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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

VOLUME CV, No. XIX
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2003

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897 Φ Online at: phi.wlu.edu

Commons update:

Beer may return to campus

BY KATIE HOWELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Beer and wine may be served in the new student Commons alongside coffee, books and school supplies, President Thomas Burish said last week.

"We are considering a beer and wine bar in the Commons," Burish said. "Right now we are exploring a number of things that the University can do."

Burish suggested serving alcohol in the Commons for several reasons. He said such a setting would promote interaction between law school students and 21-year-old undergraduates. He also said serving alcohol on campus would "encourage responsible drinking and would be consistent with the University's policies on alcohol."



COURTESY WWW.DRENNHAMWOODLICK.CO.UK
ON TAP. Beer may be sold in the new Commons.

Before administrators make a final decision whether to include a student bar or restaurant serving alcohol, the University is gathering student, faculty and alumni input as well as feedback from other colleges and universities that serve alcohol in their student centers.

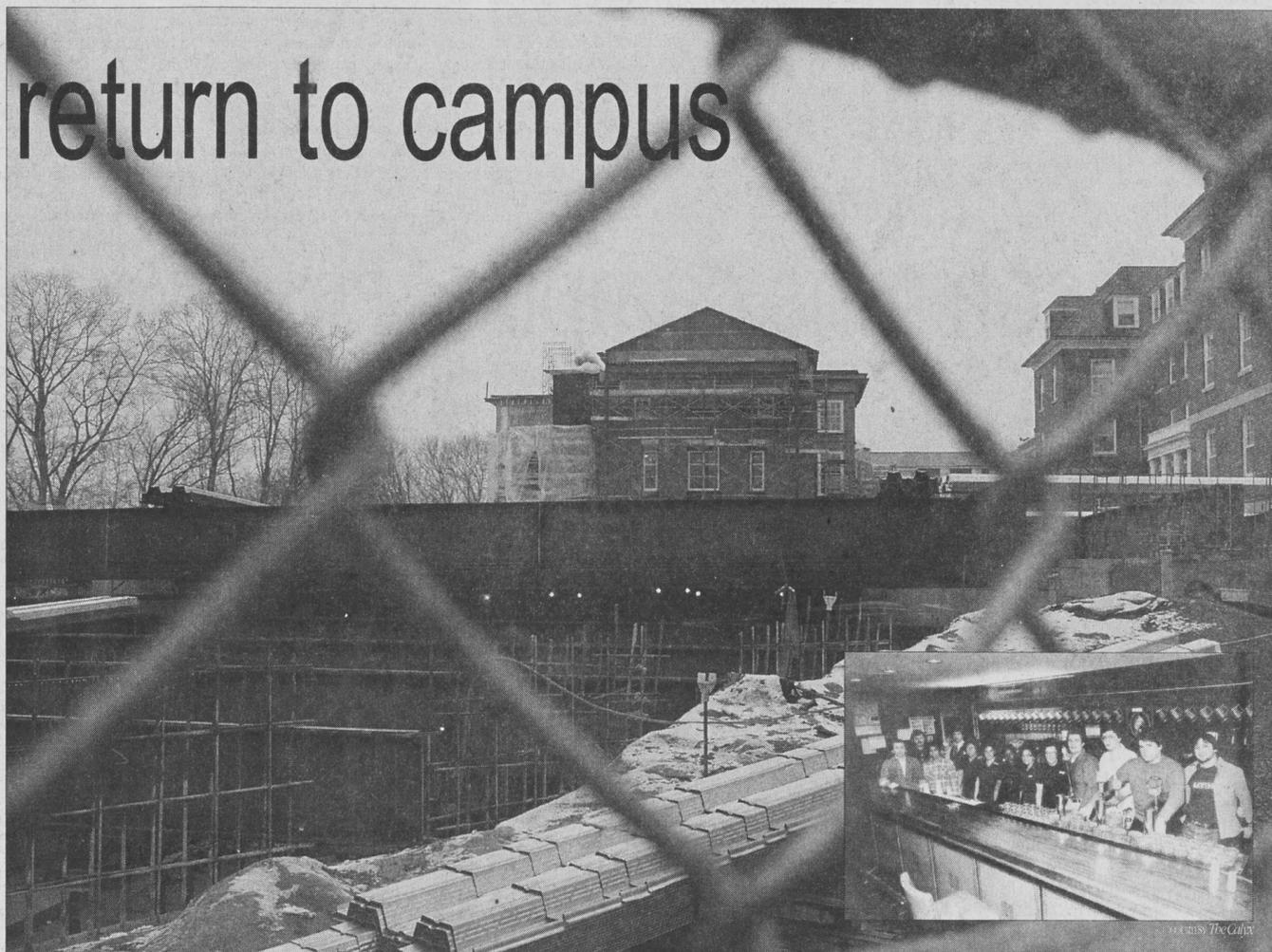
"At this point, the general feelings we are getting (from faculty, students and other universities) is that serving alcohol on campus is a possibility and doesn't appear to be a big deal," Dean of Students David Howison said.

Howison and Burish both said they have gotten positive feedback from most individuals approached about the idea.

"The students are overridingly in favor of the idea," Burish said.

Before a final decision is made, Burish said the University must look at the liability issues, licensing and faculty, staff, board and alumni opinion.

"Some people have said that serving alcohol in the Commons is inconsistent with the school's current message that there is 'too much drinking at W&L,'" Burish



BEER AND BOOKS. Construction crews continue work on the John W. Elrod Commons. The Commons will house dining facilities, study rooms, meeting rooms, a movie theatre and possibly

a beer and wine bar. The GHQ served beer and wine during the 1980s (inset). All legal students could buy alcohol there until Virginia law changed the drinking age and the bar became a restaurant.

said. "These people think that to offer alcohol on campus will be promoting drinking."

Howison and Burish said, however, that few people have expressed this sentiment.

"Other schools have said that serving beer has not caused a problem, nor has it changed the culture of the school," Howison said. "They all said little alcohol was sold in each setting."

Housing a bar in the new Commons will not be the first time alcohol has been served on campus.

SEE BEER, PAGE 3

IFC unsure about hazing law

BY MEGAN MORGAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 31, the Virginia State Assembly unanimously passed a bill that, if enacted, will allow universities more discretion in determining appropriate punishments for individuals found guilty of hazing. Under current state law, any student found guilty of hazing must be expelled from their respective university. Many university officials, however, complain that since hazing can range from pinching to serious bodily harm, it is unfair for these students to receive the same punishment. If the new hazing bill becomes law, universities will have much more leeway in determining appropriate punishments for students found guilty of hazing by applying a

wide range of sanctions instead of mandatory expulsion.

The new bill also redefines hazing, offering a detailed definition which is missing from current state law. Currently, a student must suffer bodily harm as a result of hazing in order to press charges or sue. In the new bill, the definition of hazing is widened to include not only bodily harm but also purposeful endangerment of a person's safety.

It is hoped that the new bill will assist in ending underreporting of hazing cases and assist universities in prosecuting cases brought before them. Because hazing is poorly defined and the punishment for those found guilty of it is so severe, students may be reluctant to press

charges. By offering a more precise definition of hazing and a wider variety of possible punishments, it is hoped that students will be less reluctant to press charges.

It is unclear how this bill will affect the Washington and Lee community. Christopher Pickens, Washington and Lee's Interfraternity Council President, thinks that the greater flexibility the bill gives to the school is "a good thing, although I hope that it does not encourage schools to be more tolerant on hazing."

The bill now goes to a Senate subcommittee, which has its own version of the hazing bill. In order for the bill to become law, the two houses will have to agree upon a single version of it.

Publications win big in EC funding game

BY CALEY ANDERSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Executive Committee of the Student Body has allocated over \$17,000 in secondary Winter Term funding to 20 organizations. The Jan. 29 Budget Hearings were marked by the presence of several new organizations as well as several breaks from precedent.

In Athletics, the new club sport of boxing received \$500 in startup funds. Ultimate Frisbee, which was restarted during Fall term and took in \$300 from the EC then, received \$400 in additional funds this term. Newly re-founded Club Fencing took in the most of any athletic organization at \$800. They had received \$675 in Fall term funding.

New organizations receiving funding included the Knitting Society (\$100), Project HOPE (\$250), the Spanish House (\$100), and the W&L Turkish Generals (\$120). However, the most notable parts of the hearing came from previously-standing organizations.

The College Republicans, one of the largest organizations on-campus, had applied for EC funding in the Fall, but was turned down due to its politically partisan nature. Seeking to evade partisanship, this term both the College Republicans and the Young Democrats applied jointly for EC funding. The Executive Committee decided to allocate no money to the joint applicants, however, and a hearing is scheduled which will discuss the rules of EC funding. The EC also hinted that the lack of funding to the unified political organizations may not solely have been due to partisanship, but rather a lack of funds, and that the Democrats and Republicans would probably have better luck in Fall term of the next school year.

The Trident, the campus' formerly independent student newspaper, received EC funding for the first time in its history. The Trident had previously applied for funding during Fall term, but was turned down by the EC. This term, however, the EC saw fit to allocate \$3,240 to the financially beleaguered Trident.

The International House, which has moved from its old facility, also requested funding for the first time, citing a need for any aid the EC could manage. The EC complied with a small funding package of \$100.

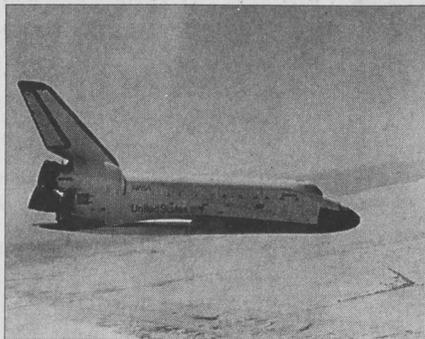
The complete listing of EC's allocations to orgs. requesting funds:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Ariel- | \$2,500 |
| Student Bar Association- | \$2,500 |
| Boxing- | \$500 |
| Theatre Outreach- | \$200 |
| Fencing- | \$800 |
| Trident- | \$3,240 |
| International House- | \$100 |
| Frisbee- | \$400 |
| Journal of Science- | \$1,400 |
| Dance- | \$1,000 |
| Knitting Society- | \$100 |
| Turkish Generals- | \$120 |
| Mock Convention- | \$1,250 |
| Women's Forum- | \$600 |
| NSL- | \$550 |
| Young Dem/Rep- | \$0 |
| Order of Omega- | \$125 |
| Spanish House- | \$100 |
| Project HOPE- | \$250 |
| SAB- | \$1,500 |
| SOAR- | \$100 |



INFOGRAPHIC BY KATIE HOWELL / The Ring-tum Phi

Shuttle explosion saddens campus



MOURNING. Columbia glided toward Edwards Air Force Base during its first mission in 1981.

