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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

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The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

After accident, administration may rethink student break time

PATRICIA BALLANTYNE
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee decision makers have hesitated to make a minor calendar change that would protect students' safety, despite advocating change in other recent issues that have been in the limelight.

Last year, Cullum Owings died in a car accident on his return to school after Thanksgiving. The traffic of I-81 on the busy Sunday after Thanksgiving predominantly contributed to his death.

The Washington and Lee administration has focused on calendar issues other than this, such as spring term and the faculty teaching load and delaying students' return from Thanksgiving break has largely been ignored.

Several administrators initially reacted to Cullum's accident by talk of delaying students' return. Former Provost Boetsch asked Scott Dittman, the Registrar and previous head of the Registration and Class Schedule Committee, to determine if a change was possible. The committee discussed calendar changes in emails, but they made no decision and never presented the issue to the faculty.

"We recommended that the Provost not consider a change to the calendar," said Dittman. "We agreed that the safety consideration is important but could be handled by students returning on Saturday."

Provost Williams sees lots of options that could prevent students from returning on the heavily traveled Sunday after Thanksgiving. One simple alternative would move the beginning of school from Thursday to Wednesday and start classes after Thanksgiving break on Tuesday. Students would still have the same number of classes.

Dittman said that starting school on a Wednesday "doesn't help those departments (sciences, music) which really need that Monday after Thanksgiving, especially because of the end-of-term activities which can't be accommodated merely by adding a day in September."

Provost Williams mentioned a possible Tuesday through Saturday week after Thanksgiving break as another alternative. "We have done this in the past" he said, when students returned very early in January from Christmas Break.

According to Provost Williams, student concerns and suggestions are appreciated, but the most efficient method would be through an organized group. "This is not a closed issue."

We agreed that the safety consideration is important but could be handled by students returning on Saturday

SCOTT DITTMAN
UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR

Some colleges have adapted their schedules so that students avoid the horrible traffic on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. VMI begins classes on that Tuesday.

Baptist Bible College and Seminary in Pennsylvania also begins on Tuesday. Milligan University in Illinois changed their schedule to start classes at 4 pm on Monday after two students died while returning to campus the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

With so many cars on the road, driving is dangerous anywhere the Sunday after Thanksgiving, but the poor conditions on I-81 make this trip more risky for W&L students.

I-81 is one of the top eight truck routes in the U.S. Instead of the intended 15 percent truck traffic, trucks now represent 20 percent to 40 percent of the traffic in various areas.

Specifically, the Salem and Roanoke portion of I-81 carries 50,000 to 52,000 vehicles daily, 21 percent of which are large trucks.

"The traffic worsens closer to W&L. From Roanoke to the I-64 juncture in Lexington, truck congestion rises to 32 percent, and it increases two percent more on the overlapping I-81 and I-64 section.

WE'RE FAMOUS!



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

What's new? During a rare moment of peace over Parent's Weekend, this mother took the time to catch up on Washington and Lee news by reading the campus' oldest newspaper, *The Ring-tum Phi*. Parents were registering for Parent's Weekend events and getting information about school activities such as mock con in the Elrod Commons Friday morning. We hope she enjoyed her *Phi*-time.

University trying to keep peace with Lexington as it begins yet another construction project in town

CHRIS LAUDERMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Lexington Planning Commission recently voted 3 to 1 to allow Washington and Lee to continue with their plans for the new art and music building.

"We want to have a positive relationship with the city. This means going the extra mile with the residents," said Joe Grasso, Vice President of Administration. He went on to say that this new relationship with the city would be as partners, not only in construction, but also in the early stages when ideas are formulated.

Washington and Lee has formed the Construction Mitigation Committee that consists of a representative from the Planning Commission, two neighborhood representatives; a representative from the contractor and from the University's project management team; and two representatives from the University.

The Committee plans on meeting monthly and has several functions. The committee will review construction mitigation plans, suggest additional mitigation measures, provide announcements to the neighbors, schedule public meetings, provide direct feedback to the University on any non-compliance issues on the part of the contractor, facilitate coordination with the city, review the status of requests submitted by residents, prepare a quarterly report to the mayor of Lexington and President Burish, and provide a dispute resolution mechanism.

"In order to provide the neighbors of the Lenfest Center with some assurance that the University understands their

concerns and is committed to addressing these issues, we have prepared a Construction Mitigation Plan to govern construction activity for this project," said Grasso.

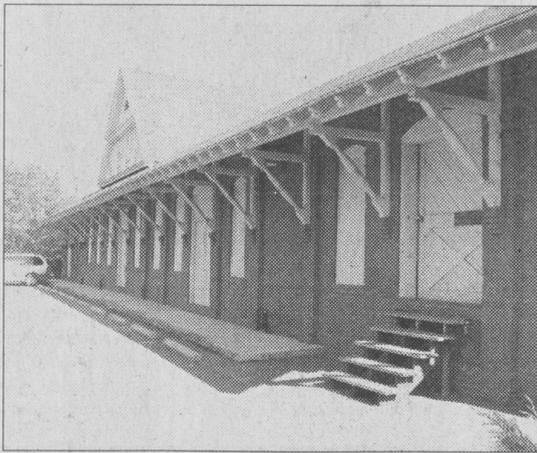
The Construction Mitigation Plan strives to achieve several goals. A construction traffic plan will be developed to avoid the use of some streets. Washington and Lee will have traffic control personnel around the project when there is heavy construction traffic. They will direct traffic and ensure workers are not using local streets.

The University will assume the yearly cost for a traffic control person. Traffic Control Officers, when not engaged with traffic, will provide litter clean up, street clean up, and minor property repair.

Construction workers will park in a perimeter parking lot away from the city. The University will provide a shuttle service to the workers and issue special parking stickers to construction workers. Construction trucks will be hosed down periodically to reduce dust. The University will repair any damage to neighboring properties that results directly from the construction project.

Periodic meeting with neighbors will be planned and an Art and Music hotline will be established where residents can call one person at Washington and Lee to receive a quick reply and reasonable response.

The administration believes the key to making sure that the parking garage serves the needs of the expanded Lenfest Center is for the University to actively manage, communicate, and enforce its parking policies. The University is letting Lenfest patrons know that they should



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

New building? The University plans to build a new arts and music building near where this historic train station stands. A Construction Mitigation committee has been formed to hear the concerns of the residents of Lexington in regards to construction. Many possibilities, such as a shuttle service and additional fees, are being considered as possible options.

park in the garage for Lenfest events.

It is expected that Washington and Lee will lose 60 parking spaces as a result of the art and music addition. They will, however, be replaced. The Mod Hall trailers will be removed in 2006. This will create 50 additional parking spaces for the residents of Woods Creek who now park in the parking garage.

The University will look into demolishing the Howe Annex once the Art and Music building is completed. This would create 10 new parking spaces. Over the next two years, the University will try to identify and create a new 50 car parking lot somewhere on campus.

Washington and Lee is

willing to consider the creation of a shuttle service that would transport students and employees from parking lots to the campus. The final option being considered involves parking permits. The University currently charges students a \$25 registration fee for having a car on campus.

Washington and Lee may place additional fees on cars or on the use of the parking garage which could discourage people from using the garage or other designated parking areas. The University could also install swipe cards and readers at the parking garage, but this may alter use patterns in a negative way.

None of these options are official at this time, as they need careful examination before implementation.

Freshmen dorms held Halloween carnival for Lex

CATHERINE SWAIN
STAFF WRITER

Tiny firemen, princesses, and pumpkins wandered the halls of the freshmen dorms Wednesday afternoon trick-or-treating as part of a Halloween Carnival for local youth.

Alpha Phi Omega, the campus co-ed community service fraternity, and Nabors Service League joined forces to make this first carnival a reality. APO was responsible for organizing and funding the event, while Nabors helped with publicity in the community.

Both organizations helped provide volunteers on the day of the carnival. About 15-20 students volunteered on the day of the carnival, but many more were responsible for planning and publicity before the actual event.

The idea for a Halloween carnival had been brought up in the past, but the service leagues were not able to make it a reality until this year.

APO President Laura Drewicz came up with initial idea of a carnival for local youth, and Nabors had wanted youth to trick-or-treat in the dorms, so the two organizations joined forces to put on one large event.

"The youth of Lexington is a group I think is really underserved," said Drewicz.

Activities included pumpkin painting, face painting, a duck pond, and a costume contest. The costume contest included three age groups and had over 45 participants.

"All of the kids were adorable. One little boy came as a day-old piece of pizza, and we had a young George Washington, Jack Sparrow, and a lot of fairy princesses. It was so tough to choose the winners!" said costume judge Robin Davis.

In addition to activities in the quad, volunteers also led children through the dorms, where freshmen provided candy to eager trick-or-treaters.

Approximately 50-60 children were in attendance along with their parents and older siblings. Many neighborhood children came for the event, as well as many professors' children.

Both organizations were pleased with the high turnout, especially considering that Lexington businesses were also doing trick-or-treating at the same time.

"I hope that APO and Nabors can continue this and make it a new Lexington and W&L Halloween tradition. It's just nice to give back to the town that gives W&L students so much and to be able to help out (even if for only one afternoon) the youth of Lexington," said Drewicz.

