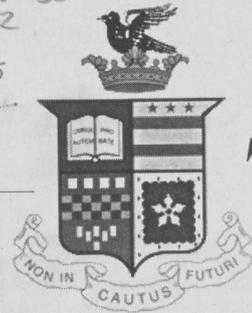


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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

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MAY 30 2003

VOLUME CVI, No. V
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2003

Commons construction nearly complete

Twenty million dollar building will have limited dining room seating, movie theatre turned biology lecture center, party-ready loading dock larger than Pavillion

BY ERIN JULIUS AND KYLE WASS
SPORTS EDITOR AND ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Construction of the new University Commons is continuing as scheduled, Associate Dean of Students Leroy "Buddy" Atkins said. The exterior of the building should be complete, and the interior should be finished sometime over the summer in time for a grand opening celebration in September.

The Commons will be "warm and welcoming looking," Dean Leroy Atkins said.

A lot of effort has been put into ensuring that the new building blends appropriately with the older architecture on campus. The three sides facing the Colonnade have been built in the traditional style while the side facing Woods Creek is designed to have a more modern feel, with large open windows and several open patio areas overlooking the beautiful view.

A challenge of the design in ensuring that the Commons would fit in with the rest of the campus was guaranteeing that it would not surpass the Colonnade in height. Modern electrical features made this difficult for the architects, as they had to fit all the duck-work into a smaller design. The Commons is now level with Newcomb Hall in height.

One feature of the interior is the impressive iron and steel circular staircase complete with Brazilian bluestone stairs.

The goal of the architects was to maintain open spaces and invite lots of light to create a relaxed atmosphere. Atkins' hope is that this space will, "be a comfortable place for people to hang out," he said.

The Commons will be open for student use 24-hours a day. Students will have access to four different Resource Rooms, small student study centers and lounges at all hours.

Each Resource Room has a different theme and is decorated to reflect the group for whom the Resource Room is made. The Women's Studies Program, Outing Club, International programs and Volunteer Services will all be getting Resource Rooms. The rooms, however, will be available by appointment for all students.

Another interesting aspect of the new building is a "traditional meeting room" with approximately 50 chairs. Atkins said that this room would be "available to campus religious groups." Religious leaders will have access to a small office off the meeting room for times they wish to be



JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi

available exclusively to the students of the University.

This meeting room is near the, "big, collaborative space surrounded by 24

cubicles," for student organizations. The cubicles can be rearranged to suit various organizations' needs. Each cubicle will have a phone and computer

at the students' disposal. In addition, there will be several common copiers and fax machines available to all. This student meeting space also features a

common kitchen area and loft overlooking the great room.

"The architect really caught what we were looking for in the religious

and student organizations' spaces," said Atkins.

SEE COMMONS, PAGE 2

Burish picks Williams as Provost

BY KYLE WASS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

This week, Professor H. Thomas Williams Jr. was named provost of Washington and Lee University, replacing Laurent Boetsch, who has decided to step down from the position to return to teaching.

Williams has served on the Washington and Lee faculty since 1974, both advising and teaching, as well as helping to build and expand the physics and engineering department's programs, which led him to chair the department from 1989-2000, before which he served as associate dean of the college from 1986-1989. He was named the University's Edwin A. Morris Professor of Physics in 1994. During his career at Washington and Lee, Williams has also published 28 scientific articles based on research in theoretical nuclear and particle physics.

Williams will serve in his current position as acting dean of the College until July 1, when he will undertake his duties as provost.



WILLIAMS

This position, second only to the presidency, requires Williams to be responsible for the administrative management of W&L units including admissions, athletics, institutional research, University Computing, the University Registrar's office, Leyburn Library, student life offices, special and interdisciplinary programs, international education and museum programs. He will also be an important figure in the decisions to hire new faculty as well as the annual evaluation of faculty and administrators.

The provost is responsible for the overall management and budgeting of all academic programs, and the deans of the College, the Williams School of Commerce, Economics, and Politics, and the School of Law report directly to him. As provost, Williams will also work closely with the Board of Trustees' Academic Affairs Committee.

According to a press release, Williams said that his biggest contribution to Washington and Lee "has been in teaching a collection of very talented students: encouraging them when that was needed, challenging them when the time came and standing aside when it was time for them to [go] solo. In fact, that is Washington and Lee's biggest contribution to me, too."

UP IN SMOKE

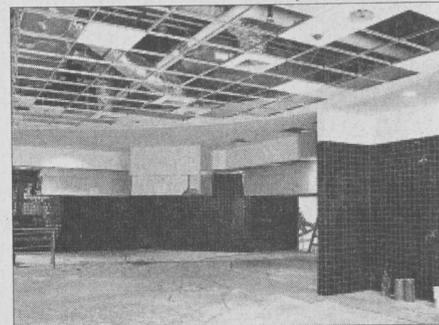


COURTESY KIM KREIDER

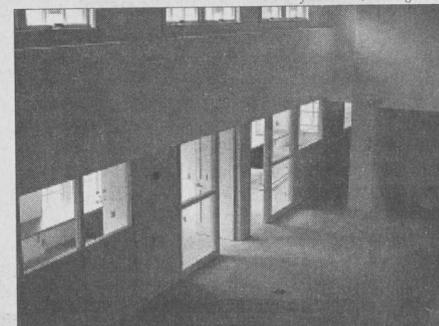
Fire. No one was injured, but two vehicles were damaged when a Ford Astro van (center) caught fire Sunday morning at Zollman's Pavillion. The driver is not a Washington and Lee student and turned into the Pavillion area after noticing smoke rising from his hood. He opened the hood, and the car burst into flames causing considerable damage to the van and slight melting to an SUV (left) parked nearby. Lexington Rescue Squad responded to the incident but reported no injuries. The driver, reportedly an amateur disc jockey, managed to remove his compact disc collection before the fire reached the back part of the van.



JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi



JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi



JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN. (Left) An iron and steel spiral staircase is the centerpiece of the University Commons lobby. The steps are covered in Brazilian blue stone tiles.

I'M TOO SEXY. (Top) Two catwalks span the interior of the building to link the two sides of the building.

EATING IS FUN, EATING IS SERIOUS. (Middle) The food preparation area of the new dining hall connects with the actual dining hall. The eating area will have two separate rooms with a dining area outside the building. Combined seating is about 350.

EVERYBODY'S WORKIN' FOR THE WEEKEND. (Bottom) Lights from *The Ring-tum Phi* and *The Cabby* offices shine into the main student activities room, which will soon be filled with cubicles for activities such as SJC and IFC.

Board questions calendar

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

The Board of Trustees at its May meeting released a statement regarding the undergraduate academic calendar. James D. Farrar, Jr., Secretary of the University and Assistant to the President, commented on the Board's statement, "This is less a conversation about Spring Term as it is about designing the best possible academic experience for Washington and Lee students. Calendars are how the experience is packaged. The Board is interested in helping the Administration implement the best possible calendar."

The President and Administration reported to the Board the history of the long term discussions about the calendar, demands on academic resources, and outlined the alternatives currently being discussed. The Board has been informed of the faculty and student liaisons to which students can give feedback on the calendar.

Earlier last week, President Burish spoke with the faculty on where this issue is going. The groups will continue to collect data throughout the summer and into early fall. The Board of Trustees wants all the fully articulated options and the best estimate of what each option would cost by the Fall Board meeting on October 24 and 25, 2003.

When asked which groups would have the most influence on the decision, Farrar replied, "All parties need to agree. The components of this complex issue are very much interrelated: faculty teaching loads, general education requirements, and the availability of resources. It is the Board's responsibility to evaluate resources, the faculty decides general education and major requirements, and the Administration's responsibility is the calendar." He also said that the student's role would be providing feedback to the liaisons. Students are encouraged to provide feedback as to how the various calendar options might affect them. For example, Sociology/Anthropology

SEE BOARD, PAGE 2

24 Hours 7 Days Week

MONDAY, MAY 26.

Java-Palooza in the BEG quad, 7:30-10:30. Canadian Invasion will play.

"Top Girls"- Theatre Series. W. written by Caryl Churchill and guest directed by Shemina Keshvani Lloyd. Keller Theatre, Lenfest Center, 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28.

Alumni Senior Night at Liberty Hall Ruins. All day. Author Chris Canuto, author of "Hunting from Home" will read from his work in Northern Auditorium. Sponsored by The Glasgow Endowment and the University Lectures Committee, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 29.

Applied music recital, Johnson Theatre, Lenfest Center, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 30.

Undergraduate classes end.

SATURDAY, MAY 31.

Undergraduate exams begin.

MONDAY, JUNE 2.

Undergraduate exams end. Degree applications for December 2003 graduation due at University Registrar's Office, University Center.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3.

Piano recital of Prof. Shiko Watanabe's Senior piano students, Johnson Theatre, Lenfest Center, 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4.

Baccalaureate ceremony, Front Lawn, 10:00 a.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 5.

Undergraduate commencement, Front Lawn, 10:00 a.m. Email phi@wlu.edu with 24/7 events.



Lexington Weekly Forecast

Monday- AM showers, 70/53

Tuesday- PM showers, 70/51

Wednesday- Scattered T-storms, 70/53

Thursday- Isolated T-storms- 74/55

Friday- Partly Cloudy, 79/58

Saturday- Partly Cloudy, 85/58

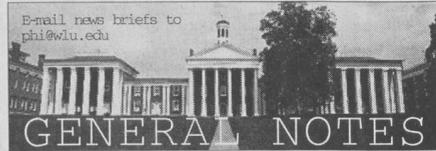
Sunday- Isolated T-storms 82/56

New Habitat store in BV seeks supplies

BY KATIE J. HOWELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A new Building Supply Resale store in Buena Vista is opening soon and seeking Washington and Lee student support through donation of unneeded furniture and appliances.

The store will be located at 347 West Tenth St. and will be owned by Habitat for Humanity. The store is geared towards home improvement and will sell items such as paint and flooring supplies.



