

Special: APRIL FOOLS DAY ISSUE

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE PHI-TUM RING

VOLUME CV, No. XXV
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2003

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YOUNG DEFEATS BURISH

'Bionic' surgery successful at Stonewall J

BY ALICE STEINBACH-KIRWAN
ASSISTANT OPINIONS EDITOR

Fearing reprisals for his unpopular abolishment of Spring Term, University President Tom Burish recently underwent an experimental procedure to dramatically alter his physique. "Behold the Overman," Burish intoned at yesterday's press conference, his bass voice now six octaves deeper than the previous mezzo-soprano.

Burish currently stands nine feet four inches tall, with two additional arms and an extra head. He weighs 667 pounds, which, he assured reporters, "was all beefcake."

"Sure, I tried Creatine, Pilates, Power-Yoga, but nothing seemed to work," Burish said. "I didn't have the muscle mass to be an effective president. It was embarrassing at faculty meetings when (University Provost) Larry (Boetsch) had to put me on his shoulders so everyone could see me."

Prior to his operation, Burish stood five feet seven inches and weighed in at 120 pounds.

The surgery, the first of its kind, was performed in the Advanced Experimental Ward of Stonewall Jackson Hospital.

"Most people don't realize how advanced Stonewall Jackson really is," said University Physician Jane Horton.

The surgery, while partially successful, did not fulfill all of Washington Hall's expectations: Burish remains unable to fly, shoot eye-lasers or deliver compelling speeches.

"All the same, it's amazing what was accomplished," said Horton, who supervised the procedure.

"We harvested body parts from Larry Boetsch, (Dean of Students) David Howison, (Dean of the College) Tom Williams and (Philosophy Professor) Eduardo Velasquez. Though their deaths were regrettable, the whole is certainly greater than the sum of its parts," Horton said.

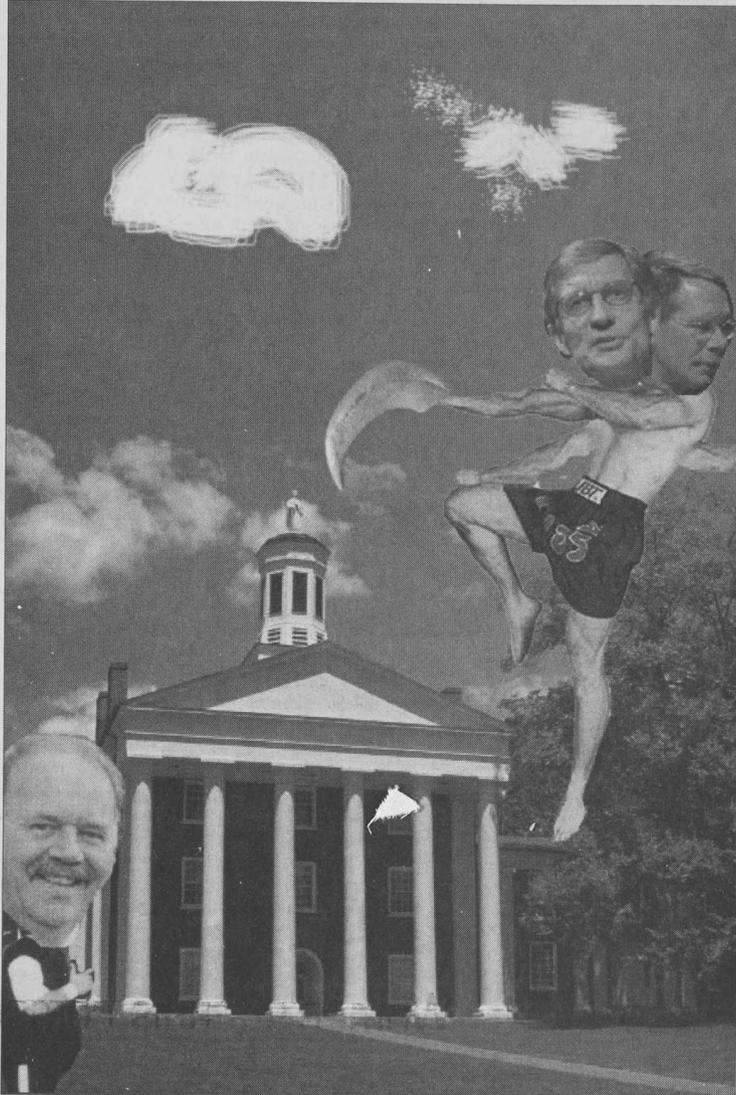
Of special interest is Boetsch's head, which helps coordinate the movements of Burish's five-foot legs. In case of damage to the primary cranium, Boetsch's head can assume temporary control of the body.

