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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI

VOLUME CVIII, No. 3
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2004

The student voice of Washington and Lee University since 1897

EC hosts open forum, students demand changes

BY ERIN JULIUS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Executive Committee president Marie Trimble led an open discussion about the Honor System last Wednesday in Lee Chapel. A panel of Executive Committee members began by answering pre-submitted questions and addressing common concerns regarding the Honor System.

The floor was then opened to discussion. Brett Kirwan, '04, was the first student to speak.

Kirwan expressed concern about the two-thirds rule in handing over guilty verdicts. Only two-thirds of the EC members must vote 'guilty.' Kirwan said a guilty verdict should require a unanimous decision on the part of the EC.

Kelly Jo Larsen, '05 then spoke about accountability and the difficulties in holding EC members accountable in Honor trials.

"My question is how are we supposed to know if our elected representatives are out of touch with the values of the student body...do we purge the entire EC?" Larsen said later. "Unless they give us the numbers and names of the vote or provide some other way of accountability, they can't just say we have the power to vote them out."

The EC intends to begin discussing the issues raised in the open forum at its Monday night meeting, said Lane Morgan, class of '07 representative.

"A lot of questions really made us think about why we do the things we do instead of just following procedure," said EC President Marie Trimble.

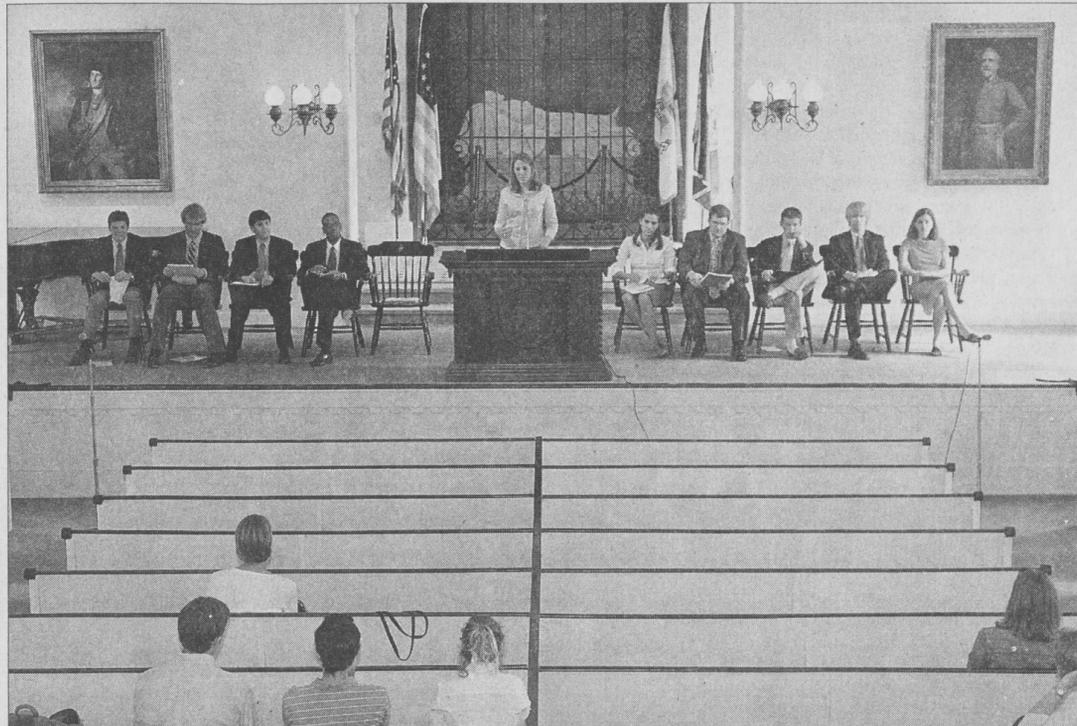
Questions submitted prior to the open forum helped the EC understand what issues are important to the student body. "We could see main areas of concern and we were able to address them," said Morgan.

Trimble said a few changes would be made in the short-term. Freshmen EC candidates will hold "candidate platforms," called by the EC President, in order to students a chance to see who is running and to force candidates to think about why they want to get involved.

Budget allocations will also change next year. "We will hold groups very accountable for what they did and what they spent this year," Trimble said.

EC Secretary Justin Arnold, '05L, said the most common concerns raised in the open forum were in regards to the confidentiality clause.

Also, "the openness of the Executive Committee's operations and the secretive nature of EC hearings," were important



Open Forum. Students listen as EC President Marie Trimble speaks at the EC Open Forum held last Wednesday afternoon in Lee Chapel. STEVEN MARINOS/ Ring-tum Phi

concerns raised by students, he said.

"Better communication between the EC and the student body," is also an EC goal for next year, Trimble said. "Confidentiality is a legal issue," she said, but the EC plans to put more

postings, "about the White Book" on the EC board next year.

"Our Honor System is only as strong as student, faculty, administrator and alumni trust in it," said class of '05 representative Thomas Worthy, who said the EC had difficulty in schedul-

ing the open forum at a "more opportune time."

"Lately I've been concerned about the campus opinion of the Honor System and I was hoping that the open forum would provide a good discussion," he said. Worthy said he

sees the open forum as only the beginning. "While I feel the open forum was successful, I was disappointed in the low turnout and encourage all student to maintain and open dialogue with EC members," he said.

Pi Beta Phi remains highest GPA

BY CALEY ANDERSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

Today, the Phi takes a look at Winter Term grades, and reports on the standings of the various Greek organizations. Greek organizations are also compared to last term and as compared to Independent men and women.

Grades overall took a slight boost after Fall Term, a common occurrence as students (especially freshmen) get habituated back to W&L and become more comfortable with their studies.

Leading the pack among the 20 social groups (including the Independent men and women) was, as has become habit, sorority Pi Beta Phi, with a remarkable GPA of 3.399.

Sorority Kappa Alpha Theta came very close to knocking Pi Phi off their number one throne with a GPA of 3.385.

Rounding out the top five were sorority Chi Omega, with a GPA of 3.363, fraternity Sigma Nu, the highest placing fraternity, and fraternity Phi Gamma Delta, 3.309.

With Pi Phi and Sigma Nu taking the top places among the sororities and fraternities, the other end of the spectrum was occupied by the lowest ranking sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, who finished 14th overall, behind the other four sororities and the independent women with a GPA of 3.205.

The dubious distinction of last overall went to Chi Psi this term, a disappointing setback after the fraternity's strong Fall Term. With a GPA of 3.049, Chi Psi finished behind all of the other Greek organizations as well as the independent men and women.

Among the biggest gainers over last term were Sigma Chi and Sigma Nu.

The biggest drops were by Lambda Chi Alpha and Chi Psi. Lambda Chi Alpha, which was last term's highest ranked fraternity, was only the 7th highest-ranked fraternity this term with a GPA of 3.229.