BY CALEY ANDERSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

On the morning of Feb. 1, the 22-year-old Space Shuttle Columbia exploded approximately 200,000 feet above the Earth's surface. All seven members of its crew, including Ilan Ramon, the first citizen of Israel to fly in space, were lost. While details are only speculative at this point, NASA officials believe that the "number one likely cause" of the accident was a piece of wing insulation that fell off the shuttle at takeoff. The failure of any part of the shuttle's insulation/heat shield structure would likely lead to such a catastrophe, as temperatures caused by high-

speed friction with the planet's atmosphere on re-entry can reach 3,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

The Washington and Lee community, in step with the rest of the nation, has reacted with remorse and regret to this tragedy. "It's just so sad," said one W&L sophomore who wishes to remain anonymous. "It only makes it worse that it was the first Israeli in space."

Other students had similar sentiments. "I was skiing and I found out when I got back to the van," said senior Richard Kilby, who has some friends and acquaintances among the Texas NASA family. "It made me think about some of the people down there and how close they are."

Faculty reacted as well. "I think it's a very sad thing," said history professor Ted DeLaney. One almost universal sentiment was the desire to see the space program press forward despite the setback. "I don't want to see the space program halted at all," said DeLaney. Kilby expressed a similar sentiment, noting "America is a country that keeps going on."

This sentiment is markedly different from American popular sentiment following the Challenger space shuttle explosion in 1986. Following that tragedy, American support for the space program fell sharply into apathy. The Columbia explosion has, by contrast, led many citizens to a more fervent support of NASA.

"These things are horrible, but it makes you realize that space travel is definitely not like going down in your car to pick up lunch," said Kilby. Washington and Lee, and the rest of the nation, mourns the loss of the seven lost crew members, but applauds their courage and heroism.



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NEW BIRTH CONTROL MAY CHANGE LIFESTYLES. PAGE 3.
READERS! WHO KNEW? PAGE 4.
STONEWALL JACKSON HOUSE REVIEWED. PAGE 6.
SYMANSKY JOINS NATIONAL TEAM. PAGE 7.

Vonnegut will speak in Lee Chapel tomorrow



COURTESY WILLECKE

CAT'S CRADLE. Noted author Kurt Vonnegut will speak in Lee Chapel tomorrow evening. He said, however, that he will not give autographs or signatures so DON'T ASK HIM.

BY KYLE WASS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., a best-selling science-fiction author, will speak at Washington and Lee this week. Vonnegut is also an accomplished filmmaker, sculptor, and graphic artist.

The speech, entitled "How to Get a Job like Mine," will be held at 7:30 in Lee Chapel on Tuesday, February 4, and is open to the public. It is sponsored by W&L's student-run Contact Committee. Vonnegut was the Contact Committee's first choice speaker, said Contact's Vice Chair of Publicity, Victoria Guroian.

Vonnegut is the author of many highly-acclaimed novels and dozens of essays and short stories, including *Fates Worse than Death* and *Breakfast of Champions*. Among his better-known novels, *Cat's Cradle* and *Slaughterhouse-Five* are currently required reading in many col-

lege courses. Vonnegut has also expanded artistic media into sculpture, screen prints, and music. A biochemistry major at Cornell College, Vonnegut is known for incorporating science fiction and black comedy into his literary works. *Slaughterhouse-Five*, the novel written in 1969 that propelled Vonnegut into best-seller status, was only several years later made into a movie of the same name. Vonnegut later won critical acclaim through his film company, Sourdough Productions.

Vonnegut wrote *Slaughterhouse-Five* based on his experience of being captured in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, shortly after his mother, Edith Lieber Vonnegut, committed suicide. In Dresden, Germany, Vonnegut was forced to take shelter with other Allied POW in an underground meat locker, which was the inspiration for the famous novel. Of his experience, Vonnegut wrote that "After [being captured], I worked as a miner of corpses, breaking into cellars where over a 100,000 Hansel

and Gretels were baked like gingerbread men." Upon his return to the US, Vonnegut was awarded the Purple Heart.

After receiving his M.A. in anthropology from the University of Chicago, Vonnegut held a number of jobs, including those of a Harvard writing professor, a SAAB dealer in Maine, a teacher of English at a school for mentally disturbed children, and a public relations writer for the General Electric Company Research Laboratory. It was at GE that Vonnegut began writing stories for *Collier's* magazine and the *Saturday Evening Post*, when he decided to quit GE and move to Provincetown, Mass., where he planned to write full-time, starting with a book mocking GE.

Vonnegut was a lecturer at the University of Iowa Writer's Workshop, was elected Vice President of the National Institute of Arts and Letters in 1975, and has recently been named the State Author of New York, where he currently resides.

Howison runs campus

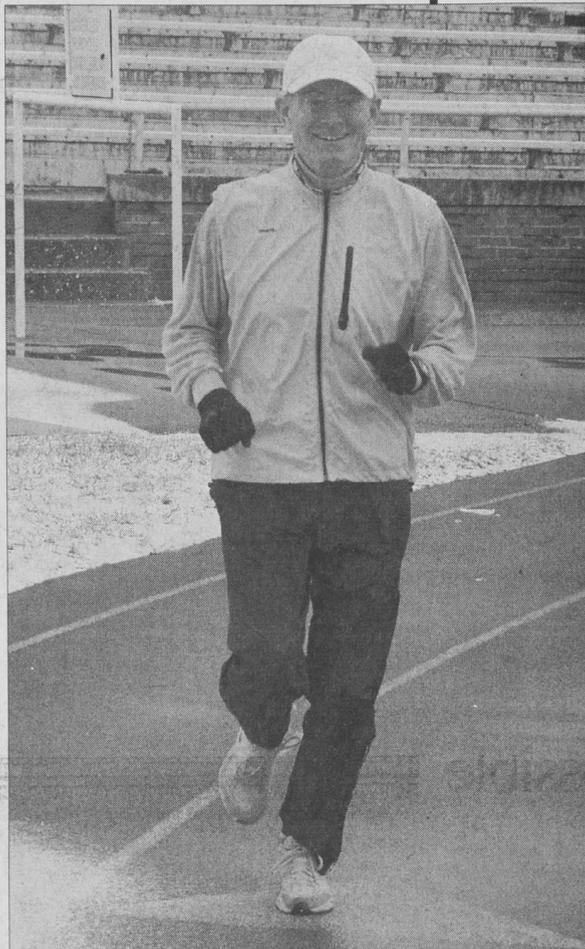
BY IMRAN NAEEMULLAH
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

When one considers the traits that a Dean of Students might embody, humor is probably not one that comes straight to mind. More likely are fairness, discipline, vision, and people skills, yet to these assets David Howison adds a good sense of humor.

When he and I sat down to discuss his 13-year career at Washington and Lee, Howison was full of humorous anecdotes much like the ones he shares in his weekly newspaper columns. One of his favorites is the time when he and his wife, Chris, were sleeping, and around 3 a.m. he heard voices talking on the front porch. For a while he tried to ignore them, but after some time had passed he got dressed and went downstairs. Sitting on his porch he found two students, so he introduced himself as the Dean of Students to their utter surprise, for they had thought it was a fraternity house. Certainly, it takes a man who doesn't take himself *too* seriously to deal with a job like that.

Howison came to Washington and Lee in 1990 from St. Lawrence University in upstate New York, where he had spent 22 years in various administrative positions, on the advice of his friends David Long, Vice President for University Relations, and Professor Lyn Wheeler. He notes that he was immediately impressed by the Honor System, the quality of the faculty, W&L's rich history, and former President John Wilson, who had led the University through coeducation a few years back. He also has his family roots in Virginia, so he was happy to come to what he considers one of the most beautiful parts of the country.

During his tenure at Washington and Lee, Howison has faced many challenges. Perhaps his biggest one was also his initial one, the Fraternity Renaissance. Before Howison arrived at W&L, the University had begun a \$15 million project to completely renovate the fraternity houses and bring them under University control. That had been largely completed, but the necessary accompanying social change had not. Howison says that at the time, the predominant culture in the fraternity houses was one of destruction, with students routinely breaking windows, smashing in walls, destroying furniture, and essentially turning the houses upside down. Howison managed to persuade the fraternity brothers that they needed to preserve the newly renovated houses and foster a culture of greater respect for property, because he felt the old situation was inconsistent with the values of Washington and Lee. He succeeded, for while the occasional broken window is something



Jeb Brooks / The Ring-tum Pbi

RUNNING MAN. Howison runs around the track every day at noon. He achieved Masters' status in the All-American competition in the 800 meters.

of a time-honored tradition, by and large physical plant issues glowing reports.

Howison characterizes the Dean of Students job as being one in which he needs to interact closely with the student body, the rest of the administration, and the faculty, ensuring that he successfully facilitates the needs and desires of each respective body and achieves a degree of harmony. He is the direct supervisor to 9 positions, ranging from Career Services to the Outing Club to the Dean of Freshmen, so he must remain a flexible person with the ability to manage an array of responsibilities. In recent years, he says that his job has been primarily to lay the foundation for a more vibrant and balanced social life, which will largely be achieved through the creation of the University Commons. He thus sees a not entirely coincidental situation: whereas his initial task was to help reform the fraternity system, his successor's initial job will be to continue what Howison has begun and help make W&L a more welcoming place to all types of people.

Certainly, the new dean can count on Howison's continued presence after the one-month transition period, because Howison will be staying in Lexington after he retires, although he will no longer have an official role in University affairs. He will, however, still be a familiar face on campus, promising to continue to attend sporting events, and he says he plans on keeping his locker in the new gym facility. He and his wife, Chris, will still live in their house in town, with their two grown children, Mac and Annie, visiting every now and then, and Chris will continue to operate the Artisans store on Washington Street. Howison muses that the two things he is most looking forward to are raking the leaves and running, the latter being one of his great passions. No doubt, Howison will frequently be seen jogging along the Front Lawn, waving to students as he passes by, and making his way down the paths worn immemorial by time.

This is the second article in a series which feature in-depth interviews with administrators at Washington and Lee University.

