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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

VOLUME CVII, NO. VIII
MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2004

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

Honor Court record vanishes from VMI, state police investigate

BY PATRICIA BALLANTYNE
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Someone broke into VMI's Honor Court files, and few cadets know about it.

Only one recent file appears missing.

On January 4, an intruder entered the Honor Prosecutor's office in Maury-Brooke Hall. The perpetrator entered by breaking a window on the bottom floor, said VMI Director of Communications Ken White.

The detective from the Virginia State Police needed DeShazor and the other Prosecutor, Roderick James, to search their office looking for any missing files.

They found a recent file missing, which gave the investigation a suspect.

Christian DeShazor, one of the two prosecutors of VMI's Honor Code, was relaxing at home when he received an unexpected phone call from the VMI Superintendent Representative, telling him someone had broken into his office.

The detective from the Virginia State Police needed DeShazor and the other Prosecutor, Roderick James, to search their office for any missing files. They found a recent file missing, which gave the investigation a suspect. Stealing the file accomplished nothing because another one could be put together easily, in a matter of hours. An older file, however, would have been much more difficult to reproduce.

The person knew what to do, according to DeShazor, who said that the trespasser came in the back of the building, entered the elevator, and headed for the Prosecutors' office prepared with a tool to break down the door.

"It was pretty calculated," said DeShazor. The



CORBIN BLACKFORD / THE RING-TUM PHI

Theft. An intruder broke into the usually well-guarded Virginia Military Institute and stole an Honor Court file. The intrusion has been kept quiet on VMI's campus.

person "went through the filing cabinets and our desk." According to White, the police discovered unlocked office doors to the Honor Court President and the Honor Court Prosecutors' offices, and no obvious objects were absent.

"That room is always locked," said DeShazor.

The Prosecutors' office contains all of the past files of VMI's Honor Court. "I could find files from the 1970s if I looked," said DeShazor.

The VMI website calls their Honor System, "the hallmark of VMI education." Many aspects, such as Cadets controlling the procedures, resemble W&L's Honor System. Unlike W&L, however, VMI keeps their records.

Therefore, the prosecutors' office holds years of sensitive information. VMI's Honor Court actions are kept quiet to protect the innocent. But all investigations files remain in the prosecutors' office.

"It's all very secret," said DeShazor. "I would hate for all that stuff to leak out." According to DeShazor, no one at VMI knows about the break-in, especially because it happened over break. The issue is still being given attention by investigators.

"Certainly, this type of activity is unusual at VMI, so we're taking this investigation very seriously and appreciate the cooperation of the state police," said White.

Flurry of activity precedes Mock Con, keynote speaker remains undetermined

Thomas Menino, Mayor of Boston, Ronnie Dugger, cofounder of Texas Observer Jim Davis, Florida Representative, committed; no band signed

BY KAELA HARMON
STAFF WRITER

Memorabilia has been ordered, t-shirts have been made, speakers have been lined up and states prepare to make predictions as the highly anticipated 2004 Mock Convention draws near. All of the chairs have been working hard to make sure that this year's convention is a success and although there are still a lot of loose ends to tie up things seem to be coming together.

Jacquelyn Clark, who sits on the executive board as personnel chairmen, said that the memorabilia packages, which include tumbler glasses, top hats, t-shirts and other Mock Con goodies, have been ordered and the poster design and logo has been completed. The biggest set back she has had is that there was trouble finding enough flatbeds for every state to have a float. "Somehow they have not run into that problem in the past so we didn't see that one coming. But the parade chair, Emily Tyson, has found 10 more flatbeds for us to use."

Other members of the executive board and the steering

committee are also working hard to make sure that everything is coming together at their end. Anne Idsal is the speakers chair and her challenge has been lining up keynote speakers. "We have some minor speakers signed on as definites but due to the timing of the primaries it's been difficult to get speakers as well as media". Some of the minor speakers that have been secured include Thomas Menino, The Mayor of Boston, Ronnie Dugger, Co-Founder of the Texas Observer and the Alliance for Democracy and Florida Representative Jim Davis.

Idsal said that they are still in open dialogue with former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley, Congressman John Lewis, former Georgia Senator Sam Nunn and a number of other politicians who serve as surrogates to the candidates but she made it clear that "It won't be until later in this week or early next week that we'll know something for sure". Clark reemphasized Idsal's challenge by stating, "We've learned that people

on campaigns don't plan very far in advance". Nonetheless, Idsal is very confident that by the time the convention starts everything will be in place. "I'm definitely not worried and even if [somebody big] agrees to come at the last minute we will accommodate them".

The state chairs and the regional coordinators have the key role of compiling enough information to ensure another successful convention by making an accurate prediction.

This job has required that each state chair and their co chair develop working relationships with key contacts in their state who can help them figure out how the voters will swing. Each district is broken down and a formula is used to determine what percentage of the votes each candidate is likely to receive.

The state chairs have had to put in several hours of work a week and with the race heat-

ing up between the top candidates they have a lot of research ahead of them before things are said and done.

Oklahoma state chair John Vollbrecht said that at this point it's hard to tell exactly who will win but he's confident that they will be ready for the convention. "By the time of the convention, I believe I will have enough information to make a correct prediction.

Despite some states' uncertainties, John Heath, the regional coordinator for the central states, has the up most confidence in his state chairs' abilities to make an accurate prediction. "I feel our state chairs have done such a good job that we'll be just fine on January 30th and 31st".

Other than the keynote speakers, the only issue that remains to be resolved is the question of who will be the band for the weekend. At one point the steering committee was hoping to bring in James Brown but he has since declined. The two weeks before the convention will be crucial for everyone involved but everyone is confident that the 2004 Mock Convention will be a success.

Tentative Schedule for 2004 Mock Convention

Friday, January 30th
10:30- Parade
1:15- Preconvention Entertainment
1:45- Call to Order
1:50- Presentation of Colors
1:55- Pledge of Allegiance
2:00- National Anthem
2:05- Invocation
2:10- Call for Convention
2:15- Credentials Committee Report
2:20- Rules Committee Report
2:25- Election of Permanent Chairman
2:30- Opening Remarks and Addresses
4:25- Benediction
4:30- Adjournment
7:15- Entertainment
7:30- Call to Order
7:35- Invocation
7:40- Address #1
8:00- Address #2
8:25- Platform Committee Report
8:30- Platform Debate
9:10- Keynote Address
9:40- Benediction
9:45- Adjournment
Saturday, January 31st
9:00- Call to Order
9:05- Presentation of Colors
9:10- Pledge of Allegiance
9:15- National Anthem
9:20- Invocation
9:30- Opening Address
9:50- Additional Address
10:10- Keynote Address
10:40- Roll Call and Nominations for President and Vice President
12:45- Benediction
12:50- Termination of the Convention

Newspaper reporter visits, inspires W&L students

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
ASSISTANT ARTS AND LIFE EDITOR

Mike Doyle, a veteran newspaper reporter, spoke in Northern Auditorium on January 13. Doyle works for the McClatchy Newspaper Chain in the Washington Bureau. He reports to newspapers nationwide.

Doyle is a writer, preorter an author who has appeared on CNN, MSNBC and the Today Show. He came to speak at Washington and Lee as a Wilson Fellow last week.

Doyle, who is originally from California, graduated from Oberlin with a degree not in journalism, but in government. He said that a liberal arts education is the best way to learn to become a reporter.

While at Washington and Lee, Doyle spoke to many of the journalism and Politics classes including Introduction to Reporting, State and Local Government, and International Relations.

"I thought that he was an excellent speaker, but he was not decisive," said sophomore Katie Jenkins. Many students

shared Jenkins view that Doyle was very indecisive.

Doyle also spent time with the staff of each of the campus newspapers. He advised the staff of the Trident while they were working on their most recent edition and went to dinner with several section editors from the Phi.

Doyle began his speech, titled "Public Men and Private Lives: Where Does the Media Draw the Line?" by speaking of what makes a reporter.

The focus of his lecture was on privacy. Gary Condit was a congressman that Doyle followed. It was widely known that Condit was a womanizer, but Doyle chose not to report because that was private. Had he known what would happen to Chandra Levy, he may have reported on Condit's behavior sooner.

This poses a huge question: do public fig-

ures forfeit privacy? It is a battle between the right of privacy verses the public's right to know.

The Supreme Court established right of privacy in 1965 in the Griswold versus Connecticut decision. Doyle believes that there is no free floating public right to know. James Madison is quoted as defending the theory of the public right to know. Doyle says that this is

In reporting, there are times when journalists must turn their backs and not report

MIKE DOYLE
WILSON FELLOW SPEAKER

taken out of context.

Another, more recent example of privacy and the media would be the LA Times releasing a story about Arnold Schwarzenegger groping women five days before the election.

Should the story have been written and published? 10,000 readers cancelled their subscriptions, but Doyle feels it was exemplary reporting. It was good reporting because when electing a public official, many people

vote on character. Therefore, as a society, we must know everything about this character.

Doyle half agrees with this belief. Half of him thinks otherwise. He never came to a conclusion, stating that in reporting, there are times that journalists must turn back and not report.

The example Doyle used was September 11, 2001. People were plunging to their deaths on this day, and the media chose to run these messages continually. According to Doyle, there is a time to look away; people will always be falling and if we are wise, we will turn away.

Doyle's book, "The Forestport Breaks: A 19th Century Conspiracy Along the Black River Canal," is set for publication by the Syracuse University Press.

The Wilson Fellowship brings a practicing journalist to campus each year to teach, lecture and advise. This visit gives journalists a chance to share their knowledge with students as well as give students a chance to interact with professionals in their field.

Hidden Hero Julianne Shelley toils for Literacy Campaign

Julianne will also be working this Spring to raise money to support Cystic Fibrosis research, studies hard and loves children

Julianne Shelley serves others selflessly. While tutoring middle school students her freshmen year she discovered, much to her surprise, that many could not read well.

Now, in her junior year, she is organizing an adopt-a-classroom program for the Literacy Campaign. Although she was involved with the Campaign in previous years, Julianne has become increasingly active and is assuming leadership roles this year, and her hard work is surely to the benefit of the Literacy Campaign.

She and Kristin Crawford will be hosting a charity ball for the program soon. Last year, the group hosted a similar campaign with the proceeds going towards the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

This year, Julianne will be involved in more charitable events to support Cystic Fibrosis research.

