

The Ring-tum Phi

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1999

VOLUME 101, No. 15

MSA throws Cabaret party

By Erica Prosser
FEATURES EDITOR

This past weekend, the Minority Student Association celebrated 30 years of black student representation by throwing a Jazz Cabaret and party to rival Fancy Dress itself.

"I had a great time," senior Nadiyah Howard said about the event. "It was lots of fun."

The cabaret and DJ party held Saturday night were part of the weekend festivities designed to highlight the contributions made by blacks and other minorities at Washington and Lee over the past three decades. This was the first weekend of this type, and it gave students and alumni a chance to meet, network, mingle and talk about school and jobs.

"We're trying to establish a relationship between the undergraduate students and the alumni," senior and MSA president Brian Jamison said.

The Black History Jazz Cabaret, a semi-formal, invitation-only event hosted in the Hampton Inn Col Alto Ballroom, brought student leaders, faculty and alumni together to enjoy the music and celebrate the heritage. The MSA sent invitations to various student leaders, faculty department

heads, administrators, food service and bookstore staff and alumni, and members also gave out invitations to other students they thought would enjoy the festivities. The Bernard Harrison Jazz Ensemble performed with smooth jazz tunes from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

"We had a great turnout," said senior Shanntonette Wade of the successful event. "Dean Howison was there, Dean McCloud... a lot of people came."

The weekend fun did not stop with the cabaret, though. At 11 p.m., right after the Jazz Cabaret, the MSA hosted the Ol' School Party, a DJ party at the Pavilion that was open to the entire student body. Students partied until 3 a.m.

"Several different colleges were represented at the party," Wade said.

The weekend turned out to be a great success, thanks to the efforts of the MSA.

Though future events of this type will probably not be this large, plans are in the works for more festivities next year.

"The plan is for us to do something like this every year," Wade said, "something for the students and alumni and faculty to get together."



Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Habitat for Humanity breaks ground on Horizon safe house

On Friday afternoon, Habitat For Humanity broke ground on Project Horizon's battered women's shelter, which will be located on Varner Street. Construction will be completed during the weekends of March 13-14 and 20-

21 with the help of Lexington residents and students from W&L and VMI.

Habitat For Humanity is still looking for more volunteers to get involved with the project. "We need people who are willing to come out and actually stay and put the skills we've taught

them to use," sophomore and Habitat Secretary Tim Koss said.

"It's going to be a really worthwhile project," Koss said. "We believe that people will come away with a feeling of enrichment."

For those interested in volunteer-

ing to help with the project, a training session will be held on March 13 and 14. Contact acting Habitat President senior Josh Beckham at x4254 for more information.

"I think this is really going to be a lot of fun," Koss said.



Photo courtesy Shami Lee

Senior Travis Mells and sophomore Shari Henderson chat at the Minority Student Association Cabaret on Saturday night.

W&L goes postal with 20¢ card

By Polly Doig
NEWS EDITOR

Ever wonder just what a philatelist is?

Not even a little bit?

As Washington and Lee University celebrates the first day of issue of its very own postcard this Thursday, Lexington will no doubt be full of philatelists — also known as postage stamp collectors.

The 20-cent postcard is part of the United States Postal Service's Historic Preservation series, and features a full-color image of the Colonnade taken by university photographer Patrick Hinely.

"What will be of interest to collectors is the opportunity to receive a first day of issue program and the hand-canceled stamped card," Neil Penick, director of W&L's 250th Observance, said. "This is really a special event for the University."

A ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday in Lee Chapel, where postcards will be hand-canceled for attendees — which has the possibility of increasing the value of the postcards.

"February 11th is the only day the postcards will be hand-canceled, producing several variations which is what collectors are going after," W&L communications writer Louise Uffelman said. "If there's an error, par-

ticularly on just some of them, [the postcards] will be worth some money in the future."

According to Uffelman, postcards will be made available after the ceremony to students who would like them.

The remaining cards, which will be distributed through Virginia post offices, will be canceled by machine. The W&L postcard will be a regional issue limited to a press run of six million.

The Colonnade appeared previously on a three-cent stamp in 1949, which commemorated the University's bicentennial. This was the first time that a university was featured by the

Postal Service on a stamp.

According to Uffelman, the process of being granted the postcard began three years ago, with the planning of the bicentennial, and was helped along by such alumni as Sen. John Warner '49, Rep. Bob Goodlatte, and John Nolan '70, a former Postmaster of New York City.

Larry Creamer, Postmaster of Lexington, will preside over the ceremony that includes the Virginia Military Institute color guard, and remarks by someone who never could tell a lie — George Washington. Old George, as well as members of the presiding party, will also be available to autograph the postcards following the ceremony.



Photo courtesy Emily Donahue

D-hall observes Groundhog Day with 'Road Kill' theme

(above) University Dining Services sponsored a theme dinner last Tuesday entitled "Road Kill Buffet" in honor of Groundhog Day. Entrees included a rabbit dish called "Thumper à la Bumper," an ostrich dish called "Broiled Ostrich" and a chicken dish called "Road Kill Rooster." According to Evans Dining Hall Coordinator of Departmental Marketing Emily Donahue, "It was great. Students had fun; I had fun. The second annual Road Kill Buffet was quite successful."

Sophomore Leadership Council honors co-op staff

(below) The Sophomore Leadership Council sponsored Staff Appreciation Day for co-op employees on Jan. 27. Under the cover of the night, SLC members, with the help of W&L Security, sneaked into the co-op building, and left each member of the co-op staff an African violet and one big "Thank You" card. The card thanked the co-op staff for being so good to students. "We were all very touched by their thoughtfulness," Assistant Manager Judy Sensabaugh said.



