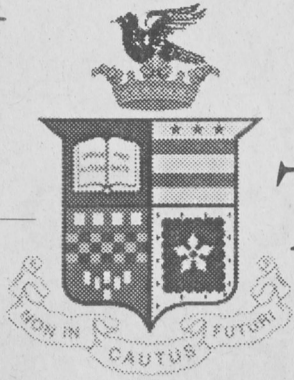


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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

VOLUME CVI, No. VIII
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

Anticipation builds for Mock Con 2004

BY PATRICIA BALLANTYNE
STAFF WRITER

What exactly is Mock Convention? Traces of this important event have permeated campus since the first day of school in forms of newspaper articles, the convocation speech, and word of mouth. Why so much attention? What does this reputable occasion represent and entail?

The history of W&L's Mock Con speaks for itself, with its status as the nation's most accurate mock convention since its establishment. While the convention boasts 17 correct predictions out of 22 attempts, its reputation has grown even stronger with time. In fact, our Mock Con maintains only one miscalculation after the 1948 convention, producing a 92% prediction rate.

Washington and Lee's Mock Convention has even caught the eye of highly regarded pundits and publications. *Time* labels it as "the biggest and bloungest" of all amateur gatherings. After the 1996 convention, the *Washington Post* claimed

W&L's convention to be "one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious mock conventions."

In the past, Mock Con has hosted several renowned speakers including Jimmy Carter, Newt Gingrich, and Bill Clinton. (Clinton actually entertained some students by playing his saxophone at a country party.) While this year's speakers have not yet been announced, we can expect an excellent lineup, especially if it reflects the Spring Kickoff schedule that included Dick Morris, Dr. Al Sharpton, and Donna Brazile.

At the Spring Kickoff held last May, students had the opportunity to not only listen to famous speakers, but also to participate in a discussion forum with interesting political analysts such as Dick Morris and Charlie Cook. On the lighter side, The North-Mississippi All-Stars also played that weekend at Lime Kiln for the enjoyment of students.

Its student-run nature and tradition of success establish W&L's Mock Con as a newsworthy, respectable, unique, and exciting affair. Noah Rhodes, General Chairman of Mock Convention, elaborates

on the student organization, explaining how "The whole thing is student-run. We have advisors, but it is a hands-off deal." The general leadership of Mock Convention consists of a 25-member steering committee, some of whom have been working since April of 2002, almost two years before the actual convention.

The success-rate of Mock Con results from the diligence of a large number of people. The Political Chair Michael Denbow supervises the Regional Chairs, who oversee the work of State Chairs, all of whom have their own committees. Brooks Morgan, Fundraising Co-Chair, explains that "Mock Convention becomes more and more of a teamwork experience as the Convention nears."

Over 200 people conduct impeccable research in order to correct candidate. With the recent entrance of General Clark as a Democratic candidate for President, students now must focus on ten can-

didates in their efforts to choose the winner. Noah Rhodes contributes an additional motive for success.

"One reason it will continue to be this successful is this huge pressure. We've been wrong once since '48. You want to honor the people who have done it before you."

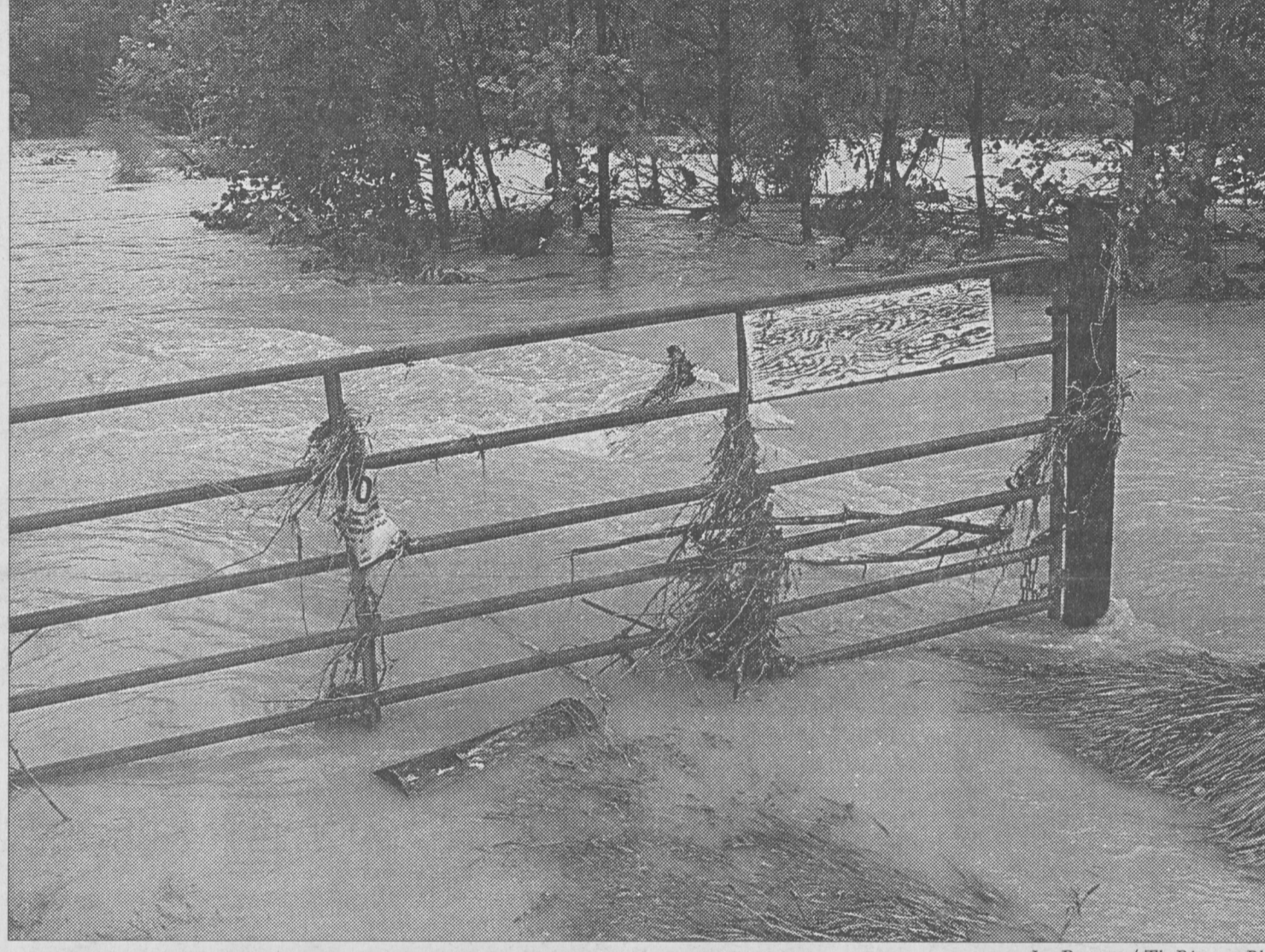
Reflecting the traditional W&L attitude of "work hard, play hard," Mock Con encompasses several festivities for the entertainment of students. The Presidential Gala will be held November 14, with "Big Ray and the Kool Kats" playing. Mike Baker, the Social Chair of Mock Con, describes the Presidential Gala. "It's a big social event to get people thinking about Mock Con. It's a fun thing."

To add to the excitement of this black-tie

SEE MOCK CON, PAGE 2



Isabel's fury devastates South River, bypasses Lex



Swept away. Water flooded South River Road Thursday during Hurricane Isabel's rage. Dozens of dead fish lay across the road after the water receded. JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi

to rise until 1:45 on Friday morning, when it reached a crest of 11.6 feet on the gage at Cornwall, which is in the South River district.

According to CJ Norris, a Special Enforcement Officer for Rockbridge County's Emergency Services division, the event began with high winds, which picked up and led to some power outages. Norris had been working for 14 hours when he was interviewed.

"The areas to the north that we drain got a lot more rain," Norris said. This caused South River to become inundated with water and flood.

Rockbridge County did not see as much rain as other parts of Virginia. The weather monitoring station in Vesuvius, Virginia recorded ten inches of rain. Norris said that Sherando Lake, near Waynesboro, recorded approximately 16.6 inches.

The rapidly rising waters had authorities from as far away as Salem and West Vaco scrambling to get to Rockbridge County. Five families and two vehicles in the South River district were swift water rescued.

LEXINGTON

Damage in Lexington was far less severe. Scattered power outages and two downed trees were the extent of Isabel's rage on the city.

The Department of Public Works labored through the night to ensure that drains and the streets remained clear of debris that fell due to high winds.

"We were very fortunate," said David Woody, the Director of Public Works.

According to Chief of Police, Bruce Beard, the only real damage was a tree that fell on the SUV of a Lexington resident. The other downed tree was on a vacant property on South Main Street.

WASHINGTON AND LEE

Washington and Lee lost only one major tree limb, which fell on Letcher Avenue.

The University's Physical Plant was out in force overnight in case they were needed. The department's director, Scott Beebe, had five people on standby, in addition to his regular overnight crew.

"We got all dressed up and no one came to the party," said Beebe. He also stated that, "We expended a couple hundred man hours and picked up flowerpots and boxes — anything that could become a missile"

Other than a few minor roof leaks, the University's buildings were not damaged.

BY JEB BROOKS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The destructive force of Hurricane Isabel narrowly missed Lexington and Washington and Lee on Thursday night. Areas in the southeast part of the county were not so lucky.

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

South River overflowed its banks and began covering South River Road prompting authorities to close it late on Thursday night and into Friday morning. The force of the water washed out parts of this road, also known as Virginia 608. The river is usually no more than a small creek, but it continued

ACE may cancel frat parties Williams promoted to Provost

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

Fraternal organizations at Washington and Lee are coming into conflict with a section of the Inter Fraternity Council by-laws. According to by law XI section iii, no fraternity event shall be scheduled at the same time as an All Campus Event.

In the past, this has not been a problem because Washington and Lee has had very few campus events. With the addition of the Elrod Commons, however, the fraternities have more competition than just the Student Activities Board.

"This is not a new policy," said Matt Jacobs, the Inter Fraternity Council advisor. He went on to say that it was not an administrative policy, but an IFC policy. The objective of this IFC law is to have the campus come together, united, to do activities together.

"There really is not that much of a policy," explained IFC president, Brian Castleberry, "The genesis is that fraternities will not hold band parties at the same time as SAB band parties." He went on to state that the question currently being examined by the IFC is what exactly constitutes an all campus event.

Since most fraternities appeared to be unaware of this aspect of the IFC by-laws, fall term is serving as a grace period before penalties develop. The IFC would like coop-

eration with the fraternities. A party for this weekend can obviously not be moved, but a party in late November could, possibly, be moved. Fraternal organizations must notify the IFC of their plans, so judicial action will not occur.

Possible judicial punishment for having a party during an All-Campus Event would include, "one week or two weeks of social probation, plus a fine, but there is no penalty spelled out in the by-laws," said Jacobs.

The Commons Board will supposedly give every Greek organization on campus a calendar of scheduled All Campus Events. Jacobs said that there would probably only be about four more all campus events a term than last year.

Castleberry agreed and said that the huge number of recent All Campus Events is due to the Elrod Commons kick off events.

"It is not a plot to restrict Fraternities and their social events, it is an extension of an old policy," said Jacobs. Castleberry stated that this is not that big of an issue. He feels that respecting events such as A Night to Remember is reasonable; yet having All Campus Events every weekend is not acceptable.

Greek advisor Theresa Glassman, Jacobs, and Castleberry are currently looking to revise the IFC constitution. The new constitution will be more explicit to what represents an All Campus Event.

BY ELIZABETH ECKMAN
STAFF WRITER

When asked what he enjoys most about his job as provost, Tom Williams says, "The people. As I've bounced around from professor, to associate dean, to provost, I have had to opportunity to work with more and more wonderful people.

Williams, an integral part of the Washington and Lee campus since 1974, began his career at VMI in 1971, where he temporarily taught in the physics department. During this time, he also established close ties with the physics faculty at W&L.