PBS to document honor system

BY CALEY ANDERSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

EC Meeting Report, Jan. 27, 2003

EC Business this week included the following items-

1- Cold Check Committee Report:

The EC inquired with respect to the current status of the Cold Check Committee, an organization which protects the financial credit of Washington and Lee students in the Lexington community. If a student bounces a check in or around Lexington, the Cold Check committee will reimburse the merchant and transfer the student's debt to the university. So far, there have been no bounced checks during Winter Term.

2- Project HOPE:

The EC inquired as to the nature of the new organization named Project HOPE, which applied for official EC funding for Winter Term. Project HOPE is effectively a cooperative effort between members of Hillel, the Muslim League, the Minority Student Association, and other related groups. Project HOPE sends non-professional counselors to the Natural Bridge Correctional Facility with the goal of mentoring and counseling cadets there in a rehabilitation effort.

3- Law School Meeting Place:

President Gerald Titus noted that the next EC meeting, to be held Monday, January 3rd, would take place in the Law School's Mock Trial Courtroom in an effort to be more accessible to law students.

4- Alberto Gonzales Speaker:

The EC noted that Alberto Gonzales, the Chief Counsel for the President of the United States, will likely speak at Washington and Lee sometime during Spring Term. Mr. Gonzales is a noted legal authority, and is considered by many to be President Bush's top pick for a new Supreme Court justice.

5- Honor System Video:

The EC discussed the possibility of creating a new Honor System orientation video, which would likely be recorded on DVD. The EC reached no conclusive decision.

6- PBS Documentary:

The EC acknowledged that PBS will commence broadcasting of their five-minute documentary on Washington and Lee's honor system this Spring. The five-minute video details the concept and execution of W&L's unique Honor System, and will be played as a transition piece between larger shows.



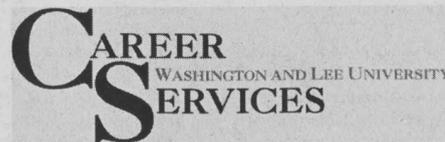
Don't Let This Happen to You at Your Interview!



Etiquette Dinner

Monday, February 10th
University Center, 6:00 PM
Cost is \$10 - Charge it home!

Come to Career Services by Feb. 5th to Sign Up
Space is Limited, so Don't Delay!



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Artist's Photos Featured at Joyful Spirit

A Joyful Spirit Café will be hosting an exhibit dedicated to the art of Ms. Margaret Carroll through February and March. Ms. Carroll is primarily a stained glass artist, but the Lexington exhibit will feature some of her photography efforts in Central America. A Joyful Spirit Café is a vegetarian-styled restaurant and coffee house located at 26 South Main Street. It is open Monday through Friday from 8:30-5:30, Saturday from 10:00-5:00, and Sunday from 11:00 to 4:00.

Etiquette Dinner Upcoming

A dinner event designed to hone participants' senses of etiquette and table manners will occur Monday, February 10th, from 6-8 pm in the University Center.

A reception will be held in Fairfax Lounge at 6pm, followed by dinner in UC114 at 6:30pm. The cost is \$10. You can charge it home using your student id #, or pay cash. The dinner is limited to the first 30 students to register. Registration ends February 5th. You must come in person to Career Services (located in the lower level of the Mattingley House) to sign up.

CIE to Sponsor "Music from China"

The 5-person ensemble, "Music from China," will present an evening of traditional and contemporary Chinese music Friday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Lee Chapel on the Washington and Lee University campus, courtesy of the Center for International Education. "Music from China" conducts arts-in-education programs in New York City and along the east coast. These include programs for the Chinese American community, children's concerts, music instruction and arts education.

Lexington Weekly Forecast

Monday- Overcast 58/48

Tuesday- Heavy Rain/Snow, Wind 52/22

Wednesday- Partly Cloudy 38/12

Thursday- Partly Cloudy 34/18

Friday- Light Snow 32/20

Saturday- Partly Cloudy 36/15

Sunday- Partly Cloudy 39/21

PHI CORRECTIONS

In the Jan. 27, 2003 article titled "East Asian Studies prepares for China-Japan Day," The Phi incorrectly credited East Asian Studies in sponsoring the event. East Asian Languages and Literatures (EALL), actually sponsored this event. It has nothing to do with East Asian Studies, which as few know is not a department but an interdisciplinary program. EALL events are department run, organized and supported without external or interdisciplinary help.

Only 11 more days til Feb. Break!

SOV to educate new members

BY CALEY ANDERSON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The famed "Something Of Value" program, sponsored and operated by the Panhellenic Council, will be returning to Washington and Lee in early March. The program deals with alcohol issues as they relate to Washington and Lee's five sororities and the women who comprise them.

Last year, the program was sponsored by the National Panhellenic Conference, and much of the program's content came from that source. Due to the fact that the Conference only sponsors a few of these programs nationally per year, Washington and Lee will be planning and executing its own program this year. The Panhellenic Council is aiming at a target audience of sorority leaders, sisters, and pledges.

The centerpiece of last year's program was a mock trial in which various students and Panhellenic leaders participated in all roles involved, from lawyer to judge to the accused parties. "This year, we're only doing the mock trial part of the program, and we're doing our own," said Panhellenic advisor Teresa Glassman. The leaders of the Panhellenic Council, who are often also leaders of their respective Greek organizations, will be the accused parties. The trial this year will "most likely be a drunk driving-related accident," said Glassman.

The program, which was named "Something Of Value" last year, will not necessarily have the same name this year, though that is an option that the Council is considering. The overall goal of the program, according to Panhellenic leaders, is to raise awareness of W&L rules

for alcohol in sororities, as well as of the rules of the national Greek organizations which supervise specific sororities.

The mock trial, which will be the focus of the program, is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 2nd. Though the law school's mock trial courtroom was considered as a potential location, it will not be used due to distance from the primary W&L undergraduate campus, as well as low seating capacity. Instead, the trial will be held in Lee Chapel. Following the trial, there will be breakout sessions where the sorority members will hold discussions of their thoughts on the trial and its issues with Panhellenic members. Ms. Glassman confirmed that these sessions will "most likely be held in Colonnade classrooms."

Stanford weighs in on new contraceptive

BY CAMILLE RICKETTS
THE STANFORD DAILY (STANFORD U.)

(U-WIRE) STANFORD, Calif. - By the end of the year, the Food and Drug Administration may approve a new birth control pill, commonly called Seasonale, which may have a dramatic impact not only on contraceptive methods but also on female lifestyles.

When Seasonale is used correctly, it can effectively reduce the number of periods a woman has each year from 13 to four. While this unique aspect of the pill has some women and medical professionals at Stanford University anxiously awaiting its release, many others remain skeptical.

Seasonale is composed of estrogen and progestin, two hormones regularly found in other oral contraceptives. While the cumulative amount of hormones contained in Seasonale is lower than that of other birth control pills, such as Levlén and Ortho Tri Cyclen, it must be taken 84 days in a row rather than the standard 21 days before the customary seven-day break.

Similar to other conventional birth control pills, Seasonale works by suppressing ovulation and preventing the development of an endometrium layer in the uterus.

"Women have informally been achieving the effects of Seasonale for years by simply skipping the week of placebos in their regular birth control pills," said Kati

Willoughby, a women's health and Herstory coordinator at the Women's Community Center.

"Providing a pill specifically intended for this will hopefully lead to greater communication about the issue between patients and health-care providers."

There are relatively few health concerns related to the use of Seasonale. Negative side effects include breast tenderness and blood clots in very rare cases, though these symptoms were reported to disappear within the first several months of use. Research has also concluded that the pill will not enhance women's chances of developing breast cancer.

In fact, physicians suggest that menstrual suppression resulting from the use of the pill may even be healthy for women.

"In a primitive society, women may only have 10 or 20 periods in her life because she is pregnant or breastfeeding the rest of the time," said Dr. Jerry Sheffren, a director in the obstetrics and gynecology department at the School of Medicine.

"Having regular 28-day cycles year after year may in fact be abnormal."

Some doctors believe that women who ovulate regularly without getting pregnant have higher risks of certain cancers and endometriosis, a condition that could lead to internal bleeding and lesions resulting from malfunctions in the menstrual cycle. In addition, oral contraceptives are shown

to cut the risk of uterine and ovarian cancer.

"It sounds like any woman's dream come true, not having to deal with pads, tampons, etc.," said Valerie Lundy-Wagner, a campus and community outreach coordinator at the WCC.

The pill is still pending government approval; however, with tests consistently proving it safe and effective, Seasonale may be available with prescription by the end of this year. Upon FDA approval, Stanford's health centers will need to decide whether to provide it as another birth control option for patients.

"I do hope that [Vaden Health Center] distributes Seasonale," Willoughby said. "I believe that women should have the opportunity to choose to control their menstruation if it is medically possible. However, I don't believe it is the right choice for everyone."

The WCC will continue to be heavily involved in educating women about their birth control options, regardless of the University's decision concerning Seasonale. The WCC will most likely hold workshops and information sessions on Seasonale and other methods of birth control toward the end of winter quarter.

While the community center will not advocate use of this pill over other methods of contraception, the staff expressed its hope to create a forum to raise women's

awareness of Seasonale, and to help students make informed choices about whether to use the product.

"Our main purpose is to provide women in Stanford's community with information," Lundy-Wagner said. "After consulting a physician who recommends it, women on campus should definitely have access to this form of birth control."

The WCC and other health sources also expressed the need to draw women's attention to the fact that Seasonale is not a proper form of contraception when used alone.

"Unfortunately, oral contraceptives only work at preventing pregnancy, but they don't do a thing about sexually transmitted infections," said junior Erik Wong, a peer health educator at Freshman / Sophomore College.

"So we always advise that students know what other forms of contraception there are, and that the pill can be used in conjunction with a condom."

While the University will need to decide whether to have the drug available by prescription, a variety of resources on campus will still provide women with the information they need to make educated decisions regarding the pill.

"It will be interesting to see in ten years down the road, if the phenomenon of monthly menstruation is still commonplace," Willoughby said.

Burish says bar possible

BAR, FROM PAGE 1

"The GHQ was originally designed as a tap house," Associate Dean of Students Buddy Atkins said.

Atkins said the GHQ sold beer and wine until 1985 or 1986 when Virginia law changed the legal drinking age.

"It wasn't worth it to be a tap house after that," he said. "The majority of the student body couldn't be served."