W&L names Philip Norwood as Rector-elect

Washington and Lee University's Board of Trustees has elected Philip W. Norwood of Charlotte, N.C., to be the University's next Rector, effective in late October 2003. He will succeed J. Frank Surface Jr., a Jacksonville, Fla., businessman who has served two full terms in the position. The Rector serves as chair of the University's Board of Trustees.

Norwood is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Raison Enterprises, one of the largest commercial real estate development and investment management firms on the Eastern coast of the United States, located in Charlotte, NC. After six years of private law practice, Norwood has spent the past 23 years working in commercial real estate development and investment.

A 1969 Washington and Lee graduate, Norwood has been a member of W & L's Board of Trustees since February 1997. From October 2000 until February 2003, Norwood chaired the board's Capital Projects Committee and skillfully guided their oversight of a number of significant construction and renovation projects on W & L's historic campus.

Among these projects are the five new sorority houses; the University parking garage; the total renovation of Reid Hall, which houses the journalism department and its state-of-the-art convergence technology; the renovation of former recreational space and locker rooms into a new fitness center; the construction of the Cap'n Dick Smith baseball stadium; and the creation of new athletic fields.

The crowning achievement for Norwood in his leadership of the Capital Projects Committee will be the opening this summer of the 68,000 square foot, four-level John W. Elrod University Commons, which late President Elrod called the University's future "family room."

Norwood is known among W&L trustees as a masterful presenter for his ability to distill complex building plans into easily understood concepts. Pursuant to W&L Board of Trustees' bylaws, Norwood has been elected to serve as the University's Rector until his 10-year board term expires in 2005.

Habitat for Humanity is a community service organization that specializes in building homes for impoverished families.

The Building Supply Resale store is not the only Habitat store in the area. A regular Habitat resale store is located at 321 N. Main St. in Lexington. The Lexington store is also seeking donations from students as they leave for the summer.

"I was shocked to find out that Habitat built eight houses with money from the Lexington resale store," Beth Creasy, Habitat for Humanity project coordinator for the

Williams School Student Consulting Group said. "Just think how many more they can build once they open the second store."

Volunteers at the Lexington store said the store can pull in \$200-500 in one day.

Students interested in donating to one of the stores should contact Abby van Veen or see the public service announcement at the bottom of this page for further information.

"It's important to get the idea out to the students that Habitat can use donations to help out a good cause," Creasy said.

Commons preparation underway

COMMONS, FROM PAGE 1

Also making their home in the Commons will be the Dean of Students staff. Their suite includes a reception area and several offices. Burr Datz, Carol Calkins and student volunteer coordinator Avery Gholston will also be provided with offices in the Commons.

As for student conveniences, while the building will be open all the time, food will not be served 24-hours. The food services will, however, provide extended hours and vending machines will always be available.

The new dining room will feature kiosks providing international, bakery, deli, salad-bar and hot food options. Atkins' goal is that the dining hall be one of the "best three or four restaurants in Lexington," he said. Food will be made to order in the new dining hall and there will be no "steam-lines." The dining hall is decorated with cobalt blue tile and Atkins hopes that food service will reach a "performance art" status, with chefs in large white hats.

In addition to the dining hall there will be a café open for longer hours. The café is located near the game room and "home entertainment" center and will offer various meal options. Both dining areas will be available to students on the meal plan and to the public.

For student entertainment, the Commons offers a variety of options. A "home entertainment" room of 10-12 and a big-screen television with DVD capabilities. Next to this room will be the game room with pool tables and a foosball table.

Another major attraction is the movie theater with 189 stadium-style seats. It will play first-run movies as

well as Film Society movies. In addition, the room has power-point technology for lectures and can be used as an overflow room for packed audiences at Lee Chapel.

The biology department already reserved the room so that it can combine two sections of Biology 111 into one large lecture class of up to 150 people.

Artistic students will be pleased to know that there will be many spaces available for their activities. In the basement, there is a small band practice room accessible by card access only so that equipment can be stored. Additionally, there is a "potential recording studio" and a dark room featuring five enlargers for the new photography class. The hope is that the dark room will one day be available to qualified students.

An interesting design element is that much of the building is underground for aesthetic reasons. The loading dock, emergency generators and lots of storage space is all housed underground. The loading dock is five times bigger than the Pavilion and it is hoped that it will be used for similar purposes.

The Commons can be accessed by a walkway from Washington Street that extends past the building, the new amphitheater, all the way to Leyburn Library.

Outdoor areas include various patios, grassy areas for Frisbee-playing and possibly a sand-volleyball pit.

To promote campus unity, one last Commons space is a great "living room for the campus" with French doors, a grand piano, sofas and a gas fireplace. This area will be open all the time to the whole community.

Board looks to community for calendar answers

BOARD, FROM PAGE 1

majority may love Spring Term because of the dig or Economics majors because of the International Term. Norwood, it is their responsibility to tell the student liaisons so the Board will have that information.

Many current students feel that they should have been informed when they entered the University that the calendar would be under debate in the

future. A fair solution would be, for example, to inform the class of 2007 that they would have a new calendar their senior year and tell the class of 2008 that they would have the new calendar their junior and senior years and so on through the class of 2010. When asked if the class of 2006 would be grandfathered into the current 12-12-6 Rector replied, "It is impossible at this time to determine what resources will be available in the future and the

question of grandfathering the current student body into the current 12-12-6 has not even come up in discussion."

To voice your opinion to the Board of Directors you must follow the proper chain of command by contacting one of the following student liaisons: Ansel Sanders '04, exploring the 12-12-6, Kate Leggett '04, exploring the 14-14, or Laurence Eaton '05, exploring the 13-13-4.

An Open Letter to the Washington and Lee University Community:

We would like to announce the formation of the 12-12-6 Committee, a committee composed of fifteen students who share the common interest of retaining the current academic calendar. We have been created and charged by the Executive Committee of the Student Body, the faculty and the administration to develop a thorough report of the advantages and disadvantages of the current 12-12-6 calendar. We would like to remind everyone that the issue is still unresolved, and a decision deadline has not been set. Please remember that this is an issue that affects every member of our community, and everyone's input and opinion is important to us. Please contact one of us with your questions, comments and concerns.

Sincerely,
The 12-12-6 Committee

Ansel Sanders, Chairman
Kelly Jo Larsen
Helen Hughes
Thomas Worthy
Charlotte Marie DuPre
Vishal Sapra
Carlos Spaht
Lawson Grumbine

Joanna Perini
Austin Kim
Kristin Crawford
Hans Carlson
Brian Castleberry
Jonathan Wortham
Kyle Meehan



Don Tequila Mariachi band night!

"Mi Tierra" from Greensboro

Wednesday May 28, 6-9 p.m.



Drink specials on Margaritas and Beer

Habitat for Humanity collection

DONATE:

- household items for the Habitat store
- nonperishable food for the area food pantries
- clothes for the Stonewall Jackson Hospital resale store

Drop-off boxes are located in dormitory hallways, Leyburn library, University Center, or BD6 quad or call Peggy 463-7749 to arrange for pickup off campus

Drive runs from May 24 until June 7

THE RING-TUM PHI
STAFF EDITORIAL

W&L needs to pay attention to staff

Pay attention during the days preceding Graduation, Mock Convention or any other large production which W&L puts on and you will see many hard-working university employees working to make your Washington and Lee experience the best it can be. Now, think back to your freshman dorm experience and the thoughtful maintenance personnel who kept your bathroom and hallway spick-and-span. Next, consider all of the department secretaries who will thoughtfully put together and distribute your exams come next weekend. What do these individuals have in common? The fact that the University mistreats them.

For example, as of our printing, the University has no plans to hire additional custodial staff to maintain the pristine condition that the Commons will show off during its ritzy grand opening. It is our understanding that the already over-worked dorm staff will be forced to clean the behemoth John W. Elrod Memorial Commons.

A force of dedicated professionals whom students know, and in some cases, admire, maintains our security. Does the University acknowledge their important contribution with the same enthusiasm as it does faculty members?

Another important point is that President Burish's "open door policy" refers to faculty and students, but *not* to staff members, whose concerns are just as important. Though we are certain that President Burish will happily welcome any member of the Washington and Lee community, the absence of the word "staff" from his policy is evidence of a larger, seemingly subconscious ignorance.

The "Campaign for the Rising Generation" funds building projects, faculty salary increases and scholarships. All are important. We wonder how much of the \$225 million will be dedicated to the hard working staff of Washington and Lee? After all, without their efforts, our experience would be much less clean, organized and safe.

Washington and Lee's excellent staff does their fine work in the background (more evidence, in fact, of their superior quality). However, everyone, faculty, students and administration, must be careful not to take the staff for granted. As W&L seeks to reinvent itself in so many ways, let's also focus on the backbone of the University.

Whither Washington and Lee?

Campus certainly won't be the same when we return in the Fall. The physical changes (and a long-awaited pause in construction) are only the beginning. As an aside, the soon-to-graduate class of 2003 who came to one of America's most beautiful campuses and suffered through four years of endless vista-marring renovations and construction deserve our sympathy.

Without question, the addition of the University Commons will be the biggest change in campus life. Whether or not the on-campus bar comes to fruition, the administration anticipates that the Commons will fundamentally alter the campus culture and foster non-Greek social activities. Moreover, it will create a central space for all extracurricular activities to meet and provide office space for many campus organizations. Ideally, students will embrace the opportunities provided the Commons and make the \$30 million expenditure worthwhile.

However, habits change slowly on our tradition-steeped campus and it's doubtful that the Commons will have much of an effect on the classes of 2004 or 2005. Other questions remain, as well. Who is going to clean the Commons? Was it really necessary to install a staircase whose steps cost a rumored \$700 each? Do we really want to have a Biology class with three-digits worth of students? Does the Commons really merit a \$100,000 grand opening? Will anyone actually host a party in the loading dock?

