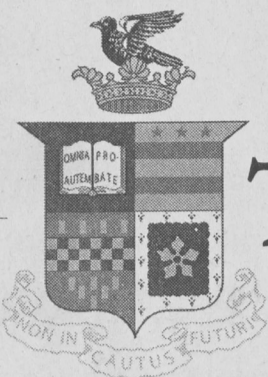


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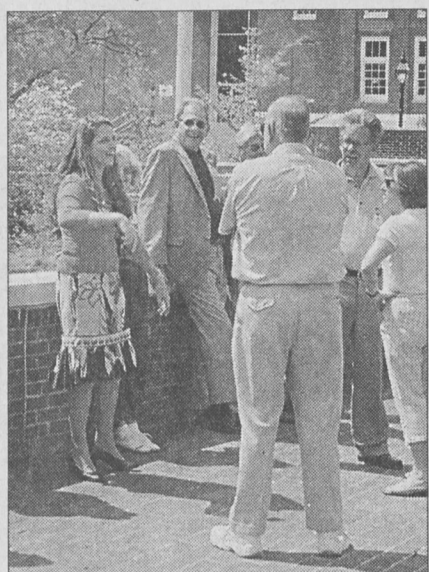


WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

VOLUME CVIII, No. 2
MONDAY, MAY 3, 2004

Alumni weekend in focus, reunion rememberances



CORBIN BLACKFORD / The Ring-tum Phi
SMALL-TALK. Current students mingle with alums during a brief sunny period this weekend.

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
PRODUCTION DIRECTOR

Throughout the weekend, alumni reminisced about what makes this school the W&L we all know and love.

Tom Wall, Paul Maslansky, George Young, Ray Bee, Steve Sloan, and Gordon Taylor, all members of the class of '54, were reliving their days at W&L at the lunch on the front lawn Friday. Maslansky immediately noticed the loss of the speaking tradition. He said that the campus was still friendly, but we do not

have what they used to have in the tradition. He believes that the greatest addition to W&L besides the Elrod Commons, is the Lenfest Center. It provides far more cultural options to the student body than the campus did 50 years ago.

These six members of the class of '54 went on to talk about life at W&L 50 years ago. The president of the university was not visible, but was highly respected by every student. Young's daughter attended Rhodes College and came to W&L for a field hockey game. He was very impressed with the athletic fields on campus. All five spoke of the new buildings on campus. "You can see where the money has gone," said Maslansky.

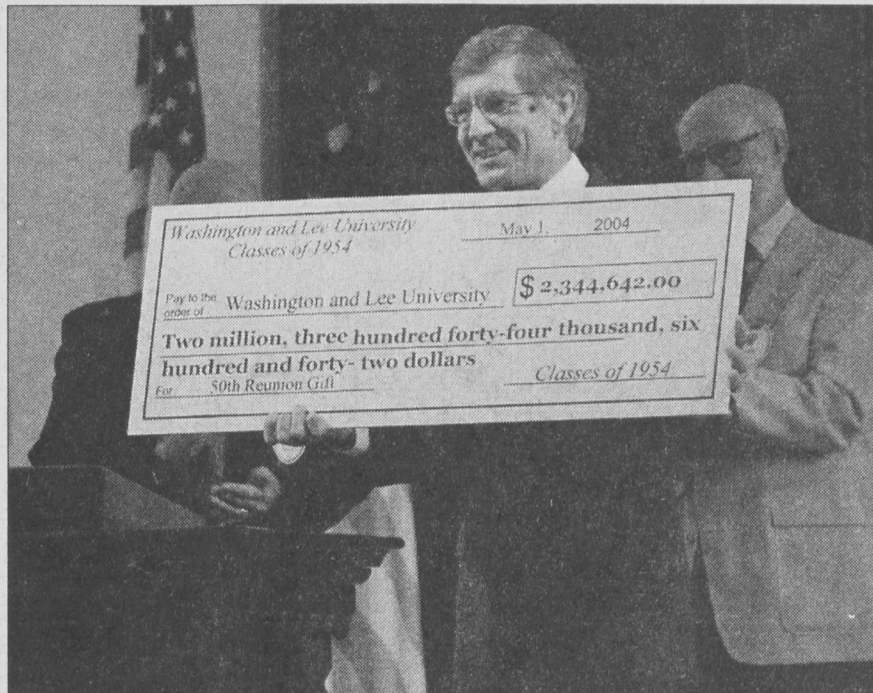
Young, Sloan, and Maslansky were members of a six-piece band that played all four years at W&L, Sweet Briar, and Hollins. All three said their best memories were of playing in this band. They agreed to play at UVA one weekend. It was the craziest party they had ever played. One of the band members had his head cracked open with a bottle by one of the people in the audience. Never again did they agree to play at UVA.

Sloan was an English major and wrote movie reviews for the Phi. He went to see movies at both of Lexington's movie theatres, the State and the Arm-pit. He started the Washington and Lee Literary Society. One of the society's many members was Tom Wolfe.

VMI relations were no better then. During the 1950s, W&L guys had a tradition called "late dating." The VMI guys had curfews around 10 p.m. After the VMI guys went back to their barracks, their girlfriends would come to W&L and late-date the guys here. On Sunday mornings, the Betas would throw empty beer cans at the VMI guys marching through town.

John Lackey, George Spaulding, and Bruce Chosney '64, said that girls and race are the two biggest differences on campus today. They were at W&L in the midst of the Civil Rights movement. Their junior year, the frontrunner for EC president ran on a segregationist platform and was defeated in an upset. During their four years on campus, the football team never lost a home game and was even undefeated one season.

"The more they improve the school, the more things stay the same," said Price Blackford '73. Blackford came to W&L during the Vietnam War. The campus culture changed somewhat during this period. His freshman year, students were still wearing a coat and tie to class, but by the time he graduated, that tradition had ended. In 1973, about 16 girls attended W&L through an exchange program. Blackford said that the campus seems far more beautiful now. He encouraged students to take advantage of all W&L offers because he wishes now that he could go back and do more things.



STEVEN MARINOS / The Ring-tum Phi
IN THE BANK. President Burish receives the Class of 1954's record-setting donation.

Henry Hamilton and Ed Peterson, both members of the class of '79, believe that what makes W&L special is still here. During their time, downtown Lexington was renovated, the law school and the library were built, and Elizabeth Taylor came to campus. Peterson said one of his best memories of W&L is living in a country house for a year where they had to kill mice with hockey sticks. Both were members of fraternities and said that they didn't have the

legal problems we have today in our Greek system such as a legal drinking age of 21.

Lexington was living in the past this weekend. The alumni had a great time talking about their college days. They were pleased to see that the same traits that made W&L great 50 years ago — the honor system, the close-knit community, the fraternities, and the outstanding faculty — were still driving the mission of Washington and Lee today.

Hammer falls on Beta with year suspension

BY ERIN JULIUS
MANAGING EDITOR

Washington and Lee's Big Four fraternities lost one of their own this past week, when the Student Affairs Committee ratified the Inter-Fraternity Council's recommendation that Beta Theta Pi be kicked off campus for a year.

"Beta will not be on campus next year," said IFC Advisor Matt Jacobs. "I'm disappointed in the trial process," said former Beta President Seth Martin. "I don't think it was fair."

"SAC found reasonable evidence to support the numerous violations of the University's policy on hazing, and wholeheartedly adopts IFC's recommendations as affirmed by the University Board of Appeals," said Jacobs.

The IFC recommended that the chapter be suspended to the upcoming academic year and that all chapter activity for the current year be suspended, Jacobs said. The brothers will be al-



ANDREW LATIMER / The Ring-tum Phi

lowed to live in the house for the rest of this year, but it will be closed next year.

Martin said he did not think new member education was worse this year than it was in the past.

"One thing that I question—the fact that they never investigated anything," said Martin. "not once talked to any of the freshmen, the new members. They only spoke to me, one of about 40 people."

Statements made by Beta brothers were also misinterpreted, said Martin. "we were rarely, if ever, asked questions by the judicial committees," he said.

Beta does have the opportunity to appeal, in writing, to President Burish regarding the SAC's decision.

