

The Ring-tum Phi

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MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1999

Sophomores question Honor System

By Ginger Phillips
FEATURES EDITOR

The most popular book around campus lately seems to be the White Book. The 16 pages of this book explain the philosophy and procedures behind the Honor System for which Washington and Lee University is famed. After the recent withdrawal of a W&L sophomore convicted of stealing from the Dining Hall by the Executive Committee, many students are demanding changes to the White Book and thus, to the Honor System itself.

In an attempt to address student concerns and to discuss possible amendments to the system, sophomore EC representatives Jeff Cook and Faith Collins hosted an open forum in the University Center on Feb. 25. Approximately 25 sophomores attended the meeting and most expressed their sense of fear and confusion about the Honor System.

"I don't know if someone I don't even know is going to turn me in for something I didn't even know was an honor violation," Heather McDonald said. "Everyone is on pins and needles over this issue. The student body needs to realize that the Honor System is not a toy."

Cook voiced a similar sentiment. "People have lost faith in the fact that the EC represents them and the Honor System."

The White Book states that ignorance of the system is no excuse, but many students are still confused about the logistics of the system and insist that the definition of an honor violation be stated more clearly.

"Infractions like the D-hall incident just seem so ridiculous," Will Vail said. "There should be some safeguards against something like this. Someone should use common sense to realize that this is not a big deal."

"There should be no reason to fear the honor system," Cook said. "It is there to protect the student body but it's hard to make a laundry list of violations. That's why it's not codified."

W&L maintains an honor system, which is different from an honor code. The Honor System was founded on the belief that honorable conduct cannot be codified, but that dishonorable conduct should be defined by the current student generation.

This generation of students is calling for a wide range of changes to the structure and processes of the EC, the exclusively student-administered body responsible for judging all claims

of dishonorable conduct.

"The most glaring problem with the EC is that there is no accountability," said Cook. "The EC members are the grand jury, investigators, jury, judge and prosecution. Everyone on the EC tries his hardest to make the right decisions, but sometimes it's difficult to play so many roles."

Some students suggested that the voting records of individual EC members be posted so that student voters would be able to make more informed decisions when electing their representatives. Others claim that this action would result in representatives voting for the sake of politics and popularity instead of to uphold the foundations of the Honor System.

The confidential nature of EC hearings is also a source of heated debate. Anyone involved in an EC investigation or trial could face serious disciplinary action for breaking this confidentiality.

"It is our honor system, not the EC's honor system," Ted Adams said. "We can't know if the representatives voted correctly without all of the facts of the trial becoming public."

"There should be a lot less confidentiality concerning the hearings," Collins said. "Robert E. Lee did not envision the system this way."

The sophomore EC members conceded that the EC is not infallible and that the option for an open trial is a safeguard against any mistakes that the committee may make. Rarely does an investigation progress to the point of an open trial, however, because many defendants fear the process and exposure of such a trial.

"A student should never fear going to an open trial," Sarah Riggs said. "If they do fear it, you lose the only accountability measure that exists against the EC."

While many of the students present at the forum were divided on the issues of confidentiality and accountability, almost all agreed that the system should be divided to create a separate EC for the University and the Law School. Some sophomores suggested that the law representatives may be out of touch with undergraduate life and were concerned that they might be more interested in going for a legal victory than reaching the truth.

"Sometimes the law students are in there just to exercise their own law skills," Collins said.

In addition to a divided system, students discussed many other changes to the Honor System. Currently a ma-



Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Sophomore EC representatives Jeff Cook and Faith Collins lead an Honor System discussion among sophomores on Thursday.

majority vote of two-thirds is required to convict an accused person of an honor violation. Many would like to see this rule changed to a unanimous vote.

Cook also proposed specific amendments to the White Book such as allowing the University Registrar to select at random the member of the student body who is permitted to participate in a hearing. Presently this person is selected by a member of the EC. He also suggested changing the EC president's role to that of an objective observer.

"The president is in a very difficult position because he must ensure a fair trial, but he also has a vested interest in the actual deliberations of that trial," said Cook.

The next White Book Review Committee will be appointed during the 1999-2000 academic year. The EC, however, will consider at any time an amendment proposal by a student if it is accompanied by a petition of at least 50 current students.

"The problem with amending the

See HONOR, Page 2

LPD busts UVA pranksters

By Tarah Grant
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

A Valentine's Day prank by the University of Virginia chapter of Phi Kappa Psi does not have the Lexington Police Department laughing.

Last Friday, the department arrested five UVA students for breaking and entering into the Washington and Lee University Phi Kappa Psi chapter house on Feb. 14.

"I would call it more of a prank than a crime," W&L Phi Kappa Psi sophomore Nick Silverman said. "I don't consider it that big of a deal."

The police, however, are taking the

incident very seriously.

While W&L students were on vacation, five UVA Phi Kappa Psi pledges entered the fraternity house through an unlocked door, according to the police. A neighbor alerted law enforcement when he spotted people taking items from the house and loading them into an unfamiliar van.

"They caught them as they were driving away, so we got everything back," Silverman said.

W&L security officers stopped the van at the Estill Street entrance to Davidson Park. The students identified themselves as University of West Virginia students to security. A sub-

sequent search of the van, however, revealed that they were UVA students on a well-planned mission.

Eleven letters, written on UVA Phi Kappa Psi chapter stationery, were found in the van that contained detailed instructions for the students to commit pranks throughout the southeast United States. The letters directed the students to identify themselves as WVU students if questioned by authorities.

In the van, security also found the items that the pledges were directed to take from the W&L chapter house,

See PRANKSTERS, Page 2

D-hall dishes out \$100,000

By Erica Prosser
FEATURES EDITOR

Students wandering into Evans Dining Hall over the past week have met with an unfamiliar sight: new chairs and tables.

"It's more scenic than the old D-hall furniture," sophomore Tim Koss said, "but it looks cheaper."

Why the change from the old furniture? Jerry Darrell, director of Dining Services, said that this year is the 40th anniversary of the dining hall. The old furniture was actually the original furniture from 40 years ago.

"It was looking worn and tired five or six years ago," he said. "It was rickety and not sturdy. It was dangerous; we actually had an accident a few years ago when a chair broke."

For about five years, Darrell has made a capital request of the general budget to replace the old tables and chairs, and his request was granted this year. Washington and Lee University allotted the dining service funds for the new furniture, which cost \$100,000.

Darrell said that the process of choosing the new fixtures was a long and careful one. The dining staff surveyed the students about chair preferences, narrowing the choices down to 12, then three, then finally one, the padded chairs now gracing the hall. The chairs are backed by a 10-year warranty, and although the fabric is not indestructible, it holds up well under the stress of spills.

"We tested the fabric with grease, coffee... It all wiped right off," Darrell said.

The one problem that students have been having with the chairs, he said, is the fact that the plastic slides on the bottoms of the chairs prevent them from sliding well across the floor. He said that the staff is working on

replacing the plastic slides with metal ones to eliminate this problem.

The tables are a mix of long rectangles and smaller round tables. They are collapsible, which makes them easier to move around for catered events in the hall. When the choice of tables came up, though, Darrell said that the student preferences were a little different.

"Students were telling us that they didn't want the long, VMI-type tables," he said. "They said that they visited friends at other colleges and liked the smaller, round tables... But now, some students are saying that they like the long tables because they all sit in groups together."

See D-HALL, Page 2

Speeding limited on I-81

By Elianna Marziani
STAFF WRITER

Speed has become a more costly thrill for many Virginians since Gov. Jim Gilmore announced a new emphasis on traffic law enforcement on Interstate 81 at a press conference on Feb. 10.

Since then, the Virginia State Police force has significantly boosted patrols for speed limit enforcement.

I-81, which stretches 325 miles between Winchester and Bristol, has long been considered a safety hazard by many drivers. First Sergeant Joe Peters of the Virginia Police Department explained this perception. "When I-81 first opened in the mid-1960s, the highway wasn't designed to carry the number of vehicles it does today, especially in trucks," he said.

"I don't think I-81 is any more dangerous than any other highway in itself," Peters said, adding that the mountainous, hilly terrain that I-81 covers makes driving more difficult, especially for trucks.

The dangers of excessive speed on I-81 during less-than-ideal weather hit close to home this year for Washington and Lee University. On Jan. 3, freshman Jon Nabors died in a 16-vehicle pileup on the interstate just outside of Lexington.

Unfortunately, this crash was not the first of its kind to have happened on I-81. During the 1998 Fourth of July weekend, seven people died in a crash between Salem and Christiansburg.

When asked about the causes of the new, stricter enforcement of speed laws, Peters said, "We want to address the increase of traffic on I-81, and of course, the high profile crashes. The police department has received complaints from citizens about driving conditions on I-81."

Gilmore gave responded in his Decision Directive, which provides new standards for traffic law enforcement. These methods include increasing the number of on-duty patrol units, using state police aircraft to assist local police patrolling efforts, and installing new signs to announce the strict speed limit enforcement.

"There's more traffic on our interstates than ever, and too many drivers are going too fast, dangerously so," Gilmore said. "My directive authorizes a task force to promptly begin these initiatives, including temporary assignment of up to 50 extra state troopers."