Photo courtesy Emily Donahue

The Ring-tum Phi February 8, 1999

OPINION:

Letter to the editor questions Honor System, survival tips for Mardi Gras, students comment on diversity article

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Dancing at W&L (Can you swing it?), student meets her fiancé online

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LAST WORD:

Valentine's Day cards for any kind of sweetheart

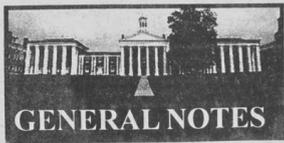
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GENERAL NOTES

E-mail General Notes to phi@wlu.edu

NYSE President returns to campus

William R. Johnston '61, president and chief operating officer of the New York Stock Exchange, will speak in Lee Chapel on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Johnston's lecture is titled "W&L and the NYSE: Marketplaces of Information and Ideas."

He is a member of the board of trustees of Washington and Lee University, from which he graduated in 1961 with a B.S. in Commerce.

This lecture is sponsored by the Contact Committee.

I-Club takes students on an 'Evening Abroad'

The International Club will present its annual Evening Abroad on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 8 p.m. in the GHQ.

250th Bulletin: Women's Sports Come to W&L

Women arriving in the fall of 1985 grabbed their first intercollegiate victory just three weeks after arriving on campus, when the cross-country team outran West Virginia State.

The new undergrads also set their sights at starting a soccer team. When told by people they would need at third of their class to comprise a team, they did just that.

Women's swimming began that first year with just three swimmers, but

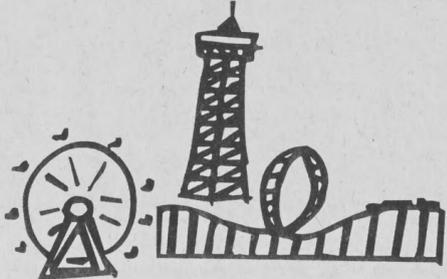
amazingly sent one to the NCAA Div. III Championships. Tennis, women's lacrosse, volleyball and basketball each went on to be leaders in the ODAC conference and their success continues today.

Theater department presents 'Nightingale'

The final performances of "The Eccentricities of A Nightingale" will be tonight, tomorrow and Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Lenfest Center's Johnson Theater.

Internship Fair

Tomorrow!



Great Hall
of the Science Center
11 am until 3 pm

W&L Valentine Personals



I saw you at the Palms. Can I buy you a drink? You'll know me by my smile.

Scotty, I love you bunches! Have a great Valentine's Day, Honey!
AMLA, Erica

My Dearest PP Baby, Happy Valentine's Day! Thank you for making me so happy... you mean the world to me. I love you times infinity!
Yours Forever, POOP DAWG

You're in a frat and my history class. I like your khakis (and you!). Need an FD date? Give me a call.

Danica, my buttercup, My love for you is unconditional. Happy Valentine's Day!
Your hummingbird, Rob

Blond boy wearing jeans: You caught my eye in the computer lab and "loaded" happiness into my heart.

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Thinking of Summer Employment Opportunities?

Summer Jobs at Washington and Lee University

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June 30-July 31, 1999

Summer Scholars is a four-week academic program for 150 rising high school seniors. Counselors serve as resident advisors for 10 students in Graham-Lees dormitory and plan evening and weekend activities. Application deadline is Feb. 24, 1999.

Special Programs Resident Assistants

June 15-Aug. 3, 1999

The Office of Special Programs employs 5 W&L students to serve as Resident Assistants for a wide variety of Special Programs including Alumni Colleges, Elderhostel, and adult conferences. Duties include housekeeping, attending all meals with guests, bar receptions, and shuttle driving. An outgoing personality is a must. Application deadline is March 31, 1999.

For more information, please contact the Office of Special Programs, Howard House, 463-8723.



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FEB 09 1999

Student enraged with honor system injustice

To the Editor:

This weekend, the Executive Committee found a student guilty of an honor violation I never knew was a crime. And I would place a bet that most of you reading this never thought it was "wrong" either. In fact, I know many of us have done just what this student was found guilty of doing — "stealing" from the dining hall.

The basics of the case are all you need to know to examine your own culpability. The student used another student's card to swipe and eat off the freshman meal plan. The freshman voluntarily gave the other student their card because the freshman was not eating there for that meal, and so the meal, theoretically, was going to waste. In another instance, the "guilty" student shared food off a student's plate — clarified, one student ate their meal, and the other ate the leftovers that were going to be thrown away.

How many of us out there are "guilty" of this too? When I thought about all the times I guess I have violated the Honor Code (as the EC deter-

mined how it applies to the dining hall), it made me realize that this "guilty" student was the scapegoat, caught in a web of misunderstanding and common practice.

What about all the times I forgot my card and the swiper let me go through the line without writing down my name or number?

What about the times when the swipe machine was unattended and I either didn't have my card or for some reason, the machine said I didn't have any meals left when I thought I did? I went ahead and got my food and never gave it a second thought. My meals are paid for already so I figured the d-hall is getting its money anyway.

What about the time when I brought my parents with me for breakfast and I got them cups of coffee, some fruit and my mom shared my bagel? Three of us ate off my one meal swipe.

What about the time my best friend from home was visiting and I wanted to show her the d-hall? I swiped twice, and I thought that deducted from my meal plan and that she was paid for.

What about all the times I got extra frozen yogurt or juice or Gatorade or fruit or cereal or bagels and took them back to the dorms to eat later?

What about the times my friends have been sick with the flu or too hungover to make it to brunch, so I got breakfast for them and took it back?

What about the time I had meetings in the University Center and during the breaks I grabbed a drink (in one of those plastic d-hall cups)? I took it out of the d-hall without swiping because it was between meals, and all I really wanted was a drink...

How many of us have done these same things? How many of us are now considered "guilty" of an honor violation? I would guess the majority of us who take classes on the hill, or graduate with a Washington and Lee diploma, have done some "offense" against the d-hall, without knowing it.

It's a shame that this student was the sacrificial lamb for us all. His case was a test, pushing the Honor System into the realm of Sunday brunch and Tuesday night dinner. We have all paid

our dues to the dining hall. Our parents had no choice but to buy into that full freshman meal plan, and because of that, I felt entitled to do the things I have done. I never thought of those actions as dishonorable or stealing because hundreds of d-hall meals have gone wasted in my years here.

