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SPECIAL MOCK CONVENTION EDITION OF

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

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VOLUME CV, No. XIV
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004



Students work to predict outcomes of primaries nationwide

BY KALEA HARMON
STAFF WRITER

Buzz about the upcoming Mock Convention has reached a feverish pitch as delegations begin to see results of their predictions.

The D.C. delegation got the ball rolling with their prediction of the January 13th non-binding primary. Although their numbers were not exact, the delegation did accurately predict that Dean would come out on top, with Sharpton coming in second and Braun taking third.

D.C. state chair Celia Landgren said that overall, the delegation was pleased with the outcome of the primary but admitted that they were "a little bummed" about their numbers being wrong.

Landgren also said that they have room to alter the prediction their prediction at the convention because D.C.'s official primary isn't until February 14th and the results of New Hampshire's primary on Tuesday could change the way voters swing next month.

"There will be a research room set up at the convention and we're prepared to make changes up to the last second" said Landgren.

The Iowa delegation didn't see the same success. Its prediction was that Dick Gephardt would win the state but last Monday's caucus ended with Kerry taking the win and Gephardt dropping out of the race entirely.

Regardless, state chair Gregory Papeika said that they made the best prediction based on the information they had. Their research indicated

"every political pundit had Dean winning the caucuses... Gephardt had extensive campaign organizations out there, and that is usually what won it in the past."

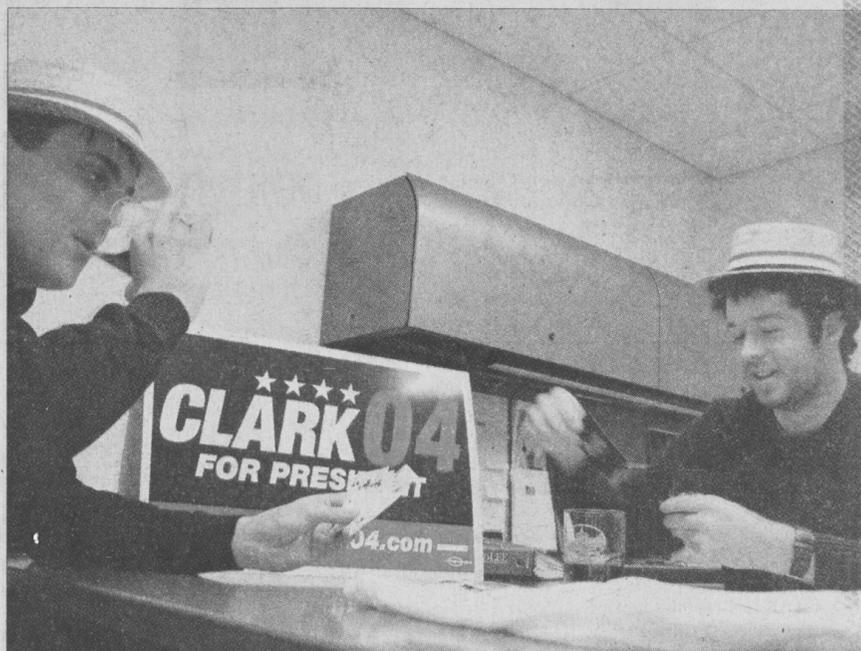
Students who worked to predict the outcome of the Iowa caucus were ultimately incorrect. Although the Iowa prediction was a bit disheartening it is by no means an indication of the ultimate results of this weekend's convention.

New Hampshire state chair Justine Sessions is more that confident that her state's prediction will be correct and that the ultimate prediction of the convention will be correct as well.

New Hampshire's primary takes place this Tuesday and she is anticipating the results. "I'm actually really excited. We have a solid understanding of who's going to win." The delegation is also prepared with a prediction of who will take second and third.

As far as the impact that New Hampshire's prediction will make on the convention as a whole, Sessions said, "It's very important for us to get it right for the morale of the convention [but] even if we get New Hampshire wrong it doesn't mean we'll get the actual nomination wrong [at the convention]."

As for the rest of the states, everyone is getting in their last bit of research together and preparing to make their predictions this weekend. It has been a really tight race so far and clearly its only going to get more interesting from here. As Celia Landgren said "Who knows things will turn out?"



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

Mock Convention's Top Brass. Memorabilia Chairman Rene Louapre confers with General Chairman Noah Rhodes.

University's Mock Convention claims rich history, many traditions, much drama

BY MEGAN MORGAN
ARTS AND LIFE EDITOR

As the 2004 Washington and Lee Mock Convention approaches, one has to wonder what all the pomp and excitement is about. Why has so much money and time been devoted to what is in many ways essentially an academic exercise?

To understand the importance of Mock Convention, one must realize that it is an engrained part of the history of Washington and Lee, leaving a lasting influence on the campus and its students.

The first Mock Convention took place in May of 1908 when an upcoming visit by William Jennings Bryan, a frontrunner for the presidency, prompted the students to stage a replica of the upcoming Democratic National Convention.

Students divided into two camps, one backing Bryan and the other backing Governor John A. Johnson of Minnesota. Students did their best to replicate the actual national convention, and became so engaged and debate became so heated that fistfights broke out on the floor of the convention. However, Bryan finally won the W&L nomination and went on to win the Democratic National Convention nomination that summer.

The convention gained national attention in 1924 when it accurately predicted that John W. Davis, a W&L alumnus and former U.S. Congressman from West Virginia who was not even a declared candidate, would win the Democratic nomination at the national convention.

Often times the convention can be very divided and contentious, as was the case in 1936. The convention was evenly split between Alfred Landon, Governor of Kansas and Senator Arthur Vandenberg. It came down to the Pennsylvania delegates who were also deadlocked. Finally a missing Pennsylvania delegate was brought in from the tennis courts and broke the tie, giving the nomination to Arthur Vandenberg. Unfortunately, he withdrew before the actual convention and the nomination went to Landon.

In 1956, a tragic death overshadowed the festivities of the convention. The keynote speaker for the convention was Senator and former Vice President Alben Barkley of Kentucky. Standing on a podium in 90 degree weather he gave a rousing speech to the W&L convention in which he declared that he had not originally planned to go the National Democratic Convention that summer but that "like an old firehouse when he hears the bell", the W&L convention had persuaded him to go. However at the end of his speech as the crowds clapped, the Senator stepped back from the

podium and collapsed. He was shortly declared dead from a heart attack. The convention came to a halt and was only resumed when Barkley's widow forced the students to continue stating "You have unfinished business."

Since 1948, the W&L convention has accurately predicted the party nominee all but one time. The one error occurred in 1972 when the delegates selected Edward Kennedy instead of George McGovern as the Democratic candidate. The keynote speaker for that convention was Jimmy Carter, then Governor of Georgia. However, his speech must not have been too rousing as his press-secretary did not even attend the speech, instead spending the day playing pinball and drinking at a restaurant on Main Street.

In recent years, the Washington and Lee convention has become a necessary stop for political leaders. Speakers at the Spring Kickoff and the Convention include Jesse Jackson, Jack Kemp, Lamar Alexander, Michael Dukakis, Bill Clinton, Barry Goldwater, Haley Barbour and Newt Gingrich.

Bill Clinton even played his saxophone at an off-campus party. As the 2004 convention approaches, new stories will be added to the continuing history of this important W&L tradition.

T-shirts, tumblers, posters available

BY ERIN JULIUS
NEWS EDITOR

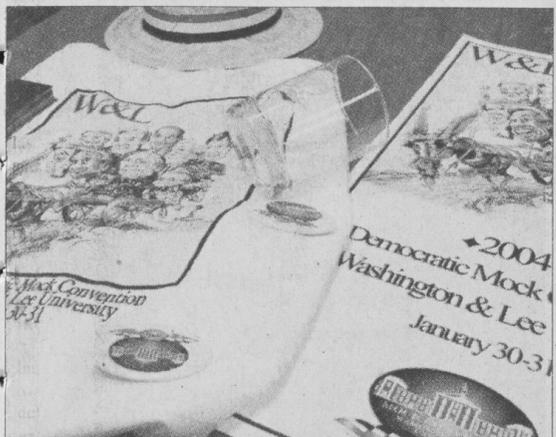
Rene Albert Louapre has worked hard this year to ensure that Washington and Lee students will have lovely mementos with which to remember Mock Convention.

Students should be eager to purchase the Mock Convention packages because, "it's nice to have these posters and T-shirts and glasses years from now," said Louapre, "they're keepsakes, like Hallmark cards."

According to Mock Convention General Chairman Noah Rhodes, Louapre is perfect for the Memorabilia Chairship because he could, "sell ice to eskimos...he'll make a great used car salesman someday."

The Mock Convention packages, which include a T-shirt, poster, glass and button cost \$20 and went on sale Thursday. Optional Mock Convention playing cards are also available. Packages will be for sale in the Commons until supplies run out. Delegates will also receive white hats at the door of the Convention.

The design on the T-shirt and poster features nine of the original Democratic candidates. It came from a political cartoon found in a Charleston publication. A Washington and Lee alum, Alex Stene, got the rights to the cartoon and helped to put the package together.



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

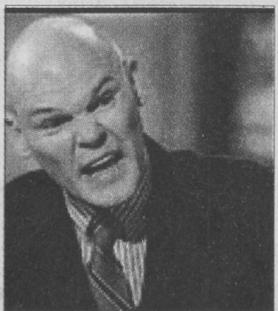
National figures to address Mock Con

BY ERIN JULIUS
NEWS EDITOR

Fiery political commentator James Carville visits campus this weekend as the keynote speaker for the 2004 Mock Convention. Carville's speech will be Saturday morning at 10 a.m.