"We have increased our patrols and the number of troopers assigned throughout the state," Peters said. "We ensure that more troopers will be out there every day. And then we have targeted certain days that we will probably triple our enforcement out there."

Sunday, the last day of February break, was a targeted day. Many W&L students noticed an increased number of patrol cars on their drives back to Lexington. "It seemed like about every five minutes there was a cop on the side of the road. All of them had

pulled over someone," sophomore Catherine Mead said.

Virginia police in fact dealt with more than 1700 violations on I-81 that Sunday alone. Large white X's could be seen periodically along the shoulder of the road. Police helicopters use these X's to monitor car speeds by measuring how long it takes drivers to get from one marking to another. The air patrol contacts officers on the ground if they find a vehicle that is consistently speeding.

Commuting from Roanoke to Lexington every day, senior Seth Kellermann has experience with this stretch of road and has noticed traffic patterns all year. The extra police presence since Gilmore's directive caught his attention.

"I've noticed that on the stretch between Lexington and Roanoke, I see between five and seven cops every day, and they're being a lot sneakier than they used to be," he said. Kellermann is thankful for the new emphasis on enforcement. "I think it's very good because previously semis would travel at incredible rates of speed like 85 m.p.h."

Peters identifies reducing crashes, injuries and fatalities on I-81 as the State Police's main goal. "The extra enforcement also lets the public know that the highway is safe to travel on," he said. "They can expect to get from point A to point B in a safe manner."

If people do not keep themselves safe, "we will aggressively and successfully enforce the law," Peters said.

The Ring-tum Phi March 1, 1999

OPINION:
Debating the Honor System

PAGE 3

W&LIFE:
Campus rape: an in-depth look at the system

PAGE 4&5

SPORTS:
Men's lax opens with force; baseball sweeps

PAGE 6&7

LAST WORD:
Traveling to England; Payback movie review

PAGE 8



Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Jamaican students dance to the tune of a Jamaican folksong at "An Evening Abroad" last Thursday.

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62

PAGE 2

The Ring-tum Phi NEWS

MARCH 1, 1999

HONOR SYSTEM

continued from page 1

White Book is that the decision on whether or not a change is made ultimately comes down to the EC," Ryan Truax said.

The current controversy surrounding the Honor System has no easy answer. The academic and social freedom accorded to W&L students also exists in their form of government. If changes in that system are to be made, they will come directly from the student body.

"Any changes that we make are going to last for a very long time," said Cook. "Therefore we must continue to seriously discuss these issues and have everyone involved before we make any important changes."

D-HALL

continued from page 1

Despite the slight confusion about table preference, the new furniture has had a positive impact overall. Seating has increased in the dining hall, and Darrell said that students generally seem to find the new furniture attractive.

"It's pretty nice," freshman Kristen Bonnema said. "There's something awkward about the height of the armrests and tables, and it's not as comfortable. But the fabric goes with the columns."

The dining hall beautification will not stop with the furniture, either. Darrell said that plans are in the works to paint the pillars over the summer. The old green color will be replaced with a light blue shade that will still complement the upholstery of the new chairs. The painting process has already begun, as workers painted the hall ceiling during February break. By the time students return next fall, they will meet with a prettier, more comfortable dining hall.

What about the old, familiar chairs and tables we had come to know so well? Until March 9, the old stuff will be available for free to non-profit and educational organizations; from noon to 4 p.m. On March 9, the furniture will go on sale to the general public. The sale will be held at the Physical Plant barn on the back campus, and all furniture will be sold on a cash-and-carry basis. Tables will cost \$5, \$7 or \$10, and chairs will cost \$3 each.

Students may enjoy the newer furniture now, but Darrell said that the process of moving out the old tables and chairs was not without heartbreak.

"It was an emotional day when the old furniture was removed," he said. "There were two students there, the last two to use the old furniture. We took a picture of them at their table, and we let them keep the chairs."

PRANKSTERS

continued from page 1

including a framed photograph of the W&L campus from 1919, a candle, a W&L tee-shirt, and a composite board containing individual photographs of the 1998 W&L Phi Kappa Psi members. The value of the items taken from the house was estimated to be \$1,310, according to the police.

After the true identities of the five men were ascertained, based on UVA identification cards and driver's licenses, they were permitted to return to Charlottesville on the night of the incident. Felony warrants were obtained later in the week, charging all five students with grand larceny and petty larceny, in addition to breaking and entering.

The UVA students voluntarily returned to Lexington last Friday to be formally charged. They were released from custody on \$500 bonds to await their preliminary hearings, which will be held later in Rockbridge General District Court.

The UVA student newspaper, *The Cavalier Daily*, reported that the students will not be charged with honor violations because the UVA honor constitution limits the geographical area in which students are bound to the honor system. Students are only held to the system within Charlottesville and Albemarle County or "when he identifies himself as a University of Virginia student in order to gain the reliance and trust of others."

"I was highly disappointed in your committee," Mike Young, director of W&L security, told *The Cavalier Daily*. "Ours [at W&L] applies everywhere. We don't always find out about things students do [off campus], but if we do we certainly address them."

The Cavalier Daily also reported that, as a result of the arrest, representatives from Phi Kappa Psi national headquarters are investigating the UVA chapter.



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HONOR SYSTEM: Dead or Alive?

Only change will preserve W&L's Honor System

By Sarah Riggs '01
PHI CONTRIBUTOR

In the past few weeks, there has been a lot of discussion concerning our Honor System and its administration here at W&L. I am writing both in defense of the Honor System and in support of some much needed changes in the way that it is administered.

The Honor System represents the tradition of integrity on Washington and Lee's campus. Properly kept, it has the potential to enhance students' lives long after graduation.

Our unique capacity for self-governance sets us apart from thousands of other schools across the nation. However, it is our ability to adapt and improve the Honor System that will ultimately define who we are and determine what we may become. It is for these reasons that I wish to propose the following changes.

Under the current White Book policy, the Executive Committee needs a two-thirds majority to find a student guilty of an honor violation. Changing this policy to require a unanimous decision would vastly improve the quality and fairness of the Honor System.

For a student to be essentially dismissed from school, the evidence against the accused should be so clear cut and obvious that all of the EC is convinced that an honor violation has been committed.

For one thing, a unanimous decision would increase the accountability of EC members. Secondly, this policy would decrease the chances of an innocent person being found guilty. A unanimous decision would promote fairness and increased accountability in the Honor System.

In addition to requiring an unanimous decision, the EC needs to assume greater responsibility for educating students regarding White Book policy and what may constitute an honor violation. This should not be a one-time orientation during the freshman year.

If the Honor System is to be kept by students throughout their W&L careers, then the EC needs to create a continual education system to inform students of White Book policy.

Students should not be held responsible for offenses that they were never told were violations of the Honor System. How many people actually knew that swiping a freshman D-Hall card could get you kicked out?

How many people realize that according to White Book policy, a student who suspects a classmate of committing an HV is supposed to confront the accused before reporting it to the EC? This practice, though it is too little utilized, would save time, energy and heartache for many students by clearing up misunderstandings before they go before the EC. Educating students concerning White Book policy would also decrease the growing fear that is felt among students with regard to

the Honor System.

Next, under the current White Book policy, the EC acts as investigator, grand jury, prosecutor, judge and jury. One major problem with this is that because the EC acts as the grand jury, deciding whether or not there is enough evidence to merit a closed hearing, many of their decisions may have already been influenced before the trial even begins.

I agree with sophomore EC representative

Jeff Cook, who has proposed that seven randomly selected students, bound by confidentiality and given no information as to the names of the students involved could determine whether there is enough evidence to go to a closed hearing. This would create a system in which the EC would begin a trial with no preconceived ideas about the accused or

the case, thus increasing the fairness to the accused.

On a final note, no student should fear the Honor System or the EC. The Honor System was intended to create a comfortable and trustworthy environment.

Trials should concern only relevant questions and material, and students should not be "investigated" by their peers without their knowledge. This is unprofessional and despicable, as well as dishonorable and un-

ethical, behavior for mature college students.

A student who is accused should know that he is being investigated. If we all live in an honorable environment, what problems can this cause? Surely the accused will not ask other students to lie on his or her behalf.

I encourage the EC to listen to its fellow students. We all take great pride in our Honor System, but we must not convince ourselves that we are incapable of error.

There is a need for change. On the whole, the Honor System works, but we must not neglect even the smallest problems because we are dealing with the futures of our classmates and ourselves.

how that individual voted.

Furthermore, because Executive Committee members are bound by an obligation of confidentiality not to discuss the facts of a particular case, representatives could neither justify their decisions nor explain why they voted as they did.

It is vitally important for students to be informed about the opinions and values of their elected representatives. This goal could be better accomplished through events that would enable representatives to discuss their views on honor in a setting divorced from the facts of a particular case.

Decaying system must be reformed

Mike Agnello '02
OPINION WRITER

In the weeks before break, an alleged honor violation occurred and resulted in a student withdrawing from school. I won't recount the story or even discuss it; we are all too familiar with it. However, the episode got me thinking. How extensive is the honor system and exactly how does one define an honor violation?

Many students cried foul over the incident because of the frivolous nature of the "violation." We all know that any breach of the honor system, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, is considered equally serious.