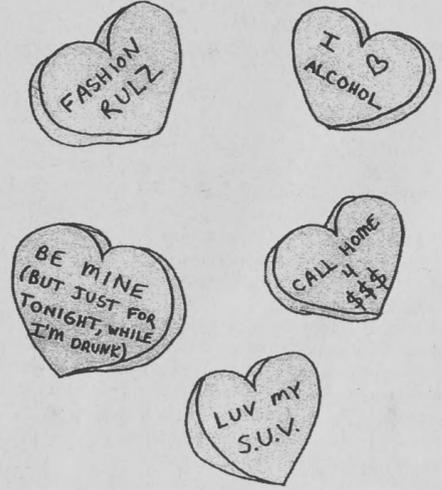
There's nothing to be done, no way to protest this injustice. The EC has delivered their verdict, and the dining hall has our meal plan money whether we choose to eat there again or not. I just felt I should warn you, because almost all of us have committed these "crimes."

Anonymous.

P.S. I submit this letter to the Editor anonymously because in our Honor System, I feel like there is no guarantee against incriminating yourself. That goes against our constitutional rights as citizens of the United States, and furthermore, it prevents us from speaking out against the Executive Committee and the Honor System. Something is obviously wrong with this tradition.

In the Shadow of the Chapel

by Erica Prosser



W&L conversation hearts

Survival tips for New Orleans Mardi Gras

Off His Rocker
Stephen Pesce '01

This year we get to thank the parents of Washington and Lincoln for providing the rest of the country with a holiday that corresponds with the fantastic carnival season. For anyone headed down to New Orleans this weekend, the following tips and reminders might prove helpful in maximizing the incredible adventure you are about to take.

—First of all, you've seen bare breasts, right? So don't spend all your time on Bourbon Street. Definitely don't miss the city's most notoriously naughty thoroughfare. Go to Pat O'Brien's. Have a few Hurricanes. Hell, you can even buy a few \$1 shots from that sketchy guy on the corner. You won't be able to find a bathroom, so find a side street, make sure no cops are around and let it all go.

—W&L students are all familiar with the term "pre-party." Be prepared to do lots of it. Remember that wherever you are trying to go, and whatever you are trying to see, millions of other tourists are looking to go to the same places and see the same things. So get there EARLY with lots of Dixie and stay LATE with even more.

—The ATM machines at Fidelity banks don't charge a service fee for Crestar ATM cards. Stay away from Whitney — \$2.50! I'm not familiar with First Union's cards, sorry.

—Looking for lunch? Have a fried seafood po-boy at Mother's Restaurant on the corner of Poydras and Tchoupitoulas.

—Since you probably haven't seen enough images of General Lee, take a streetcar ride from Lee Circle (St. Charles and Howard Ave). Travel all the way to Carrollton Ave., enjoying the beautiful uptown architecture all the way down St. Charles. Finish off at Madigan's and have a few drinks with some 12-year-olds.

—Get a daquiri at any one of the drive-thru daquiri places.

—Do not buy Mardi Gras beads.

—Stroll through Lake Lawn Metairie Cemetery, original resting place of Jefferson Davis (removed by his wife Varina upon the burial of P.G.T. Beauregard because the two couples didn't get along all that well).

—The cops are busy, stressed, over-worked and underpaid. Be nice to them. Do what they say without asking questions.

—Beware of wrong turns. Bad neighborhoods seem to appear out of nowhere.

—Remember that you got your shoes on your feet. —A good place to settle down for the evening is Fat Harry's at 4330 St. Charles Ave. just off Napoleon Ave., next store to Copeland's restaurant (a great place for a meal).

—It's late, or early, depending on how you look at it. You need something in your stomach. Stop at Café du Monde (Decatur and St. Ann) for an order of beignets / ben yays / a cup of coffee and a 15-cent paper hat.

—Watch out for the pot holes.

—Build up an appetite and go to The Central Grocery for a whole Muffelata.

—See the Village People and Kool and the Gang Saturday night in the Krewe of Endymion celebrating eternal youth and 300 years of Mardi Gras. Check out the largest float in Mardi Gras history, Captain Eddie's S.S. Endymion, an 80-yard long superfloat carrying more than 200 riders, a \$100,000 Bose sound system and more than a million feet of fiberoptic lighting.

—Next Sunday don't miss Bacchus, Jim Belushi and his reign as the god of wine as he and his krewe celebrate Jules Verne with a four-mile stroll through the city.

—Monday night, see Orpheus's hope floats carrying Harry Connick, Jr., and Sandra Bullock as the krewe of music and merriment celebrates Opening Night at the French Opera

House. —Admire the beautiful Fambaux carriers by throwing quarters.

—Find your spot along St. Charles early on Tuesday morning. Make friends with any of a number of the groups of overweight, classy young gentlemen with a keg in the back of mom's old station wagon and a homemade portable toilet (the two go together like red beans and rice).

—24-hour Trolley Stop Café! Belgian waffles, omlettes, steak and eggs, Southern gravy! You are in for a true late night treat.

—Go see the Zulu king and queen, but don't try to find them down on St. Claude and Dumaine.

—Keep an ear out for the incredible St. Augustine marching band. WOW!

—Order jambalaya with a meal and understand why your friends from Louisiana refuse to eat the D-Hall's rendition of the plate.

—As for parking: Good Luck! Let me know if you come up with a solution. Your best bet is to park at a friend's house and walk, which reminds me — always wear comfortable shoes, which you got on your feet.

—If anyone tells you not to do anything stupid, ignore them. Have fun, and enjoy yourself.

Quote of the week:

I like little boys with no hair.