Also performing notably well were the independent men and women. Independent women tend to finish in the middle of the pack, while independent men are usually slightly below average.

With GPAs of 3.269 and 3.225, the independent women and men, respectively, finished 7th and 12th overall. This represents a gigantic leap for independent men, who last term finished with a GPA of 3.085, and who finished with a GPA of only 3.197 last Winter Term.

The cumulative female GPA was 3.304, while the cumulative male GPA was 3.200. Overall, students at Washington and Lee scored a GPA of 3.249.

1. Pi Beta Phi	(3.399)	12. Lambda Chi Alpha	(3.229)
2. Kappa Alpha Theta	(3.385)	13. Independent Men	(3.225)
3. Chi Omega	(3.363)	14. Pi Kappa Alpha	(3.225)
4. Sigma Nu	(3.321)	15. Kappa Kappa Gamma	(3.205)
5. Phi Gamma Delta	(3.309)	16. Kappa Sigma	(3.165)
6. Sigma Chi	(3.286)	17. Beta Theta Pi	(3.136)
7. Independent women	(3.269)	18. Phi Delta Theta	(3.119)
8. Kappa Delta	(3.263)	19. Sigma Alpha Epsilon	(3.106)
9. Pi Kappa Phi	(3.257)	20. Kappa Alpha	(3.073)
10. Phi Kappa Sigma	(3.250)	21. Chi Psi	(3.049)
11. Phi Kappa Psi	(3.239)		

HISTORIC WALK



Graduation. Law Commencement occurred last Saturday for the first time in front of Lee Chapel. STEVEN MARINOS/ Ring-tum Phi

HRA Food Drive feeds 40 families

BY EMILY EDWARDS
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

In late December and early January Melanie Barr, Serena Smith, and Marinda Harrell began planning for a Spring "Thanksgiving" Food Drive sponsored by the Human Rights Alliance.

Barr and Smith got the idea from a Washington, D.C. high school that raises over 40,000 pounds of food each year for area food banks.

Harrell and Barr also coordinated a Thanksgiving drive in November that raised 7,000 pounds of food, 2,000 of which went to the local food bank.

This month's Spring Drive started on April 27. Barr, Smith, and student volunteers mapped out the city of Lexington and



MY CUP RUNNETH OVER. The Nabors Service League suite overflows with food donations for needy Lexington families. CORBIN BLACKFORD/ The Ring-Tum Phi

delivered bags donated by Kroger to most houses in the area. Attached to the bags were fliers asking for food donations that would be picked up at a

given date in the next two weeks. Volunteers will then take the food to the Nabors Service League suite and will weigh and sort the food accordingly.

"We encourage everyone to come out and volunteer...[The food drive] gives everyone in the W&L community and Lexington residents the chance to help those in their community in need," said Barr of this Spring's drive.

Barr hopes to raise six tons of food and encourages any monetary or food donations. Donation boxes are located in the fraternity and sorority houses and throughout campus.

When the drive ends on May 14, 40 needy families in Lexington will have a month's worth of food and a turkey. The remaining food will be given to the local food bank. Contact Melanie Barr at barrm@wlu.edu for further information.

Students plan summer

BY CATHERIN SWAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

As the school year draws to a close, many students find themselves confirming summer plans and ensuring that their summers will be fun and rewarding. For many students, this involves seeking out a summer internship in the area of their major or future career. Because Lexington is limited in terms of internship opportunities, students often find themselves traveling to metropolitan areas in order to find a position that interests them.

Employers use internships as a means of identifying talent. This process can pay off; approximately 38% of company's interns become employees. The journalism department is the only department that requires an internship to complete the major. Still, many other W&L students seek out internships on their own time. For those seeking an internship, visiting career services can be the perfect place to start.

"From our perspective, it's a very important part of the career development process," said Beverly Lorig, Director of Career Services. Lorig emphasized that career services can help students market themselves to different companies. They also have a wide variety of resources available for students beginning their search, including alumni resources, that are free of cost

E-mail news briefs to phi@wlu.edu



Fortune writer to visit campus Tuesday

Bethany McLean, a senior writer for Fortune magazine, will discuss "The Smartest Guys in the Room: The Amazing Rise and Scandalous Fall of Enron," on Tuesday, May 11, at 4:30 p.m. in the Elrod Commons Theater at Washington and Lee University.

Her talk, which is open to the public without charge, is sponsored by the Donald W. Reynolds Chair in Business Journalism and W&L's Department of Journalism and Mass Communications.

McLean, who joined Fortune in July 1995, has covered Wall Street and investing, along with a wide range of industries and companies, including Enron; Moody's; Eli Lilly and the pharmaceutical industry; Winstar; Lucent; Internet car salesmen; and the business of professional wrestling.

In 2001, she was one of the first reporters nationally to raise questions about Enron in her piece, "Is Enron Overpriced?" She has continued to cover the Enron story for Fortune and, in conjunction with that work, has appeared on news shows at NBC, CNN, CNBC and other broadcast networks.

Before joining Fortune, where she also contributes to the "Street Life" column at fortune.com, McLean worked at the investment bank Goldman Sachs. She holds a bachelor's degree from Williams College.

Fmr. Gov. to hold Town Meeting in Lee Chapel

Governor Linwood Holton will give a brief address at a Town Meeting in Lee Chapel at 7:30 P.M. on 17 May. This is the date of the 50th anniversary of the Brown decision. At that time, there will also be brief reflections by Wanda Early of Lylburn Downing High School, Class of 1962, Rev. E.T. Burton of Roanoke, the Vice President of the NAACP at the time of desegregation, William Perry, a former principal in Waynesboro, Margaret Walker, the school secretary at Lylburn Downing for her entire career—she was at both the segregated and the integrated Downing, and Peggy Hayes, government teacher at Rockbridge County High School. Joseph Mormon, former Lylburn Downing football coach will possibly be on this program.

Psychology Alum to address students

Captain John Schmidt '81 will discuss Aerospace Experimental Psychologists. The talk, sponsored by the Psychology Department, will take place in Science Addition 214 on Friday, May 14, at 3:15 p.m.

Phi Eta Sigma Inductions

Phi Eta Sigma, the Freshman Honorary, will be having inductions this Friday at 3:30 p.m. in Lee Chapel. Phi Eta Sigma is a national fraternity with a minimum GPA requirement of 3.50. Washington and Lee requires a 3.70 cumulative GPA for students to be inducted. Students are chosen based on their performance in the Fall and Winter terms.

Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs to speak at VMI

VMI will hold its Commencement exercises Saturday, May 15. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard B. Myers will address the 250 Cadets graduating this year. Myers is the highest-ranking uniformed member of the military services. He acts as the principal military adviser to the president, the secretary of defense, and the National Security Council.