Is it possible for a student to unknowingly commit an honor violation? If so, is he as accountable as a student who did so knowingly? The White Book (which everyone has read, of course), though rather thick, is extremely vague on these subjects.

The ambiguity itself is not even a bad thing; we live in a value-based rather than a rule-based community. Unfortunately, common sense and best judgement vary greatly among two thousand separate, unique individuals. What is not covered under blatant lying, cheating or stealing is more or less left to the Executive Committee.

I have no quarrel with the EC and recognize the difficulty of its job. Like any high judicial body, its decisions set precedents. These precedents can be good or bad, but nevertheless, they exist. The EC must be careful too be neither too hard nor too soft on the gray areas. Acting too harshly would turn W&L into a police state and destroy the entire point of having an honor system in the first place. The reverse action would cause the Honor System to crumble.

Many students have called the EC's handling of this recent incident as well as others as "bull shit." If the body that enforces the Honor System is not respected, what of the Honor System itself? I sympathize with both sides, but this much I know: There are people on campus who think that the EC couldn't pour piss out of a boot if the instructions were on the heel. That's bad folks.

Signs of the honor system's decay are everywhere. Freshmen attach signs the their detergent in the laundry room, blatantly telling others not to steal theirs. Some people who have left CDs in the library have had them stolen. The J-School has to lock up its CDs whether or not everyone realizes it, we're at a crossroads.

Modern societal realities have invaded our isolated little bubble. The EC, with the help of the entire student body, needs to re-emphasize the importance of the Honor System and make clear what constitutes an honor violation. The Honor System separates W&L from every other school in the nation. In order to preserve our elite status and national appeal, this problem must be addressed. Somebody somewhere needs to do something before it's too late.

EC strives for balance between disclosure, confidentiality

By Beth Formidoni '96,
'99L
EC PRESIDENT

Many students have expressed interest in the disclosure of the voting records and specific facts of Executive Committee hearings.

The EC strives to maintain a balance between the confidentiality created to protect the accused and witnesses and disclosure of information for student awareness.

The Executive Committee does not disclose the facts of closed hearings for a number of reasons. First, disclosure of these facts could compromise the anonymity of the accused and witnesses involved in a closed hearing.

Only the accused has the power to make this information known to the public through an appeal to an open hearing. Second, no amount of disclosure could compare to the Executive Committee's ability to hear and evaluate the witnesses' testimony and demeanor. A lesser degree of disclosure would represent a halfhearted compromise between the confidentiality of a closed hearing and the student body's ability to hear all of the facts and testimony in an open hearing.

Releasing the closed hearing voting records of Executive Committee members represents an equally unsatisfactory compromise between confidentiality and disclosure.

The release of voting records is a difficult issue, because it is important for constituents to know the views of their elected representatives. This need would not be met, though, with a simple description of whether a member of the Executive Committee voted guilty or not guilty.

Members' votes are based on numerous factors, none of which could be conveyed through a perfunctory list of

last few weeks to continue throughout the remainder of this year and into the year to follow. It is student initiative that is necessary in order to take the steps required in adopting thoughtful change. As we come upon the year of the White Book Review I challenge the student body to undertake the task of thoroughly understanding the current system, and with your new found understanding care enough to propose the ideas you feel necessary for the change you have requested.

My experience can channel the energies of your concerns, and through our mutual understanding, we can collaborate to protect and revise our Honor System. These components coupled together will allow for change guided by two years of knowledge, understanding and trust.

Respectfully Submitted
Erin L. McGrain '00

Reminders for Fancy Dress Ball

Dear Members of the W&L Community:
As you all know, the 92nd annual Fancy Dress Ball is Friday, March 5. I would like to make you aware of a few points.

Tickets are required for admittance to the ball, so please remember to purchase them and bring them with you. You will not be admitted without a ticket. Tickets and memorabilia will be sold in the University Center all week beginning Monday, March 1. These items will be sold from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 5, and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. Tickets will also be sold at the front door of the ball for anyone who has not already purchased them.

Please remember that smoking and drinking will not be permitted inside the Warner Center. The FD Steering Committee has worked very hard on this year's ball, so please respect our work and do not remove any decorations from the Warner Center. In addition, please do not damage or

destroy any of the decorations.

The ball will be held from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Best wishes for a safe and entertaining Fancy Dress. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,
Calder Britt '99
Chairman, 1999 Fancy Dress Ball

A message from the Secretary of State

Dear Editor:

Each year, many American students serve time in foreign jails or await trial in detention because they were unaware of the risks of using or possessing drugs while overseas. Many young Americans are also arrested in foreign lands because of the inappropriate behavior associated with heavy drinking.

The Bureau of Consular Affairs is responsible for the protection and welfare of U.S. citizens abroad. U.S. consular officers can visit American citizens being held in foreign jails but cannot get them released. I would be grateful for your assistance in reminding your readers of the importance of obeying all foreign laws when traveling abroad.

Additional travel safety information can be viewed and downloaded from the Consular Affairs' home page on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>, including the flyer "Going Abroad?" and the pamphlet "Travel Warning on Drugs Abroad." Both provide the "hard facts" about the dangers of carrying or using drugs while overseas.

Thank you for your cooperation in this effort to alert American students to these risks and their consequences as the season of spring breaks and summer vacations approaches.

Sincerely,
Madeleine K. Albright

The Ring-tum Phi

Executive Editors: Tarah Grant, Hollister Hovey
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student pitch for EC elections

To the W&L student body:

I feel that my qualifications for the position of President of the Executive Committee of Washington and Lee University are twofold. Most importantly, I have the experience crucial for performing the tasks of this office, and from this experience, I have acquired the knowledge and understanding that will allow the current voice of change to be heard by logic and reason.

During my two terms as a member of the Executive Committee I have heard 24 investigative reports, participated in 13 trials, passed two university student budgets, selected two groups of leaders to oversee nearly every student organization on campus, observed the terms of three past Executive Committee presidents and ultimately, watched 31 members of the Executive Committee, both present and past, simultaneously uphold and challenge the system I am proud to call our own.

These numbers are suggestive of my capabilities, but they are NOT, however, where the importance of my experience lies. It is how these numbers have helped me, and continue to help me grow in my understanding and support of our Honor System, that is vitally important to you, my fellow members of the student body.

You see, not only am I aware of the intricacies of our system, but I possess the knowledge required to effectively make changes in this system, a system designed to portray and protect the principles and philosophies maintained by the current generation of our student body.

I intend to encourage the momentum borne of these



Editor's note: Rape is an extremely sensitive issue, and in the stories that follow, both sides hold very strong opinions. This is a complicated matter with blurred lines that we've tried to deal with in the most responsible way possible. Thus, we've tried to present the sides of both an accuser and an accused, although they were involved in separate cases.

She says: victimized twice

"There was this guy sitting next to me on the couch ... He ended up walking me into the bathroom in the basement and we were making out, and basically, he undressed me and he turned me up against the bathroom wall and he started to have anal sex with me. I flipped out at that point, and I remember saying

R "no" or "stop" ... Then he left and I passed out on the floor of the bathroom and was there for a couple hours." This was the drunken introduction to college life for "Julia" during her freshman year at Washington and Lee University, a school known for its Honor System.

Yet no sense of honor protected her from one of the most horrifying experiences a woman can suffer, an experience she suffered at the hands of a fellow student.

Julia is not alone. Two rape cases came before the Student Faculty Hearing Board last year, including hers. Estimates of other cases that go unreported run high.

Julia did not report the incident right away. She waited until the end of her sophomore year, when she says an article about campus rape that ran in *The Ring-tum Phi* persuaded her finally to come forward and press charges within the bounds of the university judicial system.

There are no cases of rape involving students being tried criminally on record within recent years in Lexington. Of the few women who do decide to go forward with charges, like Julia, most decide to do so within the W&L judicial process, which means the SFHB.

"I wasn't really told about all of my different options, I suppose. I did hear some, and I went to see some of the deans," she said. "I realize now I could have gone through civil court."

Junior Meredith Welch, who has proposed reforms to the SFHB hearing process, is suggesting steps to increase victim awareness.

"I think we could prevent a lot of sexual assault and help out a lot of the people who are assaulted if we just tell them about their options and their resources," Welch said.

These options include the possibility of taking the offender to criminal court. In order to make a case in criminal court, the accuser must have proof.

"I know that one of the big problems for criminal court is that you have to have concrete evidence — which a lot of girls don't have," Julia said. "That needs to be taught right from the beginning: you need to get to a doctor immediately, and you get evidence the next day or that night."

Professor Nancy Margand says that this is also a problem in SFHB trials. According to Margand, never once has a victim come forward with medical evidence.

Another option that many victims are unaware of is the possibility of taking an offender before the Executive Committee, and charging an honor violation. A victim may also file a complaint without committing herself to further action.

A woman may report the assault to Dean Anece McCloud and leave it at that; she can go on to fill out an incident report that will be kept on file without initiating an honor system proceeding, or report the incident and try mediation, again without initiating an honor system proceeding.

These are all actions open to victims immediately following assault, without the added burden of having to decide whether or not to file formal charges.

After her trial, Julia had some procedural issues herself. The defendant in her case was given a two-day suspension during the last week of spring term of his senior year. He was not allowed to walk with his class at graduation, but graduated nonetheless.