Julianne spoke of the good times and fun she had working with children over the summer. She worked with kids at a day camp doing various activities outdoors and indoors, including helping as the Junior Staff at Sea Island.

Shelley is a Sociology and Psychology double major. She started as a Pre-Med major, but later decided that she "really wanted to know about people in general, not just the scientific stuff."

She said that she loved her anthropology courses and loved learning about different cultures. There is always something new to learn.

Julianne also said she was very happy to have taken the

science courses she did, particularly Chemistry and Biology here at Washington and Lee. Julianne hails from Savannah, Georgia and said that she still isn't used to the snow and ice here, but the excellent professors and extensive extracurricular activities have kept her feeling right at home and plenty busy.

Julianne isn't really sure what she wants to do after college, but she knows that she wants to work with kids.

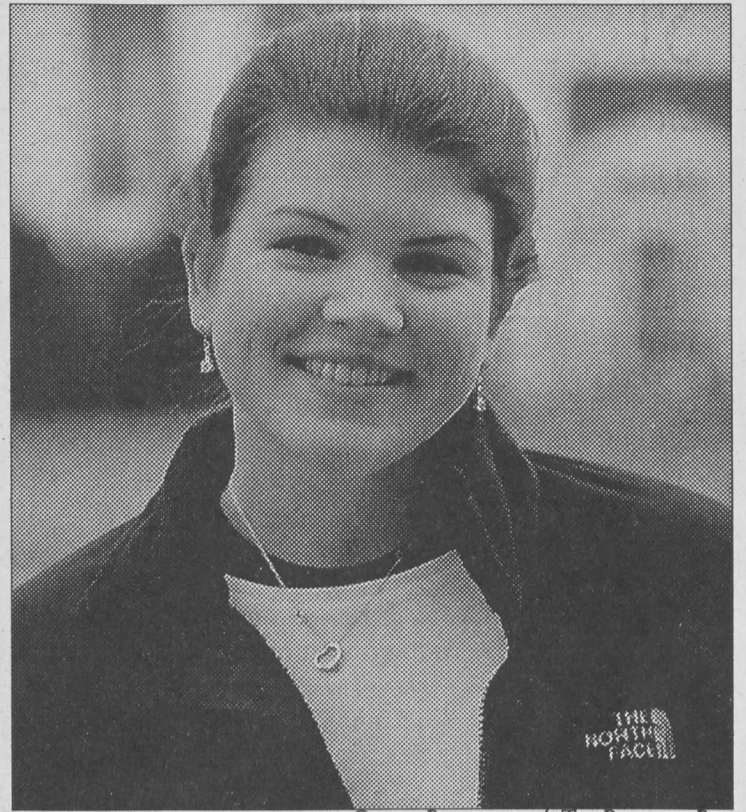
Julianne said that, ideally, she would really like to work for a non profit organization sometime in her future.

Right now, her plans include graduate school with her psychology or sociology degree and "hopefully use that to help out."

Her advice to other students would be is to simply relax, and smile more. "This school and life in general, can get really stressful at times, but as long as you put all you can into what you do you'll be fine."

Shelley described herself as "caring, hardworking, and thankful." She has clearly demonstrated all of those traits by her actions on campus and elsewhere.

The Ring-tum Phi solicits nominations for students, faculty and staff whom you believe to be hidden heroes. If you know of a member of the community who contributes quietly, please feel free to nominate him or her to be interviewed for our Hidden Hero section. Email your nominations to phi@wlu.edu.



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Hidden Hero. Julianne Shelley works as a tutor and is organizing the Adopt-a-classroom program for the Literacy Campaign.

Campus prepares MLK celebration

BY KYLE WASS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In the midst of a week-end filled with Robert E. Lee's Birthday and the Lee-Jackson town parade, Washington and Lee has found time today to celebrate the legacy of legendary civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr. Several campus events were planned to mark the significant occasion.

King's actual birthday was January 15, and students could receive birthday cake in the living room of the Commons to celebrate. This celebration was sponsored by the Dean of Students Office, Multicultural Student Organizations and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Committee.

Today, King's birthday is nationally observed as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and is a federal holiday.

Tonight in the Marketplace, the dining staff has

provided a memorial dinner of King's favorite foods, including fried chicken, black-eyed peas, cheese biscuits and sweet potato pie. The memorial dinner is sponsored by the Multicultural Student Organizations.

After dinner, there will be a program featuring "reflections and presentations surrounding the impact that Dr. King's legacy has had in [the] lives

of some of our students," according to Assistant Dean of Students Tamara Futrell.

Also in King's honor, the university will host keynote speaker Dorothy

Brown as she presents "Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Quest for Civil Rights: Then and Now."

Brown graduated from Fordham University in New York with a B.S., and received her J.D. from

Georgetown University Law School. She has taught law at George Mason University and the University of Cincinnati.

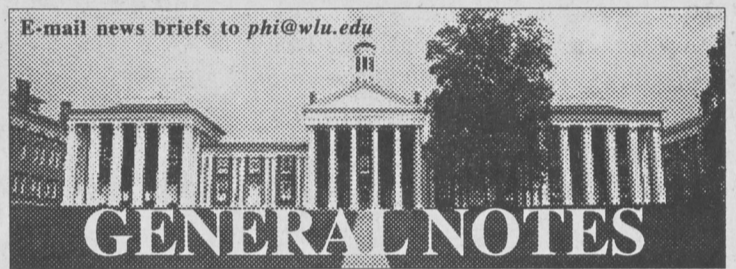
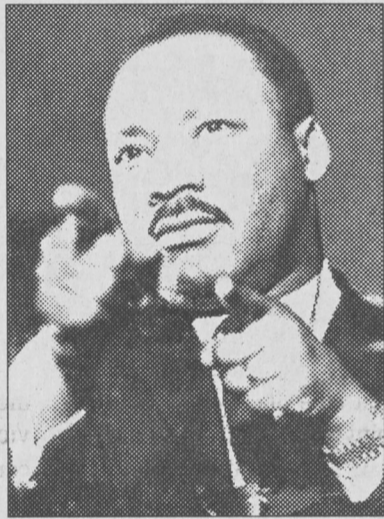
Brown is now a professor at the Washington and Lee University School of Law, where she teaches Administrative Law, Critical Race Theory, Federal Income Tax and Partnership Tax.

Brown's publications include works such as *Racial Equality in the Twenty-First Century: What's Tax Policy Got to Do With It? Introduction: Symposium on Race, Gender, and Economic Justice*, and *Critical Race Theory: Cases, Materials, and Problems*.

Following Brown's presentation at 7:00 PM tonight in the University Commons Theater, the University will be holding a processional and vigil march from the University Commons to Evans Dining Hall to represent the somberness of the occasion.

According to the Law School's website, there will be a celebration in Evans that evening.

Dean Futrell said that she is "looking forward to the event and think that it is important that students, faculty, staff, and administrators take the time to honor a man who has played such a significant role in history...not just black history, but American history."



Beware of string of laptop thefts

There has been a string of thefts in the Williams school and you should contact the Director of Security, Mike Young, at mlyoung@wlu.edu if you have any information relating to the thefts or if you need to report something missing.

LIFE is now accepting new members

Life is now recruiting new members. LIFErs present programs and organize health-related events. Pick up an application form outside of Carol Calkins' office in the University Commons on the second floor. Applications due Monday, January 26. Reserve Saturday, February 7 from 1:00-4:00 for training. Questions? Call the Office of Health Promotion x4501.

Mock Con predictions begin

Despite uncertainty about the outcome of Monday's Iowa Caucuses, students at Washington and Lee University are predicting that Rep. Dick Gephardt will emerge victorious.

According to Gregory Papeika, a W&L senior and the Iowa State Chairman, Gephardt will win with 28 percent of the vote, followed by Howard Dean with 24 percent, Sen. John Kerry with 21 percent and Sen. John Edwards with 17 percent.

"Gephardt seems to have the best organization to get out the vote," Papeika said. "He maintains the most consistent and stable polling of any of the candidates."

Soul food: true American cuisine for all people to enjoy

BY TED DELANEY
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Traditionally, Washington and Lee Dining Services serves a "soul food" meal on the occasion of Martin Luther King's birthday. The great civil rights leader was both African-American and a southerner who spent a good portion of his life in Atlanta. King grew up on a diet that is not unfamiliar to either black or white southerners. Both races shared much in common, and food was

one of those things. The white southern writer Willie Morris explained it best when he described a New Year's Day party that he spent at the home of Al Murray in Harlem in 1967. The Murrays served bourbon, collard greens, black-eyed peas, ham hocks, and cornbread. Morris observed it was "a kind of ritual for all of us. Where else in the East, but in Harlem," he wrote, "could a Southern white boy greet the New Year with the good-luck food he had had as a child, and feel at home as he seldom had thought he could in [New York]."

Not all southern-style cooking is soul food. Spices make the difference! Soul food originated with countless black cooks in the Old South who combined traditional African cooking methods with the foods they found in the New World. The cooks prepared food with their souls rather than written recipes. State laws prevented them from learning to read, and they developed new recipes that they passed on to countless generations of both black and white southerners. Fried chicken, for instance, is a favorite among southern families and African-American fami-

lies in particular. No corporation understands how biracial fried chicken is in the South better than KFC. Two months ago I took Professor Merchant to a black-owned soul food restaurant in Houston. After stuffing himself, Merchant said: "I never knew sweet potatoes could taste so good!" But not only sweet potatoes, everything in this restaurant was exceptional.

Soul food and/or southern style cooking is truly American cuisine, and it transcends racial boundaries. Have fun eating with W and L's Dining Services on King's birthday.

Be sure to support SARAH this weekend by attending the infamous LipSync charity event.

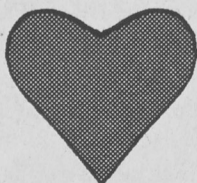
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THE RING-TUM PHI
STAFF EDITORIAL

**Drop/Add Policy
 in place for use, not refusal.**

The Ring-tum Phi has recently become aware of dozens of students who were turned away from taking courses pass/fail. Policies exist for a reason and faculty ought to be willing to stand up and allow students to explore a topic with the simple goal of academic enjoyment, not the worry of a grade.