Last year, there was trick-or-treating in the freshmen dorms for children of professors and of the community, but this marked the first such major event held by Nabors and APO

The youth of Lexington is a group I think is really underserved.

LAURA DREWICZ

SPCA provides students service time

By SARAH MURRAY
STAFF WRITER

It's almost impossible to stem the flood of incoming cats at the Rockbridge County SPCA, but that doesn't stop executive director Jane Cornett from trying.

"We've distributed \$32,000 in spay/neuter certificates since 1998," said Cornett. "But it doesn't seem to have made any difference."

Cats are only a part of the responsibility of the Rockbridge Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which moved to its current location in 1993. This non-profit organization concerns itself with "the welfare of all animals, both domestic and wild, in the community."

Like many other local shelters, Rockbridge's SPCA receives no state funding. However, local funding from Lexington, Buena Vista, and Rockbridge County covers approximately 75% of its functioning cost. Its services include public education, sheltering unwanted or stray animals, animal adoption, enforcement of county ordinances, and "humane disposition" of unadopted or injured animals.

SPCA is a member of the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies, which includes nearly all local shelters and SPCAs as well as newer 'trap-spay-release' programs designed to limit the proliferation of the wild cat population.

940 dogs and 1161 cats were brought to the shelter last year. Only 72% of dogs and 18% of cats were adopted or returned to their owners. The only requirements for adoption are a 24-hour waiting period and state-mandated neutering. The neutering, along with vaccinations and worming, is included in a \$50 adoption fee.

Last year, 1,066 animals were humanely destroyed. The shelter does not keep unhealthy, wild, pregnant animals, or any animals that have been brought in because of behavioral problems such as biting.

Any animal over 5 years of age very seldom finds an adoptive home and may be put down to prevent overcrowding.

Khady Mbaye, '05, co-founder of a new W&L group meant to organize aid for the SPCA, said, "Everything possible is done to avoid having to put the dogs down. For example, some dogs are given obedience training."

Cornett, who has worked at the shelter since it occupied its former location in downtown Lexington, has grown accustomed to the effect of the area's culture on the facility. "Because of all the coon hunting and bear hunting the county, we get a large number of hounds...about 65% of our dogs," she said.

Since the SPCA depends on help from the public, there are several opportunities to support the center. Donations are always accepted, and for \$25 patrons may choose to sponsor a pet's webpage with their gift. In fact, the SPCA's home site is maintained by Pro-Bone-O: W&L Law Students for Happy Animals. According to Pro-Bone-O founder Michael

Adamson, the group updates rockbridgespca.org every month and also holds fundraisers for the shelter. Adamson estimates that Pro-Bone-O has raised \$2000 among the law community since its conception in 2001.

Bethany Catron, '05, a Service Day volunteer, was impressed with the organization. "The SPCA workers do a great job of dealing with the constant influx of animals," she said. "Almost all of the animals I saw would make wonderful pets."

Sara Duckworth, '06, "just showed up on a whim" to volunteer. "It seemed like a great idea," said Duckworth. "I loved it and I'd do it again in a heartbeat."

Volunteers may bathe and exercise animals whenever the center is open. "They can definitely use all the help they can get," said Catron. The Rockbridge County SPCA is located off Route 11 at 10 Animal Place.

Because of all the coon hunting and bear hunting the county, we get a large number of hounds

JANE CORNETT
SPCA

Students and faculty find CAIR Resources

'Impartial 3rd party source'

By IMRAN NAEMULLAH
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Among the various resources available to Washington and Lee students who need assistance with personal matters, Confidential and Impartial Resolution (CAIR) Resources is a fairly recent program implemented last year to address issues of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct.

Its participants are merely unbiased mediators; they are there to assist those who are victims of discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct, and those who are accused of it.

According to the CAIR website, it can assist students in understanding the University's policy regarding discrimination, harassment, and sexual misconduct; it helps explain your options for further action; facilitate communication between the accused and the accuser; and provide dispute resolution services.

Examples of acts qualifying for CAIR assistance could include everything from unwelcome comments by a professor to alleged discrimination when applying for a University-sponsored job to a conduct by a University employee that makes a student feel uncomfortable.

CAIR is not meant to replace the Student-Faculty Hearing Board, University mediators, the deans, the residence life staff, or any other University resource.

Instead, its aim is to be an impartial, confidential third-party source. Its participants have been selected to represent a broad array of the University community, with the goal being that there should be at least one person who is a CAIR contact whom a student feels comfortable getting in touch with.

The Head of CAIR Resource is C. Elizabeth Belmont, a law professor, and there are 9 other resource contacts, including two non-faculty members.

Anyone who wishes to obtain further information on the CAIR program, or who wants to discuss an issue applicable to the CAIR program, should call 458-5800.

Alternatively, for those wishing to directly contact a CAIR participant to initiate the complaint resolution process, they can see the list of participants at http://campuslife.wlu.edu/Student%20Affairs/cair_resources.htm, or refer to the posters located around campus.

Dear Washington and Lee Community,

There seems to be some confusion and questions on how the Executive Committee of the Student Body determined the succession of officers. The procedure came from the EC's Constitution. The last time it was a public document was in 1996. The Constitution has never been repealed. In a time that we needed it most, the Executive Committee turned to it.

The Constitution reads, "In the event that the President of the Student Body leaves during the year, the Vice President shall take his place and the Secretary shall move to fill the Vice-President's spot. The Senior Representative who received the most votes during the general election shall become Secretary. The order of succession specified above shall apply for the positions of Vice President and Secretary of the Student Body." In accordance with the succession of officers, Anne Johansen '05, previously Executive Committee Secretary, is now the Vice President. Cullen Carter '04, previously a Senior Class Representative to the Executive Committee, is now the Secretary. There will be a class election on Tuesday, October 28, for one Senior Class Representative to complete the Committee. The Constitution is currently under review by the Executive Committee. We plan on having an open forum to hear any input the community may have before amending the document. I hope this clears up the confusion and questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Helen Hughes
Executive Committee President

Washington and Lee's Hidden Heroes:

Senior Brandon Waddell, is the first of a series in *The Ring-tum Phi's* regular feature, 'Hidden Heroes'

Brandon Waddell '04 is a student who's had countless achievements and been involved with several organizations in and out of the university in several different forms. Waddell is an English/Theatre double major, and is currently working on honors theses for both.

Freshmen may remember him as the illustrious "Reefer Man", from orientation week's *Life: Pieces of the Puzzle* presentation; upper-classmen probably know him from one of the many performances he has been in, including *Dr. Jeckyl and Mr. Hyde*, *Spinning into Butter*, and the yearly performances of *Stonewall Country* done at the Lime Kiln Theater.

Waddell is also a chamber singer, involved in the Mustache Society, and performs in a local folk rock band. He describes himself as, "not your average fellow."

Waddell wrote his first poem at age six and has been actively occupied with this art form ever since. He describes his entry into acting starting as a way to pursue a girl, and eventually found that he really enjoyed it.

Waddell came to Washington and Lee with the desire to be a theatre major, but originally he had planned to double-major in history and not English.

Despite the change, he still enjoys history and mentions the Chinese and Japanese History courses he took here with Professor Jeans to have been some of his favorite classes.

He also mentioned Professor Wheeler's Modern Poetry class as a favorite. When asked about what he likes and dislikes about W&L, he asserted that the most

impressive thing he had noticed was that there are "really talented professors who know what they are talking about," and he encourages everyone to take at least one class in every department to get a feel for the diversity of studies and to broaden one's horizons.

He also mentioned, however, that in his four years many aspects of W&L life still resemble that of "high school without parents."

Waddell's long-term goals are to attend graduate school and eventually become a professor and writer.

His upcoming future goals consist of completing his two theses and his rigorous course load this term, and then preparing for study abroad with the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, a competitive program that awards and allows students to study for a year and work on



STEVEN MARINOS / THE RING-TUM PHI

individual projects internationally.

Waddell will be performing this upcoming season in the Flournoy Playwright Festival, as well as in *Metamorphoses*.

The Hidden Heroes column aims at highlighting Washington and Lee students who exemplify the best of what we have to offer. Students, please nominate your friends by emailing phi@wlu.edu.

ABA competition at law school in Nov

Washington and Lee's School of Law will be hosting the American Bar Association's Regional Negotiation Competition on November 15-16. The Competition is intended to help students develop practical legal skills.

In this competition, teams of two students will be given the opportunity to successfully resolve a sports law problem.

The November event will bring 40 students from 10 law schools across the Southeast to W&L's School of Law, as well as almost 40 local and area attorneys to judge the three rounds.

Editor's Note: The article entitled "New renovations now planned for the Freshmen Dorms," should have had a separate paragraph for the quote regarding summer camps by Joe Grasso, Vice President for Administration.

Editor's Note: The correct outcome of the faculty vote was 90-79-1 with 90 in favor of the 12-12-6 and 1 ballot intentionally left blank.

INSPIRED BY HOT RODS, SUVs AND DARWIN.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2003

THE RING-TUM PHI OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Parents deserve shuttle service

When considering Homecoming, Alumni Weekend and Parents' Weekend, we see an egregious example of inequality. For the alumni-focused events, shuttles are offered to all points. There is convenient transportation provided by The University. During Parents' Weekend, however, this is not the case. The University must begin providing transportation around Lexington during Parents' Weekend.