"I applaud President Burish's bold move," said Boetsch's head. "He is truly an inspired leader who will lead W&L to move to the next level."

"Very little can stop Me now," Burish agreed, extending adamantine claws through his right hand. "The Board, Faculty, the Student Body—all will cower before My wrath."

Burish's surprising move has caught opponents unprepared. Already many Lexington locals have taken to worshipping Burish as a god, leaving burnt offerings at the Lee House residence.

Burish appears pleased with recent developments. "My will be done," he said.



AMAZING BUT TRUE. In an amazing display on the Front Lawn this weekend, Young's troops captured the recently-refigured Burish and are allegedly forcing him to cage-dance in the Mason-New Room.

Young overthrows 'Bionic' Burish; names himself president-for-life

BY MATTIE BUTLER-SWORDS
EDITOR IN BETROTHAL

In a morning coup d'etat, Mike Young, former director of University Security, overthrew former-President Tom Burish and appointed himself "president-for-life."

Young, who also awarded himself the Rectorship of the Board of Trustees, the Alumnus of the Year Award (First Class) and the rank of Field-Marshal of the Rockbridge County Sheriff's office, addressed crowds on the Washington Hall balcony.

"Washington and Lee was a festering heap of decadence, falling five places in the U.S. News and World Reports rankings in six years," Young said. "I rechristen this place the 'Young World University,' which will regain its former greatness through the sheer force of one man's iron will."

Duke-Colonel Steve Tomlinson, formerly assistant director of University Security, claims that Youngist forces control nearly all of the University grounds.

"There are still a few reactionaries sending sporadic fire from out of the Physical Plant building," Tomlinson said. "The napalm drops in two hours."

Young seized power after building a coalition between his elite W&L security officers and the VMI cadet corps, which swore allegiance to him after being promised the inhabitants of two of W&L's five sororities.

Though many were surprised at the palace coup's speed, others claim to have regularly monitored his weapons build-up.

"We've been aware for years that Mike (Young) has been creating poison gas," said Debra Kling, secretary in the Treasurer's Office. "Anyone

who's sat near him during one of his Co-op lunches can tell you that."

Burish, easily captured during his usual morning run, is believed to be a cage-dancer in the Mason New Room, now renamed "The President-for-Life's Palace of Pain and Pleasure."

"No more dancing," the former president begged. "Please, no more dancing."

Burish has fared better than many in his inner circle, many of whose skulls now form a commemorative pyramid in front of Young Chapel. Others have been consigned to harsh labor, supplementing the building crews already at work on the new Young Commons for the Harmonious Rheedation of the Students.

Lexington, an economic dependent of W&L, has already pledged loyalty, renaming all of its streets after Young, his hunting dogs and his favorite NASCAR racers.

Former Mayor Clemp Dudley has been replaced by Cletus Dudley, a member of the Youngist Party.

"Finally, I can shoot parking violators on sight," said Marquis-Lieutenant Thomas 'Baner' Bane," formerly a Security Office sergeant. "Verily, a great and glorious day has arisen."

Yellowbrick Road, a neighboring pre-school, has formed Lexington's first Young-Youth group, which marches in uniform, chanting pro-Young slogans.