According to the Student handbook, the appeal would not constitute a rehearing of the case, but the President has the option of either rejecting the appeal or sending the case back to the SAC for reconsideration. The SAC handed down this decision last Sunday, so Beta has 10 days to appeal. Wednesday, May 5 will be the last day an appeal could be made.

"My understanding is that the alumni want to appeal, and if they choose to do so, the chapter will support that," said Martin.

Dean Watkins, the chair of the SAC, recused herself from this decision. After the suspension period is over, "we fully intend to come back," Martin said.

A MOVING LANDMARK



CORBIN BLACKFORD / The Ring-tum Phi
UP AND AWAY. The historic train station is being moved May 12 to preserve the area's history while making way for a high-tech art and music facility next to the Lenfest Center.

New administrators hired to fill openings

BY ERIN JULIUS
MANAGING EDITOR

Three new faces will guide student life next year. Buddy Atkins, Acting Director of the Commons is moving to a position in the development office, leaving his position open. Teresa Glassman, Director of Student Activities and Greek Life and Matt Jacobs, IFC Advisor are also leaving their respective positions.

The search is on to find Atkins' replacement. The search committee is made up of six members from the student body, faculty and staff. Thomas Worthy, '05 and Katie Henderson, '05, James Dick, Professor Julie Woodzicka and Dean David Leonard comprised the search committee.

Atkins' replacement, "will be responsible for the Commons as well as the entire Campus Activities area which is responsible for Student Activities, Greek Life, Outing Cub and Campus recreation and leadership programs," said Dean Dawn Watkins.

Jacobs' position is being slightly restructured because, "Matt actually does more than just advise the IFC," said Watkins. The title is being changed to Assistant Director of Student Activities and Greek Life.

"I think for the student activities job, organization and an understanding of university and Greek national policies and their relationship to the students are going to be the most important things," said past Panhel President Mary Butler Stone.

Judy Shepard, alumni deliver talks about gay rights



JEB BROOKS / The Ring-tum Phi
SPEAKING OUT. Shepard addressed a packed house April 27 with the story of her son.

BY ANNE FINLEY
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR

"I'm not a professional speaker," Judy Shepard said last Tuesday evening in the Commons Theater. "I'm a mom. I'm a mom with a story, and opinions; my story, my opinions."

Shepard's son, 21-year old Matthew, an openly-gay student at the University of Wyoming, was lured from a bar in Laramie, Wyoming, on October 7, 1998, by two men claiming to be gay.

He was then driven into a secluded location, brutally beaten, tortured and left for dead. When he was found eighteen hours later, he was suffering from hypothermia. He would die five days later.

The anti-gay hate crime created national interest, eventually leading to the production of

both a TV movie and HBO's "The Laramie Project."

Shepard began her battle by starting the Matthew Shepard Foundation and now gives lectures across the country.

The Gay-Straight Alliance and SAB began fundraising for Shepard's visit, deeming it a worthy goal.

The GSA first sent a proposal to Contact, asking for help covering the costs. According to GSA Co-chair Kelly Jo Larsen, denial of their request "just solidified our resolve to bring Shepard to campus." Larsen found that "the campus responded in an amazing fashion. So many groups were saying 'Our budget is strapped but we want to help. All I can give is \$100, will that help?'"

In her introduction of the program, Larsen's reading of the numerous co-sponsors: GSA, SAB, Offices of the President and Provost, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Departments of History, Sociology and Psychology, LIFE, KEWL, GayLaw, and the National Lawyers Guild.

Shepard made an impassioned plea against hate that she called a "learned behavior" that "is alive and well in our country today." In a direct address to the audience she asked "Did they hear those words from you? 'That's so gay?' Why is that a bad thing?" She asked people to remember that "these words represent real people, who bleed and breathe."

Shepard stated that "many people think the gay community is very well represented by The Village People".

The theme of Shepard's speech was clear: "I don't want this to happen anymore".

The GSA again collaborated with KEWL this week to bring two gay alumni, Dennis Riva, '97 and Jeanne Dillon, '96, to campus for the "Out on the Colonnade" program to discuss alternative lifestyles on campus.

Other alumni in attendance also shared their stories.

A "clear message" was sent to two male students caught having sex in 1980 who subsequently left during Orientation Week, said Emory Edwards, '84.

In 1989, one fraternity brother brought a student up on an HV for "lying about being straight," said Margaret Rhodes, '89. The student remained on campus.

Doctor Julie Woodzicka, an Assistant Professor of Psychology whose primary research has to do with prejudice and stereotyping, was "impressed with Mrs. Shepard's using the tragic murder of her son as a vehicle to promote equality and diversity.

For straight students, this means embracing the gay community, being part of the movement, and letting others know that you won't tolerate acts of prejudice or discrimination. If you aren't part of the solution, you really are part of the problem."

Jessica Lloyd, president of KEWL, remarked that "Ms. Shepard has a very simple but very powerful message to share, that it is better to love than to hate."



SHEPARD

THE RING-TUM PHI
STAFF EDITORIAL

Get up, get into it

We here at *The Ring-tum Phi* like to think that we exist for a reason. Although we offer an open forum for opinions and features designed to entertain, look at our first page: it's news. Our primary job is to inform.

Keeping students connected to their world on campus is the aim of every student publication, and so it's only natural that any of us would rankle at any hint of apathy toward school and student affairs.

We're not trying to deify or demean the achievements those who put a priority on being involved. The fact of the matter is that we all pay our individual student activities fee, yet it seems that precious few of us truly get what we pay for. It's our contention that, in general, this is by no fault of The University and its offerings, but rather the blame lies with our own internal motivation.

Sure, "internal motivation" is an out-of-place topic choice during what most students cherish as a blessedly leisurely Spring Term. The problem occurs when this lax attitude spills over into the rest of the year, which we believe it does.

We were also moved by the sheer emotion that many alumni had for Washington and Lee this weekend, which was evident in their fond remembrances, as well as concerns about the decline of the speaking tradition.

The solution is to get involved when it matters, and one such time is with this week's E.C. Forum. Take the time to speak up and dictate the collective decisions which affect us all. It's one of those very rare moments when the students can stand up and say "we matter."

Fellow students: we implore you to take action on whatever behalf you choose, so long as you do it. We can and will prove that we can take even more ownership of this, our beloved university and home.

Honor System: More questions, fewer answers

I, Caley Anderson, pledge on my honor that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized or unacknowledged aid on the forthcoming article. I received so many comments on my last Honor System examination (and one letter to the editor from a philosophy professor) that I have been persuaded to write another one. The entire campus seems to be abuzz with talk of the Honor System. I would venture that there hasn't been a debate over the System of this magnitude since President Lee implemented the beginnings of it during his mid-19th Century tenure. It is a tribute to the members of our University's community indeed, both past and present, that our unique adherence to a principle endures in the 21st Century.

But alas, ours is not an unquestioned dedication, nor ought it to be. Today, I'm going to look at a few more of the many questions that are being asked on our campus these days, and do my best to give what I think are the correct answers.

A grain of salt before we begin- what you are about to read is simply my opinion, not a statement of fact. In fact, even I'm not so sure about it. I've spent a lot of time thinking about this issue, and I'm still not sure about very much. Thus, not only is the following an opinion, it's a doubtful opinion. So keep that in mind as you read.

STATEMENT- "Honor might actually be measured by degree, and the single sanction may in fact be unjust. At least we ought to remove mandatory belief in the single sanction as a criteria for being a student or an Open Hearing juror."

That depends on your definition of "honor." Is honor simply being a good guy/gal? Someone good and kind who friends can rely on, who professors want to have in their classes, and who contribute generally to the W&L community; that, in my humble opinion, is not honor. That is being a good student, and though it will get you far in any college, it will get you nowhere at Washington and Lee if it is not accompanied by honor.

That said, what IS honor, and can it be measured by degree or not? In Professor Mahon's well-worded Letter to the Editor on the next page, he points out that I should have

said last week that a dishonorable lie is one that the teller intends to benefit by, rather than one he does not. And I agree with this. Let's look at the obvious elephant in the room on this issue, the student who was most recently dismissed from the University because of the Honor System. From all I've heard from his friends and from he himself in his article in the Trident, he seems like a great guy. But if the lie that he told was indeed self-interested, then the act was dishonorable, and in deciding to eject him, the Executive Committee acted correctly.