Parents are unquestionably an integral part of the school's budget. They pay tuition and take active roles in the lives of their children. Why can't the school spring for some type of shuttle system for the event? May we suggest the tennis bus, parked by the Duchossois Tennis Center for the weekend? The higher-ups pull it out for the Board of Trustees and the Alums. The parents are just as vital to the school as those constituencies.

There would be fewer parents given DUIs if The University would step up to the plate on this issue. Traveller is not designed for the influx of parents that this weekend brought. It can barely handle the undergraduate campus. We are sure that many parents may have needed the system as a result of their good-times, but it needed to be shored up by something else.

Though we have no concrete numbers to back us up, we have heard that the administration pays less for Parents' Weekend than Homecoming or Alumni Weekend. One main reason for the discrepancy is the lack of a University sponsored shuttle system.

Quite simply, a shuttle system would relieve strain on the City of Lexington during this Washington and Lee event and keep students and parents safer and happier.

Quote of the Week

"Let us at all times remember that regardless of party, all American citizens are brothers and sisters of a common country, and should dwell together in the bonds of fraternal feeling,"

~Abraham Lincoln,
16th President of the United States

Bush needs to turn over 9-11 papers now



PHOTO COURTESY OF whitehouse.gov

RUNNING FROM THE TRUTH. President Bush meets with the National Security Council following Bush's post-September 11th address to the nation in 2001.

President Bush's war on terrorism has had its ups and downs. A conquered Iraq is no longer under the control of Saddam Hussein, but on the other hand, soldiers and civilians alike continue to die. Afghanistan and its people are free from the religious fundamentalism of the Taliban, but the country, despite U.S. intervention, still languishes in inadequate infrastructure and poverty. We've proved that Marine Expeditionary Forces can expel governments, but we've also proved that they can't do nation-building. But the most important catalyst of the war on terror has its own ups and downs. After September 11th, domestic security has improved to some degree, but on the other hand, the White House continues to hide the whole truth of what happened that day.

For those unfamiliar with the issue, a Federal government commission was appointed to investigate the entire series of events involved in the 9-11 attacks shortly following the attacks themselves. For two years, this commission has attempted to get critical executive documents related to the attacks from President Bush and his administration. It has been the decision of the President not to release these documents, despite the repeated protests of the commission and a few of its members, ex-U.S. House of Representatives member Tim Roemer (D-Ind.) and commission Chairman Thomas Kean, former Republican governor of New Jersey, are beginning to become aggravated. During an October 28th speech, Roemer said "We are losing patience with an administration and a White House that is not fully cooperating and getting us information we need." The commission, which is comprised of both Democrats and Republicans, has made a unanimous resolution demanding access to the documents in question from President Bush.

The White House, which has produced over 2 million pages of documents related to the 9-11 attacks, has refused to turn over many of them, for reasons unknown to anyone except President Bush and his staff. The commission has responded by threatening to subpoena the documents.

The parallel to Watergate is obvious. The content of the documents is not nearly as important as the fact that the White House is stonewalling. It would be incredibly disruptive if President Bush ended up in a courtroom showdown with his own commission over his refusal to turn over the papers

the commission needs. To avoid this possible political nightmare, President Bush must turn over the documents now. Further refusal to disclose the full truth, regardless of whether or not it makes the President look bad, will give the appearance of complicity. Even if President Bush is completely innocent in this matter, he will still garner justified criticism if he refuses to turn over the documents, and he will further tarnish an already cynical public view of the government, and in particular of the presidency.

Kean has noted that the only thing he is allowed to say about the documents in question is that they are intelligence reports given to the President just prior to the attacks. Given that the President does not want us to see them, it's pretty easy to infer what these reports are. In fact, I can probably venture a guess that one of them is a report that many political analysts were not sure even existed until now- an August 2001 report from the Central Intelligence Agency that contained specific warnings that Al Qaeda would try to hijack U.S. passenger aircraft and use them to destroy high-profile U.S. buildings and infrastructure.

Would the fact that this report went apparently ignored make the White House look bad? Yes, but only a little. There were and are lots of reports about potential threats from terrorists that circulate through the White House, and most of them never happen. So while President Bush would take a hit from revealing the documents, he would take a far worse hit if he hid them and stonewalled the commission until he finally had to own up and face them in court, where he would lose.

President Nixon was not guilty of the Watergate break-in, many modern historians now believe he didn't even know about it until briefed many days later. But he was still justly forced out of office, because he refused to give the American people the whole, untarnished truth. If he had stepped up and acknowledged the guilty parties, while disassociating himself with them, he would have been fine. But instead he chose to completely hide everything, and he refused to cooperate with inquiries into the matter. In the end, this, not the Watergate break-in itself, ruined Nixon. President Bush faces a similar choice: hand over the documents or face a high-profile attempt to wrench them away. One can only hope he makes the right choice.

Φ MODERATE'S MUSINGS CALEY ANDERSON '06

Clinton conspiracy behind Dems' primary

Bill Clinton is at it again. He just can't seem to stay out of the public eye. At a recent party in New York City, Bubba was overheard saying that the only two "Democratic stars" are his wife and Wesley Clark.

This statement comes at a time when the Democratic party is in a sad state of affairs and has no candidate with a strong enough support base to defeat President Bush in the 2004 election. Bubba's intention is grossly evident. He is trying to fracture the moderate base of the Democratic party by promoting a candidate like Wesley Clark to steal votes from other moderate candidates like Joe Lieberman, John Kerry, Dick Gephardt, and John Edwards. With the moderate base so split, the activists and grassroots supporters of Howard Dean will ensure wins in many of the primary states, with far less than a majority of the votes.

Now why would Bubba want to disrupt the campaigns of the moderate Democrats? The answer is simple. He is playing a game with the American citizens to put his wife in the most favorable position to win the 2008 Presidential election. Let me give you my opinion on how the 2004 Democratic primary season will play out.

Currently, Howard Dean is the leader in funds donated for his primary run. He has utilized a grassroots internet campaign to take a dominant position in fundraising. The moderate candidates have relied on the more traditional approach of direct mail and public fundraising events. However, none of the moderate Democratic candidates

have received contributions from large donors of the Democratic party. The reason behind this is that the big supporters have waited for a clear frontrunner to emerge.

By throwing Wesley Clark into the mix, with Clinton's de facto backing, large donors have started to support Clark's campaign. This has put even greater stress on the moderate candidates. Without the money to get their message out to the public, they rely heavily on evening sound bites from major news organizations. With other moderate candidates marginalized, what has become of Wesley Clark's message?

Could anyone possibly decipher his opinion on any major issue? He vacillates from side to side and seems to have no true position on anything. And who are his advisors helping him to craft his message? None other than some of Bubba Clinton's old trusted political aids. Boy, politics is surely a dirty business. In the first three presidential nomination contests (primaries in Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina), Dean is leading or close to the lead, based on recent polling. With Wesley Clark sucking the money out of the moderate base, Dean will steamroll through the primaries on his way to the Democratic nomination. And when that happens, Bubba will have achieved his goal.

A radically liberal Democrat will face President Bush in the 2004 presidential election. Results will be similar to the Democratic debacles of 1972 (Nixon/McGovern) and 1984 (Reagan/

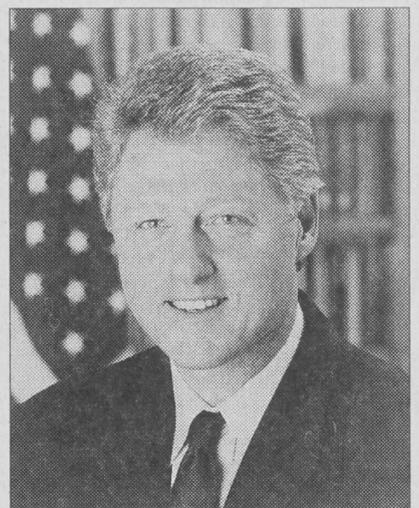


PHOTO COURTESY OF teachpol.tchj.edu

EX-PRESIDENT PLOT. Former President Bill Clinton

Mondale). When this happens, the Democrats will be inclined to move their ideals toward a more moderate, mainstream thinking, supporting candidates who are more palatable to the general populous.

Coincidentally, this description seems to fit, why, yes, you guessed it, Hillary Clinton perfectly. Thus, the conspiracy becomes perfectly clear. Hillary for President in '08. Wow, how ironic.

So, good ole' Bubba, the maestro behind the scenes, is conducting a Democratic orchestra to that down home Arkansas tune: Clinton before all.

THE RING-TUM PHI

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Why you need to pay attention to your appearance

I used to tout that appearances didn't matter because I didn't want to seem superficial. But deep down inside, I really did care about appearances to a degree. I used to think that people who cared about their own appearances and the appearances of others were outrageously shallow, but I have changed my mind—somewhat. I dated a guy once who had a pretty laid back style and pretty much wore the same outfit every single time I saw him: a wrinkly plaid shirt that was somewhat tucked into a pair of wrinkly khaki pants. On a day-to-day basis, I really could care less about what he wore, but what bothered me about his appearance was that he never changed it up when we went out for a special occasion or a date. It wasn't that his outfit bothered me but it was the fact that he had put in no effort to prepare for our outing. That lack of effort to me translated into a lack of consideration for me. He could see that I had taken the time to primp and complimented me for it, but I could not say the same for him because he had done nothing to improve his appearance. That, to me, was insulting.

