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THE RING-TUM PHI
INSIDE
W&L'S PREZ PAGE 3
KIRWAN PONDS THE
PERFECT UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT.
NEW COACH PAGE 7
MEN'S LACROSSE HIRES
CERINO TO REPLACE
STAGNITTA.

VOLUME CIV, NO. XV

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INDEX

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

DEC 04 2001

NEWS 2
OPINIONS 3
SPORTS 7
24/7 2
SCOREBOARD 8
THE PHI RETURNS JAN. 14
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2001

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450

Shortened pledgship proposal meets opposition

By MIKE AGNELLO
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A proposal to shorten pledgship from eight weeks to six appears headed for failure at today's faculty meeting.

In preparation for the faculty's vote today, the Student Affairs Committee released a report on the current pledgship standards. Composed of students and faculty, the SAC regularly reviews student affairs.

According to the report, the current eight-week pledgship "is reasonable and should be continued." The report also advocated keeping the present 2.0 minimum GPA to participate in formal rush, as opposed to raising it to 2.25 or 2.5.

The SAC vote was unanimous, with all 12 members voting to recommend keeping the current pledgship standards. The vote is significant, because the full faculty usually adopts the SAC's proposals.

In a prior vote, the SAC had voted 11-1 to keep the current system. Student Judicial Council President Shane Saunders, a junior, was the lone dissenting vote. Saunders reportedly voted against the current standards because he favored reinstating the ten-week pledgship. Saunders could not be reached for comment.

Since the 1998-99 school year, freshmen must have a minimum 2.0 GPA to participate in formal rush, and pledgship has lasted eight weeks. Prior to 1998, pledgship was 10 weeks long. Pledgship was moved the 1996-97 school year from the fall term to winter term.

At their November 5 meeting, faculty members asked the SAC to reconsider the length of pledgship and its academic requirements. Many were concerned that Greek pledges, particularly males, suffered unduly from the strain of pledgship.

"There was some concern that freshman males are

exhausted and not responsive in class," Dean of Students David Howison said.

These faculty asked the SAC to evaluate the possible benefits of shortening pledgship to six weeks and raising the minimum GPA to 2.5.

According to the SAC report, the average fraternity pledge's GPA declines .176 during winter term, while the average sorority pledge's falls only .036. These findings were based on data from the last three years. During winter term 1998, the last year of a 10-week pledgship, fraternity pledge GPAs declined an average of .22. The following year, when this year's seniors were freshmen and the first year of an eight-week pledgship, pledge grades fell only .12. However, in winter 2000, fraternity pledge GPAs fell .23, which was worse than during the last year of the ten-week pledgship. This drop caused many faculty to question the pledgship program.

History Professor Ted DeLaney made the motion at the November 5 faculty meeting to shorten pledgship to six weeks. DeLaney declined to be interviewed for this article.

Howison said that while he and every other member of the SAC voted to recommend keeping the current pledgship requirements, the drop in GPA is still cause for concern.

"A second-term freshman's GPA should not decline," Howison said.

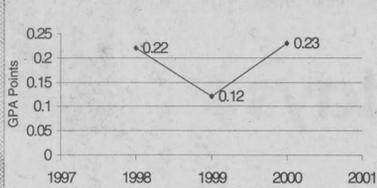
The report also explored the benefits of raising the minimum GPA to 2.25 or 2.5. If 2.25 had been the minimum GPA last year, 18 additional students - nine men and nine women - would have been ineligible to participate in pledgship. If it had been a 2.5 minimum, this number would have been 56 students - 32 men and 24 women.

Senior Justin Rubenstein, rush chair for Sigma Nu and last year's pledge educator, said requiring a higher

FACT BOX

2001 GPA range	Fraternity pledges who improved their GPA
2.0-2.49	18 of 22 pledges
3.5-4.0	10 of 32 pledges

Average decrease in frat pledge GPA



New GPA minimum	Students who would've been ineligible to pledge last year
2.25	18 (9 men, 9 women)
2.5	56 (32 men, 24 women)



PHOTO COURTESY THE COLLEGE, FACTS COMPILED BY MIKE AGNELLO/ THE RING-TUM PHI

GPA or a shorter pledgship would be disastrous for the Greek system.

"It's already difficult to instill fraternity values in eight weeks... a shorter (pledgship) would substantially weaken Greek life by making houses for divisive internally," he said.

Rubenstein added that pledgship often benefits students close to the minimum 2.0 GPA.

"Pledgship helps out those guys by structuring their time," he said.

The SAC report suggests Rubenstein is right. According to the report, most of the recorded drop in fraternity-pledge GPAs occurs for students who earned between a 3.5 and 4.0 fall term. Of the 22 fraternity pledges in the 2.0-2.49

SEE PLEDGE, PAGE 2

Global holidays SAIL into County



MEG FERRARA/ THE RING-TUM PHI

FELIZ NAVIDAD. Peter Djagaliev helps children craft holiday ornaments Olast Saturday.

By IMRAN NAEUMULLAH
STAFF WRITER

Approximately 60 children from the Lexington community came to Washington and Lee last Saturday to learn about Christmas celebrations around the world. W&L student volunteers researched different countries' celebrations and staffed stations in the Science Center to promote international awareness.

The activity is one of many that Students Association for International Learning (SAIL) has on its agenda this year.

While W&L has never been known for its diversity, recruitment efforts over the past few years have yielded increasingly large international student populations. This year, according to Admissions Office statistics, almost seven percent of the freshman class comes from outside the United States, an increase from five percent two years ago. Accordingly, new interest groups on campus have sprung up; one of the most notable is SAIL.

Chaired by junior Agnes Flak, from Poland, the group serves as an umbrella organization for five different committees. They are the International Development and Relief Group (IDRG), Study Abroad Forum, Model United Nations, International Students Alliance and the Social Committee, which replaced the International Club and organizes campus events promoting international learning and knowledge.

Other than Saturday's awareness activity, recent events include International Education Week, which was the week before Thanksgiving. Study Abroad Forum had a slideshow in the GHQ promoting international learning. The IDRG

gave a presentation to the Lexington Rotary Club.

The ISA also set up candles around the Co-op, served tea and played Indian music in honor of the Indian holiday of Diwali (literally, the festival of lights).

ISA treasurer and junior Aditya Chandraghatgi, from India, said the holiday celebrates religious toleration.

"Traditionally, (the holiday) is not exclusive to one religious group," he said, "but rather, the whole country takes part."

The International Holiday Celebration, which is the name for this year's Christmas Dinner, will be served in the Dining Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Director of Dining Services Jerry Darrell said his staff has been working with members of SAIL to obtain recipes from international students' home countries and serve them at the dinner. Highlights include Mexican mixed fruit salad, Japanese cucumber salad, Kenyan coconut rice, Polish mushroom pierogis, Irish beef and Brazilian holiday turkey breast.

Other upcoming events include a country of the month presentation, with this month's selection being Poland, and "Evening Abroad" in February, which is a theatrical presentation put on by international students displaying various cultural practices in their home countries.

Despite its \$16,000 budget (\$2,200 from the Executive Committee and \$14,000 from the deans), Flak said SAIL faces constraints in undertaking all that it hopes to this year, so they hope to hold a fundraiser. One idea under serious consideration is compiling and selling a recipe book of dishes from all over the world.

Students interested in any of SAIL's activities should contact Flak for look for campus notices.

University Computing cracks down on file sharing

By MATTHEW McDERMOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A University Computing plan to increase Internet speed by limiting file sharing inadvertently resulted in greatly increased download times for students attempting to get sound and movie files.

File sharing is the transfer of computer files between two computers over the Internet.

"It all began when we were seeing if there were enough resources to support the (Internet-accessible) Campaign for the Rising Generation," said Systems Administrator Jeff Knudson.

To see how computer resources were being used, University Computing bought a packetshaper, a commercially available hardware/software program that monitors network usage.

"We thought that it would be complicated," said John White, Help Desk Manager. "After we saw the figures, however, it turned out to be simple."

Through using the packetshaper, University Com-

puting discovered that 93% of incoming traffic was coming from KaZaa, a popular file sharing program.

These resources were being used by people outside of the W&L network who were attracted by the speed of the Internet connection.

"File sharing programs look for the fastest connection, which is usually W&L's," said senior Dan Comer, who works for University Computing.

"It's like we're driving the red Corvette,"

White said.

W&L connects to the Internet with a T3 line,

equivalent to 45 megabytes per second.

"The average school our size has a T1 connection," Knudson said. A T1 connection is equivalent to 1.5 megabytes, thirty times slower.

To prevent outsiders from using so much of limited resources, University Computing limited file sharing to ten percent of the incoming bandwidth—the amount of data that can be transferred in a given time period.

"We really hoped students wouldn't notice (the change)," White said.

"Inbound traffic was 12 to 15 percent of the pipe," Knudson said. "As long as students were downloading, (a 10 percent restriction) should only have decreased speed by 80 percent."

The problem proved to be with incoming uploads, not outgoing downloads.

Information sent over the Internet is sent in discreet chunks called packets, which must be acknowledged by the other computer. The ten percent cap slows the acknowledgements, and thus the downloads.

Despite unforeseen drawbacks, University Computing stands by its decision.

"Ten percent of a pipe is still three times a T1," White said. "It's not like we cut it off."

To improve students' ability to download, Comer designed a webpage available at http://computing.wlu.edu/howto/filesharing/how_to_help.html.

FLC collects cans for holidays

By MEG HASTON
STAFF WRITER

The Freshman Leadership Council is sponsoring a canned food drive to aid Rockbridge Area Relief Agency, an organization that serves the Rockbridge area.