"I have no doubt that he'll get students excited about the Mock Convention and the upcoming elections," said Speakers chair Anne Idsal. "He's known as the 'Ragin' Cajun' as he's from Louisiana and is famous for his fast, colorful talking."

Carville, perhaps America's best-known political consultant, broke into the political limelight when his consulting firm, Carville & Begala, helped elect President Clinton in 1992.



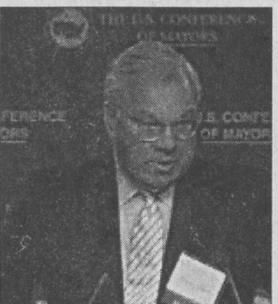
James Carville

Carville then starred in President Bill Clinton's campaign documentary "The War Room" and is one of the left-leaning co-hosts of CNN's Crossfire where

he debates the hot political issues of the day.

Carville serves as a Mock Convention 2004 Advisory Board member. The Advisory Board lends invaluable help and assistance.

Washington and Lee alumnus Jim Davis, a Democratic Congressman from Florida, "went out of his way to fit Mock Convention into his schedule," said Idsal. Davis will kick off the Mock Convention weekend with his speech



Thomas Menino

Thursday night at 5:30 in Lee Chapel.

Davis is going to speak about, "his own political career, W&L experience, and his Mock Convention experience," said Idsal.

Davis was elected to Congress in 1996 and serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, Commerce, Trade, and

Consumer Protection; Environment and Hazardous Materials; and Oversight and Investigations.

Davis is also a national co-chair



John Dalton

of the New Democrat Coalition, which is a group of 75 moderate House Democrats promoting bipartisan solutions.

South Carolina Democratic Representative James Clyburn, former Navy Secretary John Dalton, Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, Democratic activist Ronnie Dugger, Mississippi Democratic Representative Gene

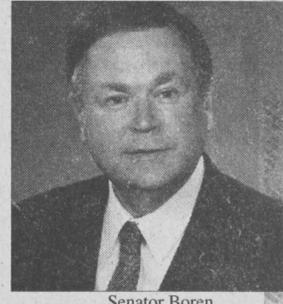
Taylor and former Oklahoma Senator David Boren are also lined up as speakers.

"The speakers will be addressing the significance of the upcoming elections, endorsing particular candidates, and commenting upon our

timely and unique tradition," said Idsal.

Menino, as the mayor of Boston, is running the host city of the actual Democratic Convention. The Democratic National Convention will take place in Boston July 26 - July 29, 2004

"Speakers were very eager to attend, based solely upon the reputation our Mock Convention has," said Idsal.



Senator Boren



James Clyburn

Students work hard for success of W&L Mock Convention

Cameron arranges accommodations for all of Convention's speakers, Jared works to ensure Mock Convention Journal contains memories

Cameron Billups

Cameron Billups has been playing an unrecognized but completely essential role in Mock Convention.

As Accommodations Chair, she is responsible not only for contacting every speaker or notable person involved at Mock Convention but also arranging travel and hotel accommodations for all, organized around their individual schedules. She has been working in this position since Al Sharpton spoke during Spring Kickoff last year.

Though not particularly political, Billups wanted to make sure to get heavily involved with Mock Convention and has a positive outlook towards the experience.

She said that planning for events such as parties has always held somewhat of a special interest for her, so the position fit her well.

Aside from last year's events, her job has not been excessively busy until prior to Winter Break, when things became extremely stressful. Billups must literally plan each speaker's visit down to the minute in order to maintain a steady flow with consideration to both their needs and their speaking time.

To help her with this massive feat is a staff of people that she said she couldn't do without. Cameron also mentioned Professor Connelly as a large source of help for her and several others.

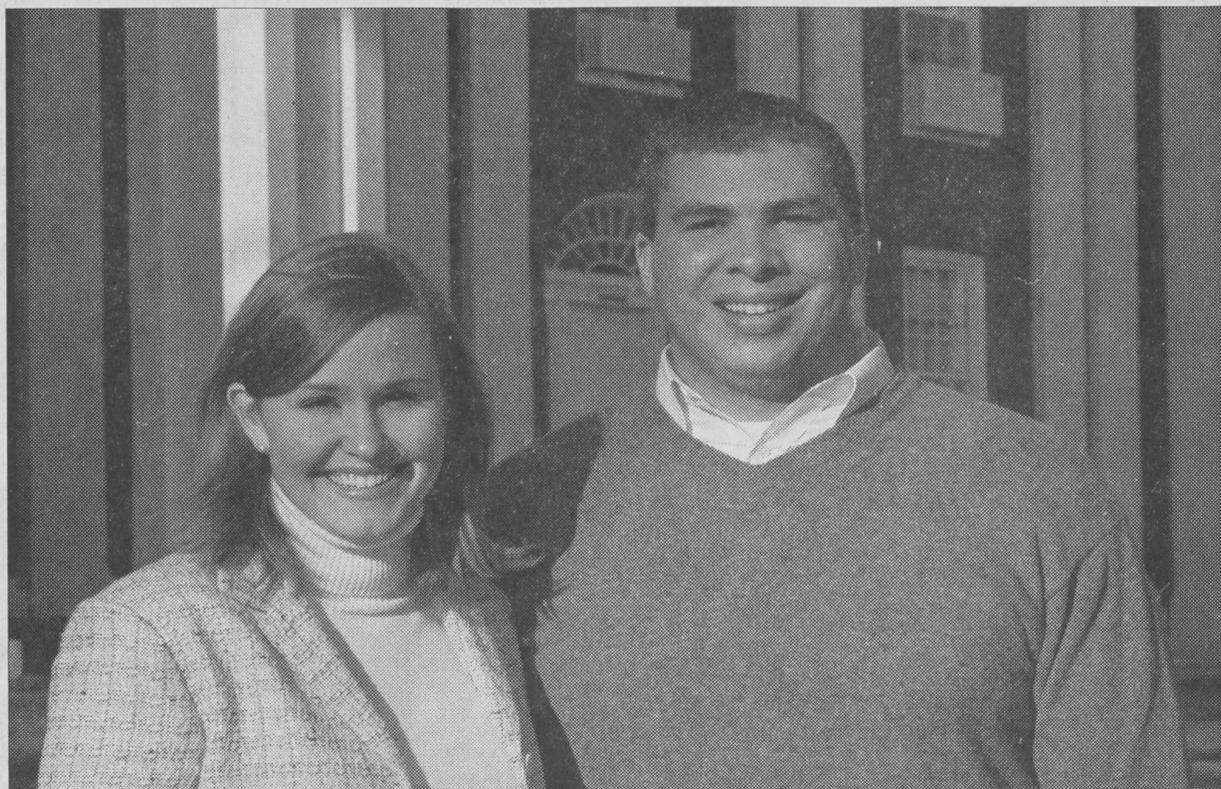
In addition to her full course load, Cameron is currently working 7-8 hours a day getting the final arrangements ready.

She said she "doesn't have time to be nervous yet." Though her life right now is very hectic, she continuously mentioned the excess of people that were also behind the scenes, working just as hard if not harder, as she.

Jared Harrison

Among the many people who have spent countless hours working behind the scenes is junior Jared Harrison.

Jared is the Editor-in-Chief, or Journal Chair, of the Mock Convention program, *The Journal*. *The Journal* is a 50+ page comprehensive booklet of all



STEVE MARINOS / THE RING-TUM PHI

Mock Convention Movers and Shakers. In keeping with our special Mock Convention edition, *The Phi* chose two Mock Convention chairs, Cameron Billups and Jared Harrison, to be this week's Hidden Heroes. Cameron is the Accommodations Chair while Jared serves as Editor-in-Chief for the Convention's *Journal*.

the speakers, biographies, and more. Everyone receives a copy during Mock Convention.

As a politics/journalism double major, heading this project was a perfect job for Jared, encapsulating both aspects of his education.

Over a year ago, Jared went through a vigorous interview process to get his position. He said that he wanted to get involved with Mock Convention because of its obvious correlation with his future plans, as well the fact that he really had a drive to help with the Convention.

Harrison's responsibilities include direct-

ing the efforts of his staff while actively engaging and overseeing the production of all aspects of *The Journal*.

He also personally worked on obtaining ad space for companies and helped in raising the money for the program.

Hours of research were required to gather data for the biographies, as well as tedious preparation on designing the layout.

Using only previous Mock Convention *Journals* and a massive guidebook only referred to as "The Bible", Jared and all of his

coworkers had to operate based on their own skills and judgment in designing and writing one of the most integral parts of Mock Convention.

When asked if he had enjoyed his work, he replied simply, "yes".

Jared also seemed a bit excited that it would be over soon.

Jared is grateful for the invaluable experience that working on a project like Mock Convention gave him.

Additionally, Jared said that having the opportunity to work with all of the people involved with Mock Convention has built some great friendships.



W&L Professor awarded a Fulbright Grant

Hampden H. Smith, a W&L professor for 30 years, has been awarded a Fulbright Grant to teach in Eastern Europe this winter and spring as a Fulbright lecturer. Smith is also the former head of the journalism and mass communications department. He is now in phased retirement.

He will be lecturing in several areas of journalism at the University of Tirana, Albania's capital. Topics include reporting, journalism ethics, editing and design for print publications and developing news sites on the Web.

This is Smith's third Fulbright award. He taught at Moscow State University in 1992 and at the American University in Bulgaria in 1995-96.

Corrections

In the General Notes section of the *Ring-tum Phi*, we incorrectly stated that there has been a rash of recent thefts in the Williams School. Actually, laptops have been vanishing from the law school. Please contact University Security if you see any suspicious activity on campus.