Washington and Lee, like many universities, has long scrolls of policies. We choose to abide by some and ignore others. We see a problem here. Students who are interested in courses because of the topic should have the right to take the class based solely on that interest without being afraid of getting a bad grade.

Professors argue that students will not take a class as seriously if they take it pass/fail. That reason is not a sufficient one to prevent all scholars from taking a course for the love of its topic. If a pupil does not do an adequate job in a pass/fail course, give him a failing grade. Why should a few bad apples ruin the yummy apple cake?

Others say that students who are on the waiting list for a course should have priority over those opting to take the class pass/fail.

The grade a student receives - whether it is an A or a P - should not influence her chance at getting into a section.

In short, students have an incredible opportunity in the form of the pass/fail policy. It is a shame when a student who simply wants to explore an interesting elective may not do so without the worry of a grade.

Faculty: please let students take your courses for a pass/fail grade.

Quote of the Week

"We had a community-wide chili supper in 2001, and we were having bake sales every week and giving her the proceeds."

~Mindy Bailey,
 supervisor of Katrina Combs, an Ohio woman who shaved her head and dyed her skin, faking cancer in order to garnish donations.

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 The Ring-tum Phi is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia. The Ring-tum Phi is a member of The Publications Board, but is otherwise independent.
 The Ring-tum Phi welcomes all responsible submissions and letters. All submissions must be e-mailed to phi@wlu.edu or in the University Center mailbox by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the following week's edition. The Ring-tum Phi reserves the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters and columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Ring-tum Phi Editorial Board. Advertising does not reflect the opinions of The Ring-tum Phi or its staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.
 The Ring-tum Phi
 University Commons Room, 341
 Washington and Lee University
 Lexington, Virginia 24450
 Telephone: (540) 458-4060
 Fax: (540) 458-4059
 Email: phi@wlu.edu
 Subscription rate \$40

Rape must be treated as Honor Violation



PHOTO COURTESY OF *alumni*

IN THE SHADOWS OF WHITE COLUMNS- Our honor sets us free, but why isn't rape considered by the Executive Committee as an Honor Violation?

A Washington and Lee student, according to the White Book, acts dishonorably when he or she commits a "breach of trust" as interpreted by the student body through the Executive Committee. Given this simple policy, I find it astonishing that rape is apparently not considered an Honor Violation at our University.

Let us begin with the easiest case- one student, free of the influence of alcohol, uses violence or threat of violence to forcibly rape another student, who is also sober. Is this not a "breach of trust" of the most serious kind? According to the current student community, rape of this sort is not dishonorable conduct, as the only on-campus appeal a raped student has is to the Student-Faculty Hearing Board, which hears issues related to sexual assault. The SFHB may or may not dismiss a student found guilty of rape, but this is irrelevant, as we're not considering sanctions, but honor, and as one of many lines from the EC President's annual speech to the freshman class goes, honor is not measured by degree, and the fact that lying is considered a breach of trust, yet rape is not, seems anomalous to me. I am in no way critical of the SFHB; they do their job well, but my argument is that when it comes to sexual assault, cases should fall within the jurisdiction of the EC.

A convincing argument might be made that the SFHB's special training and experience with

the sensitive issues related to rape cases makes handling of such cases by anyone else impossible. I disagree. There is no reason that members of the EC could go through the same training and handle the cases with the same confidentiality and sensitivity.

Of course, it is not always this easy to judge. If you look at pamphlets and listen(ed) to your dorm counselors, you'll have heard the ominous statistic that one in four Washington and Lee women will be sexually assaulted during her four-year career here. While this sounds like a stretch, you can reconcile it by recognizing that there aren't too many out-and-out, sober rapes on-campus. Far more frequent, I would imagine, would be murky goings-on that take place under an alcoholic haze in fraternity basements. This raises an important question- if there's a drunken student making aggressive and questionable advances and actions, is that dishonorable?

Personally, I find this question difficult to resolve. I am of the opinion that one should control oneself when it comes to alcohol, and I am also of the opinion that being drunk doesn't absolve you of guilt or responsibility. I can see that many people might think that drunken rape is not necessarily dishonorable, and I can see the reasoning behind it. Someone under the heavy influence of alcohol is not in control, and may not

realize what they're doing. But it's my opinion that, in the end, the bottom line is that if you rape a fellow student, you have breached that student's trust in a horrific manner, whether or not you meant to do it, or knew you were doing it, or whether or not you would have done it when you were sober. To the person who is raped, it makes no difference; you've caused an irrevocable trauma in their lives and done untold emotional (and perhaps physical) damage to them. That, when the person trusted you not to, is dishonorable. Can you imagine George Washington or President Lee ever saying that rape, inebriated or otherwise, would not be considered dishonorable conduct?

The bottom line is this- rape is not acceptable. I have absolutely no respect, and the utmost contempt, for men who are guilty of this vicious crime. A person who commits rape lacks common decency and empathy, let alone honor. If you place yourself in a situation where you end up raping someone while drunk, or if you use substances to take advantage of the other person, it's no different. "I was drunk" is not an excuse, and "she was drunk" most definitely isn't either. I want students who are accused of rape referred to the EC in addition to their criminal proceedings, and I want those who are guilty dismissed immediately and without question. I am not willing to tolerate the presence of such people in my University and in my Honor System.

Φ MODERATE'S MUSINGS
 CALEY ANDERSON '06

Φ TRAIN OF THOUGHT
 TRAN KIM '05

W&L students must recognize MLK Day

The city and county governments are closed today. Federal government offices are also closed. The public schools are closed. Many private college campuses are also closed today. But today, we students at Washington and Lee University attended classes and carried on with our business as if it was any other day in the calendar year. Yet it is not. Today is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a day that our nation has dedicated to the memory of one of history's most important and beloved figures. On the King Center's website, Coretta Scott King wrote that we celebrate this holiday to "commemorate the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership."

His influence is as important to the development and growth of this nation as the original founders of this country. It is because of his efforts, compassion, and courage that our society has progressed from a darkened nation to a more enlightened one. The changes that he and civil rights activists worked to implement truly made our nation a more civilized nation because everyone was at least legally treated as equal human beings. Before the Civil Rights era, we were civilized in the sense that we possessed the technological and economic innovations that made us a viable global force, but when there is turmoil and dissention between people in a nation to the extent that we had in the United States at that time, it cannot be said that the United States was a truly civilized nation. Because of King, Americans entered into a new era absent of the racial barbarisms present before.

Yet, in spite of the symbolic importance of King's actions, the Washington and Lee Community fails to recognize the day as a holi-

day for the academic community, and students, faculty, and administrative members scarcely recognize the holiday on their own. Since I have been a student here, the Minority Student Association along with the Dean of Student's office has organized a celebration for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in which the Gospel Choir sings, an important figure speaks, and students make reflections. I remember that not even half of Lee Chapel was filled last year and the majority of the students who attended were minority students, especially black students.

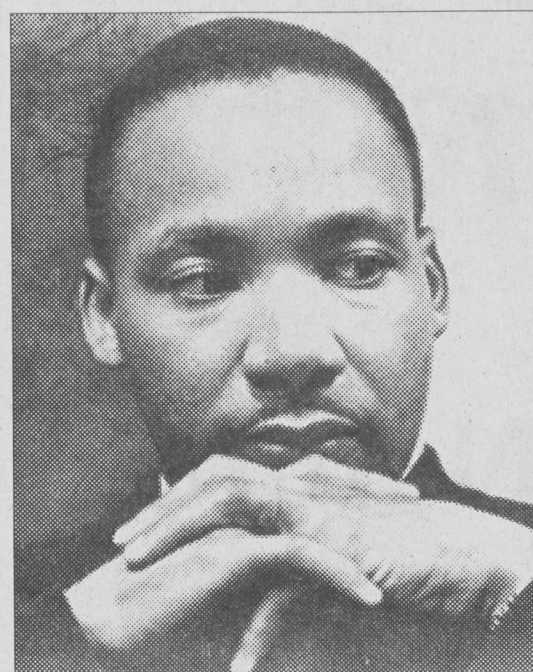


PHOTO COURTESY OF *africanamericans.com*
 DREAMER. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights leader.

It seems that people here think it is a holiday for blacks but the truth is that it is not. Martin Luther King did not fight exclusively for the rights of black Americans. The dream he had in mind encompassed people from every walk of life. He had a dream to improve the nature of humanity for everyone, not just for black Americans. However, he utilized the plight of blacks to exemplify the plight of humanity; the injustice of prejudice applies to us all, regardless of how small or how large. We have prejudices based on physical appearances, personalities, and personal decisions in life. So essentially, the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy is the celebration of the legacy of human rights and a celebration for all humanity.

So I encourage all of you to reconsider the purpose and meaning of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and if you have felt disenfranchised from the celebration, leave your concerns aside and take a moment out for the sake of humanity. This is what Martin Luther King Jr. would have wanted us to do on a holiday to commemorate him. He would not want to simply be remembered and praised; he would want his memory to be a productive and meaningful entity to inspire further progress in the fight to eradicate prejudice for all human beings. So I invite you to come to tonight's celebration which will be held at 7 pm in the University Commons theater.

Phi Quick Poll
 A random sample of 28 students were asked "Are you involved in Mock Convention?"
 95% Confidence
 Yes- 79%
 Yes, but unofficially- 14%
 No- 7%

"Prospective minority students" weekend not conducive to genuine diversity



PHOTO COURTESY OF *whedu*

HOMOGENOUS? While Washington and Lee is not the most diverse campus, a hushed up "prospective minority student weekend" is not the answer, and in fact seems a little bit insincere.

You may have noticed that there were an unusually large number of prospective students on campus this weekend. Actually, considering the reason, it is also sad that there were so few. This weekend was an unofficial gathering of minority students. I don't claim to know all there is to know on this event, but a friend of mine from high school told me in class last year that Washington and Lee was paying for her to come visit the campus for a weekend.

At the time, I was jealous. I was a senior in high school waiting for my acceptance letters and still deciding between several schools. Washington and Lee, obviously, was very high on my list and I won-

dered why I had not been invited along with her or why they didn't seem to want me as much as my friend.



THE BIG PICTURE
ANNE FINLEY '07

The answer came after she got back from beautiful, historic Lexington. She had arrived to find herself amongst a very diverse group of prospective students. Understand me when I say that this is not a bad thing. I would love for Washington and Lee to have more diversity, and the fact that a school that was already so small was also very homogenous made me think twice about coming to this fantastic and unique institution.