"I went to talk to Dean [David] Howison about it," Julia said. "He basically told me that they felt that this guy had a good job lined up for after he graduated, and if he was

suspended it would jeopardize his career and they didn't feel that it was worth it. So they didn't really do anything to him. That was his reason. It had nothing to do with the case, it had nothing to do with whether this guy was a threat to still be on campus ... Based almost entirely on his grades or his academic performance and his job ... I don't quite know what to do with that."

Howison could not comment on the specifics of individual cases.

Confidentiality was another strong issue for Julia. "I was going through this hearing and it was the most traumatic thing I'd ever been through," Julia said. "I wasn't allowed to talk to anyone. And so my best friend that I live with, that I share everything with ... I couldn't say anything to her about the most important thing that had happened in my life. And I felt that as soon as I'd entered into the trial, the support that I'd had through the school kind of dropped off."

Witnesses in Julia's trial also felt that the SFHB trial was not conducted in a completely fair or efficient manner. "Claire," a witness on Julia's behalf, said that her experience in the hearing brought home to her some of the more grievous aspects of the process.

"I definitely think there needs to be some changes in the process, especially with regard to the role of the advocate. My experience as a witness often made me feel like I was the one on trial. The law school students think they're getting all of this great experience by playing lawyer and trying to win the case rather than just bringing each party's facts out into the open."

Claire also believed that the line of questioning was often inappropriate.

"I was sometimes cornered into answering irrelevant questions as well as badgered until I finally refused to answer

some of the more ridiculous ones," she said. "The problem with that, however, is that when you plead the Fifth [Amendment] in a situation like that, it looks like you're hiding something and you're not able to help the accuser. It doesn't look like you're just trying to keep some of your dignity intact."

Another witness, "Nicole," believes the process was unfair for Julia. "After she had to go through a trial that revealed every aspect of her personal life to students and faculty members, she had to face the fact that her efforts meant almost nothing to the administration," Nicole said. "I remember talking to her about the decision. We initially thought it sounded positive. It was a guilty verdict [for sexual misconduct]. But then we finally understood that the appeal reduced his sentence to almost nothing."

"Julia was never out to ruin this guy's life. She just wanted him to realize that he had done something wrong. She needed that closure," Nicole said.

"Because the administration reduced his punishment so greatly, I don't think he'll ever realize the heinous ramifications of his act," she said. "He was let off. She has to live with the consequences every day."

To name a name . . .

In the midst of outcry over recent verdicts handed down by the Student Faculty Hearing Board, junior Meredith Welch is calling for full disclosure of names of the convicted.

In a September proposal, Welch called for a complete reform of W&L's policies on handling charges of sexual assault. W&L's Student Affairs Committee is currently taking her proposal under consideration in a procedural review.

"After they come up with a proposal, they're going to bring it back to the students in some form," Welch said. "And if they get student approval, they're planning on sending it to the faculty for a vote, I believe in April."

SFHB chair Barbara Brown, university librarian, foresees possible problems with disclosing offender's names to the W&L community.

"If we publish the names of the individual who was found guilty of something, with the kinds of issues that the SFHB deals with, the concern I would have is that the persons would become a pariah and ostracized in ways that are not in keeping with what the punishment was," Brown said.

Others, however, argue that the same standards should apply on the W&L campus as in the court system.

"Once you're in the real world and you commit a violent, or even a nonviolent crime, as long as you're over 18, your name is published," sophomore Heather McDonald said at a disclosure forum. "To be lulled into a false sense of security within our realm of W&L is not necessarily a good thing."

Naming names of the convicted is not as important to others as is disclosing the facts of cases and verdicts. Knight Professor of Journalism Louis Hodges is more concerned that students are educated about the possible consequences of their actions, as well as allowed access to information about actions by campus judicial bodies than told the actual names of convicted students.

"First, we really need a watchdog to watch over even our best judicial bodies," Hodges said. "And secondly, to do so, and to publish the results, to reveal the issues at

stake and the actions taken, would have a major educational impact on everybody in the student body."

Education is an important issue. Senior Patrick McCormack, secretary of the Student Judicial Committee, recently conducted a poll to determine students' levels of awareness, as well as their opinions, of campus judiciary bodies.

"Students admitted that they didn't really know what was going on as far as the judicial systems were concerned, but that didn't seem to bother them," McCormack said. "They figure as long as someone else is worrying about it, they don't have to."

McCormack's poll indicated that 46.4 percent of the W&L undergraduate student body favored the disclosure of the results of SFHB hearings. When asked how confident they were in the abilities of the SFHB to adjudicate cases of sexual misconduct, 23.1 percent said not confident or barely confident, 40.6 percent were neutral or had no opinion, 27.5 percent were somewhat confident, and 8.7 percent were very confident.

"My personal feeling is that we ought to have open trials," McCormack said. "Aside from full disclosure about names and charges, I don't think that there's any way to do what should be done. We have to have some sort of check on our judicial system."

Howison also recognizes the lack of awareness within the student body as a problem.

"I think we need more education," Howison said. "There's no question that there's not the kind of awareness of these procedures that we need to achieve, and that will be a goal of the Student Affairs Committee as we review the whole sexual misconduct policy."

Welch says that many students she talks to about her proposal do not even know what the SFHB is, much less what it does.

Recently, the SFHB has come under fire, not only for its secrecy, but also for not being harsh enough in its punishment of accused rapists and for being too hard on the plaintiffs.

Trials of the SFHB

Welch has been leading that charge against some of the SFHB's procedures.

"I've been very unhappy with the outcome of the trials," Welch said. "I don't think that the punishments that are meted out are anywhere equal to the crimes committed. I'd like to see stricter punishments that are more consistently applied. People [the accused] tend to get breaks if they have a job lined up at Microsoft or something that might be jeopardized."

Howison acknowledges that the existing system could be improved.

"I think there are some procedural issues on the actual complaint process, the hearing process, that we can refine," Howison said. "And we'll also look at that ... Yes, there are some improvements that need to be made."

SFHB trials are conducted under a blanket of confidentiality. All those involved, be they board members, witnesses, defendant or plaintiff, are prohibited from discussing the trial with anyone.

Welch contends that both the accused and the accuser need someone to talk to during the trial, but admits that afterwards, the lines are not clearly drawn as to what can be discussed and what cannot.

"I know that a lot of the girls that have been through trials aren't sure if they can talk about it or not, so they're just talking about it," Welch said. "There's a lot of ambiguity in the system and it needs to be cleared up."

Howison himself isn't sure where the boundaries should be set.

"The hearing standards are that the process is confidential, so that's certainly the expectation," Howison said. "I think that we can get all tied up in rules and regulations of who you can talk to and who you can't talk to. My standard is just reasonableness. If you say can the

person never utter the name of the person she accused and found guilty, I'd say no, that's not realistic. At some point, the person [accuser] has the right to talk about the [accused] person."

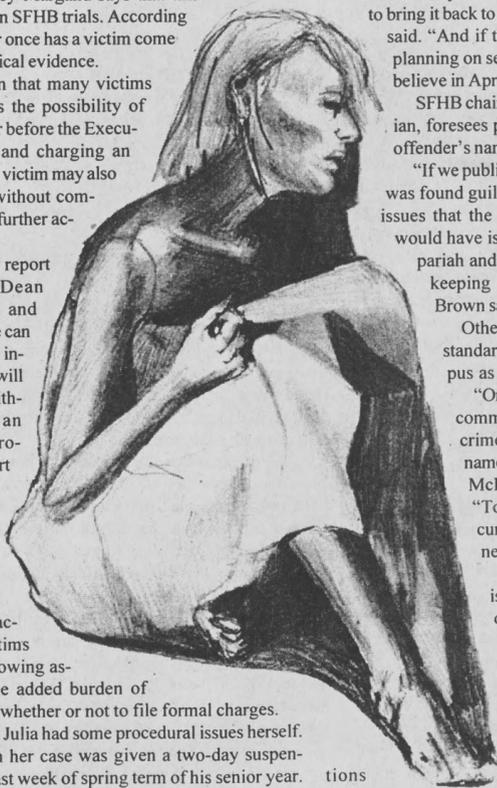
In being denied their natural support systems, Welch points out, victims actually have little incentive to report a rape.

"While a man may receive only a mild suspension for assaulting a woman, she may be dismissed from the university for confiding in a friend about the trial," Welch said. "Few women come forward when they have been raped, both because they do not know how to proceed and because they have little reason to expect it will be worth the time and emotional trauma."

SFHB guidelines currently list being "sanctioned" as punishment for breaking confidentiality. Only witnesses in trials are not named specifically in the prohibition. The SFHB itself, however, would have nothing to do with the punitive process, which is handled by the Office of the Dean of Students.

"We need to recognize that anytime you have disciplinary hearings that are essentially held in private and are kept secret, you have a potentially dangerous situation on your hands," Hodges said. "Therefore the bias ought to be on the side of openness rather than secrecy."

For the victims who are speaking out, the emphasis is already on openness.



He says: We need a watchdog

They met during freshman year at Washington and Lee University. People gazed at the handsome couple they made; he, a man of the world, she, religious and innocent.

Now they have different labels; she calls herself a "rape victim" and him "rapist."

And the only two people who will ever know what actually took place have completely different stories.