While administrators deliberate about the possible addition of the bar or tap house, Commons construction continues as scheduled despite cold weather.

Howison said the administrators have every reason to believe the Commons will be "up and running" by the fall.

"The Commons is a fabulous building," Burish said. "It's elegant and it will have resources that this school has never had before in it—a piano in the lounge, a movie theatre, areas to plug up computers to the network, wonderful conference rooms,

offices for student organizations, food courts and an all-night coffee house."

Administrators continue to meet with faculty, board and student leaders to discuss other possible additions to the \$30 million building project.

Burish said he is looking to provide opportunities for all members of the W&L community to use the Commons. He wants law students to interact with undergraduate students and members of Greek organizations to interact with non-Greek students.

"We want to attract the Greek students too," Burish said. "It won't work if it doesn't attract all students."

As construction continues, Howison said the University officials should make a decision about the inclusion of a student bar in the next few months. He said if administrators decide against serving alcohol initially, it could always be added later.

"We are looking at this as an alternative to going downtown," Burish said.

ACT Against Violence is a joint project of the American Psychological Association and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

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Ad Council

"A PLUMBER, a POLICEMAN and a DOCTOR WALK INTO a BAR..."

But it wasn't a bar for long. The local Police Department shut down Swifty's Lounge for illegal drug activity. Instead of condemning the property, they contacted their local community coalition. The coalition brought in contractors who donated their time to renovate the building. And the doctor got his hospital to volunteer services for families that need drug counseling.

It's funny what happens when we all work together. Communities become a better place for everyone, especially our children. Community coalitions bring other community groups together. And getting involved is easy. Just contact www.helpyourcommunity.org or 1-877-4ADS-313. They'll tell you how your group can help. You'll be surprised how much you can accomplish.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

We owe much to Columbia crew

America is a nation of adventurers. Since our founding on the frontier of civilization, we have pressed westward, into the sky, the depths of the sea, and since 1961, into space. Every step in our journey of discovery and exploration has been fraught with risk, but courageous men and women have carried the torch of human endeavour despite the cost to themselves and their families.

The crew of the ill-fated Space Shuttle Columbia was no different. Commander Rick Husband left behind two children. Pilot William McCool's mother has asked that shuttle flights resume. Payload Commander Michael Anderson had given a signed picture of the crew to his former Sunday School teacher. Engineer Kalpana Chawla carried the dreams of India into space with her. Pilot David Brown took with him a flag from Arlington's Yorktown High School that had already been carried up Mt. Everest. Physician Dr. Laurel Clark's eight-year-old son, Lain, had worried about the dangers of space flight. Colonel Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli in space, had survived two wars and was the son of an Auschwitz survivor.

Since the Columbia first flew 22 years ago, shuttle flights had become routine and their safety assumed. Saturday's tragedy reminds us how dangerous space flight still is and how much superhuman courage and adventurism drives frontiersmen—even on the final frontier.

Following the 1986 Challenger explosion, President Reagan read "High Flight," a poem by John Gillespie Magee, Jr., an American who fought for the RAF during World War II and died in an training accident when only 19 years old. In tribute to the seven great astronauts who died in the service of mankind, we have printed it below.

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence, hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along,
And flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God*



HEROES. Columbia crew, I-r, front row, Rick Husband, Kalpana Chawla, William McCool, back row, David Brown, Laurel Clark, Michael Anderson and Ilan Ramon.

War hits home for Ramsey

Sister soon to join troops deployed to Persian Gulf, Bush still not proved necessity of war

Liberals have it hard these days. Charles Barron, a New York City Councilman, is on Fox's *Hannity & Colmes*. The current debate is on the speech made by former South African President Nelson Mandela which said the United States is the country in this world committing atrocities and called President Bush a racist. Barron was agreeing with all Mandela had to say, however the show's liberal commentator Alan Colmes could not agree.

Also, senators like Ted Kennedy speak out against the possibility of an attack on Iraq, after he slept through the President's State of the Union address on Tuesday. George Clooney is running his mouth. Seriously, what the hell does George Clooney know? About as much as Sean Penn.

The most positive piece of anti-war commentary out there these days are commercials from the Methodist Church, which happens to be the President's church. The ads are questioning the morality of a preemptive strike on the Iraqi nation.

However, none of these efforts put a real face on the issue. But for me, the possibility of war has suddenly become very personal.

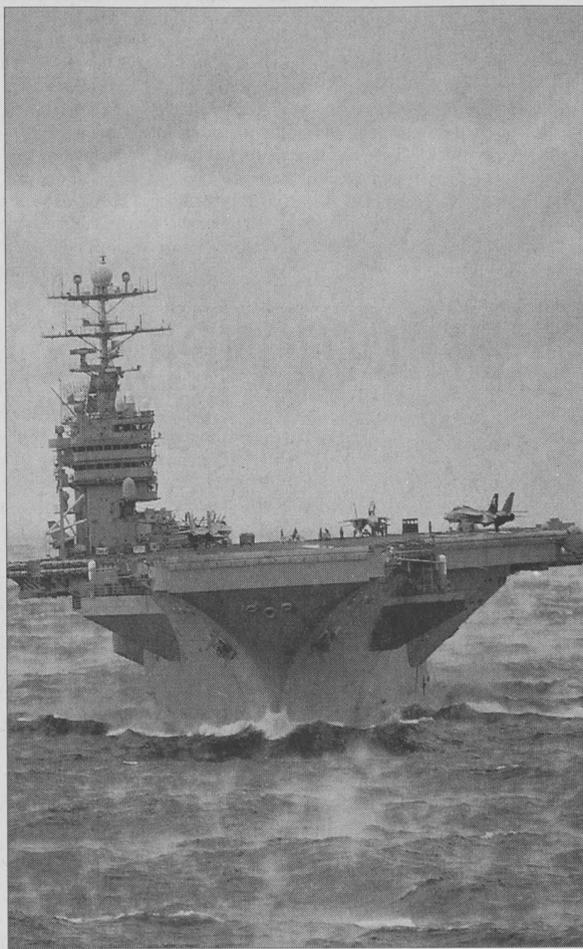
My sister is an Ensign in the United States Navy. She is a medical/surgical nurse stationed in San Diego, California, working in a hospital that receives soldiers from the largest Marine Corps base in the world, Camp Pendleton.

Over the past months, she has gone to work to be surprised at who was no longer there because they had been deployed. Typically, military deployment orders specify a length of six months. These days the duration is merely marked, "Indefinite."

Just a week ago, my sister's number came up. While the date of her departure is not yet known, her superiors told her to pack up and expect to be gone by mid-March at the latest. This news has sent a riff through our family and friends. My mother is constantly talking to other families who have loved ones involved in current operations for support. She has been reminded of my deceased grandfather who was a Marine veteran of the Second World War.

My father has been reminded of his time in the service. In fact, he was stationed in Okinawa, Japan when my sister was born. When he told his mother of the news about my sister, my grandmother was brought to tears.

My entire family has realized deployment was a possibility from the very beginning of my sister's military



FRONTLINE. Should war be declared against Iraq, Ensign Ramsey will join her fellow sailors, such as those aboard the USS George Washington, in the Persian Gulf.

career. The week my sister was fully commissioned as an officer was also the week of September 11, 2001. It was apparent from day one of her career that being a military officer means more than it had in decades.

So knowing all this, why am I still skeptical over this war? During the Cuban missile crisis, President Kennedy came to the American public with detailed information of the threat posed on the American people.

While Bush's State of the Union Address alluded to information that American intelligence has gathered about the threat of Iraq, I need more. I am extremely anxious to hear what Colin Powell has to say after meeting with the United Nations this Wednesday.

For Bush to win my support on a preemptive strike on any nation, I need to know exactly what the threat is. To legitimize the Commander in Chief's order that has uprooted my sister from her husband, her job, and her coun-

try and set her down in a war zone on the other side of the globe, I need to know that her presence there is the only way to solve the world's current problems. Every American deserves to know why their family and friends in our Armed Forces have been sent to fight a war. After all, this is our government.

Liberals calling for peace have been called un-American and unpatriotic. People say they do not support our military. Truly, nothing could be further from the truth.

I support the men and women who have sacrificed so much more than I ever could in the service of this country. However, there is nothing un-American about a healthy political discourse questioning our leaders who command our military. This type of democratic discourse is often the result of people like myself who have a personal interest in the safety of the American military. When I question war, my older sister is the first thing on my mind.

LEFT OF CENTER
NICK RAMSEY '03

Letters to the Editor

Ad could pose threat to students

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in regard to the ad soliciting phone books that you ran on page two of the January 27th edition. I am offended by your lack of respect for the personal privacy of every member of the W&L community.

Do you not recall the situation a couple of years ago when a registered sex offender living close to campus purchased an ad in a campus paper asking for phone books? I'll go ahead and blame you guys if there's an increase in telemarketers calling. Yes, I know that legally it's not an invasion of my privacy for you to be running an ad that will quite possibly lead to somebody I may or may not know selling another stranger my phone number. But that's just semantics, which I will not argue about.

I also know that, yes, my phone number is available on the school's website for anyone to see. But I think there's a bit of a difference here. And I know that you say that ads run in the paper do not reflect the opinions of the

paper or its staff. They do seem, however, to reflect your ability to make good choices.

Sincerely,
Glenn DeLaney '03

Editor's Note:

The Phi, too, is concerned about the possibility of deceptive advertisements. As such, we carefully investigate the source, authenticity and legitimate intentions of any advertisement we print.

MSA continues as campus punching bag

Dear Editor,

Every time I open up a campus paper there is yet another eyebrow-raising article about the Minority Student Association inside. In the most recent article ("Blacks rush, pledge," January 27) the MSA was accused of segregating minority students from Greek life at W&L.

That false accusation is just one of many problems. First of all, the title of the article was "Blacks rush,

Bush "dead on" taxes

I'm sure you've heard the saying "Born free, taxed to death." If only it were that simple. Unfortunately, in America, taxation doesn't end there. In our Brave New World, we tax the dead to pay those who don't work. Aldous Huxley would be proud.

Recently, Nobel-laureate Milton Friedman penned an op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal* in which he proclaimed support for President Bush's newest proposed tax cut, the centerpiece of which is a \$670 billion reduction in the tax shareholders pay on dividends.

Friedman claimed he supported the tax cut not because he agreed that taxing dividends twice is unfair (which it is), but because he supports any tax cut because decreased revenues should force a reduction in government spending.