The food drive began Friday, Nov. 16, and will end Friday, Dec. 7. In order to meet their goal of 100 percent participation, the FLC has offered a free pizza dinner at Salermos to the hall that can collect the most cans.

"Even if (it) means that everyone only gives one can, we want ... as many people as possible to get involved," said FLC representative Kyle Meehan. "(Students who) are not able to donate canned goods but would like to donate

money towards (their purchase should) give ... money to any FLC representative."

Representative Tran Kim sees the food drive as an event that helps not only the needy but also the participants themselves.

"The canned food drive not only feeds the stomachs of the hungry but also the souls of those giving and receiving," Kim said.

On behalf of the freshman class, the FLC has also adopted two families for whom they will spend \$300 to buy items such as clothing, toys and games. FLC members and student volunteers will wrap the gifts on Tuesday, Dec. 4, in Evans Dining Hall.

To volunteer to help with this project, contact Melanie Harris at HarrisM@wlu.edu.

Mock Con '04 kicks off

By PETER QUACKENBUSH
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee's nationally recognized Mock Convention is beginning to prepare for the upcoming 2004 Democratic Mock Convention.

The Mock Convention serves as a weathervane for national politics. Political observers pay attention to the results of the convention because it is known for accurately selecting who will be the challenger to the incumbent party.

Every four years, a Mock Convention for the party out of power is held to simulate the actual outcome. The convention has also been televised nationally on C-SPAN.

"Unlike other schools, which seek merely to reproduce the format of the real party conventions, our Mock Convention is in fact an accurate, predictive exercise that comes as a precursor to the state primaries," said senior Heather Howard, who is helping kick off the convention preparation.

The Mock Convention takes three years to prepare for. This winter's kickoff, scheduled after Christmas break, will be the first step to preparing for the 2004 convention.

The kickoff will involve selecting the three Tri-Chairs: Political Chairman, Personnel Chairman and General Chairman. The Political Chairman oversees the political nuts and bolts of the operation, the Personnel Chairman is responsible for bringing people into the convention and the General Chairman oversees the operation of the entire Convention.

"(Our) ultimate goal is to continue our 'winning streak' of accurate predictions for the out-of-office party's presidential nominee," Howard continued.

Senior Christian Vanderbrouk, who was a Regional Coordinator in the 2000 Mock Convention, agrees with Howard.

"We pride ourselves on being accurate," Vanderbrouk said. "It's not a popularity contest."

Speakers at the convention include both students and American political figures. Last year's speakers included Bob Dole, candidate for Governor of New Jersey Bret Schundler, Rep. J. C. Watts of Oklahoma, and William Bennett from Empower America. In 1988, former President Bill Clinton made an appearance as well.

Students play an important role with Mock Convention. The event is officially student-run.

"Since students learn how to conduct the research and planning needed for a successful convention," Howard said, "this aspect is extremely important for the academic value of the Convention."

Currently, however, Howard and Vanderbrouk are searching for the students who will lead the exercise in 2004. Vanderbrouk said he had high hopes for success. He is hoping the students who get involved will be able to make it a great experience.

"I think it's more what they can bring to the table," he said.

Ultimately, the hopes are for every student to serve the Convention in some aspect. That requires highly motivated students.

"I'm expecting enthusiasm on the part of W & L students," Vanderbrouk said.

Both Howard and Vanderbrouk are looking forward to hearing from any student interested in participating. They encouraged interested students to contact them.

2002-03 Residence Life

RESIDENT ASSISTANTS

Vanessa Adams
Agnes Flak
Paul Ledford
Mary Carol Mazza
Maitena Mouré
Joel Pepera
Karelle Samurda
Emily Small
Samantha Snabes
Jonathan Wortham

RA ALTERNATES

Dustin Albright
Amina Elgouacem
Kimberly Sampson

DORM COUNSELORS

Kate Bidwell
Erica Reisbeck
Lauren Robbins
Brandon Seale
Lydia Toso
Neth Walker
Laura Wilson

DC ALTERNATES

Zack Bedard
Austin Calhoun
Andrew Fotinos
Maria Golubiewska
Kerry Kellogg
Andy Lunsford
KC Wilson

Today
8 p.m.—Java at the GHQ. Southern Comfort. GHQ.

Tuesday, Dec. 4
11:30 a.m.—Women's Studies Colloquium. "Spain in the 1940's: Women's Literature and Popular Culture." Ellen Mayock, assistant professor of Romance languages, W&L Room 114, University Center. (go through the Dining Hall luncheon line and mention "Women's Studies")
7 p.m.—"Music for the Holidays" with the University Chorus, University Wind Ensemble, University String Ensemble and University Jazz Ensemble. Keller Theatre, Lenfest Center. Free concert, public invited.

Wednesday, Dec. 5
8:30 a.m.—Customer Appreciation Sale. University Bookstore.

8 p.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting. Fairfax Lounge.

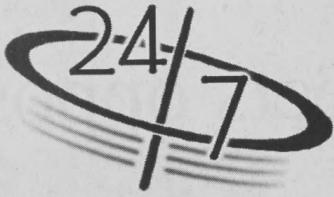
Thursday, Dec. 6
8 p.m.—Candlelight Service. Featuring the University Chamber Singers. Lee Chapel.

Friday, Dec. 7
Undergraduate classes end.
Noon—Environmental Studies Luncheon Series 2001-2002. "The Woods Creek Restoration Project." Bill Blatter, city planner, Lexington, Va. Room 114, University Center.

Saturday, Dec. 8
2 p.m.—Undergraduate exams begin.

Sunday, Dec. 9
Hanukkah begins.

Friday, Dec. 14
5 p.m.—Undergraduate exams end.
7:30 p.m.—Holiday Dinner/Dance for faculty, administration and staff. Evans Dining Hall.



DIVINITY



MEG FERRARA/The Ring-tum Phi
Gananath Obeyesekere gave the Root lecture entitled "Prophets of Theosophy: The Spiritual Journeys of Madame Blavatsky and Col. Olcott," last Wednesday in Northern Auditorium. Theosophy, or divine wisdom, is a religion whose name stems from the Greek for "divine being" and "God."

PLEDGE from page 1

pledge GPAs occurs for students who earned between a 3.5 and 4.0 fall term. Of the 22 fraternity pledges in the 2.0-2.49 range last year, 18 improved their grades, while only four declined. In contrast, 22 of 32 pledges with grades between 3.5 and 4.0 fall term saw a drop in their winter term GPA.

The report also gave credit to IFC Advisor Burr Datz's new pledgship program, instituted last year. The program includes recommendations such as service projects and seminars on alcohol, sexual assault and leadership. The program was not mandatory, and Datz said this was intentional.

"Compulsion will not get us a change in attitude, and that's what we need," Datz said.

Datz said most houses attempted to abide by the program, while "about five or six" followed it closely.

Panhellenic Council President Katie Cedarholm, a senior, said raising the minimum GPA and shortening pledgship would affect sororities as well as fraternities.

"Sororities already have GPA requirements from their national (organizations), and (changing the requirements that way) would make sororities more exclusive, when we're trying to work toward a more inclusive community," Cedarholm said.

Rubenstein said that he feels strongly about the issue but that he sees both sides.

"Improving freshman GPAs is the goal of everybody, but there's different ideas how to get there," he said. "Everybody's well-intentioned."



E-mail news briefs to phi@wlu.edu
GENERAL NOTES

Christmas trees on sale

The physical plant is selling Fraser Fir trees ranging in height from 6 to 8 ft. for \$30.00 each. The tree lot will open at the physical plant office near Woods Creek on Monday, December 3rd at 1:00 p.m. and will be open each day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Trees will be for sale until December 19th as long as the supply lasts.

You may also go to Skylark Farm to cut your own tree. It will open for sales Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Please call 377-2747 before you go tree hunting.

CNBC to feature C-School investors

Members of the Williams investment Society will share their favorite stock market picks with a national television audience on the CNBC program *Power Lunch* Tuesday, Dec. 4.

During the live broadcast, which is expected to begin airing between 1:30-1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, host Bill Griffith will ask the students to elaborate on their recommendations. Two professional portfolio managers will follow with their reactions.

CNBC is carried on cable channel 12.

Historical diggers create local roots

A local chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia (ASV) will be forming in December. The ASV has over 800 members dedicated to promoting the study of archaeology and anthropology, especially, but limited to, the prehistoric and historic periods of Virginia. The ASV teaches

advocational archaeologists excavation techniques through their certification program.

The public is invited to attend the organizational meeting on Dec. 11, 2001 at 7 PM at the Rockbridge County Historical Society at 101 East Washington Street. There will be a slide show illustrating some local archaeological work. Contact James Hepner with questions at 463-8574 or 348-1464. Or get information online at <http://www.archsocva.org/>.

Privacy act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (also known as the Buckley Amendment) protects the privacy and use of your educational record. The recently enacted USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 slightly changed the circumstances under which federal law enforcement officials can obtain records without permission or prior notification, as well as the records kept of such disclosures. In the past, the registrar has released this information only with a copy of written authorization. Please check the University's policy at <http://www.wlu.edu/registrar/ferpa.htm>, specifically the sections on Disclosure of Education Records and Record of Disclosures.

--courtesy of the University Registrar

English professor wins award

Ed Craun, the Henry S. Fox Jr. Professor of English, has received a yearlong fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. These highly competitive fellowships provide opportunities for individuals to pursue advanced work in the humanities.

Craun will use his fellowship during the 2002-03 academic year to complete his book, *Fraternal Correction: The Ethics of Social Criticism in Medieval English*. He will spend part of the year finishing up research in English university libraries, the British Library and cathedral libraries.

The project is a study of the ethical debates within clerical and reformist literature over how to practice fraternal correction in late Medieval England, the often public and harsh criticism of social evils, especially those committed by civil and religious authorities.

