura Ingoldsby | Jessica Warner |

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Ashley Acker | Noelle Evans |
| Elizabeth Alford | Silvana Hinn |
| Megan Babst | Samantha Garbisch |
| Kathleen Baird | Elise Groves |
| Keely Baker | Billy Holleman |
| Lochlan Baskin | Jean Marie Jennings |
| Kristin Carroll | Katie Johnson |
| Mary Drennan | Kate Mahan |
| Bess DuRant | Sally Mays |



Congratulations new members

Kappa Kappa



Gamma

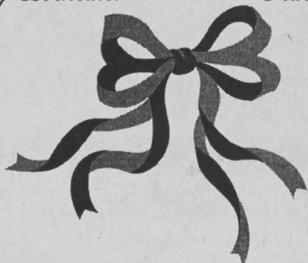
- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Liz Kacozy | Cynthia Smith |
| Whitney Parsons | Sallie Gray Strang |
| Haley Pendergrass | Stephanie Sweet |
| Jenna Poole | Darby Taylor |
| Carolyn Pressly | Margaret-Hunter Turner |
| Caroline Priddy | Mariette Urquhart |
| Eloise Priest | Lauren Wendell |
| Bergen Rebello | Manning Willard |
| Emily Reid | |



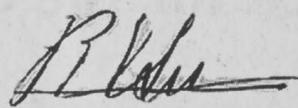
Pi Beta Phi

1999 Pledge Class

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Amanda Adams | Kirsten Malm |
| Jess Blowers | Amanda McConnell |
| Kristen Bonnema | Lix Nelson |
| Amy Burke | Beth Newton |
| Mandy Cannon | Tami Olubunmi |
| Meagan Clement | Shelley Parks |
| Corbin Downey | Bethany Petrosky |
| Veronica Griffith | Sybil Price |
| Erin Guvara | Sarah Schmidt |
| Sara Housel | Laura Sigismund |
| Lisa Jones | Regan Tomford |
| Julie Kelley | Susan Toussaint |
| Christina Lakatos | Julieann Ulin |
| Hillary Lockemer | Rachel Welch |



ROBERT E. LEE SIGNATURES FOR SALE



- | | |
|--|--------|
| Clipped signature with closing w/ CDV | \$3000 |
| Document signed "R. E. Lee, Lt. Engrs" | \$4000 |
| Letter Signed, Lexington, VA, 1870 | \$6500 |
| Lee Signed CDV | \$5500 |

AND

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Washington College Diploma, 1867 | \$4500 |
|----------------------------------|--------|

Other Lee's: Fitzhugh, G.W.C., "Rooney" & Lee's Father-In-Law

Also Available: Lincoln, Grant, Mosby, Longstreet, Ashby, Beauregard, Early, A.P. Hill, Imoben, etc., etc.

Great Framing, Great Service, Great History

Original Frameworks

1 North Main St. Lexington, 464-6464
M-F 10-6, Sat 9-4, New Manager

The King-Tum Phi
SORORITIES '99

JANUARY 11, 1999

PAGE 7

**Congratulations to
 the Gamma
 pledge class of
 Kappa Delta**



Rebekah Ahn
 Ellen Antrum
 Michele Backus
 Ann Baskervill
 Brooke Belasco
 Valerie Bruneau
 Julie Carskadon
 Andrea Ceccarelli
 Lindsay Cooper
 Marisa Davis
 Caroline Dumas
 Brooke Evenson
 Amanda Fischer
 Caitlin Fitzrandolph
 Graham Frankel
 Kirsten Gladding
 Gray Harden
 Katherine Houstoun

Tracy Johnson
 Lauren Kearney
 Amanda Kelley
 Summers Kimbrough
 Sylvia Kokis
 Peyton Lane
 Sarah Lyon
 Stacy McLoughlin
 Divya Mohan
 Kayse Nelson
 Rebecca Ostendorff
 Emily Owens
 Lillian Pace
 Lauren Paxton
 Lucy Rankin
 Emily Seale
 Lauren Stearns



Shelley Baldwin
 Gabby Best
 Staunton Binstead
 Nathalie Bonckaert
 Helen Downes
 Meg Doyle
 Katie Elsnab
 Kate Ewald
 Parvonae Fernandez
 Tara Friedel
 Tiffany Friedel
 Katie Frizzell
 Emily Hager
 Melissa Hatley
 Megan Hazard
 Christa Hemmings
 Heather Howard
 Tatum Jones
 Alison Kudlacik
 Corrinne Lane
 Megan Lott
 Amie Lucier
 Allison MacQueen
 Aubrie Mann
 Melissa Palumbo
 Jane Pontti
 Maria Rayas
 Sarah Schandler
 Britt Shaffer
 Karly Shallow
 Sarah Spisich
 Gretchen Tencza
 Rebecca Tyson
 Caroline Windfelder



Chi Omega

*congratulates its
 1999 pledge class*

INSTANT CREDIT

Students

Guaranteed Credit Cards with Credit Limits
 Up To \$10,000 Within Days!