Mens Lacrosse to host Messiah College

Next Sunday, at a time to be announced, the men's lacrosse team will be hosting Messiah College in the second round of the NCAA division III Men's Lacrosse National Tournament. It will be the last game of the season to take place on Wilson Field. Messiah received the automatic qualifying bid after winning the Mid-Atlantic Conference championship. Messiah's Lacrosse team has only existed for eight short years. Washington and Lee is making its eighth trip to the NCAA tournament.

W&L places at the IHSA National Championships

Last Saturday at Middle Tennessee State University, W&L competed in the IHSA Equestrian National Championships. Senior Sarah Michaels placed third in novice fences and Sophomore Caitlin Lane placed fourth in the open flat.

Housing search burdens students

Upperclass students struggle to find roommates, affordable, quality housing in Lexington

BY ERIN JULIUS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Every winter, Washington and Lee sophomores struggle to put together housing arrangements for the next academic year. Upperclass and Law students might find housing on-campus, but preference is given to freshmen and sophomores. So most upperclassmen must find housing in Lexington or Rockbridge County.

Other upperclassmen choose to live in fraternity or sorority houses, but space in these on-campus residences is also limited. 749 undergraduate students and 347 law students live off-campus, for a total of 1096 Washington and Lee students who must find housing each year.

Locating suitable living arrangements is a challenge for most students. Lexington zoning policies affect students' house-hunts.

According to Lexington City Manger Jon Ellestad, the city's zoning ordinances limit the number of unrelated people living in a single-family home to three.

Christy West, property manager for Re/Max Realtors in Lexington, said that students can get around Lexington's zoning ordinance by obtaining a conditional use permit, which must be ap-

proved by the Board of Zoning Appeals. Most students who endeavor to find off-campus housing work through a realtor familiar with the area and with student needs. West serves about 120 students each year, she said. In her experience, most students want houses in Rockbridge County and look for properties with rent that falls between \$750 and \$1300.

West said that Re/Max holds about 75 rentals within Lexington's city limits, many of which are rented by students. Many students have found that finding a quality home within Lexington's city limits is difficult. Landlords often frustrate undergraduate students' attempts to find housing because they prefer Washington and Lee Law students to live in, "the nicer, smaller apartments," said West.

Some students find apartments that are a viable option, "We couldn't find a house for the right number of people that was nice enough," said junior Rachel Chisolm, who lives in a three-bedroom apartment with two of her friends.

Most upperclassmen say they enjoy the chance to live off-campus. "After living on-campus freshman year and sophomore year, I love the freedom of living off campus and cannot imagine moving back on campus," said junior Kristine Calderone.

Hidden Hero Celia Landgren

Landgren actively involved in campus programs such as University Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra

BY CHRIS LAUDERMAN
MANAGING EDITOR

Celia Landgren, a junior Economics and Politics major, contributes in many ways to the Washington and Lee community. She describes herself as being like the "energizer bunny" because she is always "bouncing off the walls."

She is actively involved in the University Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra. She has served as Concert Master for the past three years. Landgren said that it only seemed natural to get involved with the symphony orchestra. Both of her parents are professional musicians. As Concert Master, she coaches all the sections on various techniques.

Sorority life plays a major role in Landgren's Washington and Lee experience. As president of Kappa Delta, she oversees all 140 plus girls on a day to day basis. This number includes eight executive officers and 40 appointed officers. Before being president, she served as the Vice President for Publicity.

Landgren is a member of the Nabors Service League. She has participated in the last two Nabors

Service Days where she went to the Mayflower and talked to residents.

Landgren also acts as the Chief of Staff of the College Republicans. She was responsible for planning the Party for the President. Landgren works in a secretarial role, working with the other three executive officers.

Upon graduation, she wants to go to law school. "I pray every night that someone will take me," said Landgren. She would like to go to University of Maryland, Case Western Reserve University, or George Washington University.

"The most important thing anyone can do is have a family," said Landgren. In ten years she would love to be on her way to having a big family with many children.

"I am definitely not here to get my MRS degree," said Landgren. She wants to work; she just emphasized the importance of family.

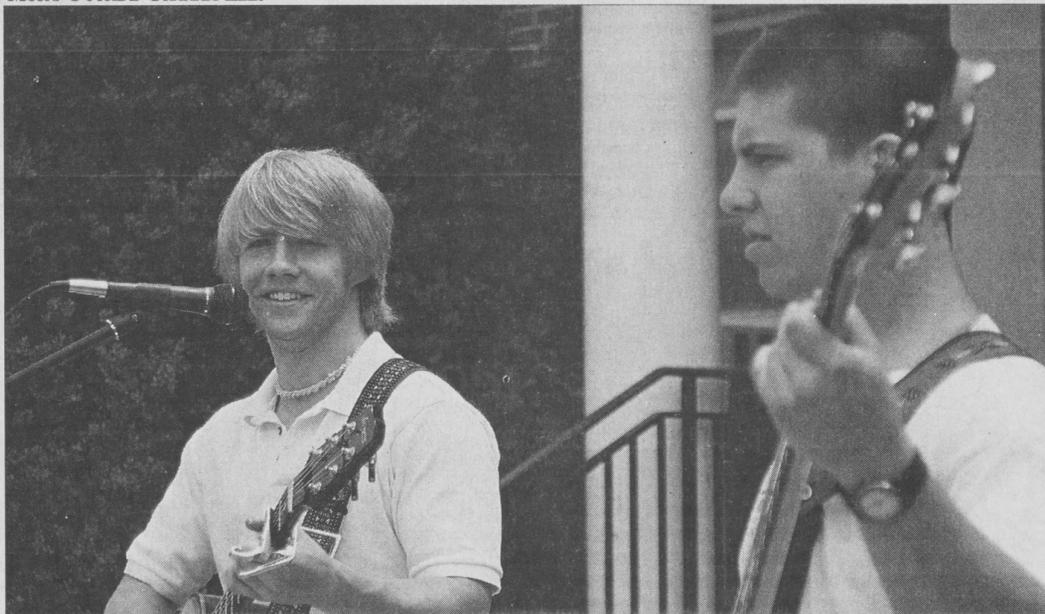
Celia Landgren is the type of leader that makes W&L great. Her orderliness, excitement, and unique musical talents make her an important piece of the Washington and Lee puzzle.



JEB BROOKS/ The Ring-tum Phi

Srat Queen. Landgren is behind-the-scene Hidden Hero

MUSIC OUTSIDE GRAHAM-LEES



STEVEN MARINOS/ The Ring-tum Phi

Spring Time! Wheeler Sparks and Peter Jones, members of Red Letter, perform for freshmen at the FLC barbeque outside Graham-Lees

Φ News

What do Michelle Kwan, the Phoenix Suns and Georgia O'Keefe have in common?

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THE RING-TUM PHI
STAFF EDITORIAL

Listen up

Our Executive Committee did well to hold an Open Forum for concerned students last week. Open dialogue between upset students and their elected representatives will certainly strengthen our Honor System—if the Executive Committee takes students' issues to heart.