Joining the Commons in the "uncertainty" category, is the academic calendar. The possible abolition of Spring Term has been discussed *ad nauseum* both in this paper and elsewhere, but the issue remains undecided and will weigh on the minds of students during the summer. The primary fear is that returning Generals will be confronted with sad news at matriculation. It is essential that the administration keep the student body informed and involved with the calendar change process during the summer break.

While the physical changes will be the most noticeable, the changes not so easily noticed will be the most long-lasting



UNCOMMON. Will the University Commons remake W&L student culture?

and deeply felt. In the Fall, Washington and Lee will be welcoming a new Provost, former Physics professor H. Thomas Williams, an as-yet-unnamed Dean of Students and replacements for the twelve retiring faculty. The University is losing hundreds of years of experience with these myriad retirements.

So much of the University's social fabric is dependent on the vote of the faculty that the quick changeover in faculty could lead to a quick change in many of the traditions we cherish. New faculty, much like new presidents, join the Washington and Lee community with preconceived notions of what a university should be.

As the voices of the neophytes become louder and more influential versus the opinion of faculty members who have been imbued with the traditions of the school, our cherished practices and foibles might be tossed out. Although faculty come and go with regularity, Washington and Lee's is aging quickly and an effort must be made to inculcate incoming faculty with the traditions of the University so that our heritage does not get passed up as faculty members retire.

Next year, the University will be confronted with many changes, both physical updates and more fundamental personnel changes. Students need to do their part to preserve W&L's institutional memory by agitating for the preservation of the University as we know it and wish it to remain.

RIGHT OF THE AISLE
BRETT T. KIRWAN '04

While the physical changes will be the most noticeable, the changes not so easily noticed will be the most long-lasting

Katie 'howells' goodbye

During my last traditional Sunday night Chinese dinner with the *Phi* staff, my fortune cookie read, "You are almost there." What could be a more appropriate (or creepy) fortune to receive during my last night as editor in chief of *The Ring-tum Phi*?

Three years on the *Phi* staff has taught me more than any journalism or geology class could attempt. The late Sunday nights (and early Monday mornings), "*Phi* culture" and opportunities to get involved and learn as much as possible about Washington and Lee to convey information to the community are invaluable experiences that I would never exchange, even for eight hours of sleep on a Sunday night.

All over campus, I hear people gripe and complain each week about the lack of decent publications on campus. Grammar and fact errors (which are inexcusable), misspellings and space fillers are called out each week, bashed and laughed at. I've heard these comments each week for three years as I walk through the Co-op, dining hall, sorority house, J-school and science center. Each week, I've heard fellow students, professors and administrators alike criticizing the hours and hours of hard work and time my staff and I have put in to convey the bits and pieces of information we struggle to collect and present while managing an academic life on the side. Sometimes, we even find time for a social life.

But I'm not really bitter. Like I said before, I would not trade in any part of my *Phi* experience. Instead, I choose this opportunity to praise and evaluate my publication and staffs. So many wonderful things have happened to this publication and University during my time here. They too, are worth mentioning alongside the spelling errors.

First, many of you may have noticed a slight change in the

appearance of the *Phi* over the past few years. Anyone who read "Cat's Corner" or Mike Crittendon's contributions three years ago was certain to notice the heavy black lines, gray boxes and heinous lack of picas per page. Today, however, white space and thin, lighter lines grace each page, making them easier for your eyes to see and read, whether you notice it or not.

Huge issues have come into play over the past few years: the tragic loss of two students in a car accident followed by a year-long struggle to establish a school-wide alcohol policy, the search for a new University president and establishment of a University Commons suitable and inviting for all in the community are just three issues the *Phi* staff has tackled during my time here, and in my opinion, tackled well.

Despite Brett Kirwan's uncanny ability to anger every group on campus from minorities to women to down-home good-old boys, no one can doubt his ability to write well and encourage campus conversation about issues concerning our generation. I can think of no greater Arts & Life editor than Kate Guy. Who brought the classy side of W&L arts and events to campus-wide notice through reviews, articles and picture stories? Kateguy wins. Jeb! Brooks is an amazing photographer and the "nicest guy on campus." A Jeb! picture is definitely worth a thousand words.

Thank you, *Ring-tum Phi* and Washington and Lee for a wonderful experience. I am there—at the end, and I leave with complete faith in the new staff. Criticize them, show them their errors and give them a little praise every once in a while. They do a great job.

(And by the way, we've been doing a quote of the week for longer than I've been alive.)

EDITRIX IN CHIEF
KATIE J. HOWELL '04

Quote of the Week

"Oh my goodness!"

~Laura Byrne, upon discovering that her boyfriend had crashed her car

THE RING-TUM PHI

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Letters to the Editor

Spring Term essential

Dear Editor,
Here, here to Professor Hodges in his letter to the editor defending Spring Term ("Hodges defends Spring Term," March 12). We were glad to see a faculty member stepping up to publicly air his disapproval of the calendar choices offered. As parents of a freshman we are extremely disappointed with the possibility of Spring Term's demise. One of the reasons we encouraged our son to attend W&L was to experience this unique opportunity. After many college visits, W&L's uniqueness in this offering separated itself from Vanderbilt and Davidson and every other institution that he seriously considered. We would hate to see that unique offering disappear and leave us with disappointment that this opportunity will not be realized.

As for allowing more time for faculty research, we were under the distinct impression when we visited W&L on our col-

lege visit that the faculty's number one priority was teaching students, not research. That was another reason we encouraged our son to attend. We don't want to regret sending our son and our money to W&L. Sincerely,
Anne and David Patterson

W&L not committed to faculty

Dear Editor,
Several years ago I wrote a letter to the editor attacking Spring Term as an effort to prepare the ground for the upcoming calendar debate—which turned out to be only the first of who knows how many such exercises. At the time I thought it best to make my point in a deliberately light and comic style, but the students didn't seem to want to get the joke—not a joking matter, I suppose, mockery at W&L being deserved for minorities—so this time I will answer the letter of last week in as bland and matter-of-fact a manner as possible. I

still hold to my essential point of the former letter, namely, that for all the value of Spring Term—and I admit it permits many interesting and valuable courses, many memorable and once-in-a-lifetime experiences—the fundamental claim that a typical Spring Term course should be considered the equivalent in terms of credit as typical Fall or Winter course is a fraud.

It seems to me that Spring Term has always really functioned as W&L's way of getting for cheap and by sleight-of-hand the kind of course variety that other less honorable institutions (oops there goes my lack of irony) get the hard way—by employing a proportionally larger number of liberal arts faculty—and that Spring Term has numerous hidden costs that ultimately make it a thing to be done away with. That is what I believe—that is my principled position—though it's complicated by my full understanding that some others honestly do not believe as I do, and that for these there is a principled position in support of Spring Term.

Nick dishes advice, one last time

Rather than writing some obnoxious, all-encompassing, "leftist is bestest" political opus for my final piece in *The Ring-tum Phi* (insert sad sigh here), I am going to pass along some advice, dare I say wisdom, and observations from my four years at college. They are random, without order, and meant only to be taken for what they're worth.

Freshmen are not aware that they know nothing. Seniors are aware that there is so much they do not yet know. The idea of life after college never seems real at any point during the college experience. Even two weeks before graduation. Graduation comes so much faster than you could ever realize.

College is not meant to be about what you study. The greatest learning experiences come from your friends. Your friends are the greatest people on the face of the planet. They will listen to you when you're depressed or confused. They will make you laugh, laugh at you, and keep you in line.

It is a wonderful thing to have close friends that are completely different from you. Nothing is funnier than making jokes about friends from other countries. Just ask my elephant-riding, Pakistani frat brothers.

Every man should have a really close gay friend. Aside from providing a different perspective on things, they will tell you when you're dressing like crap.

During college you will either become even closer or even more distant with your family. I was fortunate enough for the first to occur. It is also this time that you will realize just how much your family loves you. Who else would finance four years of carefree living?

Everyone should have a rainy weekend alone in Paris. Everyone should go to Italy with their wildest friends. It's even better when the University foots the bill. London will always be the coolest city, ever. Fake British accents are always funny. Especially when they annoy someone else in the room who can't do one.

Music and driving are the two most therapeutic things in the world. Put the two of them together and who needs a psychologist? Psychology works. Nicotine is the devil. Tequila will have you kissing your best friend's girlfriend and not remembering it the next day. Sorry about that, John.

Radiohead will always be around to reinvent Rock and Roll. The White Stripes are here to remind us where it came from. Coldplay is the best "sad bastard" music in the world. It will always be the case that far too few people know of the wonder that is Self. Rufus Wainwright has the best voice of any living singer. No one will ever be better than The Beatles... ever.

The best movies come from pairs of brothers. To prove this I give you the Coen and Wachowski brothers. Star Trek is much cooler than Star Wars. Most of the movies Stephen Spielberg makes these days are really horrible.

Spiderman is the greatest superhero ever. Superman is too damn powerful. It's just lame. Batman is too disturbed. There are too many X-Men. The rest don't merit mentioning.

The greatest book no one has ever read is "Einstein's Dreams." You are a dork for reading the Harry Potter books. I am also that dork. One should only read J.R.R. Tolkien if it is raining or past sundown. Grisham and King are overrated. Every Tom Clancy book should be 40% shorter.

I don't know which is worse. Not being able to love a wonderful person who loves you or not being loved by a wonderful person who you love. To that first person, I still mean it when I said, "I'd be the luckiest man alive if that did it for me." To that second person, may you find what you're looking for. Trust your heart. Even if it is wrong, you'll understand why someday.

Jesus is the greatest man who ever lived. The meaning to his words gets lost far too often in dogma. Karma is very real.

Knowing when to shut-up is an admirable trait. Love to my friends leaving with me and those I leave behind. Thanks for reading.