Despite these developments, confidants of the new president-for-life are preparing for insurgency.

Fearing possible assassination attempts from Burish-loyalists, Young has ordered the creation of body-doubles. Master of the Presidential Kitchens Alexandre da Silva has been overseeing the candidates' force-feeding and scalp-waxing.

W&L renamed Washington and Grant

BY LUCIUS JUNIUS DESHA
BUSINESS MANAGER

In a historic moment in Washington and Lee University history, President Tom Burish announced today that effective immediately, he has renamed the school Washington and Grant University. Said Burish, "In light of the changes we seek to accomplish at W&L... I mean, W&G, it presents a far more appropriate and politically correct image to the outside world. Besides, it's been over 125 years since we last changed our name; it's time to shake things up."

This shocking announcement comes hard on the heels of another surprise recently sprung on the University community, that Spring Term will be eliminated effective as of the 2003-2004 academic year. Student outrage to the proposal was so vociferous that yells of protest outside Washington Hall could be heard as far away as Wal-Mart, where students held a similar protest. This protest was an attempt to appeal to the greater Lexington population to somehow intervene.

Burish explained, "This move should not come as a surprise to any-

one. It is a natural progression for this great institution. When I said in my inaugural speech that the only thing I would not consider changing was the Honor System, I wasn't kidding."

Student response has yet to be gauged, as Burish has managed to "fly this under the radar," in the words of one dissenting University official who requested anonymity, "thus, not too many people know yet." However, an information campaign helmed by several members of the student body aims to enlighten the entire campus of the change. The campaign will be headed by former EC president John "no I didn't cheat" Comly.

Said sophomore Jackson Forrest Hunter IV, "I just found out about this awful news from [Phil] a couple of minutes ago. I can't believe Burish would do this." He has promised that he and his fellow "rebel brothers" from the Kappa Alpha Order will wage war against the "Northern impostor who has hijacked this fine school." He exclaimed, "The war's not over yet, and the latest battle has just begun!"

Burish also announced another, slightly less controversial move: he

is installing an automatic garage door opener for the Lee House garage. This decision is following an incident in the beginning of the year in which he tried to shut the doors and student outrage quickly prompted him to open them again. Burish resolved that he would find a way to ensure that his vehicles will be protected from the elements. Said Burish, "Renaming the school is the perfect way to ensure that Traveller can't come home, so it doesn't matter anymore. Besides, [my wife] Pam and I miss being able to click that little button and watching the doors open and close for us. Now we can. And anyway, doesn't modernizing the house a little bit just lend extra flair to our whole progressive theme?"

In related news, Robert W.H. Mish, Director of Alumni Affairs, reports having trouble depositing this month's batch of checks from alumni. He said, "All of the checks are made out to 'Washington and Lee,' so when I went to First Union earlier this afternoon to try and deposit these, they refused because the name on the account is now 'Washington and Grant.' I don't know what to do. I tried call-

ing a couple of alumni to explain the situation and to ask them to write us another check with the new name, but they just hung up on me. Actually, I think this one guy had a heart attack and dropped to the floor, because it sounded more like a 'thump' than a 'click' when the conversation ended."

When asked whether he thought of consulting students about the change and its potential consequences, Burish replied, "Student voices only serve as a rubber stamp, anyway. It really wasn't necessary and I wanted to get this put through before the end of my first year. Anyway, in four years' time, it will be an entirely new student body and nobody will remember this whole affair."

That remains to be seen: protestor Comly has vowed to stay on indefinitely, and even join forces with ever-anxious alumnus David Keeling if necessary. Said Comly, "Look, man, I'm not going to put up with this bull****. Who does Burish think he is, anyway? If you don't believe in Washington and Lee traditions, please leave NOW!"

Lex Po cracks down on student alcohol

BY ALEY CANDERSON
CITY EDITOR

"We've had enough, quite frankly, and it's time for this to stop," said Robert Ray, Sheriff of the City of Lexington at a recent press conference. He was referring to the common usage of alcohol on the W&L campus. "Beer in public areas, students bragging about their level of intoxication, I tell you it's ridiculous. Why, my sources even say that Greek organization even advertise the fact that they have grain alcohol to freshmen during rush."