But that raises the question of whether or not there ought to be a "leniency" system of sorts. The student was an exemplary member of the community apart from the issue at hand, and from the EC's report, his offense had less of an impact than a typical Honor Violation. Ought we to suspend him instead, or offer some other punishment?

My answer is no, for multiple reasons. First, I believe that honor, at least as I define it, is something that is not easily developed, nor is it easily discarded. While I believe it's possible that people may be honorable or dishonorable at different stages of their lives for different reasons, I also believe that, at any given time, a person is one or the other. Have I told a self-interested lie in my life? Yes, of course. No one on campus could possibly claim otherwise without being laughed at. But, and this is a big but, **have I told a self-interested lie while on campus? No.** And it is my firm belief that most of the campus has not done so either.

As if that were not enough of an argument, the White Book also challenges the EC to prove that an Honor Violation constitutes a **serious breach of the W&L community's trust.** Thus, even if you tell a self-interested lie, as some people still on-campus have surely done while here, it must have breached someone's trust. Therefore, it must have caused some sort of problem or done some sort of damage. If we are now applying this rather stringent standard, the appearance that the Honor System punishes "little white lies" goes away. And I can agree that, by this standard, Honor is not measured by degree, and we ought to apply the Single Sanction, and

require students to agree to its appliance.

STATEMENT- "The EC ought to give us more warning before an open hearing"

This is true. While Student Body Hearings, as we've learned, happen very rarely, when one actually occurs, we should have a date the same day that the accused and the EC set a date. If the accused mounts a successful appeal or delay attempt, or some other emergency happens to move the day, then a new day should be set weeks in advance to give students fair warning. Open Hearings are so critically important that students should be able to clear their calendars for that day. Class and other events should be canceled for the entire day. In fact, although it's a time-honored place, the venue should be moved away from Lee Chapel if there isn't enough room, perhaps to the Warner Center, with bailiffs posted to ensure that non-W&L community members do not get in.

The fact that the students did not hear of the near-open hearing this year until two days before the set date is not acceptable, and I will be extremely disappointed if this policy isn't changed. Hopefully the new EC gets the message loud and clear, and certainly it will by the time the upcoming Honor System hearing is held.

STATEMENT- "Dishonorable conduct should not be limited to simple dishonesty such as lying, cheating, and stealing, or other things like that, and should apply to behavior consistent with President Lee's demand that each student be a gentleman (or lady, since 1985)."

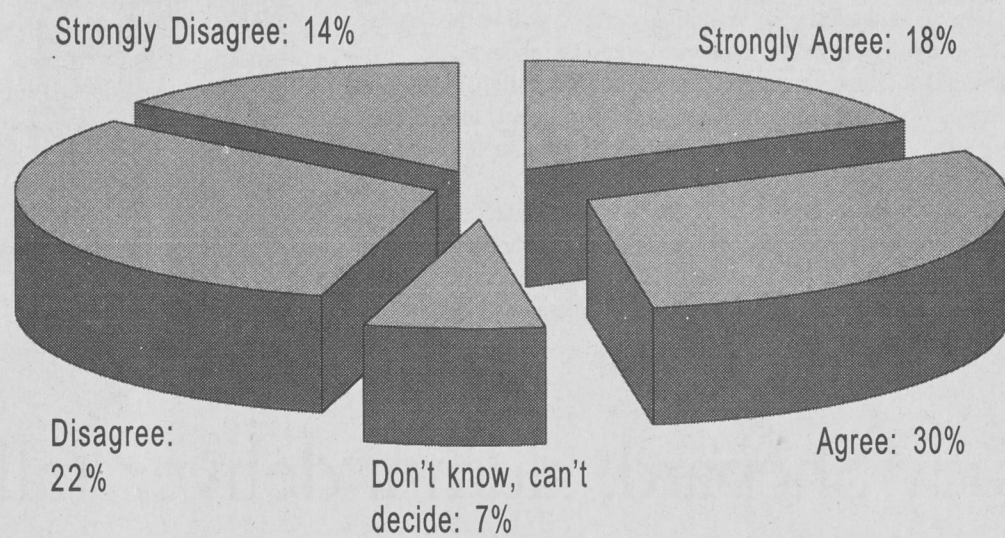
This is a controversial statement, but one that I agree with. Honor, to me, is a combination of honesty, integrity, and decency to other people. Call me an independent prude if you like, but I have been to multiple parties during my time here where I've seen things that I would define as dishonorable. The way some guys behave towards girls here completely disgusts me, as does a litany of other things I've seen my classmates do. I've seen such conduct while the offender was sober, and I've seen it when he/she was drunk. It really makes no difference to me.

Drunkenness, common as it is on our campus, may excuse some behavior, but it is absolutely no excuse for some of the horrifying things I've seen.

So, for the record, I humbly submit to the Washington and Lee Community that the following things should be considered dishonorable without question: Getting someone drunk with the express intent of taking advantage of them, any sort of sexual harassment (you guys know the kind I'm talking about, the kind practiced by that ONE guy at every party), willful destruction of property (or indifference while destroying), intentional presentation of false identification, or intentionally harming another member of the community (half-drunken play-fighting, fine, whatever. Breaking a bottle and charging, no. Hitting a pledge with a baseball bat, no).

Well, that's that. I hope I've at least got you thinking about the Honor System. To all of those who gave me their compliments, comments, and death threats last week, thank you for your feedback. A special thank you to Professor Mahon, who put his thoughts into Groupwise and sent me a much-needed correction. As always, I encourage you to do the same if the urge takes you. I'm nothing if not fallible, and the opinion of several people is more often correct than the opinion of one.

The Ring-tum Phi Quick Poll
Agree or disagree: The Honor System is in need of modification at the fundamental level?



57 students polled, 26 male, 31 female. The poll has +/- 5% margin of error with 95% level of confidence

Quote of the Week

"The best-selling bobblehead doll is Anna-Nicole Smith, followed by Jesus."

-Associated Press Report on the Bobblehead Doll Industry

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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 Media 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.

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Bush, Republican victory a near-certainty

As Mock Convention demonstrated to the student body, the Democratic primary was a race to the bottom, not a search for the best man. Scared by the prospect of either the fiery liberalism of Howard Dean or the pessimistic populism of John Edwards, the party did not so much choose, as settle for John Kerry.

What drives the people working for Kerry 2004 today is not so much excitement about their man as hatred of the president. Alas, with nothing to inspire Democrats at the top of the ticket, the current verve will wither over the long, hot summer.

Come November, only the looniest of the Left and the most rabid Bush-haters will be pulling the lever for the junior senator from Massachusetts. President Bush is going to make those Volvo-driving, granola-eating, tax-raisers cry in their cornflakes with a huge landslide (think 40 states, minimum.) Here's why:

History: The last time a sitting president was defeated by a challenger who was not nor had ever been a governor was 1888 when Benjamin Harrison defeated Grover Cleveland. Sitting senators just can't win. They simply have cast too many votes and have spent too much time bloviating and compromising, not the qualities people look for in a leader. Gov. Bill Owens of Colorado knows this and, looking ahead to 2008, refused to run to replace the retiring Ben Nighthorse Campbell.

No October surprise: In 2000, President Bush was running a comfortable three or four points ahead until the story of his arrest for drunk driving flooded the news. This revelation changed just enough minds to cause a "perfect tie" result. This time around, there will be no such surprises keeping Bush supporters at home. Dubya is an open book; the only candidate that can be harmed by eleventh-hour disclosures is Kerry.

Prosperity: Much to the chagrin of socialists and Democrats everywhere (not necessarily the same people), the economy is humming along. Housing starts, manufacturing numbers, consumer spending and business confidence are all up. Inflation is non-existent and unemployment claims are decreasing. The

good news for President Bush is that the boom cycle has begun early enough that by Election Day, voters will have internalized the great state of the economy. In 1992, the first President Bush suffered defeat despite a growing economy because the recovery had begun too close to Election Day and Americans had failed to notice it. His successor later took credit for Bush's successful economic leadership. Forty-three has been much luckier than his father.