LETTERS, FROM PAGE 3

Therefore the only way I and other faculty members get a reduction is if the college goes to the 6 courses over the 12-12-6 calendar. Thus my dilemma—my principles say go for the 14 week model; my self-interest says please give me a reduction. It's a very cruel thing to do a person—even if he or she is not bound by a code of honor—and I will state that I don't appreciate the administration and trustees tying me into such knots. Fortunately, I don't think I'll actually be forced to make such a Solomonic decision—the powers that be are going to make the decision for me. The real problem is that I expect they will choose the 6 over 14-14—and then declare they've given all us professors a reduction. You know, 6 inches is less than 7 centimeters—at least that seems to be their view. And I'm not being sarcastic.

And why should I or any other professors get a reduction? Let me try to explain. When I was interviewed for the job at W&L, the then Dean Elrod, knowing from my resume that I was an Amherst College graduate, said point blank that W&L was not going to be a "research college" like Amherst. What he meant was that places like Amherst had at the time (and still do) teaching loads of 4 courses over two 14-week semesters—and therefore required much more scholarly work from their professors than W&L with its stronger emphasis on evaluating faculty in terms of teaching. (Note the precision here: Amherst values teaching undergraduates as much as W&L—it's just that Amherst hires more faculty per students to do that teaching and thus expects more scholarship from its professors. W&L squeezes more teaching out of proportionally fewer faculty, and lets us off when it comes to scholarship.) Still W&L's model was at the time a fine and largely competitive one; Amherst was and remains one of very few liberal arts colleges pursuing such a model; and W&L's offer was certainly one of the best among elite small colleges. But make no mistake about it—I would have taken a job at an Amherst over a W&L without blinking an eye. Many students might have good reasons for preferring W&L—students have no direct interest in faculty being active scholars. But few faculty can be expected to make the same choice—our interests lie in being able to teach and do scholarship. The big problem for W&L is that over the past ten years since I've been here many of the teaching colleges it directly competes with have reduced their teaching loads—and where will W&L be if it does not follow suit? In short, Amherst has long been a much better job for a prospective faculty member—for any self-respecting professor who wants both to have the chance of teaching excellent students in small classes (provided by both Amherst and W&L), and also wants the chance to vigorously pursue his or her scholarly interests (provided much more generously by Amherst than W&L). Thus, in years past, W&L could not really compete with places like Amherst for professors—but here's the bad news—now it looks like it won't even be competing with Davidson, with Colby, with Wake Forest, with Kenyon.

Now just recall the crucial facts of class size and contact hours. These

schools and many others are just as good as W&L on class size (and their students are great too), but they have all recently moved from six to five course loads over 14-14 week terms—a reduction of 1/6; W&L tried to keep up by moving from 7 to 6 course loads over 12-12-6—a reduction of 1/7 (falling a bit behind, but not bad); now it looks like it will move to 6 courses over 14-14—a taking back of the 1/7 reduction and resulting in a situation in which a job at W&L is clearly less appealing than one at Davidson, Colby, or Kenyon. You see—we've never really competed with an Amherst for faculty, but now we won't even be competing with schools that we like to think of as equals or even inferiors. Professor Hodges's weighing in the balance of teaching vs. scholarship and his defense of W&L's former solution misses the point—the proper balance is theoretical—a game for debating clubs, cocktail parties, and trustee meetings; the real fact of the matter gets decided by how our competitors behave. What's the job offer? When candidates scrutinize the facts they'll see that W&L's students are excellent like those of comparable schools; that its class sizes are equivalent; that its pay is competitive; but that it asks for more time in the classroom—and thus limits their ability to succeed in scholarship. We used to be pretty much the same as lots of other elite small colleges, but now it looks like we'll be clearly behind them in this key criterion of faculty recruitment—and it is a key, let me tell you. In short, Davidson or Colby and schools like them will now be setting the standard for the proper balance of teaching and scholarship in elite teaching colleges—just as Amherst does for elite research colleges—but W&L will fall behind both sets into a category of its own.

And why is this happening? W&L, we're told, has done so much building (including its own version of the Chunnel that makes the percentage of its GNP that France put into the thing look, well, miniscule) that, despite its wealth, it cannot afford to keep up with its former rivals. But there is no end in sight to the building—so I find myself unable to credit the claims of how we're so overburdened by overbuilding. Furthermore W&L, both in absolute terms and in endowment per student, is much much wealthier than many of its rivals who are honoring their 1/6 reduction, even as W&L contemplates rescinding its 1/7 reduction. I keep mentioning Colby because I'm from Maine—where Colby's located. I grew up having a high opinion of that college, and when W&L showed interest in me—never having heard of this place—I carefully read up about it, but also closely compared it to places I knew. It was less wealthy and lower ranked than Bowdoin or Amherst, but higher ranked and wealthier than Colby—to me that made it a very fine institution indeed, as it most certainly is. Now when I was checking the facts in 1993, Colby was rated as having an endowment of about 60 million, W&L an endowment of about 110 million. Last year's figures showed Colby coming in at about 240 million and W&L at 740 million. Thus over the past ten years Colby increased its endowment by about 4X, whereas W&L, starting out ahead already, increased its endowment by over 6X. Still Colby is keeping up with its competitors by reducing the teaching load, and

W&L plans to abandon its reduction. What's going on?

The fact, of course, is that W&L has a different set of priorities from many of its rival liberal arts colleges—it has a small but very generously funded law school and a whole host of very expensive pre-professional programs that make it quite distinctive, and then, at the tail end of the list, it has an expensive liberal arts program. Unfortunately, the cost of being different is that W&L will now no longer try to keep up even with much poorer liberal arts colleges—go check out Kenyon's endowment—in its core mission, but its lowest priority. Is this a good strategy? We can all judge for ourselves. The simple point I would like to stress in answer to last week's letter is that the teaching vs. scholarship balance is a theoretical side issue—the real question is the practical reality of the way this institution values its core project of being a liberal arts college in relation to its commitment to those features that make it distinctive. We now find ourselves in the odd position of being far richer than many of our rival liberal arts colleges—the schools we're ranked against and compete directly with—but of falling short of them in the support of liberal arts because of our insistence upon being very generous with what makes us different. That's W&L's strategy: let's hope it works. But in the end, whether it works or not, it inevitably means we'll now begin to lose out consistently whenever we compete for faculty—that is, for good faculty who want to be at a liberal arts college to begin with—with places on the order of Davidson, Colby, and Kenyon. Maybe we'll make up for such marginal losses by our successes in our areas of difference and distinction—it's just that those won't be in the liberal arts.

Finally, I think I've done such a good job at maintaining a matter-of-fact tone that I'd like to conclude by allowing myself a concluding burst of half-cornic ranting—though don't think I don't still mean what I say. What I find ultimately damning about this situation is that in the poor little state of Maine (population only about 1 million, largest city 80,000) there is not only now Colby, but Bates and Bowdoin too, that have deeper commitments to the liberal arts and are, in fact, better liberal arts colleges than W&L. Little Maine has three better colleges than a school widely considered one of the two best in the entire South. And remember those three schools are pinned into a corner by a whole phalanx of determined rivals on the order of Dartmouth and Middlebury, Wellesley and Smith, and, of course, the redoubtable Little Three of Amherst, Williams, and Wesleyan. Maine's colleges struggle mightily for fine students and essential capital against this high order of regional competition and yet still manage to outdo W&L in their support of the liberal arts. To me there's a telling judgment on the South's culture and civilization, on its dedication to higher learning and the life of the mind, in this damning fact. And I for one am reminded that Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain of the 20th Maine was the true hero and victor of Gettysburg—and that he went on to become President of Bowdoin College after the Civil War, while the loser came here. Sincerely,
Edward Adams
Associate Professor of English

Don't fear calendar change

Dear Editor,

We have observed the recent discussion over the issue of calendar change with growing frustration. Almost every editorial and letter that has been published on the topic has repeated a few misguided fears within a rhetorical stance that rejects the suggestion of change. The vocal opponents of calendar change seem oblivious to the difficulties presented by the current system, and they have failed to thoughtfully consider the relative strength of various proposals. We are writing in order to correct mistakes already made and to point towards more fruitful channels for future discussion.

We agree that the Spring Term currently plays an important role in the life of our university, and we also are reluctant to change a good thing. The Spring Term adds a richness to the academic life of Washington and Lee by promoting a broad and deep curriculum. Furthermore, the Spring Term is associated with a rich social life and many of the most enjoyable times of the academic year. Yet although these advantages might be diminished by a shorter calendar, we believe that they may be substantially incorporated within a new system, and there are compelling reasons to consider such a change.

The report of the Advisory Committee and subsequent discussions have made clear that there is no easy solution to this question. Given the teaching load reduction decided in 2001, significant resources would have to be devoted to the hiring of new adjunct or permanent faculty in order to maintain the level of teaching under the current calendar. The Board of Trustees has judged that such a massive expenditure would be very difficult, and so the prospect of change is inescapable. Although our current calendar has many strengths, it would be foolish to ignore the difficult facts of the matter. Even if the calendar were to remain the same, the circumstances require a creative solution, and a narrow-minded attachment to the status quo will only impair the discussion.

Contrary to those who claim that the purpose of calendar change is to attenuate W&L's distinctiveness, it is clear that this issue has arisen from an explicit concern for the core values of our university. In order to maintain academic excellence (through an ability to attract the best faculty), a teaching load reduction was necessary, and this has caused us to think of changing our calendar. W&L exists for the promotion of free thought and critical inquiry; such a spirit of exploration should make us open to the possibility that change may be positive. Furthermore, since all that is at issue is a calendar which is less than 40 years old, nothing essential to W&L is in danger. Those who speak of tradition ought to have the whole of W&L's 254 year history in view,

for the necessity of change stems from this very tradition.

President Burish has presented this matter with admirable clarity, and he has acted with considerable concern for W&L's fine history. He has displayed a laudable desire to promote dialogue about a decision which is clearly not his own to make. He has done much to solicit and respond respectfully to student and alumni opinions through both official and unofficial channels, and he has thus won our trust. His success at promoting discussion is perhaps most clearly indicated by the unfair criticism he has received, which was only made possible by his frank openness. He has displayed wisdom and grace in his role as a guide of public discussion, and for all his fine efforts President Burish deserves our support and respect.