Ray promised quick and decisive action to end what he called the "problem, nay, I daresay pestilence that is alcohol at Washington and Lee University." However, he also acknowledged that the "pestilence" had already gone on for far too long. "The

truth is, we had believed that it was perfectly legal for anyone 18 and up to drink any sort of alcohol," said Ray. "In fact, we thought it was legal for an 18-year old to be drunk in public while carrying around two bottles of malt liquor."

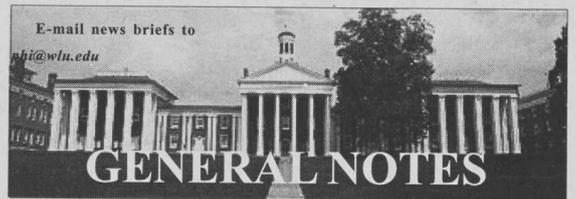
"But one day, not too long ago, I had a dream, a dream in which that chick from the Virginia State Seal, you know, the one with the spear and the sword standing over that one dude, you know who I'm talking about. Anyway, she said to me, 'Dobert, alllllllcohol laws, check the alllllllcohol lawwwwssss!!!' So I woke up that morning and started thumbing through the Virginia laws on alcohol."

But that wasn't the only part of Ray's revelation. "I was looking through it, and lo and behold, it was illegal to be drunk in public. All the guys

down at the station were absolutely shocked. I remember Officer Mith-say said 'It's ILLEGAL for anyone under 21 to drink!! Can you believe that??!!'"

However, despite shock and amazement at the newfound rules, Ray promises to stop the thousands of lawbreakers at W&L. "We will have officers at Frat parties every night to ensure that underage drinkers are stopped. We will work with W&L security to make sure that the freshmen dorms are completely alcohol free. And if the Greek organizations do not relent to our zealous law enforcement, we may have to monitor their purchases to keep them from buying alcohol."

Ray concluded the press conference by saying "It's important that we take these steps now. After all, nothing builds disrespect for the law faster than letting it go unenforced."



Datz crowns himself Unsung General of the Year

William "Burr" Datz, chairman of the Student Success Committee, bestowed the John Elrod Un-Sung General Award on himself in a lavish ceremony this past Saturday.

The award, named after the previous W&L president, carries a \$500 prize.

Industry insiders claim the move was not unexpected. "Don't tell anyone this, but Burr (Datz) hasn't had a university paycheck in five months," said Panhellenic advisor Theresa Glassman. "Dean (of Students David) Howison had to let him go after no one went to his leadership training seminars."

"He really needed the money." Several of Datz's associates insist the award is fair. "Can you think of a man less-recognized on campus?" asked IFC advisor Matt Jacobs '02. "No one knows what he does. Hell, I've been working with him for a year, and I still don't know what he does."

Datz insists, however, that he did not "buck" for the award. "To be honest, I've been promoting myself as much as I could," Datz said. "Look at my hair, my canes, my odd nickname—I've been screaming for attention."

Although most of the \$500 prize was spent in a post-award celebration at the Palms, Datz said he will use the remainder to buy a statue of himself for St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

Washington and Lee changes name to Washington and Lee

In an effort to improve the W&L's image with minority high school students, Board of Trustees Rector Frank Surface announced the college's fifth name change since its founding in 1749.

"Washington and Lee no longer stands for George Washington and Robert E. Lee," Surface said. "We have renamed it for (actor) Denzel Washington and (director) Spike Lee."

"To be frank, having a college named after two slave-holders doesn't really help us 'connect' to young African Americans," said Director of Admissions William Hartog. "The administration decided we needed a phatter, more funky appeal."

"By choosing two black entertainment fixtures, we hope to more readily appeal to that demographic," Hartog said.