--courtesy of W&L News Office

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The Phi will resume publication after Winter Break on January, 14, 2002! Happy Holidays!

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2001

THE RING-TUM PHI OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

'Tis the season to give thanks

Too often our readers complain about not knowing the human face that lies behind the staff editorial mask. Of course, the *Phi* will not abandon its important task of instructing the university. To humor our readers, however, and in the spirit of the season, several editors and staff writers share the things they are thankful for.

Alison is thankful for the abundance of news in Lexington.

Andrew is grateful for the ability to observe genius at close range. He credits midnight basketball and the *Phi* with rescuing him from the mean streets of Lex and the typical lawless freshman life.

Brett is thankful for the Bush presidency and its inspired leadership in these troubled times.

Jeremy is thankful for the infield fly rule and for North Carolina State's victory over Florida State University.

Kate is thankful for an upscale Co-op unafraid to stock Splenda sweetener and a variety of hyperpotent, mixable energy drinks.

Katie is thankful for her scepter, crown and the dominion she exerts over picas and page editors alike. She also gives a special shout-out to "Da Flame," the phattest playa in the Icy Hot Stuntaz Krew. Stay real, Flame.

Kris is thankful for editors who extend submission deadlines beyond the bounds of decency. And for Post-It notes.

Latrina is thankful for the large office space, especially the desk that enshrines Maurice, her favorite computer.

Matthew is thankful for the best *Phi* staff in living history and a cool personal office. In no particular order.

Mary is thankful for the courage to take pictures of new people.

Meg is thankful for the little things in life, like her summer internship in Germany with the State Department.

Mike is thankful for Thunder Country, whose righteous beats get him through those long Sunday nights and Monday mornings. He wishes they would play George Harrison's music more often.

Paul is thankful for the business cave, which is more completely furnished than that of most deans.

Merry Christmas, W&L, and don't allow the faculty to pass the six-week pledgship program.

Next prez must respect tradition

The most influential and long-lasting change that will come during our time at W&L won't be in the form of bricks and mortar. No, the new Reid Hall, the performance art facility and the Elrod University Commons will all be outdone by President Elrod's successor. Washington and Lee is looking to move into the twenty-first century by raising our national reputation and attracting top-notch students while remaining true to the traditions that make this such a special place; the next president will be terribly important to that future.

Three qualities in particular will be essential if the next president is to manage that balancing act successfully.

Respect for tradition. The University expects that forty percent of the faculty will retire in the next seven years. Since so many aspects of the University can be changed by a simple faculty vote, Spring Term and the length of pledgship have recently been at issue, it is essential to have a president who is going to lobby in favor of the W&L's valuable traditions.

In fact, many students and alumni have expressed the view that traditions such as the independence of the student body and the unique social atmosphere have been under assault. With so much new to soon come to the school, holding on to the old will become ever more difficult.

In that regard, an alumnus may be an ideal candidate for the position because he will have enjoyed the benefits of our traditions firsthand and will fight to preserve them.

The committee must be especially careful in choosing a president because someone taken from another institution may be apt to mold W&L into his vision of a school rather than respect the traditions that are W&L's foundation.

Affinity for the Greek system. Washington and Lee is part of a rapidly shrinking group of universities that has a flourishing Greek system. Moves by the faculty to restrain the activities of fraternities and sororities indicate that many of them are hostile to the system. In such an atmosphere,

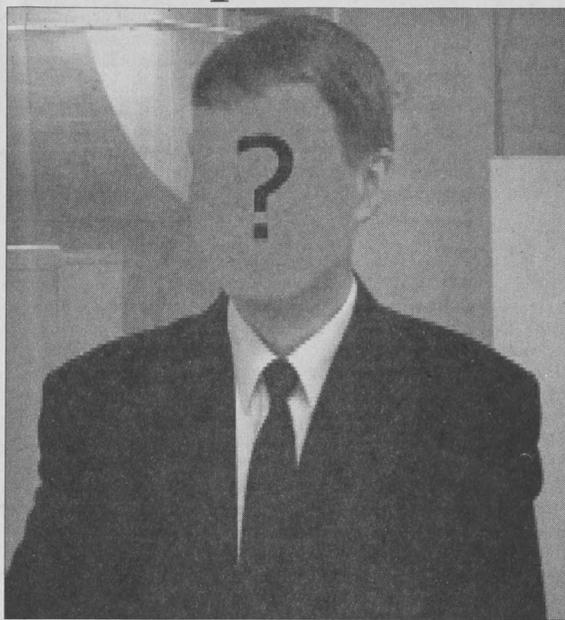


PHOTO COURTESY WWW.EE.LUT.PH/STAFF/JUHA.PYRHONEN ILLUSTRATION BY KATIE HOWELL
MYSTERY MAN: The University must carefully choose the next president.

The University needs a president who is not just indifferent to or mildly supportive of the system, but one who will be committed to and vocally supportive of preserving and strengthening the system. He will need to ensure that fraternities and sororities become more integrated with University life, not further pushed to the fringe as a particularly troublesome social aspect of the school.

College is supposed to be a time of formation and maturation and the Greek system is an ideal way to teach

students how to be a friend, the value of shared responsibility and the joys of living together. No single aspect does more to produce the unique W&L graduate than the Greek system and the next president will play a major role in either its stagnation and elimination or its growth and prosperity.

Conservative academic opinions. It is undeniable that academia is beholden to liberal ideas and there is no respite in sight. The ivory tower is run by proponents of Women's Stud-

ies, Black Marxism, revisionist history, and host of other nutty, senseless pursuits. Once again, W&L is set apart and above by our resistance to such trends. The next president will be called upon to prevent Washington and Lee from joining the bandwagon until these academic fads pass. One with conservative political and academic opinions will be best suited to protecting the University from this claptrap.

A wildcard consideration is the possibility of bringing star power to Lexington. Other top-notch universities have installed famous political appointees as president and perhaps W&L should consider bringing a celebrity to be our next leader. Ben Stein was smitten with Washington and Lee when he visited and has excellent academic credentials. Perhaps a famous alumnus would be suited to lead the school. Tom Wolfe and Senator Warner immediately come to mind.

The Presidential Search Committee has a huge responsibility and the ability to chart the school's future. Let's hope their choice exemplifies these characteristics.

GOP's economic plan ruins bipartisanship

Democrats righteously refuse to pass bad bill

The bizarre scenes of Congressional Republicans and Democrats shaking hands in agreement on Senate steps since 9/11 are fleeting fast. Several issues in Washington have redrawn party lines in a big way. The biggest issue right now: the economy.

President Bush used his weekly radio address last week to ask that Congressional Democrats quickly pass his economic stimulus bill that quickly was passed in the Republican-controlled House. The bill is now in limbo in the Democrat-controlled Senate.

CNN.com reports the President had this to say, "There are two immediate priorities for America's recovery. We must bring quick help to those who need it most, and we must restore our economy's growth. It's the holiday season. It's a time to reach out to Americans who are hurting, to help them put food on the table and to keep a roof over their heads."

However, Democrats in the Senate have not passed the bill because, as proposed, it does not do that. It seems the President is playing politics with this bill instead.

In the weekly Democratic radio address, Senator Harry Reid of Nevada pointed out that the President's economic stimulus plan provides no real relief for workers laid off since the economic slowdown that began in March. The situation has only worsened since September 11th, and it would seem that the holiday season is the appropriate time to provide Americans with relief.

So why does the President's economic plan not offer any unemployment and healthcare benefits for those who have lost their jobs?

Last month the *Washington Post* reported that unemployment in the District of Columbia was worst for hard-working immigrants in service industries. Often working more than one job to put their kids through school in the hopes of a better life, these are the people that have been laid off while the country's hotels and restaurants suffer bad business.

Instead, the President's proposed economic plan offers tax breaks primarily to big business, extending unemployment benefits for the individual by only thirteen weeks in states hardest hit by the attacks of 9/11.

With the country headed further into its current deficit for the year, such risky tax cuts will not spur economic growth. The President argues the money can be used to create more jobs. Cutting taxes for industry will not help create more consumer demand that is what will create jobs.

Furthermore, the President wants to accelerate the proposed tax cuts for next year. Just as his last tax trick (remember that refund check?) did nothing to aid the flailing economy, this plan seems no different.

Rightly so, Democrats also oppose this plan when an additional \$7.5 billion is needed for national defense this year, further escalating Washington's impending deficit. This past week the White House admitted that a deficit would in fact be a reality this year. It is quite clear that at this time President Bush's \$1.35 trillion tax cut is to blame. Hindsight is like that.

Senate Majority leader Tom Daschle spoke on the issue this week as well. "There is a sensitivity right now in the administration about the Bush economy. We are in a recession. That is something we predicted a long time ago."

Harry Reid reiterated to the President that helping unemployed people at the source is what must be done. "Extending unemployment benefits is not only the right thing to do — it's also the single best thing we can do to help our economy. Unemployed workers need that money — to buy groceries, pay the rent, and keep the lights and heat on this winter," Reid said.

Republicans are crying foul that Democrats would result to "politics as usual." However, Tom Daschle had this to say about the Republicans' woes: "We strongly support his (Bush's) efforts in Afghanistan and we think that he deserves high marks. We have significant difference of opinion with him on the economy, economic policy, and I wouldn't give him high marks to the economy."

It is important to remember at this time of war, that the liberty to challenge the administration still remains. It is what makes this nation what it is. America is not a nation where political opinion should go unheard.

Moreover, Republicans using the current situation to badmouth Democrats that are fighting for a more efficient and beneficial economic plan is really the clearest example of "politics as usual."