Sadly, most publicly expressed opinions on the matter far short of the president's excellent example. The general incomprehension displayed by students and alumni at the prospect of change indicates a carelessness bordering on ill will, and their absurd accusations have made constructive discussion nearly impossible. Yet we have reason to believe that the vocal opponents of change are outnumbered by those who (in the spirit of our fine tradition) value critical thinking and dialogue.

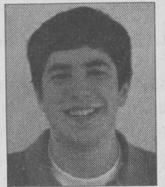
Those who fear change are the true opponents of W&L's fine tradition, but there are many who desire to continue the upward progress that has characterized our history. Coeducation, integration, and now the Spring Term have been causes for division, but we believe that (as with the first two) the conclusion of this issue will bring our community together in a deeper understanding of our identity. We believe that the benefits of our beloved Spring Term may be largely present in a revised system, and so we are open to the possibility of change. President Burish has proven his ability to lead W&L forward in a spirit which is true to our past, and we believe that the careful discussion he is leading will result in a solution which only strengthens our university.

The season of Spring will endure every calendar, and the distinctive excellence of Washington and Lee is not endangered by the prospect of change. Our tradition has survived many such changes already, and it will emerge from this one even stronger. Through understanding and dialogue, such difficult issues can become the occasion for our community to grow together in a deeper understanding of what makes W&L special. For this purpose, careful introspection of our unquestioned assumptions is a prerequisite to the thoughtful discussion that will bring us together. This is the way to be true to tradition, and we are committed to it.

Sincerely,
David Newheiser, '03
Julie Fitzer, '03
Wes Bell, '05
Tallie Jamison '05
Jon Cochran, '06

The Ring-tum Phi

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Art is awesome

A painting says much about its creator. It portrays how he perceives the world as well as how his mind recreates reality in the midst of his memory. Some people recreate the world using lots of colors and cartoon figures, some recreate it as a blur or a blink while others remember every single detail, down to the exact shape of a model's eyebrow. Everyone sees the world differently, hence the diversity in artwork.

The thesis exhibit currently in DuPont Hall exemplifies the colorful perspectives of the six senior art majors: Betsy Ely, Connor Kirsch, Evan Oremland, Austin Fisher, Liza Tucker and Erin Carter. Some of the works recreate the function of the canvas frame, whereas some others reflect more traditional subject matter, and some represent other items and ideas altogether. But despite the subject matter or the form of representation, each is unique and each artist has developed his/her own style.

I highly recommend a walk through the exhibit. These are the masterpieces of the senior majors. The six of them have fulfilled their credits, taken more studio art classes than most of us will ever take in our lives, and dedicated more time to these works than I could ever imagine. These are their best works of art, the best of the best in the art department, and they are on display to the public.

The works say much about the individual artists' perspectives and personalities, as well as their creativity and imaginations. I found in every painting a sense of aestheticism and meaning, particularly in some more than others. However, I will not write my personal thoughts and reflections on that subject in this article, with the hope that you will visit the exhibit for yourself. It will be on display until June 5. Each work is unique and expressive of the artist's own style and reflect the talent and skill of the six artists.

I found it quite appropriate to write about the senior art theses as my final article. Yet at the same time, since this is my final article, I'd like to share some last thoughts of my own with you. I've always thought that the profession of an art critic would be a fun job: viewing exhibits and stating one's thoughts, talking with the artists, writing books and articles on what constitutes a work of art, traveling to museums around the world, attending the parties of the bourgeois, drinking lots of wine. Art critics, or in fact any critic in general, have (or would appear to have) an amazingly easy job and yet, at the same time, they have in their possession a great and undeniable power. With one clench of their teeth, they can shatter an artist's hopes and destroy the canvas beneath the creation; but at the same time, with one painted word of appraisal, an aspiring artist's lifelong dream to create a work of art becomes a reality.

For these past six months, I went to productions, exhibits, concerts, and attended nearly every artistic event held at this university. I watched and listened, reflected, and wrote. Minus the bourgeois parties, I was an art critic and I must admit, I loved it. I loved writing my thoughts and reflections, talking with the artists about their artwork, etc. But most of all, I loved attending the performances and exhibits. I loved being a spectator. I have always attended concerts, here and there, at Lenfest, but after deciding to write this column, I made it a necessary point to attend as many artistic events as possible.

For the spectator, art is a subjective experience. Art affects different people in different ways, and what constitutes a work of art as beautiful for some may not do so for others. That is why I think the profession of art critic, as one with the power to say what constitutes a work of art or to decide what is beautiful, is an impossible job.

In deciding to write this column, my aim was not in any way to define a work of art or claim to know what is beautiful, or provide some theory of art. Rather, with this column I hoped to present to the public, especially for those who were unable to attend an artistic event at W&L, a glimpse into the beauty that I found in the works. I wanted to create an appreciation for the artists, especially the student artists, and highlight their artistic talents. My writings were a reflection of my personal thoughts of the arts and I shared those aspects that struck me as wonderful. And indeed, I discovered so much beauty and brilliance, especially from the student artists, that my own subjective experience was nothing short of amazement. So for those who made these columns possible, I'd like to say thank you. Your works of art created a meaning for me that, though I attempted to place in words, I will never be able to explain.

As an art critic, I hope that I have provided for you a canvas on which to paint your own words so that next year, though I will not be here to paint my own words, you will attend an artistic event every now and then and discover for yourself a certain brilliance, a kind of beauty, behind the artistic productions held at W&L.

'Top Girls' opens

BY MEGAN MORGAN

ASSISTANT ARTS & LIFE EDITOR

"Top Girls", a play written by Caryl Churchill and directed by Shemina Keshvani Lilloid, opened here on Friday, May 23rd. The play examines the problems of women as they break through the glass ceiling in the business world.

The play opens in a restaurant in 1980 London where the main character is celebrating her promotion. She is joined by a host of famous women from throughout the centuries including Isabella Bird, an Englishwoman from the nineteenth century who traveled extensively and chronicled those travels, Lady Nijo an Emperor's courtesan and later a Buddhist nun in the thirteenth century who traveled on foot across Japan and wrote of her life, Dull Gret who was painted by Brueghel in an apron leading a host of women

SEE **GIRLS**, PAGE 6

The Absolute Fratlord shares his year in review

Another year is over. In a week, we will all be partying and vacationing, as Professor Porter says, in Auckland or Sydney or Tahiti or at some other exotic South Seas location.

The seniors will have to stay an extra week as they contemplate their fast-approaching unemployment and their option to enroll in the University of Patagonia.

But before we leave, in the *Phi's* final issue of the year, I will use this sounding board to deal out the Frat Lord's year-end awards:

The "Unsung General other than Meriggi" Award: Mike Hoover
Hoover was the Men's Intramural Director this year, a job that requires ridiculous amounts of time and one that probably doesn't get the praise it deserves.

When he's not leading Sig Ep to victory in Ping Pong, Volleyball, and Basketball, he has to organize every intramural event so that every fraternity can engage in glorious competition.

The "W&L Mr. Congeniality" Award: Jefferson Gillespie Brooks
This was a hotly contested award battle, since our school is rife with those sociable genteel Southern-types who are known for their conversations and willingness to be outgoing. Though Thomas Worthy almost got the nod, the Frat

Lord chose Jeb! Brooks at the last minute. In addition to his work with the Phi and his love for community service, Jeb succeeds at being generally the nicest person on the planet.

The "In Over My Head" Award: Tom Burish
President Burish's first lap was a tough one. All the Spring Term issues remain unresolved, but they will probably determine what students think about Burish for years to come. Time will tell if Burish can handle the heat when tempers flare in Lex Vegas.

The "Coolest W&L Person Not Currently Enrolled at W&L" Award: Lucy Frick

The lovely Lucy just came back to celebrate her 21st at the Palms with Italian diva (and her former roommate) Hilary Henry, and it reminded me how cool she is and how much more drab this place is without her. If you are one of the people fortunate enough to know her, you'll agree with me.

The "Coolest W&L Person Who Re-Enrolled to W&L" Award: Chris Tully

The Puerto-Rican Teddy Bear returned to Lex Vegas this year to appease all his fans. He didn't disappoint. The Lodge immediately tripled in musical fratty coolness upon his return, and God knows he will continue to provide entertainment for us all for years to come.

The "Guaranteed to Brighten Your Day" Award: Kate Muscalino

Kate's personality has no rival. She single-handedly makes the Science Center the coolest place to study - though not much actual studying ever goes on there. She always seems to be on the Hill, which is a blessing, since she's super-cool and will inevitably make you smile.

The "No One is Cooler than Allegro" Award: Justin Allegro

This one speaks for itself.

The "Random PIKA Brother Award" Award: Charlie Clarke
He's cool. He plays Ultimate Frisbee. I can't pronounce his middle name. Now if only he regrew that mountain man beard he had earlier in the school year.

The "Brett T. Kirwan Self-Glorification" Award: Tim T. Smith

Every now and again, I like to give myself credit for doing something well. There are always a few folks who love to give people flak for blatantly patting themselves on the back. This award is especially for them.

It's been a long, tough year, and as always it will be a short, relaxing summer.

Until next year, I'll leave you all wondering how it is that someone was silly enough to give me a newspaper column. I know I am.

Senior reflects on his four unforgettable years

BY NEAL WILLETTS

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Every year there is some senior, waxing nostalgic who tries to tell you everything about W&L that is great, good, and grand. This year, here's some advice from a senior who's both loved and hated the school, often at the same, but will be graduating June 5 after a four year stint at this school that has definitely been the four greatest years of my life. Without further adieu (in no specific order)...