The relationship ended after more than a year one January, and two months later "Joe" was notified that he was being charged with rape. The plaintiff was his ex-girlfriend, "Amy," and she was asking for a single-

tion penalty: expulsion.

Joe was assigned an advocate, a third-year law student, and asked to assemble a list of those he would like to call as witnesses in his defense. He named his two roommates and a few close friends who could testify about the nature of his relationship with Amy.

One of the witnesses Joe called was a close female friend, "Sophie," who was in turn contacted by his advocate.

"It was the most horrible moment of my life," she said, "to know that somebody you've loved and trusted for more than two years, who has never once done anything inappropriate to you, has been accused of something like this. At first, I thought 'I can't do this.' And at moments like that you're thinking that it could actually be true."

The witnesses were called, and the opening statements written, and Joe and Amy prepared to face each other in front of the Student Faculty Hearing Board, which deals primarily with questions of sexual assault.

On the day of the trial, Amy's witnesses testified for five hours. In contrast, Joe's friends and roommates were given about an hour and a half.

Because Joe and Amy had different circles of friends, Amy's witnesses could only testify as to what she had told them about Joe. Joe's best friend, "Tyler," was the only crossover witness, as he knew both Joe and Amy well.

"I thought that the decision had been made before anything had happened," Tyler said. "Another witness who followed me was told 'we don't want to hear about his character, we don't want to hear anything, we just want to know what happened.' And of course, the only people who could answer that were [Joe] and [Amy]."

"One of [Amy's] witnesses testified that I was capable of rape," Joe said. "She didn't know me. She judged me based on what [Amy] told her. Another male friend said that he didn't know me well, but that he wanted to hunt me down and slit my throat. That was accepted."

Joe feels that the board put him at an even greater disadvantage by denying him character witnesses.

"A rape case is very complicated," Joe said.

"I felt that my rights were violated, but frankly, in that moment I couldn't think rationally. It is essential to have character witnesses for both sides to determine if a person has certain tendencies. I wasn't allowed any character witnesses. The board turned them down, saying that they weren't relevant to the case."

Sophie, who planned to give character testimony concerning her own relationship with Joe, was denied the opportunity to speak.

"His counsel told me that she'd call me back ... to let me know exactly what was going on, but the call never came," Sophie said. "I had to ask [Joe] what was going on, and he said that without notifying me, the board decided that my presence wasn't required because I would be biased."

Joe's actions were also questioned by the board because he had never mentioned his sexual involvement with Amy to any of his friends.

"The [student board member] asked me why I didn't go out and tell people that I had gotten laid," Joe said. "The way I was brought up, you don't do that, it's something that's private."

As a result, Joe questions the abilities and training that board members have.

"Their attitudes toward my witnesses was completely different from how they treated her witnesses," Joe said. "I felt that the board members were not qualified at all. First of all, you don't take hearsay accounts, which they allowed on [Amy's] side. Those people [witnesses] were not there, they didn't know what was going on."

"The case itself was based on one person's word against the other's," Sophie said. "And in this case, she's a tiny, virginal girl with a very conservative background where he's bigger, more liberal and experienced."

Throughout the trial, the intimate aspects concerning the sexual relationship between Joe and Amy were discussed in detail. And it was here that the biggest differences between their stories occurred.

Amy contended in her initial statement that she had had sex with Joe fewer than three times after the first, which she considered

rape. After Joe's roommates testified that she had visited him multiple times over a three-month period, however, Amy changed her testimony. According to Joe, no one on the board took note of the differences between her initial assertion and her testimony during the trial.

Initially, the SFHB found Joe guilty of sexual misconduct. It ordered him to write a report to the board, and ruled that a second conviction would result in automatic expulsion. The board notified Joe through his advocate, who subsequently advised him that there was sufficient evidence to sue for violating his rights as a defendant, i.e. innocent until proven guilty. Instead, he opted to appeal.

"Their attitude toward me and handling of my witnesses were clearly discriminatory. They acted as though they had already made their decision," Joe said. "At the appeal, I asked Professor Margand [then head of the SFHB] what the grounds were for convicting me. She said that they 'felt' I was wrong."

The appellate board reduced the punishment to mandatory counseling, as well as a restriction that Joe not live in the same apartment complex as Amy.

"I didn't like their decision," Tyler said, "because it seemed like they couldn't commit. And their justification was that he didn't rape her, but he treated her improperly. And so their punishment was to teach him how to treat her properly. Neither side felt vindicated."

For those involved, the trial left them with confusion about preconceived notions regarding rape. Sophie and Tyler both profess that they initially accepted the charge against their friend Joe without question.

"I think that our society sympathizes with girls," Sophie said, "and thinks that rape charges must be true, otherwise, they wouldn't go through the process. Guys are at a definite disadvantage because of this bias unless there is very definite and clear physical evidence."

"[Joe] was very fair, he showed both sides," Tyler said. "He was the first one involved to say, 'she feels wronged. Regardless of what I did or did not do, she feels wronged.'"

According to Joe, however, the relationship was purely consensual. Amy refused to comment on the case.

"There was no proof presented that said I had done something wrong," Joe said. "It was my word against hers, and I wasn't allowed the same opportunity to defend myself. And after a year of questioning what went wrong [in the relationship], I know that I'm innocent."

"In my opinion, rape is something you don't want at the time," Tyler said. "You can't change your mind a few weeks later."

Joe is left with feelings of betrayal and anger. He has decided to remain at W&L for the time being, but is overwhelmed at that idea that his ex-girlfriend attends meetings advocating disclosure and classifies herself as a rape victim. He asks students to think twice about the reliability of the process itself, before asking for the disclosure of names based on the SFHB's rulings.

"The whole trial proved to me that there is no justice, and that is basically depends on people's perspectives and then how one successfully manipulates the system," he said.

If it happens to you

Rape is an enormous trauma for a person to endure. If it happens to you, however, remember that the decisions you make immediately following the attack will be vital to any criminal investigation, whether that be within the W&L system or in a criminal court.

The decision to report a sexual assault is an extremely difficult one, but only by reporting a crime can any semblance of justice be found. In order to prosecute in a criminal court, a sexual assault victim must have physical evidence of the crime. It is important, therefore, not to bathe, change clothes or clean up in any way following an assault. Doing this could destroy the legal evidence necessary to the case.

Immediately seek medical attention in order to address any injuries, including those of which you might not even be aware.

A thorough medical examination will assist you in determining any health concerns related to the crime and assist law enforcement in developing a criminal case. Remember to seek a follow-up examination to check for an unwanted pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases resulting from the assault.

Whether you decide to prosecute a sexual perpetrator

in a criminal court, you can also take your case to the SFHB, or the Student Faculty Hearing Board. This judicial body is composed of both W&L students and faculty and deals primarily with cases of sexual misconduct involving members of the W&L community.

If you need to report a rape or talk to a confidential adviser about a sexual assault, the following telephone numbers are beneficial:

Lexington Police Department
911 or 463-9177

Stonewall Jackson Hospital
462-1200

Virginia Statewide Sexual Assault Hotline
1-800-838-8238

Project Horizon Hotline
463-2594

Rape
Rockbridge
Area
463-7273

Other good sources of help are the dorm counselor/resident assistant on-call system, the peer counselor network, the W&L counseling service and the infirmary. All of these services are available to help you and protect your rights.

By Polly Doig

Do your part

The Phi has a two-fold purpose in printing these stories. The first is to increase awareness. Even though we live in a community governed by honor, rape is an event that occurs with shocking frequency.

Yet W&L men and women can greatly reduce the risks of becoming a victim by simply not placing themselves in situations that lend themselves to danger. The majority of rapes are not the random, violent attacks by strangers, but rather the drunken blurring of lines by someone known to the victim. Protect yourself by avoiding binge drinking, avoiding going alone with another person to an isolated place and being loudly vocal in your protests if someone tries to take advantage of you. We know that even one rape each year is one rape too many, and no one deserves to be a victim and be put through the shame and pain of this ordeal.

Be aware, and take precautions.

The second purpose is to make the W&L community aware of what is taking place behind closed doors. Virtually 100 percent of the people involved in SFHB trials whom we have talked to, both on and off the record, have been extremely dissatisfied with the procedures and outcomes of these trials.

Both Julia and Joe have bravely risked "sanction" in breaking the confidentiality demanded by the SFHB. Possible discipline in reaction to this breach will be handled by the Office of the Dean of Students.

Both Julia and Joe are aware of this possibility, yet went ahead with the interviews in order to make the student body aware of the problems with the existing system.

The reform process is currently underway. The Student Affairs Committee is reviewing current SFHB procedures, and students can have a voice in the decisions reached. The judicial bodies of W&L are supposed to reflect the opinion of the current student generation.