Current busts and likenesses of the two generals will be removed in April. Replacement images of Washington, 47, and Lee, 53, should be up soon after. "On the plus side, we don't need to change our stationary," Surface said. Surface also expressed hopes that alumni would not notice the change until after the Summer Phone-a-thon.

End of Spring Term means five new sororities



FILE PHOTO

RECRUITMENT ROCKS! Sorority recruitment won't be as easy as these Theta sisters had it. Five new srats will ratchet up the competition.

BY MISTY GOG
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee's sorority row is going to be a bit more crowded next year. Five new sororities will be joining the ranks of our five well-established ones beginning in the fall of 2003. Panhellenic and the W&L Greek community are proud to welcome Delta Delta Delta, Delta Gamma, Sigma Sigma Sigma, Sigma Kappa, Phi Mu, and Delta Zeta, to our hallowed halls.

The decision to invite these chapters to colonize was made at last week's meeting of the Panhellenic Council after much deliberation. "We discussed the possible outcomes of this decision for hours," says Director of Student Activities and Panhell Advisor Teresa Glassman, "but in the end, we decided that the pros defi-

nately outweighed the cons. Come one, come all!"

The reasons for this startling announcement are based mostly upon the quota system implemented during sorority rush. According to this system, the number of girls going through recruitment is divided by the number of houses, thus deciding the size of each pledge class. For example, when 200 girls enter the rush process and there are five houses, each house has a quota of 40 new members. However, with the five new chapters on campus, quota will be reduced to 20. This will present the females in the Greek system with numerous advantages.

For one thing, smaller pledge classes will mean more intimacy. The new members will get to know each other much better than they currently do. It will also be significantly easier

for new members and initiated sisters to become well acquainted with one another. "There's often a gulf between the upperclassmen and new members. The lowered quotas will fix this problem, y'all," says Suzy Clark Wellington-Smythe, a junior who did not wish to reveal her sorority affiliation.

Lowered quota will assure that everyone will make quota, as each house can surely find twenty girls that they find acceptable. Glassman stated that she is particularly excited about this aspect of it. "With ten sororities, every young woman will be sure to find her own special place. This way, we can guarantee that nobody falls through. With so many choices, how can you go wrong?"

The question now arises as to how to house these new sororities. Clearly, each chapter must be given an equally impressive edifice to call

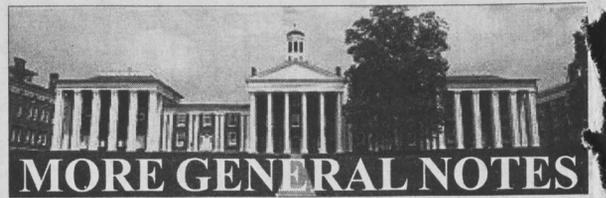
home. "It wouldn't be fair to give Chi O, Theta, KD, Kappa and Pi Phi the largest and best houses simply because they were lucky enough to get here first," says Panhell Council member Lee Taylor Barton, "We need to find a way to allocate sorority resources as fairly as possible."

Fortunately, the need for a readjustment of Frank Parson's Way comes at a very auspicious time for Panhellenic. The President and his minions are on the brink of abolishing Spring Term while proposing a massive tuition increase. These changes will result in a marked increase in University funds. President Burish stated that "We have two options for all of this money we will be receiving. We can either use it to actively recruit a student body that will hate W&L and transfer, thus saving us more money, or we can use it to build five new sorority palaces for the srats lords to inhabit." Glassman feels certain that Panhell can use their collective feminine wiles to persuade the administration to adopt the latter proposal.

The plan now, if Panhell does procure said funds, is to bulldoze the five standing houses and build ten smaller ones, all of which will be identical in size and structure. However, the insides will each be painted in the sorority's colors. "The new houses will be absolutely darling and so much fun!" said Glassman.