The Top Ten Things TO DO in your 4 years at W&L:

1. Go abroad. Anywhere, to study anything. The best thing you can do for yourself is to leave for a semester, a year, or even just a Spring Term. You come back with a new found love and appreciation for the school, even if you were its biggest fan before you left, coming back you will love it even more.
2. Go to Buffalo Creek, but beware the barbed wire.
3. Spend as much time in the sun, whether at Goshen or on the front lawn as possible. After winter term, EVERYONE needs some sun.
4. Even if you aren't the fratty type, go to at least one frat party a semester. If you are the fratty type, then party as much as possible.

5. Streak the Colonnade, at least once, if not once a year.

6. Go to LeeHi after 2a.m., at least once a year.

7. Do a random road trip, spontaneously, to at least one or two states away. It'll be the best weekend of your college career. (I highly recommend Ohio/Kentucky personally, not to far of a drive, but still a road trip)

8. Meet people. Throw yourself out into the public arena. You'll very rarely be disappointed with the folks that admissions deem worthy to join us.

9. Go see the plays at Lenfest. It's not Broadway, but it's not half bad either.

10. Take at least one class in each building on campus before you graduate. Somehow, I'm graduating without ever having set foot in the C-School or DuPont, and never took a J-School or Philosophy class.

Top Ten Things NOT TO DO in your 4 years at W&L:

1. Don't double major. It's not worth the extra time. Pick one, and do it. Then take the extra time to take a bunch of classes that you are really interested in. All the people that have jobs for next year only have one major anyway, so why do the extra work, only to have to move back in with your parents?
2. Don't ever think your social circle is complete and that you don't need anymore friends, or that the friend you have one year

will be your bosom buddy all four years here. People change as quickly as the winds. You'll always have some constant friends, but often a large part of your social group will change year to year and semester to semester.

3. Don't streak the Colonnade before 1a.m., or even really before 2a.m., unless you're really brave.

4. Don't ever belittle any of the campus publications. They ALL work REALLY hard to bring you the things that you so love to complain about. The *Calyx*, *Phi* and *Trident* are all quality publications that have students working their butts off, for little to no respect or reward.

5. Don't ever think that things are perfect as they are. Something or someone will come along and try and change them, and try as you might, something are totally out of our hands, and we have to grin and bear it, no matter how much we may hate the situation. Be adaptable, and flexible, and willing to grow. This school wouldn't have lasted 254 years if it wasn't willing to change occasionally.

6. Don't transfer out of W&L unless you are really absolutely, totally and utterly miserable. The school really redeems itself for those of you with issues. Especially senior year. There is nothing better than being a senior at this school.

7. Don't think that the only place you

can go in town to drink is the Palms. The Southern Inn, while a little pricier, is much nicer, more intimate, quieter, and a lot less smoky.

8. If you can at all help it, never let yourself be sent to Stonewall Jackson Hospital, that is, if you want to come out alive.

9. Don't get arrested. Lex Police don't like us very much, and will take ANY excuse they can get to try and haul you off to jail.

10. Don't ever be intolerant, of anything, or anyone. Intolerance is ignorance, and we're all way too intelligent to sink to that level. On some level, and in some way, there is some good in everyone and in any situation.

Take this with a grain of salt, or cut it out and carry along in your wallet like it's the Bible. You may or may not agree whole-heartedly with me on one or many of these issues. Everyone's experience in college is different and unique. There have been rough times, and fantastic times in my four years. Thank you to the people who made the fantastic times so great, and to the people who helped me through the rough spots. Any institution is no better than the people that make it up, and on the whole, the people that make up W&L are a pretty great bunch.

Thanks for a Roller Coaster 4-years, W&L, I'll send postcards from Hawaii.

W&L students set out to conquer the world this summer

BY MARY CHRISTOPHER

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Summer is approaching fast. There are two weeks left of spring term. The weather is getting warmer-well, maybe not. The seniors are graduating. The freshmen aren't babies any more and there is one more question. What is in store for the summer? Will W&L students lounge on the beach, take up jobs, take class, travel, party? Well, from speaking with a few of them, we learn they are doing it all. The majority of the student body plans to take on part-time jobs or intern with a company, while others plan on volunteering at a camp or organization, or in the words of freshman Melissa Draggett "Sit around doing nothing." But of course, all these busy students will leave enough time for travel and friends. While some have big plans others are keeping it simple, I now provide you will a glimpse of the futures of your fellow class-mates:

The workers:

Kate Talbert, a junior, looks forward to a very rewarding summer. She is going to be a teaching intern at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut. In addition to teaching, she will be living with middle schoolers, good old middle schoolers. She states, "It's going to be a blast, I know"

Freshman Virginia Baird also looks forward to an enriching summer: She will be going back home to Houston, TX and working with her mom. She will also take a drawing class with her little brother and hopefully go to Charleston, the home of her best friend.

Freshman Kendall Murphy will take on the camp situation. She will be working as a counselor at Camp Horizons in Harrisonburg, Va. this summer teaching performing arts.

Sophomore Kristin Crawford, will be working at Camp Starfish. Crawford explains, "It's a camp in Cape Cod for kids with psychological disorders, behavioral and emotional".

Freshman Collier Pace is also working (on finding ladies) this summer: He explains "I'm going to be a lifeguard all summer in Orlando. I'll be at a country club surrounded

by hot rich girls."

Freshman Julie Anderson also plans to work this summer. But unlike Collier she will not be at a country club. She, in contrast, will be working with nature on a campaign to save the environment. The people of Pennsylvania will appreciate her efforts, as Anderson's campaign is for the improvement of conditions in Philadelphia.

The travelers:

Sophomore Alex Schaerrer has an interesting summer planned for her and it all starts on June 7: "I am flying out with my family to Malta, which is a little island just under Sicily in the middle of the Mediterranean. My mom is from there, so we always go back and visit our family...basically lots of good food, sun and beaches. After that I am going to be in Switzerland (my home) for two weeks, just hiking around the Alps. After that I am spending two weeks in Montana on our ranch...after that will likely be another extremely outdoorsy Montana stay, I am heading to Texas for the rest of the summer to hang out with my best friend." Alex explained that she is excited to go to Texas because she has never been to most of the states.

Freshman Chris Applewhite will be heading to New Mexico in order to hike for ten days. Applewhite has been taking routine visits to the Fitness Center to prepare for the exciting adventure, as well as volunteering for the Fitness Challenge this weekend.

The everything crew: traveling, interning and friends:

Sophomore Michael Diverio clearly falls under this category. He is renting NYU housing in Washington Square, New York, and taking a Lab Science. He will also be interning and working as a waiter in Times Square until early August. On the weekends he will be going up to his house on Cape Cod and will also rent a house in the Hamptons in mid-august with some friends.

Cross Country freshman star Molly Drake will also be spending a lot of time in New York. Yet, unlike Devario she will spend her time seeing Broadway shows, and shopping. After she gets her fill of the "Big Apple" she will return home to Florida to work at a law firm and retail store.

Freshman Melissa Clarke will spend a lot of time catching up with her friends at home in New Jersey. She will be going to the beach, taking a road trip to Maine, going to a lot of concerts and probably getting a job. As for the job, if she does not find occupation at a law firm she will waitress at "one of the touristy seafood restaurants" at home.

The volunteer:

Vishal Sapra, a freshman has much volunteering in his future. He is the leader of the infamous Teen Freedom Corps. He will be doing joint-ventures with both MTV and Seeds of Peace, a non-profit, non-political organization dedicated to preparing teenagers from areas of conflict with the leadership skills required to promote coexistence and peace. He wishes he could tell you more but "the details of the initiatives are top-secret, my apologies."

He also claims he will be at his shore house in Avalon, N.J. and will be in London in the beginning of July visiting friends. Mid-July he will attend the World Future Society meeting in San Francisco, Cal. to discuss how social and technological changes affect our future. Topics to be discussed include futures, environment, learning and education, globalization, values, economics, governance, science and technology, society, health, business and more. Along with all this, he hopes to get his pilots license and construct "a giant straw that will enable me to drink heavily with minimal effort."

The academic:

Sophomore Patrick Hasting hopes to accomplish a lot this summer. He will be living and working at Shakespeare and Co. bookstore on the left bank in Paris. At the same time, he will be writing an independent study on the site's significance to the modernist literary movement.

The intern:

Sophomore Caitlan Hagan has a wonderful internship opportunity lined up for her. She will be working in New York for "Good Morning America". Hagan is so excited to be working with such a well established company and hopes to make the best out of her experience.

Maybe some of these amazing things students are doing, working on, or volunteering for can give you some insight into what you may want to do in future summers.

Taste 'Trip'

BY LAURA LEIGH BIRDWELL
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Sometimes it's a little melancholic. Sometimes it makes me think. Sometimes I listen to it when I need some "downtime" to myself. Sometimes it makes me smile just to be alive. But one thing's for certain: for two weeks now, it has remained in my CD player, waking me up, playing when I get ready to go out, or filling the room as I type. It has been in my CD player for two weeks now and for anything to remain in my CD player for more than a day says a lot about the quality of the album.

It's "A Taste" by Trip: Alex Wilkins, Jordan Wolff, Laurence Eaton, Brandon Waddell, and Connor Kirsch (and help from Josh "Knuckles" Harvey on keys/organ). I wrote about the band earlier in the year. They were "Alex Wilkins and Friends," I believe. I must admit: I like Trip much better, guys.

The album is primarily Alex Wilkins, who wrote seven out of the eight tracks. He's the lead singer and "ringleader" of Trip. The songs themselves seem to be a combination of every cover song they perform, yet at the same time, Wilkins has definitely discovered his own, unique style. And I must say it's quite beautiful.

Wilkins has a sublime voice. It's smooth and he sings with such ease and grace that I can't help but wonder whether it is possible to sing beautifully if you are not naturally talented. He is overwhelmingly talented. Singing comes so easily for him. Those of you who have seen him perform know what I mean. He sings as though that is what he is meant to do in life.

"A Taste" has eight songs. They aren't 'angry' like 311, nor are they depressing like Radiohead. They're songs about life, good and bad.