Friedman's point provides a refreshing perspective. Too often, professional politicians turn economic questions—like ones of taxation—into political hot potatoes. Friedman and his fellow economists dismiss class-warfare demagoguery as rightly irrelevant: if tax cuts are an effective vehicle for getting the government out of our private lives, then, as Tom DeLay says, "(he's) never met a tax cut he didn't like."

The problem, of course, is that Democrats, who never met a government program they didn't like, rely on the revenue from taxes to fund spending programs that help their core constituents. The ironic reality is that they are applying a \$100 solution to a \$5 problem. If instead of funding out-of-work drug addicts and welfare queens in perpetuity the government cut off the money spigot and steered them to vocational training, the government's long-run costs would decrease and productivity would increase.

Of course, the Democrats will fight tooth and nail to avoid this; if the people who make up the Democrats' base stop depending on the windfall of federal dollars and start participating in the capitalist system, they might start voting Republican.

Are there other tax cuts that might make more sense than a dividend tax cut? Sure. To start, the government could make the FICA withholding tax fair. One of the most duplicitous government programs is the "split" of FICA withholding. Under the current system, an employee contributes 7.5% to FICA, while his employer "contributes" a matching 7.5%. In reality, however, the employer calculates his 7.5% contribution in his overall accounting for the cost of each employee. Thus, we are presented with the situation in which the employee is paying the full 15% (since the employer would be prepared to pay the employee an extra 7.5% if the tax was not in place). In essence, the government double-taxes employees by calling it an "employer contribution."

Though ameliorating that problem would top my personal "to-do" list, the Bush tax cut still endures as an important vehicle to realize the Friedman doctrine. Of course, there are two sides two this coin. The vision of government limited to only "needs" (as opposed to "wants") can only be realized if leaders possess the political courage to force government to live within its means. Politicians debating and horse-trading over a tax cut do no good if they spend an equal amount of time debating and horse-trading over a growth in spending for their favorite federal project.

Fortunately, not all branches of the federal bureaucracy share Congress's love of spending the people's money. In South Dakota v. Dole, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor famously wrote, "The immense size and power of the Government of the United States ought not obscure its fundamental character. It remains a Government of enumerated powers." Let's hope that wisdom can make the trek to Capitol Hill.

RIGHT ON!
JOHN H. HEATH '04

THE RING-TUM PHI

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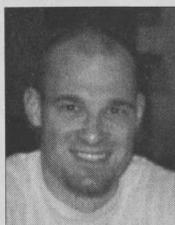
The Ring-tum Phi is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. The Washington and Lee Publications Board elects the Editor in chief, but The Ring-tum Phi is otherwise independent.

The Ring-tum Phi welcomes all responsible submissions and letters. All submissions must be e-mailed to phi@wlu.edu or in the University Center mailbox by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the following week's edition. The Ring-tum Phi reserves the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters and columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Ring-tum Phi Editorial Board. Advertising does not reflect the opinions of The Ring-tum Phi or its staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

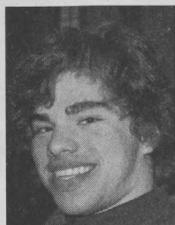
The Ring-tum Phi

Mailing Address: University Center
Washington and Lee University
Lexington, Virginia 24450
Street Address: 31 Washington Street
Lexington, Virginia 24450
Telephone: (540) 462-4060
Fax: (540) 462-4059
Email: phi@wlu.edu
http://phi.wlu.edu

TALKBACK: What beer do you want on tap in the Commons?



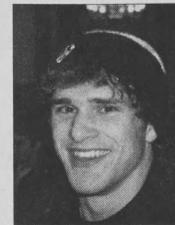
"3-2 beer. (so the freshmen can drink)"
-Chip Muir '03L



"Heineken."
-Perrin Monroe '06



"A Kamikaze machine."
-Tiffany Todd '06



"Corona."
-Kevin Pharris '06



"Guinness."
-John Gaffney '06

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 5

Bush delivers splendid SOTU

He spoke decisively, firmly, and with the confidence of a man who knows what he is doing. Our President, George W. Bush, addressed the nation last Tuesday with the air of a seasoned statesman—not quite the likes of Churchill but up there with Kennedy—and delivered to Americans a message of hope in a time of increasing uncertainty. He expressed faith in the view which most Americans fervently hope is true: that America is pursuing the best path for its future, and that of the world.

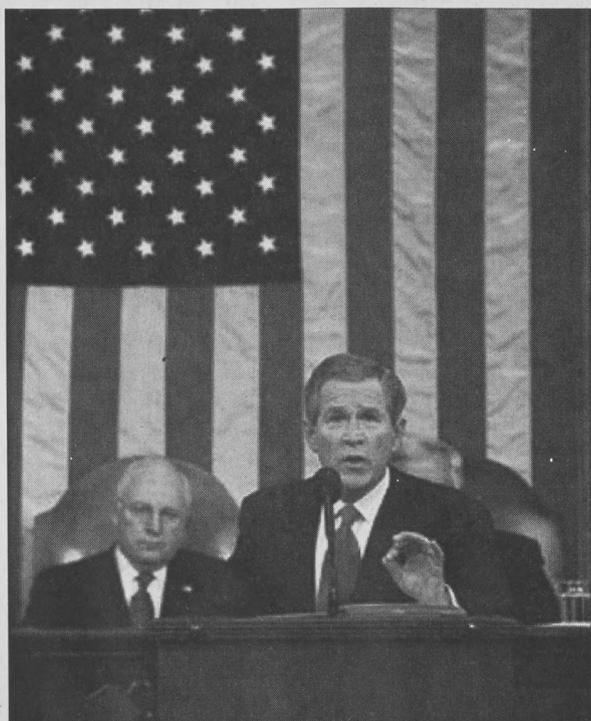
Contrary to what some had expected, he did not declare war on Iraq, or any other nation for that matter. In fact, although he did address our concerns abroad sensitively and persuasively, domestic issues dominated the first half of his speech, an appropriate dichotomy for a man who deals with things with such simplicity and rationality. On the domestic front, the President addressed the concerns of a broad range of Americans, reflecting his bipartisan sensibilities despite his firmly conservative principles.

The President spoke first and foremost about the economy. He pointed out that despite the “recession, terrorist attacks, corporate scandals, and stock market declines, our economy is recovering.” He noted, however, that it is not growing fast enough, either for him or for the average American. It is to the latter that he spoke directly, urging the formation of more small businesses. He demanded tax cuts because “the best and fairest way to make sure Americans have...money is not to tax it away in the first place.” All of the Republicans in the Congress stood to applaud the President, while nary a Democrat deigned to lift his well-padded rear, a fitting response for a Congress that in the aftermath of the 2002 election better reflects the true American demographic.

Most importantly on the economic front, the President spoke of fairness. Far from benefiting only the rich, he clearly displayed his concern for the average American. Aside from his tax cuts, he spoke of a budget that he will be sending to Congress that reflects only the most important priorities in America, one that increases at the rate the average family's income is expected to grow next year: four percent.

Speaking to those concerned about social security, healthcare, the environment, and social decay, the President proposed smart solutions. He reaffirmed his call for individual retirement accounts for younger workers to invest in, and denounced a nationalized health plan that would only deteriorate the quality of health care in the long-run. In its place, he sought Medicare reform with his election promise of prescription drug coverage, and, most appropriately, he called for the return of the health care system to those who know it best: doctors, nurses, and patients. He noted that “no one has ever been healed by a frivolous lawsuit.” Not surprisingly, the man who made his millions helping to inflate the costs of American medicine, former trial lawyer and 2004 Democratic presidential hopeful, Senator John Edwards, did not stand to applaud.

The President called for power plants that will be 70 percent cleaner within 15 years, and proposed an ini-



SERIOUS SOTU. President Bush gave a clear, determined and impassioned speech.

tiative to prevent devastating forest fires. For the truly environmentally neurotic, he called for the development—complete with \$1.2 billion in federal funding—of hydrogen-powered cars. To help heal America's less fortunate, he suggested an array of reforms, new programs, and over a billion dollars in direct funding for community-based programs. With the compassion of a man who himself has suffered from alcohol and drug addiction, he reminded us that “the miracle of recovery is possible.”

Less than a week after the 30th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the President affirmed the fundamental right to life that every human being enjoys. He called for the banning of the barbaric and unnecessary practice of partial-birth abortion, a measure President Clinton never had the guts to sign. He also urged a ban on all form of a human cloning in the spirit of respecting the sanctity of creation. Critically, he said that doing so would set a high standard for humanity, another sign of his leadership of America and the example it sets for the world.

In what might be the showcase of his compassionate agenda, the President announced his desire to have the Congress authorize \$15 billion in funding over the next five years, fully two-thirds of it new money, to help fight the global scourge of AIDS in the places where it hurts the most: Africa and the Caribbean. His proposal is unsurpassed in its scope by any other, and is a profound example of mercy mixed with common sense.

It is this theme of common sense that permeated the next half of the speech, dealing with the issues of international terrorism and other threats to the security of America, her friends, and her allies. He recommended almost \$6 billion in vaccines against lethal diseases like smallpox, and instructed the nation's intelligence agencies to merge their information and combine their efforts, a sign that he comprehends the dangers that face us daily.

He took the strongest stance possible on the issue of freedom haters, and he pointed out that in the last century, Hitlerism, militarism, and Communism were all defeated by those who love freedom, with the United States in the lead. He reported that the United States is working on common-sense arms control, and supported the people of Iran in their struggle against a tyrannical and oppressive theocratic regime. His solution to the North Korean problem is to lead by example along with South Korea, Japan, China, and Russia, showing the North Koreans that nuclear weapons can only have negative consequences. Let's see if their mad dictator listens.

Finally, and most importantly from a foreign affairs standpoint, the President made what will hopefully be his final case against Iraq before change for the good occurs. He made it very clear for all present that Iraq has produced weapons of mass destruction in the past, has continued to produce them in defiance of the United Nations, and has made little to no signs of destroying them or revealing them to the world. No doubt Saddam Hussein intends to reveal them, but not in quite the way one would want. Therefore, as the President so unmistakably put it, “If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm, for the safety of our people and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him.” In doing so, he satisfied the (mostly) Lefties who are hell-bent on having every nation in the world agree that action is necessary by promising to seek cooperation, all the while staying true to his principles by refusing to back down in the face of irrational opposition.