My final choice of which school to attend, which I made two days before the May

1st deadline while visiting Washington and Lee, was between here and the University of Southern California, which is its polar opposite in nearly every category. This was especially true in the area of size and diversity. The only thing that bothers me about this past weekend was that, at least for my friend back in Texas who chose not to attend this school, she was not informed that the weekend was basically arranged for minority students only.

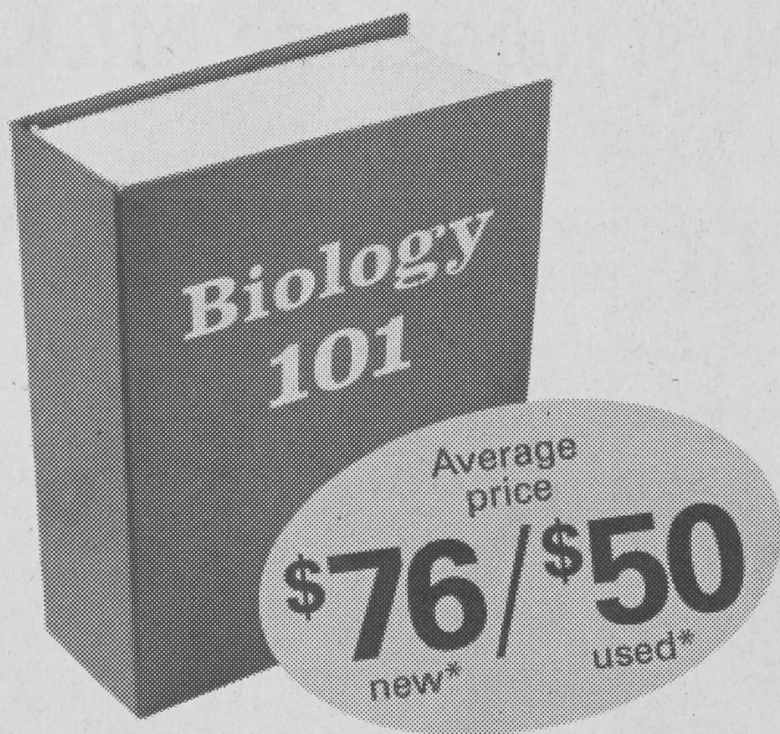
By all means we should invite accomplished students from all walks of life to visit our beautiful campus and get a feel for the unique experiences that Lexington has to offer.

Yet, no one wants to feel that they are only wanted for how they look on paper, or

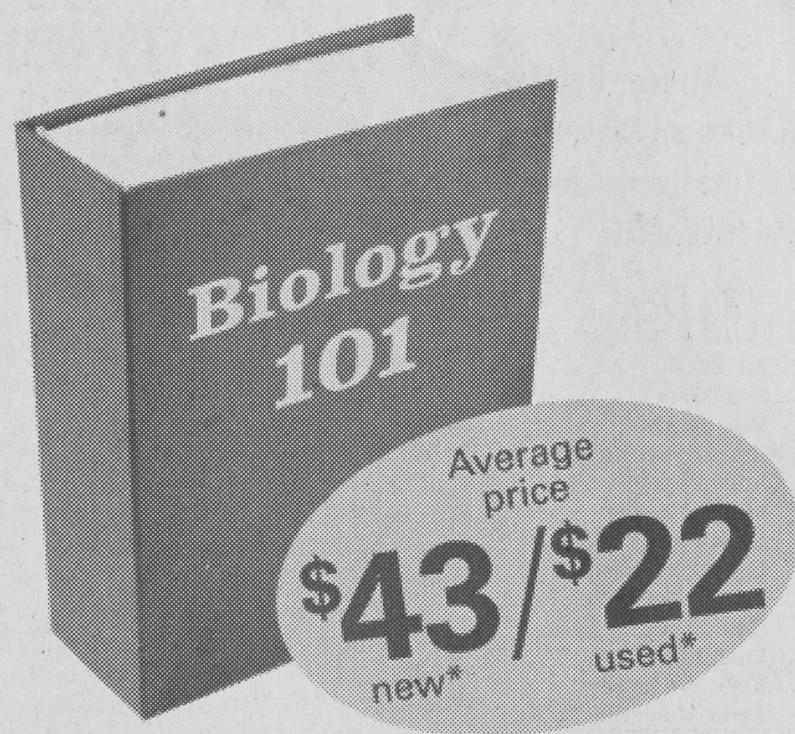
the statistic they can fulfill or improve. If we continue the positive practice of collectively bringing minority students onto campus, they need to all be informed of the real motivation for the weekend.

We have nothing to be ashamed of, so we should have nothing to withhold from students interested in our university. The level of diversity will only be improved by changing our attitudes and exuding a sense of openness and tolerance. It is not enough just to focus on getting those who have already applied to seriously consider attending Washington and Lee. We must concentrate on making our school a place that a more heterogeneous mix of people would want to apply in the first place. And mere good intentions and secrecy is not the way to do it.

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Basketball losing streak ends against Eastern Mennonite

But Generals drop tough loss to Lynchburg in Wednesday night game

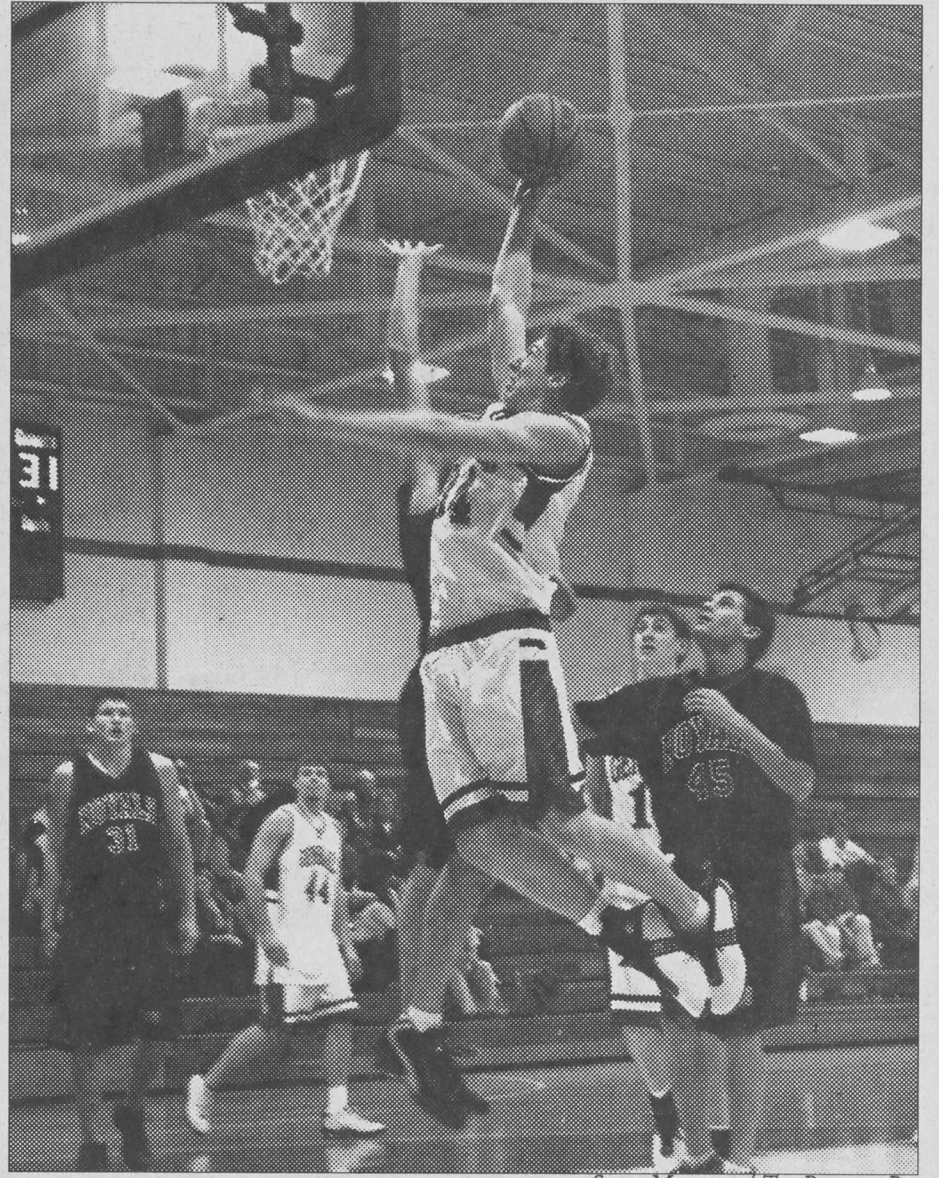
By JOHN HYLAND
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The W&L men's basketball team got back on the right track this week, breaking their six game losing streak with a decisive win over Eastern Mennonite on Wednesday night before dropping a tight decision to Lynchburg. The team's record now stands at 3-10, 2-5 ODAC.

In Wednesday's victory at the Warner Center, the Generals opened up a 41-27 lead at halftime and extended their lead to 18 points with just over five minutes to play. The Royals went on a 23-10 run to cut the lead to five points at 87-82 with under a minute to play. It was too little too late, however, as the Generals were able to connect their free throws to seal a 93-84 victory. For the game, W&L shot 24 of 38 from the charity stripe. The Generals were able to win despite being out rebounded, largely because they shot lights out from the field. They shot a season best 52% from the floor, including 9 of 17 from the three point line. Freshman guard, Chris Halkitis, was 5 of 7 from the three point arc, en route to a career high 26 points and 8 rebounds. Junior guard Mike Stuart chipped in with a season high 19 points and sophomore forward David Will added 16 points and 6 rebounds. The loss dropped the Royals' record to 3-9, 1-5 ODAC.

The Generals and particularly Stuart were able to continue their hot shooting in the first half of Wednesday's game at Lynchburg. W&L opened a 41-30 halftime lead, led by Stuart's 23 points on a perfect 8 of 8 from the field, including 7 of 7 from behind the arc. For the half, the Generals shot 16 of 23 from the field and 9 of 12 from three point range. Their sharp shooting would not continue into the second half, however, as they shot just 6 of 21 from the field and 0 of 6 from three point range. The Hornets slowly chipped away at the lead, finally evening the score at 61 with 3:21 to play. The teams would trade free throws as the score remained tied at 65 with just 17 seconds remaining. On their ensuing possession, the Hornets' Chris Manos drove the length of the floor and hit the game winning finger roll with just 5 seconds left. The Generals turned the ball over on the inbounds pass and Lynchburg preserved its first ODAC win of the season, improving their record to 4-9, 1-5 ODAC. Stuart finished with 25 points and Halkitis dropped 15 in the loss.