So then I came to realize that I do indeed care about appearances and found a justification for other people's concerns for appearances as well. It wasn't that I was shallow. I merely wanted to see that my date had made some kind of effort for me because I had done the same for him. Special occasions call for special behavior—it's what makes the occasion so special. Otherwise, it's just a normal, everyday occurrence that means nothing. Along the same line, primping also shows respect. When I primp for a date or for any "special" occasion, I do it out of respect for the guy, because if I look good, then he will look good. And the same applies for the guy. If he looks nice, then I will too. You've heard the phrase your team is only as strong as your weakest member. Well, in this case, the couple looks only as nice as the sloppiest person.

And as much as you may want to ignore it, the fact is that looks do matter because they define you as a person. If you look sloppy, most people will think you're a sloppy person, not just organizationally but maybe in other aspects of your life. You have sloppy habits. You make sloppy decisions. You do sloppy work. Slop, slop, slop. And none of us walk around saying we want our friends and our potential mates to be slops. You want someone who is kind, funny, intelligent, and considerate, but nowhere on this wish list of qualities you want in a friend or mate is sloppiness.

Now, that doesn't mean that looks are the most important quality in a person because they definitely aren't. There are plenty of beautiful people who immediately become the most ugly people once you get to know them because of their attitudes. But the reality is that looks do matter and looks are the only representation people have of you when they first meet you. It is just not possible to walk around with a sandwich board listing all of your wonderful qualities so people will only judge you for who you are and not what you look like.

A lot of people seem to think that looking good costs money and that it's just not financially possible to look nice, but that is not the case. Maintaining a good appearance does not mean that you must wear a \$300 outfit. It just means taking the time to simply groom and look neat. You just need to look as though you have put some kind of effort into what you're wearing rather than throwing on some old outfit lying on the floor and walking out the door. That means wearing something clean and combing your hair.

But most importantly, you should take the time to look nice for you. First of all, I love getting ready in the morning because it is such a stress reliever. It is almost as important as my cup of coffee. I find that when I wake up too late and don't have an hour to shower, dry my hair, and mess with my hair and makeup, I am usually flustered for the entire day. Getting ready every morning calms me down. Another thing about looking good is that it makes you feel good. Looking good is an empowerment mechanism. It increases your confidence level and just enables you to deal with your anxieties more effectively. And lastly, how you look affects how people will perceive you, and you should care about that. You will seldom have the chance to know every person you meet in depth so that they can get beyond your appearances. More often than not, your appearance is all they have to remember you by. If you look nice, people will have one perception of you. And if you look bad, people will have another perception of you. So decide how you want to be remembered and dress yourself accordingly.



TRAIN OF THOUGHT
TRAN KIM '05

Neither yankees nor rebels, we're all just Generals



PHOTO COURTESY OF vmi.edu

BLUE, WHITE, AND SHADES OF GRAY. Lexington circa 1864, the year that Union and Rebel troops really did roam the streets, and Union General David Hunter ordered the Virginia Military Institute burnt to the ground.

I'm an American. More specifically, I'm from Texas. Does that make me from the South? I don't know and I certainly don't care. I don't speak with an accent. I despise the "word" y'all. In fact, I'm annoyed at the fact that a squiggly red line didn't just appear under "y'all" when I typed it, because it's not a word and if the dictionary says it is then it should no longer be the authority in proper diction! I'm no Southern Belle and the only degree I'm here to get is in English.

I had always viewed Virginia as being part of the Northeast. And from all the way down in Texas, it seemed like practically part of New England. The states up here are just so much smaller and closer together than I'm accustomed to. You could drive for ten hours without leaving Texas but the same distance from Virginia would practically get you to Canada. What, you are asking yourself, is my point? I'm getting tired

of hearing all of this North/South business. I don't think any less of anyone from the north and would never dream of calling them a Yankee. We have students here from 41 different countries; everywhere from Hong Kong to Nigeria to Finland, or Finland according to the current course catalogue. (Finally, there's that little red squiggly line. Where were you when I needed you before?) But you'd almost think there were 42 countries represented here at Washington and Lee, by drawing the distinction between the Northern and Southern United States. Can't we just be from one united nation? Can't we please all just get along?

I appreciate history more than the average person. I could even sit through hours of Civil War documentaries and find it enjoyable. I really like the music in them, too: so haunt-



THE BIG PICTURE
ANNE FINLEY '07

ingly beautiful yet quaint. I've read *Lee: The Last Years* and appreciate the unique history of our school and the fact that we have a whole section devoted to the Civil War general in our bookstore. Only in Lexington, Virginia could such a thing occur. Robert E. Lee was undoubtedly a heroic figure and I challenge any non-believers to research the matter before they say any differently. A brief history: he freed his father in law's slaves before the law demanded it, was asked to lead the Northern Army by Lincoln but declined because he couldn't abandon his home state of Virginia, and fought for unity and tolerance after the end of the war. Oh yeah, and don't forget Washington; he was a good guy too. (Wait. What did he do again? Was he in the Civil War too? Which side?) Yet it is important to remember that the

Civil War is over. It should only hold a historical significance for us today. Must we identify our classmates with the side they would belong to if the Civil War should unexpectedly start up again? And must we put confederate flags on our dorm windows and car bumpers?

Besides the fact that it is now widely used by white supremacy groups as a symbol of racism and oppression, it changes how we are viewed. If we want to attract diversity, (and we all should), then we need to start projecting our school as what it is: a national, private, liberal arts university.

So, let's just be Nigerian, Chinese, Finalndian, and American. We're not Yankees and Rebels anymore. In fact, unless anyone among us has been alive since 1865, we never were.

Letter to the Editor

Baseball not a dying game

Dear Editor,

I noticed that the author, Caley Anderson ("Baseball: dying sport with few cures," October 27), misleads the readers by making baseball seem to be decreasing in popularity. According to the Associated Press, "ratings for the first three games of the World Series" have risen for the first time since 1999.

The postseason's overall rating increased 40% from 2002. Both Game Sevens of the LCS were the "highest-rated nights of primetime programming" so far this year. The Division Series had record playoff audiences.

The final game of the World Series may not have had as many television viewers as the last Superbowl, but take into consideration that the Superbowl is one game — whereas the World Series can last up to seven. I witnessed several of the playoff games at Frat houses these past few weeks, and even brothers who admit-

ted to not-liking baseball stated the playoffs were exciting.

Football may ban "14 performance-enhancing drugs that are freely allowed in baseball," but I am pretty sure that less than 50% of baseball players do not do cocaine or heroine (as opposed to football players who do). Possibly a slight exaggeration—but my point is made.

Anderson also accuses baseball of having the same teams win over and over. Well since 1990, there have been 8 different champions in baseball and 9 in football—not a very big disparity there.

Next complaint by the author: baseball is trying to replace umpires with robots. That could possibly be an exaggeration. I'm sorry, I have a question. Does instant replay not require electronics?

Finally, he suggests the players should stand up and take salary cuts to save baseball. I agree with this point, but perhaps Terrell Owens should set a good example by doing so in the NFL. Sincerely,
Sam Kello '07

Anderson's response-

1st- It's not misleading or incorrect to say that baseball's popularity has dramatically declined. True, the 2003 World Series was significantly more popular than the 2001 article, but this can be attributed to fan attention to what will be an increasingly rare spectacle- underdog, small market teams beating larger, richer teams. I'd be willing to bet more unique viewers watched the Super Bowl last year than watched Games 1 through 7. I can't prove this, no one can, but it's common sense, considering that a sitcom can beat out baseball's biggest seven games.

2nd- Saying that half of football uses cocaine or other illegal drugs is far more than a slight exaggeration. I'm not saying, as ex-All Star Ken Caminiti did, that steroids and illegal performance enhancers are omnipresent in baseball, nor am I saying that football is a stellar example of pristine, drug-free athletes. What I'm

doing is comparing NFL and MLB policy. The NFL bans and enforces the bans on certain substances, the MLB does not.

3rd- Only one more team has made it to the Big Show in football than in baseball. But this is a deceptive stat. Let's look at a more accurate statistic, the playoffs. In the NFL, only two teams, including the expansion Cleveland Browns, have not made it to the playoffs in 1990. In baseball, five times that many teams have not made it, simply because they can't afford it. This illustrates my point far better.

4th- There is a HUGE difference between using electronics in instant replay to help officials, and replacing officials altogether with electronics. I think this point is obvious enough that it needs no explanation from me.

5th- Terrell Owens doesn't NEED to lower his salary. His yearly salary- \$4.2 million. Alexander Rodriguez's- \$25.2 million. Enough said, really.