RIGHT OF THE AISLE
BRETT T. KIRWAN '04

Letters to the Editor

Dorm Counselors respond

Dear Editor,

Once again, your wit, insight, common sense, and dedication to providing accurate details have shone through in an anonymous editorial criticizing the dorm counselor's table in the D-Hall. Our selfish desire to eat our fourteen meals, in the company of upperclassmen who can understand many of our own problems better than most freshmen would never have been revealed to us as inhumane.

How pleasing it is to now know that freshmen DO want us around for those extra hours, when we can share with them our frustration with Intermediate Accounting, Organic Chemistry, the MCAT, the LSAT, GREs, fellowship applications, job interviews, etc. Instead of giving freshmen the chance to discuss their worries and concerns with the people most likely to share those same concerns and understand them (i.e. other freshmen), we need to intrude.

As you said anonymously, "[the] bonding that takes place cannot be overrated." You have rightly pointed out that this bonding needs to be with us, not classmates who will be here for them for the next four years. Alas, all our other attempts to interact with freshmen are apparently for naught. Oh, the thought of a disappointed look from Laetitia Pate Evans causes us all to bow our heads in shame over our trays of chicken tenders and various wrap bar creations. Though you, who hide behind the authoritative mask of anonymity, knew her as well as us (i.e. not at all), the use of her name to support your opinion is undoubtedly justified by your wisdom and clout.

We humbly apologize to those freshmen we have failed, including you, dear unnamed editorial authors of the *Phi*, who were freshmen once, and, hence, neglected. And so,

freshmen, when you see us approaching your table, cease your babbling about that cute upperclassman, the number of beers you downed last night, or whatever it is you're hiding in your room unbeknownst to us, and allow us to sit with you and express our upperclassmen trouble!

Sincerely,
The Dorm Counseling Staff 2001-02

DC staff deserves to ignore freshmen

Dear Editor,

I was surprised to see such a piece (in the Nov. 12 issue) of foolishness by the paper's staff regarding dorm counselors and their D-Hall table. Aside from the fact that the entire basis of your argument is a loud whine from those who were never invited to sit at that table as freshmen, I find serious fault in your referring to the Dorm Counselor meal plans as "gratis."

Can you honestly say that spending one or both of your upperclassman years living in a hall of freshmen isn't payment of any kind? Granted, it's a personal decision to take on that challenge, and an enjoyable year for the most part. But to sacrifice having your own house, driveway, privacy, escape, anything for your junior or senior year is no small thing.

So big deal if the dorm counselors want to sit together. Many of them are friends, classmates, fraternity brothers and sorority sisters—people they would normally eat with anyway.

Grant them 20 minutes of peace from only being a door-knock away. And if you really want to cry about it, go talk to them—it's what they're trained for..

Sincerely,
Nate Tencza '99

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

I'M ABOUT TO OPEN A CAN OF
"WHOOOP ASS."

—ANONYMOUS PHI EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ABOUT TO TASTE AN ENERGY DRINK

THE RING-TUM PHI

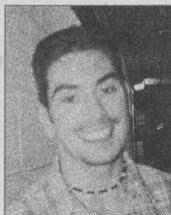
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TALKBACK: What do you really want to get for Christmas?



"A 1974 911 Turbo."
--Jon Albanese '04



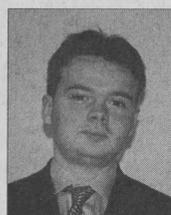
"For break to last for two months."
--Marysia Golubiewska, '04



"To leave Lexington."
--Sahir Khanna, '04



"My car back."
--Diya Vohra, '03



"For Bulgaria to win the World Cup"
--Vassil Stamenov, '04

Overlooked items receive recognition

Onomatopoeia, smaller SUVs, fruits and Britney's Christmas album all make list of things that deserve a 'Thank you'

I feel kind of bad for Christmas because it climbs an uphill battle at W&L.

It's like everyone gets real geared up for the holidays for Christmas Weekend and loses sleep over the pressing issues including, but not limited to, finding a date, finding something to wear, and being able to hit multiple band parties without missing off your aforementioned date.

And then after that weekend, we go back to pulling our hair out about school, due to looming finals. Granted, Christmas gets celebrated plenty once our work is finished and we're home.

But why wait that long? There is an assortment of institutions that, like Christmas, are not widely enough appreciated. So in honor of the holiday season, I'm capping off my last *Phi* piece of 2001 with a list of things that we should better appreciate and consider during these hectic times:

1. Fruits that get stuck with bad names and dwarfed beneath mainstream foods like apples and oranges. Boysenberries. The Asian Pear. Although their names reek of glamour, they are commonly overlooked and pushed downward in the fruit social caste system.

2. Rock stars that forgot to be talented but still come through in the clutch with holiday CD's. There is no better way to ring in Christmas than a moving version of Britney's "Oh Holy Night" or *Nsync's "Oh Come All Ye Faithful." These Kings of Pop reconcile Christmas commercialism with good old-fashioned holiday spirit.

3. The ability for soap on windows to look like snow. I hate it when it doesn't snow in December; I can't imagine living in a perpetually warm climate with no hope of a white Christmas. Luckily, soap on windows can masquerade as snow, assuaging these fears, and all it takes is Windex to alter the perceived weather.

4. Onomatopoeia. Words that sound like the word they described make relating stories infinitely easier. For example, instead of wasting time looking for a word that conveys severe cold, you can simply assert, "Burr."

The best part is, when you're writing on a word processor, the spell check recognizes it as a real word and doesn't put a squiggly line underneath it. All the time

saved due to onomatopoeia should be entered into a time bank, and then saved for a rainy day when you have too much to do and need more time.

5. Underappreciated SUVs like Rav-4's. Like the fruit pariahs, they typically are mocked by the more acceptable SUVs like Suburbans and 4-Runners. Although a Rav-4 does resemble Yoshi of the Super Mario World persuasion, it still can endure wild terrain and protruding sticks and branches in the road. We should give it another chance.

6. The blanket term "flesh-colored." In a world of such diversity, a term that just assumes all the same color skin somehow is a unifying force, eradicating the actual hue implications and suggesting that all flesh is flesh, and not a color.

7. Electronic Megaphones. Almost resembling a gun, it puts across the message that communication is more powerful than violence. Also, it plays songs, allowing the user to learn more about college fight songs.

8. That catch game you play at the beach with a Velcro tennis ball and Velcro mitts. You never miss the ball, boosting athletic morale and overall confidence in hopeful youth.

9. Bumper stickers on other people's cars, not your own. They prevent boredom in unruly traffic jams.

10. Middle school-style desks that have an indentation at the top for a pencil. During naptime, this prevents writing utensils from slipping down and hitting your head, affording the student maximum rest time potential.

11. Tom, the butcher at Kroger's. If you ever need meat late at night and don't want any attitude about it, hit up Tom, the ever-pleasant 60-something mind behind the goods.

The earth is leaking with uncelebrated heroes and treasures. Test tubes. Steak tongs. Cookie Dough. Wands.

During these crazed times of final examinations and other collegiate trials and tribulations, I encourage you to relish the simple pleasures in life.

Personally, I value the fact that since this is the last *Phi* before break, no one can write a strongly worded response to my monument to blatant inanity for another month.

Φ NORTHERNER'S EXPOSURE
KRIS POLLINA '03



PHOTO COURTESY OF TV GUIDE ARCHIVES
SNAP, CRACKLE, POP: As Batman, Adam West understood the value of onomatopoeia and made good usage of the underappreciated literary tool.

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Φ

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Mindbending Production's *Godspell* is more than mere sap



photo courtesy Mindbending Productions

BREAK A LEG: *Godspell* cast practiced months for the show, which opened over the weekend.

By MATTHEW McDERMOTT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Of the successful religious rock operas hatched in the early '70's, *Godspell* is one of the least-remembered. More experimental than the formulaic *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and far lighter than the divisive *Jesus Christ Superstar* (both by Andrew Lloyd Webber), this rock musical is a forgettable union of hippie absurdism and watered-down Christianity.

Nonetheless, the high energy and youth of the cast, assembled by director Neal Willetts, salvage much of a play heavily reliant on its actors' enthusiasm.

Presenting a series of episodes from the Gospel of Matthew (usually enactments of parables), *Godspell* offers all of the actors a chance to take the solo spotlight for at least a minute or two.

Freshman Matthew Durham ably led the cast as Jesus. He mustered the necessary charisma, and also maintained an appropriate air of divine aloofness from his gamboling disciples. Only tripping up a few times in his longer second-act speeches, Durham's greatest fault was an occasional foray into overly-precise speech that wavered between crispness and affectation. Distractions aside, he turned in a good performance by anyone's standards, much more for a freshman taking on a leading role for his first W&L production.

Another standout was freshman Andy Dewherst, who played the disciple Herb. Along with Durham and the capable junior Justin Huston (John the Baptist/Judas), he was one of the few men in the production, and gave routinely enjoyable set pieces.

The ladies also delivered enjoyable performances, including freshman Lauren Partridge's sultry "Turn Back, O Man."

As regards directing, the original *Godspell*'s setting was a blighted urban lot, with nothing on stage but three unfinished wooden planks, two sawhorses and a chain-link fence. The background of a decayed city contrasted with the actors' bright costumes and clowning, and played up the theme of youthful spirituality surrounded by obsolescence and despair.

The W&L stage production, however, uses instead a trunk and two similarly-painted mini-platforms and ladders. The amateur set staging was visually unappealing and did little to advance the themes of the play. At least its very prosaicness forced the audience to focus on Jesus and his crew.

Willetts made good use of lighting. His use of color-backgrounds was competent and not distracting. He also adequately utilized Johnson Theater's size to promote audience interaction. One of Willetts' best moves was to abandon the clown make-up, which would have obstructed much of the play's energy.