Accountability, confidentiality and communication between the EC and student body are all important issues. Changes to the EC election process, for example, open "Candidate Platforms" are a step in the right direction. Ideally, Candidate Platforms will help in two ways. Candidate Platforms will introduce potential EC members, and their issues, to the student body. Candidate Platforms will also demand that candidates examine their motives for running. Through this more formal election process, we hope some level of accountability can be achieved.

While it is understandable that confidentiality is an important legal issue, we also hope that the EC devises some way to communicate its individual members' opinions to the student body. General confusion about what constitutes an Honor Violation seems widespread. EC members should be clear and logical about their views regarding Honor Violations.

As a campus publication, we promise to do our part by ensuring that the *Ring-tum Phi* is represented at events such as the open forum. In our capacity as a student newspaper, we understand that it is our duty to facilitate communication between our EC and student body.

This year, there has been much debate about, and disappointment in, the Honor System. We firmly believe that the Honor System is one of the most revered of Washington and Lee's traditions, and we hope that the EC truly listens to the student body's concerns and endeavors to make improvements.

Quote of the Week

"The patient realized that he would be unable to crucify himself when he noted the impossibility of reaching over to nail in his other hand."

-A Hartland, Maine ER technician.

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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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Increasing University name recognition a big deal

There has been a lot of talk around campus for a while about how Washington and Lee University is changing and heading in a new direction. There have been many public outcries denouncing the evils of "the administration's" efforts to improve the school's national standing. Everything from cracking down on fraternity violations to encouraging minority students to apply is seen as the "Swarthmorefication" of W&L. "W&L is unique; we must hold dear to our traditions and not conform to *US News and World Report!*" Oh, yeah? Then why the current attack on the EC and honor system? The single greatest, most unique and time-honored attribute of our school is the honor system and I hear rumblings of whole-sale reform? What other school offers unlocked doors, unproctored exams (heck, my spell-check even says that "unproctored" isn't a word, that's how unheard of it is!), unattended belongings, and teachers that trust your word? I'm sure if it was the administration that was hinting of a review of the honor system, there would be an uproar! Why are we so willing to change this tradition, but not other less important ones that tarnish our image?

I think it's because people here just want to be comfortable and have a good time instead of taking college seriously. They are upset about "changes" coming to W&L because they don't want to see their little country-club world threatened in the name of (gasp!) greater visibility and recognition. In the limited wealthy Southern world, Washington and Lee is a name associated with excellence, honor, and tradition, but in the rest of the world it is a name that is not associated with much of anything. One report noted that "Four out of five [professional recruiters] were 'completely unfamiliar' with

W&L, and further, almost 50% of recruiters thought W&L was not one of the Top 50 liberal arts colleges in the nation." That is truly frightening news for those of us that are here to get a good education that will lead to a good job. Unfortunately, it seems like not all of us are here for that reason. Some are here for a four-year party before getting a cushy job set-up by daddy or one of his friends' companies, or marrying the recipient of the latter. For those of us that are using a W&L education as a stepping-stone to future greatness, we desperately need that name recognition and higher ranking. W&L has been an excellent institution for centuries and yet we are still not well-known, obviously it is time to try something different.

The honor system, though, is one tradition that is to be kept, as it only reflects well on the school. The fraternity system is another animal. I am not against the fraternity system, I just don't think the whole drink-and-party-24/7 thing looks good to future employers and grad schools. Obviously in this tiny town in the middle of nowhere, there isn't much to do outside of frat parties, but shouldn't we do more to enhance our reputation and present ourselves as a more serious institution? We have such great potential - it's just that the greatest things about our school are being overshadowed by non-academic issues. We shouldn't defend the party culture at all costs; we have to seriously examine if it is truly harmful to our future. If it comes down to it, wouldn't you rather be an alum of "Washington and Lee: a prestigious, world-renowned university" than "Washington and Lee: a school that thinks its greatest accomplishment will come when it reaches #1 on the Biggest Party School ranking."

MISS INDEPENDENT
ALEXA MOUTEVELIS '06

Naturalized as well as natural-born citizens must have right to run for Presidency

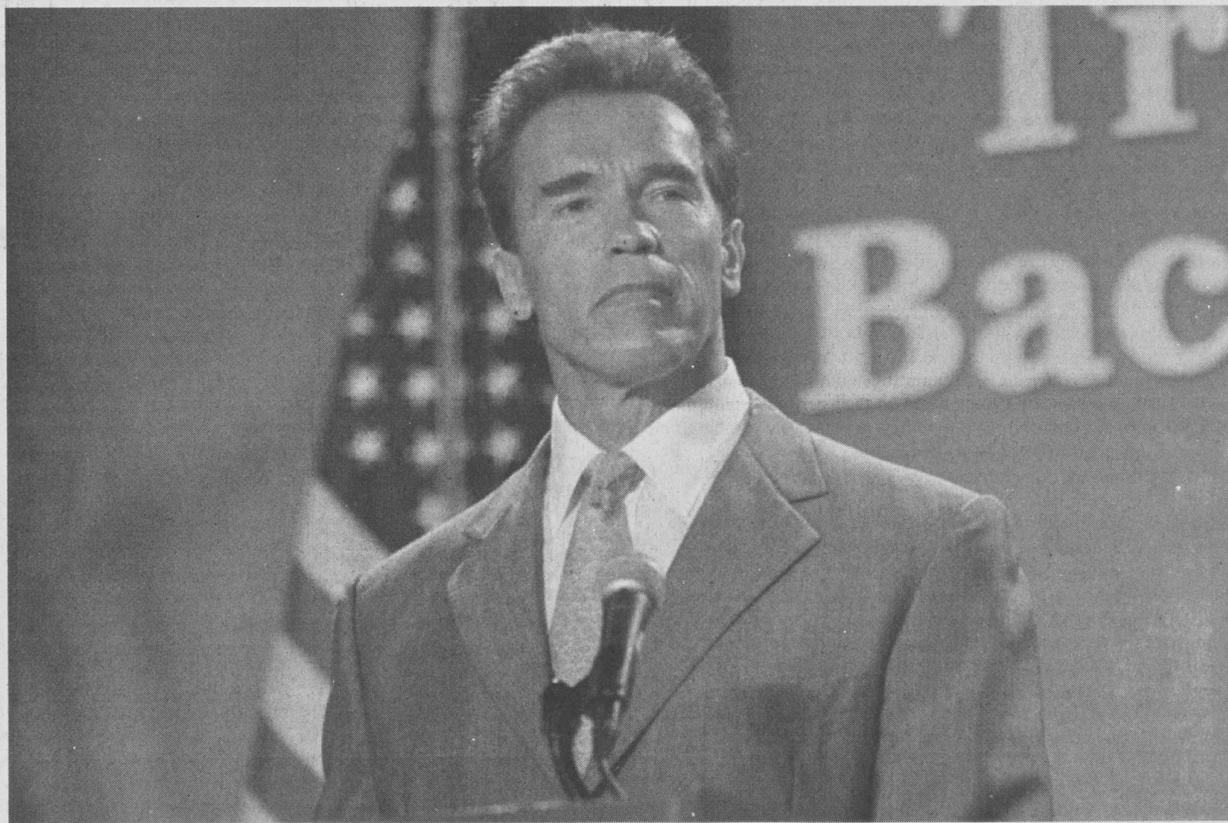


PHOTO COURTESY OF michaelcurrie.com

CONAN THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE? Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R-Calif.), the foremost naturalized citizen among possible Presidential candidates of the future.