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Soccer teams keep seasons alive in ODAC tournament

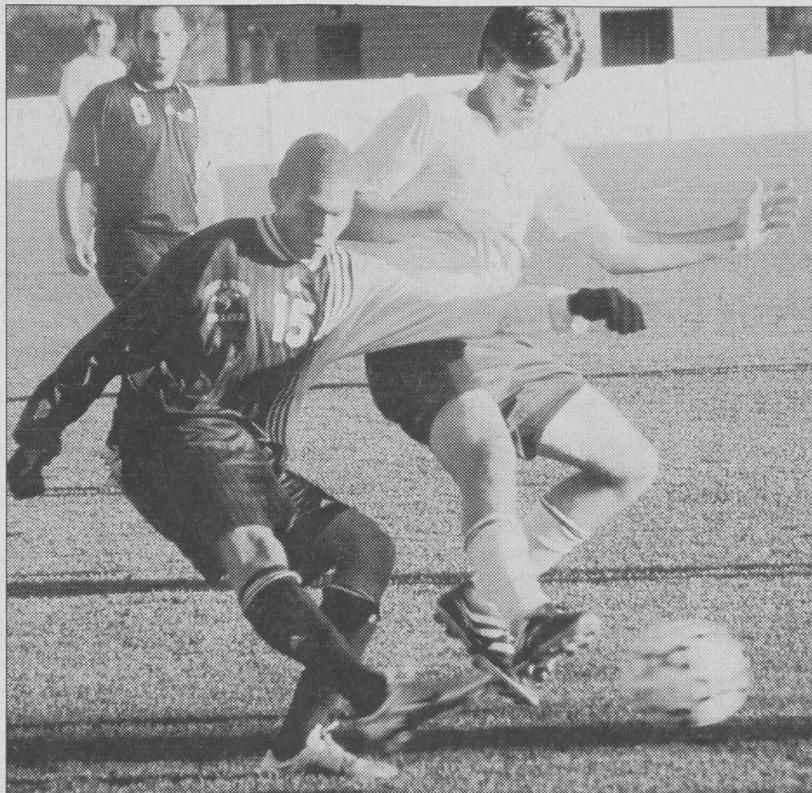
Generals get back on track against Emory & Henry

JOHN HYLAND
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The up and down season for the W&L men's soccer team continues. After starting the season undefeated in their first eight games, the Generals then lost their next five. The Generals needed a win against Emory and Henry in Lexington on Wednesday to guarantee them a spot in the ODAC tournament.

The Generals responded to the challenge. They wasted no time in taking advantage of the last-place Wasps (1-14-2, 0-8 ODAC) scoring just 1:01 into the game when Sophomore Derrick Lott connected on a feed from fellow midfielder Jacob Stoehr. It was the senior's team leading fourth assist of the season. The Generals would score twice more in the next 15 minutes to extend their lead when E&H scored on their own goal and junior midfielder Justin Mygatt's tally just minutes later. W&L would round out the first half scoring on a goal from junior midfielder Josh Grahe off an assist from freshman forward Sandy Pircacci at the 28:37 mark. With the Generals getting all the offense that they would need in the first half, they were able to focus on the defensive end of the game in the second half, forcing sophomore goalkeeper Michael Stanton to only have to make one save for the game. The Generals did get a goal from sophomore midfielder Walker Nickels to round out the scoring and earn a 5-0 victory.

With the win, the Generals qualified for the ODAC tournament as the seventh seed in the eight team tournament. W&L traveled to Roanoke on Saturday to face the second seeded Maroons. The Generals lost to Roanoke in the teams' regular season meeting, 2-1, in the game that started W&L's five game slide. Despite playing on the road and being the underdog to the Maroons, who entered the game with a 10-3-3 overall record, the Generals took a 1-0 lead into halftime. The lone goal came on an unassisted strike from freshman midfielder Kyle Garcia with 15 minutes left in the first half. The Generals tightened up defensively in the second half and maintained their lead until 2:44 left in regulation when Roanoke midfielder Donny Smith



CORBIN BLACKFORD / RING-TUM PHI

EDGING OUT THE COMPETITION. The men's soccer team extended its season with a win over Emory & Henry.

scored off a free kick that bounced off a couple W&L defenders before giving Smith the chance to beat Stanton. Neither team could find the net through two overtime periods and the game went into penalty kicks. Stanton came up huge in the PK session. After making 5 saves during regulation and overtime, he stopped two Roanoke shots to give the Generals a 3-1 advantage and the victory. The Generals prevailed in an extremely physical game in which 48 fouls were whistled and seven

yellow cards were issued. The Generals were also out shot 13-6 and forced Roanoke keeper Harper Thorsen to only have to make one save. Nevertheless, W&L took advantage of the few scoring opportunities that they had, something they have been inconsistent in doing this season.

Apparently having reverted to their early season form, the Generals (8-5-2) will try to avenge another regular season loss as they will play Guilford in Greensboro on Friday in the semi-finals.

Womens' team squeaks out 1-0 win over Roanoke

SARAH BLOOM
STAFF WRITER

The Generals played a close first ODAC tournament game on Saturday afternoon against seventh seeded Roanoke. The final score of 1-0 will enable the girls to continue in ODAC competition, bringing the team one step closer to their goal of hosting the ODAC championship tournament in front of a home crowd on the newly constructed soccer field.

The only goal of the game was scored by junior Maggie Hope. Hope scored after freshman Anne Wiltshire's attempted goal bounced off of the goalpost. Hope recovered the ball and kicked it past the goalie for the game winning point.

"We try to approach every game as if it could be our last and we always work really hard," said Hope of the team's preparation. "We just know that we want to win for our teammates because we all care about each other so much."

Junior Emily Barker protected the goal for the Generals for the duration of the game, making four saves.

"Our main goal for the tournament and from the beginning of the season has been to win the ODACs," said Hope. "As a team, we have such great chemistry, which helps us tremendously out on the field."

The girls will count on that chemistry as they take on third-seeded Lynchburg in semi-finals.

"As a team, we have such great chemistry, which helps us tremendously out on the field."

JUNIOR MAGGIE HOPE

Cam and Hylando's Top Ten List:

Top ten things heard during Parents' Weekend

- 10: Does Traveller drive to the Homestead?
- 9: Your mother and I are going to take a "nap."
- 8: Back when I was at W&L...
- 7: Hey baby, my dad is sleeping in my bed, can I sleep in yours?
- 6: Welcome to (any fraternity), we have a Motown band.
- 5: We can't go to the party, your father has two strikes.
- 4: What time did the officer say we could pick up your father?
- 3: We need to talk about your behavior last night.
- 2: I had no idea you guys had a vacuum.
- 1: Good morning, who's mom are you?

Team blown out after strong first half

CAMERON GARNER
STAFF WRITER

The Generals faced a huge challenge on Saturday as they played host to Bridgewater, a fast, deep top ten team that won the last meeting in overtime two years ago. From the start, this game seemed destined to follow the same script as that of two years ago: the Generals' defense looked strong after giving up an early score, leaving them down a mere 7-3 at the half. Ben Long's school record-tying 47-yard field goal gave W&L the lone score, but the team had held an incredibly potent offense, led by junior QB Brandon Wakefield (17-28, TD, 2 INT), and the rushing of sophomore Marcus Washington (14 car. 85 yds. TD) to one score.

As the defense finished off a great first half with a Robert Foster interception late in the second quarter, the offense came out looking to take the lead. On the first play of the drive, however, Bridgewater got the ball right back on an interception by Steward White. They drove the ball down, missing the field goal as the first half came to a close. The Generals had held the talented Bridgewater team to one score.

The Peter Dean interception seemed to be the spark that the Eagles needed, as they came out hungry in the second half, putting up 21 unanswered points and handing the Generals a 28-3 loss. The Generals' defense played remarkably well against a great offensive team, continuing to show the rock-solid type of play we've come to expect out of them all season. Junior linebacker Lloyd Wilson knocked the guy with the ball down 11 times...11 TIMES, boy he's good.

Offensively, Peter Dean was 15-of-36 for 159 yards



STEVE MARINOS / RING-TUM PHI

RUN, CUT, SPRINT. Freshman fullback Richard Garland tries to avoid a tackle in the team's 28-3 loss to Bridgewater on Saturday.

throwing one interception despite being under constant pressure all day (he was sacked 6 times). The rushing stats, however, tell the story best, as Bridgewater rushed for 264 yards and held the Generals to a meager 20 yards rushing all game.