The Generals faced ODAC leader and the top-ranked team in the country, Hampden-Sydney, last night at home. They then travel to Emory and Henry on Wednesday night for another conference match-up.

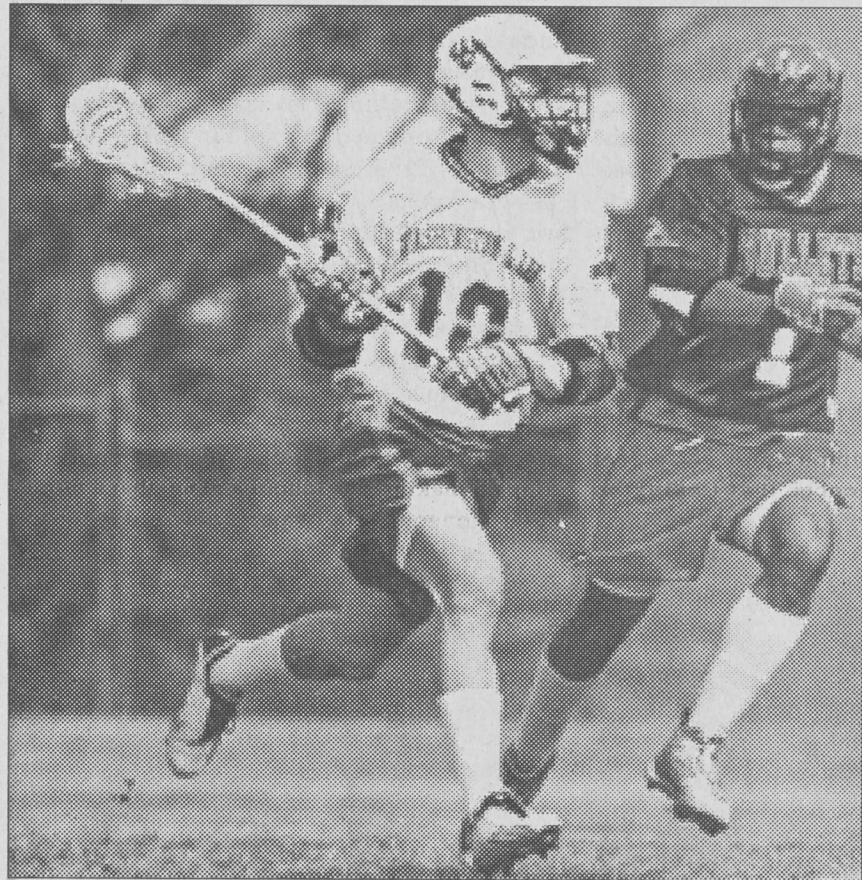


AIRBORNE. Sophomore Matt Lawless jumps for the goal.

STEVE MARINOS / THE RING-TUM PHI

Mens' lacrosse team ranked 10th in Faceoff Division III preseason poll

Martin, Grumbine and Sanders tabbed preseason All-Americans by magazine's poll



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

ALL AMERICAN FORM. Senior Dustin Martin is one of three preseason All-Americans.

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

TOWSON, Md. — Inside Lacrosse released its Faceoff Magazine preseason Division III men's lacrosse coaches poll on Friday afternoon. Washington and Lee ranked 10th overall in the voting.

Defending national champion Salisbury sits atop the poll with 68 first-place votes. Middlebury, last season's NCAA Runner-up, is second in the poll after receiving four first-place votes. Following Middlebury is Cortland, Washington College, Whittier, Ithaca, Hampden-Sydney, Gettysburg, Lynchburg and Washington and Lee. Roanoke was a fourth ODAC school to crack the poll at No. 16.

W&L returns six starters from the 2003 squad which posted a 9-5 overall record, 4-2 in the ODAC. The Generals lost three games in overtime and four by a goal, including the ODAC Championship game to Lynchburg, 6-5.

Leading the returnees are a trio Faceoff Preseason All-Americans in seniors Dustin Martin (Manlius, N.Y./Fayetteville-Manlius), Lawson Grumbine (Owings Mills,

Md./Gilman) and Ansel Sanders (White Stone, Va./Woodberry Forest).

Martin, a midfielder, was a second team selection after garnering USILA Honorable Mention All-America and First Team All-ODAC honors last season. He tallied 31 points on 22 goals and nine assists in 2003 and enters his final campaign with 73 career points on 56 goals and 17 assists.

A defenseman, Grumbine was an honorable mention selection after earning First Team All-ODAC honors last season. He was a major cog in the Generals' defense which allowed an average of just 5.93 goals per game, third in Division III. He also picked up 37 ground balls on the season.

Sanders joined Grumbine on the Preseason Honorable Mention All-America team. An Honorable Mention USILA All-American last season, he posted a .608 save percentage and ranked second in Division III in goals-against average (5.89). He enters his final campaign with a .602 career save percentage.

Washington and Lee begins the 2004 season on February 20 as it travels to Greensboro College for a 3:30 pm contest.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday, January 20	Wednesday, January 21	Thursday, January 22	Friday, January 23	Saturday, January 24	Sunday, January 25
• Open	• M Basketball at Emory & Henry--7:00	• Open	• W Basketball at Hollins--7:00	• Wrestling at Ursinus Quad--11:00 • M Basketball vs. Virginia Wesleyan--3:00 • W Basketball at Emory & Henry • Track at Susquehanna--TBA	• Swimming at Gettysburg--1:00

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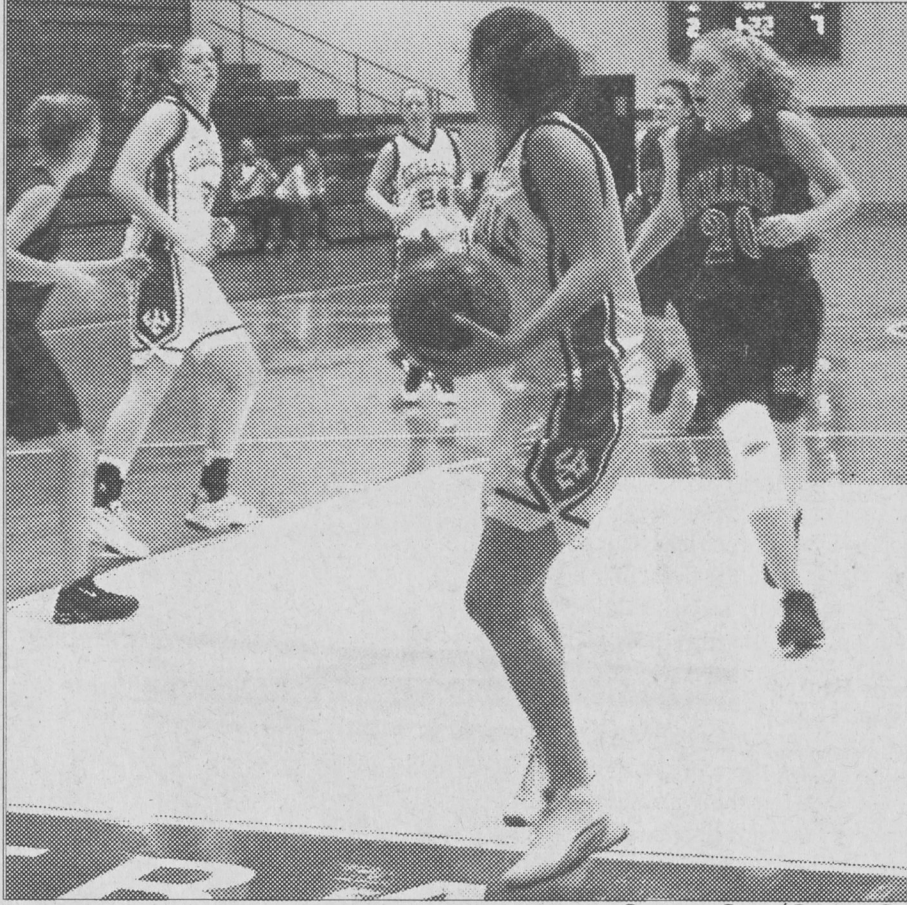
Womens' hoops wins 2 of 3 to even record

By JOHN HYLAND
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The W&L women's basketball team won two of three games this past week to improve even their record to 7-7, 5-5 ODAC. They have already more than doubled their 3 win total from all of last year and currently sit in 6th place in the 12 team ODAC.

The Generals opened the week at home on Tuesday evening against Hollins. The first half was tight, with W&L maintaining a close 26-24 edge. Hollins opened up a 17-6 run in the second half to take a 50-40 lead with just over 9 minutes to play. However, the Generals seemed determined to prevent Hollins from notching their first ODAC victory of the season as they closed the game on 20-7 run led by freshman forward Jessica Hunsinger who recorded a career high 24 points and 17 rebounds. Sophomore guard Louisa Feve also had a solid all-around game with 14 points 11 rebounds and 5 assists. The Generals were clearly aided by a decisive 47-33 advantage in rebounds.