The Constitution, and thus the U.S. government, have always been flexible. This is one of the major reasons for our success as a nation over the centuries we've existed. Since the Constitution was written, Article II, Section 1, Clause 5 has specified that only natural born citizens of the United States have the right of aspiring to the Presidency. The time is long past due for us to make a change.

The reasoning in 1789 was an assumption that natural born citizens would be completely unfamiliar with the American system of government, and certainly, in that day, this was true. The whole importance of the American revolution in world history is its place as the first major modern movement towards popular government. Even the most friendly Europeans struggled somewhat to understand the Democratic experiment. Lafayette, a Frenchman and hero of the American Revolution, later fought to defend King Louis XVI in the French Revolution, much to the chagrin of some of his former comrades in the Continental Army. It was simply a given

fact that only Americans born in America (or those Americans who had founded America) could truly understand the idea of American government.

Two and a quarter centuries later, this is obviously no longer the case. In a world exponentially-better educated than that in the late 18th Century, an understanding of the basic concepts of American government is easy for most foreign nationals trying to immigrate in.

There currently remains no good reason to deny naturalized citizens the Presidency. Besides xenophobia, I can't think of anything that would prevent a person from agreeing. You could make a very strong argument that the typical natural-born U.S. citizen is actually less concerned and less knowledgeable about U.S. government than most immigrants. They, by the way, have to take a rather demanding test when becoming citizens. When U.S. Citizenship and Immigration services administered the test to a group of 500 random natural born U.S. citizens and compared them to a random selection of 500

immigrants who had just taken the test, the immigrants outscored the citizens by nearly two to one.

And if you really need final proof that immigrants are capable of high-level executive governance, there is, of course, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. I didn't vote for him during the recall election, but if he runs for re-election, I almost certainly would. He has done a phenomenal job in office, defying everyone's expectations. He's stood up for the environment while still getting the economy back on track, he's taken social policies to both ends of the political spectrum, and in the course of his trials, he's managed to unify California Democrats and Republicans as never before.

And of course, the Governor has hinted at aspirations to the Presidency. This January, whoever wins the contested California Senate seat that's up for grabs will likely go to Washington with a proposed amendment of just the kind I'm advocating. So you heard it here first, folks- support Amendment XXVIII in 2008, and vote Arnold in 2012.

MODERATE'S MUSINGS
CALEY ANDERSON '06

Ring-tum Phi Quick Poll

Question- "By the time the Class of 2008 graduates, W&L will have lost most of the things that makes it unique."

Responses:

Yes- 15%

No- 80%

Don't Know- 4%

46 students were polled. 24 male, 23 female. This poll has 90% confidence in a plus or minus 3% margin of error.

Break out of the mold— real University diversity

In a school as small and homogenous as Washington and Lee, the idea of not fitting the mold of the typical student can be rather terrifying. Personally, when I was between coming here and another school, I could feel as soon as I visited and stayed in the suite of some really great girls that this was where I belonged. I walked around campus and could see myself here in the future. Everyone was so friendly and sincere, whereas a large state campus seemed impersonal and unwelcoming. You couldn't fall through the cracks at a place like W&L; you would be supported and embraced.

That is not to say that there weren't certain surprises waiting for me. Honestly, I somehow never focused on the fact that it was fundamentally such a southern school. Coming from Texas, Virginia seemed so far north that it was practically New England to me. And though if you asked me if it technically fit into the Southern region I could tell you that it did, I hardly imagined it could be the heart of the Deep South, strewn with confederate flags and all. Yet, once

again, I am hardly atypical in this aspect. I was actually born in Richmond, though I only lived there until I was a year old, so that explains my initial geographic and cultural ignorance. And I was raised in a Republican household, though I'm really more of a fiscal conservative/social liberal nowadays, so I didn't break the mold too much there either. Finally, I even was excited at the prospect of joining a sorority, which I did much to my satisfaction. So on paper I think I'm a pretty darn

good fit here.

Yet, as the regular *Phi* reader may have noticed, I am also very opinionated and passionate about certain issues. Sometimes, it just so happens that my opinions may not coincide with the majority of the student body's. And I cannot tell you how many times I have heard in conversation a friend asking with regards to me or someone else, "Then why did they go here?" I'm not ultra-conservative and I don't have an extreme amount of Southern pride. "Then why did you go to this school?" If someone doesn't drink excessively or feel the need to party five

nights a week, people wonder why they chose good old Washington and Lee. And if a student doesn't choose to pledge a sorority or fraternity, there's that same question again.

One of my favorite personal anecdotes for this was at the Guerilla Girls presentation (which if you don't know was an impressive feminist comedy troupe). Sometimes I would be nodding at what I thought was a particularly valid point only to look around and see the audience seething and glaring up at the stage. Ok, maybe the topic of Mother Theresa should generally be avoided. By the end, though, I was feeling kind of energized and proud of being a female. I turned to one of my best friends and semi-jokingly said, "I'm gonna become a huge feminist now, what do you think?" I will never forget the look of horror on her face as she quietly replied: "If you wanted to be a feminist, why would you come here?" This conversation was not particularly upsetting, nor was my friendship harmed. I don't love people simply because they agree with my views of things, and a compatible relationship is based more on common interests than ideology anyways.

And, relatively speaking, this situation was tame compared to other incidents I've encountered. I'm only a freshman, one who has written only a handful of editorials, and already one student has told me that I "go against the entire W&L community every week in my articles" and a fellow staffer informed me I should write all the controversial topics from then on because all the readers "already hate me." Differences are what make us unique and worth knowing, but if everyone at Washington and Lee was exactly the same wouldn't it be rather boring? Just think of all the fascinating human specimens you would never get to meet if they were deterred from attending our fine institution out of a sense that they wouldn't fit in. I'm extremely proud of the fact that our school is academically such a selective university, but a student desire for selectivity based on excluding people with different life experiences, socio-economic backgrounds, sexual preferences, or ideologies is called elitism and cultural ignorance. So I say come all ye feminists, northerners, liberals, and sober drivers; we'd be lucky to have you.