It was a masterful speech, one that reflected the transition President Bush has made from mediocre speaker to a near master of the genre. He seized the moment, and made his case for a better and more just America clearly, concisely, and calmly. Far from the nefarious cowboy the liberal press portrays him as, he showed that he is a balanced, capable, and competent leader who will bring us through this difficult time and deliver us to a better future.

LETTERS, FROM PAGE 4

white students or the international students who chose not to participate in the rush activities or choose not to join a fraternity or sorority? It is as if the black students cannot be independent for the same reasons other students choose to be independent. Some students just do not have an interest in the Greek life system as a whole, regardless of their race and it is wrong to say that black students have a closed mind (especially if you have never asked a black student) about fraternities and sororities just because they opt not to join one.

My suggestion to Regan and anyone else who decides to relieve some of their daily stress by taking a punch at the MSA is to get the facts. For example, although all of the black students who rushed did join a fraternity or sorority, not all of the minority students who rushed decided to join. If you are truly concerned about integrating black students into the W&L social scene it would be advantageous for you to interact with some—especially before writing an article about them. Lastly, to the cornucopia of writers who target the MSA in the campus papers, I would occasionally like to see a legitimate quote from a member of the MSA or your notes from the latest MSA meeting in your article because it is just bad journalism to write on something to which you have no accurate knowledge.

Sincerely,
Kristin Evans '06

Pre-Roe v. Wade, women not supported

Dear Editor,

I have never been confronted with the decision to have an abortion. I have never, to tell the truth, been pregnant. And I don't know what that decision would be if I had to make it. I'd like to think that I would not feel as if abortion had to be considered as one of my options. Because, honestly, abortion is killing a living creature. Specifically, a child. However, I disagree with some of Brett Kirwan's article (“Abortion kills children,” January 27).

He stated that before abortion, accidental pregnancies were supported by family and friends. Unfortunately, I don't think that was any more true then than it is now. It was still considered an embarrassment, or a monumental and nearly irreversible mistake, leading to illegal or self-induced abortions which in turn often led to health difficulties and even death.

I would agree with Patricia Heaton in her statement that abortion is a sign that we have failed women. Rather than targeting abortion, or the legalization of such, as the main cause and failing, perhaps we should see it as just one of the symptoms. Many, although I'm sure not all, people who have abortions feel that they have no alternative. Shouldn't there be more pressure on education and options? Not everyone has the access to money that makes it possible to provide for a child. Girls may feel that they can't even admit to being pregnant, to say nothing of having a child. For some, abortion may not be the easy way out, but the only way out. And that is what needs to be changed.

Sincerely,
Mathilde Hungerford '06

Bible condemns homosexuality

Dear Editor,

Nick Ramsey (“Safe Place follows tradition of W&L,” January 27) makes a poor argument regarding the meaning of “know” in Genesis 19:5. Besides the KJV, there are five other translations of the Bible that explicitly link “know” with a sexual act: “have sex with” (NIV), “have relations with” (with a note, “i.e., have intercourse,” NASB), “be intimate with” (AMP), “have sex with” (NLT) and “have sex with” (CEV). While homosexuality need not have been “the sin” of Sodom, it is clear from context that “know” is not meant merely as a desire to meet.

A better argument from the Old Testament against homosexuality is from Leviticus 18:22, “You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination” (NASB).

In the New Testament, Jesus may not specifically address homosexuality, but most Christians also accept the authority of the Paulian Epistles.

In I Corinthians 6:9-10, Paul writes, “Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God.”

Regardless of the validity of Keeling's feelings toward Safe Place, his opinion of homosexuality is valid within a biblical Christian tradition.

Sincerely,
Kyle Sulli '06

Ramsey responds:

When I referred to translations of the word “know” in the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, I was referring to the original Hebrew text, not the multiple English translations you referred to. There are five different Hebrew words meaning “to know.” The one that refers to carnal knowledge is not the one used in the original Hebrew version of the story.

Passages in the Bible have been used to legitimize slavery, segregation, apartheid, and the subordination of women; not everyone interprets it correctly. Christ taught love and acceptance. This is something that needs no interpretation.

Safe Place is on the web

Dear Editor,

Regarding the recent editorials in the *Phi* (Nick Ramsey, “Safe Place follows tradition of W&L,” January 27), on Safe Place, I thought you might be interested to know that there is a Web site for the program: <http://multicultural.wlu.edu/safeplace/>.

Contrary to covering up its existence, the administration hopes that this site will help people learn more about the program. It also offers downloadable Safe Place symbols for people to print out and post.

The link to the site can be found on the Campus Life section of the W&L gateway page.

Sincerely,
Jessica Carter
Web Writer and Editor for External Relations

Abortion better off legal

Dear Editor,

I was very disturbed to read the articles entitled “Abortion Kills Children” and “Pro-lifers look to save Constitution” in last week's *Phi*. First off, I am pro-choice not pro-abortion. I am not of the mindset that all children should be aborted, which is what being pro-abortion would imply. I am pro-choice, meaning, I fully support a woman's right to choose what she wants to do concerning her body.

A common misconception is that with the ruling on Roe vs. Wade the practice of abortion began. In medieval times, midwives and doctors used herbs such as Queen Anne's lace, rue, and iris that would terminate unwanted pregnancies. Long before it was legal, women were seeking out unlicensed doctors to perform these illegal acts. While your descriptions of the procedures by which an abortion is obtained are gruesome, at least they are done in safe, sterile environments by doctors who are medically trained to perform such procedures, thereby inflicting the least amount of long term damage on the mother.

As for children being “a gift from God,” last time I hecked a fetus developed after a sperm fertilized an egg, not when God deemed a female worthy of Her gifts. Let's not kid ourselves, “God” has nothing to do with the sexual union of a horny guy and girl.

It is easy for you to sit there in judgment of a situation that you can never find yourself in using God as your justification. Fortunately, at least for now, the Supreme Court provides my justification. When it comes down to it, a woman's body is her business. Abortion is legal. Deal with it.

Sincerely,
Rian Lewis '05

Ramsey right on Safe Place

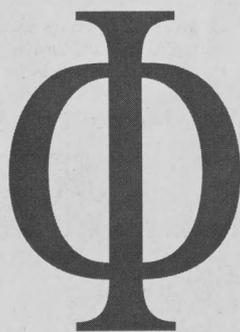
Dear Editor,

Kudos to Nick Ramsey for having the balls to submit his opinion (“Safe Place follows tradition of W&L,” January 27) regarding Keeling's “concern” for the Safe Place here at Washington and Lee. Safe Place is a remarkable step forward for this otherwise conservative institution. It illustrates that the administration acknowledges that there are indeed students who lead alternate lifestyles on campus and it is actually doing something to make their time here as comfortable as possible, to include them into the body of the school, to offer them support.

I applaud the administration, faculty, and students who have fought to have the Safe Place remain at this fine institution. And I take my hat off to Ramsey for expressing his opinion and pointing out some very relevant facts in this regard. Our generation can not simply sit back and be complacent. We need to move forward so that we are not left behind. And so too do you, Mr. Keeling.

Sincerely,
Ethan Jameson '06

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for 106 years.



J. Samuel Slicer 1898L, FOUNDER

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Stickeri-bum!
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From Lexington!

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2 bedroom apartment for rent in Lexington for next school year for \$550.00 per month. Living room/kitchen and 1 bath. Low cost central heat and air conditioning. Owner pays for water & sewer. Common area washer & dryer. Call Realtor Joe Vita at Vita & Associates, Inc. at 463-9551 for details.

WANTED: Summer Scholars Counselors
June 25 - July 26, 2003

Are you looking for a great chance to be a mentor and to experience working with high school students while staying at W&L for the month of July? The Washington and Lee Summer Scholars Program is an exciting four week academic program for approximately 150 rising high school seniors. We are looking for responsible students to help guide participants and to plan extracurricular activities such as talent shows, lip synchs, weekend hikes, trips to Goshen and more.

For information about the position please contact Dr. Mimi Milner Elrod at 458-8727. You may pick up an application from Jennifer Lotts (458-8722) in the Summer Scholars Office located in the Hill House. The deadline for turning in applications is February 28, 2003.

Stonewall Jackson House proves deserving of student attention,

BY HAYNES KING
TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

You have probably passed our next travel attraction a hundred times while walking to and from Davidson Park, but W&L students often overlook one of the most important historical aspects of Lexington. The Stonewall Jackson house is located on Washington Street just up from the Visitor's Center, and if you have not visited, you're definitely missing out on an important piece of local history and culture.

Although it is not nearly so spectacular a residence as Jefferson's own creation and home, Monticello, this three-story brick house is the only home that Jackson ever owned. After he graduated from West Point Military Academy and served in the Mexican War, Jackson moved here to Lexington, Virginia to teach at VMI. With his second wife, he purchased this residence. I'm no expert on Jackson's life or military history, but the house and tour present a wonderful representation of Jackson's life prior to serving in the Confederate Army.

He left this home to gain his stature as a great general in the beginning of the war. Jackson was mortally wounded by friendly fire when one of his men fired and did not see Jackson ahead of him, accidentally killing one of the South's greatest generals.

Not only does admission to the house include a guided tour, but it also presents to the visitors a seasonally changing feature topic downstairs. At the time that I toured the house, the attraction discussed the different uniforms of General Jackson. However, by the end of February, the house will feature the original quilts of the Jackson house.

If you are planning on staying here in the Lexington area during the summer, the Jackson house hires students to help give tours during the peak summer tourist hours of the week and weekend. The staff is extremely friendly and enthusiastic, and they obviously enjoy what they do. Unfortunately, they are quite disappointed in the small number of both W&L and VMI students that visit the house, and hope more will not pass up the opportunity to tour this historical spot. To go to school here for four years and never visit the house would be a disappointment, and you would be missing out on one of the treasures of Historic Lexington. Jeb and I give the Stonewall Jackson House, its tour and the nearby cemetery in which Jackson is buried (definitely worth a trip down Main Street) four out of five tridents.

Haynes & Jeb give Stonewall Jackson House 4 of 5 Tridents.



Next week, Haynes and Jeb will leave Lexington to see some of the sights of the surrounding area.



Jeb Brooks/The Ring-Tum Phi

AN AMERICAN ICON: Stonewall Jackson House is located on Washington Street in downtown Lexington. Jackson is one of the most acclaimed figures on the campus of our illustrious next-door neighbor, the Virginia Military Institute, where he served as a professor. The house is a historical gem and is often, unfortunately, overlooked by students from both campuses here in Lexington. It does, however, attract numerous tourists and historical buffs each year in search of American cultural enrichment.