W&L traveled to Virginia Wesleyan on Friday evening and came out of the gates cold, shooting a woeful 6 of 27 in the first half to allow the Marlins to open a 27-16 halftime for the Marlins. The start



CHRISTINE GRAY / RING-TUM-PLI

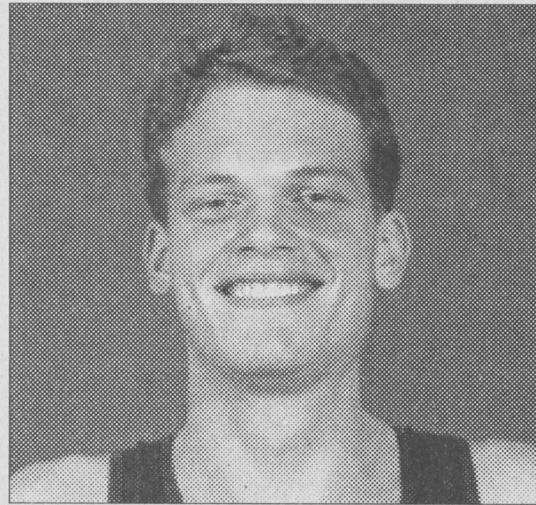
COMING BACK. After winning two games this week, the Generals improved to .500.

of the second half did not prove to be any better for the Generals as they were down by as many as 13 points with 13 minutes remaining. Junior forward Emily Barker hit a three pointer to spark an 11-0 run that got the Generals back in the game. W&L was finally able to take the lead at 39-37 when jun-

ior guard Bethany Dannelly hit a pair of free throws with 3:39 left. The Generals would not succumb the lead and connected on their free throws down the stretch to preserve a 49-44 win. W&L shot a solid 16 of 20 from the line in the second half to make up for an otherwise poor shooting day in which the Generals shot just 24% from the floor. They were led by Feve's 13 points and 9 rebounds. Senior forward Sarah Michaels added 12 points and 9 rebounds. The loss dropped the Marlins' record to 3-8, 2-6 ODAC. In the first half of Saturday's game at Lynchburg, the Generals seemed that they would extend their three game winning streak as they opened a 35-25 halftime lead. The Hornets opened the second half on a 14-4 run to even the score at 39 with 13 minutes to play. The score remained close until the Hornets hit a three to take a 55-52 lead with 3:19 remaining to spark another run to close the game with a 70-61 victory. Along with very poor second half shooting, the Generals were also

out rebounded 57-35 for the game. In the loss, W&L was led by Feve's 22 points and Dannelly's 10 points and 8 rebounds. The win improved Lynchburg's record to 5-7, 3-6 ODAC. The Generals face Mary Washington tonight in out of conference match-up at the Warner Center.

Support
Generals'
Athletics



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

FRESHMAN MAXWELL COURTNEY

Wrestling team finishes sixth in W&L Invitational

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

LEXINGTON, Va. — Freshman Maxwell Courtney (Jeffersonville, Pa./La Salle College) went 2-2 on the day and finished fourth in the 184-pound weight class as the Washington and Lee wrestling team finished sixth at the 2004 Washington and Lee Invitational on Saturday in the Warner Center.

Davidson finished the day as team champion (96.5), followed by Cumberland (74), Washington and Jefferson (60.5), Scranton (48),

Pensacola Christian (38) and W&L (5.5).

Courtney opened the day by pinning (2:31) Washington and Jefferson's Phil McCormick in the quarterfinals, but fell to Donnie Scruggs (Cumberland), 17-6, in the semifinals. In the consolation bracket Courtney defeated Patrick Scandling (Davidson) with a 6-3 decision, but couldn't hold on in the consolation finals, falling to Trevor Needham (Scranton), 4-2.

The individual champions on the day were Davidson sophomore Patrick Coman (Tulsa, Okla.) at 125, Davidson freshman Jim Avola (Montague) at 133, Davidson sophomore Matt

Leonard (Pompton Plains, N.J.) at 141, Pensacola's Steve McGettrick at 149, Davidson senior Adam Sperling (Philadelphia, Pa.) at 157, Davidson freshman Marcus Boyd (Durham, N.C.) at 165, Davidson senior Marc O'Hair (Alexandria, Va.) at 174, Cumberland sophomore Eric McCray (Miami, Fla.) at 184, Cumberland junior Stephen Westbeld (Kettering, Ohio) at 197 and W&J sophomore Ken McDonald (Washington, Pa.) at 285.

W&L will be back on the mat next Saturday morning at 11:00 am when it competes in the Ursinus Quadrangular.

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Washington and Lee student brings international experiences

BY KELLY JO LARSEN
STAFF WRITER

In just a few short months, a W&L sophomore will celebrate a milestone birthday. No, he won't be trying for 21 shots at the Palms (never a wise choice) or traveling to the ABC store for the first time. Rather Ethan Jameson will be saying good-bye to his twenties because on April 29, 2004, he celebrates his thirtieth birthday.

Yes, his thirtieth birthday. Ethan grew up and graduated from high school in Durban, South Africa. Though he was accepted to college in South Africa following his graduation he simply had no means to pay for it. Instead, he went to work, tried to put his dreams of college behind him and enjoyed a successful career doing advertising work. While working in South Africa, Ethan received an invitation to travel to Kuwait to start the creative department of an international ad agency. He spent four years in Kuwait, and remembers the time fondly. "It gave me the opportunity to travel," he explains. "In four years in the Middle East I traveled to nineteen different countries."

The Middle East was "not at all what I imagined," Ethan recalls. First "it was hot, damn hot," which might have been expected, but "the people are so humble. It surprised me because Kuwait produces 5% of the world oil and has the highest GDP, but you get there and some things still seem backward... What struck me was the importance of the family structure. Family and religion are so important to these people." Ethan was working in Kuwait during 9/11 and remembers the day and the shock felt through the entire Middle East vividly. Walking through the city, "a man came up to me, grabbed my hand, and said 'I'm really sorry for what's happening to your country' in the little English that he knew. I'm not an American, but I'm white, light haired and blue eyed. That's when my heart went out to them [Middle Easterners]."

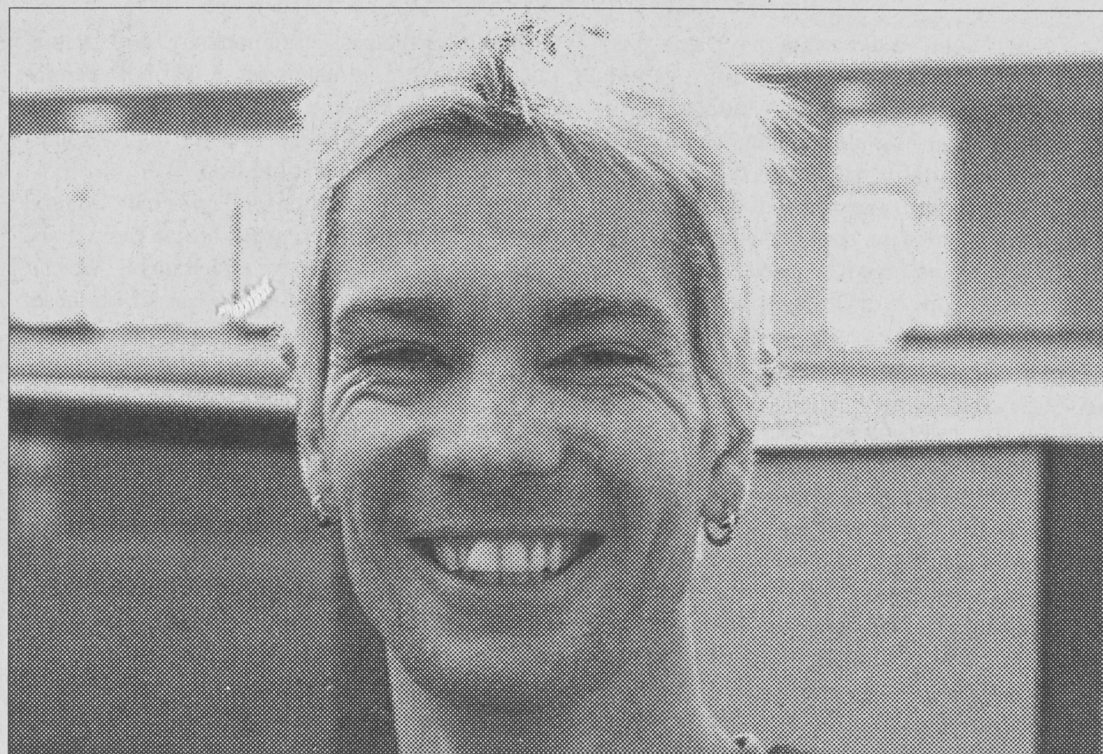
Try as he might, he just couldn't stop thinking about college. On a whim he decided to apply for a

green card to the United States. In order to curb immigration, the USA limits the amount of green cards, or visas, it hands out. Annually it awards 50,000 visas to immigrants who come from countries that have very low past immigration rates—less than 50,000 immigrants to the USA in the last five years. Applicants must have graduated from high school or have two years work experience. Ethan says he simply "sent in my \$40 dollars and forgot about it." A few months later he received a letter informing him that a computer had randomly selected his name from a pool of over one half million to receive a green card. Ethan had managed to win the green card lottery!

He then decided he was going to go attend college in the United States, no light decision. "I'm the first person in my immediate family to go to college. I'm the first member of my immediate family to even graduate from high school," Ethan explains. Furthermore, he was very concerned about his family back in South Africa. While he was working in Kuwait he had been helping his family financially, and he knew his monetary situation would only become tougher when he quit working.

Nonetheless, he began researching good journalism schools, the career he hoped to pursue. Ethan knew he wanted to go to a small liberal arts school, but he couldn't find a small school with a journalism program. He came to the conclusion that he was going to have to sacrifice small size to get a quality journalism education. However, "I kept coming across W&L. The more I learned about it, the more I was like, wow!" Ethan explains.

Even though W&L might not be the traditional school for an older student to choose, Ethan applied to W&L and decided he was going to do anything to gain admission to the school. In fact, Ethan flew all the way from Kuwait just for an admission interview at W&L, the only school he even interviewed at, and then immediately flew back to Kuwait. When he arrived in Lexington he instantly fell in love with the town. "We don't have towns like this in South Africa," Ethan says. "I remember I walked up from the main entrance, the one down



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

there by Lee Chapel, and I saw the colonnade and said, 'This is it.' It's such the quintessential college."

He gained admission and in the fall of 2002 arrived as the oldest freshman in recent memory of the university, a member of the Class of 2006. Unfortunately, W&L was not immediately all that he expected. "I got here and in the first month made up my mind I was going to transfer out," Ethan recalls. He stuck it out, and he credits pledging Chi Psi with forcing him to stay. "They really kept me here. It's my little oasis of democracy in this sea of republicanism," Ethan says with a smile.

Besides Chi Psi, Ethan fell in love with the academics offered by the University. "I came to W&L for the journalism program, then I found out how good the English program is, so I decided to double major. I told my family and they said, 'Why in the world do you go to America to study English?'"

South Africa is a former English colony.