After working as a staff scientist in Colorado, Williams was invited to teach at W&L as a physics professor. This past year, Williams became the Provost, heading both the College, the Williams School, and the Law School. He is involved with the planning process at W&L, with both the Dean and President, and is involved in all aspects of academic life at the university.

During his many years at Washington & Lee, Williams has seen many changes affect the university, including the decision to become coeducational in 1985. He describes this change as almost "parallel to the cur-

rent discussions over the academic calendar."

"The debate over co-education was in many ways the same as the alumni was overwhelmingly in favor of remaining all male, the Board of Trustees was in favor of remaining all male, while the faculty felt that admitting women would improve the institution, but was concerned about the quality of students."

Williams also describes the upcoming Mock Convention as both a "serious activity" and the "single most encompassing academic activity on campus." Viewing the convention as a "special thing," Williams hopes that other topics could become equally as exciting.

"While the real thing is so thrilling, as is most things in politics, I would want to capture that energy in other topics and perhaps display such energy more frequently, like every two years."

In respect to the recent college rankings from both the Princeton Review and U.S. News and World Report, Williams doesn't believe they can be grouped together. "Rankings set definitions. I am very often cynical of the value of rankings...as they can both encourage people to look where they may have not looked

before, but can also discourage students from looking at schools."

Williams, however, maintains, that you cannot ignore the influence of such rankings. He said that Washington and Lee is a unique school, especially since it is the only school in the top 25 liberal arts schools that has both an accredited journalism program and a law school. And by remaining such a small school, "the teaching is personable. At larger schools, you cannot teach in such an intimate way."

Williams, in fact, "would not aspire to be number one." While W&L has seen much change since its founding, it has not grown significantly. "We have seen steady change in the academic catalog, with the introduction of interdisciplinary programs, such as Women's studies, and Environmental studies." He also notes that, "Over the years, the student body has become more capable and more impressive."

However, Williams cites that while the university has changed and will continue to change, we cannot change the inherent values of Washington and Lee, "because by changing ourselves, we wouldn't be Washington and Lee."

Construction continues in C-school

The Earnest C. Williams School of Commerce and Politics has seen several changes over the summer. Renovations to the outside as well as the inside are continuing to be made to the structure.

The Administration has set two major goals for the outside renovation. The first is to build a new handicap ramp at the front of the building in a decent and unobtrusive manner. This ramp has been built on the east side of the building next to the main entrance. It blends in with the landscaping as it leads to the basement of the Williams School.

The second goal set by the Administration is to beautify the west side next to Graham Lees now that the Elrod Commons is next to the entrance. The old handicap entrance that wrapped around the back of the building is now gone. In its place is a new brick portico and staircase.

The Administration wants a clear, unfettered pedestrian area between the Elrod Commons and the Williams School. A sidewalk and landscaping were added, and a transformer had to be moved, to make the area clear of obstacles between the C-School and Commons.

The interior renovation has brought more changes as well. The overall goal of the interior renovation is to make the Williams School more technologically advanced with "smart classrooms" and more offices.

The basement of the Williams School now has two new offices. "There is a shortage of offices in the Williams School," explained Joseph Grasso, Vice President for Administration. On the main floor, the old reading room has been divided into two new rooms. The Colonnade side is now an open lounge with computer access. The Commons side

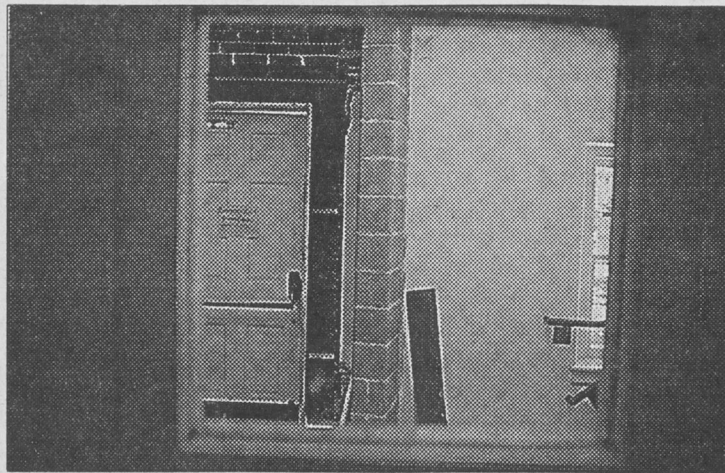
puter lab is more conducive to learning than the computers that were in the old reading room.

Other renovations to the inside include classrooms being retrofitted with risers which are supposed to lead to a better teaching environment. LCD projectors have also been installed in many of the classrooms.

"I like the fact that the old C-School had a bigger library, but the technology upgrades were greatly needed," said Senior Politics major, Bryan Early.

"We have accomplished a great deal in a compressed time frame," said Grasso. The Administration is pleased with the almost completed project and the amount of time it took to finish.

The outside renovations should be finished by late September. The inside renovations are finished with the exception of some minor cosmetic touch-ups that have yet to be made. A cost estimate could not be given at this time for the project because not all of the invoices have

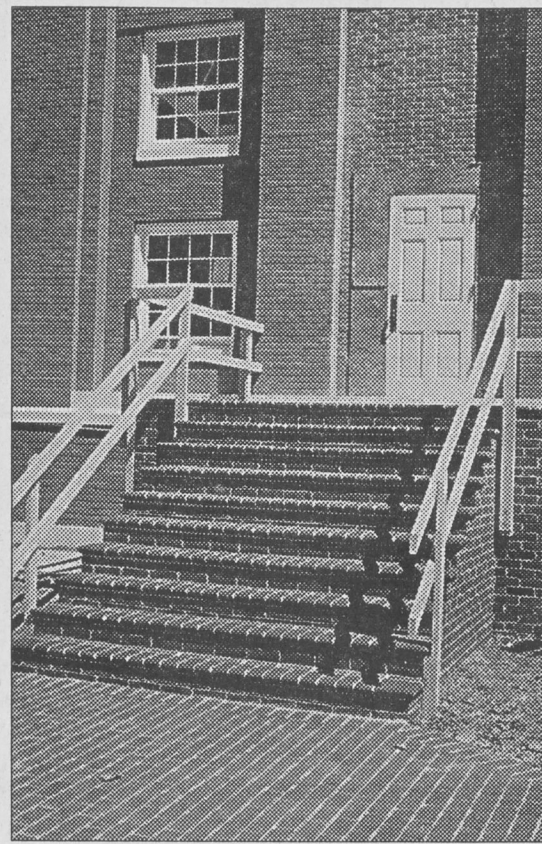


CORBIN BLACKFORD / The Ring-tum Phi
BLOCKED. The exit at the back of the C-School is currently for emergency use only.

has been converted into a new "smart" classroom. The third floor has a new computer lab. The Administration feels that the layout of the new com-

mon room has been turned in to the Administration.

The Williams School, built in 1900, is not scheduled for a complete renovation at this time.



CORBIN BLACKFORD / The Ring-tum Phi
INACCESSIBLE. Stairs now grace the back of the Williams School.

Commons kickoff exceeds expectations

CATHERINE SWAN
STAFF WRITER

After a variety of events including movies, book readings, music, and even a rock climbing wall, the University Commons concluded its twelve day kickoff schedule Sunday.

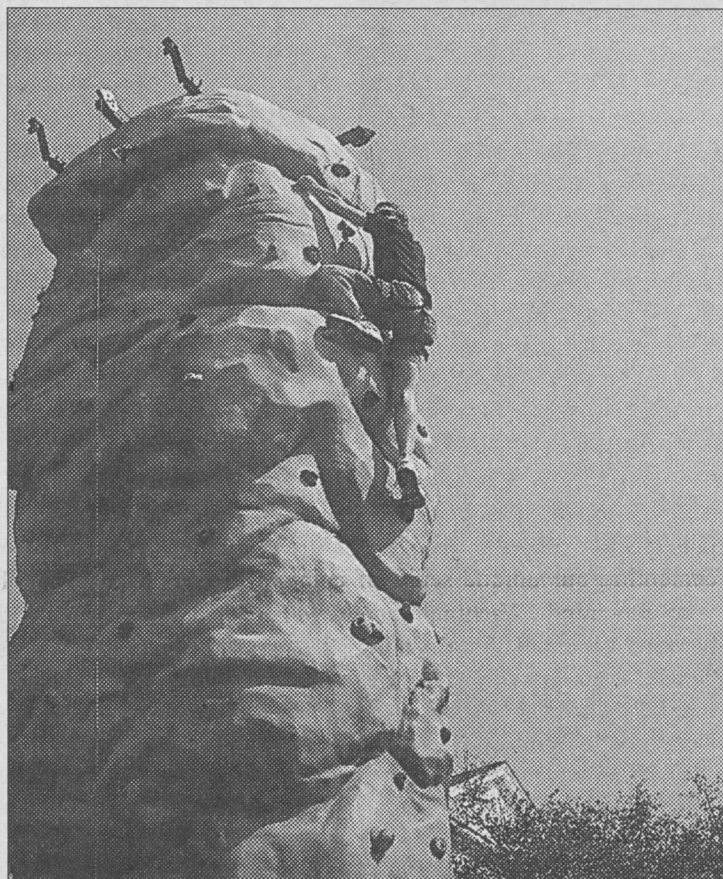
Planning for the schedule began last spring term when members of the All Campus Events Committee, or ACE, started meeting to discuss possible events. The goal of the committee was to provide a variety of activities to interest all members of the W&L community, while also showing how different areas in the building could be used.

Events have included several movies in the 189-seat cinema, book readings by W&L professors, and football on the big screen TV in the lounge. University organizations have also used the Commons for special activities. The Nabors Service League, for example, held an Open House in the Commons Room, and Career Services also held an open house in their new expanded offices located on the third floor of the Commons.

"Some of the events have had a lower turnout than we have hoped, but many have exceeded our expectations," said Director of Student Activities Teresa Glassman.

One event that proved es-

pecially popular was the Sidewalk Chalk Competition. The competition allowed student organizations to showcase their contributions to campus life while also



DREW DAVENPORT / The Ring-tum Phi
HIGHER. Climbers touch the sky as part of the Commons kickoff events.

competing for a \$500 prize. Glassman estimated that almost 170 students participated in the competition.

In an effort to get more students involved in Commons ac-

tivities, campus organizations have been encouraged to sponsor some of the kickoff events. For example, Sigma Nu sponsored last week's Monday Night



DREW DAVENPORT / The Ring-tum Phi
HIGHER. Climbers touch the sky as part of the Commons kickoff events.

Football Party in the Commons Theater. In addition to sponsoring events, campus organizations have also been using the rooms in the commons for club meetings. The facility has been

overwhelmed with reservations to use the rooms.

Another activity designed to draw students to the Commons is Common Grounds, the new version of Java at the GHQ. Common Grounds will occur every Wednesday night from 8:30 to midnight. The event will feature music and drink specials from the café. Last week's performers were the jazz musicians of the Dave Kline Band. In the future, Common Grounds is looking to seek out entertainment from W&L student musicians.

The Commons staff plans to continue to provide entertainment and activities to the W&L community in order to make use of the new facility. Their aim is to have activities available to students on the nights they have time to relax, such as Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

"The goal is to create a vibrant center of community for the campus and to bring the students and faculty together, so that they don't have to join a Greek organization just to have that sense of community," said Acting Director of the University Commons Leroy Atkins. "It's doing what we want it to do - to have people pass through all day, all week long."

"I find it very encouraging that people are choosing to spend time here," said Atkins.

Delegations begin recruitment this week

BY ANN BANKER
STAFF WRITER

The Mock Convention is holding its State Delegate Fair on Wednesday, September 24th in Doremus Gymnasium from 10-4. All Washington and Lee students, law school and undergraduate alike, are encouraged to come and join the state delegation of their choice. This event serves as perhaps the easiest and most important opportunity students have to get involved.

Convention chairman Noah Rhodes is hopeful for a large turnout: "We want to sign up over 1500 people...the whole idea is to involve everyone in the school."