All in all, the play's distinguishing feature, the energy of its cast, was *Godspell*'s focal point and its saving grace.

Two-sport Fiji duo is on the right track

By MATTHEW A. COURSEN
W&LIFE EDITOR

One of the advantages of attending a school like W&L is that students have a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities from which to choose. Though the vast majority of students choose to compete in just one sport or one activity, there are those who are just plain gifted with the ability to do more. Juniors Chris Sullivan and John Mele are two of those rare, exceptional student-athletes who compete in two varsity sports here at W&L while maintaining excellent academic standing as well.

This fall, Sullivan was one of the most dangerous running backs in all of Division III football and one of the most prolific in school history, amassing 2,024 all-purpose yards this season, a W&L record. Fortunately, the 2-time Verizon Academic All-District Team member will be back again next year to help lead the Generals to the Old Dominion Athletic Conference Championship.

Mele played defensive back and helped the generals have one of their most successful defensive seasons in years. Though he retired midway through the season, Mele contributed immensely to the program for nearly three years. In addition to playing football, both Mele and Sullivan are in the same fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta, and are computer science majors.

Sullivan, who boasts a 3.65 grade point average, also competes on the indoor track team, running the 100 meters, 200 meters, 4x100 meter relay, and participating in the long jump. This winter, Sullivan will try to improve upon his performance in the long jump last March when he jumped 21'11" and won third place at the W&L Invitational. That jump was only 10 inches shy of tying the school long jump record set by W.S. Sandifer back in 1927. As attainable as breaking that record may seem, Sullivan is focused on specific goals for his team and himself.

Sullivan's humble and quiet demeanor belies his tenacity on the playing field and his focus for this season, to win the conference title in the long jump. Naturally, he wants to maintain a high level of competition in his sprinting events as well. With the loss of Marc Watson, W&L's multiple record holder in track and football, Sullivan's relay team will most likely suffer. However, you won't catch the captain saying anything but positive things



PHOTO BY MEG FERRARA/The Ring-tum Phi

TRACK TWOSOME: Juniors and fraternity brothers John Mele and Chris Sullivan play two sports.

about his team or their chances to make good things happen this year. "It'll be tough, but I'm sure we can find someone to replace [Watson]...we are a good relay team that competes for ODAC honors every year."

Chip Muir, the jumping coach for the varsity track team, is a second-year law student across campus and was a jumper himself at Washington and Jefferson College where he earned all conference honors twice. Both Muir and head coach Norris Aldridge have tremendous confidence in Sullivan and Mele both as players and as people. When asked to comment on Sullivan's ability, Muir offered some inspiring praise. "Chris had a great season last year. He was consistently jumping over 22 feet, so any little improvement this year will probably get him an invitation to the NCAA championships."

During his freshman year, Mele played football and toyed with the idea of continuing his track career into college. Having participated in the discus, shot put, pole vault and 200 meter race in high school, Mele was ready to compete at the next level. Once he arrived at W&L, however, Mele found that he enjoyed football more and decided to focus on that sport full time. At the beginning of the season, the varsity football team had their strength and conditioning tests to measure individual training habits during the off-season. Head track and field coach Norris Aldridge was finishing his 30th season as an assistant football coach when he noticed Mele's exceptional jumping ability. After setting a W&L record for vertical jump, Mele was approached by Coach Aldridge the following winter and was convinced to try out for the track and field team. As the sophomore sen-

sation, Mele competed in the triple jump event for the first time in his athletic career. Overcoming a series of hampering injuries, Mele managed to jump the farthest in the entire ODAC with a distance of 44 feet. Going into the conference championships, Mele was favored to win the triple jump event; however, his injuries kept him from competing.

After retiring from the football team midway through this season to concentrate more on his impressive major grade point average of 3.3, Mele is looking to put an exclamation point on his track career with a trip to the NCAA championships. When asked how he plans to respond to his injury-plagued finish last year, Mele said, "My goal this year is to jump 45 or 46 feet and be among the top three in the nation." Mele will also throw the javelin and run sprints.

Jumping coach Chip Muir sees tremendous potential in the two-sport athlete.

"John, with a little practice, will turn into one of the best W&L has ever had."

It seems athletics just come naturally to guys like Mele and Sullivan. The 5'9" Sullivan played football, winter soccer and track at Alamo Heights High School in Texas. The 5'10", 185-pound Mele was also a three-sport star in football, wrestling and track at River Hill High School in Maryland. Both guys are good friends and fierce competitors. Above all else, Mele and Sullivan want to take the W&L men's track team to nationals and win their respective events.

Whether in the air, on the field, or in the classroom, Mele and Sully are two great guys to have on your side. And both are huge reasons W&L should be noticed more for its athletics and, more importantly, its student-athletes.

Lexington opens a can of whoop ass: energy drinks hit market

By ALISON TRINIDAD
NEWS EDITOR

The night is creeping by, midnight more than hours past. Head heavy, eyes drooping, drowsiness threatens to take over. No worries, problem solved: reach for energy in an 8.3 ounce can.

This is a story becoming more common on college campuses nationwide, including Washington and Lee. Whether it's to dance the night away in a frat house basement or to study for that test in a library carrel, more students are gulping down so-called "energy drinks" to stay awake and alert.

For W&L senior Quincy Springs, these drinks are a study aid.

"I consume these beverages for a pick-me-up for studying or simply to stay awake in class," he said. "They upset my stomach and they at least cause a placebo effect in that if they are not keeping me awake, I think they are."

Red Bull, Adrenalin Rush, WhoopAss, Venom. Generally packaged in sleek, slim cans, these caffeine- and sugar-laden drinks claim to enhance alertness and stamina. Meanwhile, students and bar patrons in Lexington are downing the drinks, working harder and partying longer, as if they have found the ultimate legal stimulant.

Some, however, are concerned that the beverages will be abused like other not-so-legal stimulants.

Jane Horton, director of W&L health services, said mixing alcohol with energy drinks is a risk. "Sedation is the body's warning sign of alcohol intake," she said. "If energy drinks counteract that effect, people may drink more alcohol without knowing it."

Red Bull, the energy drink that "gives you wings," made headlines last July when the Swedish National Food Administration (SNFA) issued a public warning about its safety and linked it to the deaths of three people who had drunk it.

Two died after mixing the drink with vodka while a third person died after drinking several cans following a heavy workout at the gym.

The manufacturers said that there was no proof the deaths were linked to Red Bull and that the allegations were fueled by speculation.

The company maintains that Red Bull's main purpose is as an energy drink and not a mixer. *The Independent Florida Alligator*, a daily student newspaper serving the University of Florida, spoke to Emmy Cortes, national spokeswoman for Red Bull North America.

"We try to appeal to people who need energy or revitalization," Cortes said. "This could be a college student before an exam, an athlete before a sporting event or a business person before a big meeting."

Unlike sports drinks such as Gatorade and PowerAde, energy drinks do not restore fluids and electrolyte balance which are lost when a person sweats a lot. They are not "thirst quenchers." Just the opposite. These sugary soft drinks usually contain lots of caffeine and, occasionally, guarana, a South African plant that supplies a caffeine-like substance. Caffeine is a diuretic, so the more you drink, the thirstier you become.

The drinks also contain taurine, an amino acid that is naturally found in the body. The manufacturers claim that taurine, combined with some of the other herbal ingredients, boosts physical and mental performance.

But, mostly, the "kick" comes from the caffeine.

Each can contains 80 mgs of caffeine, more than twice as much as a similar serving of Mountain Dew and about the same as a strong cup of coffee.

W&L's Horton said increased headaches, heart rate, blood pressure and anxiety are possible side effects of consuming concentrations of caffeine.

Horton added that the Federal Drug Administration and Federal Trade Commission do not regulate or endorse the claims of energy-drink labels. The FDA has not yet had cause to evaluate the safety of energy drinks, but experts agree that while unhealthy, the drinks are not dangerous to most people without health problems if taken in moderation.

Snapple, a company that claims its drinks are made from "the best stuff on Earth," introduced Venom last July to the energy drink market. With Venom, Snapple joined the likes of Coca-Cola Co., PepsiCo Inc. and Anheuser-Busch Cos.—all of which make and market their own branded energy drink, and all of which trail behind market-leader Red Bull.

Red Bull is estimated to own two-thirds of a young but growing market. With its signature slim can, Red Bull entered the United States from Austria around 1997, creating a buzz among partygoers and the clubbing crowd for mixing well with vodka.

Since then, energy drinks have developed into a \$130 million enterprise in the United States, Gary Hemphill of Beverage Marketing Corp., an industry consulting group, told *The Wall Street Journal*. That figure is all the more remarkable as it has virtually doubled in each of the past five years: \$75 million in 1999, \$42 million in 1998 and \$12 million in 1997.

Hemphill estimates the U.S. market will more than double this year to roughly \$300 million.

The category still is small, however, when compared with the \$60 billion U.S. market for carbonated soft drinks—which includes popular sodas like Pepsi, Diet Coke and Sprite.

Washington Street Purveyors' owner Chuck Smith says he brought the energy drink market to Lexington.

"It probably wouldn't be where it is now if I hadn't," he said.

He started carrying Red Bull in September because W&L students often came in looking for the drink. Smith said he would have started selling the beverage earlier, but there was no distributor in the area.

Washington Street Purveyors also sells WhoopAss and Venom, but Smith said Red Bull leads the pack.

"Red Bull surpasses the others far and beyond," he said. The W&L Snack Bar carries a variety of beverage categories, including Dr. Enuf and four flavors of Blue Ox.

"The kids asked for it," said Jeff Lynn, snack bar manager, "and when they ask, I try to stock it."