GUARANTEED APPROVAL

No CREDIT, No JOB, No PARENT SIGNER, No SECURITY DEPOSIT!

no credit • bad credit • no income?



GUARANTEED APPROVAL

If You Think You
 Can't Get A Credit
 Card, Think Again.

11TH YEAR!



Want VISA & MasterCard Credit Cards?

ORDER FORM

YES!

I want Credit Cards immediately. **GUARANTEED APPROVAL**
 CRA, PO Box 16662, ATLANTA, GA 30321

Name.....
 Address.....
 City..... State..... Zip.....
 Signature.....

Tired of Being Turned Down?

Guaranteed \$10,000 In Credit!

A brief look back at the Twentieth Century

By Kevin McManemin
21ST CENTURY SCHIZOID MAN

The Twentieth Century. The bloodiest hundred years in human history. Joseph Stalin. Adolph Hitler. Bob Saget. A time of great change. New ideas. Incomplete sentences. The Last Word presents this brief, illustrated history of the 20th century as part of our continuing effort to be like every other publication. In the coming months you can bet every arm of this great squid called the media (newspapers, magazines, television, radio, internet gossip columns, teen fanzines, cookbooks, off-Broadway musical comedies, telegraphs, graffiti, etc.) will be running retrospectives on the previous decade, century and millennium. We wanted to get ours in first. Take that, *Newsweek!*
So, without very much more ado, we present:

The Twentieth Century

"the syphilitic sore on the scrotum of history"

The Zeroes — All for naught

At the turn of the century, the entire world was owned by three mega-corporations: Standard Oil, Carnegie Steel and the British Monarchy. Actually not much has changed since then. Standard Oil was bought out by Microsoft in 1992 and Carnegie Steel was acquired by Sony in a merger with Time-Warner. The British monarchy sold all its holdings to Ted Turner but still retains Buckingham Palace, its corporate logo and the right to embarrass itself publicly. Not much else happened in the nineteen naughts. Something about a Progressive movement and a Great White Fleet, I think, but in order for me to tell you anything more about them I'd have to do actual research and that's not bloody likely. So the Progressive Movement was a . . . uh . . . part of a symphony by Stravinski and the Great White Fleet was a meeting of obese Klan members.

The Tens — El Waro Grande

The Great War (later renamed "World War One" after a greater one came along) was almost as long and brutal as some of the poetry it would inspire. Mankind saw his belief in the good of science explode in a burst of mustard gas and machine gun fire. Europeans were being slaughtered at almost twice the rate of New York City public school students. Let's take a gander at the major players:
The Germans — It was barely forty years since President Otto Van Buren united Prussia and Bavaria into a single country called "Prussvaria" (later renamed "Germany"). But in that short time Germany had come a long way — building a massive navy powerful enough to be thoroughly and consistently sunk by the British and an army of men in neat pointy little helmets. By head-butting opponents, the German army became one of the nine or ten most feared fighting forces of the day.



The Great British (also known as "The English") — What the British wanted in World War One was simple: a nice, dangerous front line to fill with Scots and Irishmen. "Yes, Angus, Taevish, Seamus, you boys fill in the trenches there, I'll just stay back here at base and sip me tea," the limey generals would say. "Oh, and mind the mustard gas," they'd add with a mischievous grin. Those wacky Brits!

The French — The French are to Europe what Ringo was to the Beatles. When France heard Europe was releasing a new war it merrily trudged along with the rest of the group, despite the fact that it hasn't been a major military player since Napoleon. France had been using its national energy on wastes of time like "art" and "literature."

The Russians — The Russians were so backward in 1914 even the Amish looked at them and said "You guys need to modernize." With something like 99.9999% of the population living far below the poverty line, Russia was the Mississippi of Europe, only a hell of a lot colder.

The Belgians — Historic accounts always overlook King Leopold and the Belgians. This one is no exception.

The Americans — The Americans were like the guy who shows up at the last hour of the party when everyone else is tired and leaving, then empties the keg and takes credit for polishing it off. Never mind that Russia and France had been sucking that tap all night and were now passed out on the couch, America came in, chugged the last half-a-plastic-cup left in the keg and declared loudly, "shit, you guys are lightweights." No wonder the Europeans despise us.

The Twenties — These dang young'uns

In 1919 our Congress, possibly while drunk, passed one of the most inane laws in the history of jurisprudence — Prohibition. And so, for the first week or so of the 1920s', alcohol was nearly somewhat hard to get.