All in all, the Generals did well against such a fast, physical team. They return to action Saturday at Emory & Henry at 1:00 pm.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday, November 4	Wednesday, November 5	Thursday, November 6	Friday, November 7	Saturday, November 8	Sunday, November 9
• Open	• W Soccer vs. Lynchburg--TBA • W Swim vs. Sweet Briar--7:00	• Open	• VB at ODAC Tourn--TBA • FH vs. EMU (at VWC)--2:30	• FB at Emory & Henry--1:00 • W Soccer vs. TBA--TBA • FH vs. TBA (at VWC)--TBA • M Soccer vs. Guilford--TBA • VB at ODAC Tourn--TBA	• Swim at Catholic--1:00 • M Soccer vs. TBA--TBA

Swimmers defeat VMI

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

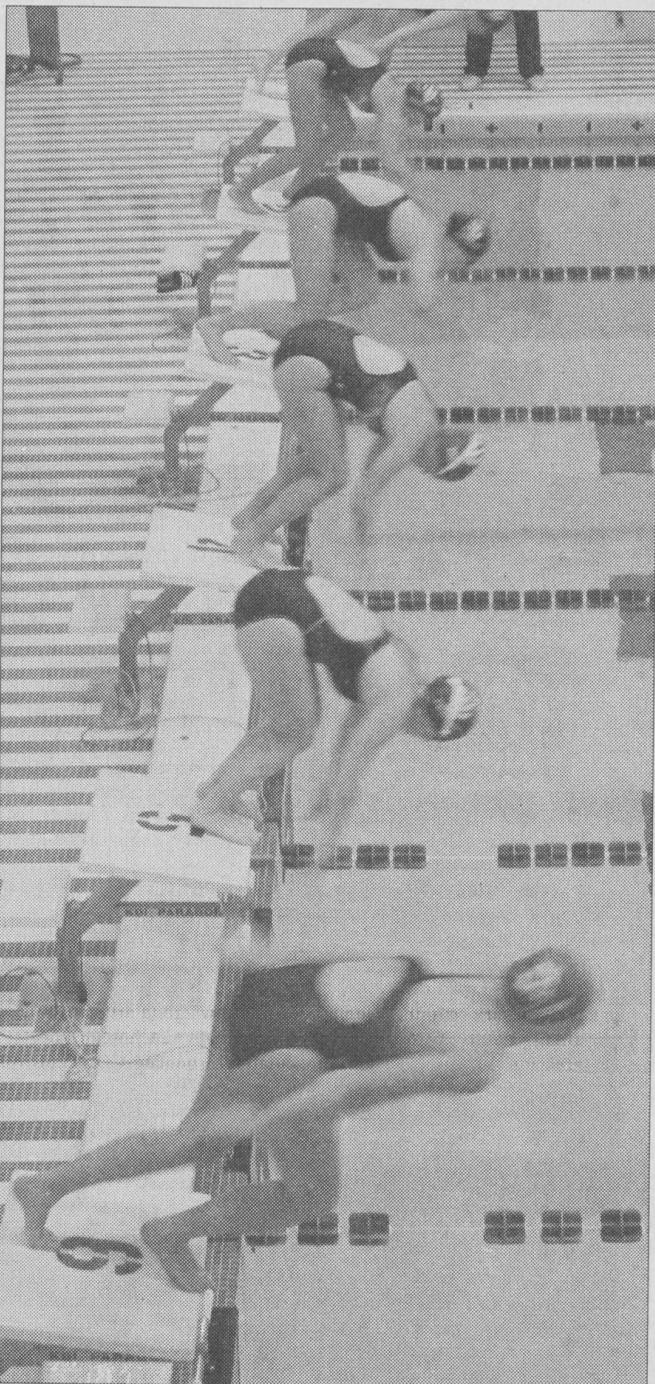
LEXINGTON, Va. — The Washington and Lee men's swimming team downed Virginia Military Institute, 117-88, in non-conference action on Saturday morning at the Cy Twombly Pool.

Senior Eric Ritter (Birmingham, Ala./Mountain Brook) and freshman Mike Ginder (Jacksonville, Fla./Episcopal) led all Generals (2-0) with a pair of victories each. Ritter took top honors in the 200 Free (1:52.42) and 100 Back (53.06), while

Ginder won the 100 Free (49.25) and the 50 Free (22.83).

Senior Drew Catanese (Southampton, Mass./Suffield Acad.) and freshman Kevin Hayes (Mercer Island, Wash./Mercer Island) rounded out the event winners for W&L. Catanese won the 100 Fly with a time of 54.63, while Hayes hit the wall first in the 200 IM with a time of 2:05.27.

The Generals return to action on Sunday, Nov. 9, when they travel to Catholic. Meet time is 1:00 p.m.



CHRISTINE GRAY / RING-TUM PHI

BANG. The men's and women's swimming squads defeated VMI over the weekend.

Field hockey start ODACs with win

KATHERINE SHELL
STAFF WRITER

W&L's Field Hockey team won last Sunday against St. Mary's College 5-4, won Tuesday against Randolph-Macon 2-1, and lost to Eastern Mennonite 3-5 on Wednesday. Saturday, they played against Randolph-Macon in the first round of the ODAC Tournament and won 3-2.

Captain Kelly Taffe '04 scored two of the three goals; the other was scored by S.B. Northen '05 with twenty-five minutes left in the game. Randolph tried to recover from W&L's three goals, but they were unable to even after scoring twice, the last goal leaving only forty-six seconds in the game.

On Friday, the Generals will play Eastern Mennonite at Virginia Wesleyan at 2:30 in the semi-final round of the ODAC Championship.

Though the Generals lost to Eastern Mennonite on Wednesday, they had outscored them in the last sixteen minutes. The original game, played on October 16, had been called off due to lightning. The score at the point of call-off



CHRISTINE GRAY / RING-TUM PHI

GOING FOR THE GOAL. After strong showings in games last week, the field hockey team continued its winning ways on parents' weekend.

was 1-4, with the Eastern Mennonites winning. The Generals outscored them on Wednesday 2-1, but lost the game. EM is second-seeded and W&L is third-seeded; Friday's match will lead the winner to play Virginia Wesleyan on Saturday.

Volleyball wins Maryville tournament

ALLISON PERRY
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The Washington and Lee Volleyball team improved its record to 31-3 overall and 11-0 in the ODAC this weekend after winning the Maryville Invitational. The Generals defeated opponents Milligan, Maryville, Emory and Henry, and Centre during the two-day event.

On Friday, Washington and Lee crushed Milligan, 30-15, 30-15, 30-17. Sophomore middle blocker Susan Gaillard led the team with 14 kills. Junior outside hitters Michelle Chastain and Emily Wolfing totaled 10 kills and four service aces and seven kills and 17 digs, respectively. Sophomore setter Christine Gladysz contributed with 42 assists and four aces.

The Generals also defeated host Maryville on Friday, 30-24, 25-30, 30-26, 30-28. Wolfing led the team with 18 kills and 25 digs. Chastain notched 14 kills and 19 digs. Freshman Lauren Edmonson totaled 12 digs. Gladysz accumulated 52 assists, 17 digs, and three aces.

On Saturday, the team was back in action when it defeated Emory and Henry, 30-19, 30-21, 30-23. Freshman outside hitter Ashley Hurt led the Generals with 13 kills and 11 digs. Gaillard and Wolfing notched 13 kills and nine kills and ten digs, respectively. Gladysz totaled 54 assists and 16 digs.

In the last game, Washington and Lee overcame Centre with a 27-30, 30-28, 30-17, 33-31 win. Wolfing guided the team with 21 kills, 13 digs, and six blocks. Chastain notched 16 kills, 21 digs, and four blocks. Gaillard accumulated 13 kills and four blocks. Gladysz totaled 60 assists, 14 digs, and three blocks. In the game against Centre, Gladysz broke the Washington and Lee career assist record held by Ali Beard since 1997. Gladysz totaled 2,258 while Beard's record was 2,192.

The Generals will travel to Randolph-Macon on Friday to compete in the ODAC Tournament. The tournament lasts through Saturday. It has not been announced yet who will face Washington and Lee in the first game.

Cross country finishes third in ODAC championships at Lynchburg College

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

LYNCHBURG, Va. — The Washington and Lee men's and women's cross country teams were in action on Saturday at the ODAC Championships hosted by Lynchburg College. The W&L men's and women's teams both finished third overall.

On the men's side, senior Andy Schorr (Kingwood, Texas/Kingwood) won the race, crossing the tape in 28:11.00. He finished 10 seconds ahead of the nearest competitor and became the first General to earn ODAC Runner of the Year honors since Jason Callen won the 1997 ODAC race.

Junior Steven Chambers (Christiania, Pa./Octorara Area) and senior Rusty Meyer (Dallas, Texas/Jesuit Prep) both

earned Second Team All-ODAC honors with their finishes. Chambers placed 11th with a time of 29:49.00, while Meyer crossed the tape in 30:11.00 in placing 14th overall.

For the women, freshman Jenny Ratzel (Elm Grove, Wisc./Brookfield East) earned Second Team All-ODAC accolades by placing eighth overall with a time of 27:10. Sophomore Mary Christopher (Fort Lauderdale, Fla./Cardinal Gibbons) placed 15th (27:36), sophomore Betsy Frayer (Grand Rapids, Mich./East Grand Rapids) placed 16th (27:44) and freshman Tippins Stone (Nashville, Tenn./Harpeth Hall) placed 17th (27:53).

W&L returns to action on Sat., Nov. 15, as it competes in the NCAA South/Southeast Regional Championships in Atlanta, Ga.

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Revamped City Subs offers variety of quality food

Last Friday I was awarded a rare opportunity, an invitation for a sneak preview of the new City Subs. Employees had gathered for training in the art of sub-making, and I was one of a lucky few test subjects.

You could say that a sub is a sub—you can't do too much to mess it up, but then again there isn't much you can do to glamorize the sandwich. However, I think City Subs could prove you wrong.

Many local restaurants specialize in the sub: Salerno's, Frank's, Naples, Spanky's. But Brant Wymond, the new owner of City Subs, who moved here recently from Dallas, has succeeded in breaking the mold. I tried the turkey sub on Friday—much potential for mediocrity, but that wasn't the case at all.