Convention Schedules: The Democrats made a colossal error in scheduling their convention in late July. First, though the president will be using his considerable primary war chest up to the GOP convention during Labor Day weekend, Kerry will have to dip into his general election funds starting in August. Also, anyone who does pay attention to the Democratic convention will be distracted by the summer Olympics that occur between the two conventions. In addition, the election happens so long after the Democratic convention that any post-convention bounce will have long since evaporated. Finally, whether they admit it or not, the third anniversary of 9/11 occurs soon after the GOP convention, which is being held in New York, reminding the nation of President Bush's inspired leadership during that trying time.

Gay Marriage: As much as President Bush wishes that the issue of gay marriage never arose, John Kerry wishes even more passionately that the issue will not be on voters' minds in November. Most Americans are shocked at the thought of same sex couples being married and the Democratic nominee hardly needs the added baggage that he'll be bringing Massachusetts values to America.

Nader: Ralph will not be as much of a factor as he was in 2000, but any votes he earns will only be drawn from John Kerry. They may not add up to much nationwide, but can be decisive in battleground states such as California, Florida and New Mexico.

Given these factors (and the fact that President Bush has done a spectacular job) expect to see red states sweeping the map on November 2.

RIGHT OF THE AISLE
BRETT KIRWAN '04

Students must participate in EC forum

Honor System forum? What Honor System forum? Yes, just in case you haven't heard yet, there will be an EC forum on Wednesday at 4 p.m. in Lee Chapel to address students' concerns about the Honor System and the White Book. I sincerely hope everyone will attend. There has recently been wide debate of the Honor System following the most recent EC verdict. However, it's been three weeks since the canceled open hearing that drew so much ire from students from all walks of life across campus.

The student who withdrew, for those that knew him, is gone from campus now and out of sight means out of mind. Frustration and rage stepped aside first to finals, then to Spring Break, and now to Spring Term and nice weather. Will our apathy—an apathy that grows over time like a cancer—prevent us from acting on the events that incensed so many that an emergency combined issue of the *Phi* and *Trident* had to be published? We as a student body like to complain about things, but all too often we fail to act. Don't let this be the time when you say, "Let somebody else go, I don't care, it doesn't affect me."

The Honor System affects us all. For a long time I held similar sentiments: "I don't have anything to fear because the Honor System is there to protect me. As long as I'm a good person all will be fine." The EC, those elected to

the EC, and the Honor System are very powerful organizations. It took going through one of the worst experiences in my recent memory, that of an EC Hearing, and losing a dear friend to the system for me to fully realize this. The students that we elect through what has been widely agreed to be a simple popularity contest hold our very futures in their hands. Should you be brought up on an honor violation (and yes, it can happen to you), their interpretation of a twenty-page book will decide the course of your life. Don't you want to have a say in that?

I applaud the EC for calling this forum. However, they must do more than just listen to our complaints; they must act on our demands. If they simply patronize us at this forum, then it is a waste of time for all parties involved. But if anything will happen, we must show up, and show up in number.

We like to parade our honor system across the cover of our admissions pamphlets but we fail to truly discuss the way the system works. Do you know the course of an honor violation charge? If not, go to the forum and ask for it to be explained. There are many aspects of the Honor System that recent events have challenged: the way our representatives are elected, the right of the student body to be informed about activities of the EC, the appeals process, issues of confidentiality, Open Hearing jury se-

lection, and the single sanction, among others.

If you are unsure of what I mean about any of these, then write it down on a slip of paper, drop it off in the envelope and have it explained to you on Wednesday.

Want to let the EC know you think there are problems, but aren't comfortable asking questions at a public forum? A group of students, myself included, will be distributing white ribbons (in honor of the white book) across campus beginning Monday to show support for EC reform. Pin one to your shirt as a visible example to the EC of your support. Let them know that you are holding them accountable for their actions.

So turn in questions, wear a ribbon, and then show up on Wednesday. EC President Marie Trimble has said that the EC will try to address any questions and concerns not previously submitted, so if you have a question at the forum, raise your hand and ask. They should be able to answer it. And keep asking questions until you have received an answer that fully satisfies you. If the EC runs out of time, demand that they schedule a second forum. Don't stop because the EC says it's time to go; they have an obligation to us, the people that elected them and the people whose lives they are affecting, to answer every single question we have. First though, you need to show up - your very future could be at stake.

Φ MORE THAN MAINSTREAM
KELLY JO LARSEN '05

A notice from the Executive Committee

Dear W&L Community,

In response to recent interest and criticism regarding the Honor System, the Executive Committee of the Student Body would like to invite you to an open forum at 4 PM on Wednesday, May 5, 2004 at Lee Chapel. In order for the Committee to be fully prepared, we ask that questions be submitted prior to May 4th. Please submit questions at the following locations: (1) an envelope attached to the EC board in the Café/Emporium, (2) an envelope located outside of the EC office, University Center room 122, or (3) by email to ec@wlu.edu. The Committee will begin the forum by addressing previously submitted questions. The

Committee will then open the floor for further comments and concerns. Please remember the Committee cannot discuss specific Executive Committee Hearings.

We look forward to seeing you there. Please feel free to contact the EC with any questions at ec@wlu.edu.

Sincerely,

The Executive Committee of the Student Body: Marie Trimble, Cristin Nunez, Justin Arnold, Marc Granger, Dannel Duddy, Noble Stafford, Thomas Worthy, Wheeler Sparks, Charlie Yates, David Colman, and Lane Morgan.

Letters to the Editor

Professor-Honor question 'fudged'

Dear Editor,

In the light of a recent case before the EC, Caley Anderson (4/26) raises an interesting question, only to fudge it: "The question at stake here is whether or not simply telling a lie, regardless of scale or intent, constitutes an Honor Violation." I say that the question is fudged because a lie is an intentional action, and one cannot talk of an intentional action "regardless of... intent." Anderson's example of a lie, in which "someone invites me to something I really don't want to go to" and "I beg off because of a 'prior engagement' that may or may not exist" contains a second fudge. If he believes that he does indeed have a prior engagement, then there is no lie.

Adapting his example to eliminate the second fudge, we get "someone invites me to something I really don't want to go to" and "I beg off because of a 'prior engagement' that I believe does not exist." This, then, is a lie. To return to the first fudge, Anderson says about his lie "my intent is to spare their feelings. This is not dishonorable, in fact, this is simple etiquette." The problem is that Anderson has confused his intention with his reason for lying. His intention is to deceive the other person. What is his reason for lying? Well, he has already said that he doesn't want to go to the event. So his reason for lying is that he doesn't want to make a commitment to go to the event. In

conclusion, then, he lies to another person, and his reason for lying is that he doesn't want to make a commitment to go to the event. I don't see why this is not dishonorable. It seems perfectly dishonorable to me. Furthermore, his claim that he is lying "in order to spare their feelings," that is, that he is doing the other person a favor by lying to him or her, would appear to be a classic case of self-deception. He lies to another person, in order to get out of making a commitment to do something that he does not want to do, and then he tells himself that he is a good person, since he is sparing the feelings of someone else.

Luckily, Anderson offers this lie merely as a hypothetical case.

However, his question may now be raised, without fudging. Does telling a lie, regardless of scale, constitute an Honor Violation? Take the case of a student who lies to another student, whom she believes intends to set fire to a dorm, that he has informed Security. Is that liar guilty of an Honor Violation? I am confident that that liar would not be found guilty of an Honor Violation. The reason is that her lying would not normally be considered to be a "breach of the community's trust."

However, most lies are not like that. Most lies are self-interested, like Anderson's hypothetical lie. So now the question is: Does telling a self-interested lie, regardless of scale, constitute a breach of the community's trust? My own guess is: No. My own guess is that a self-interested lie

has to be, in some sense that has not been explained by EC, and that is not given in The White Book, serious or harmful, in order to constitute a breach of the community's trust. But if you are now worried, because you don't know when a self-interested lie is serious or harmful, then don't be. Simply never lie, or at least, never lie self-interestedly, and you will be fine.

Sincerely,

James E. Mahon
Dept. of Philosophy

'General' or 'President' Lee?