Those drinks also boast energy boosts, memory retention and stress relief effects. In October, the snack bar sold 451 units of Blue Ox and Dr. Enuf, accounting for 4 percent of total beverage sales, down from 5.5 percent in May. Foun-



Photos courtesy of shopping.yahoo.com

Drink	Manufacturer	Can volume-ml	Calories	Sold	Price
180	Anheuser Busch	243	120	Walmart	\$1.64/can
Adrenaline Rush	SoBe	246	140	Walmart Kmart	\$1.98/can \$1.79/can
Amp	PepsiCo.	248	120	Walmart	\$1.98/can
Blue Ox	Vancol Bev. Group	250	108	Walmart W&L Snackbar	\$1.50/can \$1.33/can
B. Ox orange	Vancol Bev. Group	250	110	Walmart	\$1.50/can
B. Ox real power	Vancol Bev. Group	250	130	W&L Snackbar	\$1.33/can
B. Ox total impact	Vancol Bev. Group	250	118	Walmart W&L Snackbar	\$1.50/can \$1.33/can
Dr. Enuf	Tri-City Bev. Group	375	130	W&L Snackbar	\$1.43/bottle
Hansen's Energy	Hansen's Bev.	246	120	CVS Pharmacy W. St. Purveyors	\$1.99/can \$1.99/can
Red Bull	Red Bull	250	110	ThePalm's B.J. Oasis	\$3.50/can \$3.50/can
Venom	Snapple Elements	248	130	W. St. Purveyors	\$1.99/can
WhoopAss	Jones Soda Co.	250	110	W. St. Purveyors	\$1.99/can

Information compiled by Alison Trinidad; Chart designed by Matthew McDermott

tain drinks made up more than 55 percent of total beverage sales last month, 62 percent in May.

Although CVS would not disclose specific sales data, Todd Andrews at the corporate office said the drug store chain did not sell many energy drink products. Lexington's CVS carries only Hansen's Energy drink.

The Palm's can go through two cases, or 48 cans, a night each weekend, said bartender Laurel Smith. The bar started serving Red Bull about two months ago. Smith said those who asked for the drink usually ordered it with a shot of vodka.

"It's all pretty much W&L guys," she said.

Down the street, at BJ's Oasis, it's the same story. Owner John Holmes started selling Red Bull three weeks ago.

Holmes said many law and undergraduate W&L students had made requests for the drink.

W&L senior Chris Roche, who bartends at Travellers Bar & Grill, said the requests for Red Bull started coming in this school year. The bar, however, does not carry the energy drink.

"I'm hoping we carry it soon," Roche said.

Senior Lisa Chew isn't as anxious as Roche. Regardless of all the energy-drink hype, her decision came down to taste when she tried Dr. Enuf.

"It tasted horrible," she said. "It tasted like chewable Flinstone's vitamins—oh, it's horrible."

Chew said she's going to stick to drinking Coke at night to stay awake.



The Phi wishes the Washington and Lee family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
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W&L names Cerino men's lacrosse coach

By JEREMY FRANKLIN
SPORTS EDITOR

The search for a head coach at one of Division III's most prolific men's lacrosse programs has ended, as Washington and Lee appointed Mike Cerino to the position on Tuesday.

Cerino, 35, founded the men's lacrosse program at Division II Limestone in 1990, winning a national championship there in 2000. He coached boys' lacrosse last year at The Charlotte Latin School in North Carolina.

"Mike is a seasoned coach who has experienced success during his coaching career," W&L athletic director Mike Walsh said. "His involvement in the sport of lacrosse is at the highest level."

"Mike is known as an excellent teacher and motivator, and we look forward to having him direct the fortunes of our men's lacrosse program. I know that he is eager to begin his work with our lacrosse players."

Cerino inherits a team that has qualified for the NCAA Tournament in three of the last four seasons, including a semifinal appearance in 2000. Though the Generals didn't make the tournament last year, they did finish third in the final USILA Division III poll.



The new coach admits that there is immediate pressure to put victories in the books, but he believes that he's well prepared to deal with it.

"There is some pressure to win now," Cerino said. "Most of all, the

pressure comes from the inside... I probably haven't been as rested for a lacrosse season in a long time. I hope that conveys onto the field. I'm looking forward to taking this team as far as they'll go."

The cupboard is certainly not bare for Cerino, who replaces Jim Stagnitta at the helm. Stagnitta coached the Generals to a 383-278-3 record over 12 seasons before leaving for Division I Rutgers in October.

CERINO FILE

-Coached Limestone College to 80-55 record (1990-2000)

-Won 2000 NCAA Division II national championship

-Deep South Conference Coach of the Year (1994, 1998)

-Street & Smith's College Lacrosse USA's Division II National Coach of the Year (2000)

MEET THE PRESS: New Washington and Lee men's lacrosse coach Mike Cerino fields questions at a Tuesday morning press conference. Cerino began the program at Limestone in 1990, winning an NCAA Division II national championship there 10 years later. He begins his duties this week. (Photo by Meg Ferrara/The Ring-tum Phi)

things that I really want to be a part of," he added. "They have an excellent lacrosse tradition, and Coach Stagnitta has maintained the program at the top of Division III for over a decade. I'm very pleased about taking the reigns and adding another chapter to its storied history."

Cerino's lacrosse experience extends well beyond his head coaching résumé. He has served on the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Championship Committee, the NCAA Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee, the USILA Division II All-America Committee and the USILA Division II Ranking Committee.

He was also named *Street & Smith's College Lacrosse USA's* Division II Coach of the Year in 2000 and the Deep South Conference Coach of the Year in 1994 and 1998. Cerino has earned the Jim "Ace" Adams National Sportsmanship Award twice.

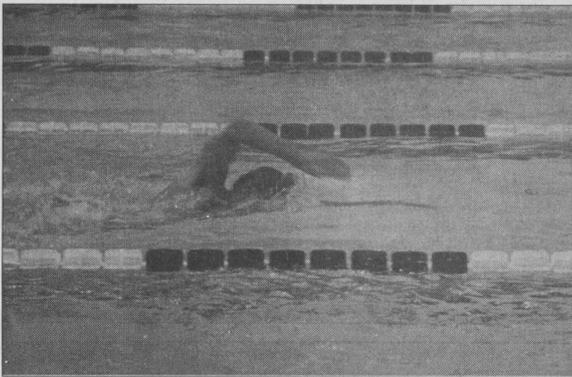
It's because of that experience that Cerino believes he is the perfect fit for Washington and Lee.

"I've earned my stripes in the recruiting wars," Cerino said. "I kind of feel like it's halftime. A jolt of enthusiasm might be beneficial, and I'm looking forward to bringing that to the table. I'm excited about what W&L can accomplish."

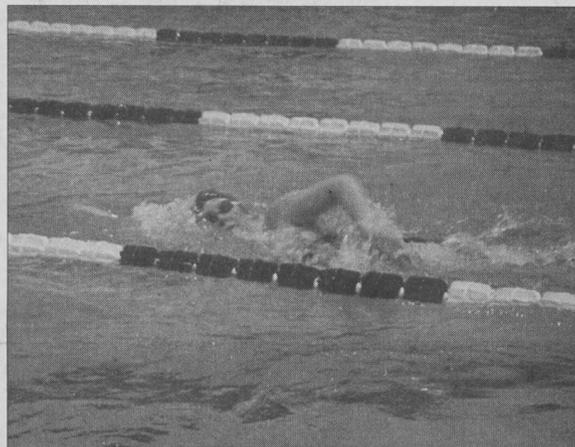
"Things are going in a good direction," Cerino said. "There are some top-notch players, the recruiting base is strong, we're playing (against) the right people."

"Washington and Lee is one of those special college lacrosse situa-

Swimmers close Fall Term with victories



FRIDAY NIGHT SWIMMING: Junior Patrick Frankfort (above) and the Generals defeated VMI 126-78, while junior Kelli Austin (right) and the women's team knocked off Radford 143-59. (Photos by Meg Ferrara/The Ring-tum Phi)



By MICHAEL LEE
SPORTS WRITER

While most Washington and Lee students were enjoying Christmas Weekend kickoff parties on Friday, the men's and women's swim teams were hard at work, hosting VMI and Radford at Twombly Pool.

The women defeated Radford 143-59, while the men routed VMI 126-78.

It was a bittersweet night for the Generals, however, because it was

senior Katie Kennedy's last night as a Generals swimmer. Kennedy is graduating early with a degree in English, and so has finished her season.

Women's coach Kiki Moore recognized Kennedy's achievements in a brief ceremony before the meet began, noting that Kennedy is the varsity record holder in the 100 and 200 breaststroke events.

In the pool, the Generals swam an excellent meet. Kennedy posted two individual victories, in the 200 IM and

the 100 breaststroke, while junior Patrick Frankfort cruised to easy wins in the 1,000 freestyle and the 500 freestyle. Both teams swam to early leads in the point standings, and never looked back.

Earlier in the week, the women dispatched Randolph-Macon Woman's College by a final score of 176-80 to improve to 4-0 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

Kennedy set two meet records, in the 500 freestyle and the 200 IM, and

teamed with junior Michelle Moore, senior Maggie Fagan and junior Kelli Austin to win the 200 medley relay.

Senior Laura Ingoldsby, freshman Katie Johnston, freshman Suzie LaFleur and Austin also won the 200 freestyle relay.

W&L's women are now 6-2 for the season, and the men are 2-2. The teams depart to Clearwater, Fla., for winter training on Dec. 28, and will return to competition at Catholic University on Jan. 12.

Basketball teams start year with mixed results

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee women's basketball team traveled to Washington University for the annual McWilliams Classic on Nov. 24-25, looking to face great competition and gain team experience.