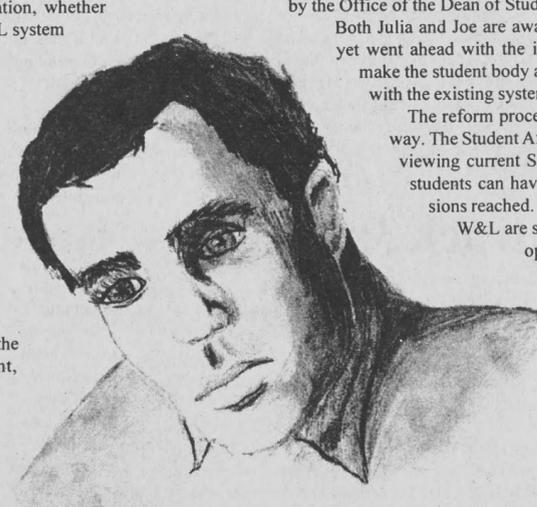
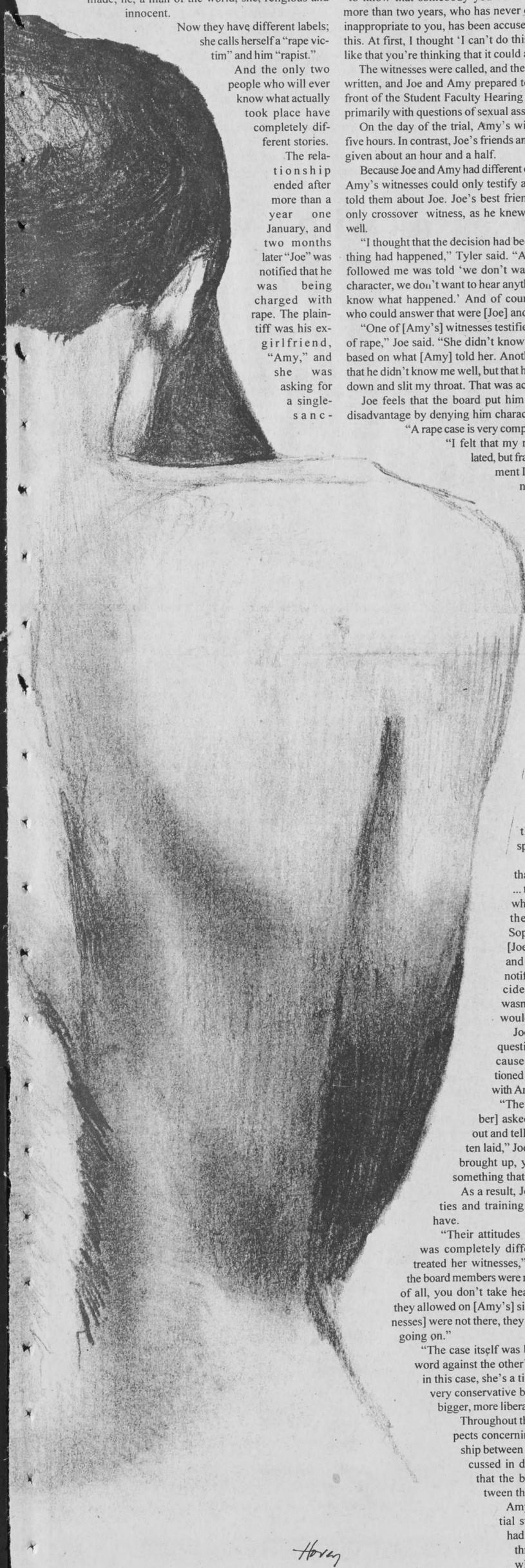
This is an impossible goal, however, if the student body does not make its voice heard.

Do not wait until you are the one sitting on the witness stand. Listen to what Joe and Julia have said, and form your own opinions on disclosure, punishment, confidentiality and procedures. They have taken a huge risk to make you aware of their experiences.

Can we afford to have campus judicial bodies operating behind closed doors? Can we risk confidentiality by having trials out in the open, or by naming names?

Go ahead. Do it. Get involved. The ball is in your court.

—Executive Editor Hollister Hovey contributed to this story. All artwork by Hollister Hovey.



Hovey

Women's basketball ends season in ODAC tournament

By Tod Williams
SPORTS WRITER

While most students went skiing, home or somewhere warmer for break, the Washington and Lee women's basketball team had no intentions of going anywhere. And their dedication paid off. Their season ended on Friday for the women, but they walked away with the most wins in a season, both overall and conference, in the program's history, as well as the first appearance in a semifinal conference tournament game.

Randolph-Macon proved too powerful for the Generals for the third time this season, as the two teams met in the semifinal round of the ODAC tournament. The Yellow Jackets went into the locker room in front of the Generals 24-12, after the Generals had cut the lead from 15. The Generals were only 5-26 (19%) from the floor in the first half.

But the Generals never counted themselves out, and they came out rolling. They scored the first 12 points of the second half to knot the game at 24-24 with 13:31. Randy

Mac's first basket came from a layup by forward Bren Elliott with 13:06 remaining.

The Jackets then turned their two-point lead into 11 before the Generals made their last run to pull within five, 40-35, with only 4:42 left to play. From there, it was all over, as the Jackets cruised to a 20-point win. Randolph-Macon outscored the Generals 16-1 in the last four-and-a-half minutes of the game.

Freshman Megan Babst led the Generals with nine points and 12 boards. Babst averaged more than 11 rebounds a game in the last three of the season. Senior Chrissy Burghardt scored six points and pulled down nine rebounds in her final game as a General. She finishes her W&L career with 1,080 points, making her the all-time leading scorer.

During halftime, Burghardt said, "We decided that we weren't giving up because we didn't want the season to end. Everyone went out and gave 122%." She said late in the game shots weren't falling and some calls didn't go the Generals' way, but the team proved it wasn't giving up.

"I've got a lot of different emotions now," Burghardt said following her last game. "I'm really sad it's over." She is very pleased, however, that the program is on the upswing. "The girls will do great next year," she said. "I'm really proud of the way we ended up."

Freshman Jessica Mentz totaled eight points and seven rebounds in the game. She finished with 393 points on the year, well on her way to scoring more than 1,500 career points. Mentz averaged 15.1 points a game, but she also had the team's highest shooting percentage, 57.3%.

Mentz said the transition to the college level was hard at first, but she eventually "got into the swing of it." Mentz said she is very thankful the "guards have the faith to get me the ball down low." With the loss of Burghardt, additional pressure will fall on Mentz next year both in the paint and in the scoring column, but she expects Babst to fill the role next year. "She'll be a big factor next year," Mentz said.

The Jackets had three players post 11 points apiece, Aimee Beightol, Renee Zando and Jamie Tanner. Tanner

was 3-for-7 from behind the arch.

The fifth-seeded Generals earned the right to face Randolph-Macon in the semis after ousting fourth-seeded Virginia-Wesleyan in the first round. W&L turned the ball more than 28 times in the game, but out-rebounded the Marlins 46-22. The 61-49 win was the Generals' first ever in the ODAC Tournament.

Jessica Morton led all scorers with 15 points, while Babst added in 12 points and 12 rebounds, both career highs, for her second career double-double. Burghardt scored 11 and Nancy Mattox led Virginia Wesleyan with 10 points.

The Generals won their last regular season game by defeating Eastern Mennonite 66-61. The Generals led by as much as 15 during the second half, but the Royals got to within two with only 21 seconds left before the Generals beat them off with a stick. Mentz led the Generals with 20 points and 10 boards.

The Generals finished the season at .500 overall, 13-13, and were 11-9 in ODAC play. W&L won three of its last four games.

Women's tennis loses, men win

By Frances Groberg
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's tennis team improved its record to 2-1 on Saturday with its 6-1 whipping of Guilford on Saturday. The team played Methodist at Guilford on Sunday, but as of press time, results were unavailable.

In singles on Saturday, sophomore Kelly Radford, senior Scott Babka, freshman Rhys James, senior Dave Lehman, and freshman Andrew Roberts all defeated their opponents in straight sets.

All three doubles teams also posted victories, including senior Dale Pretilla/Babka, Radford/Roberts, and James/senior Tom Washburn.

The men suffered a narrow loss on Thursday at the hands of Radford College, 4-3. Wins in singles were posted by James, Lehman and Roberts, and in doubles by the team of James/Washburn.

The team will take on Hampden-Sydney on Thursday beginning at 3:00 p.m.

The women's team lost its season opener to Sewanee 6-3. General victories were posted by junior Brook Hartzell and freshman Manning Willard in singles, and freshman Sallie Gray Strang/Willard in doubles.

"Although it was a disappointing start to the season, it was a good eye-opener for the team, and once we get a few more matches under our belt, we'll all raise the level of play and be a tough team to beat," sophomore Tori Hays said.

The women will try to avenge the loss when they take on Virginia Wesleyan on Monday starting at 3 p.m.

Men's lacrosse starts season with a whipping

By Brendan Harrington
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's lacrosse team opened the 1999 season in a big way on Saturday afternoon.

The Generals destroyed the Cabrini College Cavaliers 26-4 as sophomore midfielder Matt Dugan had six goals and four assists and junior attackman

Chris Brown tallied six goals and three assists. Sophomore midfielder Pope Hackney scored four goals, all of them in the first half.

The Generals jumped out to a 3-0 lead with 8:42 left in the first quarter, but Cabrini scored twice in a span of 13 seconds to make it 3-2. That was as close as the Cavaliers would get, however, as the Generals scored 10 straight goals to open up a 13-2 lead. The Cavaliers ended the streak with 7:05 left in the second quarter on a goal by freshman midfielder Tom Lemieux.

The Generals then scored 13 straight goals to make the score 26-3. The Cavaliers tallied the final goal of the game to make the final score 26-4.