THE BIG PICTURE
 ANNE FINLEY '07

GSA thinks about self-isolation, makes a difference on campus

"We've come so far," is a slogan I hear a lot when people talk about the Gay-Straight Alliance. "Yes, yes we have," is usually how I reply. I like to think so. But have we?

Last Spring Term I took Dr. McAhren's gay and lesbian history course. It seemed to be an especially odd grouping of people; among my classmates

was one gentleman whom I would describe as exceptionally fratastic. You know the type—

frat hair, collar up, "good" fraternity (is there really such a thing?), etc, etc. He was a history major and I had been in class with him several times prior to this one. Always entertaining in any class, he consistently offered a unique and interesting perspective. Towards the end of the term our class had a discussion about gays and lesbians in college fraternities and sororities. Naturally, that led straight into a conversation about the GLBT community at W&L. I made the comment that I thought things were really changing at W&L; that there was a noticeable difference in the climate at W&L over the last 2 years. My fratastic friend, shook his head and gave me this placating smile from across the circle. "What?" I asked.

"Kelly Jo, if you could only hear my frat house during dinner time. Think about it. It took me four years to get here, and I'm probably doing better than most people on this campus. You just surround yourself with people who think like you do," he replied, or something to a similar effect.

Reality check. Did I wear blinders to the true campus community at W&L?

After completing a second year as GSA Co-Chair, I wish I could talk to my dear fratastic friend again. "Sure," I would say, "things might not seem great now, but they're better than they were. There's a lot we can accomplish yet, but we've come great strides."

Over Alumni Weekend, KEWL and the GSA hosted a panel of two openly gay alums. Multiple gay alums attended, each with their own story to tell. One thing became abundantly clear—they all believed a discussion of this type could not have happened while they were here. They could cite change from one generation to the next, and our generation at W&L proved no different. We seem to be on an uphill climb towards the acceptance of

the gay community at W&L. The '90s were better than the '80s which were better than the '70s and so on and so forth. Sure, the differences might be slight in some instances, but they most assuredly were there.

Change doesn't happen over night. W&L is not going to become UC-Berkeley-esque at any point in the near future; nor the distant future; nor probably ever. And that is not a bad thing. W&L is more diverse than most people think it is. I reference you to the General's Awareness Program brochure to gain some interesting statistics. It's not that we are void of all diversity, we just need to acknowledge, accept, and celebrate what makes members of our campus unique. Sure, there's room for improvement, but isn't there always?

So, Mr. Fratastic, as I complete my tenure as GSA Co-Chair, I say to you, we have made a difference. While I might not hear the frat house dinner conversation, I will rest assured that they too will change in time. Someday. Progress is slow, but it is progress nonetheless. I invite you to look around, Mr. Fratastic, maybe you're the one surrounding yourself with people who think like you do.



MORE THAN MAINSTREAM
 KELLY JO LARSEN '05



GSA ACCOMPLISHMENTS. One of the Gay-Straight Alliance's most controversial recent accomplishments was the institution of the Safe Place Program.

From the Multicultural Life website- "The Safe Place symbol sends a message to students, faculty, and staff. Posting this symbol represents your willingness and commitment to providing a Safe Place for all students—an atmosphere of acceptance, respect, and assistance. Posting this symbol does not indicate anything about your own sexual orientation. We recommend posting the symbol on your office door, although any prominent location will do. Why do we need this program at W&L? Gays, lesbians, and bisexuals are some of the most marginalized members of the W&L community. In an effort to rectify this, the Safe Place Program was conceptualized in the 1999-2000 school year, and is not a response to any particular incident. Implementation of the program provides another way to increase tolerance and awareness of diversity of all kinds within the W&L community.

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Womens' lax lose in NCAAs

By SARAH BLOOM
 STAFF WRITER

The Women's Lacrosse team entered the second round of NCAA division III nationals Saturday, but unfortunately, this was the end of national competition for the Generals. The Gettysburg Bullets defeated the Generals 13-8.

Senior Kelly Taffe accounted for 4 of the Generals goals to lead the team in scoring. The highlight of the game for the Generals was certainly

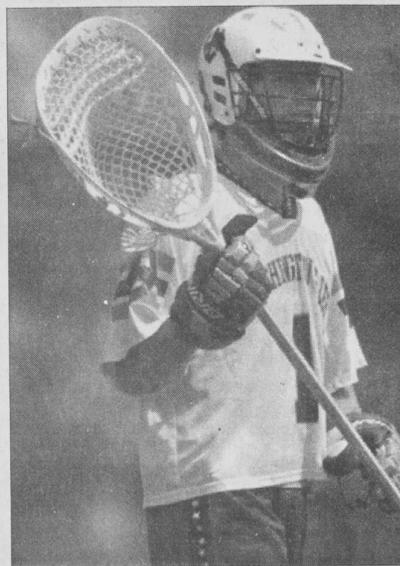
when Taffe broke both of her own school records again to make her final record tally 182 goals and 238 points.

Other point-earners for the Generals included senior Lee Wheeler (2) and junior Kristen Brown (1). Senior Joanna Perini knocked away 10 goal attempts by the Bullets.

Though the Generals have ended season play with their defeat, the women still claimed a school record for a most successful season. The women claimed 15 wins to a mere 4 defeats.



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION



COURTESY SPORTS INFORMATION

TOP PLAYER. Senior goalie Ansel Sanders was named ODAC Player of the Year.

Six named to All-ODAC Mens' lacrosse team Sanders named Player of the Year, Cerino named Coach of the Year

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

SALEM, Va. — The Old Dominion Athletic Conference announced its all-conference men's lacrosse team on Wednesday afternoon. Washington and Lee claimed six players on the first and second teams, while senior goalie Ansel Sanders (White Stone, Va./Woodberry Forest) was named Player of the Year and Mike Cerino was named Coach of the Year.

Sanders, fellow seniors Dustin Martin (Manlius, N.Y./Fayetteville-Manlius), Lawson Grumbine (Owings Mills, Md./Gilman), Kenny Rasamny (Chappaqua, N.Y./Horace Greeley) and junior attackman Gavin Molinelli (Northport, N.Y./Northport) were all named First Team All-Conference. Junior defenseman Eric Koch (Mountain Lakes, N.J./Mountain Lakes) was named Second Team All-ODAC.

Sanders' selection as Player of the Year was W&L's first since Pope Hackney '01 garnered the award in 2001. It also marked the first-ever selection of a W&L goalkeeper for the award. The First Team All-ODAC goalie each of the past two seasons, Sanders has compiled a career-high .620 save percentage on 152 saves this season. His 6.14 goals-against average ranks third in Division III.

An Honorable Mention All-American last season, Sanders ranks sixth all-time at W&L with 445 career saves.

Martin, a midfielder, earned his second-consecutive selection to the first team after compiling 38 points on 29 goals and nine assists. An Honorable Mention All-American last season, he also ranks fifth on the team with 37 ground balls.