By signing up for a delegation, a student will get to help with the research of their respective state, build the state float with the rest of the delegation, receive a state t-shirt, attend state parties, and

more. The most important aspect of signing up for a delegation lies in the fact that it guarantees admission into the actual convention. Students will sit together in their delegation sections, rather than in the general admissions bleachers which could potentially close once the convention reaches maximum capacity. By joining a state delegation, students have an absolute guarantee into the convention.

The cost to join a state delegation is \$25 (which conveniently swipes home). In selecting a state to join, Political Chairman Michael Denbow suggests students pick a state that they feel represents them. Denbow pointed out that often groups of friends collaborate on which state to sign up for while other students feel a special loyalty to their own home state.

If for some reason students cannot attend the Delegation Fair on Wednesday, there will be an online registration that can be accessed by going to the Mock Convention website (www.mockcon.wlu.edu).

MOCK CON, FROM PAGE 1

event, several amazing items will be raffled off, including various trips and gifts from Lexington businesses.

The Convention itself is naturally accompanied by numerous activities. There will be a parade Friday morning in which each delegation will provide a float. Speakers will follow the parade later in the afternoon, in addition to additional outside entertainment.

The convention itself will be Saturday, January 31. At the convention, students in the delegations enter the delegation's predication. As Noah Rhodes states, "The whole idea is to involve everyone at school." For those of you who aren't involved, go to the state delegation fair next Wednesday. This monumental event will be even more rewarding and exciting if you are somewhat involved. For more information about W&L's Mock Convention visit its website at mockcon.wlu.edu.

Pipe possibly at Beta

BY ERIN JULIUS
NEWS EDITOR

While making his normal rounds at the Beta Theta Pi house on Friday night, Security Officer RexRode found a drug-related device.

"Rex was wandering through the house and apparently found something like a pipe," said Beta Theta Pi President Seth Martin. Higher authorities have not gotten involved. "The house is dealing with it internally," said Martin.

Martin said that the matter will probably be brought before the InterFraternity Council. "I assume they'll be comfortable with the fact that it's being dealt with internally," said Martin.

Martin said that Beta Theta Pi would get the IFC's input on what an appropriate punishment would be for the individual who possessed the illicit implement.

"The individual will probably get social probation," said Martin. He also said that the house would look to the IFC for guidance on how long the individual's punishment should last.

At press time, neither the IFC nor University Security were available for comment.

Futrell named dean of housing, minority affairs

BY IMRAN NAEEMULLAH
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

With the opening of this school year, Washington and Lee students have witnessed many changes, most obviously the new University Commons. Yet physical plant changes are only the surface of what's different at W&L this year, because virtually the entire Dean of Students' office was reshuffled this summer.

After Dean Courtney Penn left W&L last year to take a position with Head Start in Roanoke, his position as Assistant Dean of Housing and Minority Affairs became vacant and a replacement was necessary. The new dean of students, former dean of freshmen Dawn Watkins, found who she needed just down the road: Tamara Futrell of Hollins University.

At Hollins, Futrell served most recently as director of first and second year programs, coordinating housing as well as assisting students with their transition to college life. Prior to joining the residence life staff at Hollins, Futrell earned a master's degree in education with an emphasis on college community counseling from Longwood College (now University) in Farmville, VA. She obtained her bachelor's degree in psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, where she was a member of the Class of 1994. A Newport News native, Futrell is very happy to be in Lexington at W&L, where she's pleased to find everyone so friendly and welcoming.

Futrell's path to W&L was helped greatly by friendship, as it happens. She met Deans Watkins and Penn a couple of years ago at a conference where they agreed to meet again later to discuss professional issues. Watkins invited her to W&L, where she introduced her to the rest of the staff in the dean's office, and invited her to help conduct a workshop for resident assistants (RAs). After Penn left, Futrell's name came up as a natural replacement, and Futrell accepted the job without hesitation. She says that W&L is such a wonderful institution, and she was also very much attracted to the idea of working with Dean Watkins, whom she characterizes as a great boss and leader.

In her first couple of weeks on the job, Futrell had to commute between Roanoke and Lexington until she moved to Lexington, which

made getting to work a bit challenging. More significantly, she says, she was very familiar with Hollins but everything at W&L was very new. Of course, she feels completely at home now that she's figured out how the pieces of the puzzle, so to speak, fit together.

In her first year at W&L, she faces many challenges, not the least of which is to listen to what everyone has to say and learn from them. She enjoys hearing student voices and wants to make sure she is viewed as accessible. From an administrative standpoint, she plans on reevaluating university policies on housing, particularly with regard to clarifying policies and changing the timing of the lottery system and room deposits. These are issues, she says, which have come up in the recent past so she'd like to try and prevent them in the future.

In the long run, she has two major goals, both of which relate to her capacity in minority affairs. The first is that she wants to make sure that underrepresented groups at W&L, like racial minorities and gays and lesbians, feel comfortable and that they have resources to go to if they need help. Her second goal relates to minority freshmen in particular because, she says, going to college is a hard enough transition without factoring in being a minority when previously you might have been in the majority. She aims to serve as a contact point for freshmen and other students who might need a little extra help adjusting to college life.

When she's not at work, Futrell enjoys spending quiet time at home and socializing in Roanoke. Both her church, St. Matthew's Word of Life, and her sorority's graduate chapter are located there, and she sees those two places as her primary social outlets. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, a black sorority. As a graduate, she attends social functions for graduates and performs volunteer work, all the while continuing to pay dues. As for the proposed chapter of AKA at W&L, Futrell says this is still in the works, although a recent lawsuit against AKA has temporarily halted recruitment.

While she plans on remaining at W&L for some time to come, eventually Futrell would like to be president of Spelman College in Atlanta. She feels that her position at Washington and Lee places her ideally, career-wise, for this move. W&L has a long tradition of breeding successful people; perhaps as an honorary alumna, Futrell will do W&L proud later in life. For now, W&L is pleased to be the beneficiary of her no doubt considerable talents.



FUTRELL

THE RING-TUM PHI OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

No large classes at W&L

What is it that makes Washington and Lee one of the top 25 liberal arts colleges in the country? We, as well as prospective students, choose to come to this University because of excellent professors, unique educational opportunities and the individual attention we receive in small classes (at least in terms of academics).

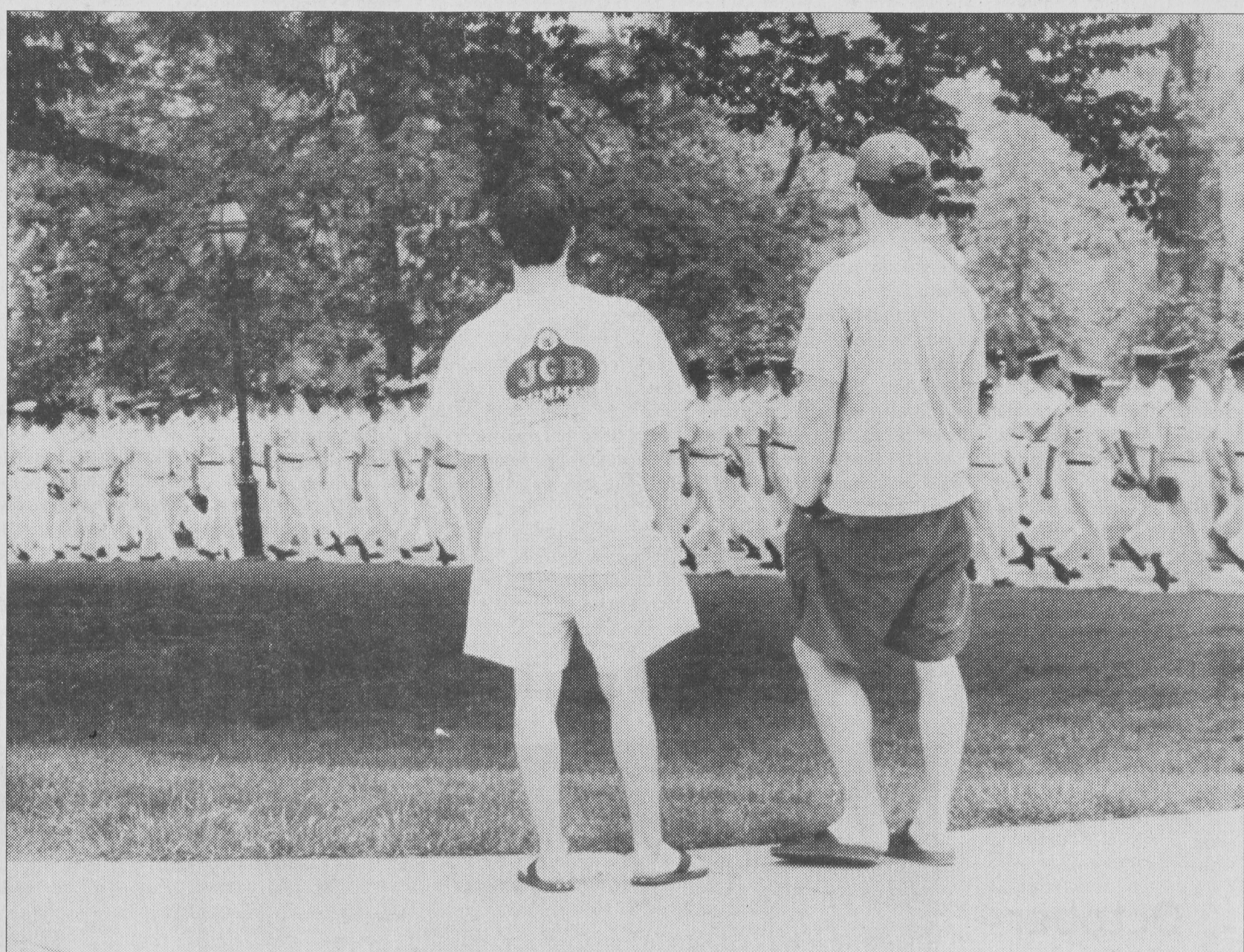
But with the advent of the Commons, small classes are no longer a staple here at Washington and Lee, as large, auditorium-style lectures are now made possible. Introductory chemistry, biology and journalism classes are all being taught in the movie theater on the Woods Level of the Commons. Multiple sections of these introductory classes were combined and crammed into the theater. The *Phi* has three main objections.

At Washington and Lee, at least, theaters are meant to be used to watch movies—not to teach classes. Let's leave that to the huge, dark citadels of the Ivy League. The impersonality of 115 people in one class flies in the face of the educational values of W&L. There is very little discussion and even less one-on-one interaction between a student and professor—the very experience that makes real learning possible.

It may be argued that these are only introductory classes. Students will have plenty of time to form bonds with their professors when they take courses later in their college careers. We are not, however, at a huge research or post-graduate school and do not expect to be subjected to lecture halls. Students come to W&L expecting to learn by interaction with their professors and peers, whether the number of the course is 101 or 390. Just last year, introductory classes lent themselves to such interaction. Showing 100+ students into a theater suffocates any communication that should, and could, take place in intro classes.

We posit that although the theater may tempt the administration to design large, lecture-hall-style classes, this should be avoided. Large classes may be slightly more efficient, but much of what makes this University unique is lost as the "Swarthmorefication" of W&L marches on. Freshmen and others in introductory classes do not deserve to be just another face in a theater. They deserve to have the individual attention that we all demand and expect at Washington and Lee.

Tradition depends on frosh commitment



FILE PHOTO

STOP AND STARE. Washington and Lee students of yesteryear extend the speaking tradition to the entire corps of VMI cadets.

Every year the same cry for help comes at about this time. Some eager student writes about the impending death of the Speaking Tradition. This year, that someone is me.

It hurts to walk past someone, say hello and get nothing in return. I literally cringe at the image. Sadly, this is a relatively common occurrence in my life. In fact, recently I passed a freshman wearing a "SPEAK" shirt who did not respond to my acknowledgment. I don't think it gets much worse than that.

Perhaps my greeting is not loud enough, maybe I should yell next time. Maybe I'm just an invisible and easily ignored person.

Maybe I'm wrong. Could the end of the Speaking Tradition just be in my head? Is it just happening to me? Are all of you being greeted, and I'm not?

Sadly, I don't think that is the case. I am willing to bet that others would agree with me that our hallowed habit of saying hello is on the way out, unless we take collective action. However, this is not a dead issue. There is still time to save it.