Hall divided cannot stand

Every September, incoming freshmen arrive on that first day of orientation week, excited about the new experiences facing them. Over the course of that first week, freshmen go to meals, meetings, and parties with their new good friends - their hallmates. Hall bonding is inevitable; whether it's with a roommate or someone two doors down, you are bound to develop a friendship, simply by living with people in close contact.

So for that entire first term, though you will certainly make new friends in class, on sports teams or at parties, you are closest to the people on your hall.

Then comes Christmas Break. Then comes Rush Week. And as I've written in my previous articles, Rush Week changes everything. For those who join Greek organizations, Rush Week creates an entirely new group for you to spend time with: your pledge brothers and sisters. Part of the idea behind pledgship is to foster a bond between the new pledge classes - thus, many fraternities require their pledges to at least eat together or walk with each other on the Hill. These intentions are good, but with all the time pledges spend doing frat stuff, some personal relationships are bound to suffer. Hall friendships are often the first to go.

There is no way to pinpoint exactly why these friendships fade. The most practical reason is this previously mentioned problem of time. It's tough to hang out with your hallmates if you spend all your time with your pledge class and new fraternity brothers. But what if we ignore the time issue completely? There might be other less obvious reasons for the demise of hall friendships.

Stereotypes are almost certainly involved. Thankfully, the social

elitism that has characterized the Greek system in the past is noticeably fading away, but fraternity and sorority stereotypes are still strong enough to affect our perceptions. Think about it - when you identify an individual at this school, that person's Greek status is an inseparable part of their identification.

Here's an example: "Who's Kerry Kellogg? I hear he's the coolest!"... "Oh, he's a junior PiKA." Sometimes it seems like we are identified by our Greek status first, and then by our personality second. If this is the case, then how could joining a house not affect someone's perceptions? After Rush Week, every thing starts over again. All relationships continue or cease with the knowledge that you are a new member of X fraternity or sorority. Ideally, people would never be that shallow, but hey, this is Washington & Lee ("we're not snobs, we're just better than you!").

Of course, not all halls are completely fragmented. Often, entire sections of a hall go to one house - these friends remain tight, but are isolated in their own little bubble within the dorm. Then there is the natural guy versus girl comparison - both genders suffer from hall fragmentation, but guys are usually content to let it happen

without a second thought. Girls usually place more importance in their previous friendships. That's just because they're girls I guess.

During my first week at W&L, I went to parties with Mike Denbow, Luke Williams, and David Bode. Along with Andrew Bahl, Davis Rust, & Chris Stanek, we represented the Gilliam Dungeon as perhaps the most random group of people ever. The term went on and everyone inevitably followed his own interests. I, of course, was an intense Scrabble lover; Denbow and Bode did basketball; Stainer and Rust did LAX stuff I guess; Bahl had football, and Luke did whatever it was that Luke liked to do (no one really cared to ask too much...). By the end of Rush Week, we had a Lambda Chi, a KA, three Phi Kaps, one Sig Ep and one SAE.

THERE IS NO WAY TO PINPOINT EXACTLY WHY THESE FRIENDSHIPS FADE. THE MOST PRACTICAL REASON IS THE PROBLEM OF TIME. BUT WHAT IF WE IGNORE THE TIME ISSUE COMPLETELY? THERE MIGHT BE OTHER LESS OBVIOUS REASONS FOR THE DEMISE OF HALL FRIENDSHIPS.

Then, of course, everything changed. Denbow is still the man. Luke always cracks me up in the Coop, and now

he's re-enrolled, thank goodness. I'll see the other 5 guys around on the Hill, exchange greetings, but that's about it. The memories are still fresh. Davis and the fire extinguisher. Luke and his waxed dreadlocks and the dollar bills left in my fridge. Denbow getting his minutes. And just Bahl being himself. The Gilliam Dungeon was the place to be, without a doubt. But after pledgship began, the hall became secondary to our new lives as pledges. And in the spirit of Vonnegut coming to Lex Vegas....so it goes.

Film Society plans winter cinematic selections

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee Film Society will present the quirky and comic "Punch-Drunk Love" (USA, 2002), directed by Paul Thomas Anderson.

Screenings will be on Friday and Saturday, February 7 and 8, at 7:30 PM in the Troubadour Cinema. There is no charge for admission, although contributions are welcome. This film is in English and is rated "R" for very strong language.

Adam Sandler for Valentine's Day? Officially billed as a romantic comedy, this film might be less complex than Anderson's previous Boogie Nights and Magnolia, yet it still reflects the filmmaker's creativity and love of the medium. Sandler retains some of his angry-young-doofus persona, but here his love affair with Lena (played by the luminous Emily Watson) is perfectly believable and even charming.

A.O. Scott wrote in the New York Times that "No

mere plot summary can do justice to the wild, sweet pleasures of Punch-Drunk Love...poetry is perhaps the best way to think about Mr. Anderson's suave, exuberant balance of free-form inspiration and formal control. In this, his fourth feature, he is still very much a movie-mad adolescent, sprinkling his work with gleeful allusions and playful rip-offs of whatever strikes his fancy."

The Film Society has also released a list of the films to be shown for the remainder of Winter Term. All of these movies will be shown at the Troubadour Cinema and, as always, are free of charge. On February 28 and March 1, the 2000 South Korean film "Chunhyang", which was directed by Kwon-taek Im, will be shown. On March 14 and 15, the 2002 US film "Bowling for Columbine" directed by Michael Moore will be presented. On March 21 and 22, the 2002 US film "Frida", directed by Julie Taymor, will be shown. All of these films are rated "R".

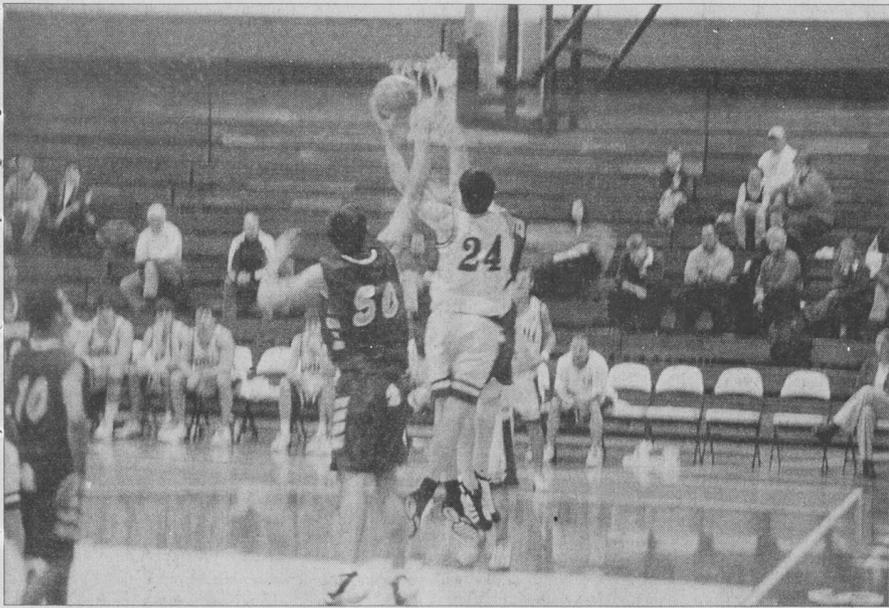
OH THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL



Jeb Brooks/The Ring-Tum Phi

RUNNING BUDDIES: The cold and blustery weather does not deter Professor Holt Merchant and Dean David Howison from running around Washington and Lee's track together each afternoon.

Generals rack up two more losses



CODY GABBARD / The Ring-tum Phi

HOOP. Senior captain Steve Hostetter goes up for a layup against Bridgewater during last Wednesday's home game.

BY ALLISON PERRY
SPORTS WRITER

The Washington and Lee men's basketball team added two more losses to their record this week in close games. The Generals fell to McDaniel, 66-69, on Tuesday and to Bridgewater, 64-66 on Wednesday.

McDaniel guard Bryant Dull helped to pull out the win with a shot from three-point range with 11 seconds left.

The Generals were leading at the half, 42-37, with 58.3 percent shooting, but dropped to 28.6 percent in the second half.

Senior captain Scott Hettermann posted a season and game high of 23 points and led W&L with 10 rebounds.

Junior captain Michael Denbow scored a career-high 13 points.

The Generals' 23 turnovers were a problem, overshadowing their 40-28 lead in rebounds. The non-conference loss dropped W&L in overall standings to 5-11.

The Bridgewater Eagles handed W&L another ODAC loss Wednesday night in Warner Center. With 1.9 seconds left to go in the game, sopho-

more guard Ricky Easterling sank two free throws.

The Eagles opened a 29-23 lead going into the half, but the Generals mounted a comeback late in the second half. Denbow tied the game up with a lay-up after making a steal at 0:34 left in the game. He snagged a total of five steals in the game.

"I thought our inside game struggled a little bit, and that was because David Will had been coming off a sickness," Denbow said. "Overall it was a fine game. They made shots. We made shots, and they just made two more free throws in the end."

W&L sophomore guard Ian McClure led the team with 18 points by hitting 6-of-9 from behind the three-point arc.

Junior forward Hamill Jones added 13 points, and sophomore guard Mike Stuart totaled 10 points.

The Generals cut down on turnovers with a season-low of twelve for the night. The team has also been working on shooting.

"We've been in lots of games this year, and we go flat a little bit offensively," W&L head coach Jeff Lafave said. "Just getting extra shots, that's probably what we've been trying to work on the most."

Denbow attributed some of the strengths for the team to the crowd in

Wednesday night's close game.

"The number one thing was that the crowd was awesome," Denbow said. "It was the best crowd I've ever played for here at W&L."

Bridgewater has now won five straight games over W&L. The win puts the Eagles at 11-6 overall, 5-5 in the ODAC.

The Generals hope to snap the losing streak with the Eagles when they meet them again on Feb. 18.

W&L lost 57-47 on the road Saturday when they played in Roanoke. The Generals lost to the Maroons 53-65 at home on Jan. 11.

Lafave had several things for the team to work on in preparation for Saturday's game with Roanoke.

"They're a very big team, so we've got to try to rebound better than we did the first game," Lafave said. "We've got to try to rebound the ball and get back in transition defense. Those are the things that we've always had to do against Roanoke."