Grumbine, a defenseman, also garnered his second-straight first team nod after spearheading a W&L defense which ranks third in Division III (6.19 gpg). He also tallied two goals and has collected 31 ground balls.

Rasamny earned his first All-ODAC selection at the long-stick midfield position. A starter in all 16 games, he is second on the team with 69 ground balls and has notched a career-high six points on one goal and five assists.

Molinelli earned First Team All-ODAC accolades after receiving honorable mention status last season. He leads the team with 48 points on 17 goals and a team- and career-high 31 assists.

Koch was named to the second team after teaming with Sanders and Grumbine to lead a W&L defense which ranks third in Division III (6.19 gpg). He has scored one goal and claims 19 ground balls.

Cerino earned his second Coach of the Year award in three seasons as head coach after leading the Generals to a 13-3 overall record, a 6-0 mark in the ODAC and an ODAC Tournament Championship.

W&L, ranked seventh in the latest Division III poll, has won 11-straight games after starting the season 2-3.

West still dominates in NBA playoffs

By RYAN GRITTER
 STAFF WRITER

The NBA playoffs are well under way now, and for the most part it's the usual suspects. The higher seeded team won every series in the first round, which makes the bracket look like that of the women's NCAA Tourney. The excitement of upsets that made this year's men's tournament so exciting is absent from the playoffs, but it is different in the NBA, and we want all the best teams playing for the championship. So here's a quick rundown of what's happened so far and what I predict is to come.

In the East the big three, New Jersey, Indiana, and Detroit, all advanced easily with only one loss between the three of them. The fourth series, between the Miami Heat and New Orleans Hornets, was the troublemaker in the East. As the second round got under way these two teams were still busy playing games 6 and 7. Unfortunately, though this series was really fun to watch due to the athleticism of Dwayne Wade and Baron Davis, pretty much everyone was thinking, "Are they still playing? Eh, who cares?" It's widely accepted that these teams were merely playing for the right to lose to the Pacers, who had to wait a couple weeks to begin the second round after sweeping the Celtics. I myself am still hoping for another Miami miracle, but there's no way I'd predict that... I'm a Miami fan but I'm not stupid.

Unfortunately, neither of the second round matchups in the East show much potential for excitement. The Pistons are already up 2-0 on the Nets, and New Jersey doesn't seem to have any answer to the inside game of the Wallace's. As previously mentioned, the Pacers shouldn't have much trouble dealing with the Heat, and they have already gone up 1-0. So assuming the Pacers and Pistons face off in the Eastern conference finals, who can we expect to advance? And, more importantly, will this team have any chance against the West's champion? The Pacers won the season series 3-1 and Jermaine O'Neal provides a strong inside presence, but the Pistons finished the season as the hottest team in basketball except for the Heat, and the duo of the Wallaces aren't alone, with a supporting cast that can handle the depth

of the Pacers. I would expect the series to be close, but I feel the Pistons are the best team in the East and will advance to the finals and try to take the title back for the East.

The West is as strong as ever, as evidenced by the fact that the Lakers aren't dominating everyone with Karl Malone and Gary Payton as role players assisting Shaq and Kobe. When will sports teams learn? Signing big name players past their prime doesn't guarantee a championship (see Oakland Raiders, the Yankees the past 3 years, and the Mets). San Antonio has gone up on the Lakers 2-0 and should move on to the Western conference finals, but the series between the Timberwolves and Kings is much more intriguing to predict. The Kings have taken home court advantage away from Minnesota with a win in game 1, and things seem to be working in their favor in other ways as well. While they can't expect Latrell Sprewell and MVP Kevin Garnett to be that cold again, they also shouldn't have to deal with 40 points from Sam Cassell on a nightly basis. Furthermore, Minnesota is battered, with Troy Hudson and Wally Szczerbiak both out and center Ervin Johnson nursing a hurt hand. Peja Stojakovic won't be as quiet in subsequent games (14 points in game one), and the Kings just have so many scoring options. I would expect the Kings to win this series in 6, but then lose to the Spurs in the finals. The Spurs have the experience in the playoffs and have looked very impressive in the first 2 games against the Lakers, with 2 ten point wins and the emergence of Tony Parker as a true leader.

So back to my previous question, will the East have any chance against the West in the finals? Well, if you learned anything about me from my prediction in the NCAA Tournament it should've been that I don't like to take the easy pick. Having said this, I feel that with the addition of Rasheed Wallace, the Pistons have the talent and depth of a Western conference team. Also, they're dominating the Nets like a West team does and will actually make the finals interesting this year. I don't, however, think that they can beat the Spurs. San Antonio, as previously mentioned, has the experience and the momentum from a series win against the Lakers and should capture another title and finally make it out of the shadow of Los Angeles.

Baseball has five on ODAC team

W&L SPORTS RELEASE

LEXINGTON, Va. — Senior left-hander Peter Dean (Vienna, Va./James Madison) earned Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Pitcher of the Year honors as five Washington and Lee baseball players were named to the 2004 All-ODAC team, announced Wednesday afternoon.

Joining Dean on the first team was senior right fielder Bryan Mulhern (Chadd's Ford, Pa./Unionville). Senior short-stop Austin Allain (Weston, Mass./Weston), senior right hander Dan Kagey (Marietta, Ga./Lovett) and sophomore second baseman Scott Gosselink (Austin, Texas/St. Stephen's Episcopal) were all named to the second team.

Dean, who is making his third appearance on the First-Team All-ODAC squad, was named the top pitcher in the conference after setting the school record for wins in a season with a 9-2 overall mark this season, including a school record three shutouts. In a school-record 88.2 innings

pitched this season, he recorded a 2.33 ERA and 64 strikeouts with just 11 walks.

Mulhern received his second-straight first-team nod after finishing the season third on the team with a .360 batting average and 50 hits, which included 38 RBI, 12 doubles and a school record-tying nine home runs.

Gosselink received second-team laurels after leading the Generals with a .380 batting average and 34 runs scored. He also finished second on the team with 52 hits, driving in 25 runs, including nine doubles and five home runs.

Allain earned second team honors for the second-straight season after hitting .304 with 21 RBI and 38 runs. Kagey went 6-3 from the mound with a 3.98 ERA and 58 strikeouts in 72.1 innings pitched.

this week's schedule

Wednesday May 12	Thursday May 13	Friday May 14	Saturday May 15	Sunday May 16
• W Tennis vs. Gustavus Adolphus (NCAA)-- 10:00	• W Tennis at NCAA's-- TBA	• W Tennis at NCAA's-- TBA	• W Tennis at NCAA's-- TBA • M Lax at NCAA's-- TBA	• OPEN

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COLUMBIA
 School of General Studies

Fratlord praises Honor System, questions changes

Spoiled Students with new found power following Spring Term Success should not be so rash in using it

This school ain't perfect. Neither are any of its students, faculty, and staff. So can't we all just agree on this point and move on?