—Anonymous sophomore girl looking for a Valentine

GEORGE INVITES YOU TO THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE OF THE U.S.P.S. POSTCARD CEREMONY HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF WASHINGTON AND LEE THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 2 P.M. LEE CHAPEL

HONORED GUEST GEORGE WASHINGTON

The Ring-tum Phi

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student argues against Phi's one-sided coverage

Dear Editor,

This really isn't in response to Tammi. I'm glad that she is enjoying her stay at W&L. However, I can only take her opinion with a grain of salt since she has only been here for a semester and a half. I have been here for four long years. It hasn't been all bad... but it hasn't been all good either. When I think of all the things that I have experienced both on this campus and in this town, I cannot help but say that there is a race problem here. I will not apologize for speaking the truth and I won't try and downplay my experience just because the Phi is asking the questions. Somebody needs to tell it like it is. I work two on-campus jobs and I am in several organizations. School involvement is all fine and good, but I am a living example that it won't keep the race situation here at bay.

I chose not to join a sorority for many reasons. I applaud Tammi for stepping out and doing so. However I didn't feel, and I still don't, that a sorority at W&L can offer me the kind of cultural appreciation that a black sorority would. That is just my opinion. I have several very good white friends here... whom I wouldn't trade for the world. At the same token, with as many white friends as I do have, only one of them has ever considered me a worthy date to a formal. When he did take me to his formal, one of his brothers made a racist comment behind closed doors after having just shaken my hand and introducing himself to me. One of my more outgoing friends is very much assimilated into the W&L social life, however, not once has any white student ever asked her to a date function. I could say the same about a number of black women on this campus. Am I still supposed to say that there isn't a race problem?

Another of my friends was told to her face that she is a lot of fun to be with but because she isn't white, her friend couldn't possibly date her. This is a constant remark on this campus and I'm supposed to say that there isn't a race problem? When I walk out of Chavis House every morning and I think about what we had to go through and are still going through to get reasonable furniture and then I see these big fraternity houses with chandeliers and what not. Am I still supposed to say that there isn't a race problem here? When prospectives come here and see the minority students' house compared to the rest of the living quarters, are they supposed to think that there isn't a race problem here?

I chose to come to W&L and I chose to stay here even with all that I have mentioned. I have had a wonderful education, that is why I'm still here. Before coming here I didn't know what it was to be treated like a minority. Washington and Lee has given me numerous lessons on that. However, I will say that with each entering class, things have gotten better. I am certainly happy to see that. Perhaps that is why Tammi and I have such differing opinions. My freshman year was a rude awakening and apparently hers was not. I look forward to the day when the Phi will again ask about racism and everyone can respond like Tammi did. Unfortunately, that is not the case at this point in time.

Shannonnette L. Wade '99

Ignoring the race problem will not make it disappear

Dear Editor,

There is a race problem. A lot of it stems from ignorance and not hate. For instance, the flying or the wearing of the Confederate flag. I know to some people this flag only symbolizes southern pride; as a Black male this flag to me symbolizes slavery, oppression and hate. For the most part, the flying of the confederate flag to some black people is like the flying of a swastika flag to someone who is of Jewish decent. The Confederate flag has been used by such hate groups as the Ku Klux Klan. Personally it is hard to distinguish between Southern pride and all-around ha-

tred. I know it is hard for people to understand this but it is true. I am not saying people should stop flying the Confederate flag, but they should be aware of how it makes many black people feel.

As far as the problem of race on campus, it is not hard to solve. If people of all races would stop basing their opinions on the actions of a few to determine how a whole race will act, we will all be better off. Do not let TV or your few experiences with a particular race determine how you feel about a race of people. In reality if people began to get to know one another and see where the other was coming from, an understanding could come about. We will all be better off once we start following the golden rule and treat others as we would like to be treated.

Terence Lewis '01

Alum appreciates Phi's online efforts

Online Editor Tom Wadlow,

I just wanted to thank you for taking the time to put The Ring-tum Phi Online. I just read your letter of explanation as to why the on-line editions had stopped and can certainly sympathize with your frustrations.

As a parent of an incoming female freshman (next fall), I wanted to let you know we were able to get a better sense of the school by reading the news online. It helped my daughter get comfortable with the school and her decision to attend.

Thanks again for your efforts and good luck after graduation!

John Thomas
Class of 1970

Have an opinion?
Let us know.
e-mail us at phi@wlu.edu or drop us a letter at room 208 in the University Center

Dancing brings culture, pleasure to W&L

Classes ranging from swing and shag to ballet and Spanish dancing have taken the W&L campus by storm

By Elianna Marziani
STAFF WRITER

There's a whole lot of dancing going on at Washington and Lee University. There has always been dancing at the Friday and Saturday night band and DJ parties at fraternity houses, but dancing at W&L has expanded recently to include everything from big band dancing such as swing and shag to ethnic Spanish dancing to more conservative forms of dance such as ballet.

The University has sponsored several types of dance classes and dance instructor Frank Roupas has come in from the outside world to lead W&L students in swing, fox trot, waltz, cha-cha, samba, mambo, tango, merengue and ballroom dancing. Spanish language assistant Yolanda Charlán is teaching classes in the traditional flamenco style and W&L Dance offers classes in everything from ballet and jazz to tap and funk.

Why is dance suddenly so popular? Owen Barker, director of student activities, explained that the emergence of dance forms such as swing at W&L is not surprising.

"The explosion of swing dance is something that is happening all over the country,"

Now there are two beginners' classes and one advanced class that accommodate a total of 160 people. The first three classes have gone very well, according to many participants, and the last lesson is scheduled for Feb. 8.

The students taking these classes are very excited about them. Sophomore Renee Harper had her reasons for signing up for the course.

"I thought it was a neat opportunity to learn swing," she said. "It's awesome, it's fun to learn and to practice, and it's really a gift to the students who are participating."

"It's totally awesome of Owen Barker to have organized these classes for the students. I have always wanted to learn how to swing dance, but I don't know if I would have pursued classes elsewhere," Harper said.

Bowman echoed the high praises of the swing classes, when she said, "It's just great fun and really laid back."

I love the instructors and am having a great time learning the basics of swing."