In last week's Hidden Hero feature, the *Ring-tum Phi* incorrectly attributed all credit for the Cystic Fibrosis charity ball to Julianne Shelley and Kristin Crawford. In reality, the event is being put together by a committee of 37 people. Keep reading for future updates about the event to be held later this year.

Students say this year's choice may be hardest

BY KYLE WASS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

As primaries loom, Mock Convention 2004 is shaping up differently from previous years, so we may see some different outcomes. Over the past 30 years, Mock Convention has seen some gradual changes, for instance, the "presidential nominating process became much more plebiscitary, that is, more primary and caucus dominated, much more media-dominated, and much more volatile," said politics professor William Connelly.

To accommodate the changing political scene, Washington and Lee's Mock Convention has been moved earlier and earlier in the year, from May to the end of January.

Veteran Mock Convention participant Alexander Wilkins said, "I can say for sure, along with everyone else, that this year's prediction presents a greater challenge" than the 2000 Republican Mock Convention. However, "most of the details [are] usually coming together at the very last minute," and "this year is no exception," according to 2000 W&L graduate and New Hampshire State Chair Kristen Binette.

The Mock Convention delegations are working hard on their research, but it seems the issue of the moment is the incorrect prediction of the Iowa delegation.

Connelly said that "no pundit accurately predicted the Iowa results in advance, [and] as a political scientist might say, [there were] too many variables."

Binette agreed, and said "I don't think many professional pundits could have predicted the Iowa results."

An unnamed source ventured to say that the Iowa delegation used a different approach to their research than other states did - one that would either be incredibly accurate or terribly wrong. It is likely, then, that other states will be checking, double-checking, and second-guessing their research up until the last minute, said Wilkins.

Aside from the Iowa delegation's incorrect prediction, Binette believes that "Justine Sessions will turn things around, correctly projecting the New Hampshire results and setting the tone for the overall convention." In the week remaining before Washington and Lee's 2004 Mock Convention, Connelly said "if anyone can predict the nominee of January 30-31, it will be our Mock Convention students."



Mock Convention
January 30 & 31



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THE RING-TUM PHI OPINIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004

STAFF EDITORIAL

1980 Phi staff
 takes a look at Mock Con.

For at least two days this weekend the Washington and Lee community will be immersed in another world. Attention will be focused on little Lexington, Virginia, to see the results of the 1980 Republican Mock Convention.

Much of this attention will come from the media and it should be focused on the proceeding of the actual convention, not the behavior of the students of Washington and Lee. Lest the writer be criticized for acting like an old maid, or for being more paranoid than a father sending his daughter out on her first date, which happens to be at a fraternity party, let some examples of W&L students' behavior in years past be recalled.

In 1960 Harry Truman was pelted with various objects, from oranges to beer cans, while people chanted "Give 'em hell Harry." Though John F. Kennedy was nominated that year, the conduct of W&L students nearly received as much press as the actual outcome of the convention. And not too long ago an overzealous W&L lacrosse fan saw it fit to dump a drink on the Navy lacrosse coach's wife. Even more recently a large crowd listening to a band in the old gym during a big weekend was stunned when one W&L student smashed a bottle over another's face.

We hope that no such unfortunate incidents will occur this weekend, the Mock Convention Steering Committee has put a lot of time and thought into planning the latest edition of the Convention. So remember, no matter how much you celebrate this weekend, have a good time, but don't do something you will regret when you see it on the evening news.

~Reprinted from the May 8, 1980 edition of the *Ring-tum Phi*.

Clark best equipped for the White House

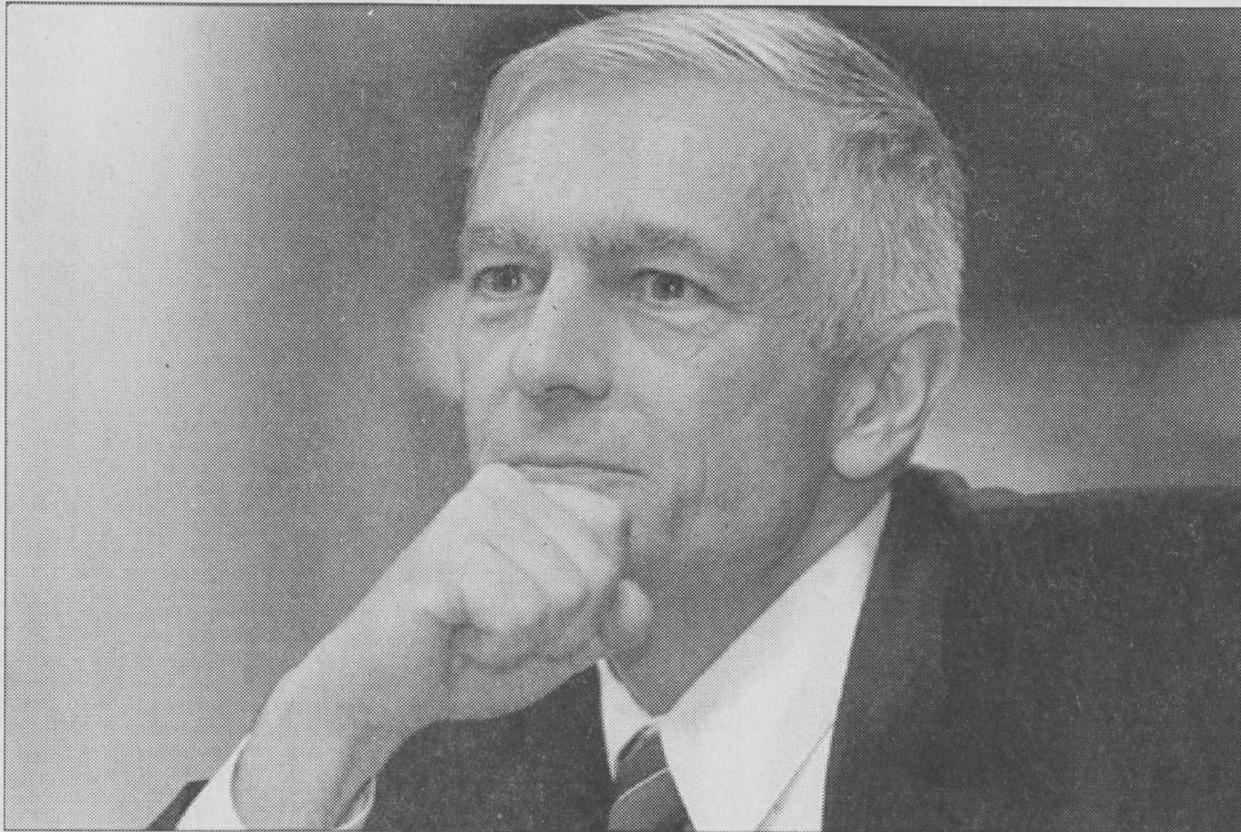


PHOTO COURTESY OF clark04.com

GENERAL AND PRESIDENT? Wesley Clark was a successful NATO Commander and Brigadier General, but does he have what it takes to get to the White House?

General Wesley Clark, as of this writing, is fighting for second place in the running for the Democratic nomination with Howard Dean and John Edwards, all of whom trail John Kerry. Nevertheless, I believe that General Clark is not only the best man among the Democratic candidates for President, he is the best equipped to defeat President Bush in the general election.

Clark has been often accused of being the most right-leaning of all the Dems still in the running. Democratic hard-liners think he's too much of a moderate to earn the nomination, and prefer more liberal candidates

Φ MODERATE'S MUSINGS CALEY ANDERSON '06

like Dean. But it is precisely this strength, of course, that makes him most likely to defeat Bush. What the Democratic party does not need is a repeat of 1984 when Walter Mondale, a highly leftist candidate, was blown out of the water by Ronald Reagan, who was as far to the right as Mondale was to the left.

What I, a moderate Democrat, would prefer to see is a repeat of 1992, when another moderate Democrat, namely Clinton, stepped in to take the reins from a semi-bumbling Republican president. And, of course, while I had a good deal of respect for Bill Clinton's administrative abilities, I had little for his personal morality. Clark, though he doesn't have the thorough liberalist credentials that Clinton had, does have much stronger integrity.

Clark is a man of strong character. He's certainly not a draft dodger, unlike Clinton, who used inside connections to avoid military service, and unlike Bush, who conveniently "lucked out" into the National Guard (and went AWOL even from that). On the contrary, he was promoted several times on the field in Vietnam for valor and uncommon command skill.

The biggest strike against Clark is probably that he doesn't have a long history with the Democratic Party; he joined the Democratic party very recently, and in fact had to be persuaded to become a candidate. But is this really any criteria by which to judge him? I've never been a huge fan of the party apparatus anyway, for either Republicans or Democrats.

The only thing that could be seen as potentially troubling is the view that Clark is an opportunist who joined the party only for the potential of becoming President. This is possible, and certainly a run at the White House might have influenced Clark's decision, but a look at Clark's voting records shows you that he has consistently voted on the Democratic side of quite a few issues- he's pro-choice, a strong gun control advocate, and a supporter of social services like welfare and social security.

Economically, he is a bit more conservative than the other candidates, preferring a somewhat less cautious tax cut and a very cautious federal spending policy, but who's to say that these are negatives? He's more a moderate than he is a Republican or Democrat, and I like those candidates that blur the line between the parties, such as Clark (or certain Austrian-born state governors).

The other obvious advantage that this moderatism gives him is that it makes him more likely to defeat President Bush. There are, in fact, many Republicans who would support Clark rather than Bush, mostly due to Bush's reckless Federal spending. In a bit of irony, Clark's proposed spending program is more conservative than Bush's has been to this point. The "Draft Clark" movement featured a GOP wing that numbered in the thousands of active supporters, an astonishing number for a grassroots candidate recruitment effort.