In the age of cell phones, MP3 players and the deluge who-knows-what devices that go in your ear and make noise, it is easy to block out your neighbor completely. It's simple to just walk on by without cementing our unique sense of community in your own mind. Washington and Lee is special because it is small. Small enough that we should want to recognize each other on the street as W&L-ers. Why can't we say, "hi" or "what's up?" Is that too difficult? Surely not.

I don't want to be on a soapbox in holier-than-thou fashion. I just want to encourage us all to

take part in what many consider our most cherished southern tradition. I love the sense of community here; nothing makes me happier than to walk down the colonnade and greet and be greeted by my friends and fellow W&L-ers.

It looks stupid when one person walks by, says hello and is not greeted back. It could even hurt the feelings of the greeter. Is there any good reason to do that?

Freshmen: you hold the power here. The phrase, "you can't teach an old dog new tricks" fits perfectly. The "old dogs" are the Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors. It's awfully easy to get stuck in the I'm-not-going-to-greet mentality and not ever clamber out. Frosh, I beg you, don't do it, don't fall victim to what too many of us have. Say "hello," say "what's up," say something, anything. In the classic words of one of the greatest advertising campaigns of all time, just do it.



JEB!

JEB BROOKS '05



MODERATE'S MUSINGS
CALEY ANDERSON '06

File sharing wrong, but RIAA not right

As returning Washington and Lee students have no doubt noticed, file sharing is becoming a more and more serious issue by the minute. The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) has begun to level lawsuits at users of peer to peer file sharing programs like Sharman Networks affiliates Kazaa and Morpheus, which allow free downloading of media files, including music and video.

The RIAA's stance on the whole issue is simple and quite understandable. Programs such as Kazaa allow users to get a hold of copyrighted music, video, and other media that they would otherwise have to pay for. When a user of a peer to peer program allows another user to download a copyrighted music file, he or she is essentially infringing on the copyright of the artist who holds the intellectual property rights to the song in question. This deprives the artist of fair compensation for their work, and thus is obviously illegal. Speaking as a former user, I understand that file-sharing is not a victimless crime, and I know that by wiping file sharing programs off my system, I did the right thing.

This does not change my opinion, however, that the

RIAA's methods and motives behind this hunt for file sharers are extraordinarily questionable. Firstly, they wish to "want to send a strong message that the illegal distribution of copyrighted works has consequences." They believe that by targeting users who share a large number of files and making them examples, they can discourage others from using peer to peer programs. Fair enough. What's not fair is that they're asking for large cash settlements from their targets, who often didn't even know that they were doing any wrong. A threat of a lawsuit to specific individuals, or perhaps some sort of cease and desist order would be far more civil.

In one case, the RIAA squeezed \$2,000 out of the family of a 12-year old girl who lived in a low-income housing project, and whose mother qualified for welfare. Way to go, RIAA, I can tell that this is really about protecting the artists and not about money. If you're a struggling, starving college student (not likely at W&L, but let's open our minds here), you can expect the

wonderful folks at the RIAA to demand \$15,000-\$17,000 in order to call off their legal hounds. To review: in the RIAA's opinion, it's perfectly fine to suck \$2,000 out of a family that's not getting by as it is, but it would be dreadful, absolutely dreadful to deprive the wealthy officials and stars of the music industry of the about \$4 an album that they get. Perhaps they REALLY needed the money in order to finish paying off their beachside mansions.

Secondly, the root problem here is not the wicked, freeloading nature of people (that's just a pithy catalyst). The problem is that the popular music industry these days promotes mostly trash. That's why people aren't buying CDs, and that's why the music industry is hurting. Musical mediocrity is the standard of today's big names, names like Britney, Christina, Justin, J-Lo, and, of course, the list goes on and on. You better believe that the same people who use bribery and unfair business practices to keep artless wonders like these on the air (aka Clear Channel Communications) are

quite in league with this assault on file sharing. This is not only because they lose money off of it, it's also because file-sharing poses a threat to their extremely poor quality throne atop the musical world. How so? Kazaa (and Napster before it) not only let users download popular songs, it allowed up-and-coming bands to upload songs for public listening. In this way, new, out of the mainstream bands could gain recognition and popularity. The RIAA (which represents musicians who have already "made it") no doubt sees this as a threat to their precious stranglehold on the industry, and that's definitely an ulterior motive of theirs for this lawsuit. Better to have popular trash remain popular than to replace it with something a little more artful.

So again, thanks, RIAA, for protecting us from the evil, greedy 12-year olds of the world. I hope you enjoy that \$2,000 you wrung out of her, and I look forward to sighing at the next "artist" that you churn out of your musical crap factory. I've wiped my hands of file-sharing, but that still doesn't mean I'll buy your CDs.

Quote of the Week

"You shouldn't be governor unless you can pronounce the name of the state."

~Gov. Gray Davis (D-Calif.)

THE RING-TUM PHI

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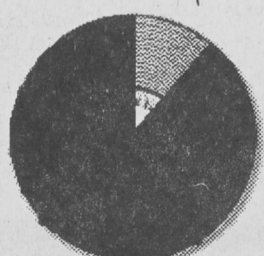
The *Ring-tum Phi* is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. The Washington and Lee Publications Board elects the Editor in chief, but *The Ring-tum Phi* is otherwise independent.

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

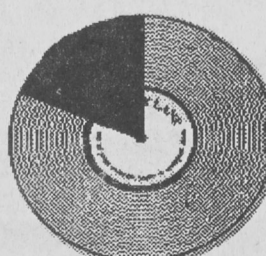
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FILE SHARING AND THE RIAA: THE FACTS

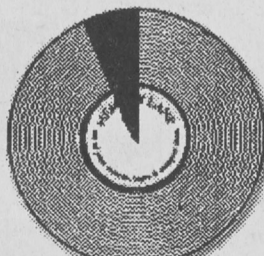
DATA PROVIDED BY boycottrriaa.org AND riaa.org



Eighty-five percent of all music is released by 5 RIAA labels, the other 15% comprises less than 1% of all music sales.



Twenty percent of that 85% is legally available at any given time, the rest is held in reserve, but is often available via file sharing programs.



Since file sharing became an issue, sales of CDs have declined by 9.4%.

Commons criticism unjustified

Frankly, I'm tired of the negativity and trivial nitpicking that's been swirling around our new University Commons. I feel it is time that the students read something entirely positive about the



SLICE ON LIFE
NICK MANNINO '07

John W. Elrod University Commons.

While I am only a Freshman, and do not have the luxury of providing an in-depth comparison to the old D-Hall and co-op, I was a summer scholar two years ago and had some limited exposure to these outdated facilities. For those Freshman that have yet to step foot inside the old D-Hall, venture inside one day when you have some free time. It's reminiscent of a super sized bingo hall at your local retirement home. Once inside, visit the crawl space in the rear of the building where students

picked up their food each day. This relatively closed-air partition served well for those of us who wanted to hit the sauna before we ate. The average temperature in that room during cooking hours must have been ninety-five degrees. You could break out in a sweat lifting your tray off the storage rack. Okay, so I'm exaggerating a little, but you get the point.

Our new dining area in the Commons makes the old D-Hall feel like a prison cafeteria. While some say the design is flawed, I think it is an architectural masterpiece. The oversized windows provide much welcomed light for us diurnal beings, and the spacious, unconfined section where food is served is liberating compared to the old burrow of a food line. In layman

terms, the new dining area kicks ass.

Another portion of the Commons that has been under attack lately is the café/emporium. While I must admit the prices are pretty steep for the portions of food served, is money really a major concern for the majority of students at Washington and Lee? Not to generalize, but I'm pretty confident that for those of us who use the café/emporium as an occasional substitute for the dining hall, it's more than affordable.

Not to mention the sitting area is infinitely more comfortable than the plastic booths in the old co-op. Speaking of the co-op, have you fellow Freshmen had the opportunity to see that joke they called a bookstore situated right next door? I honestly think some students' bedrooms at home are of the same size. The new bookstore is a two-floor work of art,

with a greater reading selection, augmented apparel section, and an entire floor dedicated to student textbooks.

As some of you have read in previous articles, buying textbooks in the old bookstore was like visiting the DMV; you weren't going anywhere fast.

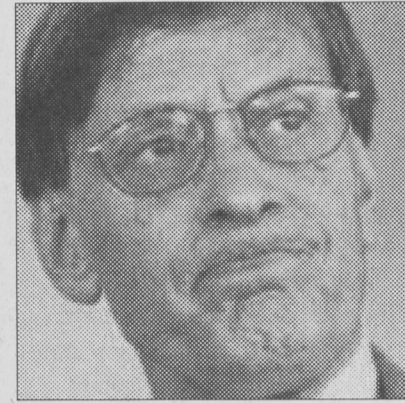
Other highlights of the Commons include a game room, theatre, and plenty of comfortable alcoves for your late-night studying needs.

Hopefully by now you hold the Commons in higher regard. I challenge any of you to find a liberal arts college of this size with such an amazing facility. While some features of the building may not be essential to the life of a W&L student, they sure are a wonderful luxury to have available. So enjoy the brand new John W. Elrod University Commons for all it's worth, and please, stop being so nitpicky.

Coward of the Week

An irregular feature of the *Ring-tum Phi*

MLB Commissioner Bud Selig



Commissioner Selig, the man in charge of pro baseball, would not reverse his decision this week to seek contraction (essentially the destruction) of several Major League Baseball teams, including the Minnesota Twins and Montreal Expos. The elimination of these two teams from the region would doubtless benefit the team that Selig himself owns—the Milwaukee Brewers. His cowardly, back-handed attempt to benefit his struggling franchise at the expense of the exciting Expos and division-leading Twins is just what baseball doesn't need as attendance continues to drop.

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October 4th, 2003

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Nabors Service League

Spring Term dilemma demands drastic action



PHOTO COURTESY haverford.edu

WHAT WE NEED NOW. Haverford students protesting issues related to the "institutionalization of diversity" on the Haverford College campus in 1977.

This weekend, Yale came to an agreement with its custodial and restaurant unions after a lengthy contract dispute. After nearly three weeks without residential dining halls, Yale students will once again be able to enjoy hot breakfasts rather than the bagels and apples to which they had become accustomed. Undergraduate Bulldogs made common cause with the unions to demand that the university provide a more generous pension plan and better job security.

In December of 2001, Harvard students staged a weeks-long sit-in to force the administration to examine whether it provided the university's employees with a "living wage" and were successful in convincing the administration to raise the average wage.

Students across the nation have been agitating for university administrations to stop selling apparel manufactured in so-called sweatshops, stop accepting money from unsavory corporate donors and to

call publicly for an end to the war on terrorism. Some efforts have been more successful than others, but students, with few responsibilities and lots of free time, have made the best of their opportunities to prevail on a campus' elite opinion.

In our bucolic slice of heaven, socks-and-sandaled advocacy for such wrong-headed left-liberal causes would hardly be appropriate or necessary (or easy to get students to participate in, for that matter). However, these examples of student protest around the country can teach us what Generals might be called on to do to save our beloved Spring Term.

Today, the faculty voted to send a calendar recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The results were not available at press time and while one certainly hopes that the faculty heeded the advice of the calendar working groups' reports and voted to keep a 12-12-6 calendar, the choice of the professors is neither binding nor indicative of the decision the Board will make.

In fact, sources close to the Board report that the decision to eliminate our beloved Spring Term in favor of a two semester calendar.

The Trustees will be coming to campus for their Fall Meeting October 23-25. Students should use that opportunity to deliver to them a message that thousands of signatures on petitions, polite letters from the EC and deferential articles in the *Phi* cannot. The October meeting may, in fact, be time for W&L students to imitate the tactics of physical protest so successfully used by students at other universities.

Although such mean strategy is typically not the province of our reserved and comparatively serene student body, the inconvenience and aggravation dealt to the Board by a sit-in or protest might be

enough to convince them of the seriousness of our desire to see our beloved Spring Term left intact. Direct action might be the only method still available to us by which we could draw from the Board a commitment to preserve Spring Term and to making its renewal a financial priority, regardless of the vote of the faculty.