Barker was pleasantly surprised with the success of the classes.

"I really had no idea it would go over this well," he said.

Because of the fantastic response, he is considering offering more swing classes in the spring along with classes in shag dancing.

SEVILLANAS, A NATIVE DANCE OF SPAIN

While the oldie but goodie dances from earlier in the century are coming back in vogue, more exotic dances are taking hold of little Lexington as well.

Yolanda Charlán, a native language assistant from Madrid, is offering classes in the *sevillanas*, a traditional dance originating from southern Spain.

The natives of southern Spain celebrate the *feria de abril*, a week-long festival during which everyone lives in tents, dances the *sevillanas*, drinks sherry made locally and eats traditional foods of the area.

The *sevillanas* is a dance consisting of four steps in three periods.

"It's the most typical dance in Spain—it's a tradition!" Charlán said. She describes it as a sensual dance in which one moves the arms in rhythm with the legs, "always creating shapes in the movements."

"It's also a way to flirt," Charlán added.

One might wonder how such a unique dance became part of the W&L student activities portfolio. It all started last year when another language assistant wanted to share this unique cultural experience with her students, and members of the VMI and Lexington community who wanted to learn.

After seeing the great excitement generated by *sevillanas* and the large student involvement in it last year, Ellen Mayock, professor of romance languages, asked Charlán if she would consider teaching a class this year.

Charlán was eager to take up the offer, and the first two

weeks of classes have been an enormous success. Almost 30 students attended the first class, and many students found it to be a great experience, chatting about it in an electronic forum for one of Mayock's Spanish classes.

"It's another facet to the students' education, making them feel more like they're part of the actual culture," Mayock said.

"For me to get them in touch with my culture is great," Charlán said.

Aside from all the educational value, Mayock said, "It's just really cool to do!"

The students love it, too. "It cracks them up to be doing it," Mayock said, "to see friends and professors doing it, to have to strike a macho pose or a gypsy pose."

Many students are taking the class because they will be going to Spain in the spring and believe Mayock's assertion that "you can't be cool in Spain and not know *sevillanas*."

Charlán, who is enjoying learning from others' talents by taking classes in modern and jazz dance, is excited to be able to offer this class for anyone who is interested and hopes that more students will want to get involved in this multi-cultural adventure.

Knowledge of the Spanish language is not necessary to participate in the *sevillanas* classes, and a schedule of classes can be accessed from the W&L Spanish department's home page.

THE TIMELESS APPEAL OF BALLET

While many students are going exotic and trying new dances like *sevillanas*, other students are enjoying more traditional, conservative forms of dance like ballet.

W&L Dance is a student organization that offers night classes for a variety of different dance forms from jazz to modern. The group was originally created, however, for ballet.

Senior Sarah Moore teaches many of the W&L Dance ballet classes. Missie Belcher, a dance instructor at Lexington Dance Studio, also teaches one club class each week, in addition to a ballet-for-P.E.-credit class through the University.

Sophomore Faith Collins has enjoyed the opportunity to continue her study of ballet at W&L. A 14-year student of ballet, Faith had planned on taking ballet classes in town.

She met Moore, however, and learned about W&L Dance. Now she is able to take classes in the Lenfest Center when her schedule permits.

"It is kind of difficult in college, since this isn't an art school, to pursue dance as seriously as I might like," Collins said.

Belcher can only teach the girls once a week, so the rest of the time the students have to organize themselves and be taught by the more experienced in the group.

Facilities also present a problem for these ballet dancers. Anyone who has taken ballet in the Lenfest Center's Rehearsal Hall can tell you that the set-up is not ideal. The bars and mirrors are not in the correct places and the floor is not quite suited for serious ballet work.

For dancers, however, these problems, while frustrating, are not enough to stop the dancing.

"You don't want to see something as beautiful as ballet die," Collins said. "W&L Dance is really improving and getting better. Each year we see more participation."

The group performs a recital at the end of each year, incorporating all the forms of dance represented in the group into one performance.

Collins expressed frustration at the apparent lack of interest in dance displayed by some members of the W&L community.

"You'd think at W&L, there'd be more interest in seeing those forms of art grow," Collins said. "I think that dancing is the purest form of art. It involves music and the human body. You use every single part of your body. When you can do it and do it right, it is the most beautiful thing ever—it's almost defying limits."

Dancing truly does defy limits, whether they be limits of gravity, defied by female swing dancers who are swung up into the air as though they weigh nothing, or limits of the human body (do ballerinas' legs truly belong up by their ears?).

With swing and ballroom dancing, *sevillanas*, ballet and the huge variety of other dances performed by W&L Dance, and all the exciting classes awaiting students in spring term, there are plenty of opportunities for students to jump on the bandwagon and dance, dance, dance.

Just be careful not to step on your partner's toes.



Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

"Swingers" Stephen Pesce '01 and his date dance the night away at the 250th Ball. The 150 students currently participating in the W&L swing classes will soon be ready to show off their new moves at the Fancy Dress Ball on March 5.



Barker said.

"Music is very cyclical," he said. "The resurgence of the big band era is naturally leading to a revival in the type of dance that went along with that music."

As for the interest in other, more traditional dances such as ballroom dancing,

Barker said, "Many young ladies at W&L are going through their debutante seasons and are thus learning or taking refresher courses in the dances to accompany the obligations of this period."

While both of these reasons for why more W&L students than ever find themselves dancing the night away are enlightening, perhaps sophomore Jocelyn Bowman put it best when she said, "It's just fun!"

SWING: JUMP, JIVE AND WAIL

Bowman participates in the University-sponsored swing classes that senior Christine Bragg and junior Heather Reid have been teaching for the past two weeks. With swing being one of the types of music to grace this year's Fancy Dress Ball, interest in it has grown significantly on campus.

Swing dancing originated with the Shag, the South Carolina state dance and a traditional southern dance. While Barker is planning to organize a shag class in the spring, swing is in the spotlight at W&L now.