Clark is a good man, a man of principle, and a proven effective leader. His politics mix liberal concern for social issues with conservative ideas about spending and economics. His moderate status makes him appealing to both Republicans and Democrats as a replacement for Bush's antics, and if he pulls ahead of Kerry and the rest of the group, the Republican part will have a hard time fighting him off.

"How would you describe your political orientation?"

Conservative- 56%
 Liberal- 22%
 Moderate- 22%

A random sample of
 39 students were asked

97% Confidence
 +/- 5% Margin of Error

Mock Con will make correct prediction

Last Monday night, as the reports from the Iowa caucuses started to roll in, those of us who had been part of making the Iowa decision were, to say the least, a bit disheartened. Our pick had been Gephardt, Dean, Kerry then Edwards. The numbers came back Kerry, Edwards, Dean, Gephardt and it seemed that we couldn't have been more wrong. However, more sober reflection has left me rather sanguine about the Iowa results and very confident in our ability to correctly predict the nominee.

Caucuses anywhere, and especially the Iowa caucuses, are notoriously hard to predict. Steve Forbes' strong second-place finish in 2000 and Pat Buchanan's equally strong second-place finish in 1996 were both relatively unforeseen. The unusual nature of the system makes polling data in more conventional years very unreliable and, as such, those of us who made the decision discounted Senator Kerry and Edwards' late surge. In-state contacts and historical analysis had all stressed the importance of organization over a candidate's standing in the polls.

Congressman Gephardt, in particular, was noted for having a strong organization built on the unions that had endorsed him. Iowa has an unusually high union population and in all the previous caucuses, for example, Congressman Gephardt's first win in Iowa in 1988, the candidate who had the strongest union support was a strong finisher, if not the outright winner.

Similarly, Governor Dean had built an impressive organization of young activists and college students. He also had recruited an army of "Deaniacs" from out-of-state who came into the Hawkeye State to drive people to the caucus sites, distribute campaign literature and generally agitate for their chosen candidate.

In the end, though, the momentum that Senators Kerry and Edwards built up in the closing weeks before the caucuses proved to be more important than the organizations that Gephardt and Dean had built in the previous two years. Two factors, more than anything else, can be credited with this unexpected reversal of fortune.

Firstly, turnout was higher than expected. Even the highest estimates only predicted 120,000 caucus-goers. Turnout in 2000 was only 61,000, but this time, nearly 123,000 people attended the caucuses. With so many determined to attend the caucuses without the help of the union turnout machines, the people who were recently motivated to vote for Kerry and Edwards easily overwhelmed the carefully built organizations of Dean and Gephardt. Gephardt

had 12,000 committed voters going into caucus night and about 13,000 people ended up supporting him in the caucuses. In a year with more regular turnout, these enthusiastic supporters would have been a good base on which to build a victory. Unfortunately for the congressman, they were overwhelmed by an unexpected tide of Kerry/Edwards voters who prevented Gephardt from reaching the viability threshold of 15% in most of the caucus sites.

Secondly, the discovery of Saddam Hussein and the decided upswing in the economy had convinced many Democratic caucus-goers that electability, not anti-Bush vitriol was more important in a candidate. Ever since Saddam was pulled out of his spider hole, support for the former Vermont governor had been slipping. Kerry and Edwards presented calmer portraits of an experienced, patriotic, reliable legislator and a fresh-faced, energetic, Southern son of a mill worker, respectively. Both portraits were more attractive to Democrats whose focus had changed from finding the candidate who best expressed their intense displeasure with the president to finding the candidate who was best equipped to send the president to his Crawford, Texas ranch.

Finally, we were not alone in making the wrong prediction. Few pundits believed that Kerry or Edwards could overcome the organizational advantages that Dean and Gephardt had amassed. We were in good company in picking the wrong candidate.

But whatever our failings may have been in making an Iowa prediction, Mock Con is equipped like few other organizations to correctly predict the nominee. While other groups and pundits have been focusing on each primary contest as it happens, Mock Convention can boast the resources of 55 delegation chairs who have been single-mindedly focusing on the primaries in their state or territory for an entire year. Since the nominating contest will almost certainly extend well into February and possibly into March, other handicappers are handicapped because they have been only focusing on Iowa and New Hampshire. Mock Convention's research has contacts across the nation and has surveyed the political winds in every state. When other predictors look ahead, contests much beyond the "Sophomore Seven" primaries will be high inscrutable. Mock Convention, on the other hand, has already done research in states far over the horizon.

Look forward to Mock Convention continuing its tradition of accuracy this weekend.

Φ RIGHT OF THE AISLE BRETT KIRWAN '04

Quote of the Week

"Iranians never allow dictators to decide for them."

~FatemeH Haqiqatjou, an Iranian moderate, on the disqualification of moderate candidates by Iran's hard-line legislature. She, along with many other Iranians, will likely boycott the election.

THE RING-TUM PHI

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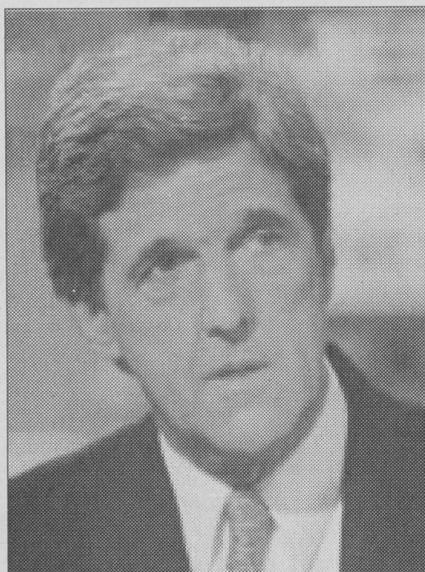
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Still in Business: The Democrats fight it out

John Kerry



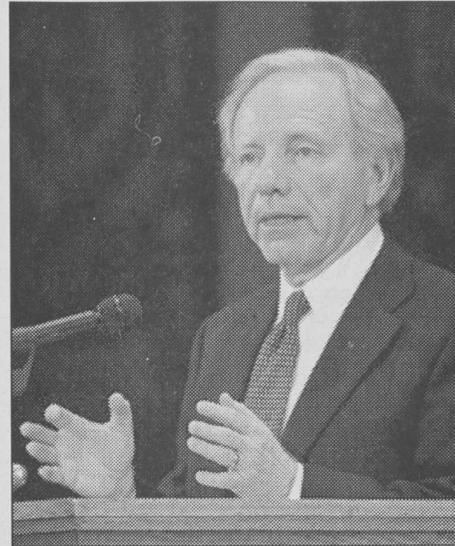
A former Vice-Governor of Massachusetts and current Senator from that state, John Kerry is the current favorite to win the Democratic nomination. Kerry is running on a fairly solid liberal platform that includes strong support for free trade issues. Kerry bears no ill-will towards any of his fellow candidates, with the notable exception of Howard Dean, for whom he has repeatedly shown an open and pointed dislike. This probably stems from the Dean campaign's early snide dismissal of Kerry as the "anointed one." Though harsh, this comment does carry a grain of truth- Kerry's biggest weakness is his reserved, patrician demeanor. He is not as energetic as Dean, and not as closely in touch with the people as John Edwards. Still, he remains the man to beat in New Hampshire and in the race overall. Polled against President Bush in a hypothetical one on one matchup, he led 49% to 46%, though there was a 3% margin of error. Caley's odds to win- 2:1

Wesley Clark



An ex-four star General and commander of NATO, Clark is often described as a conservative Democrat. While not the most popular within the party, Clark enjoys the highest support from moderates and Republicans, and is currently the candidate with the highest polls against President Bush, polling a 52% to 48% against him. Though Clark supports liberal social reform and foreign policy, he is largely a fiscal conservative. He believes Dean and Kerry are too liberal to earn the respect of the majority of American moderates, and bills himself as the compromise candidate for both Democrats and Republicans who are tired of Bush. Caley's odds to win- 2:1.

Joseph Lieberman



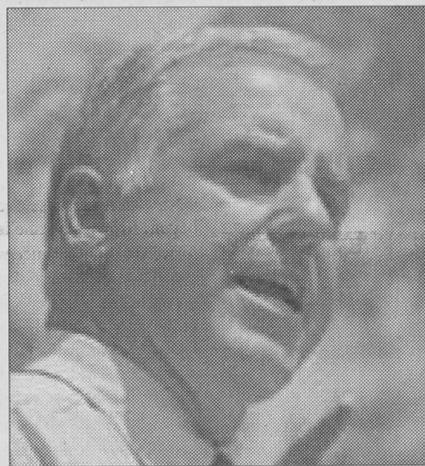
A Connecticut senator, Lieberman is one of the first successful national candidates to be Jewish. His poor showing so far probably has to do with his association with the 2000 Gore campaign, where he ran as the defeated Vice President. Lieberman's platform falls in with Kerry and Dean as very liberal, but Lieberman lacks the organizational support of either. He is also somewhat unpopular among younger voters for his outspoken criticism of violent media. Caley's odds to win- 20:1

Al Sharpton



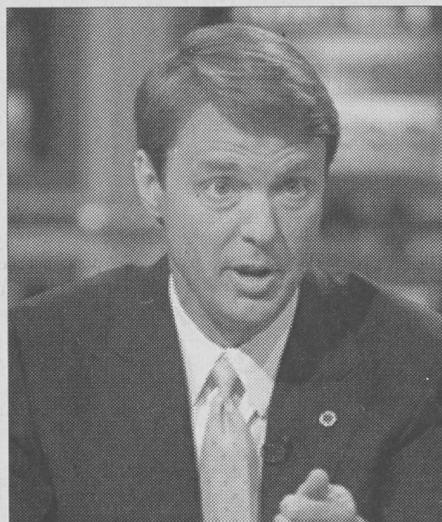
Al Sharpton acknowledged that he has almost no chance at all of winning the nomination, but says that he is remaining in the race to raise awareness of minority issues. He is an extreme liberal, like Kucinich, and polls higher than the Ohioan in some areas, but otherwise is acknowledged as the last-place runner in the Democratic race. Caley's odds to win- 70:1