The men of W&L are meeting the upcoming invasion of the sororities with mixed reviews. "On the one hand, our odds of scoring at mixers will be greatly increased, as we will have twice as many of these mixers each year. On the other hand, we'll be forced to deal with double the number of freshman girls screaming songs about their new sororities on the morning after bid night. It will be a mixed blessing," says sophomore fraternity member Johnson Anderson Howard VII.

The Greek community of Washington and Lee is anxious to see how these new chapters will adjust to life here. Says Glassman, "We're entering a new era here at W&L, one of universal peace and love for all on Frank Parson's Way."



MORE GENERAL NOTES

Kappa Kappa Gamma/ construction crew mixer a success

Saturday's first-ever mixer between W&L's Kappa Kappa Gamma and Lexington business Beetcherfield Construction went "marvelously," according to L. Treadway Devon, KKG president.

"It's about time we finally saw men with muscles," Devon said. "W&L boys are just so scrawny."

The mixer was held in the Kappa sorority house, which required the suspension of several of Panhellenic's regulations, including the prohibition on alcohol.

"I think it's for a good cause," said Panhellenic advisor Theresa Glassman. "At W&L, we try to help our students understand people from all backgrounds, even the really poor and sucky ones."

At yesterday's chapter meeting, Devon announced plans to mix with the local Kiwanis lodge.

"Sorry, (W&L fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon), you're no longer the only game in town."

Burish to install electric doors on garage

Betsy Cossaboon announced on behalf of President Burish that bids are being accepted for installation of modern, electric doors for the Lee House Garage.

"The President wants to protect his automotive investments and is tired of those pesky cats," said Cossaboon in a sparsely attended DuPont Auditorium announcement held during Wednesday's Spring Term forum. "Tommy didn't want anyone to know about this, either," she added in response to a question from local resident John "Johnnie" Blackmann.

Pressed as to the whereabouts of Traveller's ghost, Cossaboon responded "That old hag has long ago been sent to glue factory."

Bids for door installation are due outside Carol Calkin's office in the University Center by 5 p.m. Friday.

Decagon vows to rival Cadavers in creepiness

W&L's co-eds finally have an answer to the male-only Cadaver Society.

This week the Decagon held its first secret meeting and promised that, in the areas of papering the campus with brightly-colored leaflets and spray painting Wilson Field, women's voices would no longer be stifled. Ma Chantilly Beauregard, Grand Poohbette of the Decagon, speaking on condition of anonymity, said, "For too long, boys have had all the fun with mysterious secret meetings, creepy anonymity and campus notoriety. With the Decagon, my sisters and I promise to bring a women's perspective to leaflet drop and spray art. Plus, women bring an artistic touch that is missing from the boring "C" and skull symbol of the Cadavers."

The Decagon reported that it plans to raise funds for the construction of a new bridge across the ravine. "Girls shouldn't have to scrape their heels on that hideous concrete mish-mash," spat High Priestess of Philanthropy, Allis Claudette Brightley Smithton.

Learning Enlightening Girl Students (LEGS) President Susan C. Amazon approved, "It's time that W&L closed the gender campus creepiness gap."

Quote of the Week

"My new bionically-enhanced body will allow Me to destroy Spring Term and the Greeks unchecked."

~ex-President Burish, before his surgery at Stonewall Jackson Hospital

THE PHI-TUM RING

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The Phi-tum Ring is published once a year during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. The Washington and Lee Publications Board is owned by the Editor in chief and The Phi-tum Ring otherwise rules the school.

The Phi-tum Ring welcomes all irresponsible submissions and letters. Submission is in the University Center mailbox at 5 p.m. every Friday. Pictures appear in the following week's edition. The Phi-tum Ring deserves the right to broadcast submission for fun and profit. Letters and columns probably reflect the opinion of The Phi-tum Ring, especially ones from crazy "alumni." We don't get advertising, because Uncle Cletus ain't too bright. This newspaper laughs in the face of current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

The Phi-tum Ring
 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: ring@wlu.edu
 http://ring.wlu.edu

Annual Subscription Rate: One Meeellyon Dollars

THE PHI-TUM RING OPINIONS

Lee: Burish is destroying my school

Editor's Note: General Lee stopped spinning in grave just long enough to pen this piece for the Phi.