The Generals are now 11-8 overall and 8-4 in the ODAC. They play Emory and Henry on Wednesday to try and break their seven game losing streak. The conference match-up will be at 7:00 p.m. in Emory.

Women's basketball falls to EMU, Roanoke

BY JOHN HYLAND
SPORTS WRITER

The Washington and Lee women's basketball team lost 61-46 to ODAC foe Eastern Mennonite last Tuesday night at home. The loss dropped the Generals' record to 2-13, 2-11 ODAC while the win improved Eastern Mennonite's record to 13-4, 8-4 ODAC. This game, however, was closer than the score indicated.

It was the second time the two teams had squared off this season. The first meeting ending in a 69-47 Eastern Mennonite victory.

This time, Generals led the Royals 21-20 at the half, in a period that featured tenacious, physical defense from both teams with neither team shooting above 30% from the floor.

Freshman guard Louisa Feve spurred on the Generals, scoring 7 of her 9 points towards the end of the first half.

The Generals were only out-rebounded 37-36 despite facing an Eastern Mennonite team that held a significant size advantage. At times EMU was able to boast a front line consisting of three players over 6 feet.

The Generals' ability to stay competitive on the boards could be largely attributed to their hustle and the play of senior center and Co-cap-

tain Austin Calhoun, who, despite standing only 5-11, managed to grab 11 rebounds. The turnover battle was also close, with each team committing 17.

The Royals, however, opened the second half on a 19-8 run and the Generals were never able to recover. To make matters worse, senior forward and Co-captain Elizabeth Igo left the game with a left knee injury during the run at the 11:38 mark and did not return.

She remains sidelined indefinitely. Igo finished the game with 6 points and 3 rebounds.

The Royals' depth was the difference in the second half. 11 players saw action for the Royals while only 7 players for W&L saw significant playing time. This advantage enabled the Royals to implement a full court press early in the second half that confounded the Generals, leading to a number of easy baskets for the Royals.

The Royals shot 54% from the floor in the second half and 42% for the game. A number of those easy baskets were scored by freshman guard Stephanie Matthews who finished the game with 18 points on 8 of 13 shooting.

The Generals, on the other hand, not only struggled with the

press but also with the strong zone defense utilized by the Royals.

The Generals, however, shot only 27% from the floor, including just 17% from 3-point range. Nevertheless, strong efforts for the Generals came from sophomore guard Bethany Dannelly who finished the game with 12 points, 7 rebounds and 2 assists and junior forward Sarah Michaels who contributed 10 points, 4 rebounds and 4 steals.

On Friday night, the Generals played another conference opponent, Roanoke College, on the road. The Generals played a tight first half, trailing only 25-22 at halftime.

Once again, however, the Generals fell victim to a deeper team and allowed the Maroons to reel off a 20-0 run to begin the second half and cruise to a 67-49 victory. The Generals committed 25 turnovers for the game and allowed Roanoke to shoot 50% from the floor in the second half.

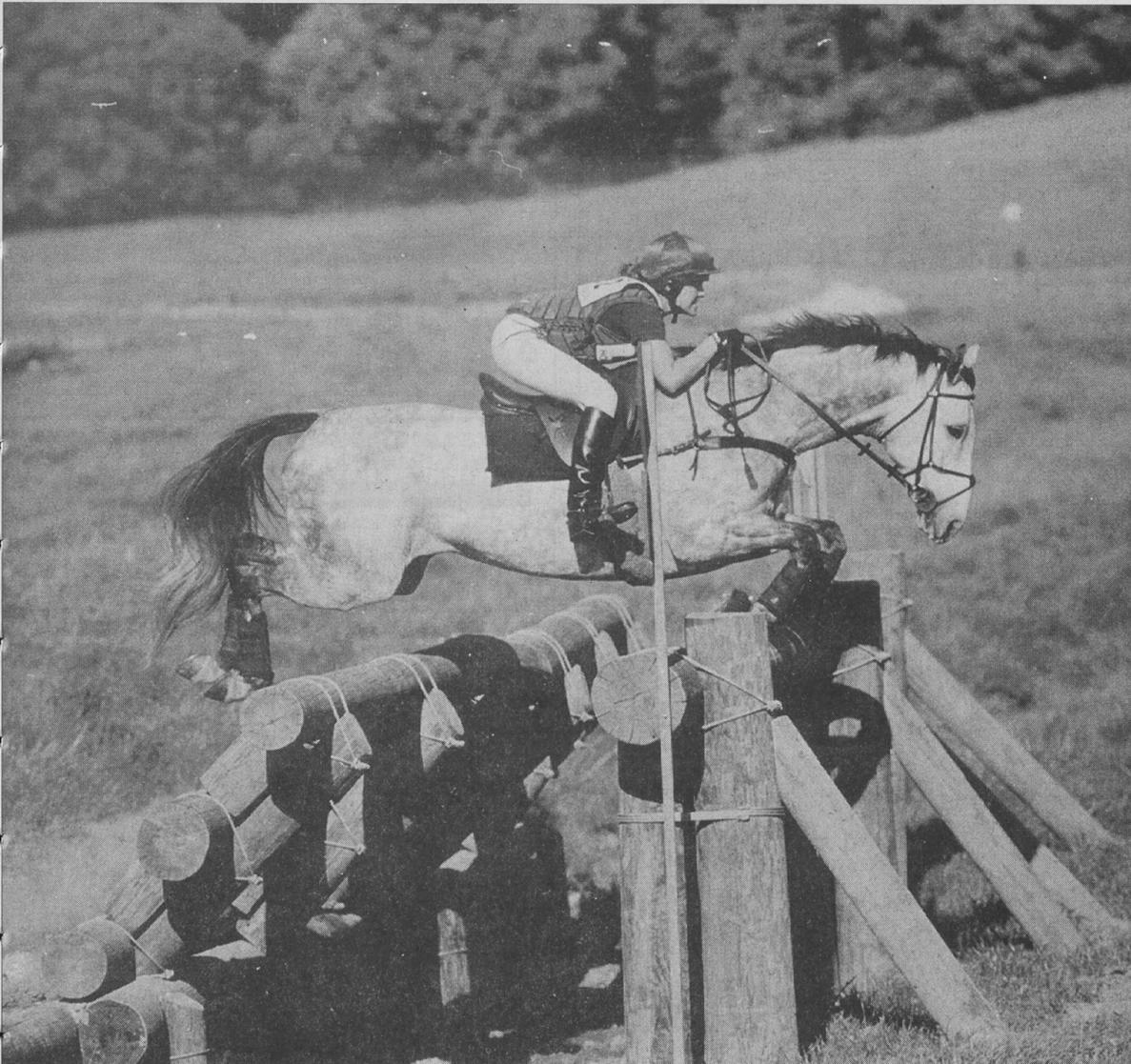
The Generals were led by the tandem of Dannelly and Michaels. Dannelly contributed 14 points, 4 rebounds and 4 assists while Michaels scored a team high 16 points and added 8 rebounds.

W&L next faces ODAC basement dweller Randolph-Macon Women's College at home on Wednesday, Feb. 5; game time is scheduled for 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL PROMOTIONS

Attend the women's basketball game vs. Guilford on Fri., Feb. 7 at 7:00 pm and enter a free drawing for two tickets to Fancy Dress or attend the men's basketball game vs. Hampden-Sydney on Sat., Feb. 8 at 3:00 pm which is to be broadcast on WDRL-TV in Roanoke. Enter a free drawing to win two tickets to Fancy Dress, dinner for two at a Lexington restaurant or free books for the spring term compliments of the athletic department.

W&L Equestrian Symansky named to national riding team



COURTESY LYNN SYMANSKY

Now named to the W&L student Lynn Symansky jumps her horse No It Tissant during a show. Symansky and her horse will be travelling all spring to train with the national team.

BY ERIN JULIUS
SPORTS EDITOR

Washington and Lee sophomore Lynn Symansky was named as an alternate to the United States Equestrian Team's 2003 Winter Eventing Training list on Jan. 17.

Symansky will be training with three of Equestrian's most successful trainers: Capt. Mark Phillips, Sandy Phillips and George Morris. Eighteen people were chosen to be on the team.

Symansky will be working with the trainers prior to the spring competition season. By Washington and Lee's Spring break, Symansky will be through with the training and ready for competitions.

Equestrian competitions are comprised of three days of events: dressage, cross-country and show-jumping.

The dressage event is meant to show the horse's training by demonstrating its precision, smoothness, suppleness and obedience.

Cross-country is designed to demonstrate the horse's endurance and excellent physical condition.

The show-jumping event takes place in a jumping arena and tests the stamina and recovery off the horse after the first two grueling days of competition.

The US Equestrian team includes both men and women, most of whom are professional riders.

"Everyone else doing this is professional and it's men and women," said Symansky, "they don't go to school...I'm competing against 40-year old men, which makes it different from other sports."

Symansky will be splitting her time between W&L and Southern Pines, North Carolina, where she is training through March.

"My teachers and the faculty have been really accommodating, but it's been tough," she said, "I get up at 6 and am at the barn until 8 in the evening, then I go back to the hotel to do work until I pass out."

Though balancing school and riding is difficult, Symansky doesn't plan to take any time away from her education, "I thought about taking a year off, but I really wanted to come here and I was afraid that if I took time off I wouldn't have the drive to finish my education," she said.

Symansky will be training with the same level last fall," and managed to keep up with her school work.

Symansky hasn't decided what she will do after school. She may ride professionally, but, "you can't rely on riding if you're not sponsored and have a bunch of horses—if your horse gets hurt, you're out." Symansky is majoring in business in order to leave her options open.

Symansky and her horse, No It Tissant, will be judged in competitions throughout the Spring and in selection trials at the end of the spring season. Around the barn, No It Tissant is known as Fergus.

Symansky has a chance of earning a place in the World Equestrian Games in the fall.

"The World Equestrian Games are really more important than the Olympics within the sport," she said.

Next spring, Symansky will be going through selection trials that may land her a spot on the 2004 Olympic Equestrian team.

Symansky, who is from Vienna, Virginia, has been riding since she was 4 and participating in low-level competition since she was 5.

"I started because my parents had horses...basically, I was born into it," she said.

"I've been competing at this level since I was a junior in high school," she said.

The three most important competitions that Symansky will be competing in this spring are at Morven Park in Leesburg, Virginia, Southern Pines in North Carolina and Pine Top in Georgia.