Too often, other students attract national news to their campuses because of ill-considered and protests supporting silly causes. Come October, Washington and Lee students will have an opportunity to show that student protest can be used for the academic benefit of a university. In our case, to demand that the Board preserve the flexibility, breadth of offerings and endless opportuni-

"Come October, W&L students will have an opportunity to show that student protest can be used for the academic benefit of a university."

ties for travel and unique study that Spring Term offers requires our best efforts, even the extreme of student protest.

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Women's Soccer wins in shut out over Lynchburg

BY ALLISON PERRY
SPORTS EDITOR

Hurricane Isabel could not keep the Washington and Lee women's soccer team from improving their record this weekend to 4-0 and 3-0 in the ODAC.

The Generals defeated the nationally ranked Lynchburg team 1-0 on Saturday. The game was originally scheduled for Friday but was rained out.

Washington and Lee also defeated Emory and Henry 7-0 on Tuesday.

The first half did not see any scoring, but Washington and Lee sophomore Kerry Giblin scored the only goal of the game soon after the second half started. Giblin recovered the ball after freshman Anne Wiltshire's shot rebounded off Lynchburg goal keeper Erin Johnson.

Junior goal keeper Emily Barker had 3 saves in the game. Johnson had one save.

"We never gave up the entire game," said Barker. "We challenged everything."

Lynchburg led in shots with 13, while the Generals only had seven. The Hornets' had 3 shots on

goal. Alison Phillips, Jessica Coles, and Christina DiLiddo contributed one shot on goal each.

Washington and Lee had two shots on goal. Wiltshire had one shot on goal, and Giblin's goal counted as the other.

Lynchburg had 22 fouls, while the Generals had 12. Hornets junior defender Taryn Wyckoff received a yellow card.

Scoring goals for Washington and Lee in the game against Emory and Henry on Tuesday were Wiltshire, freshman Cara Burton, sophomore Conner Esworthy, freshman Sarah Helms, junior Maggie Hope, senior Fontaine Marcoux, and freshman Maggie Megear.

Helms had two assists, while Marcoux, freshman Blair Haws, and sophomore Heather Rogers had one assist each.

Freshman Emily Binns stayed in the goal for the Generals, making 2 saves.

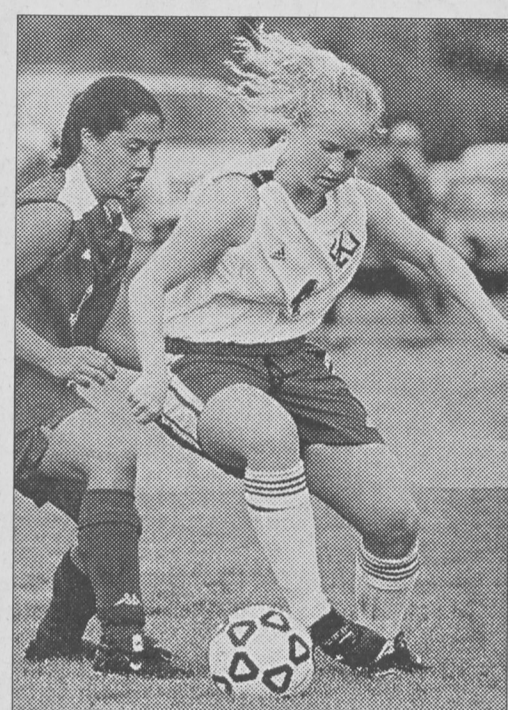
The Generals meet up with Hollins on Tuesday, September 23 at 4:30 p.m. in Roanoke.

Hollins was picked to finish eleventh in the ODAC preseason poll. But Barker says the team works hard preparing for every game.

"We are going to do what we normally do and get focused," Barker said. "We are going to get ready to come out strong."



Kerry Giblin
COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION



Skills. Junior Maggie Hope outsmarts a player.
COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION

Men's soccer defeats Ferrum and Catholic

BY JOHN HYLAND
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The W&L men's soccer team had a strong showing this week, notching two victories to improve its record to 3-0 and poise itself for the upcoming ODAC season.

The Generals traveled to Ferrum College on Tuesday. W&L got off to a quick start and never looked back.

Junior forward Brian Pirkle opened the scoring just ten minutes into the game off a pass from junior midfielder and fellow captain Justin Mygatt.

The Generals widened their lead when Pirkle fed senior midfielder Jacob Stoehr who found the back of the net for a 2-0 lead. It would be all the scoring that W&L would need.

Junior Chris Carlson and sophomore Michael Stanton combined for the shutout in goal with a total of four saves. It was clear that the Generals dominated from the opening minute out shooting Ferrum 25-7.

The Generals were supposed to travel to Washington D.C. last Friday to face Catholic University but thanks to Hurricane Isabel the game was rescheduled to Saturday afternoon in Lexington.

The Generals were able to open their home season on their brand new field a little early and an enthusiastic home crowd greeted them.

Once again, W&L got off to a very quick start as Pirkle scored just 3:35 into the game off a feed from Mygatt. Pirkle extended the lead with an unassisted goal twenty minutes into the first half.

The Generals received another insurance goal from Mygatt on an assist from freshman forward Sandy Piracci.

The Cardinals scored a meaningless goal at the end of the second half to avoid the shut-out and close the scoring at 3-1.

The Generals controlled

nearly every facet of the game, attacking loose balls and out shooting the Cardinals 25-3, forcing Carlson and Stanton to only make a save apiece.

W&L is off to its best start since the 2000 team began the season with seven wins. That team was loaded with talented, experienced players en route to a 19-2 record, winning the ODAC championship and reaching the second round of the NCAA tournament.

This team has a total of five juniors and only one senior and was picked to finish fifth out of ten teams in the preseason ODAC poll.

One of those upperclassmen, junior midfielder Josh Grahe, believes this team has experienced great success because "we have great chemistry and have really come together offensively."

Clearly, the offense has clicked as the Generals have been pelting goalies with almost twenty shots a game and controlling the ball, putting minimal pressure on their defense.

The Generals have also gotten the most out of their few upperclassmen. Pirkle, Stoehr and Mygatt have combined to tally 18 of the Generals 19 total points.

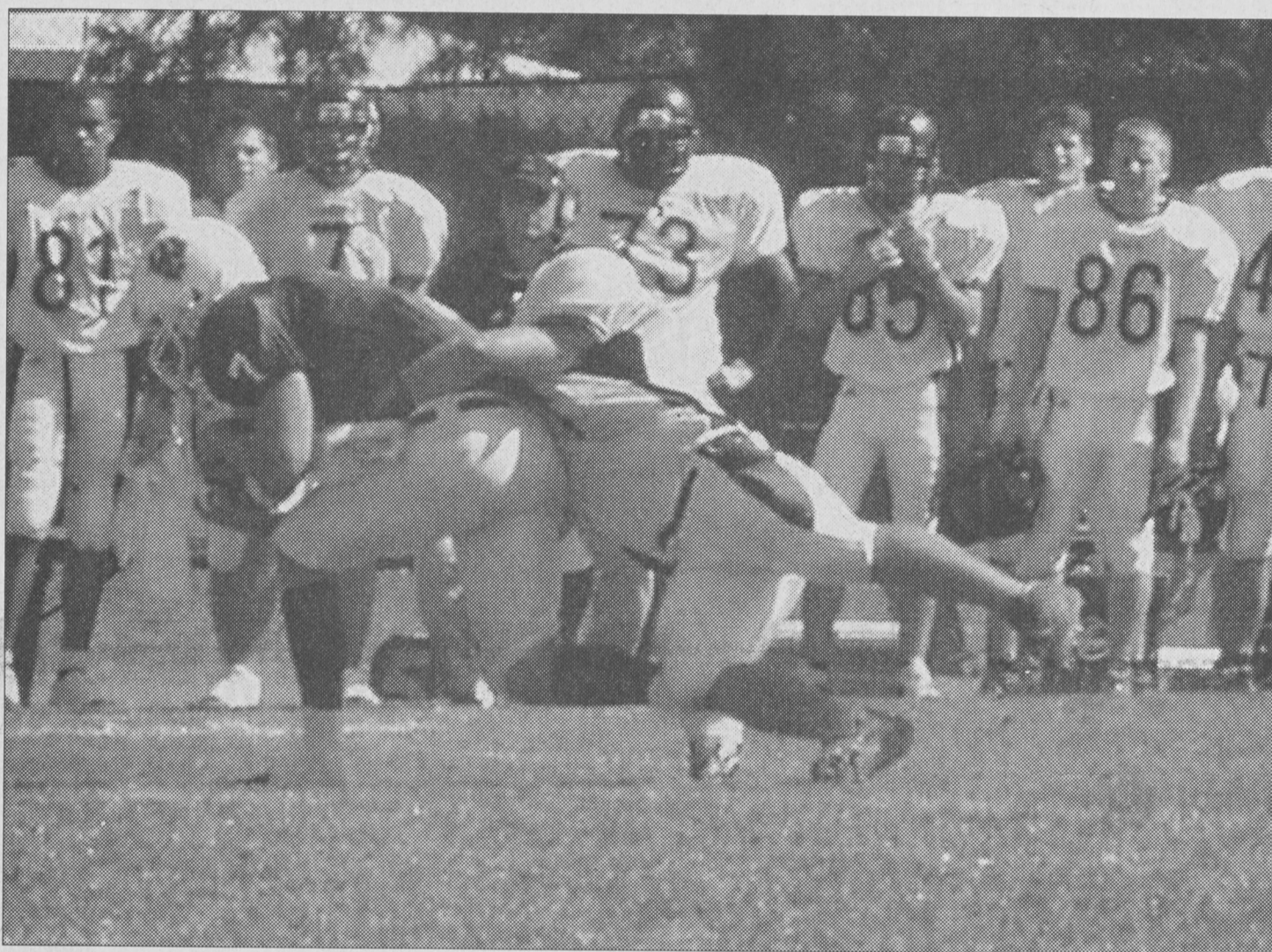
Pirkle, in particular, has been on fire. The local product has four goals and an assist on the year and has scored the game winner in ever game.

The defense has also been solid, allowing just two goals in three games and is also led by a pair of juniors in Co-captain Peter Miller and Carlson, who have led an otherwise young and inexperienced group.

Grahe added, "This is just where we wanted to be heading into the ODAC season."

Hopefully the Generals can continue their streak with the stakes even higher as they open their ODAC schedule with a home game this Wednesday against Eastern Mennonite.

Generals face trouble with Tigers



Escape. Senior quarterback Peter Dean fights a sack. Dean was only sacked twice in Saturday's game.
FILE PHOTO

BY ALLISON PERRY
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee Men's football team fell to Sewanee 37-13 in a non-conference match-up on Saturday in Tennessee.

On WLUR 91.5, Coach Frank Miriello commented on Sewanee freshman quarterback Wes Satterfield. Miriello said Satterfield has a lot of height and can pass pretty well.

But Satterfield did more running on Saturday than passing, rushing for 114 yards and 3 touchdowns. He also completed 10 out of 15 passes for a total of 91 yards.

Sewanee got on the board first when senior running back Justin Askew ran 27 yards for a touchdown early in the first quarter. Sophomore kicker Jake Roberts made the extra point to give the Tigers a 7-0 lead.

Washington and Lee senior quarterback Peter Dean came back in the middle of the second quarter with a one yard touchdown run to put the score at 7-6.

Satterfield rushed for another touchdown three minutes later, but the kick for the extra point failed. On the ensuing drive, Sewanee freshman Harlan Hickerson recovered a Washington and Lee fumble. Roberts kicked a 47 yard field goal to put the score at 16-6.

Washington and Lee senior Ted Maffitt then picked up a Sewanee fumble with 51 seconds left in the half to give the Generals the ball within the 10 yard line. But the turning point in the

game came when Sewanee sophomore cornerback, Mike Glanton, intercepted Dean's pass in the flat, running 98 yards for the touchdown as time expired. Roberts' kick was good, and instead of seeing their lead cut, the Tigers went into the half leading 23-6.