Just one of the things that makes City Subs so good is the quality of ingredients they use. Fluffy, crispy, just-baked bread was overflowing with fresh, high-quality meat. And they'll make it any way you want it.

The chicken parmesan sub was also the best I've had in town. Instead of slim cuts of chicken smothered in greasy fried batter and covered in tasteless sauce, the chicken parm at City Subs contains thick, tender cuts of white meat settled in flavorful spicy Italian marinara sauce, topped with fresh melted Provolone cheese.

The menu offers something for everyone, for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Try the City Breakfast for only \$4.95—two eggs, bacon or sausage, grits or hash browns,

and pancakes. They still serve five different varieties of steak subs, including Mexican and pizza steak, as well as fresh subs, sandwiches, and an extensive choice of salads. And don't worry—they haven't taken the Fried Pickles or the Hershey's ice cream off the menu.

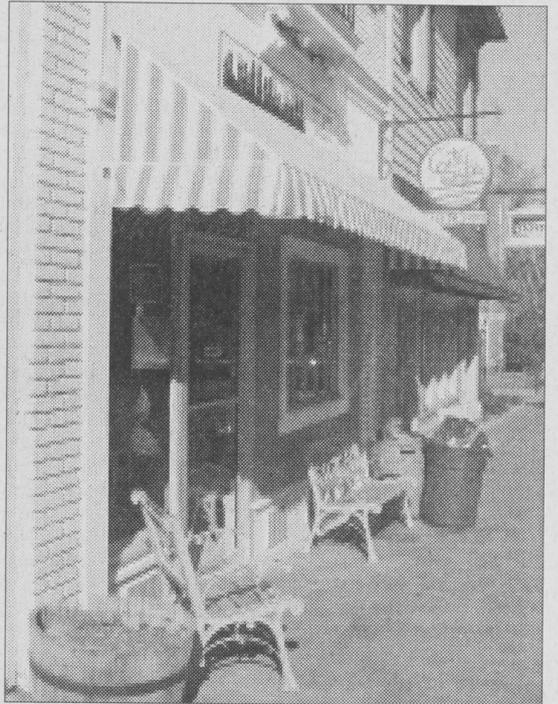
The comfortable, fun atmosphere at City Subs adds as much to your dining experience as does the food. Wymond has turned the restaurant into a family business, and you're sure to find his wife, Sue, and his two young boys around the restaurant.

The family's presence gives the place personality and energy, which shines through in their commitment to service. They have embraced the community, wanting nothing more than to have fun serving up great food. Their warm invitation to join them for a trial run of the restaurant

on Friday is just one example of their generous hospitality.

The atmosphere has changed dramatically since the Wymond family began remodeling City Subs. What was once a cramped, dark, dingy counter area has been transformed into a bright, open, airy space. In keeping true to its name, Wymond has expanded upon the city theme, covering the walls in photographs of city scenes by a local artist. The old firehouse motif that characterized the old restaurant is gone, replaced with what feels like a genuine diner atmosphere.

I was assured that the restaurant would be open to the public by Monday (that's today), so I encourage you to give City Subs, located at 159 S Main Street, a try sometime soon. Lexington is lucky to have both the restaurant and the Wymonds as new additions to the community.



Dido's newest album "Life for Rent" not groundbreaking but a good buy

BY ALEX KRAUS
STAFF WRITER

Those who paid attention to Dido's 1999 debut "No Angel" will know exactly what to expect from her newly-released follow-up "Life for Rent," for better or for worse.

"Life for Rent" kicks off with the first single "White Flag" as its first song. "White Flag" distinguishes itself as one of the album's superior songs, further building upon the style that Dido has established with past hits like "Thank You" and "Hunter." The smooth sound production, evident throughout the entire CD, manifests itself especially in "White Flag," giving it the subtle sweeping majesty of a film score, aided by hushed violins.

Under any condition, I'd be cautious when approaching a song with the chorus "When you're stoned, baby / Take me home" and the appropriately-titled song "Stoned" is certainly no exception. Despite my personal reservations about the drug references, the song, sprinkled with an acute techno beat, is admittedly infectious. The lyrics, though simple and segmented, are plaintive. As it ends up, the song may be more additive than its subject.

The album's title track follows. "Life for Rent" proudly displays Dido's undeniably best talent: her voice. The song takes the same formula as the rest of the album: a lilting, lighter-than-air melody backed with a steady drum beat.

The chorus is especially captivating as she reaches the high notes in "If my life is for rent... then nothing I have is truly mine" — it strikes you dumbfounded, as if something otherworldly or ethereal has been revealed for a fraction of a second. Fans of The Cranberries, Sarah McLachlan, or Jewel will know exactly what I'm talking about. Then, as soon as the lilting soprano notes pass, you sit there dazed, as if you have just heard something — dare I say it — angelic? And then you count down the seconds until the next repetition just to hear that exact moment when Dido suddenly elevates herself into the stratosphere above the commonplace female singer.

On "Who Makes You Feel," Dido dabbles in R&B influences, complete with drum loops and a record skip. Unfortunately, the song relies far too heavily on the repetition of the chorus, "Who makes you feel like I make you feel?" A combination of the seemingly randomly-assembled lyrics and soulful gospel-like backing vocals make me feel that this has been done before, and done better. Though I can commend Dido for trying to expand her style, the sour results evident in this

track suggest that she should look elsewhere for inspiration.

"Sand in My Shoes" wavers back and forth between a Jewel-like folk song and a light dance beat. The song begins naively enough with Dido tip-toeing through rapid lyrics without pause against a piano and folk guitar, but gradually progresses into a slightly diluted trance beat, including ethnic drum beats. As much of a contrast as this may seem, it is actually a very smooth, almost natural, progression.

"Do You Have a Little Time" proceeds at first with all the gusto of a funeral march, and with the same amount of discomforting dissonance. The several layers of noise that interfere with the melody remove it from anything resembling harmony. To even say "melody" is perhaps too generous, as it sounds more improvisational rather than calculated. The song becomes more tedious to listen to than pleasurable.

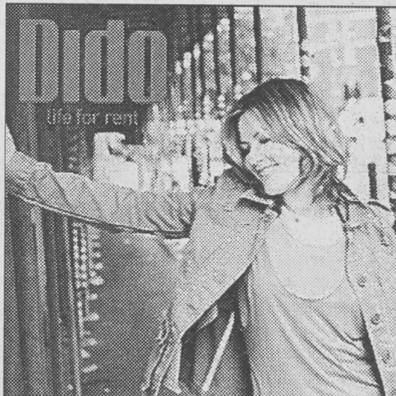
Hidden at the end of track 11 is an impressive bonus track entitled, "Closer." Normally extra songs of any kind are always a bonus, but "Closer" deserves special ac-

compliment. The song is acoustic, with only Dido's exceptional voice and a solo guitar. It is Dido stripped down to her bare essentials, and admittedly, her best assets. The intimate track records every flutter of the vocal chords and strum of the strings.

The sheer simplicity and persuasiveness of Dido's raw vocals is what makes "Closer" better than the plurality of songs on "Life for Rent." The melodic hook is enrapturing and it's difficult to resist a second listen. Perhaps for her next endeavor, Dido should investigate an acoustic album rather than venturing into the abyss of electronica that sometimes swallows good artists whole.

As for the album's technical aspects, it's an immaculately produced CD. Transitions are smooth as butter. Dido's music has been described by some as "folk electronica" and it's thanks mostly due to her production team that such a musical oxymoron can exist. Despite acoustic guitars mixed with subdued trance beats, nothing feels out of place.

Even if not entirely groundbreaking, "Life for Rent" is an enjoyable listening experience. The CD begins with the impeccably melodious trio of "White Flag," "Stoned," and "Life for Rent," but the album falls into a slump during its second half. Songs like "Do You Have a Little Time" and "This Land is Mine" are almost lazy in their composition. But odds are, you won't be looking for groundbreaking structures in "Life for Rent." You'll be looking for Dido's dulcet, meandering vocals, and rest assured, they are firmly in tow.



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Co'op Becomes Ghost Town, Students miss out

By JEB BROOKS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Prompted by some senior friends, I decided to take a walk down memory lane. I went from Newcomb down the path behind the Morris Guest and Lee Jackson Houses to the old Co-op. I found myself alone. The ghost-town I saw surprised me. I remember being there just last year and seeing throngs of people. Instead of the huge crowds of W&Lers fighting for attention, there was just an old cup, some broken bricks and a few hand-tools. How many alums remember the Co-op the same way I do? The rumor is that the building will now be used for storage instead of the lively conversations it once housed.

It is distressing to think that my fellow students no longer use the porch overlooking the ODK circle to just hang out. There is no rule against it that I'm aware of. I've heard that construction workers sit in the worn-out wooden chairs on their breaks. Why can't we reclaim them?

In fact, the walk prompted an interesting realization for me: the whole traffic pattern on campus has been interrupted. There are some students who haven't even walked down the colonnade yet this year. Instead, their main drag is Stemmons Plaza behind the library. This is a tragic loss.