They couldn't have played a more difficult team in the opener, facing tournament host, and four-time defending national champion, Washington University, and losing 75-54. The Generals followed this up by losing the consolation match to Swarthmore, 64-49.

On Wednesday, W&L opened up Old Dominion Athletic Conference play with a 66-56 loss to Lynchburg.

After taking their lumps for the week, the Generals decided to ruin someone else's afternoon. The Generals took Randolph-Macon to double overtime before pulling out a 76-71 victory in their home opener on Saturday night.

The Generals (1-3, 1-1 ODAC) struggled early on with their passing game and allowed some key three-pointers to the Yellow Jackets, but still only trailed by seven, 28-21, at the half.

W&L worked their way back, eventually forcing a tie game at 41-41 halfway through the second half. Senior Sarah Schmidt later forced overtime by splitting a pair of free throws with 20 seconds remaining in regulation.

In the first overtime period, the Generals pulled ahead 68-66 when senior Jessica Mentz connected on two free throw shots with 1:24 to play. Randolph-Macon, however, forced the second overtime with a putback by forward Sarah Crider.



NEW QUARTERBACK: Freshman point guard Bethany Dannelly brings the ball upcourt in W&L's 76-71, double-overtime win over Randolph-Macon on Saturday.

In the second overtime, the Generals grabbed a 71-69 lead and never gave it up, hitting four key free throws in the last minute. Free throw shooting propelled the Generals' offense, as W&L shot 73 percent (30-of-41) from the charity stripe.

Senior center Megan Babst led the Generals with 22 points and 13 rebounds. Mentz added 20 points and 13 boards, while freshman Emily Barker chipped in 14 points, four rebounds, three steals and two assists.

In their ODAC opener, the Generals led 24-23 at the half, but couldn't stop Lynchburg during a 10-0 run in the second half. The Hornets finished off W&L in the final minutes by making seven of eight free throws.

Men's team opens with stronger start than 2000-01

The Washington and Lee men's basketball team was determined not to have another disastrous season-opening run.

The Generals, who started 0-8 a year ago, opened the regular season with a 28-point blowout of Haverford on Nov. 16. Although there have been some ups and downs since then, W&L is out to a stronger start than 2000-01.

Against Haverford in the Equinox Classic, the Generals dominated the second half in extending a 30-22 halftime lead to a 71-43 final margin.

W&L received a 70-63 setback to Swarthmore on Nov. 17, day two of the Equinox. The Garnet used a 17-4 run to close the first half and take a three-point lead into the break, never trailing after intermission.

The Generals yielded another big run in a 70-65 loss to Wesley in their home opener on Nov. 20. W&L led with just under 13 minutes remaining, but a 17-2 Wolverines run gave them a double-digit lead.

W&L evened up its record with a 56-53 win over Greensboro at the Warner Center on Nov. 25. The Generals endured another second-half run by their opponent, nearly losing a 10-point lead with 2:38 left to play.

The Pride chipped the W&L advantage down to 54-53 with 22 seconds left, but junior Jake McAlister sank a pair of free throws and a game-tying buzzer-beater rimmed out.

W&L took to the road on Wednesday, dropping a 70-55 decision to Division I William and Mary. The Generals shot just 31 percent from the floor in the first half, but improved to 52 (12-of-23) after halftime.

Washington and Lee University opened Old Dominion Athletic Conference competition on Saturday, December 1 at Randolph-Macon. The Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets reeled off an 18-1 run to close the first half, cruising to an 82-64 win.

Track teams open 2001-02 season with VMI Invitational

By DAVE CROWELL
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee track program began its 2001-02 indoor season by traveling across town for the VMI Invitational on Saturday afternoon. The invitational drew both Division I teams and a number of Division III programs.

Men's coach Norris Aldridge and women's coach John Tucker agreed that the invite provided an important stepping-stone into season competition, which resumes on Jan. 25 when the Generals travel to Christopher Newport.

"The importance of this invite was to gauge how much work we need to do as a team. Plus, all the runners that have been working out in the fall got to experience some competition," Aldridge said.

"This was a good jump in the pool, just to get our feet wet in competition," Tucker added. "We go until April, so this is the first step on a long road. We expect steady improvement throughout the year."

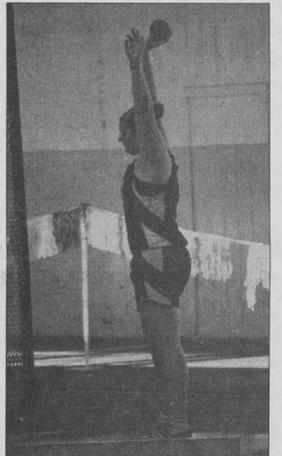
The VMI Invitational differs from other competitions in that no official team scoring is kept. In addition, Tucker noted that the events are evenly distributed with regard to talent. This helps overcome the presence of Division I schools.

The invitational functions as a time trial, giving the athletes a very early gauge regarding times that will undoubtedly improve throughout the season. Tucker and Aldridge each noted that their runners have not reached peak physical shape this early.

The coaches still were very pleased by the overall performances of the teams.

Tucker pointed out a few runners and throwers who especially impressed him, including freshmen Liz Crawford and Jessica Remmert, who each competed in the 50-meter dash.

"Liz will become a very competitive runner this season, plus she'll add another dimension in the high jump," Tucker said. "Jessica has



STRETCHING OUT: Audrey Walker and the Generals opened the season with the VMI Invitational on Saturday.

never run before and is just learning the conditioning and preparation techniques. I was very pleased with her performance."

In addition, Tucker said freshman Kim Gunst and senior Britt Shaffer performed respectably in the 200 meter, and that freshman Audrey Walker, also a relative newcomer, performed well in the shot put.

The invitational, however, did not reflect the entire team that Tucker will run during the outdoor season. Athletes who participated in fall sports did not run, with both coaches choosing to allow those who trained in the fall to compete.

Aldridge, entering his 32nd year as head track and field coach, believed his team ran well, but conceded that very few competing teams were in top physical shape.

He praised the performances of team captains Mike Hegg and Ian McAllister, both seniors, and freshman Brian Krupczak in particular.

"Overall, this is very early in the season and I was happy with how we came out and ran," Aldridge said.

INTERESTED IN WRITING FOR THE PHI?
Opportunities are available to cover men's and women's basketball, swimming, track and wrestling.
Contact Sports Editor Jeremy Franklin at franklinj@wlu.edu or x4060.

W&L prepared for Centennial run

Wrestlers lack depth and experience, but possess enough talent to compete now in conference play

By JEREMY FRANKLIN
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite losing four seniors and having little depth at all but a handful of weight classes, veteran coach Gary Franke has plenty to be excited about with his 2001-02 Washington and Lee wrestling team.

To fill the void left by John and Greg Valentine, Josh Chamberlain and John Sensing, several Generals have moved up a weight class, and newcomers and new starters will fill other voids.

"This year's team has probably got a little bit less experience than some of the others," said Franke, who is coaching the team for the 29th season. "Those four guys are hard to replace because they were in the program for four years, and there was a lot of development."

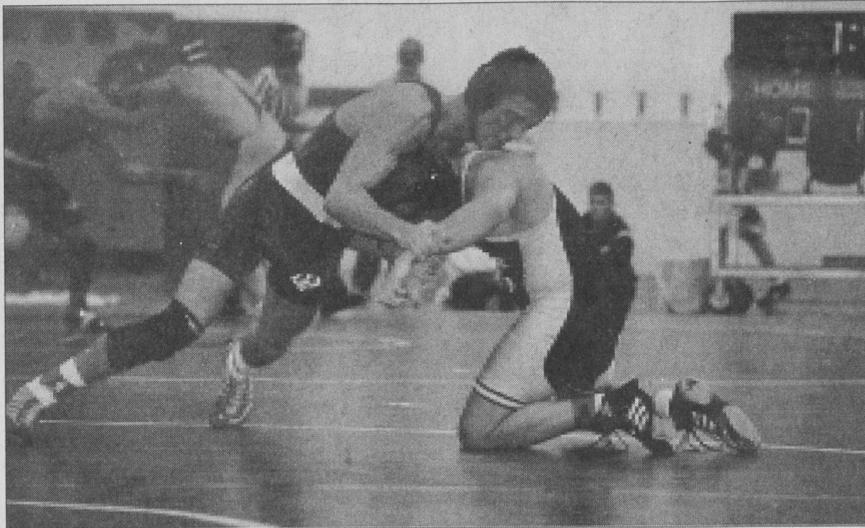
Inexperience and depth are potential problems, but W&L returns enough talent to compete now. Leading the pack is senior captain Ezra Morse, who was 20-3 last season and has won the VMI Keydet Invitational against primarily Division I opponents three years in a row.

"He brings great intensity," Franke said of Morse. "His intensity, his competitiveness, his hard-working spirit—he's much more involved than he's ever been."

The 197-pound Morse believes that this year's team differs from the three he's wrestled for thus far.

"(This team) is very, very different from the teams I've been on at W&L," he said. "This year we have probably the fewest number of people out, but talent-wise I think we have one of the best teams that we've had, even though we don't have a lot of depth."

"The individuals on this team are working way harder than they have



READY TO TACKLE THE CENTENNIAL: Freshman Brian Avello, Washington and Lee wrestling team begin Centennial Conference play in January. FILE PHOTO

in the past. We are weak at some weight classes, but we'll see how that pans out."

The Generals won't be a one-man show, however. Sophomore Joe Mueller is a returning Centennial Conference champion at the 184-pound class, and seniors Ben Segal (125) and Ivan Zdanov (174) are in their fourth year with the program.