Howard Dean



Dean, the former governor of Vermont, was considered by many to be the most likely candidate at the start of the race, but things haven't quite gone his way. He is seen by many as too liberal to defeat President Bush (many Republicans supported him in the hope of having an easy target). After finishing a distant third in Iowa, Dean suffered from what some call his "Mad How" disease, giving a wild and chaotic speech to his supporters promising victory in New Hampshire and elsewhere. Still, this is exemplary of his biggest strength- his fiery and aggressive personality. Dean's energy for campaigning and strong grassroots support, cultivated primarily through the Internet, will make him a formidable foe to defeat despite his various gaffes. Caley's odds to win- 4:1

John Edwards



A senator from North Carolina, Edwards is the youngest of all the candidates. Viewed by some as the "renegade kid" of the Democratic race, Edwards' strengths lie in his solid people skills, his middle-class roots, and his exceptional public speaking. Especially popular among southern Democrats, Edwards' biggest point is his criticism of postwar mismanagement of Iraq, especially what he calls "war profiteering" by price-gouging companies such as Halliburton in the aftermath of the armed conflict. Though Edwards may or may not win in New Hampshire, he expects to have his strongest showings in South Carolina and Missouri, now that Gephardt, a Missouri native, has dropped out of the race. Caley's odds to win- 3:1

Dennis Kucinich

Kucinich has little chance of winning; he is an extreme leftist who wants to abandon Iraq, notable in the past only for his Congressional experience and his stint as Mayor of Cleveland, where he did not enjoy widespread popular support. Though he received only 1% of the Iowa caucuses' support, he remains in the race, and says he expects that he will eventually recover. Polls across the country say otherwise; he actually polls lower than Sharpton in some locations. Caley's odds to win- 70:1

Letters to the Editor

SFHB exists for a reason

Dear Editor:

After reading Mr. Anderson's editorial entitled "Rape Must Be Treated As Honor Violation," I was concerned that many of the sentiments he expressed resulted from common misconceptions about the judicial process for issues of sexual misconduct. While I agree with Mr. Anderson, that rape is a severe breach of the standards of honor for our community, I maintain that the Student-Faculty Hearing Board, which is charged with hearing cases of discrimination and hazing, as well as sexual misconduct, is a better way to adjudicate such cases.

In the 1980s, Executive Committee members asked that a separate judicial body be created to adjudicate cases of sexual misconduct, resulting in the creation of what is now the SFHB. The reasoning was that this judicial board could undergo special training to handle these very emotional cases in a more effective manner, since these student leaders found it very difficult to deal with these cases using the same process as Executive Committee hearings. While the EC no longer hears cases of sexual misconduct, it nominates students to the SFHB, which is one way that the body charged with maintaining our honor system retains ties to the SFHB.

Mr. Anderson also incorrectly implies that SFHB sanctions are going to be less

stringent than the single sanction that Executive Committee members must impose on the guilty. This, in fact, is not the case. The SFHB may impose any sanctions available to any of the other judicial bodies. In fact, the Student Handbook clearly states that "forced sexual intercourse will be sanctioned by dismissal from the University," giving the SFHB both the authority and the obligation to remove those who have committed this egregious violation of honor from our community. Rape, in the form of forced sexual intercourse, is sanctioned by the same single-sanction as honor cases. The possibility of the SFHB assigning other sanctions is not a way out of expulsion, but rather a way that we can impose sanctions in cases where the EC would not be able to impose any sanction.

One rule of the EC, while well-suited to honor system cases, does not always have a place in the types of cases adjudicated by the SFHB and that is the student body hearing. If the EC heard these types of cases as honor violations, there is a possibility that the case could come to the point where a complainant and a respondent are arguing their cases in front of the entire student body. Some complainants rightly might choose not to report a sexual assault in the first place if they did not wish to have to testify in such a public forum as to the intimate details of what they suffered, details which are necessary and important to making a fair judgment about these emotionally charged situations. While complainants

may voluntarily choose to discuss these details publicly, it is problematic for the institution to require that complainants subject themselves to the embarrassment of arguing their case in front of the entire student body. SFHB decisions, instead, are appealed to the UBA, which is a way of ensuring that the SFHB has oversight without having procedures that could threaten the privacy of a complainant who wishes to maintain that privacy.

Mr. Anderson's article, while pointing out the undisputable connection between rape and a lack of honor, fails to examine the reasons for the creation of the SFHB. For these reasons, the SFHB is a better forum to adjudicate these cases. The EC is charged with the maintenance of the honor system, and simply appoints SFHB students to ensure that parts of honor dealing with sexual misconduct, discrimination, and harassment, are adjudicated by individuals with specialized training, and in a forum that respects complainant and respondent rights to privacy.

Sincerely,
Jonathan M. Wortham '04, Vice Chair-SFHB

EC responds to rape article

Dear Editor:

We are writing in response to Caley Anderson's editorial, "Rape must be treated as Honor Violation," that appeared in the *Ring-tum Phi* on Monday, January 19.

In his article, Mr. Anderson states, "rape is apparently not considered an Honor Violation at our University." First, we would like to point out that, at least in the past four years, no case of rape or sexual assault has been turned over to the Executive Committee. Because of this, the current EC has not had the opportunity to formally state whether or not it sees rape as an Honor Violation. We all agree with Mr. Anderson that rape is a severe breach of trust, is unacceptable, and is as serious or more serious than lying, cheating, or stealing.

However, we believe that the Student Faculty Hearing Board is a forum better suited to dealing with complaints of rape than is the EC. Because of its specialized training and experience in the areas of sexual assault and rape, as well as its contingency of faculty members, the SFHB can better handle the complex, emotional nature of such cases.

In addition, Mr. Anderson states, "The SFHB may or may not dismiss a student found guilty of rape." However, in cases of rape, the SFHB uses the same single sanction penalty of dismissal that the EC uses. Page 42 of the *Student Handbook* states: "Forced sexual intercourse will be sanctioned by dismissal from the University."

Any questions may be directed to the EC members, whose names, email addresses, and telephone numbers are posted around campus. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
The Executive Committee of the Student Body

Generals on four game slide

By JOHN HYLAND
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The W&L men's basketball team dropped three conference games last week and are in the midst of a four game losing streak. Their record stands at 3-13, 2-8 ODAC and is in last place in their conference.

Last Sunday, the Generals squared off against Hampden-Sydney, then the top-ranked team in the country in front of a packed house at the Warner Center. Early on, the Tigers demonstrated why they are so highly touted, opening up a 31-10 lead and holding the Generals to only two field goals in the first ten minutes of the game. W&L climbed back into the game, however, closing the first half on a 14-5 run to cut the deficit to 12 points. They began the second half the same way they ended the first, going on a 16-6 run, to close the gap to just two points, with just over 13 minutes remaining.

It was as close as the Generals would get, as the Tigers built up their lead to 18 points and pulled out a 69-56 victory. The Tigers held the Generals to just 35% shooting from the field, which was the difference in the game. Despite the loss, the young Generals could take comfort in the fact that they were able to stay close to one of the nation's perennially elite teams for most of the game. Junior guard Mike Stuart's 16 points led the

Generals, freshman guard Chris Halkitis had a solid all-around game with 9 points, 7 rebounds and 5 assists

The Generals travelled to Emory and Henry on Wednesday evening and opened the game, appearing to have built off of their solid performance against Hampden-Sydney. They used a 12-0 first half run to build a 21-12 lead. Sophomore forward Phil Landes accounted for all of the points on four three-pointers. All in all, the Generals shot 10 of 14 from three-point range in the first half to take a 36-26 lead. The Generals maintained their lead in the second half and led 49-38 at the 11:40 mark.

The game headed downhill for W&L for the remainder of the half. The Wasps went on a 17-0 run to take the lead and never looked back en route to a 76-66 victory. The Generals shot just 36% in the second half and for the game, committed 23 turnovers to E&H's 13. Landes finished with 19 points, Halkitis added 18 and Stuart 12 to round out double-digit scoring for the Generals.

W&L faced another highly touted opponent in Virginia Wesleyan on Saturday, entering the game 12-3, 6-3 ODAC and ranked 24th in the country. In a deja-vu performance to the E&H game, the Generals took a lead into halftime and midway through the second half only to have a



CORBIN BLACKFORD / THE RING-TUM PHI

LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT. The Generals continued its losing streak this past week with three conference losses.

late second-half run crush them. The Marlins went on a 9-0 run to take a 46-38 lead with 10:55 left and took as much as a 55-44 lead.

The Generals roared back however, and cut the deficit to 57-54 with just under two minutes left. The Generals could not connect on two layups in the last minute and the Marlins connected their free throws to ice a

59-54 victory. Halkitis shot 6 of 9 from three-point range for 19 points to lead W&L and sophomore forward David Will

added 14 points and 9 rebounds. The Generals faced yet another top 5 opponent in conference leader Randolph-Macon yesterday afternoon and face Averett in a non-conference match-up on Wednesday.

Wrestling team drops two in Ursinus Invitational

By ALLISON PERRY
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's wrestling team competed in the Ursinus Quadrangular in Collegeville, Pennsylvania on Saturday. The Generals met up against Ursinus, McDaniel, and Wilkes College.