And of course, I cannot mention the album without saying a word about the infamous "Kappa Song," the only song not composed by Wilkins. All genius is attributed to Jordan Wolff for this one. What to say about this song, I'm not really sure. Just listen for yourself and think of the Lodge, home to a lot of really great guys, and W&L in general. It has a nice twist and, well, if you haven't heard it yet, you'll find it's quite entertaining.

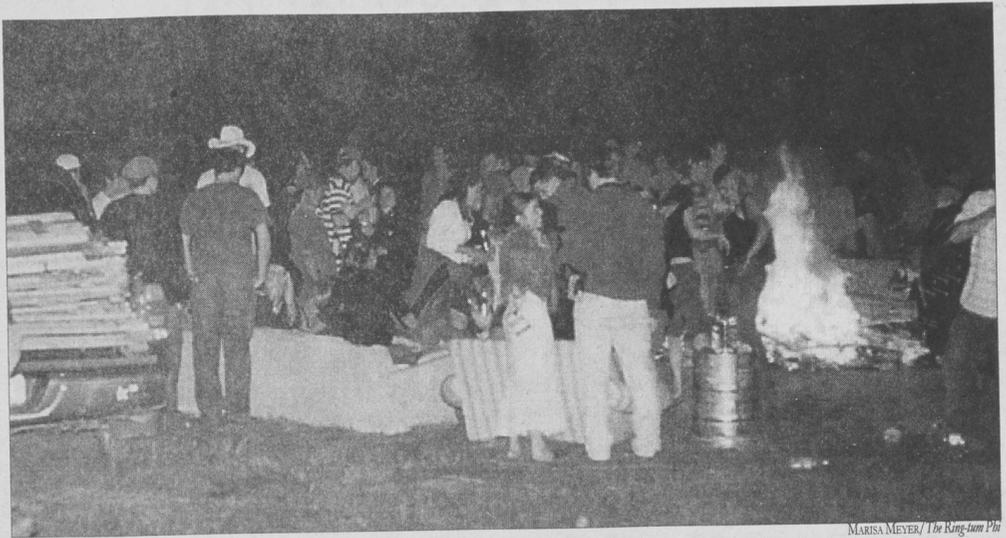
So, for a taste of Trip, buy the album. Wilkins is superb, and the band is truly brilliant. Save it for a rainy day Spring Term (we've had our share), snuggle under the covers, and listen. It's a good buy.

GIRLS, FROM PAGE 5

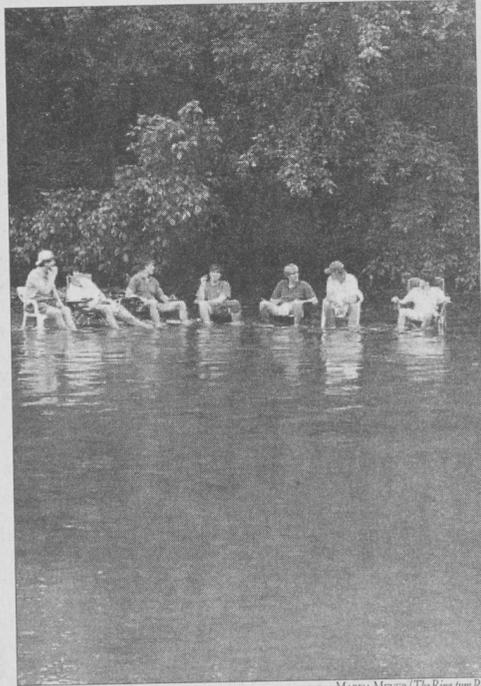
charging through hell and fighting devils, Pope Joan a woman who disguised as a man was Pope between 854 and 856 A.D. and Patient Griselda whose obedience to her husband is the subject of a story by Petrarch, Boccaccio and Chaucer. As the women begin to drink Frascati wine, famous for the wild things that happen when it is consumed, each ones story is told, showing the continuing struggles and tragedies of women. The focus then shifts to modern women, telling the stories of the women employed at the Top Girls Agency, an employment agency, the women that come through looking for a job.

The cast consist of Emily Pace, Sarah Jafri, Alix Warren, Victoria Stanham, Sarah Ovin, Christine Palazzolo, Patrice Wedderburn and Ruth Esponda all of which play multiple roles.

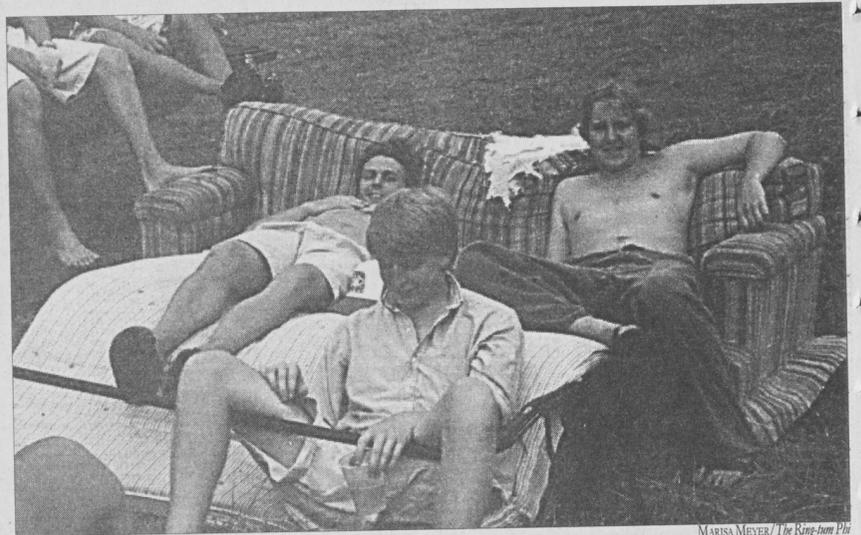
Buffalo Creek 2003



BURN, BABY BURN: Washington and Lee students enjoy burning wood and furniture at one of the many fraternity bonfires at Zollman's.



DOWN BY THE RIVER: Students relax in the river on Saturday afternoon.



FUN IN THE SUN: Three W&L students lounge on one of the couches brought out for the Buffalo Creek bonfires.



AND THE BAND PLAYED ON: The Hackensaw Boys, a local band, provided spectators with amusing banter and good music. They received a warm and enthusiastic reception from the students who listened to them.



Buffalo Creek or bust: Students enjoy each other's company and are entranced by the fire.

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On behalf of the W&L Annual Fund, we thank the members of the Class of 2003 listed here. These generous individuals have committed to this year's **Senior Pledge Project**. If you wish to honor your time in Lexington, please consider a gift of **\$20.03** payable by June 2004.

Additional thanks to the Senior Pledge Project Committee for their help in this effort! We look forward to announcing **your** participation at Senior Night (Wednesday, May 28).

Sincerely,
Andy Folsom & Emma Thomas
Class of 2003 Class Agents
folsomj@wlu.edu thomasec@wlu.edu

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Austin Fisher
Julia Fitzer
Bains Fleming
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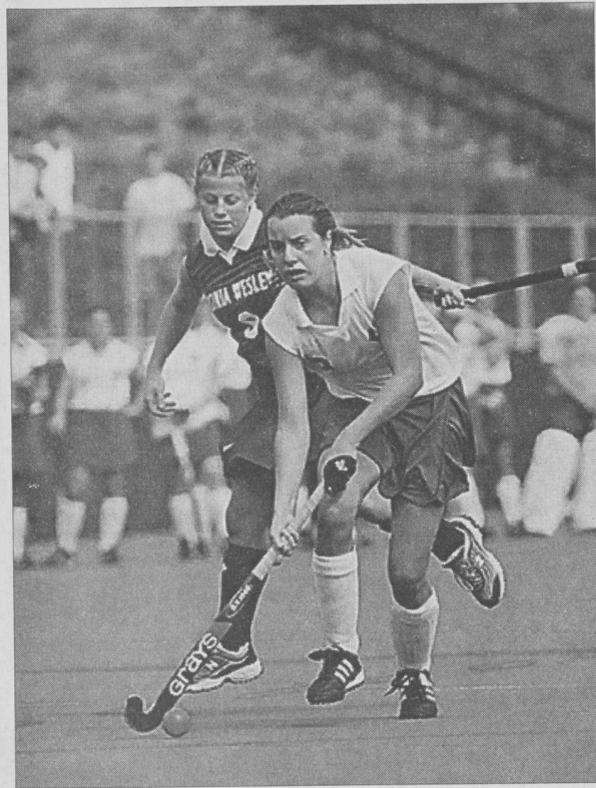
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Live
Love
and
Be Fabulous



Field Hockey team will return four All-ODAC players



FIELD HOCKEY. Kitt Murphy an '05 midfielder is in action last season.

BY JOHN HYLAND
SPORTS WRITER

In just their third year as a varsity team, the W&L field hockey team is poised for an ODAC championship in 2003. The team finished 10-9 overall last season and 6-3 in conference, losing to Lynchburg in the ODAC semi-finals.

The Generals return virtually their entire team from the 2002 squad, losing only defender Kathleen Gibson. Despite their success last season, the team was fairly inexperienced as 16 of the 21 players on the roster were either freshmen or sophomores, many of whom saw significant playing time. The experience gained last season will without a doubt help them in the upcoming season. Two of those underclassmen were goaltenders Courtney Harrison and Elise Gelinus who split time during their freshman campaigns.

Along with all of their points and saves, the team returns four all-ODAC performers. Sophomore midfielder Kitt Murphy led the team in scoring in 2002, with 18 points on 5 goals and 8 assists. In addition to being named to the All-ODAC first team, she also received All-State and All-Region recognition. Junior midfielder Mateina Moure received second team All-ODAC honors while junior forward

Kelly Taffe and freshman defender Katharine Lester were named honorable mention. These four will be relied upon heavily to lead the team in the 2003 season, especially Moure and Taffe who along with sophomore forward Kristen Brown will be the team's captains for the upcoming season.