With 5:03 left in the third quarter, Washington and Lee sophomore wide receiver Clark Kensinger caught a 22 yard pass from Dean to score the final touchdown for the Generals. Freshman kicker Ben Long made the extra point.

Satterfield rushed for two more touchdowns, one of them being a 43 yard run. Roberts made the kick each time. Sewanee junior Deon Carter intercepted a Dean pass with about eleven minutes left in the game, ending a W&L scoring drive and setting up the Tigers' final touchdown.

Dean passed for 101 yards, completing 10 out of 18 attempts and one touchdown. He ran the ball in for the other touchdown and threw two interceptions.

Freshman running back Richard Garland led the Generals in rushing with 39 yards. Junior Chris Caramore rushed for 33 yards. For the defense, junior linebacker Lloyd Wilson recorded 12 tackles.

For the Tigers' defense, senior Alex Cain had two sacks.

The Generals will play Centre in a non-ODAC game next Saturday, September 27 at 1:00 at home on Wilson Field.

Senior captain Scott Kucinski thinks the team can keep a positive attitude and start fresh this week.

"We hope to get things rolling in the ODAC," Kucinski said. "Hopefully things will be better when we start playing those games."

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 23	Wednesday, September 24	Saturday, September 27	Sunday, September 28
Golf hosts Buck Leslie Invitational--8:45 Women's soccer at Hollins--4:30 Volleyball vs. Randolph-Macon Woman's College--6:30	Men's soccer vs. Eastern Mennonite--4:00 Field Hockey at Sweet Briar--TBA	Men's soccer vs. Hampden-Sydney--11:00 Women's soccer at M. Washington--3:00 Football vs. Centre--1:00 Volleyball at Emory--11:30 Women's tennis at Rolex Regional--TBA	Women's soccer vs. Mary Baldwin--2:00 Women's tennis at Rolex Regional--TBA

Volleyball improves to 7-0, 3-0 in ODAC

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee volleyball team improved its record to 7-0 overall and 3-0 in the ODAC this week. The Generals defeated Sweet Briar 3-0, Emory and Henry 3-0, and Eastern Mennonite 3-0.

Washington and Lee knocked off Sweet Briar on the road Tuesday in sets of 30-16, 30-19, and 30-21.

Junior Michelle Chastain had eleven kills and seven digs. Junior Emily Wolfing posted eight kills and eight digs. Sophomores Ashleigh Overly and Christine Gladysz had nine kills and 18 assists, respectively.

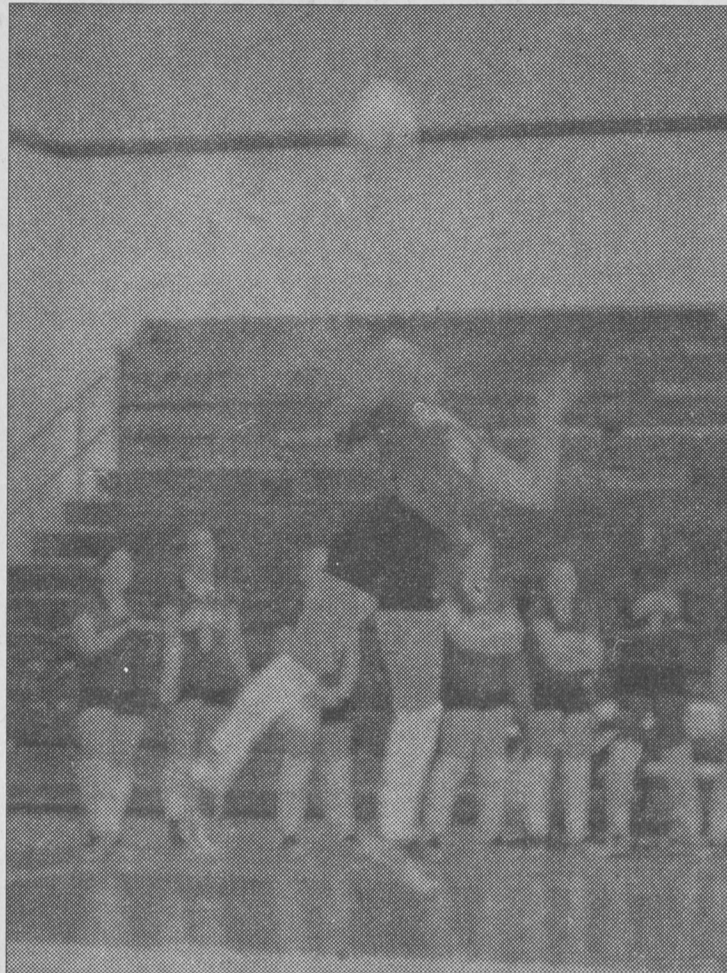
On Thursday, the Generals defeated Emory and Henry with game scores of 30-18, 30-19, and 30-21.

Chastain posted 14 kills and eight digs. Sophomore Susan Gaillard had ten kills. Wolfing notched nine kills and nine digs. Gladysz also had nine digs and 43 assists.

Washington and Lee also beat Eastern Mennonite on Saturday with sets of 30-20, 30-15, and 30-21.

Chastain had 16 kills and nine digs. Gladysz and sophomore Laura Byrne posted seven kills and ten digs, and 24 assists and ten digs, respectively.

The Generals play again on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Warner Center against Randolph-Macon Woman's College.



Christine Gray/The King-Jum Phi

THE LONG LOST ARM. Sophomore Christine Gladysz goes up for a hit.

Rugby team looks forward to season

BY CAMERON GARNER
SPORTS WRITER

When asked about the upcoming season for the Washington and Lee Minks Rugby team, Chad "look at this picture of me and Randy Moss...hey that doesn't look like Randy Moss...yes it does!" Lewis said: we're fast and we're tough...we're TIGHT!"

George "ask me about your rash" Craft seconded Lewis' remarks by saying: "we are 2-0, we killed both teams we've played so far, and I'm nasty." Rugby, a sport too often overlooked at W&L, has quietly been one of our most successful programs each fall.

A mix of football and soccer, Rugby requires a level of endurance seldom seen on the other sports fields due to continuous play, hard hits, and limited substitutions. The offense moves downfield attempting to score a "try" (touchdown) worth five points and the ensuing kick worth two.

The Minks have scored their share this year, thanks in part to the running of Duffy, Woodward, and Wols, outscoring their opponents by a combined 74 points. Craft highlights the team's early successes by saying "seriously, I'm nasty."

With fellow captain John Schaufele, and President Ryan Duffy, the Minks can back George's comments up.

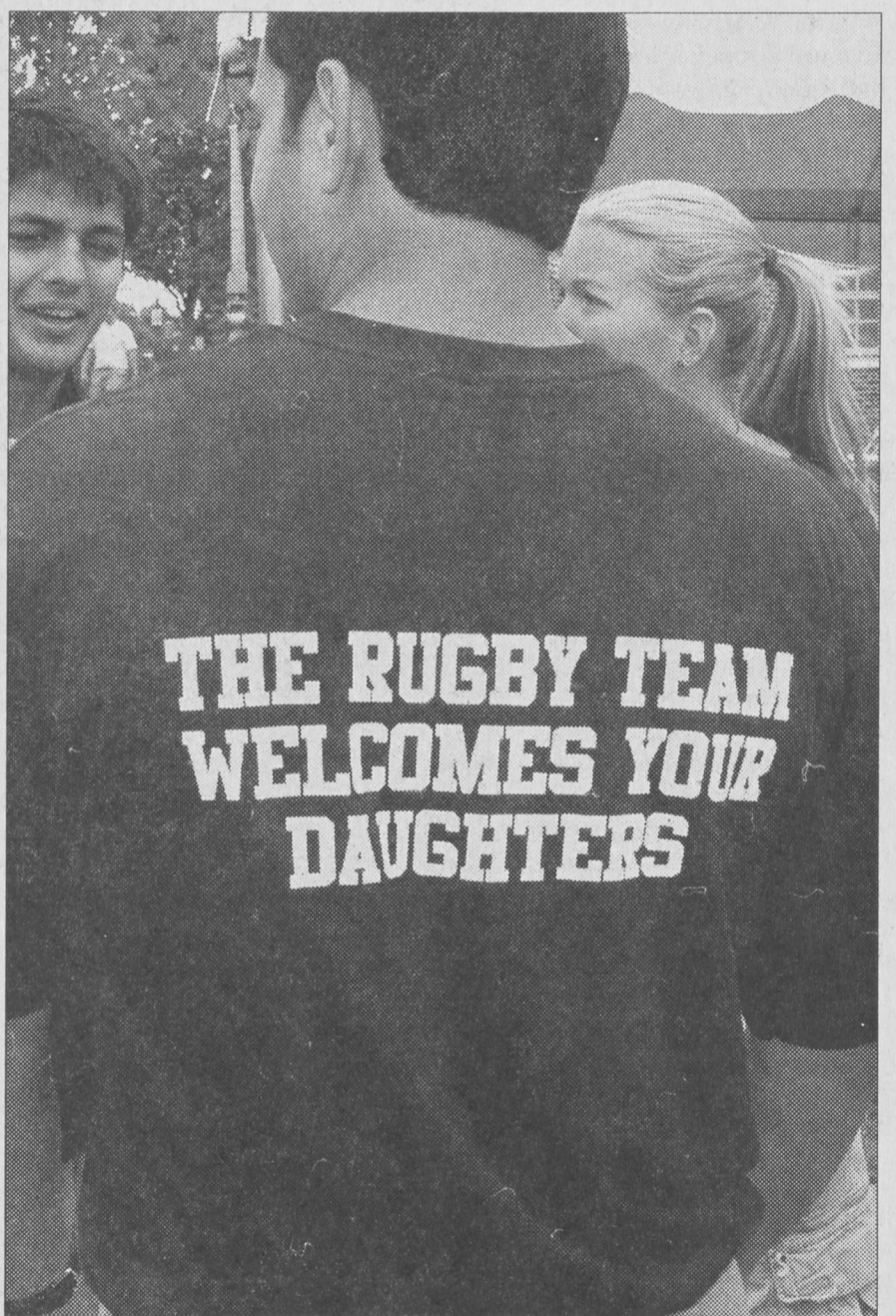
Mark "the Godfather" Woodward, an outside center and all-around sharp dresser, is looking forward to another great season after helping the Minks beat VMI on their Parade grounds for the first time in, well, a "long time" says Craft.

Jock "the flippin' foreigner" Wols brings his slick South African lingo and board shorts to the pitch every day. Rory Dowling, the team's fly half, has adjusted to his new position well and now anchors the Minks' back line.

These are a few names in what Woodward calls "a very balanced team."

The Minks toy with other teams' emotions every Saturday at nearby Highland Bell Middle School stadium, better known as "the Lambaugh of Lexington," or "right next to the playground." A trip to this Rugby Mecca should be on everyone's list of things to do on a Saturday right after Waffle House and before naptime.

So come watch the Minks and support the most underrated team on campus.



FILE PHOTO

RIGHT. The rugby team's sense of humor makes itself known on their now infamous shirts worn for freshman move-in last year.

Golf to host Buck Leslie Memorial Tournament

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee golf team placed ninth in the Randolph-Macon Ted Keller Invitational last Monday and Tuesday.

Twelve teams competed in the two day event held at Hunting Hawk Golf Club in Glen Allen, Virginia.

Bridgewater won the tournament with a total team score of 614.

Placing behind Bridgewater were Christopher Newport at 622, Lynchburg at 623, Ferrum at 624, Hampden-Sydney at 624, Wesley at 627, Roanoke at 627, Randolph-Macon "A" at 631, Washington and Lee at 637, Randolph-Macon "B" at 643, Virginia Wesleyan at 647, and Apprentice School at 663.

Freshman Ted Williams led in scoring for the Generals with a combined score of 155. He shot a 71 on Monday and an 84 on Tuesday. Williams tied for fourteenth place.

Junior captain Ged Johnson tied for seventeenth place with a total score of 157. He shot an 80 on Monday and a 77 on Tuesday.

The Generals host the Buck Leslie Memorial Tournament at Lexington Golf and Country Club today and tomorrow. Teams teed off starting at 8:45 this morning.