Things haven't been easy for Ethan. He was forced to withdraw his little sister from private school in South Africa because he could no longer pay for it. The public school system in South Africa is still recovering from the years of apartheid and the quality of public education can vary drastically. In addition, Ethan's older sister just got married, and Ethan couldn't be present for the wedding. She also due to have a baby soon, and Ethan is not sure how soon he'll be able to see the infant.

The staff of the Ring-tum Phi recognizes that diversity comes in all forms, in both traditional and non-traditional definitions. Every week we strive to feature a different student of diversity. If you know a student who adds a little something different to our university, and think they would make a great spotlight in the Phi, please email Kelly Jo Larsen at larsenk@wlu.edu and nominate them.

Lip Sync marks twentieth year

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
ASSISTANT ARTS & LIFE EDITOR

The 20th Annual SARAH (Students Against Rockbridge Area Hunger) Lip Sync will be held Friday, January 23, in the Pavilion. Doors will open at 8:30 PM. Lip Sync was founded in 1984 by Jerry Darrell, Director of Dining Services with the proceeds going to fight Multiple Sclerosis.

After a few years the profits started going to the local food banks. The money is split between Rockbridge Area Relief Association, Buena Vista Food Pantry, and Natural Bridge/Glasgow Food Pantry. The food pantries send Washington and Lee a list of food that they need. Last year, Washington and Lee raised 26,761 pounds of food for the three pantries.

Apart from advisor John Taffe, Lip Sync is student organized. President of Lip Sync this year is Ansel Sanders, Vice President is Thomas Worthy and Pierce Owings is also on the committee. Next year Worthy will be President, Owings will be Vice President and a current freshman will be appointed to the committee. "This provides continuity to the event," said Taffe.

This is the first year for a new committee that will be responsible video taping the event headed by Professor DeMaria. The members are Eric

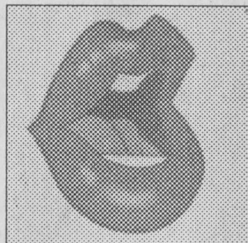
Brassil, Steven Marinos, and Jitendra Shrestha.

Taffe said that if not for the students, Lip Sync would not be the success that it is. The fraternities and sororities have put their full weight behind this event. There are no parties scheduled for that evening, and most students attend the event. The physical plant also does much for the event. They set up the Pavilion for Lip Sync.

Last year, the University used leftover money to send 225 turkeys to food banks for Thanksgiving, dividing the food proportionally among the food pantries.

This is the first year that the winning act will receive an engraved trophy that they will keep for one year. Another first for Lip Sync is that it will follow a "Gong Show" format. If the judges find the act bad enough, they will hit the gong and the act must stop. This is to keep the offensive acts that have sometimes been done in the past years check.

Acts will be charged a \$100 entry fee, and admission to the event will be \$10. Free snacks and beverages will be included. Sign-ups for acts will be Tuesday and Wednesday in front of the co-op. The order will be determined by a drawing held Thursday night attended by a representative from each act. Fraternities are allowed to have one act, while sororities may have three.



Greeks: read this to make, keep friends

BY JEB BROOKS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Greek life is easily the most prevailing force at Washington and Lee and wields a great deal of power over our entire community. The importance of Greek life cannot be questioned. Its significance extends to Greeks and non-Greeks alike. Whether you like it or not, you must deal with its realities. Because of its blinding power, fraternity men and sorority women can miss out on some great opportunities.

Greeks at W&L must not fall victim to the hatefulness that pervades many Greek organizations at other institutions. Behave in a welcoming way. This attitude guarantees a better college experience than the alternative. Instead of kicking people out of a party, say "hello."

Last Saturday night was tear night. The party-night of party-nights at W&L. On this pinnacle of our famed party-

scene, I made a stop at every house, and I felt welcomed at each one. My experience proved that Dobyhunnellers are gentlemen. Though it sounds strange, I think Robert E. Lee would be proud of tear night.

There is still room for improvement, however. A tendency exists at W&L for freshmen to pledge a house and stop there for three years. A good college experience is about a collection of memories. Imagine how many more great memories you could have if you don't pigeonhole yourself into a solitary group of friends. Don't get me wrong, your fraternity or sorority will provide great friends, just don't allow them to be your only ones. The Greek house you choose (or choose not) to join is only one part of your life. Don't let it dictate more than it has to.

Worse than never meeting new people is losing touch with hallmates, classmates and other acquaintances. During

your freshman year, you get to know a lot of people. During your sophomore year, it becomes easy to lose touch with many of them. It is shameful to see former friends stop talking (or worse yet, become bitter enemies) just because of their respective Greek organizations.

To use a personal example, I swam against the tide. My roommate is not in my fraternity. When we were freshmen, he and I joined different houses. We have remained friends and live together despite the fact that we don't share letters. We share something more, a true friendship. I would be willing to argue that nowhere in any fraternity or sorority bylaws does it say that members may not remain friends with non-members. None of this is to say that fraternities and sororities don't provide a venue for lifelong friendships to develop, just that there is more out there than "frat-bros."

On another note, we can all agree that the Greek system at W&L feeds a hierarchy. I firmly believe that it is phony. No house is inherently better or worse than another. Every group of guys or girls is awesome for their own reasons. Again, my experience from last Saturday night comes to mind. Standing back and looking at each party from a distance, I realized something. One W&L party is pretty much like any other. Put simply, each was just a Washington and Lee fraternity party. None was identifiable by more than the shape of the basement. Avoid the tendency to buy into that hierarchy. Sorry to burst your bubble, but it ain't real.

So, in my humble and unknowing opinion, college is about new experiences. It is easy for Greeks to miss out on some of them. Take my advice, don't pigeonhole yourself. Go make some new memories.

W&L Mock Convention Parade

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Students too quick to leave W&L, transfers all too common

No one ever said freshman year is easy. There's so much transition, away from parents, away from the home you know, and away from your comfort zone. As a freshman, we all had to jump into the veritable wilderness that college is. Some of us are more prepared than others, and we all react to college in our own personal way. Most students learn to embrace the freedom. Most learn to cope with the changes. But from time to time, some students just decide to give up, pack it in, and leave.

I'm very up-front about my feelings towards transferring. The idea bothers me. So many times, it's done for the wrong reasons. The one that really peeves me is the "relationship-induced-transfer," in which the guy or girl transfers back to a school closer to the significant other. Doesn't that idea make you want to vomit? I have a problem with someone even considering sacrificing their college experience, their well-needed rite of passage, or even their future for a high school relationship which will probably not stand the course of time. Especially if that person planned to leave a great school, and a great education, to return to a random community college to be with that special someone. Now maybe I'm a pessimist. Maybe, in some cases, these relationships occasionally go the distance and things

work out for the best. But, honestly, if it's a serious relationship, it makes sense that both people can agree to handle the distance and not sacrifice their chosen paths. To me, transferring for someone else seems like a cardinal sin.

Some people transfer for themselves. Maybe they just don't feel comfortable at the school they've ended up at. We can all imagine cases like these. If any true W&L frat lord were at Swarthmore or Middlebury or some other liberal haven, I can certainly understand their desire to leave. Yet, the idea of leaving still bothers me. Really, how can you know, truly know, that it's the wrong place, if you don't give it a chance? So many times, it seems people are all too ready to call it quits without even actually giving themselves a chance to thrive in the exciting, new, unfamiliar situation they're in.

At W&L we do things differently than most schools, so naturally the transferring issue is different as well. In Lexington, everything has a Greek tinge, so it should come as no surprise that the transferring issue can be somewhat of a Greek issue. Consider the situation of a freshman guy who wants so desperately to get into Fraternity X, but for whatever reason, does not get a bid. In the hurt feelings and confusion that follows, that

guy inevitably contemplates the benefits of transferring and of leaving our "elitist" Greek system behind.

Furthermore, the small size of our school can make it tough to bear when someone's skeletons are dragged out of the closet. When seemingly everyone in Lexington knows your deepest secrets and most embarrassing stories, running away sure sounds like a good idea. Nothing is worse than a student who has her most secret stories broadcast in a very public way. A solution would seem to be transferring.

But is it? Is transferring really the answer?

I don't think it is, and here's why. Life isn't always as convenient as we want it to be. Things are rarely perfect. If things were, then I'd be accepted into graduate studies at Harvard, on a fast-track to becoming a history professor and eventually teaching right back here in Lexington. Unfortunately, things don't always work out so easily. I have to work to achieve my goals. The situation might not be the best, but that doesn't mean I should give up on myself.

And that's why transferring bothers me. I just can't help it — it just seems like throwing up the white flag and saying "Alright, you win, I'm just not cut out for it here." It seems so much like giving in to the situation, without even giving yourself a chance.

Chris Jordan was a brother of my fraternity who graduated last year. Coming from the outskirts of Philly, I'm not really sure he knew what to expect at W&L. When he came to Lexington for the first time, it was the furthest south he had ever been. Throughout his four years here, he kept close ties with his girlfriend from home, even traveling home on weekends from time to time to see her. And once, on an Ultimate Frisbee trip to Florida, he admitted to me that he never felt 100% comfortable as a W&L student. He had contemplated transferring to a school closer to his home. But Chris Jordan never gave in. W&L was not the perfect school for him, but he stayed the course, and now has a pretty cushy job in Atlanta. Who's to say how things might have been different for him had he transferred. Maybe things would be better, maybe worse. But he never raised a white flag, and that, to me, means a lot.

Inevitably we find ourselves in uncomfortable situations. Given the choice, we would never have to deal with them, but unfortunately that choice is not ours to make. All we can do as people is decide how to react, how to respond to the situations we must face. And so, to all you W&L students who are thinking about calling it quits, here's a message: whatever you decide, make it for the right reasons, and stay true to yourself. Before giving up, give yourself a chance.

Athletes aggravated by P.E.

Hamill Jones has been an integral part of the Washington and Lee men's basketball team for four years. But he might only get credit for one.

Jones, who says he did not realize he needed to register for Intercollegiate Basketball after his freshman year, will have to petition the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) in order to receive the customary two-fifths physical education credit for competing on an intercollegiate team for at least two seasons. The current P.E. system does not reward students with credit past two seasons of participation.

"I fully recognize I made a mistake," said Jones. "But I spend so much time year-round with basketball and school, trying to deal with fulfilling P.E. credits is a hassle.

"Athletes should get a P.E. credit for every season he or she competes."

Jones is just one of many student-athletes unhappy with W&L's current P.E. curriculum.