Barker said, "At the beginning of the year, one thing I wanted to do was to offer free swing classes."

In October he reserved Doremus Gym for four nights in both January and February, planning to offer one class for 40 people.

Campus Notices announced the openings for the swing classes at 2 p.m. on Jan. 13. Within an hour and a half of this e-mail, all 40 slots had been taken. Two days after he sent out the e-mail, Barker had more than 150 requests to join the class.

As a result, Barker created two additional swing classes.

Hollister Hovey/Executive Editor

Sophomore runs race against cancer

By Ginger Phillips
FEATURES EDITOR

Leukemia is the number one disease killer of children ages 1-14 and it strikes ten times as many adults. One W&L student wants to help reduce those statistics. Sophomore Jessica Parrillo is a member of the Leukemia Society of America's Team in Training, a group of runners devoted to raising money for cancer research.

More than 16,500 runners from all over the country will meet in San Diego, Calif. on May 23 to run a marathon in honor of cancer patients.

"Each runner runs in the name of a leukemia patient," Parrillo said. "It is such an honor to run for them. Whenever I think about how hard it is to run a marathon, I just think about the little girl that I'm doing this for."

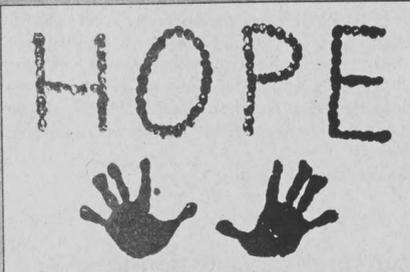
Before she can run, Parrillo must raise at least \$3,000. This task has proven to be somewhat daunting, but that will not stop Parrillo from reaching her goal.

"All of this has made me realize what's really important in life," she said. "I think that people often take things like their health for granted while others are suffering from something as terrible as leukemia."

"I am really enjoying doing this because I know that I can help so many people," she said.

Parrillo believes that this is also a perfect opportunity for others to help in the fight against cancer. She has organized a raffle to help her reach her goal.

"I thought that the raffle would be a great way to get students and the community involved with helping cancer research and have a little fun at the same time," she said. "There are some really great prizes



Drawing courtesy of Leukemia Society of America

Participants in the Rock 'n Roll Marathon raise money to help find a cure for leukemia patients like the four year-old child that drew this picture.

from places like Franco's, Sheridan Livery, Crossroads, Pumpkinseeds and many other Lexington shops."

Raffle tickets are \$2 per ticket and will be on sale outside of the Co-op after Feb. break. They can be purchased with cash or University card. Other donations can be made by contacting Jessica Parrillo at 462-4291.

Log on to www.love.com

By Erica Prosser
FEATURES EDITOR

Ah, the Internet. A wonderful place to learn things, do research, meet people...

Wait! You shriek. People you meet on the Internet are stalkers and axe murderers!

Well, that's true of some 'net users, but not everyone. If you've ever opened Netscape, YOU'RE a 'net user. So am I. In fact, I met my fiance on the Internet.

It's true. Want to know the details? Read on.

Most people meet through chat rooms, like those on America Online. Chat rooms are just places into which you can wander, places full of people talking about any one of an infinite number of topics.

It's only natural that people with similar tastes who meet in these rooms will start e-mailing each other personally. E-mail is great for getting to know people without actually having to know them. They could be lying about themselves, that's true. But nothing says you have to meet these people in person. So chat rooms are a great place to start.

Now we come to the way that I met Scott (my fiance): Internet personal ads. It was late on a Saturday night last May, and I was ready to see what kind of weirdos this electronic medium could introduce.

I put out an ad in Yahoo! for the St. Louis area that said, basically, "I'm coming home for the summer, I was wondering what kind of interesting people live in my area, yada yada yada." My only contact information was my Yahoo! e-mail address.

The response was staggering, but only one ad was really scary. From the initial replies, I e-mailed some of the people. I had no real interest in meeting any of them in person, but sometimes, the thought of doing that (which was decidedly risky, as everyone knows) was a bit of a thrill. When I went home in June, I arranged to meet one per-

son, Travis, IRL (in real life). When you meet an Internet person, always meet in a public place with plenty of people, right? Well, my parents were terrified on my behalf, so they insisted that Travis (a local college student and jazz guitarist) come to our house to get me so they could get a look at him. Luckily, he put up with that.

Ultimately, we didn't get along well enough to keep in touch, but I had done it. I had met someone from the Internet. The world was my oyster.

Scott was the only other person I met from the 'net.

Again, my parents insisted that he come to the house, saying, "He could be an ax murderer! We have to meet him and get his license plate number!" He humored them.

Scott is a computer programmer (of course) in downtown St. Louis, and we hit it right off. We had an uncanny number of things in common, and things went really well. I even affectionately call him "Ax Murderer," for the 'net person he might have been. The wedding, incidentally, is set for September 25 of this year.

Yes, I was one of the lucky ones. I met people from the Internet who had been honest about themselves and their lives, and they had no malicious intent whatsoever.

The moral of the story is be open-minded but careful. Most people just like you, out there are not so different. Don't give out any of your personal information in chat rooms, don't believe everything people tell you online, always meet in public places and think cautiously.

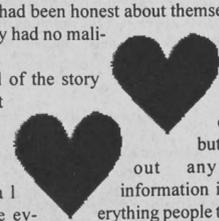
The Internet is a huge world of learning and opportunity, and it is the medium of the future.

Be courageous but careful, and good things could happen to you, too. Happy chatting!



Photo courtesy www.darkhorizons.com

Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in "You've Got Mail," a movie about finding true love on the Internet.



Overtime not a great time for Generals

By Brendan Harrington
SPORTS WRITER

The Washington and Lee men's basketball team dropped a heartbreaker to Eastern Mennonite on an exciting Saturday night at the Warner Center, 82-76 in overtime.

Sophomore guard Joel Kauffman scored a game-high 27 points for EMU and shot 17-18 from the free-throw line, including four technical free-throws in the final six seconds of the game to seal the victory.