In the first competition Saturday, freshman Max Courtney pinned Ursinus' Matt Fralen in 4:05 in the 184-pound match. Washington and Lee senior Corey Little lost his 149-pound match to Mark Barker, 18-6. Ursinus won the rest of its matches by forfeit.

In the competition against McDaniel, Courtney pinned Nate Klunk in the 184-pound match. McDaniel's Mark Nakasone pinned Little in 5:50 in the 149-pound match.

The Generals won the 157-pound match by forfeit, leaving McDaniel to win the remainder of the matches by forfeit except for the 197-pound category in which there was no bout.

Both Courtney and Little won their matches against Wilkes. Courtney pinned his opponent, while Little defeated

his challenger, 13-4.

There are only three wrestlers on the Washington and Lee team, and only two were able to attend this weekend's contest. Courtney said the team focuses on competing individually since they are forced to forfeit many of the matches.

"We made a good showing and went for a combined 4-2 this weekend," Courtney said. "So we showed some respectability."

Ursinus and McDaniel are both conference opponents. Courtney said the conference match-ups build up to the conference tournament at the end of February. If the team does well in that competition, it could move on to the national championship.

Washington and Lee is now 0-4 overall. The next match for the Generals is not until Saturday, February 7th, when the team travels to compete against Albright and Johns Hopkins. Match time is scheduled for 11:00 am.

The contest against Southern Virginia that was planned for this Wednesday has been cancelled. All of Southern Virginia's wrestlers were declared academically ineligible after the end of fall term.

Kristen Brown exemplifies student success as athlete, VT chair

By KIM GUNST
STAFF WRITER

You've got class all day; you need to start studying for that major exam you have tomorrow; lacrosse practice is going to be extra long today, and you still need to find time to draft several speeches and meet with your state delegation for Mock Con because you're the State Chair. Stressed out yet?

This may not be an ideal schedule for most of you; but for junior Kristen Brown, it's a reality. Brown is the State Chair of Vermont, captain of W&L's field hockey team, and a member of the lacrosse team. She knows a thing or two about managing her time wisely.

"I really thought hard about whether or not I was biting off more than I could chew, but I decided that the hardest work would be at a time right in between the two seasons," Brown said. "It has been hard to schedule weekly meetings around practice and game schedules."

Over the past year, Brown has been respon-

sible for researching the background of the primary in Vermont, learning about the candidates, and predicting how Vermont will vote in the 2004 Democratic National Convention. She also oversees fundraising and the production of her state's parade float.

As if that didn't seem like enough, Brown has also been juggling academics and two sports on top of it all. Fortunately, Brown thrives on a busy schedule.

Since Governor Howard Dean is from Vermont, Brown must also write a speech to nominate him as well as a speech on Vermont's views on Iraq. She said that only the past few weeks have been the most challenging.

"It's really crunch time," Brown stated while thinking about the long week ahead of her. "I'm in the process of making final decisions about how Vermont will vote, building a float for the parade, drafting several speeches, going to lacrosse practice every day, and getting school work done."

Brown said that she has been able to maintain her school work and fully participate in two sports, but she's had to sacrifice a lot more of her free time. Yet even that doesn't appear to faze Brown, who says she has thoroughly enjoyed the research process.

On the athletic front, Brown has undertaken a whole other set of responsibilities. As captain of the field hockey team, she said her past season was the most demanding she's ever had. The team, which is only three years old, is still working toward building a solid base.

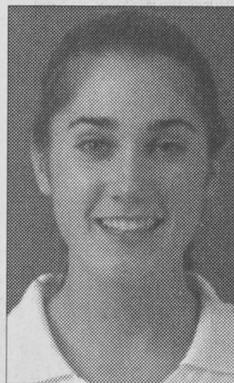
"It's exciting to be on a team that's making history at W&L," she said. "But at the same time it can also be challenging to be on an inexperienced team

that's striving to get places it's never been before."

Now that lacrosse season has begun, Brown says she is looking forward to another successful season. This year's schedule and practices will be more intense than ever, but Brown believes this will take the team to a new level.

With several promising freshman and great captains, Brown thinks this is the year the team will begin competing with the best teams in Division III women's lacrosse.

For now, Brown continues to take each day as it comes. "The few weeks leading up to the convention have been challenging and long," she says in regards to balancing athletics, academics, and Mock Con. "I think it will be worth it in the end."



THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Tuesday, January 27	Wednesday, January 28	Thursday, January 29	Friday, January 30	Saturday, January 31	Sunday, February 1
• W Basketball at EMU--7:00	• M Basketball vs. Averett--7:00 • Wrestling at S. Virginia--7:30	• Open	• Open	• Swimming vs. Mary Mount--3:00	• W Basketball vs. Roanoke--3:00 • M Basketball vs. Roanoke--5:00

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Womens' basketball goes 1-2 in past week

By SARAH BLOOM
STAFF WRITER

Sweet success was the tune of Monday's game for the W&L Women's basketball team. At the start of a three-game week, the girls fearlessly took the court against Mary Washington Monday evening at the Warner Center.

Freshman Jessica Hunsinger led the Generals to victory with a game-high score of 14 points and 12 rebounds. Senior Sarah Michaels also claimed double-digits with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Though the game ended in the General's favor, 55-50, the Generals had to protect their lead all the way down to the last

minute of the game. Juniors Laura Hanks and Bethany Dannelly and sophomore Louisa Feve secured the win for the Generals by making foul shots at the end of the second half.

"The team has made significant progress this season," said Feve of the team's win. "We started with only 5 people (because of people being on other teams) and we had a brand new coach, so there was a lot to learn."

With little time for recovery, the girls prepared for their next game against Hollins. Though the Generals lead by four points with 11:16 minutes left, and again at 2:35, Hollins overcame the Generals with six straight foul shots in the final two minutes.

Feve again claimed several points for the Generals; she

scored the game high of 20 points. Michaels again followed closely behind with 18 points, and Hunsinger with 16.

Going in to Saturday's game, the team had some new goals in mind.

"We wanted to pick up our defensive intensity because it was lacking a bit and come out with a win," said Feve. "Unfortunately, neither of the two happened. Emory and Henry beat us in transition and we also fouled them a lot leading to multiple three point plays for them."

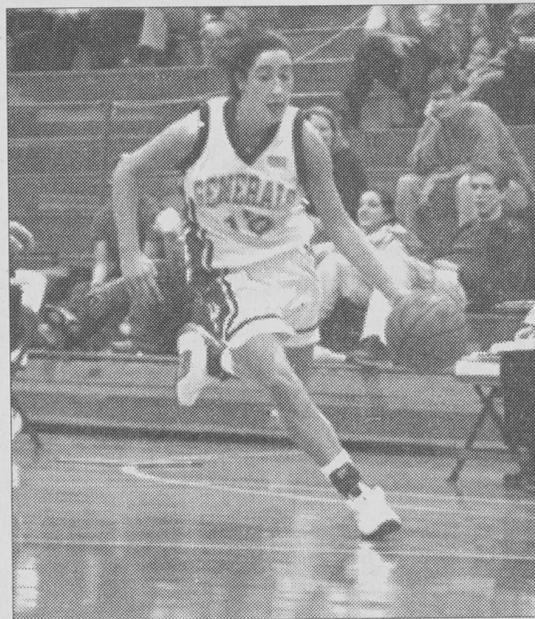
The Generals had the lead with 15:56 left on the clock, but Emory and Henry overtook the Generals in the last 15 minutes with 14 more points. E&H defeated the Generals 78-67. Again, Feve led the team with a high score of 24 and Hunsinger again

followed with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Dannelly contributed 8 points.

The Generals attribute some of the loss to the absence of leading scorer Sarah Michaels who was not able to make it to the game.

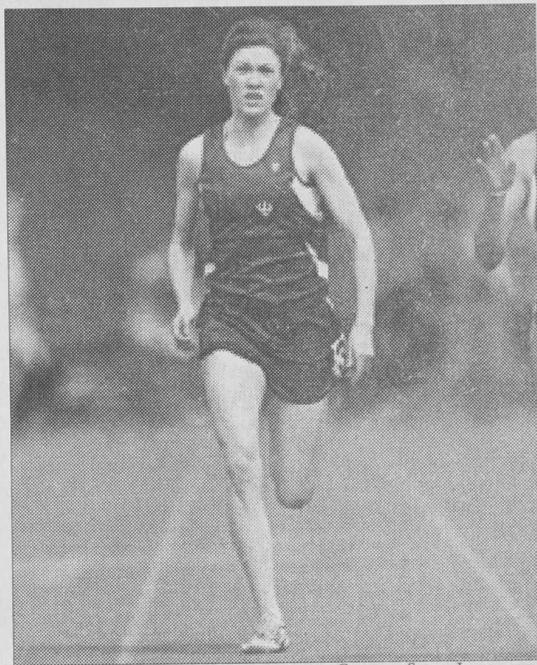
The team will next play on Tuesday at Eastern Mennonite for a 7 p.m. game. For now, the girls return to the courts and refresh their goals and intentions for the season.

"The team has a lot of goals related to basketball and academics," claimed Feve, "For the most part I think we definitely want to go to the conference tournament (ODACS) and do well and continue to improve. Basically, we repeat these goals often in practice, so that they're always in our minds."



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

GOING FOR THE SCORE. Sophomore Louisa Feve led the Generals in scoring as the team went 1-2 over the past week.



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

LEADING THE PACK. Junior Meredith Walker runs in a 200 meter race in the Susquehanna Invitational.

Track competes at Susquehanna Invitational

W&L SPORTS
RELEASE

SELINGSGROVE, Pa. — The Washington and Lee Men's and Women's indoor track and field teams were both in action on Saturday at the Susquehanna Invitational competing against Division II and Division III schools.