According to the university's catalog, "an [intercollegiate] course may be repeated once giving the student of a maximum of two terms credit for a single sport. No more than four terms of credit will be recognized for intercollegiate participation by multiple sport athletes." This means that one-sport athletes must take three P.E. classes and two-sport athletes must take one. All students must complete five P.E. courses in order to graduate.

"I feel strongly that five [classes] is not that much to ask," said Director of Physical Education Jan Hathorn, who was a P.E. major and two-sport athlete in college. "I was exposed to other types of P.E. because I was limited to [receiving only two credits in college for intercollegiate participation]."

W&L's modern P.E. curriculum is, in part, a result of the administration's decision that eliminated subsidized athletics in 1954. W&L instituted a P.E. program that was intended to supplant the student body's focus on major college athletics. Coaches were promoted to faculty status and P.E. classes became part of the core general education requirement.

"There are many girls that only know how to do certain things," said Hathorn. "This exposure is positive for them and creates adequate participants from the classes they take."

While many schools of W&L's size such as

Hampden-Sydney and Bridgewater College require no physical education, others do have P.E. programs as part of their liberal arts curriculums. All students at Centre and Roanoke College have to take a Health and Human Performance course in order to graduate. However, Roanoke's student-athletes are exempt from taking an additional P.E. course, otherwise required for non-athletes.

Many W&L athletes say they should also receive exemptions from the P.E. program because of their already stringent commitments to intercollegiate athletics and the possibility of injury.

"I think if you're a varsity athlete [taking a P.E.], it is stupid," said Matt Fink, a three-year starter at attack for W&L's men's lacrosse team and a member of the Student Athlete Mentor Group (SAMS). "The time spent practicing and playing a sport is exponentially greater than what you'd do in P.E."

"It puts athletes in risk of injury and if an athlete gets hurt, then the school shoots itself in the foot."

Even though several students play more than one sport on campus, those athletes still have to take an additional P.E. course. This usually means these athletes are forced to take a P.E. course in addition to playing on a varsity squad.

Instead of lifting weights with her teammates freshman year, Kelly Taffe—a senior standout on both the women's lacrosse and field hockey teams—registered for weight training and lifted with her class in order to complete the P.E. requirement.

"It's not fair," said Taffe. "I don't think athletes should have to take [P.E.] classes."

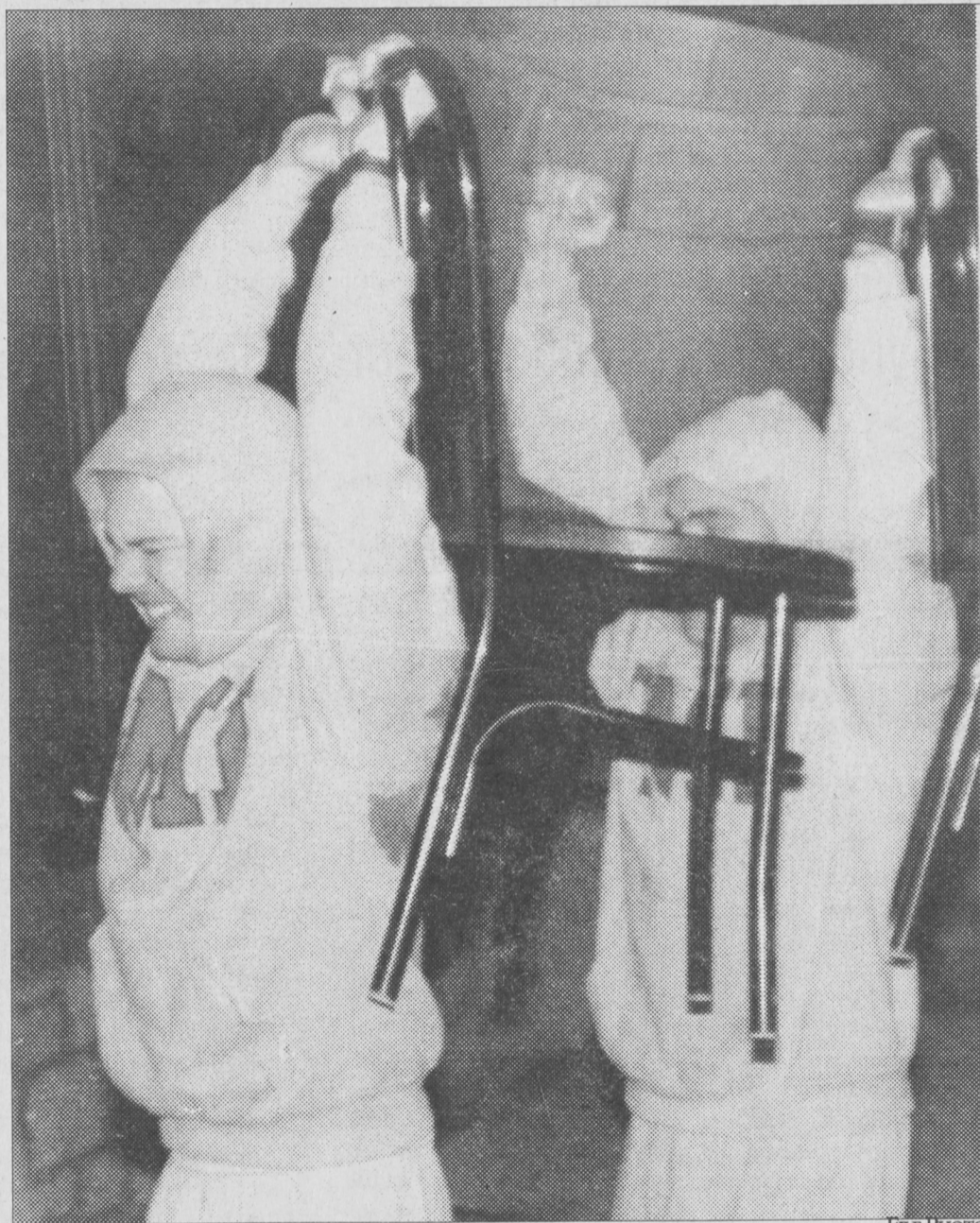
"There are some things at this school that are longstanding," said Assistant Athletic Director Chuck O'Connell, who directed the school's P.E. program last year.

"The P.E. program is one of them."

O'Connell says that in correlation with the upcoming review of the curriculum, the athletic department will evaluate the current P.E. program.

"We understand that athletes are participating year-round and we're looking at what the student-athletes are putting into their sports and making a change to help the student-athlete," he said. "We'll look and see if the P.E. curriculum needs to be rethought or modernized."

HAZING



FILE PHOTO

Gimme Veemies. These cadets look like they are really enjoying these hazing practices, wouldn't you? The Virginia Military Institute has since put an end to such activity. We aren't sure how or why a Photographer from years past was taking pictures of this covert Virginia Military Institute activity. What we do know is that Washington and Lee freshman pledges should take note. It could be worse. You could have to wear a big red "VMI" on your front. Enjoy the rest of your pledgship.

QUICK HITS

Φ What was the hot news on the front page of a 1954 *Wall Street Journal*? Fish sticks, the "boneless oblongs roughly four inches long." Ah, life in simpler times!

Φ Lalli says, "Our fraternity is the coolest. We get all the chicks."

Φ Pledgship needs to involve more wild animals, preferably from other continents.

Φ Mary Baldwin has stand-up urinals for women.

Φ Can I get a formal definition of a hook-up?

Φ Has anyone else noticed the alarming number of 10-year-olds working out in the gym?

Φ Way to go, Habitat! Change challenge was an excellent idea.

Φ Today is the 585th anniversary of Rouen surrendering to Henry V making Normandy part of England.

Φ If you know anyone in Iowa, call them NOW and tell them to attend the caucuses in support of Dick Gephardt. Do your part to make Mock Con's prediction right.

Φ Dirty grout makes me want to slit my wrists.

Φ The fact that it's a Louis Vuitton bag does not justify wearing black shoes while carrying a brown bag.

Φ The Chic FX far surpasses the Mach 3 Turbo in every possible way.

Φ Seven of the undergraduate faculty have four degrees and none have five, but two of the law faculty do.

Φ If it's going to be so cold in MicroLex, it should at least snow so the winter weather isn't so miserable.

Φ Who was that random guy wearing a W&L hat at the Three Doors Down concert?

Φ Social hugging is wholly inappropriate. Social kissing is even worse—we're not French, after all. What's wrong with a hearty handshake?

Φ Mike Doyle was great, but Alice Steinbach was better. I love you, Alice. Come back to me.

Φ Ooh! The mayor of Boston is coming to speak at Mock Con. Maybe we can hear what the police are doing to get ready for the convention.

Φ Is it just me, or is blood a lot darker when it comes out in larger quantities?

Φ Niceness is overrated. Honesty is more important.

Φ Hey fraternities: Can we keep the sodomy and bestiality out of Lip Sync this year?

Φ More on Lip Sync: Who else is excited about Thomas Worthy performing as emcee?

Φ The art in Williams School this semester is a huge improvement over last semester's installation and an even bigger one over the awful roof tar art we were cursed with last year.

Φ Is the *inGeneral* magazine ever going to publish? What are they doing with all the money they received from the EC?

Φ President Huntley was a terrific speaker.

Φ Elixirs pledgship is going on. Watch out for the monochrome outfits.

Φ The touch, the feel of cotton, the fabric of our lives.

Φ Style tip of the week: Store knit ties rolled up lest they stretch out.

Φ The *Phi's* printer is about to celebrate its 10th birthday. We hereby extend a heartfelt invitation to all W&L students, especially the EC budget allocators, to the party.

Φ Ansel Sanders just won a Celebrating Student Success award for his work to save Spring Term. What have you done to save our beloved Spring Term?

Φ Lexington Coffee Shop's days are numbered. The Daily Grind is fantastic. The Peppermint Latte and Caramello are especially good. Thanks a "latte" for moving into MicroLex.

Φ Jeb Brooks lost his blue North Face fleece between the Pole Houses and Kappa Sig, but is hesitant to publish a Campus Notice. If you find it, call x4060 or e-mail brooks@wlu.edu.

Φ To the person who spit on the floor in the Commons: That's nasty.

Φ Writing these is harder than it seems. Submit your anonymous Quick Hits to phi@wlu.edu.