"We played very hard, and that's the most frustrating," W&L head coach Kevin Moore said. "You win a game like this one and it does so much for your confidence... but if you lose it's like sticking a knife right in your heart."

The Generals trailed 79-78 with :27 left in overtime when freshman forward Bob Bustamante missed a three-pointer from the top of the key. Walt Plyer came down with the offensive rebound for the Generals and W&L called a time-out with 18 seconds left.

Following the time-out, junior center Rich Peterson caught the ball on the right block, went up strong against a double team but missed the shot. Although there appeared to be contact, no foul was called and EMU forward Neal Lewis came down with the rebound. Bustamante fouled Lewis to stop the clock with six seconds remaining. Immediately following Bustamante's foul, senior guard Kevin Cobbin appeared to push Kauffman, and Cobbin was whistled for two technical fouls.

Bustamante's foul and Cobbin's double technical combined to give the Royals six free-throws and possession. Lewis hit one of two from the line and Kauffman hit all four technicals to seal the victory.

"We kept falling behind, but we battled back and played tough," junior forward Scott Hudson said. "We made some big shots and almost came up with some big defensive stops."

The Generals trailed 67-61 with :40 left in regulation but W&L pulled off a thrilling comeback to send the game into overtime. Sophomore guard Will Ballard banked in a three-pointer with six seconds remaining in regulation to send the game into overtime tied at 68-68.

The Generals pulled off the comeback without the services of Hudson and junior center Brian Ricketts, who both fouled out in the final 2:30 of regulation. The Generals lost Ballard just four seconds into the overtime period when he was called for his fifth foul.

The Royals went to the foul line 42 times compared to just 21 for the Generals. EMU shot 31-42 (74 percent) while the Generals shot 14-21 (67 percent). The Generals were whistled for 29 personal fouls compared to just 18 for the Royals.

"They scored 31 of their 82 points were from the foul line," Moore said. "That is very frustrating."

Five players finished in double figures for the Generals, led by sophomore guard Chad Braley with 17 points. Ballard had 16, Hudson and Peterson scored 14, and Cobbin tallied 11.

Along with Kauffman's 27 points for EMU, junior forward Quincy Longacre had 17 points and nine rebounds

Swimming crushed in Atlanta

By Steele Cooper
SPORTS WRITER

The men's and women's swim teams traveled Saturday to Atlanta to face traditional favorite Emory. Both the men and the women lost their match-ups, but the meet was not without its bright spots for the Generals.

The men (7-6) lost by a 160-75 margin, but their usual leaders did not come away empty handed. Sophomore Colin Hayes garnered two wins in the 100 and 200 fly, with times of 53.30 and 2:00.24, respectively. Hayes' classmate Rob Little finished the 200 IM with the winning time of 2:06.50, and junior Jared Fribush won the 50 free with a time of 22.16. The men's 400 free relay team also brought home a win for the Generals.

"We knew the competition here was going to be

Track fares well at VMI

The Washington and Lee men's and women's track teams represented themselves well against Division I competition at the VMI Winter Relays on Saturday afternoon.

The women were led by senior Lisa Brennan, who finished in 10th place in the 800-meter with a time of 2:33.60. Sophomore Kathleen Moroney closely followed Brennan in that event, finishing in 13th place with a time of 2:36.40. Sophomore Amy Calce finished 12th in the women's long jump with a mark of 15'6". She also placed 16th in the 55 meter dash with a time of 8.04 seconds.

The men were led by senior Marc Granger, who finished sixth place in the shot put with a distance of 41'10". Junior Hansell Pasco, finished in 20th place in the men's 55-meter dash with a time of 6.83. Senior Darrick Alford continued to impress, finishing in 11th place in the 3,000 meter run, with a time of 9:20.10 and 16th place in the mile run with a time of 4:49.30.

The Generals will be in action again on Feb. 27, when they host the ODAC Championships at VMI's Cormack Field House.

— Courtesy of Sports Information



Junior forward Scott Hudson protects the ball during Saturday's game.

and Lewis had 14 points.

The Royals shot 56 percent from the field, while the Generals shot only 39 percent. W&L turned the ball over only 14 times and outrebounded the Royals 20-11 on the offensive glass.

"We took care of the ball well and we rebounded well," Moore said. "But the thing we didn't do a good job of is preventing their big guys from catching the ball in scoring position."

The Generals remain one game ahead of Lynchburg for the 8th and final spot in the upcoming ODAC tournament. The Generals host Lynchburg on Wednesday night after visiting Randolph-Macon on Monday night.

tough, but I think everyone did well. It's time now to focus on swimming well at the Invitational, which I know we're very capable of doing," said Fribush.

The women (9-7), riding a high from earning the most wins on a season in school history, fell to Emory with a 167-80 score. Senior captain Margaret Hoehl once again turned in an insurmountable performance, thereby continuing her incredible season. Hoehl won the 200 free (1:58.97) and the 500 free (5:16.38). The women's 400 free relay team also defeated Emory in that event.

The men and women of Washington and Lee swimming will begin to close out their season next week. The men will swim in the SCAC Invitational February 18-20, and the women will vie for the title in the ODAC/SCAC Championships February 19-21.

Chamberlain wrestles well

Sophomore Josh Chamberlain reached the finals of the 149-pound weight class bracket at the Newport News Apprentice School Invitational Tournament, finishing in second place.

Chamberlain defeated North Carolina-Pembroke's Trey Brown, 14-2, before falling to Longwood's Jeff Kepler 13-9 in the championship match.

Ezra Morse, a 174-pounder won his first round match against Newport News Apprentice's Ian Frost by pinning him 2:50 into the match. Morse was defeated by North Carolina-Pembroke's Bill Atmore, 11-0 in the semifinals. Alex McManimen reached the semifinals of the 184-pound bracket by beating Chris McNally of Western Maryland, 10-7. He then was pinned the next round by Anderson's Ryan Hardy in 5:33.