The reason for the flow-change is the John

W. Elrod Commons. Instead of walking toward the Co-op, students now head to its spacious rooms between classes. Its planners succeeded. It is a beautiful facility that most of us love using. It is never empty. There is always a meeting being held or a book being read under its roof. It is lacking, however. There doesn't seem to be one central place to see and be seen. There's no single place to get "face-time." There's not even one place to come into out of the building. The Commons' large size is at once empowering and ominous. It is, as the Pat McGee song goes, "perfectly not perfect."

For all that it lacked, the old Co-op did have one thing in its favor. That porch was always packed. Because there was only one place to watch the world go by, it was easy to find friends (and avoid enemies). You always knew where they were. In the commons, though, there's no telling where someone might be lurking. There's the living room, the café, the marketplace, the student activities suite and those computers. The list goes on. Large numbers of nooks are great to have meetings, but anyone who wants to be assured of seeing everyone on campus has a challenge in front of him. Without the porch on the Co-op, where does the world go by? Does it even go by at all?

So, my recommendation to everyone is two-fold. Go sit on the Co-op porch. Ignore the construction and sit down with a cup of



JEB BROOKS / RING-TUM PHI

coffee and a few friends. Just because the Commons is so great doesn't mean the Co-op is gone forever. At least not yet. While you are at it, take a stroll down the colonnade.

Anyone who doesn't take that walk at least once a week is making a huge mistake. The colonnade is unquestionably the most valuable part of campus. Just take a moment to look at the bricks and

think about how many people and how many years it has taken to wear them down. To me, that's a beautiful thought. These are just my ideas, what do you think?

Next week, I'll relate some unbelievable stories from my police ride-along this weekend. Guns, towing and fights, they are all in a day's (or night's) work for the great guys of the Lex-Po.

Wild and Wonderful at Washington and Lee

When you think of the W&L student body, what states do you think of? Virginia is of course a sensible answer. Then there's the realization that W&L is Westminster, the college years, so Georgia would have to be up there too. Of course, we can't forget Texas - doing so would result in the entire Kappa Sig house keying my already crappy truck.

There's a whole host of states in the southland that send their share of residents to Lex Vegas. From the north, we get a few students from the "island," and Pennsylvania and Ohio can't resist sending their best and brightest (and a few others?) to W&L as well. But there is one state overlooked in this grand menagerie of geographical areas. It is the 35th state, the greatest state of the union. It's Wild and Wonderful. It's West Virginia.

After I reveled in the Mountaineers stomping over those heinous neutered-male turkeys (in case you didn't know what a Hokie is), it got me thinking about

how great West Virginia really is. When we win football games at WVU, we don't celebrate by drinking at a bar. We burn furniture. We light city streets on fire. And when WVU beat Tech in Blacksburg last year, WVU fans in Morgantown celebrated by tearing down their own goalposts. Yes, they stormed their own football field and tore down the goalposts for a victory some 200 miles away.

Being from West Virginia brings its own unique phenomena. At the WVU-UVA Tire Bowl last December, Charlotte was packed with some 40,000 WVU fans. While a buddy and I worked a case of Yuengling in a downtown parking lot, we were surrounded by Morgantown kids doing keg stands, 40-something couples cooking breakfast and pounding back drinks, and a few UVA fans who thought they had stumbled into the end of civilization. One group of adults kindly offered us pancakes and some fresh strawberries - by fresh, I

mean that the fruit had been soaking in moonshine for god knows how long. Where else can you get that?

West Virginian pride is different from any other feeling. It's the kind of pride that lets us enjoy all the stereotypes - sure, we might have fewer teeth, we might feel occasional amorous feelings for our own family members, we might prefer to park our cars on cinder blocks instead of in garages. We get tons of flak for being from the Mountain State. Some might be true. Some isn't. We're proud either way.

W&L, with all its formalities and appearances, is probably the least West Virginian place I can think of. But if you look around, you'll notice a collection of West Virginia all-stars who bring a little bit of Almost Heaven to Lexington:

West Virginians control the all-important intramural program. All 5 sororities have at least one West Virginian. The president of PiKA hails from the Mountain State. Mock Con's King Dixie is bona fide border trash. Rumor has it that many of the hot fresh-

man ladies are West Virginians themselves. And let's not forget the man who grades your rallies - our own esquire of Charleston.

If anything, my experience at W&L has made me more conscious and proud of where I come from. Freshman year, I felt a certain satisfaction parking my crappy truck next to 4 beamers from Dekalb County. Now, with Mock Con fast approaching, state pride becomes a driving force of W&L parties - if there's anything I know about West Virginians, it's that we know how to party. The problem, however, is that we can't figure out how to party without destroying something.

To the rest of you, West Virginia may not mean all that much. Maybe it's only a place where you frat boys can go buy grain. Maybe it's just that beloved 70mph speed zone that you appreciate on I-64 or I-81. But really, the Mountain State means so much more. I'm only a northern Virginia carpetbagger, but after 13 years as a true-blue hick, I know the real truth - if you wanna see perfection, just look west.

Old School: the glue that binds us

By STEVE LAMB
STAFF WRITER

It had been a long time since a movie affected me as profoundly as *Old School* did. While it provided me with a purely superficial satisfaction, I definitely place it up on my shelf of all-time greats among *Forest Gump*, *Tombstone*, *Jerry Maguire*, and the *Big Lebowski*.

However, I'm not here to discuss the movie's undisputable excellence, we all accept that *Old School* stands securely as a great cinematic work. For those individuals out there who have not yet seen this instant classic, see it, you will have an awesome time. And if you already have a nice little day planned and you just don't know if you are going to have time, get out, find a copy (almost every freshmen guy room owns at least one copy) and get ready.

Here is my theory; I believe that an overwhelming majority of collegiate males ages 17-22 feel the same way that I do about *Old School*, or, at a bare minimum, they've seen it and enjoyed it. *Old School* is the glue that binds so to speak. Almost every guy (and a fair number of ladies) from my home town as well as this prestigious institution of higher learning can give at least one quote. Entire relationships have been formed solely on the basis of shared love of the *Old School*; it is truly the gift that keeps on giving. Pulling out a few lines at a party can give you all kinds of street credit, not to mention hours of entertainment. To all my fellow *Old School* fans out there, keep on trucking; and to all those yet to experience this masterpiece, you already know, it will change you forever.

For Traveller: 458-8900*

*We have heard that some students do not know the Traveller phone number. Now, there's no excuse.

QUICK HITS

Φ Stacy's mom may have it going on, but, guys, let's keep our hands off the hot moms this weekend.

Φ Shout out to the stud freshman who reported an honor code violation. The freshmen contacted E.C. President Helen "The Face that Launched a Thousand Ships" Hughes and stated, "I have an honor code violation to report. The day I met you, you stole my heart."

Φ More on the E.C.: Last year's freshmen never bothered Titus the way this year's bother Helen.

Φ Why can't we hire cooks in the D-Hall that know how to make something other than stir fry?

Φ Ben Losi = Super Mario

Φ The athletic department's most treasured fantasy is the complete and sudden disappearance of the riding team.

Φ I have never been to a lecture in Lee Chapel without wanting to hang myself from boredom.

Φ Who in the world works on the fire alarms at midnight? Do they not realize people are trying to study?

Φ It's nice to see a new party idea come along once in a while. Thanks to Chi Psi for being bold enough to pull off one of the year's best parties.

Φ TFC: We're not in high school anymore...

Φ The freshman girl who is staying in the Phi Psi house should be paying rent.

Φ Rob Kirwan, I have to say, owned Penny Lane. He is the best beer pong player in the history of the world.

Φ The Board of Trustees says it will make the Spring Term decision based on "financial criteria." Spring Term: prepare for burnination.

Φ The public section of the Pyongyang Metro is far smaller than the portion reserved for secret military and government use.

Φ Sheryl Silvers proved this weekend that she is better than most at stabbing people.

Φ Can you imagine having an elephant "fixed"? Does the vet use hedge clippers?

Φ The lax girls owned the parents in flip cup. Does an undefeated season here mean another undefeated season later?

Φ Why do paper cuts hurt so much? They're such small cuts, after all.

Φ Three cheers for the weather. But, are we going to make up for it this Winter?

Φ According to a recent study, fans of the Oprah Winfrey Show are twice as likely to be unable to cope with the stress in their lives as non-fans.

Φ P. Diddy is running a marathon. Did he train running from the police?

Φ RCHS Wildcats Marching Band is still better than a piped in recording of the W&L Swing.

Φ Motown at SAE for Parents' Weekend? Was Widespread already booked?

Φ Good news, ladies: Pumpkinseeds now sells Lilly!

Φ Bad news, ladies: Most of what she has left is Summer or Resort wear and can't be worn until next year.

Φ Will you marry me?

Φ Other than fish and hate, what can be monged?

Φ Special thanks to the all of the bidders for making the Mock Con Silent Auction a smashing success.

Φ More on Mock Con: There is a black-tie gala on Friday, November 14. Find a date.

Φ In re: balls of years past: The 1923 *Calyx* lists 11 school wide black-tie balls and cotillions held during the year. It's too bad we only have one.

Φ CASA? SARAH? FAIR? RACAS? MetroLex really has the best acronyms.

Φ Does Lexington really need a second coffee shop? Bring back the tattoo parlor!

Φ Congratulations Eden Parks. We were pulling for you.

Φ E-mail your anonymous Quick Hits and tales