Leading the way for the women was junior Meredith Walker (Travelers Rest, S.C./

Christ Church Episcopal), who placed third among Division III competitors in the Long Jump (15'5.34") and eighth among DIII athletes in the 200 meter (29.09). Freshman Katherine Brennan (New Orleans, La./Isidore Newman) placed third in the pole vault with a school-record vault of 9'00.00," while sophomore Mary Christopher (Fort Lauderdale, Fla./Cardinal Gibbons) finished third among DIII athletes in the 800 meter with a time of 2:33.77.

The W&L Distance Relay team of freshman Tippins Stone (Nashville, Tenn./Harpeth Hall), junior Anne Tompkins (McLean, Va./Potomac School), freshman Jenny Ratzel (Elm Grove, Wisc./Brookfield East) and Christopher placed second among DIII teams and third overall with a time of 13:15.00.

The W&L men were paced by junior Brian Krupczak (Cohasset, Mass./Cohasset), who placed fourth among Division III competitors in the 200

meter with a time of 23.72. Sophomore Keith Sullivan (San Antonio, Texas/Alamo Heights) placed sixth among DIII athletes in the triple jump with a leap of 39'3.00" and junior Nathan Johnson (Lexington, Va./Rockbridge County) was third among DIII athletes in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:14.92.

The Generals will return to action on Sun., Feb. 8, when they compete in the Christopher Newport Invitational.

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Glimpse at Washington and Lee Young Democrats on campus

As the student politicians among us make the final preparations for Mock Con, it's only fitting that our student of diversity this week take a political turn also. At a school that boasts the largest chapter of College Republicans in Virginia, the liberals on campus can feel left out in the cold. Joanna Persio, a junior Economics and Environmental Studies major from Cheshire, Connecticut, was among those lonely left-wingers on campus. She wouldn't accept the single voice of College Republicans though. In an effort to balance the prevailing conservative voices among us, Joanna strives to create a bi-partisan feel to W&L through her efforts as president of the Young Democrats.

"I think I became president by default," Joanna recalls of her leadership of the Young Democrats. At the beginning of her sophomore year, Joanna's former dorm counselor, Heather Knorr, sent an email to the hall explaining that there really was a Democratic group on campus, and that anyone who was interested should email Skye Justice. Joanna decided to get involved, but she didn't find the vibrant campus organization she hoped for. Instead, Skye handed her the entire group with only an

old binder of constitutions to guide her. Joanna faced the daunting task of revitalizing the defunct group on a campus renowned for its conservative leanings.

At the beginning of last year, Joanna held a sign-up drive outside the Co-op for the Young Democrats. The results shocked her: over eighty people signed up initially, and roughly twenty more have joined since then. Joanna believes that her fellow students are "more liberal than people think. However, there are really loud, really conservative right-wing people."

Surprisingly, Joanna is not a steadfast Democratic partisan. Personally, she believes that "being overly partisan can lead a person to overlook certain arguments and can inhibit you from completely understanding an issue." All opinions have valid points, and the key to effective leadership is to be able to benefit from both sides of an issue. "I'm not really partisan at all," Joanna says, and her main purpose in taking over the reins of the Young Democrats was to provide an alternative voice to the loud College Republicans.

Joanna does take some staunch Democratic positions on certain issues though. She de-

scribes herself as really pro-choice, but resents being called an "infanticide crusader" by certain members of the press. "It's a private issue," Joanna says. "A woman's reproduction isn't a public policy issue. The idea of when life starts is a huge religious, moral and ethical issue. To value a lawmaker's feeling over that of the woman's is a huge deal."

She is also interested in issues concerning the environment, poverty, and education. She volunteers regularly at Head Start, and has taken coursework in both environmental and poverty studies.

As for President Bush, Joanna thinks he is "taking our country in the wrong direction" and believes that "he has done some remarkably unintelligent things." She strongly disagrees with him on the issue of gay marriage. "His idea of a constitutional amendment limiting marriage is completely contradictory to the nature and spirit of the constitution," Joanna ascertains.

Joanna will participate in Washington Term this spring, where she hopes to work for another liberal, hopefully a congresswoman from Connecticut. As for Mock Convention, she thinks "it's a really great opportunity to get a bunch of Democrats to come to campus



JEB BROOKS/ THE RING-TUM PHI

and make people listen to them." Joanna helped write the political platform for the convention and serves as Research Chair for the Louisiana delegation.

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.

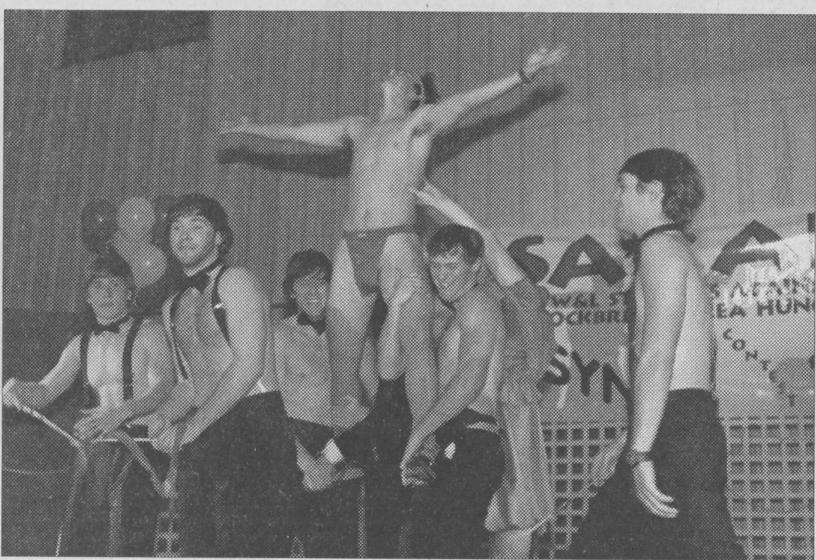


JEB BROOKS/ THE RING-TUM PHI

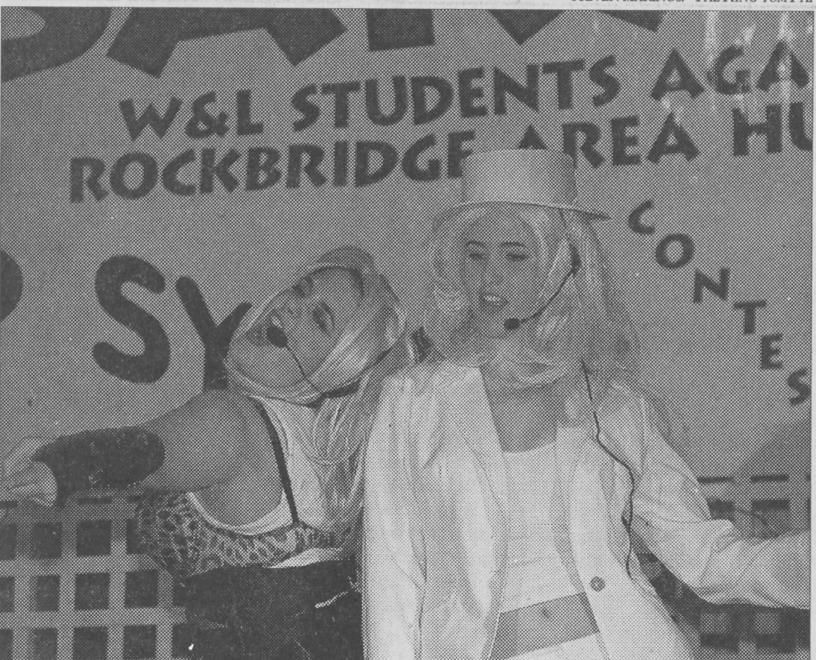
FIFTH YEAR ON STAGE? Kappa Alpha made a surprise move on Friday by having fifth year senior Eppa Hunton perform as the Neil Diamond in their act. However, freshmen did perform as backup singers.

CHAMPIONS. Pi Beta Phi Lip Sync Winners Lauren Kampf and Michele Theroux are shown performing their winning act, "Me Against the Music," by Britney Spears and Madonna. Wendy Kang and Mariko Ishikawa also performed in the act.

OVER THE TOP. Sigma Chi pledges were a contest favorite, performing Madonna's "Like a Prayer." Despite the stripping, Sigma Chi did not get gonged. The 20th Annual Students Against Rockbridge Area Hunger Lip Sync was held last Friday in the Pavilion. Changes marked this year's Lip Sync. The format of this year's performance was a gong show. Any acts deemed inappropriate or just plain bad were gonged off the stage. Lambda Chi and Kappa Delta get the honor of being the first fraternity and sorority to get gonged in the history of Lip Sync. The winners, Pi Beta Phi, received free Fancy Dress Tickets and an engraved trophy that they will keep for one year.



STEVEN MARINOS/ THE RING-TUM PHI



STEVEN MARINOS/ THE RING-TUM PHI

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University's first Mock Convention delivered rumble

It wasn't so long ago that Washington and Lee students cared about Mock Convention, which, oh by the way, is this weekend. Before libelous state t-shirts (see I-Da-Ho) became the mold, or at least the most entertaining facet of Mock Con, people actually argued about whom would be nominated.

This past weekend, the Mock Con powers-that-be predicted that Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt would storm into neighboring Iowa and take the caucus.

Since then, Gephardt has summarily excused himself from the race after finishing a woeful fourth in the caucus. The bow out was so abrupt that dickgephardt2004.com is no longer even an active Web site.

Mock Con's elite should not fret because outside of a few anti-Denbowrites, nobody cares. The Oklahoma State Delegation will hold its coin toss later this week in order to select a nominee. The truth is that no one gives two hoots that Mock Con is in danger of its first mis-prediction since 1972, when students chose Kennedy over eventual-nominee McGovern.