On the sunnier side of things, the twenties were a time of great prosperity at home and abroad, especially among mobsters, thanks to Prohibition. The only place that didn't experience prosperity was Germany, where inflation was rising faster than the hemlines on flappers' skirts.

Flappers were wild, loose 1920's gals who flaunted the morals of their society; wild, loose women who are now our great-grandmothers, so talking about their sexual exploits would be more than a bit disgusting.

Yes, the roaring but rarely boring twenties were a good time for all ("all" meaning "anyone with enough money to invest in the stock market"). Suffragettes rallied for chicks' rights, idiots sat on flagpoles for some bizarre reason and sports idols like Babe Ruth proved that even alcoholics could be functioning members of society.

The Thirties — The birth of big, bloated bureaucracy

Sports were still popular in the thirties, but different sports: office ledge jumping, noose spinning and shotgun shell swallowing. In 1929 the stock market crashed like an iMAC computer, derailed like an AMTRACK train, sending the country spiraling into depression faster than I resort to cheap similes and metaphors.

Hovertowns (named after Hoover vacuums as they really sucked) sprung up across America, providing the best in luxurious box living.

Franklin Roosevelt stepped in as President and brought the country out of unemployment by hiring everyone to lettered government agencies. FDR brought us the WPA, TVA, FDIC, NBC, C-SPAN, UCLA, LMNOP, USSR, BBC-2, AOL, CD-ROM, MXPX, and of course the SCTV.

But abbreviations would soon take a back seat to WWII.

The Forties — Another bad sequel

By the end of the '30s the German economy was in shambles, so Adolph "move over Genghis, I want to be history's biggest asshole" Hitler decided on the brilliant strategy of invading Poland — possibly the one country in the world with a more pitiful economy than Germany — to solve the crisis. In response England and France declared war on Germany. France surrendered approximately three minutes and nineteen seconds later, before the ink was even dry on the declaration of war.



Meanwhile, Japan was engaged in bombing Pearl Harbor in a day that will live in infamy but I can't recall right now. So the U.S. trudged into the war (only a couple of years late this time) and kicked some major foreign ass. In 1945 the U.S. dropped da bomb on Japan, ushering in a new era of warfare: an era when the heroes were no longer the soldiers in the front but the nerds in the labs.

When the war ended Europe and Japan were in pieces (literally, pieces — parts of Nagasaki were found as far away as Greenland and what was left of Germany could be collected and put in a brown paper bag). The United States took the roll of international sugar daddy, doling out sweet rewards to our allies and, ironically, even sweeter rewards to our enemies.

The Fifties — A time for sensible footwear

In the fifties hair was short, cars were big, Reds were evil and cigarettes were healthy. Things made sense. People liked Ike, men wore ties to work, people said "please" and "thank you" in the name of something called "common courtesy," and everyone knew their place. In fact, the government passed out this chart for handy reference:

Your Race	Your place
White	Suburbs
Black	Ghettos
Asian	Asia
Latino	Ancient Rome?

In the fifties people started protesting this injustice. In 1954 the landmark case of Brown vs. Board of Education set down the historic propositions that:

- 1) Children should not go to their neighborhood public schools when they can be expensively shipped several hundred miles away for poorer quality education.
- 2) The "separate but equal" doctrine of blacks and whites is wrong — any objective look at basketball ability will tell you that they're not equal.

Yes, the fifties began the long but necessary Civil Rights battle. Just think: the perfect harmony between the races we now enjoy wouldn't be possible were it not for the gains made in the fifties.

THE SIXTIES— SOCIETY GETS BLURRY



A great way to make your parents uncomfortable is to ask them about the sixties.

Firsthand historical accounts of the sixties are sketchy at best. Psychedelic drugs (the word *psychedelic* coming from the Greek roots *psyche*, or mind, and *delic*, or holy crap the colors in my veins are talking to me) played a big part in the sixties, so remember to take all accounts on sixties life with a grain of salt (or some white powdery substance).

Here now are some actual over-sentimentalized tales of the actual sixties from actual pathetic aging baby boomers:

"The sixties began in 1964 when four lovable mop-topped Liverpudlians (Sean Lennon, Yoko Ono, Jim Morrison and an inflatable raft called "Reginald") landed at Idlewild airport (later renamed JFK after JFK Jr.) and appeared on the old Gilbert and Sullivan show where they performed their famous "I have a dream" speech. That's all I remember."
—Sally Hainsworth (formerly Lucy in the Sky with Methedrine)

"In the sixties there was a war or something somewhere. Guys shooting people. No, wait, that was 'Gunsmoke.'"
—Dr. Lawrence Feinbaum (formerly Flower Moonchild)

The Seventies — A decade-long hangover

Bad trip, man. As millions of hippies came down from their highs, so did hippie society come down from its lofty ideals of peace and happiness and universal love, replacing them with ideals such as paying the mortgage on time and good dental hygiene. The brilliant experimentation of psychedelic rock was replaced with the unrestrained suckiness of disco.