Dear Editor,

During a tour through Washington and Lee, my son and I happened to pick up a copy of the *Ring-tum Phi*, which we looked through with great enjoyment. While we also enjoyed the Opinions section, I was displeased by your reference to "President Lee." I do not know if you are from the South or not, but the man is generally referred to here as "General Lee," as his accomplishments at the head of the Army of Northern Virginia outshine those as head of Washington and Lee. Otherwise, it was very nice writing, but please refer to this great man properly next time.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Greenwood

See Mystic River

Tonight, Monday May 3rd, at
7:00 in the Elrod Commons

When they were kids growing up together in a rough section of Boston, Jimmy Markum (SEAN PENN), Dave Boyle (TIM ROBBINS) and Sean Devine (KEVIN BACON) spent their days playing stickball on the street, the way most boys did in their blue-collar neighborhood of East Buckingham. Nothing much ever happened in their neighborhood. That is, until Dave was forced to take the ride that would change all of their lives forever.

Twenty-five years later, the three find themselves thrust back together by another life altering event—the murder of Jimmy's 19-year-old daughter. Now a cop, Sean is assigned to the case and he and his partner (LAURENCE FISHBURNE) are charged with unraveling the seemingly senseless crime. They must also stay one step ahead of Jimmy, a man driven by an all consuming rage to find his daughter's killer.

Connected to the crime by a series of circumstances, Dave is forced to confront the demons of his own past. Demons that threaten to destroy his marriage and any hope he may have for a future. As the investigation tightens around these three friends, an ominous story unfolds that revolves around friendship, family and innocence lost too soon.

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BY STEVEN MARINOS / THE RING-TUM PHI

Lacrosse teams dominate ODAC competition Women earn recognition for success

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

LEXINGTON, Va. — Six members of the Old Dominion Athletic Conference champion Washington and Lee women's lacrosse team earned recognition on the All-ODAC team which was announced on Friday. In addition, senior goalie Joanna Perini (Huntington, N.Y./Huntington) was named the ODAC Player of the Year, while Head Coach Jan Hathorn was tabbed ODAC Co-Coach of the Year.

Perini was joined on the first team by fellow seniors, attacker Kelly Taffe (Charlottesville, Va./Albemarle) and defender Sara Jurkowsky (Annapolis, Md./Annapolis), as well as junior midfielder Kitt Murphy (New York, N.Y./St. Catherines). Senior attacker Lee Wheeler (Baltimore, Md./Bryan Mawr) and sophomore midfielder Rachel Wallick (Phoenix, Md./Notre Dame Prep) rounded out the Generals all-conference selections with Second Team All-ODAC appointments.

Perini, who has earned All-Region, All-State and Honorable Mention All-America honors during her career, is earning First Team All-ODAC laurels for the second straight season after posting a 6.42 goals against average and making 140 saves for a .593 save percentage. Her goals against average ranks in the Top 20 nationally, while her save percentage ranks Top 15. Earlier this season she was named an Inside Lacrosse Division III Honorable Mention Player of the Week.

Taffe is making her second straight first team appearance after earning second team recognition in 2002. This season she has notched a team-high 66 points on a team-leading 53 goals with 13 assists on her way to setting school records for career goals (179) and career points (234). Murphy, a two-time selection, has scored 11 points on nine goals and two assists and is third on the team with 23 draw controls.

Jurkowsky is making her first appearance as an all-conference selection after starting all 18 games on defense, leading the team with 49 ground



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

PLAYER OF THE YEAR. Senior goalie Joanna Perini garnered the top ODAC honor.

balls and ranking among the squad leaders with 21 caused turnovers.

Wheeler, a first teamer in 2001, earned her second straight appointment to the second team after ranking second on the team with 50 points on a team-high 17 assists with 33 goals. Wallick earned her first All-ODAC laurel after starting all 18 games at midfielder, scoring five goals, grabbing 36 ground balls and co-leading the team with 24 draw controls.

Sixteen-year mentor Hathorn, who is earning Coach of the Year honors for the sixth time overall and the third time in the last four years, led the Generals (15-3) to their sixth ODAC title and fifth berth in the NCAA Division III Tournament. Ranked 11th in the country, W&L awaits who it will play in the upcoming NCAA Tournament.

Men defeat Roanoke in championship Generals finish season undefeated against ODAC

W&L SPORTS
RELEASE

LEXINGTON, Va. — Eighth-ranked and top-seeded Washington and Lee jumped out to a 6-0 lead midway through the second period en route to an 11-8 win over 16th-ranked and second-seeded Roanoke in the ODAC Men's Lacrosse Championship game on Sunday afternoon at Wilson Field.

Junior attackman Gavin Molinelli



STEVEN MARINOS / THE RING-TUM PHI

PUSHING THROUGH. Junior attackman Gavin Molinelli attempts to bypass a Roanoke defender in the team's victorious ODAC championship game.

(Northport, N.Y./Northport) tallied two goals and one assist during the Generals' game-opening run. Senior goalie Ansel Sanders (White Stone, Va./Woodberry Forest) kept the Maroons off the board until 2:48 remained in the first half by saving each of the first 11 shots he faced.

However, the Maroons did make a run, tallying a trio of goals before the half and the first two goals of the third quarter to cut the Generals' lead to 6-5 with 7:42 remaining in the third period.

W&L responded by ending the period with two straight goals for an 8-5 advantage heading into the final quarter. Following a goal by Roanoke senior midfielder Jeff Pattison (Mercer Island, Wash./Mercer Island) with 11:48 remaining to cut the score to 8-6, the Generals ripped off three-straight for an 11-6 lead with 4:21 left in the game. The Maroons added two extra-man goals in the final 2:32, but could not get any closer.

Molinelli and senior attackman Mike McNamara (Cockeysville, Md./Loyola) led the Generals with three goals and one assist each. Senior attackman Matt Fink (Wilmington, Del./Tatnall) found the net twice, while senior midfielder Mark McLewee (Timonium, Md./Dulaney) added one goal and one assist. Sanders tied a career-high with 16 saves in net.

Senior attacker Kris Davis (Parkton, Md./Hereford) led the Maroons with two goals and an assist. Freshman attackman Jon Mason (Orangeville, Ontario/Orangeville) added two goals, while sophomore Matt Madalon (Darien, Conn./Darien) posted seven saves in goal.

With the win, W&L claimed its eighth ODAC Championship and the league's accompanying NCAA Division III Tournament bid. The NCAA Tournament brackets will be announced on College Sports Television on Sun., May 9.

Loss to Marlins ends baseball team's hopes of winning ODAC Championship

SPORTS INFORMATION AND
JOHN HYLAND

LYNCHBURG, Va. - Washington and Lee recorded a 4-3 victory over Virginia Wesleyan to force a second game in the 2004 Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Baseball Tournament on Sunday afternoon, but fell to the Marlins in game two, 12-8.

The decision marks the second straight ODAC runner-up finish for W&L after the Generals finished behind Virginia Wesleyan in the 2003 ODAC Tournament. Senior left hander Peter Dean, senior right fielder Bryan Mulhern, senior left fielder Paul Sibley, junior catcher Zach Bausch and freshman third baseman Clayton Edwards were all named to the 2004 ODAC All-Tournament team for their performance in the Generals Championship run.

In game one the Marlins took a 3-0 lead fol-

lowing the top of the second inning, but saw that lead evaporate after W&L sophomore first baseman Taylor McConnell connected on a three-run homer in the bottom of the second to tie the game at 3-3.

In the seventh and game deciding inning, Sibley led off the frame with a single and advanced to second compliments of a sacrifice bunt by senior shortstop Austin Allain. Sophomore second baseman Scott Gosselink brought Sibley home in the next at-bat with a double down the left field line.

Dean recorded his second complete-game victory of the tournament after notching five strikeouts and holding Virginia Wesleyan to 10 hits. Gosselink, Sibley, Bausch and freshman designated hitter Richard Garland all recorded two hits for the Generals.

In game two the Marlins again took an early lead with an 8-4 advantage following the second

inning, but again saw W&L climb back into striking distance. The Generals got as close as 10-8 in the top of the eighth inning, but couldn't maintain the late game surge as Virginia Wesleyan added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth.