Lexington Golf and Country Club has been the Washington and Lee team course for over 60 years.

In 1969, the course was redesigned by Ellis Maples, who designed the the Number Five course at Pinehurst Resort.

The course is a par 71 and 6,444 yards in length.

Field Hockey knocks off Roanoke 2-1 in overtime at home game

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee field hockey team defeated Roanoke 2-1 in overtime on Wednesday.

Senior forward Kelly Taffe scored the winning goal for the generals with an assist from sophomore Jane Beall.

The Maroons (4-1 overall, 2-1 in the ODAC) led 1-0 for the first half. But junior forward Kristen Brown tied the game for the Generals. Brown was assisted by sophomore defender Katharine Lester.

Sophomores Courtney Harrison and Elise Gelinass

shared the goal for Washington and Lee. Harrison made 2 saves, and Gelinass made 5 saves.

Junior Beth Lichty made 9 saves as goal keeper for Roanoke.

The Generals led in shots, 13-12.

Washington and Lee was scheduled to play Christopher Newport on the road, but the game was postponed due to Hurricane Isabel. No date has been set for the game.

The field hockey team travels to Sweet Briar on Wednesday, September 24. Game time is TBA.

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This week's golf etiquette tip:
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Women's cross country wins, men finish second

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Washington and Lee women's cross country team took first place out of ten teams in the Roanoke Invitational on Saturday. The men's team finished second.

Freshman Tappens Stone led the women's team with a time of 20:11.5, finishing second overall.

Junior Steve Chambers led the men with a time of 27:57.8, finishing third overall. Senior Andy Schorr finished fourth with a time of 28:05.6.

In the women's race, the Generals finished with 45 points. Following Washington and Lee were Juniata with 57 points, Roanoke with 72, Southern Virginia with 114, King with 164, Shepherd with 185, Hollins with 190, Ferrum with 204, Mary Baldwin with 232, and Greensboro with 236.

Roanoke finished first with 22 points in the men's race. Coming in behind Roanoke were Washington and Lee with 59 points, Juniata with 86, Eastern Mennonite with 99, Ferrum with 146, Greensboro with 157, Southern Virginia with 165, and King with 214.

Both the women's and men's team race again on Saturday, October 4 at 10:15 a.m. at the Dickinson Invitational.

Dust up in the desert: Palms vs. The Mirage

As far as W&L seniors are concerned, the Palms is the only bar in town. Why don't we hear more people asking, "Are you going to the Mirage tonight?" Is the Palms the default bar for good reason or does the Mirage

Φ THE DISH
CAROLYN DUFFY '05

deserve a chance? More students than you might think have already darkened the doorways of the Mirage, and for good reason.

True, the Palms has been here forever, it has earned its solid reputation, and moreover it has become a W&L tradition—a senior Mecca. It's cool to go to the Palms for a few drinks. It is very not cool to hang out at the Mirage.

I stopped by the Mirage last week to talk food with Tony, chef/owner of the restaurant, which opened last October, but the conversation quickly shifted to the students rather than the menu. If you were ever uncertain as to whether or not students would feel as welcome there as they do at the Palms, don't be. Tony wishes more students would frequent his bar, noting the various ways in which he caters to them and attempts to provide a student-friendly atmosphere.

Thursday is Students' Night, featuring draft specials and a chance to bring your own CD's to play in the jukebox—as loud as you want. That's just one thing that Tony claims separates them from the Palms. "It's a completely different atmosphere. We're not afraid to turn the jukebox up, and there's plenty of room to move around and breathe here," he explains, referring to the complaints he receives (mostly from law students) that the Palms is too hot and too crowded.

A recent remodeling of the restaurant left it with a new bar area and carpeting (you might not even recognize the place) as well as plenty of entertainment—pool tables, dart boards, and a foosball table. The Mirage is especially proud of its large dance floor, and while I have yet to ex-



JEB BROOKS/ THE RING-TUM PHI

What's that I see? Lexington's bars have much to offer. Carolyn asks more students to try the Mirage.

perience it, a DJ and Karaoke every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night sounds like quite an opportunity to scope out the local talent.

And the food? Very reasonably priced, the Mirage specializes in "late night munchies" and appetizers, best exemplified in the Munchie Basket which includes cheese sticks, onion rings, fried mushrooms, poppers, chicken tenders, and dips. It feeds four for only \$9.95. Tony's charbroiled burgers are also a favorite—bacon cheese or mushroom with Swiss. But the highlight of the menu is the nightly special: a 10 oz. ribeye dinner that includes baked potato, salad, and a vegetable for only \$6.99. If you're only out for drinks, head for the bar and ask Patsy Tony's wife and the Mirage's bartender, to make you one of her specialties, a Bahama Mama or a Blue Motorcycle.

Still afraid the place will be overrun with locals? Tony has no qualms about expressing his opinion that the locals are "troublemakers" and that he throws many of them out by the end of the night, wishing his bar would be filled with students instead (is it because we spend more on drinks or because he likes us that much?).

If you haven't already, check it out. Maybe you really will be the only Washington and Lee student there, maybe it will be too loud, maybe you won't be in the mood for karaoke, and maybe you'll miss the popcorn at the Palms. The Mirage may not be for everyone, but then again, it could become an alternative at least. If you do happen to try it out, email me at duffycc@wlu.edu and let me know what you think. It could become Lexington's newest hot spot. From what I've heard, it's already on its way there.

Students witness bombing in Spain

BY STEVE LAMB
STAFF WRITER

Every year, thousands of United States college students travel to Europe and other nations around the world to study abroad. This past summer, three Washington and Lee students flew to Spain to study in the southeastern coastal town of Alicante, a popular destination among foreign tourists.

George Singeltary, Carli Hague, and Beth LeBlance arrived in Spain expecting to spend six weeks immersed in Spanish culture, language, and Mediterranean sunshine. According to George Singeltary, their first four weeks at the Estudio Sempere passed smoothly with only the slightest barriers typical to foreign travel, such as lost luggage.

On Tuesday July, 22 at approximately twelve noon a bomb exploded in a hotel adjoining one of the Estudio Sempere's main class buildings. At the time, Carli, George, and Beth were in a classroom a building down from where the bomb was detonated. George Singeltary recalls that he knew immediately that a bomb had gone off. "All of a sudden there was a huge blast, and I could tell it was a bomb right away." The bomb blew open the classroom door leaving both Carli and George with minor cuts.

From the student's perspective, the most

frightening moment of the attack occurred when several wounded students from classrooms closer to actual blast ran into room in search of help. At this point, the Washington and Lee students realized that people had been severely wounded and possible killed. Eventually, emergency personnel arrived and led the students outside to safety and medical treatment.

The attack at the Estudio Sempere was carried out by a terrorist group known as the "ETA", or Basque Fatherland and Liberty. The "ETA" relies on terror as the principle weapon in its drive to gain political independence from Spain for the Basque region; the mountainous area that lies on the border between Spain and France. The group targets mostly Spanish government buildings, but also concentrates attacks on densely populated tourist centers hoping to deter tourism, a key source of income for much of Spain.

Growing resentment towards citizens of the United States and recent increases in global terrorism have many students seriously reconsidering studying abroad. While one must always weigh the pros and cons of such a decision, it's important to remember that to live in fear is in many ways not to live at all. In the end, George ended up being the only W&L student to stay and complete the six week course. He says "I consider the whole situation a positive, life-changing experience."

Rounders: it ain't just cards

BY IAN DICKINSON
STAFF WRITER

This week's film review is to be dedicated to a movie that I have found a disturbing number of people know nothing about. While some may be enlightened to the exhilarating game of Texas Hold'em, many tilt their heads to the side and ask what first person shooter game I am babbling about when I mention this game of poker kings.

Texas Hold'em truly is the game of kings. This is no blackjack table you are sitting at; when you sit down to play Texas Hold'em, you are dealing with pros. There are people who make their living entirely off of this game.

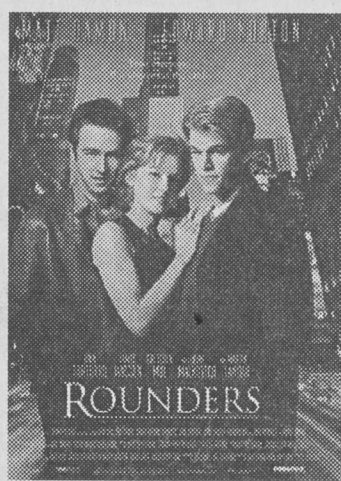
"Rounders" is one of the first, if not the best, movies dealing with the subject of poker. Specifically the game of Texas Hold'em. Starring A-list actors such as Matt Damon, Edward Norton, and John Malkovich, this is a movie that should not pass you by.

Damon, cast as the lead, lays out convincing role as a Law student who plays poker on the side or is "rounding" to pay

for law school. However in the beginning scene of the film, he gets greedy and loses it all to the Russian Casino owner "Teddy KGB," a role brilliantly played by John Malkovich. The movie resumes a year later when Damon's long time friend "Worm", played by Edward Norton, gets released from jail.

Norton's character is the synthesis of every fatal flaw in a Poker player: he cheats at every game, is dishonest, steals, and yet director John Dahl makes sure the audience knows why Damon's character considers Worm his best friend. Worm is the Catalyst that drags Damon's now "Straight" character back into the dark world of Poker, and that is when the trouble begins.

This movie should be mandatory viewing for all pledges and have a place reserved for it in every frat's movie collection. Not only does it teach the viewer how to play the game Texas Hold'em, but it is highly entertaining, suspenseful, and masterfully executed as far as film is concerned. All this, and it still teaches important life lessons. "Matt Damon: Listen, here's the thing. If you can't spot the sucker in the first half hour at the table, then you ARE the sucker."



COMPLIMENTS OF ROUNDERSMOVIE.COM

W&L Campus AA Meeting

7:00 in Fairfax Lounge

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National program aim to reduce rape

FROM STAFF REPORTS

On Tuesday, September 23rd, local rape centers and thousands of volunteers across the country will host Get Carded 2003, a campaign to raise awareness and help prevent sexual assault.

Volunteers will be at more than 700 college campuses across the nation passing out

sexual assault information packets and wallet size hotline cards containing the National Sexual Assault Hotline's phone number as well as information about their free counseling services. Volunteers will also provide information sheets with tips on how to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of sexual assault.

The Get Card 2003 campaign focuses on college students because they are at such an increased risk of being a victim of sexual assault. People age sixteen to twenty four are three times more likely than any other age group of becoming a victim of sexual assault and 80% of all sexual assault victims are under thirty years of age.

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THE LAST WORD

THE RING-TUM PHI

Absolut Fratlord reveals ten best theme parties

I've decided recently that expressing my opinion on heated university issues is bad news. I don't think I have the grace or ability to reasonably express myself in a way that is marketable to the entire student body. To be sure, many people have reacted favorably to my more serious articles, but there have also been a few with more negative responses. So, in an effort to avoid receiving negative written responses that are actually longer than the length of my original article, I'm going to cool it for awhile, and return to truly fratty topics. If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen I guess.

Thus, this change-of-pace article is dedicated to everyone who wallowed around in the KA mud pit on Saturday. Here it is, the Tim Smith list of W&L's Top Ten Theme Parties, for fraternities.

10) Old South (KA) – In a politically-correct world, somehow Mother Alpha gets away with this classic Antebellum Formal. Whether this leaves you feeling disturbed, offended or nostalgic, you have to admit they look darn spiffy in those wool grays. Especially that Denbow fella, despite being the reluctant Southerner he is.

9) Chi Psi Late Night (Chi Psi) – Somehow, Chi Psi manages to get a bad rap for one of the most crucially consistent party spots on campus. Where would we be without late night?? We'd certainly be getting a lot more sleep, which would be a total waste of time. So whether you think they're oddball creatures of the night or not, respect them for providing entertainment well into the morning. Tully, Brooksy, and all the other Psychotics – I salute you.

8) Italian Wedding (PiKA) – The only mixer on the list, Italian Wedding is easily the most creative mixer in the W&L universe. It's hilarious to watch the Pikas and Chi-Os attempt to look as Italian as possible – Drew Catanese, of course, does not have to do much to prepare. Then as they attempt to drink like Italians, you have the makings of a great mixer.