The Generals outshot the Cavaliers 49-15 and won 21 of the 31 faceoffs.

Junior attackman Colin Dougherty, who is on pace to become the all-time leading scorer in W&L history, saw limited action because of a shoulder injury but still had two assists.

Dougherty had 30 goals and 27 assists last season and was an all-ODAC first team selection. He has been named a third-team preseason All-American for this upcoming season.

The Generals, who went 13-3 last season and advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA tournament, return a number of quality players.

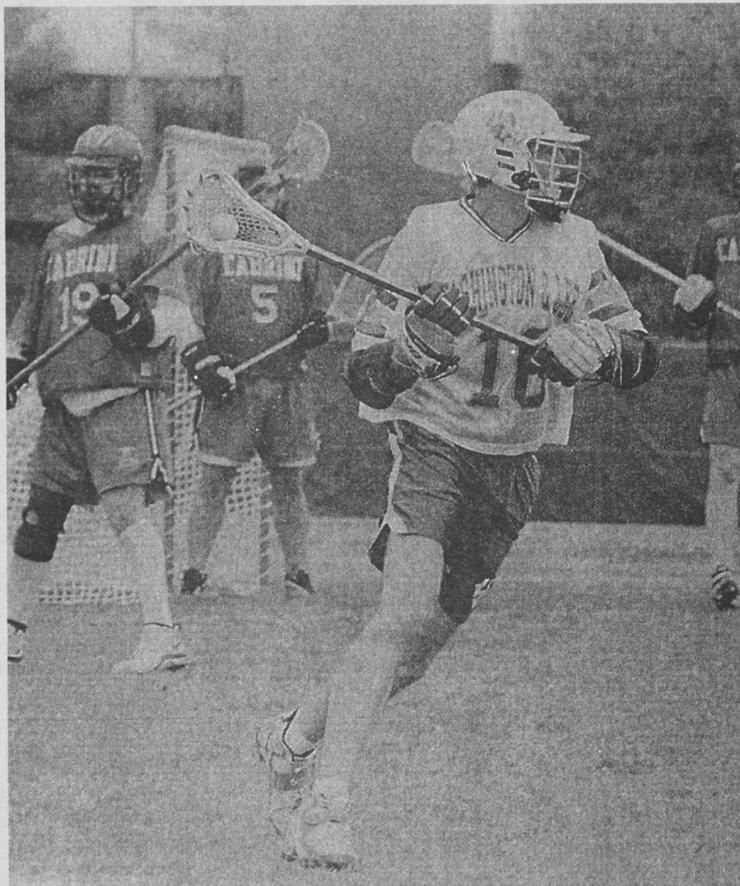
"Our main strength this year is our experience," W&L head coach Jim Stagnitta said. "We have our entire attack and defense back. We're balanced across the board and that's going to be nice."

The Generals, who were ranked seventh in the na-

tion in a preseason pole by Faceoff magazine, now move into the toughest part of their schedule. Next Saturday they travel to Maryland to take on Washington College, the defending national champions and second-ranked team in the nation. The following Saturday the Generals travel to fifth-ranked Gettysburg.

The Generals last faced Washington in 1996 in a 15-5 loss in Lexington. W&L has beaten Gettysburg each of the last three seasons.

"We're going to find out right away how good we're going to be," Stagnitta said. "If we come out of those games all right, we know we'll be prepared for NCAA tournament play if we get there."



Freshman Eric Kontargyris prepares to release a pass during the game against Cabrini on Saturday afternoon. The generals destroyed Cabrini 26-4.

Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Women's swimming wins ODAC, men swim well at Southern States

By Steele Cooper
SPORTS WRITER

On Sunday, Feb. 21, at the ODAC Championships and Southern States Championships the men and women of Washington and Lee swimming made impressive showings and solid possibilities for the NCAA meet. The women came away with the ODAC Championship and the men finished ninth against a strong crowd of Division I teams.

Leading the Generals to victory once again was senior Margaret Hoehl. She broke her meet and school record in the 1650-free with a time of 17:46.21, earning an RBS cut for the NCAA championships.

Other winners for W&L were freshman Cynthia Smith in the 100-free (56:00), junior Lauren Beckenhauer in the 200-back (2:15), and senior Courtney Tyler in the 200-fly (2:26.71). The Generals completed the 1-2 sweep in the 200-back and 200-fly with second place finishes respectively by junior Lezeal Haynes (2:19), and freshman Maggie Fagan (2:31.04).

The women also won the 400-free relay with impressive performances by freshman Beth Newton, Haynes, Smith, and Hoehl.

The men finished ninth in the Southern States Championships held at Davidson. The 200-medley relay finished seventh with sophomores Colin Hayes, Rob Little, and

Mike Miraglia, and junior Jared Fribush with a time of 1:39.21. Hayes finished second in the 200-fly with a time of 1:54.01.

Fribush continued his impressive swimming on the season with a career best 42.10 in the 100-free. On Thursday, Fribush made the NCAA "B" cut in the 50-free with a time of 21:21. He was also a part of the 200-free relay that made the NCAA "B" cut with a school record tying 1:25.42. Brown, junior Kenneth Ervin and Hayes also swam in that race.

Now both teams must wait to see who will swim in the NCAA championships to be held in Oxford, Ohio, March 11-13.



Men's track 3rd, women 4th at ODAC meet

By Frances Groberg
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's and women's track teams earned third and fourth honors, respectively, at the ODAC tournament held at VMI's indoor track on Saturday.

For the men, junior Frank Stearns and freshman Justin Novak earned fifth and eighth in the 800-meter run with times of 2:08.14 and 2:13.11, respectively, and senior Darrick Alford and sophomore Bryant Adams ran to sixth and eighth in the 1500-meter run with times of 4:15.90 and 4:35.92.

Alford also earned second in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 9:36.83. Senior Joe Bestic ran third in the 55-meter high hurdles with a time of 8.40.

The 4x100 and 4x800 meter relays from W&L each earned fourth place with times of 47.12 and 9:08.39, and the 4x400 earned second with a time of 3:38.22.

Senior Mark Granger threw the shotput 40 ft, 10 inches to earn sec-

ond place, and his teammate sophomore Chris Wahl threw 38 ft, 9.25 inches to earn fifth.

For the women, junior Jill Kosch ran the 200-meter dash in 28:64 and the 400-meter dash in 1:04.08 to earn fourth place in each event. Senior Lisa Brennan and sophomore Kathleen Moroney earned second and third places in the 800-meter run with times of 2:33 and 2:35.37 respectively.

Brennan also ran to a third place finish in the 3000-meter run in a time of 11:42.57.

The women's 4x400-meter relay earned third place with a time of 4:28.20, and the 4x800 team earned first, with a time of 10:38.67.

"We had wonderful leadership during the indoor season," Coach John Tucker said. "Everyone ran their best times of the season so far, and we're looking forward to getting outdoors."

The outdoor spring track season opens on March 13, with the W&L invitational.



Sophomore Kathleen Moroney runs to catch up at the ODAC meet Saturday at VMI.

Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

This Week

Monday
Golf @ Pfeiffer Invitational
Women's tennis vs. Virginia-Wesleyan, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Golf @ Pfeiffer Invitational

Wednesday
Women's lacrosse vs. Hollins, 4:30 p.m.
Women's tennis vs. Hollins, 3:30 p.m.
Women's tennis at Averett, TBA

Thursday
Baseball vs. Mary Washington, 3 p.m.

Saturday
Men's lacrosse @ Washington (MD), TBA
Women's lacrosse @ Denison, TBA

Sunday
Baseball vs. Washington and Jefferson (DH), 1 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MONTE!



Paid Advertisement

Baseball starts 1999 season right behind strong pitching

By Tod Williams
SPORTS WRITER

It may still be winter, but the Boys of Summer have been hard at work for quite a while now. After going 2-3 in the 1999 Rawlings College Baseball Tournament in Phoenix, Arizona, the Washington and Lee baseball team returned to Lexington to beat Muhlenberg in both games of a doubleheader on Saturday.

Senior pitcher Bob Weston (3-0) got the win in the Generals' first game, as he struck out six Mules, failing to walk a batter. Weston gave up only five hits and has given up only one run in his 21 innings of work this year. Weston's ERA is 0.43.

Both of the Generals' two runs came in the bottom of the seventh inning in the 2-1 win. With one out, freshman Matt Kozora reached on an error by the shortstop, and he advanced to second after junior David Hanson reached on an error by the Muhlenberg first baseman. Both runners advanced on junior Schuyler Marshall's sacrifice. Kozora then scored to tie the game, and Hanson reached third on a wild pitch from Muhlenberg's Marc Lenzinski. Junior designated hitter Andy Thompson then singled Hanson home to give W&L the 2-1 win.

In the second game of the doubleheader, the Generals scored once in both the second and third inning and twice in the sixth to clench the 4-1 win. Junior Christian Batcheller and Kozora both went 2-for-3 in the game. Sophomore David Sigler threw the complete game for the Generals, allowing only six hits and giving up two walks. Now 1-1, he fanned six Mules.

The Generals defeated Rhodes 1-0 in their first game of the year in the Rawlings tourney. Weston's no-hitter was the first for W&L since 1980. The Generals lost their following game 9-3 to Hendrix. Senior catcher E.J. Murphy went 3-for-4 for the Generals.