Bausch went 3-for-5 with two RBI and a run scored to lead W&L, while five other Generals recorded a pair of hits. Senior right hander Dan Kagey fell to 6-3 after giving up three hits and four runs in the first inning.

In their opening round playoff game on Thursday afternoon, the Generals faced second seeded Lynchburg, a team that had swept W&L during the regular season. Dean improved his record to 8-2 on the year with a win, striking out an impressive twelve batters over nine innings. Edwards was the hero offensively for W&L, finishing 3 for 4 with an RBI and a run.

The Generals next faced fourth seeded

Hampden-Sydney on Friday evening, another team that had swept them during the regular season. This time however, W&L was unable to avenge their previous losses. The Generals tied the score at three in the top of the sixth, only to see the Tigers respond once again with three runs, all with two outs, in the bottom of the inning, for a 6-3 lead en route to a 6-4 victory.

The loss placed the Generals in the loser's bracket and they faced Lynchburg once again on Saturday afternoon in an elimination game. The Generals would end up victorious, 6-2.

The win eliminated Lynchburg and set-up a rematch with Hampden-Sydney. Again the Generals started quickly with five runs in the first two innings, highlighted by freshman designated hitter Richard Garland's three run homer. The Generals would go on to win, 6-5.

The team wraps up the season 21-16 overall.



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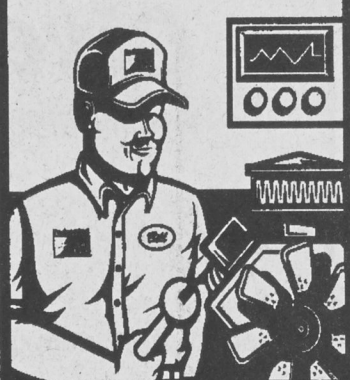
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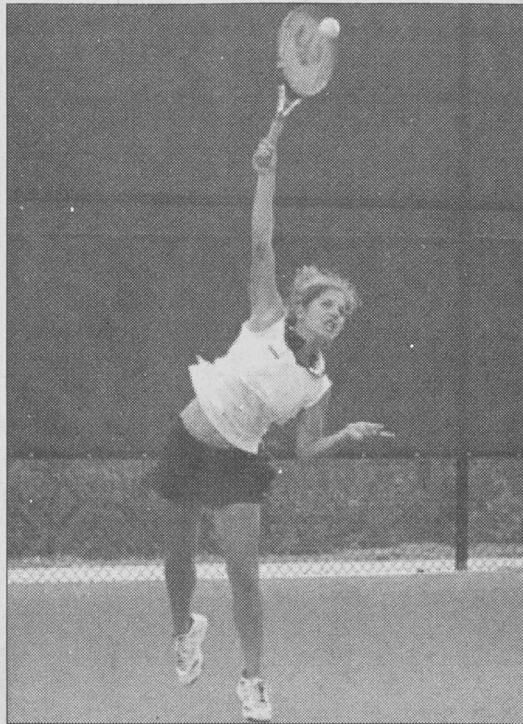
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Women's tennis advances to NCAA Nationals with wins over Mary Washington, Swarthmore

By **KIM GUNST**
 STAFF WRITER



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

STRETCH. Women's tennis continues to win.

The Washington and Lee women's tennis team downed Mary Washington on Saturday and Swarthmore on Sunday to advance in the NCAA tournament.

The women preformed strongly in their three-day tournament, taking all sixth singles flights and all three doubles flights.

The Generals, who scored a total of 72 points, were followed by ODAC competitors Hollins (51), Emory & Henry (36.5), Roanoke (28), Lynchburg (20.5), Bridgewater (19), Virginia Wesleyan (19), Guilford (13.5), Randolph-Macon (10.5), Sweet Briar (10.5), Eastern Mennonite (6), Randolph-Macon Woman's (3.5).

Junior Lindsay Hagerman had a 6-1, 6-1 win over Hollins in the finals single action. Freshman Kristen McClung was also victorious with a 6-0, 6-3 win over Hollins at no. 2 singles action. And No. 3 singles player senior Elizabeth Law lead the women to a victory, winning the championships with a 6-1, 6-2 win.

Freshman Ginny Wortham, sophomore Lisa Mabry, and freshman Katie Kingsbury also put forth a tremendous effort, winning all their singles matches as well.

In doubles action, the Generals continued to come out on top. Teammates Hagerman and Wortham defeated Hollins, 6-2, 6-1. Junior Lora Farris and McClung beat Roanoke, 6-1, 6-2. And Law and Mabry downed Hollins, 6-2, 6-2.

The Generals advanced by playing Swarthmore yesterday. In singles competition, the Generals won five of six matches. In doubles, the team won two of three.

Hagerman commented that the team was already making an amazing comeback. "It was great because we won No. 1 doubles and lost No. 3, but our No. 2 team won a really key tiebreaker," she said while watching her teammates yesterday.

She believes the freshmen are playing like older, more experienced players. "They're holding their own throughout the competition," Hagerman said. "As a result, we're just as strong as last year."

If the Generals win, they will progress to NCAA Nationals in Memphis May 12-17.

Let's hope that Bonds does not overtake baseball's true great players

By **RYAN GRITTER**
 STAFF WRITER

All over the news and magazines these days are discussions about Barry Bonds concerning his alleged steroid use and the legitimacy of his statistics. The split seems to be about 50/50 between those who like Bonds and those who don't. Well for those of you who blindly follow Bonds (this doesn't include you, Giants fans), this is why you should not be a fan of Barry Bonds.

To begin with, let's clear up this steroid business. There are so many people discussing whether or not Barry even did steroids, to which I respond, "Are you freaking kidding me, LOOK AT HIM!!!" Between the 1999 and 2000 seasons Bonds went from a speedy, athletic out-

fielder with good pop to a muscle-bound hulk that can't move. If he made this transformation without the use of steroids or other illegal supplements then I would really like to meet his personal trainer...not that I would be able to afford him. Many aging players had taken steroids and then all of a sudden hit more home runs than ever before, and Bonds did the same exact thing. I asked minor leaguer Josh Pressley (Mets) a few years ago how bad he thought the steroid problem was and he estimated that 75% of position players use steroids. Though tests have come out that indicate a measly 7%, let's remember that these tests were announced to the players months before and that Latin American players were not allowed to be tested. This survey told us absolutely nothing, except that 7%

of minor league baseball players are so stupid that they could probably learn something from Jessica Simpson. Having said this, steroids are everywhere in baseball, and all you have to look for is a player whose body changes dramatically for the better over an off-season and whose slugging percentage rises dramatically and you can bet that there has been some foul play involved. I salute Bonds for going right up to the edge of immobility but not crossing that line as Gary Sheffield did while with the Marlins.

Now the question becomes, "Does this taint Barry Bonds' statistics?" Of course it does! When Albert Belle hit 50 homeruns and 50 doubles in a season but then was caught with a corked bat, his stats were tainted to the point that no one

considers that year an actual achievement. Steroid use is far more of an advantage to a player than corking his bat, though the combination can be ridiculous <cough Sammy Sosa>. The impact this has had on his career in startling. Bonds' average, home runs, and stolen bases were all beginning to drop as he turned 35, which is to be expected. Then all of a sudden, between the ages of 35 and 40, he has hit 223 home runs...SO FAR! Retirement probably would have come within three years had he not started juicing, and instead he may pass a beloved American icon, Babe Ruth, who only used the kind of juice that you find at W and L parties. I just hope he doesn't make it all the way to Aaron. But this isn't the only unfair advantage that Bonds has gained in the last few years.

Possibly more irritating than the steroid use, is the use of the bionic arm. With the body armor Bonds wears, I'm surprised he can even tell that he's been hit, no less feel any actual pain. Because of this body armor and the fact that pitchers can be tossed for looking at a hitter funny give him the ability to stand on top of the plate with no consequences. The league has completely stolen the inside part of the plate from pitchers whose last names aren't Martinez and Clemens. This gives Bonds the ability to hit any pitch for a homerun. Pitchers need to be able to brush guys off the plate and reclaim the inside corner without fear of being ejected, and batters need to be able to feel the pain when they get too close and get pegged. I reminisce on the days when Bob Gibson would

peg you your next at bat after a home run whether you taunted or not (What?! I can reminisce about times before I was born if I want to!).