In order to rekindle that Mock Con fire of old, we need to look to the past for inspiration.

The lore of Mock Con is rich—from U.S. Sen. Alben Barkley's sudden collapse and death while on stage in 1956 to the rumor of a late-night hookup between a former Arkansas governor and a W&L student in 1988.

However, nothing outdoes the tale of the very first Mock Convention of 1908. The caucus pitted the fervent and controversial Williams Jennings Bryan against Minnesota governor John A. Johnson.

From the *Ring-Tum Phi* in 1908: "The Bryan men intended to push things through and nominate their favorite that night, while it was the general prediction, judging from their dilatory tactics of the preceding night that the Johnson men would stay proceedings as much as possible. The fact that three or four sections of the platform had consumed the greater part of the preceding night made it look as though the convention might last a week."

All day Thursday, state delegations convened to select their candidate. For whatever reason, the tempers of the respective delegations began to simmer.

The *Phi* wrote, "words are wholly inadequate to express the degree of interest and enthusiasm of delegates, which frequently manifested itself in the character of a 'scrap' or a heated 'set-to.'"

Eventually the unruly crowd was temporarily tempered and the moderator called the proceedings to order so that the states could declare their nominations. However, each coming proclamation was like pouring kerosene over an open flame.

Nebraska chose Bryan. New York countered with Johnson. Tennessee took *Nashville Tennessean* newspaper editor Edward W. Carmack out of nowhere. Each nomination was instantly followed by long arrays of curses and boos from the opposite side. "The unit rule got enough curses to last it, until a bird could carry the shores of every sea to Mars and a back a thousand times, carrying only one grain of a sand at a time," wrote the *Phi*. To translate, the convention was taking a long time.

Then it was Kansas' turn. And all hell broke loose. Johnson's supporters in the Kansas delegation, trailing in the overall poll and feeling that they were getting the nominational screw, questioned the integrity of the convention. Bryan's proponents would not listen. So, instead of talking it out, the two sides just duked it out. Then the whole convention joined in with New York leading the charge. After several jabs and a few kicks were exchanged, order again was restored, but not for long.

Near the end of the convention, Student Chairman Willard Neal Grubb made a ruling that "incensed" the Johnsonians. A devotee of Johnson jumped on a chair and yelled to his fellow students to "bolt" from the gym. Thereafter, all of those in favor of Johnson left the gym and reconvened in the English building where they nominated Johnson for president and Carmack for vice president.

After the Johnson men left, the main convention nominated its own president, Bryan, and vice president, Charles A. Culberson.

In spite of the brawl, the *Phi* called the event a success. "The convention in every particular was a glowing success," it wrote. "While some bitterness existed among the men on that night, yet all day yesterday nothing could be seen by the downy wings of the dove of peace as it fluttered with sweetest of complacency over the camps of the 'warring' factions."

So this weekend, if you're a Deaniac from Wyoming or a Sharptonian from Mississippi, and you're angry, knock someone's block off. After all, it was in this schizo—kill everyone—spirit upon which Washington and Lee's first Mock Convention was founded.

Parade to proceed

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
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The 23rd Mock Convention will kick off Friday morning at 10:30 with a parade. Floats, donkeys and other festive sites will take 2 hours to proceed down the route.

All 55 delegations will be involved in the parade. Of the 55 delegations, 50 are expected to have actual floats, while the remaining five delegations will be riding in trucks.

Each delegation has a theme unique to their state or territory. Pennsylvania will have an Amish and Hershey theme, while the Nevada delegation will be building the Las Vegas strip.

Montana is just one example of how time constraints and lack of money influence the float building process. "Plans started as a life size horse with mountains," said Montana Facilities Chair, Sara Duckworth. "Since the horse would have taken months to build, we had to change our plan."

Duckworth then began to look at the Montana state flag as inspiration for the float. The flag has an emblem with mountains and a waterfall. Because of budget problems, the delegation used cardboard to build the float. Duckworth began construction of the float with members of the Montana delegation early last Saturday. In addition to building the float, every member of the delegation will be in a cowboy themed outfit.

Five donkeys will be leading the parade this year in honor of the

Democratic Party. In addition to the many floats, the parade will also include Uncle Sam on stilts, the Liberty Hall Volunteers, and a drum and fife band. The local bands could not march in the parade because of the regional band competition.

The parade will begin at Brewbaker Field then turn right onto Wallace Street. From Wallace, the parade will then take a right onto Taylor Street. The parade will then go north on Taylor to Houston Street. It will follow Houston to Main Street. The parade will turn left on Washington Street and go past the Doremus Gym to Nelson Street. From Nelson, the parade will go up to West Denny Circle to the freshman parking lot, Ruins, and Pavilion lot, where the floats will be immediately disassembled.

Awards will be given to the All-Around Best Float and the Most Humorous Float. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. The judges include Mimi Elrod, Thomas Burish, and other campus personalities.

The floats must be assembled and ready to move at 8 a.m. Friday morning. The parade will be lined up by that time and will start at 10:30 a.m. Approximately fifteen people can ride on the floats with a few others walking in the parade. Everyone else must watch from the street.

"The city has been very helpful, as well as the community," said Parade Chairman Emily Tyson. "Flags will go up this Monday in town and remain up until the following Monday." She went on to say that store owners will be decorating their windows to get everyone in a festive mood.



JEB BROOKS / THE RING-TUM PHI

BRINGIN' IN THE MONEY. Fundraising co-chairman Thomas Worthy works hard to make sure Mock Convention will happen. Worthy, and his counterpart Brooks Morgan, spend hours each week on the phone with potential donors relating the academic merits of Washington and Lee's Mock Convention. His southern twang and quick wit, known well to most Washington and Lee students, serves his purposes well.

The suit will almost certainly convince unsure potential donors that they must contribute. His Uncle Sam outfit was worn by other steering committee members throughout the week. Students saw General Chairman Noah Rhodes, Treasurer William Litton, Political Chairman Michael Denbow and Social Chairman Mike Baker dressed up in an effort to help build anticipation for the Convention.

QUICK HITS

- Ⓢ Thalia should be an American pop star.
- Ⓢ Eighties rockers Bad Hair Day missed a special someone this past Saturday night.
- Ⓢ Lots of January birthdays out there, so have a nice one!
- Ⓢ Kudos to the good citizens of Lex for bringing a tattoo and body piercing parlor back to the mean streets of our fair city.
- Ⓢ Purse, now that "he's gone," how about we catch up on our weekend apart? On second thought, how about NO?
- Ⓢ Go Patriots!
- Ⓢ Kudos to Kappa Sig for throwing meat, ripping the heads of babies and for 'GONG DEZ NUTS' sign at LipSync.
- Ⓢ The fact that they make it in your size does not mean it isn't a crime against humanity to wear it. After all, they do manufacture bikinis for pregnant ladies.
- Ⓢ Panthers suck!
- Ⓢ Shout out to religion Professor Jason Fuller, by far the coolest professor this campus has ever seen.
- Ⓢ Big 12 Mock Con was the party of the year!
- Ⓢ Happy Birthday to Eddie Van Halen, turning 49, and Wayne Gretzky, turning 43.
- Ⓢ The only thing your "milkshake" is bringing you is a few extra pounds.
- Ⓢ When it is discovered that a candidate for a position as W&L is either soulless or a sadist, is he immediately positioned in the Registrar's Office?
- Ⓢ Don't eat Sprees. Too much sugar, it's bad for your teeth.
- Ⓢ I think I speak for every male anthropology student when I say, "Professor Bell, will you marry me?"
- Ⓢ Two-for-one holiday! Today is both Australia Day and India's Republic Day. Party!
- Ⓢ Three cheers for NASA. Way to get Spirit going again.
- Ⓢ I've heard of booty calls, but who booty e-mails?
- Ⓢ Way to go, Thomas! You did a great job as Lip Sync emcee. Way to make the *Phi* proud.
- Ⓢ Special thanks to the MetroLex merchants who decorated in red, white and blue to celebrate Mock Con. Be sure to stop by The College Town Shop and The Cutting Edge.
- Ⓢ Can someone please do something about the loose step in the all-too spirally spiral staircase in the Commons?
- Ⓢ Old George looks great in the Commons.
- Ⓢ Ice skating is the best PE class ever.
- Ⓢ Brown Louis Vuittons are classic. If accessorized tastefully, they can be worn with any outfit, regardless of the color of the shoes. After all, women have been spotted with these trademark trunks since 1854.
- Ⓢ How did all the sororities get their own rap songs? That is so cool. To hear them, click to [www.modifiedliving.com/dj\\$crilla.htm](http://www.modifiedliving.com/dj$crilla.htm).
- Ⓢ So, the snow didn't close campus. Does the physical plant ever take a day off?
- Ⓢ Want to tell Princeton Review what you think of our school? <http://survey.review.com>
- Ⓢ Don't forget to buy your Mock Con memorabilia available all this week in the Commons Room.
- Ⓢ Brett Kirwan is a big tool.
- Ⓢ E-mail your anonymous Quick Hits and stories of Mock Con rowdiness to phi@wlu.edu.

Ⓢ Shame on the Lip Synch judges for gonging the Kappa Delta "Yellow" act. The girls built a submarine and didn't even get to use it.

Ⓢ Props to Lambda Chi for being the first act to be gonged in Lip Synch history.

Ⓢ Congratulations to Matthew B. McDermott for being named one of *BE* magazine's student advisor, "BS detectors."

Ⓢ What's with people playing Trivial Pursuit in the living room of the Commons?

Ⓢ Anyone who wants to play Trivial Pursuit should meet in the living room of the Commons Thursday at 12.

Ⓢ B&G should learn to paint trim without painting windows shut.