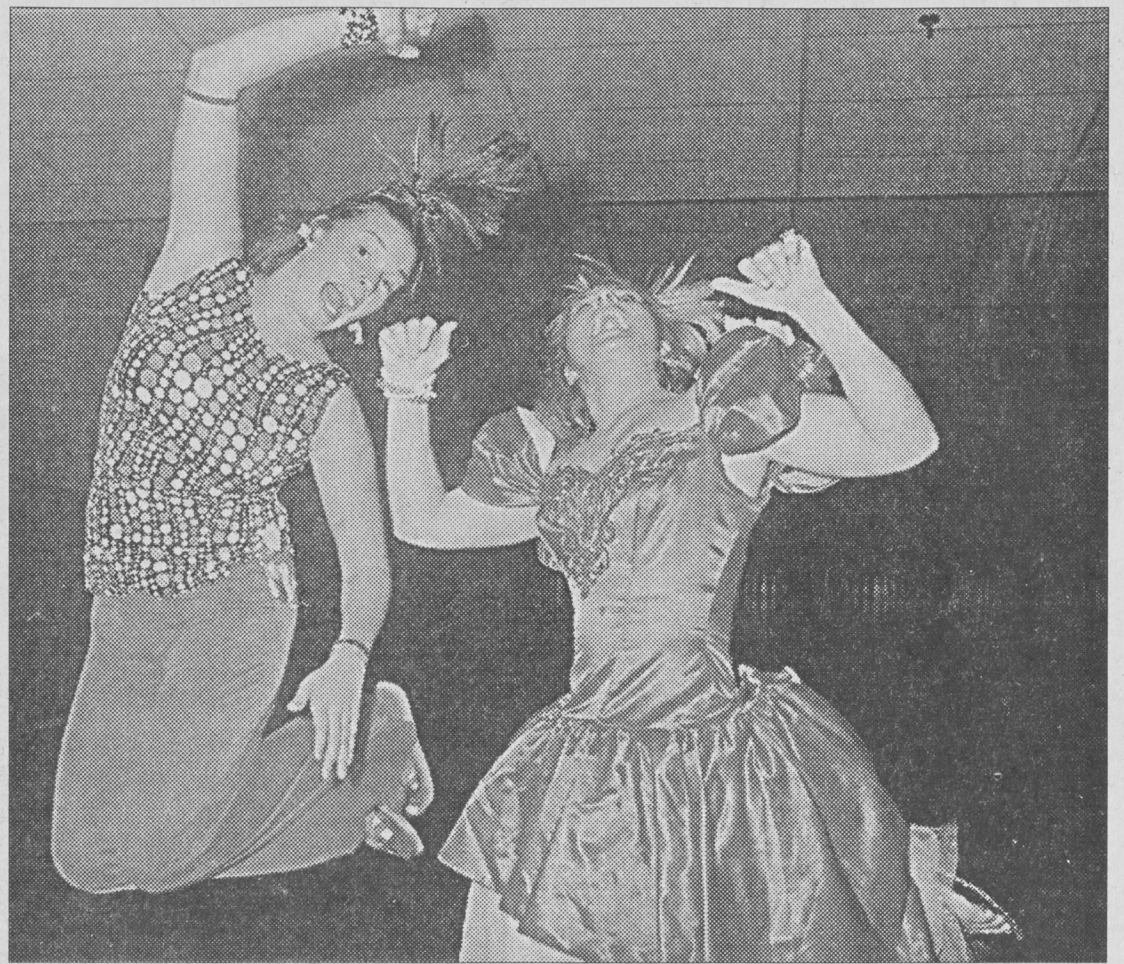
7) Redneck Ball (K-Sig) – As a West Virginian, I must admit that this is a true favorite. Nothing reminds me of home like a busted-up car on cinder blocks, being demolished by drunken frat boys with sledgehammers. Beautiful and scary in the same breath. There are other good redneck parties out there, but Kappa Sig's Redneck Ball is the redneckest of em all.

6) Tropical (Lambda Chi) – Blatant self promotion?? Perhaps. But make no mistake – Lambda Chi's Tropical party is certainly in the upper echelon of W&L's many beach parties. Where else can you get a 3-story tropical waterfall, a genuine lawn volcano, and the unique experience of watching sorority girls swallow goldfish for T-shirts (not to mention Mark Franceski swallowing 21 goldfish for no T-shirt). Come by this Friday, and maybe this particular Frat Lord will have a fish saved just for you.

5) Halloween Party (the Big Four) – A lot of people disagree that a Big Four even exists. This is an often-debated topic to be sure. To me, it's a moot point, as long as the Halloween Party stays around. Certainly the greatest Wednesday night event, and probably the only chance you'll get to see some of the W&L "elites" dressed up in full hilarious costumes.

4) Derby Days (Sigma Chi) – Perhaps this award should go to the Girls of Derby Days, who put it all on the line for the sake of pure competition. Though recent Derby Days have been more tame, there have certainly times when the girls have caused some jaws to drop (Long Live the senior Thetas). Yet even without the contribution of W&L's finest ladies, the boys from Sigma Chi know how to kick off Spring Term in style – with a ridiculous week long party. Amen.

3) Foxfield – If you've never been, then you just don't understand what the hubbub is about. Rest assured, Fox Field races is one of the greatest parties you'll ever go to – where else can you set



FILE PHOTO

SHE LOVES TO GROOVE. Theta alumnae shake their groove thang at "Tacky Prom," not a top-ten theme party.

up bars in the middle of a big field, just to watch UVA girls clean you out in 20 minutes? And for those of your W&L nostalgics, Fox Field is a great way to relive those classic tailgate parties of old.

2) KA's Beach Party (KA) – KA gets the #2 spot here, simply because I'm typing this article with painful scrapes all over my body. The Beach Party has suffered in years past, due to drought and other unfortunate interferences. But without a doubt, Saturday's party was probably the craziest thing I've seen at W&L in my tenure. That mudslide was unbelievable, but not quite so ridiculous as watching girls hose each other off time after time. Mercy, I love this school.

1) Buffalo Creek – It's only appropriate that a schoolwide party like Buffalo Creek should get the number one spot on the list. It is perhaps the last hurrah of every school year – the Ultimate Spring Term celebration. Nothing screams fratty like sitting around fires with burned couches, chairs, and the occasional carfire. And since it's usually the last big event of the school year, its tough to beat. We've got a long time and many parties to go before we get there – not to mention tons of great parties that didn't make this list. So don't be a square – get out there and enjoy yourself. Otherwise you won't know what you're missing.

Earn degree in lingerie at Intimate U.

BY MEGAN MORGAN
ARTS AND LIFE EDITOR

As students headed back to Washington and Lee this September, they were greeted by a new addition to the Lex-

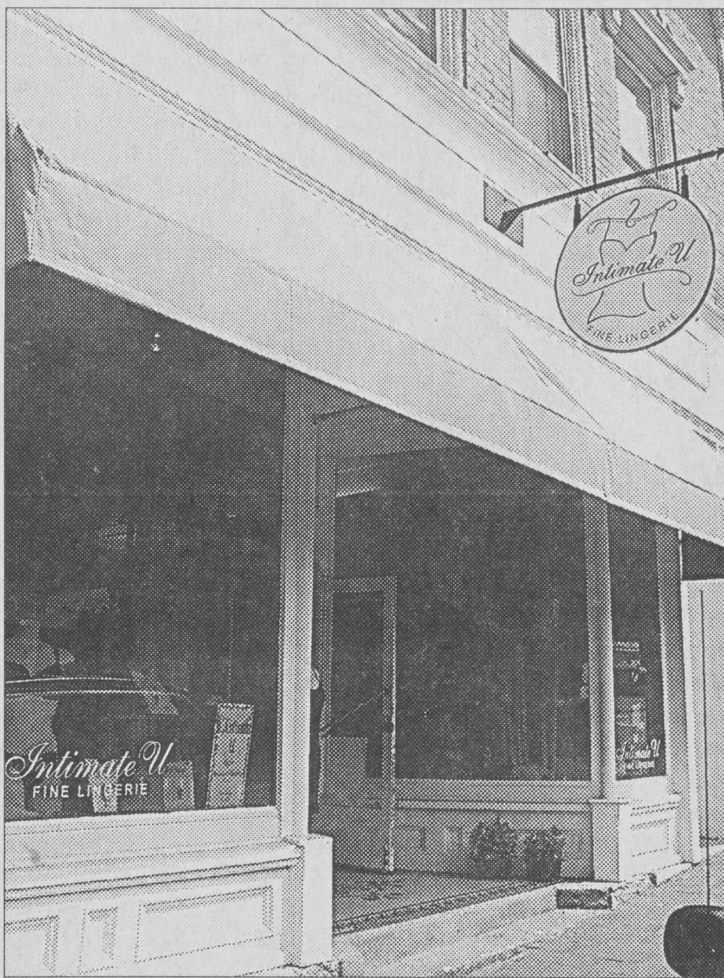
ington community. On June 9th, Rick and Tracy Lackey opened Intimate U, a new store on Nelson Street which sells undergarments and lingerie.

The plans for Intimate U have been in the works for

many years. Tracy Lackey, a Lexington native, has always felt that the town needed a lingerie store. She decided that if she was tired of driving to Charlottesville or Roanoke to buy undergarments than there must be others that shared her sentiments. She and her husband began brainstorming ideas for the store. After nine years of talking about it, they began to make concrete plans for the store's opening one year and a half ago.

While Intimate U has made an effort to reach out to the college community through gestures such as sending flowers to the sororities, the store caters to all ages and sizes. While some of the items are designed for younger women, there are also items that are specifically target older women. In addition, the store carries garments in all sizes from petite to voluptuous.

All the items in the store are selected by Tracy from the lingerie market in New York. She says that at market she "looks for lines that are carried in larger cities that we don't have access to in Lexington." She stresses, however, that she is new to the lingerie market and therefore is always looking for feedback and suggestions from her customers.



GIVIN' 'EM WHAT THEY WANT



FILE PHOTO

You know what we need. Coors Original Banquet Beer isn't only our favorite—it must tempt the freshmen residents of Graham-Lees dormitory as well. Recently, but not recently enough, this delivery truck provided an incongruous photo opportunity when DOD Distributing made a beer run through MicroLex. No doubt, the framers of the ballyhooed alcohol policy weren't happy with the advertising. Freshmen who stormed the truck quickly learned the vehicle was delivering nothing more than bottles of Snapple.

Happy Birthday to our favorite Editorial Director



On Friday, it's Katie Howell's
turn to wiiiiiiun!

Love,
JB, KW, EEJ, MM, AP, CA, BTK, KG & the rest of the PICA crew

QUICK HITS

Φ The Buffalo Bills will win the Super Bowl this year.

Φ Tom McClintock is the best candidate running to replace Gary Davis as governor of California.

Φ Cheers to President and Mrs. Burish for picking up trash as they walk around campus.

Φ The Black Dog burger at the cafe of the same name is delicious.

Φ The stairway from the Commons Amphitheater to the Dell is great going down; not so fun going up.

Φ Lambda Chi threw a very well-attended party on Friday.

Φ Hurray for the Co-op opening the second register for extended hours. Service is much faster.

Φ Don't forget to attend the Mock Convention Delegate Fair in the Doremus Gymnasium, Wednesday 10-4.

Φ During the Board of Trustees Fall Meeting, October 23-25, organize a protest, a demonstration, or a sit-in to let them know Spring Term is non-negotiable.

Φ The rock climbing wall at the Commons looked damn phallic.

Φ Mimi Elrod's cats should be welcomed back into Lee House.

Φ Hunan Garden delivers Chinese food and volcanoes!

Φ Only 93% of SVU students are Mormon. The rest, aren't.

Φ The cubicles in the Commons are simply not sufficient for most campus organizations.

Φ After they lost power, the residents of the Parkview threw one kickin' Hurricane Party last Thursday night.

Φ E-mail your anonymous Quick Hits to phi@wlu.edu.