Don't get me wrong here, I recognize that Bonds is a fantastic athlete, and that he is one of the greatest hitters of our time. I even agree that Bonds is clearly a Hall of Famer, but the thought of him breaking Aaron's record makes me cringe. Bonds would be a great hitter without the steroids, but he wouldn't win a batting title without them and he certainly wouldn't have hit 73 home runs in a season without them. My only hope is that with how tightly strung Bonds' body is with all his muscles that he will soon tear a hamstring, I dunno probably walking up the steps out of the dugout, and stop short of Ruth or Aaron.

Ritter awarded NCAA scholarship

W&L SPORTS
 RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Washington and Lee senior swimmer Eric Ritter (Birmingham, Ala./Mountain Brook) has been awarded a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Postgraduate Scholarship. The award is a \$7,500 scholarship for academic work beyond the baccalaureate degree as a full-time or part-time graduate student.

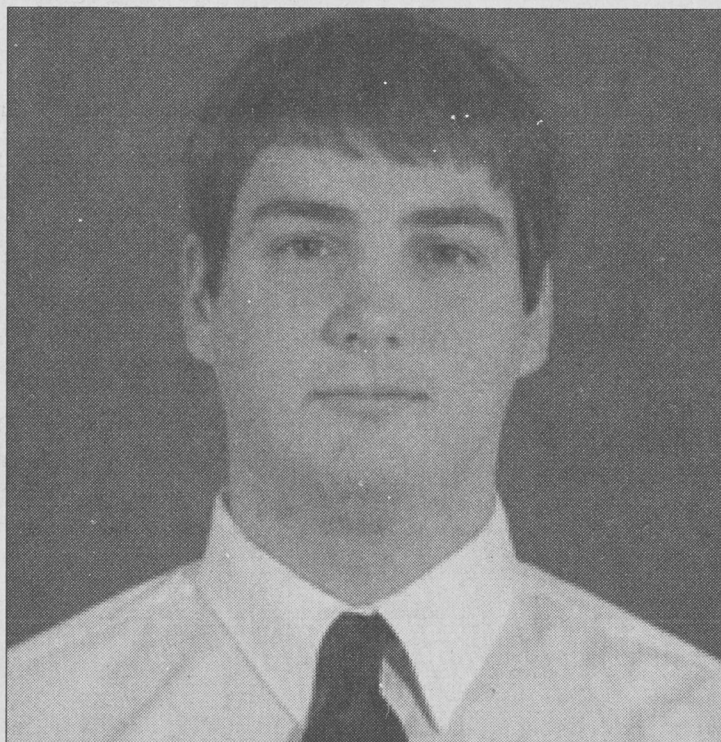
Ritter was one of 58 awardees from NCAA All-Divisions who received the scholarship after participating in a winter sport. The NCAA awards 174 scholarships annually in the fall, winter and spring seasons. Football player John Melillo '03 and tennis player Erika Proko '03 both received one of the 174 scholarships during the 2002-03 school year. Ritter's selection marked the 22nd time a W&L athlete has been selected to receive an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship since 1970.

A biology and classics major, Ritter claims a

3.879 cumulative grade-point average and plans on attending medical school at the University of Alabama.

In swimming, Ritter qualified for the NCAA Championships all four years, earning All-America honors five times. A three-time College Swimming Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Academic All-American, Ritter will graduate holding school records in the 100 backstroke (51.07), 200 backstroke (1:51.91), 200 medley relay (1:36.12) and 400 medley relay (3:30.18). As a senior, Ritter led W&L to a 7-0 record and a Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championship. A First Team All-Bluegrass Mountain Conference selection, Ritter finished seventh in the 100 back and 13th in the 200 back at the 2004 NCAA Championships.

In addition to his work in the pool and classroom, Ritter has also served as an assistant swimming coach in his hometown of Birmingham, Ala., and has been a volunteer with the Lexington Rescue Squad.



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

SWIMMER, SCHOLAR. The NCAA awarded senior swimmer Eric Ritter with its Postgraduate scholarship.

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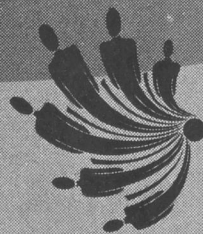
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Postbaccalaureate Premedical Program

No student should go without these five professors

As June 3 marks the end of my undergraduate career here at W&L, I would like to leave feeling as though I did what I could while I was here to improve the lives of others on campus, especially those who will remain for at least another year. It has been a long four years, both the best and worst of my life, and if the few pieces of wisdom I have gathered through my experiences can be manifested

Φ THE NAKED TRUTH
 COURTNEY PERRY '04

as helpful suggestions for others then I am obliged to share what I can. If, however, my suggestions fail to be of any use, well then I can't blame myself for trying.

Since W&L is, first and foremost, an institution of higher learning, arguably the most important aspect of life here on campus is classes, and in turn, one of the most important aspects of classes is the professors. Being a C-school major, I have had very little experience with the vast majority of professors on campus (and most of the ones I had freshman year are actually not even here anymore), but the good professors I have had here have been excellent, and I highly recommend taking their classes before you graduate. Here are my top five favorite professors (drumroll please!)

1. **Professor Marc Conner—English.** Do not leave this campus without having had at least one of this man's classes. End of story. I had him both for 105 and for Shakespeare this past term. Overall, Prof. Conner is by far the most engaging professor I've ever had the pleasure of listening to, and his extensive knowledge of subject and enthusiasm for material is unmatched. Albeit a tough grader

with high expectations, he is very fair and genuinely interested in his students. You will learn more from one of his classes than possibly all of your other W&L classes combined, and you are wasting your four years here if you forego the opportunity of taking his classes.

2. **Professor Robert Ballenger—Management.** This really only applies to C-school majors, but if there is anyone else, from any major who wants to learn the basics about computers, infrastructures, or anything else IT, Professor Ballenger's Management Information Systems class is an excellent starting point. Professor Ballenger is a tough grader as well (extremely anal retentive when it comes to details) but is usually very willing to work with students and answer questions. Be prepared to wait in lines outside his office in the days before projects are due. However, the amount of information you will learn in his classes, taught with a genuine interest and expertise (he is very



Ballenger

knowledgeable as far as his subject matter goes) is absolutely vital to any C-school major expecting to go out into the business world after graduation. On the downside, this past year has seen the development of many extracurricular IT projects in which Prof. Ballenger has played a major role. While great for the future of the univer-



Conner

sity, these added stresses and time commitments have sometimes come at the cost of his students, who have then had to deal with his unapproachable and, at times, curt manner.

3. **Professor Lyn Wheeler—Accounting.** Again, this is really for C-school majors, but Accounting 201 (basic financial accounting) is good stuff to know for anyone, really. Professor Wheeler is very in-tune with his students and has a real eye for the social culture at W&L. He makes jokes in class that actually make debits and credits funny and thus not painful to listen to at 8 o'clock in the freakin' morning. He is very friendly, and always helpful (as an advisee, I should

know—I tend to need a lot of help), and knows a ton of people, both on campus, and in the working world. His tax classes are also very practical for anyone who wants to learn to do his own taxes.

4. **Professor Robert Culpepper—Management.** Another C-school professor, however, Professor Culpepper teaches Business Law, with is obviously great for pre-law students as well as a requirement for management. Professor Culpepper is hysterical, and he looks and talks like Tommy Lee Jones, which kind of makes you feel like you're on the set of the *The Fugitive* while listening to his lecture on legal matters during class. Okay, maybe



Wheeler



Culpepper

not, but it was cool nonetheless. Seriously though, he is an expert on his subject matter as well, and is one of the most entertaining professors I've ever had.

5. **Professor Dennis Garvis—Management.** Professor Garvis is pretty much strictly C-school. He teaches Strategic Management (the C-school capstone) as well as Statistics and E-commerce Management (that I'm taking right now). The best thing I liked about Professor Garvis's teaching style is fairness. He has an excellent ability to listen to students, encourage discussion, and then he can explain an issue with a degree of knowledge, intelligence and understanding that reflects a very high intellect, while still being able to explain things at a level a student can understand. He represents the epitome in catering to an audience in that he is able to use language and examples as needed, depending upon the knowledge and experiences of his audience, in order to clearly and succinctly get his point across.