Most importantly, the seventies made politics the societal joke it is today. In the sixties, we had presidents like Johnson and Nixon — men who you could really hate with a passion! But Watergate taught us that politicians were not so much comic book archvillians as they were petty thugs. The decade ended with the likes of Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter at the helm. You can neither really love nor hate Jimmy Carter. All anyone can do is acknowledge his existence.

And so a general malaise (thanks, Jimmy) set in over the country and squelched the passion previously evident in public life. Finally, people could start focussing on what really mattered: themselves.

The Eighties — Reaganomics, low-cal frozen yogurt and ALF

Most scholars now agree that nothing of remote cultural value came from the 1980s. Musically the '80s went from bad — new wave rock — to worse — glam rock — and somehow ended up even a step below that with rap. Rap is like music, but take away the musical part and you have got rap.

Along with the decline of everything good and noble about mankind, the 1980s saw the rise of the Yuppie. This development was made possible by the invention of the cell phone, which let



Yuppies communicate with other Yuppies while simultaneously compensating for small genitals by inflating their self-importance. The most popular recreational activity among Yuppies was divorce. The Yuppies imported everything: Italian wines, German cars, French arrogance.

By 1987, however, the Yuppies had all maxed out their credit cards and stopped buying stuff they didn't need. The stock market plummeted. President Reagan responded with swift, decisive action: canceling his scheduled nap to hold a press conference in which he categorically denied ever being told about the stock market crash.

The Nineties — www.whatever.com

So, it's, like, the end of the century or something. Big deal. *Fin-de-siecle ennui* or whatever. I guess.

The nineties saw, like, the information revolution. Information is, like, all over, you know? It's like on the internet and stuff. All over the internet. The internet rules.

A lot of stuff happened in the nineties, like the dismantling of Eastern European Communism. We no longer fear nuclear attack from the Ruskies; we now fear nuclear attack from crazed militia goons living in Idaho bunkers. Seriously.

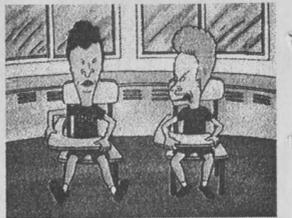
Oh, and dude, guess what? The Pres was like boinking his intern in the nineties and there was a lot of stuff about it on C-SPAN like impeachment or whatever, you know, but I didn't really watch that.

Well, that's about it for the nineties. We've got, like, another year left in this century or something. Maybe it'll suck or maybe it'll be cool. Whatever. Things are okay.

That's the basic story of our century. Americans went from caring about Europe to caring about our society to caring about ourselves to caring about beating the high score on "Doom."

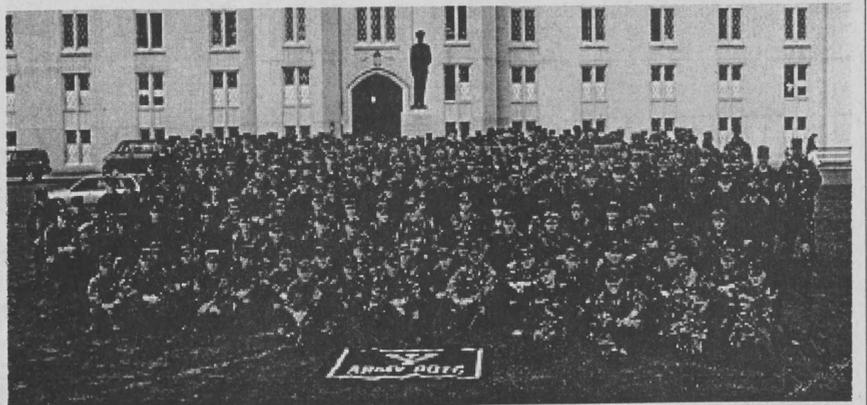
No one knows what will happen in years to come, but if mankind approaches the twenty-first century with the same genius, dignity, prudence, spirit, courage, vitality, passion, understanding, enterprise and honor we applied in the twentieth, we can be sure of one thing.

We're all f***ing doomed.



Leadership Opportunity

Sophomores- Go to Army ROTC Basic Camp this Summer and experience a fun and challenging adventure on a successful path.



Your chances of getting an on-campus scholarship for attending Basic Camp are 50%.

End Result, a great job as a 2LT in the Active Army, National Guard or Reserves.

See CPT Whittaker, ARMY ROTC at (540) 464-7187