Freshman midfielder S.B. Northen believes, "we are going to be a very good team. We are strong all around and our speed gives us a huge advantage on our home turf." Clearly, the Generals did have a huge home field advantage last season going 7-2 on the W&L turf field while finishing just 3-7 away from Lexington. Part of the team's problems in road games was because there were no grass fields for them to use, and the majority of schools use grass fields for games. That problem has been solved for 2003, however, with the new grass fields that the school has produced, the team will now have facilities to practice for road games while still maintaining their home field advantage on their turf field.

Playing on turf leads to a faster game, which plays to the team's strengths. The combination of better practice facilities, a great deal of experience and what is believed to be a very strong recruiting class should make the Generals a formidable team in 2003.

PING



PONG. Farhan Mustafa hits a ping pong ball to Matt Treco in a game of the final IM tournament of the year.

JEB BROOKS/The Ring-Tum Phi

Hanson wins National honor

FROM STAFF REPORTS

W&L senior shortstop Michal Hanson has been named to the ABCA/Rawlings Division III All-America baseball team. Placed on third team, Hanson is just the second baseball player in W&L history to have earned All-America honors.

Thad Ellis, '82, earned a Third Team nomination after his 1980 season.

Hanson was also the 2003 Old Dominion Athletic Conference Player of the Year and garnered Second Team All-ODAC honors his first two seasons and First Team honors his last two seasons.

Hanson batted a .371 with five homers, 12 doubles, 23 RBIs and 14 stolen bases. He also holds the school record in runs, having recorded 46 and is a career .360 hitter. Upon graduation, Hanson will be the all-time leader in games played at 136, in at-bats with 519, in hits with 187 in runs with 148, in doubles with 43, in triples with 13 and in stolen bases with 51. Hanson was also W&L's leadoff hitter and he finished his career after reaching base in 74 straight games. This streak dates back to April 2001.

Women's soccer coming off its best season, losing only 3

BY DONNY BANKS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee women's soccer team, coming off its best season ever, should be in store for an equally impressive year in 2003. The Generals lose only three seniors, midfielder Jenny Thomas and defenders Lindsey Duran and Jane Ledlie, this June to graduation. While their departure will certainly make an impact, the consequences should prove short-lived because of a talented group of returning veterans and a slew of talented recruits.

"Collectively, the nucleus of the team stays intact and we have 10 freshmen coming in that will all challenge for starting positions," Head Coach Neil Cunningham said regarding next year's lineup. "Our depth this year should be a huge asset."

Captain Meghan Hayde echoes his sentiment: "Although we are losing three important players to graduation, the core of our team will be returning next year. With the addition of some talented new freshmen, there is no reason why we won't be able to uphold our title with hard work and dedication."

Last year was a monumental one for the Generals, who posted an overall record of 17-2-3, won the ODAC Tournament, and received a berth to the NCAA National Tournament, the first in its history. The team finished the season ranked 16th nationally after losing to University of Texas at Dallas in the Semi-Final game of the NCAA South Regionals.

Not surprisingly, this success seems to have instilled a lot of confidence in the Generals. "By making it to the NCAA's last year, we have set the bar high for this season," Hayde further commented. "Our goal is to prove that our championship season was not a one-time thing. We want to make sure that we continue our successes from last year and build on them."

Despite their record-breaking year, the Generals are far from satiated. There are still a lot of unfulfilled

goals to be attained, domination most notable of all. "We don't just want to slide by in overtime or penalty kicks, we want to decidedly win," said Captain Forward Fontaine Marcoux. "We have never beaten Lynchburg, as our advance over them last season during penalty kicks goes on the record as a tie."

Receiving a better seed in the ODAC Tournament also seems to be of high priority, according to Coach Cunningham. "Our aim is to try to repeat what we did last year in terms of successes, but we feel like we would like to aim at being the number one seed going into the conference tournament, and therefore host the tournament, especially as we play in our new stadium next fall. Last year we won it from the number three position."

Prior success can only help the Generals so much, however, and freshmen are never a guarantee, so the burden of producing another 2002 will ultimately fall on the players from last year. The team will hold a big advantage in experience, with four seniors in defender Meghan Hayde, midfielder Heather Coleman, and forwards Fontaine Marcoux and Susannah Hewlett, and nine juniors.

In addition, many of these veterans are well decorated. Sophomore defender Kelley Zagol gained recognition as a NSCAA All Region First Team, and Junior defender Meghan Hayde was a Third team selection for the NSCAA and was named an honorable mention for the VaSID All-State team. Five other veterans, Romney Willson (First Team), Maggie Hope (Second Team), Gina Von Sternberg (Second Team, Rookie of the Year), Molly Plummer (Second Team), and Emily Barker (Honorable Mention), were honored as All-ODAC athletes.

The sophomores, too, should contribute significantly. As a freshman, midfielder Gina Von Sternberg scored 22 goals and had 20 assists on her way to receiving All-ODAC Freshman of the Year,

VaSID All-State First Team, and NSCAA Second Team All-Region accolades. Defender Heather Rogers and midfielder Kerry Giblin will join her in adding to the strong core of veterans.

Coach Cunningham understands the team dynamics well, and he looks to the 2003 season very positively with respect to personnel. "With excellent leadership from our captains, Meghan Hayde, Fontaine Marcoux, and Kelley Zagol, we will hopefully repeat as ODAC champions. I am expecting big things off rising juniors Maggie Hope, Romney Willson and Alison Irvin and Emily Barker, and also hoping last year's freshman class will continue to develop and make giant strides in Gina Von Sternberg, Kerry Giblin, and Heather Rogers," he said.

Above all, the Generals will look to Cunningham for guidance. In two seasons at Washington and Lee, the coach has a 26-8-4 overall record. This past year, he has earned unprecedented recognition, having been named NSCAA, VaSID, and ODAC Coach of the Year. Clearly, the Generals will be well led.

With a new field and stadium, excellent coaching, solid returning talent, and more than enough confidence from an amazing previous season, 2003 looks very promising for the Washington and Lee women's soccer team.

The Generals seem to agree that all they will need to add to this recipe is hard work and camaraderie, neither of which is unattainable or unexpected. As Captain Meghan Hayde put it, "We are very lucky because we have such a close team. The fact that we work hard stems from the respect we have for each other on and off the field. We hope to take that attitude into pre-season and demonstrate it to the incoming freshman. Nobody is willing to settle for less than we are capable of, and we are without a doubt capable of winning the ODAC's and advancing even farther in the NCAA's."

It's hard to predict anything but success for the Generals next season.

W&L's cross-country teams solid group of returnees next year

BY MARY CHRISTOPHER
SPORTS WRITER

The women's cross country team certainly has a lot to look forward to in the 2003 season. A strong team of freshman really contributed to the success of the team this year and Coach Schuckert is excited for their return as experienced sophomores.

She explained: "We have a very solid crew of returnees in Molly Drake, Betsy Frayer, Megan Ward, Vanessa Adams, Alexis Fernandez, Erin Johnson, Jessica Remmert, Ashley Brown and Karen Blackburn."

The team will also look forward to some newcomers who have some experience with the sport having run at least 1 year in high school. These girls are Mary Christopher and Debra Kubas.

These former high school soccer athletes will be making their debut for the General's cross country team and in the words of Kubas, "look forward to the challenge".

Two freshmen recruits will also be added to the mix and could likely make a very positive impact on the top seven: Jenny Ratzel (Brookfield East High School/Elm Grove, WI)

and Tippins Stone (Harpeth Hall School/Nashville, TN).

Coach Schuckert realizes that in addition to the abilities of the runners, "the leadership of upper-class veterans Johnson, Remmert, Adams, and Fernandez will certainly be a benefit to the team. I think we have a very solid core of returnees."

The objective is for each individual to truly strive to make a contribution to the success of the team. This is certainly an athletic goal—but can also be so much more. Great attitude, great ideas, great leadership—all of these aspects make up a team and a group is solidified by each individual's willingness to contribute to the team effort in her own special way.

I think we have a very special group of women and their ability to come together and support one another is one of the team's strongest attributes.

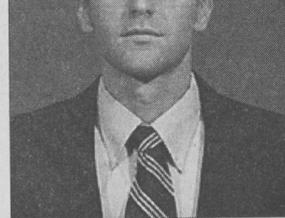
Her remarks are very inspiring and are the basis for the up and coming season.

After completing a summer of carefully planned workouts, the girls will be ready for any challenge, and will be ready to work together to achieve what they know they can!

The men are also hard at work getting ready for next season.

Coach Tucker is the lead men coach and is just as excited as the men are about what's to come.

The team has a lot of great competitors with a great work ethic, which is extremely promising. There returnees include: Steve Chambers '05, Andrew Fotinos '04, Todd Martin '06, Dan McMenamin '05, Rusty Meyer '04, Jeremy Mims '04, Matt Reilley '06, Andy Schorr '04, Daniel Vos '04, and Eric Whitt '04. These men had a great season this year and are ready to continue that trend into the 2003 season.



Steven Chambers

Chambers and Duncan each earned All-Region accolades for their top 25 finishes at the NCAA South/Southeast Regional held at Mary Washington College. The men's squad had finished fifth of 23 teams with 160 points, while

2003 Cross-country schedule:

- Sat. Sept. 13th—W&L Invite
- Sat. Sept. 20th—Roanoke Invitational—Roanoke
- Fri/Sat. Sept. 26-27—Training Weekend
- Oct. 4th—Dickinson Invite—Carlisle, PA
- Oct. 11th—Division III State Meet—Harrisonburg
- Oct. 18—DeSales—Allentown, PA
- Oct. 25—Training Weekend
- Sat. Nov. 1st—ODAC's @ Lynchburg—Lynchburg
- Sat. Nov. 15—Regionals @ Emory—Atlanta, GA
- Sat. Nov. 22—Nationals in Hanover, IN