When Tom Burish succeeded me as University President last July, I was confident that the traditions I had both initiated and continued would be properly stewarded. I was nearly certain that the principles which governed my brief, but influential, administration would be carried into the 21st century. After all, Burish was groomed at Vanderbilt, a fine Southern university its own right.

Although the beginning of his term began less than auspiciously when he shut the doors to my garage, preventing Traveller's ghost from entering his stall, the rest of his term has been an unexpected and unprecedented train wreck. It began more than 100 years after the end of my tenure, but Spring Term is, without doubt, one innovation that has pleased me to no end.

At the conclusion of the War of Northern Aggression, I fielded offers from throughout the country to head corporations, speak to organizations and lead many universities. I chose Washington College because education was the surest way to bring together a nation ripped asunder. I strived to make Washington College a national university so young men from the South and the North could be educated as the next generation of leaders of a united people. Burish's ill-considered actions threaten to tear apart a University dedicated to national unity.

Regardless of his feelings about the value of Spring Term, he has grossly mismanaged the public relations of the issue.

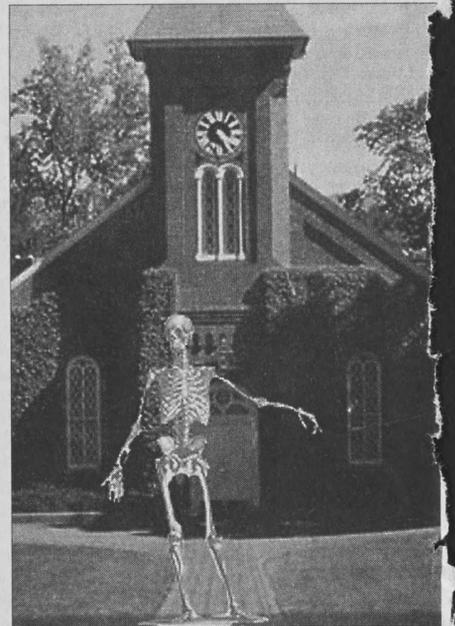
One hard-earned lesson from the battlefield is that communication is essential to the success of any campaign. Burish has alienated students and alumni by not involving them in the decision process or even informing them that Spring Term was under consideration. No doubt, many of them thought the issue was decided after last year's faculty vote.

Other key features of my administration were the modernization of the curriculum and the creation of the Journalism School. Today, Spring Term allows W&L to boast an immense and varied catalog and to offer programs, such as Washington Term, music trips to London, art trips to Italy, and finance trips to Germany, which further enrich the curriculum. Eliminating Spring Term would greatly impinge on the University's ability to offer the varied curriculum I began to build 138 years ago.

Finally, so many colleges and universities throughout the nation are working to fit a mold defined by "The Princeton Review" or "U.S. News and World Report's" rankings. W&L has always been a unique and special institution that attracts young men, and now women, different from the cookie-cutter students at Amherst and Swarthmore. Next to the Honor System, few aspects of the school define it more completely than Spring Term. To remove it now, especially for financial reasons, would be disastrous to a well-earned reputation for difference.

I think General Washington would join me in counseling Burish that one should never let money make one's decisions.

Thomas, watch carefully how you govern my school.



GOOD FRIEND HAYNES/ The Phi-tum Ring
 DEAD MEN DO TELL TALES. General Lee in his interview with the Phi outside Lee Chapel this past Wednesday.

TALKBACK: Would you rather have world peace or Spring Term?



"Burish is best."
-Erin Julius, brainwashed



"Boo world peace."
-Brett Kirwan, cranky conservative



"..."
-Katie Howell '04



"Like, duh, Spring Term."
-Jeb! Brooks '05



"Definitely NOT"
Asher Simcoe."
-Kate Guy, '04