The Generals were then blown out by Ponoma-Pitzer, 16-0, using six men on the mound, and only producing three hits. But the Generals rallied to beat Hendrix in their second matchup 1-0. Weston threw a three-hitter, striking out three, walking two. Only three runners reached first base.

Rhodes then defeated W&L 7-5 in the championship game in the two teams' second battle in the tournament. Sophomore Will Ogilvie, who threw five innings, allowing four runs on four hits, got the loss for the Generals. Ogilvie is now 0-2 on the year.

The Generals (4-3) will host Mary Washington Thursday afternoon at 3:00 at Smith Field.

Statistics

Washington and Lee (4-3)

Name	AB	R	HR	BBI	BB	SO	PO	A
Stakem.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hall.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Batcheller..	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Murphy....	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kozora.....	3	1	2	1	0	0	2	1
Marshall....	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0
Wrenn.....	2	0	1	1	1	1	7	1
Lewis.....	3	0	0	0	0	1	6	1
Hanson....	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	2
Sigler.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total.....	20	4	7	3	2	3	21	10

Score by innings

		R	H	E
MC	000	010	0	162
W&L	011	002	—	470



Photo by Emily Barnes/Photo Editor

Senior second baseman Patrick Hall gets a hit during the Generals' sweep of Muhlenberg on Saturday afternoon. The Generals take on Mary Washington this Thursday starting at 3 p.m.

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My trip to England, the fifty-first state

By Kevin McManemin

SCREECH'S ROBOT FROM
"SAVED BY THE BELL"

The plane touched down in Heathrow and the captain informed us that the weather outside was cold and rainy — "another miserable London morning." As the captain's voice echoed through the cabin only one thought went through my mind: God, they really do speak in these silly accents.

For my February break I wanted warm beaches, cheap booze and beautiful women. My travel agent played a cruel joke and sent me to London.

Yes, London, the largest and least foreign city in Europe — and after living in a place where the phrase "the big city" refers to Roanoke, I was ready for the change. The funny thing was, though, there really wasn't much of a change.

It turns out that the British are a very Americanized people. Walking around Piccadilly Circus, one will find McDonald's, Burger King, KFC,

Wendy's — hell, throw in a Hardees and Wal-Mart and we're back in Lexington. (Editor's note: there are actually quite a few similarities between Lexingtonians and Londoners, not the least of which is bad teeth).

In fact, the British are so Americanized that most of them even speak English. The rest of them speak the native dialect of Great Britain: cockney, a language developed in the early seventies by Monty Python. Here are some translations of basic English phrases into cockney from a London guidebook:

How much for a cup of tea?
WELL, RIGHTO, I MEAN, COR
BLIMEY, EHGUV?

What time does the next bus arrive?

AWBOLLOCKS! DONE GOBBED
ON ME FISH & CHIPS.

Please call for assistance; my legs seem to be trapped under this train.

ELLO ELLO, WOT'S ALL THIS THEN? BLOODY ELL

But while the Brits may have English down pretty well, unfortunately, their other attempts at copying America have failed. The British are a very civilized (well, that's how they spell it) and polite people. Thus, it logically follows that their talk shows suck. We watched a British

talk show called "Trisha" on the tiny television set in our cramped hotel room. This episode was simply titled "Outrageous!" People accused of being "Outrageous!" came on the

stage and their family and friends confronted them about their "Outrageousness!"

Now, the British are not an outrageous people. The British are at least forty years behind America in terms of gross national outrageousness. Where was the sass? Where was the attitude? Where were the thrown chairs, the fist-fights, the stream of bleeped out curse words? Not on "Trisha." The show went something like this:

TRISHA

Now, Diane, I understand you think your friend Jenny is outrageous.

DIANE

That's right. She dresses rather outrageously.

TRISHA

I daresay, that sounds pretty outrageous. Let's bring her out!

(Enter JENNY. She was dressed — I swear I am not exaggerating — in a short skirt that would be considered conservative even by W&L standards, a normal blouse and jacket and maybe a little too much make-up.)

TRISHA

So, Jenny, your friend thinks you dress pretty outrageously. What do you have to say about that?

JENNY

Well, perhaps I do dress a bit outrageously. I suppose I should tone it down.

TRISHA

Jolly good.

America has vastly superior talk show technology because so many Americans have their heads stuffed with pop-psychology "I'm proud of who I am" crap. The British are at least mature enough for self-loathing. They understand that the bedrock of civilisation is repression and unhappiness. We, on the other hand, are always convinced that we're right and don't have to listen to other people, which is why our talk shows are not so much "talk shows" as "boxing matches" (although with America's rampant weight problem, perhaps "sumo wrestling" is a better description).

Besides politeness, the British have other bizarre habits that just don't make sense to Americans. For example: reading. And I'm not talking about just the sports page and TV Guide like we read — no, I'm talking books, actual books, actual books with actual words and no pictures. And they seemed to be reading these for fun!

Every London street had two or three bookstores, advertisements for books filled London's billboards and the tubes (translation: subways) were packed with Londoners immersed in their lengthy tomes. I even saw one European (translation: homosexual) reading Schoenberg sheet music. I mean, criminy, listening to Schoenberg is pretentious enough, but reading it?

In the New York subway system, the only thing people read are the dirty words on each other's tee-shirts.

Speaking of New York, however, I will say that I did notice one big similarity between these two great cities. No matter what the accent, the nonsensical ramblings of the crazy homeless sound the same the world over. I guess some things transcend culture.



As the plane touched down in Dulles, I thought back to this strange land I had just visited, this land of weirdos with silly accents who respect each other's opinions and read for pleasure. I looked up at the American flag waving in the warm Virginia breeze and realised just how lucky I was to be in a land where people are free to say and think what they please; but where more often than not they say what they please without thinking.

THEATRE

The West End of London houses the most prominent theater district in the world. It also houses Soho, famous for its strip clubs and naughty book stores. Here's a list of some of the classic plays you can be sure to catch in Soho this season.

- A Midsummer Night's Wet Dream
- Romeo and Julislut
- As You Dyke it
- Anthony & Cleopatra & Bruce & Steve & Mindy &...
- Henry the Fourth's Parts, II
- King Long John
- Tightass Androgynous
- The Merry Whores of Windsor

Mel Gibson should *Payback* the audience for this movie

by Brian Prisco
PHI MOVIE GUY

012345

(Wait until TBS plays it four days in a row)

Stabbed in the eye with a 14-inch dagger. Doused in gasoline and lit on fire. Fed broken glass. Shot through the face with a .357 Magnum at close range. These aren't scenes from the movie, these are what I would rather have happen to me than to be forced to watch this movie ever again.

I was always under the impression that if you had a dynamic cast and a talented writer and director, you instantly had to have a great movie. Apparently I was wrong. PAYBACK, the latest collaborative effort of Mel Gibson ("Ransom," "Mad Max") and Brian Helgeland ("Conspiracy Theory," "L.A. Confidential") gives new meaning to the term "piece of shit." What exactly was wrong with the movie? Where to begin, where to begin.

The plot. It's an action movie about revenge. It doesn't need much of a plot. This was the impression that

Helgeland was under when he put together the script. Stevie Wonder could have seen the ending coming, and Ray Charles was there before him. The story line was contrived, it was boring, it was anti-climatic. I have never actually stood up at last minutes of a movie and shouted, "Okay, end already!"

The action was rumored to be "gruesome and violent." It was pretty nasty, but it was nothing to write home about. I've seen more violence on "Touched By An Angel." Yeah, great, they shoot a bunch of people and there are a bunch of explosions. Wow. Show me something new, people!

And speaking of show me something, "Payback" uses that "teaser nudity" that drives me insane. A dominatrix, a prostitute, and a drug whore make up the entirety of the female characters, and the best they can do are some mildly revealing clothing and an ass shot. AN ASS SHOT! I paid \$7.50 to see an ass shot and a car blow up? I could watch NYPD Blue for free! And Sipowicz's ass is much nicer than this one.

The acting. Well, at least they didn't try much. Mel Gibson was Mel Gibson. He was mean, and ornery, and cold-blooded. I think he might have actually been asleep during the movie. Of course, he was up against such dire

villains as Kris Kristofferson ("Blade") and James Coburn ("Maverick"). I think they wanted Grandpa Simpson, but he was hauling ass to Lollapalooza, and Bob Dole was giving the presidential poll to Liddy.

You can have an old person as a villain and make it successful, provided they have decent lines. If I wanted to hear an old person say "f***" without much bravado, I'd hit my grandfather in the hand with a hammer.

Course, he'd kick my ass.

Oh, yeah, there were some other people in the movie. I'd mention their names, but I don't really care. The major villain was some Aryan-looking douchebag with a propensity for beating women and looking like Brian Setzer. I didn't care if they killed him or not, just as long as they made him stop saying "hubba hubba."

The movie tried to come off as hardcore and original. It failed. Miserably. The action was bland at best (I may be desensitized after "Saving Private Ryan" but it still was shit), they didn't bother to earn their R rating, and the story was mediocre at best. The only "Payback" you rooted for was at the box office.

Watch Movies For Guys Who Like Movies. This gangster movie should be put out of its misery.

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