And there you have it. The five best professors I've had at W&L. While four out of five are technically C-school professors, many of the classes they teach are practical real-world applications that would sincerely benefit any student venturing out into the working world after graduation. After all, that is what we're here for, right? Preparation for the real world? I'll let you know in a couple of years.



Garvis

Silver screen lights up again at renovated State

STAFF WRITERS

Students who are sick and tired of having to drive to Roanoke or Staunton to get a selection of latest release movies, fear no more. With the opening last Friday of the renovated State Theater, Hollywood has come once again to Lexington.

After a four-month hiatus, the State joins the Commons Theater and Hull's Drive-In as local big-screen options. While its absence hampered the in-town entertainment scene, management trusts that the improvements made the wait well worth it.

Nearly every fixture was refurbished inside and out, and new chairs and Dolby Surround sound have replaced out-of-date equipment. Outside the auditoriums, the concessions stand now sports a drastically updated appearance and more selections.

Soon patrons will be able to buy tickets and check movie times online once the

new computerized ticketing system is put in place.

Built nearly 70 years ago, the State had been showing its age for some time. Yet as the only viable in-town movie-going option with the shuttering of the Lyric Theater two decades ago, the State seemingly had little incentive to improve itself.

All that changed with the sudden closing of the theater in January, which took most students by surprise and left a void for those who had grown accustomed to being able to walk to the local movie house.

Management hopes that their renovations will pay off as ticket prices have increased. Only time will tell if students are willing to fork over extra cash for a revamped experience. In an era of stadium-seating and twenty-screen multiplexes, the demand for theaters like the State has been dwindling. As a full-price competitor to the free Commons and cut-rate Hull's Drive-in, it does not have students' undivided attention.



ANDREW LATIMER / *The Ring-tum Phi*

LET'S GO OUT TO THE LOBBY. Just about everything at the State is brand new.

PLAYING THIS WEEK:

- Scooby Doo 2*
- 13 Going on 30*
- Passion of the Christ*

What did W&L do to my baby?

During my son's junior year (2002) at Washington & Lee, I decided to subscribe to the *Ring-Tum Phi* in hopes to be educated on current events on campus. I was enjoying the weekly issues until the end of September when I was faced with the first article written by my son, Tim T. Smith (aka Absolut Fratlord). His first column was an exclusive feature on The Colonnade

Club (the ultimate hooking-up club). What an ice-breaker! This article left me more educated than I cared to be.

Though I told myself that this article was just an isolated incident and don't expect more stories to follow from my own pride and joy of a son. I must have been in a temporary state of denial because the column has continued for almost two years including a columnist award to boot.

How has the mom of the Absolut Fratlord learned to cope with her son who has gained copious amounts of fortune cookie wisdom during his glory days riding the Greek Central rail in the infamous Lex Vegas?

Coping Strategies—
Validating Feelings: Wake up husband and father of the Fratlord in the wee hours with exclamations that he has quoted us again and this cannot be our son writing these articles.

Self-Mutilation: Pulling out the gray hairs that have multiplied since the Fratlord has hit the presses.

Research Family Tree: Maybe there is a genetic disposition for Fratlordness through the gene pool that has raised it's hairy head.

Disassociation: Try to disassociate oneself from the Fratlord, but instead finding notoriety by being name tagged on parent's week-end as "Mother of the Absolut Fratlord".

Join the Club: If you can't beat it, join it. Learn the Lex language.

- Hooking-up
- Lex Vegas
- Greek Central
- Frat Cups
- Independents
- The Dating Rules (Area Codes, Importing)
- Living for Spring Term

Blame the Environment: Maybe the Fratlordness is a product of his previous environments or associations.

The dungeon at Gilliam 111 with Denbow. The debauchery at the Lambda Chi house with Early and fellow frat brothers.

The Pit on Randolph St. with McLroy and Ali Or just too many theme parties!

Well, whatever caused his evolution from a high school geek to the Absolut Fratlord will never be fully understood. I can say, though, that Lex Vegas will never be the same after the likes of this wild and wonderful West Virginian, Tim T. Smith (Absolut Fratlord '04) ends his column that always expresses the wisdom that he gained from somewhere other than me.

I am anxious to read the last of his articles and hope that he can pass this baton on to another highly qualified candidate whose parents can share in this life changing metamorphosis.

Φ FRATLORD'S MOM
 MARY LOU SMITH

Cystic Fibrosis Ball affordable and fun, for a good cause

BY ERIN JULUS
 MANAGING EDITOR

Washington and Lee's second annual Charity Ball for the Benefit of Cystic Fibrosis is to be held Saturday, May 15 from 7-10 p.m.

Organizers are hoping for a better turnout this year, since only 65 people attended last year. This year, organizer Jonathan Lefler invited 3200 people to the Ball, and said he expects about one-third of them to attend.

Unlike most events at W&L, the Ball features three sets of scheduled dances, which will include a polka, Virginia Reel, a country dance "Pop Goes the Weasel" and a waltz. They will be lead by dancemaster Becky McKenzie and be preceded by instruction.

Burr Datz's band, Monrovia, will provide the music.

Tickets will be sold in the Commons from 11-1 the week before the Ball and may be swiped home. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$35 per couple. All the

profits will go to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Cystic Fibrosis is an incurable genetic disease that affects almost 30,000 adults and children in the United States. Money raised for the Foundation supports research and more than 117 certified care centers around the nation that provide physicians, nurses, therapy, and treatment to those living with the disease.

W&L's Ball is one of hundreds of events held during May nationwide to support the Foundation.

quick hits

phi@wlu.edu

Φ Overheard at a cocktail party: "I love PIKA's little weenies."

Φ Join us on May 22nd for the unveiling of President Burish's statue at Goshen Pass in recognition of his saving Spring Term.

Φ Today is World Press Freedom Day!

Φ *Gone With the Wind* won the Pulitzer Prize only 67 years ago today.

Φ Just to add to the recent vandalism in the freshmen parking lot: whoever backed into the front grill of my Volvo cost me \$300.

Φ The other night, I saw the strangest thing: On the Commons third floor, there was a very strange girl muttering the lyrics to Britney Spears' "Toxic" while dancing/flopping around on the floor. Very, very odd. Someone needs to get that girl some help.

Φ To guys: Jeans are hot, khakis are not.

Φ I wonder if the Cadavers are related to the Knights Who Say Ni?

Φ Wind Ensemble Russia Tour 2004: Lexington does Moscow and St. Petersburg! Good times, good times.

Φ Thanks to the Gay Straight Alliance and the other student organizations for bringing Judy Shepard to W&L!

Φ Graham-Lees Second Floor Commons side would like to invite Helen Hughes to Hooters on May 11, 12, or 13. The decision is up to you, Helen.

Φ Many thanks to the visiting Lynchburg College girls for the entertainment.

Φ Popping your collar is not a sound fashion statement.

Φ Aqua socks are not cute at all.

Φ Why are there so many pictures of the girl in the black and green polka dot dress at Kite and Key on Party Pics?

Φ For the guy looking over my shoulder this weekend, my PIN number is 4612.

Φ Don't forget Mother's Day.

Φ I took \$11 to the State last night expecting to get a Coke and a ticket, but was wrong.

Φ Kudos to all the winning sports teams, men's tennis, women's tennis, baseball, men's lacrosse and women's lacrosse. Keep it going!

Φ W&L undergrads now have their own 30-year-old. Happy belated Birthday to Ethan.

Φ Isn't it terribly unfair to have two rainy Spring Terms in a row?

Φ Congratulations to the whizzes that decided not to move the Saturday night alumni party from the Front Lawn to the Warner Center. Trying to eat, drink and stay dry was quite an adventure.

Φ Who is the student always sitting in her yellow Mini in front of Gaines?

Φ Ha! Take that, Al! No one is listening to Air America. Limbaugh is king!

Φ Blue hair? Isn't that for old women? Who says W&L isn't diverse?

Φ You're spot on! The Orbit gum girl is smokin'!

Φ Send your anonymous Quick Hits and tales of Alumni Weekend embarrassments to phi@wlu.edu.