The Generals travel to Gettysburg, Pa. to take part in the Gettysburg Quadrangular next Saturday.

Guilford Quakers foil women's b-ball

By Tod Williams
SPORTS WRITER

It was a week of role reversals for the Generals: some good, and some bad. The outcomes of the Randolph-Macon Women's College game and the Guilford College game were the opposite from the teams' first meeting earlier this season. And for once, Washington and Lee was the one riding high on a winning streak.

Just over two weeks ago, Berry Lowden's last-second layup gave the Generals a 63-61 win over Guilford. But vengeance was in the Quakers' corner when they entered the Warner Center on Saturday, and they walked away with an 83-70 win.

But last Tuesday, it was the Generals who avenged an 86-79 loss to RMWC last December. Junior Ansley Miller drove north to south in the game's final seconds to put W&L up 55-54 up for good. That was the fifth win in the streak, and the first time that they have played more than two winning games in a row. Unfortunately, it came to an end with Saturday's loss.

Saturday's loss was far from apparent until well into the second half. W&L jumped out to an early eight-point lead in the game, and they carried the same eight-point lead into the break. After halftime, the Generals extended their lead to 12, but they weren't far enough ahead of the Quakers, who took the game from there.

Shooting percentages tell the story of W&L's second half demise. The Generals shot 44 percent in the first half, but let their accuracy slip to 35 percent in the second half. The second half did see Miller connect the trifector, the only make in ten General attempts. But Guilford prospered in the last 20 minutes. Having shot only 35 percent in the first half, the Quakers saw the need to step it up, and they

certainly did. Guilford's 55 percent second half would be all they needed for the 13 point win.

Again, freshman Jessica Mentz paced the Generals with her 20 points. W&L's lone senior, Chrissy Burghardt helped out with her 17 point and 11 board double double. Megan Babst proved to be the soup Nazi for the day, as she denied service to the Quakers four times. Babst also notched 10 rebounds.

Guilford's bench seemed a little deeper than the Generals' did on Saturday. Three Quakers came off the pine to combine for 42 points, while W&L's bench could only muster 16 points.

Prior to the last-second heroics of Miller in Tuesday's win over RMWC, Burghardt became the first General in the school's 250 years to score 1,000 career points. The thrilling win came after a very tight game. W&L led the entire game, until the last six seconds, but never by more than seven points.

RMWC took the lead for the first time as Stephanie Marcial nailed a ten-footer to put the Quakers up with 5.7 ticks left. W&L called a time out, but after returning to the court, and hinting what would come, another time out was called. This time the Generals came out in a different setup, which was obviously successful. Once Miller got the ball, it was all over for the Wildcats. After weaving through a host of bodies, Miller hit her layup, with only 1.1 seconds left. But RMWC inbounded and took one last heave at the basket.

Yet again, Mentz lead the Generals, this time with her fourth double double of the season. Burghardt, the millennium woman, added 12 points and five steals for the Generals. Tara Carleton of RMWC led all scorers with her 25 points.

The Generals look to avenge a 70-53 loss to Bridgewater earlier this year as W&L hosts the Eagles at the Warner Center Tuesday night.

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Say "I love you" with a *Last Word* card

By Kevin McManemin
APPARENTLY SOME SORT OF DUCK

It comes once a year, like some Hallmark hurricane leaving a swath of chocolates, flowers and little frilly lace things in its wake.

Valentine's Day. The name alone is enough to send shivers up a man's bank account. A holiday dedicated to the materialistic display of romance.

Nothing is more over-romanticized in our society than romance. No subject has been more thoroughly exhausted in song, stage and verse. Of course, no one work has ever succeeded in encapsulating all that love is. Sometimes love is as light and cheery as a catchy pop song. Sometimes it's as sultry and passionate as an R&B number. And sometimes it's the blues.

In my personal opinion, love is a war, but not a good war like WWII or the Revolution. No, love is a brutal conflict full of betrayal, lies and hatred. Falling in love is like being chained upside down in a vat of boiling acid and having dental equipment raked across your body while being forced to listen to John Tesh albums as diseased rats gnaw at your fingers and toes.

But no, I'm not bitter.

Yes sir, love in the nineties is a nasty business. Gone are the days of boy meets girl, boy marries girl, boy and girl live happily ever after. Now it's boy meets girl, boy and girl get blood tests and compare viruses, boy knocks girl up, boy and girl get prenuptial agreement, girl leaves boy for her ex-boyfriend the heroin junky, boy turns gay, boy and girl avoid eye contact for the rest of their lives.

I think Valentine's Day should catch up with the times. Cut out these *Last Word* Valentines Day cards and let your sweetheart know how you really feel (just don't blame me if you find yourself sleeping on the couch).

My Love,
When I look at
you, only one
thought comes
to mind...



**Thank
God for
Valtrex!**

Sorely missing you,
your Valtrex Valentine

For my drunken
hook-up Valentine



A night I'll never remember,
a night you won't forget

I had a few and we
had sex
But we had more
than fun.
Now you have some
bills to pay
Because I had your
son.

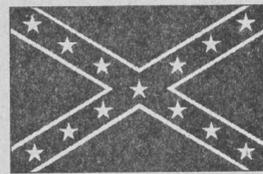


Violets are blue

Thanks to my
vibrator

I no longer need you

*Hot damn! It
Valentines
Day! Yeeha!*



I met you at tha NASCAR
races
You looked dang good, even
with them braces
Babe, you send ma hormones
buzzin'
It don't matter that you're
ma cousin
Mama don't mind, in fact she
gloats
Cuz I ain't sleeping no more
with them thar goats

A Valentine
for my
beloved
husband of
48 years



A valentine from your
obsessed stalker



No restraining order can restrain
my heart
No barbed wire fence is tall enough
to keep me away
The guard dogs' bite like sweet kisses
on my ankles
The blast of your shotgun like
cherubic trumpets

Don't close your blinds on our love

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