Sophomore Anjan Ghosh will start at 133, and junior John Polena is penciled in at 141. Sophomore Corey Little has moved up to replace Chamberlain at 149.

W&L will start freshman Brian Avello at the 157-pound class, while junior Alex Poor and sophomore Steve Saks are battling for the 165 spot. Senior Matt Jacobs, an offensive line-

man and also a newcomer, will replace Sensing as the heavyweight.

The Generals will seek to improve upon last year's 3-3 record in the Centennial, where they compete against Ursinus, Johns Hopkins, Muhlenberg, Gettysburg and nationally-ranked Western Maryland.

"I hope we can improve on our conference finish," Franke said. "I think we can gain a lot of experience. We're going to have to rely on our seniors, the four guys who are in there, to do well and perform well. We hope we can get some more conference champions."

The coach believes that early-season tournaments, such as the Nov. 12 VMI invite and Saturday's Scranton Invitational, can go a long way in de-

termining how the Generals will perform later on in the year.

"The early season just gives you a chance to see where you are technically, and to see where you are from a fitness perspective," Franke said. "It gives you some great feedback, so we can work on certain things we need to work on. I think it kind of sets the tone for the rest of the season, too."

Regardless of how W&L performs in dual meets, Morse believes several Generals are in for a strong season.

"Individually, there's going to be a lot better wrestlers this year," Morse said. "But I'm looking forward to all the duals, seeing how well we do against all the other teams. I'm excited about conference now."

The Press Box

A guide to bowl season

Bowls begin in a little over two weeks, but several sponsors, particularly those involved in the Bowl Championship Series, are waiting for next weekend's results before handing out invitations.

But this is the final Fall Term issue of the *Phi*, so I'll rush the bowl preview with several assumptions. Most notably, Tennessee will beat LSU in the SEC Championship Game and jump into the No. 2 BCS slot.

Rather than go bowl-by-bowl—that would involve "analyzing" the Humanitarian Bowl—a selection of the best matchups and biggest games follows:

Tangerine (Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m., ESPN), N.C. State vs. Pittsburgh. Two of college football's least heralded players, N.C. State quarterback Philip Rivers and Panther wideout Antonio Bryant, square off. Both teams finished the regular season strongly.

Seattle (Dec. 27, 4 p.m., ESPN), Stanford vs. Georgia Tech. The Cardinal probably deserve better, and the Yellow Jackets should have played their way into a better bowl. But as it is, this could make for an exciting matchup of academic powerhouses.

Holiday (Dec. 28, 8:30 p.m., ESPN), Washington vs. Texas. The Longhorns haven't accepted a bid here yet, but Mack Brown's latest failure as a head coach should land them here. If Brown has any sense, he'll start Major Applewhite at QB.

Liberty (Dec. 31, 4 p.m., ESPN), Louisville vs. Brigham Young. The chance of the Cougars to qualify for a BCS game is growing smaller, so they may have to settle for the Mountain West's automatic bid. Don't count out John L. Smith's Cardinals.

Peach (Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m., ESPN), North Carolina vs. Auburn. The Tigers likely won't receive an invite until after the Vols and LSU settle the SEC, but this is another probable game. This one could be a defensive nail-biter.

Cotton (Jan. 1, 11 a.m., Fox), Oklahoma vs. LSU. Provided the Tigers fall to Tennessee in Atlanta, they'll be a big underdog on New Year's Day. The Sooners' disappointing loss to Oklahoma State will have them hungry.

Gator (Jan. 1, 12:30 p.m., NBC), Florida State vs. Virginia Tech. The

Seminoles and Hokies were playing for the national title two years ago, but were happy to resurrect disappointing seasons with invitations to Jacksonville.

Citrus (Jan. 1, 1 p.m., ABC), Michigan vs. South Carolina. A few weeks ago, these two teams were headed in

opposite directions. But the Wolverines looked like a high school team against Ohio State, and the Gamecocks have rebounded from tough losses to Florida and Tennessee.

Now the BCS bowls, none of which will be officially determined until Sunday:

Fiesta (Jan. 1, 4:30 p.m., ABC), Oregon vs. Colorado. If Chris Brown had run all season like he did against Nebraska and Texas, Gary Barnett would be leading an undefeated team into the Rose Bowl to take on Miami. As it is, this has been a tremendous finish for the Buffaloes, which would only improve with a win against Joey Harrington and the Pac-10 champion Ducks.

Sugar (Jan. 1, 8:30 p.m., ABC), Nebraska vs. Florida. The Cornhuskers and Gators had national title aspirations dashed in rivalry games, albeit to likely BCS-bound teams (unlike Oklahoma). The quarterback matchup of Heisman hopefuls—Nebraska's Eric Crouch and Florida's Rex Grossman—will take center stage in New Orleans.

Orange (Jan. 2, 8 p.m., ABC), Maryland vs. Illinois. The Sugar Bowl may take Illinois, but Florida is a better fit against Nebraska. If this game does solidify, it should be a great battle. No one expected these teams to emerge as conference champions, but a little help from friends—N.C. State's win over FSU in the ACC and Ohio State over Michigan in the Big Ten—ensured their BCS bids.

Rose (Jan. 3, 8 p.m., ABC), Miami vs. Tennessee. A few weeks ago, the Volunteers looked lost against Georgia at Neyland Stadium. Now they've played their way into position to battle the Hurricanes for the national title in another brilliant season for Philip Fulmer's team. Ken Dorsey and Miami have been the best team in the nation all season, and don't expect them to slip up in the biggest game of the year.

Generals finish fourth

FROM STAFF REPORTS

SCRANTON, Pa.—The Washington and Lee wrestling team placed fourth of 11 teams at the Scranton Invitational on Saturday.

Senior Ezra Morse won the 197-pound championship with wins over Tegan McKee of Kings, Luke Rosenberger of Baptist Bible and Glenn Zimmermann of Kings.

Sophomore Joseph Mueller was the runner-up in the 184-pound weight class, defeating Albright's Bill Brennen and Keith Kubicek of the College of New Jersey before falling to Kubicek's teammate, Dale Rismiller, in the finals.

Senior Ivan Zdanov accomplished the same feat at 174. Zdanov pinned Ty Edwards of Albright and beat Lycoming's Dale Jones. Joe Amone of Kings defeated him in the finals.

Junior John Polena (141), sophomore Corey Little (149), freshman Brian Avello (157) each recorded one win on the day, and junior Alex Poor won a pair of matches in the 165-pound flight.

Kings won the tournament with 134 points. Lycoming was second at 69.5, followed by the College of New Jersey at 68.5 and W&L at 47.5.

W&L hosts Southern Virginia in a non-conference dual match at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

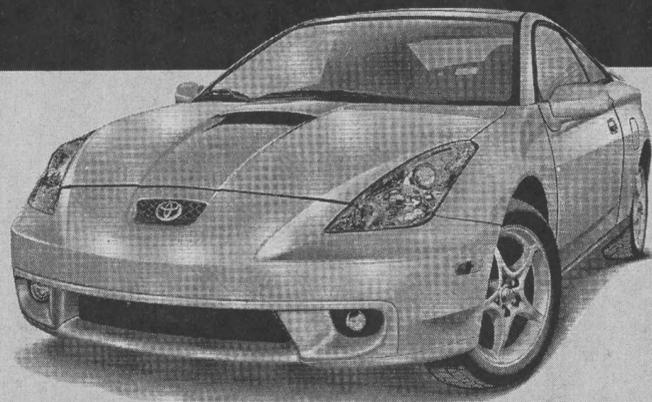
W&L SPORTS SCHEDULE: DEC. 4-JAN. 14

Tuesday, Dec. 4 Women's Basketball Mary Washington at W&L, 7 p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 5 Wrestling W&L at Gettysburg Quad., 12 p.m. Women's Basketball Bridgewater at W&L, 4 p.m. Men's Basketball W&L at Roanoke, 7 p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 12 Wrestling W&L at Ursinus Invitational, 10 a.m. Men's and Women's Swimming W&L at Catholic, 2 p.m. Men's Basketball Lynchburg at W&L, 3 p.m. Women's Basketball W&L at Emory and Henry, 4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 5 Men's Basketball W&L at Bridgewater, 7 p.m. Wrestling Southern Virginia at W&L, 7:30 p.m.	Tuesday, Jan. 8 Women's Basketball W&L at Virginia Wesleyan, 7 p.m.	Sunday, Jan. 13 Men's Basketball Hampden-Sydney at W&L, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 2 Women's Basketball Greensboro at W&L, 4 p.m. Men's Basketball Guilford at W&L, 7 p.m.	Wednesday, Jan. 9 Wrestling Muhlenberg at W&L, 6 p.m. Men's Basketball Eastern Mennonite at W&L, 7 p.m.	Monday, Jan. 14 Men's and Women's Swimming Grove City at W&L, 6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 4 Women's Basketball Eastern Mennonite at W&L, 4 p.m.	Thursday, Jan. 10 Women's Basketball W&L at RMWC, 7 p.m.	

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Celica— The Inside Story

On the outside, it's easy to see that Celica is race-track inspired. But the real excitement is on the inside...under the hood. Take the Celica GT-S...Toyota worked with Yamaha to build a 180 HP engine redlined at 7800 RPM...equipped it with Variable Valve Timing with intelligence...a computer that constantly monitors and retunes your engine for maximum performance...a cam with two sets of lobes to provide two ranges of valve lift and duration for more usable horsepower. There's direct ignition for greater reliability...iridium-tipped spark plugs for reduced maintenance...a stainless steel exhaust manifold...a water-cooled oil cooler. And mated with Toyota's 4-speed electronically-controlled automatic "Sportshift", you get transmission shift switches on the steering wheel...just like Formula 1 race cars. Sweet.



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