This year, it seems like the W&L boat has never stopped rocking. Between this EC business, the demise (and rebirth!) of Buffalo Creek, the fraternity suspensions, and the Spring Term issue, there's just been one thing after another to keep the uproar constant. Meanwhile, we've all lost sight of how special this place is and why we love it like we do.

As students at W&L, we are overwhelmingly spoiled. I can't think of another college environment where students have as much as freedom as we do. What's more, we take it all for granted.

You couldn't ask me to count all the times I've punted tests during Exam Week, or how many times I've left things lying around on campus for weeks at a time. Seriously, can you imagine a W&L without these peculiarities? I can't.

We know how good we've got it. That's why there's been so much uproar when we sense that things are slipping away.

The Spring Term madness is the best example of all - I don't think anyone could have estimated that the backlash would get as intense as it did. The students saw that one of our favorite things about the school was in jeopardy, and did whatever we needed to do to keep it.

Now, in the aftermath, we are fully aware of our power as students at this school. But things are getting out of hand. We can make a difference, but I think we can go overboard as well.

Case in point - the EC situation. With every passing day, it seems our Executive Committee is increasingly disparaged, and our Honor System is increasingly attacked. That's funny - I thought we liked how good we have it at this school. I thought we appreciated the Honor System. And I thought we elected these people.

Like I said at first, nobody's perfect. The EC reps aren't perfect. And many will agree that even the Honor System has its flaws and uncertainties, but no more than how every person in this community has their own imperfections. So let's move on, shall we?

Just because you can make a difference doesn't necessitate that change is needed. Change can be good, but apparently it can also be addicting.

It's frustrating to hear students who, in one breath, blast the administration for trying to change the school, and then, in the next breath, complain about some aspect of W&L which they would change if they had a choice. How do you

justify the hypocrisy of worrying about the "branding" of W&L while trying to modify, adjust, or eradicate some of its most crucial traditions? It just seems silly.

In my four years, W&L has managed to exist in some state of transition. During this time, we've alcohol policy, president, a new Greek System. Yet, W&L has emerged unscathed and remains essentially the same school it has been. Sometimes change has been necessary, sometimes it's been arbitrary, but it's happened. Now get over it.

I love this school. It's why I hope to work for the university next year. And I believe that most of the students here love this school too. That's why many are so worried and so frantic about the changes that have taken place. But it's time to stop worrying. It's still W&L. We still love it.

Just because we can make changes to our school, doesn't mean we should go overboard - in the long run, we might not enjoy what we come up with.

ABSOLUT FRATLORD
 TIM SMITH '04

Co-ed speaking outs would solve problem of sexual assault

This past Monday, May 3rd, Panhellenic sponsored "Day of Dialogue," a program designed to bring together women on campus to discuss pertinent issues affecting female students. Last year, as my sorority Chapter Treasurer, I was required to attend "Something of Value," the previous years' equivalent, and was amazed by the different perceptions regarding prevalent problems on campus, such as eating disorders, alcoholism, depression, stress, etc. This year, the program began with a speech from Dean Watkins, as well as Dr. Jane Horton, who presented the statistics resulting from the Health Center survey that went out to students just before exams last term.

While I don't particularly consider myself the 'f' word (and by 'f' word I mean 'feminist'... gasp!) I do consider myself to be militantly anti-ridiculous, and the statistics which reflect widespread victimizations of women on campus are emphatically ridiculous.

Forty-four percent of the entire female student population responded to the survey and here are some of the reported results from the past year: Four percent experienced verbal threats for sex against their will; a shocking 22.6% experienced sexual touching against their will; 8.5% experienced attempted sexual penetration against their will (attempted rape); and 2.6% experienced sexual penetration against their will (rape), none of which were reported to the university. Feminist or no feminist these behaviors are unacceptably, inexcusably ridiculous. End of story.

These are the facts of the survey. As far as perceptions go, being the stubborn, independent, and at times, overly strong willed person that I am, I was rather shocked to discover how rampant these behaviors are. Worse yet, while these statistics seem to portray helpless female victims being raped in a dark alley by an alpha-male aggressor, the situation is apparently, much more complicated and not nearly as simple.

For example, frat boys have threatened to ball girls from fraternities if they did not have sex, essentially destroying their social lives. Now, if this does reflect behaviors that have occurred, I'm not sure who is more pathetic in this situation: the boy who is so desperately horny that he has to threaten

girls in order to get them to have sex with him; the girl who is so insecure and whose self-esteem is so nonexistent that she would actually submit to such abuse (and yes, it is considered abuse in a court of law) rather than face even the possibility of social alienation; or the frat brothers who would dare support the idea of collectively balling a girl for merely exercising the right to protect her own body.

Initially, I could not understand why girls would not report sexual assaults to the University, or preferably, to the Police, but was soon reminded of two past cases in which charges were brought before the University rather unsuccessfully. The resulting mortification was so extreme and uncomfortable that the girls involved had to leave school. This was just three years ago.

Fortunately, a lot has changed at W&L since I first arrived in Fall, 2000. At the time, nearly all leadership positions on campus were held by men. Currently, all student judicial bodies are headed by women and the Dean of Students is female. Times have changed at W&L, and so I think it's time for a bit of cultural perspective.

There is no doubt that the social hierarchy and one's status within that hierarchy plays a huge role in campus culture. In my opinion, it is this culture that allows for the aforementioned situations to occur, as exhibited by the extreme measures to which one (particularly if one is female) is willing to resort in order to keep one's social status intact. While I have never particularly agreed with this culture, I must accept that this is the way the campus works. That's not to say that one can't fight fire with fire. After all, what is a large factor in guys' Rush? Girls. What makes a party, a party? Girls. We have a lot more power than we're aware of, especially if we were to join forces.

I admit I'm taking a chance here, but I think that, because of all the pro-female changes that have been made on campus, we now have the resources and the attitude to deal with sexual assault on campus and eliminate such inappropriate behaviors. In the past, girls have been too afraid to report such crimes because of the resulting social stigmas, and the chauvinistic attitude of blaming the victims, but, these obstacles are certainly



PHOTO COURTESY orbita.starmedia.com

GIRL POWER! If the Spice Girls were sexually assaulted, they would report the incident. You should, too.

in the process of being overcome, if they have not been surpassed already.

However, we'll never know unless some of the victims are brave enough to come forward and report these crimes. Perhaps it would only take one strong female to lead the way and tell her story before others would gain the courage to do the same. We can't stop what we don't acknowledge, and I strongly feel that our campus today cares about its students and genuinely wants to stop these crimes. Victims should seek help through Dean Watkins (that's what's great about a small school, you can actually talk to the Dean herself), or Dr. Jane Horton in the Health Center.

While I have never been sexually assaulted or threatened, I feel my social status on this campus would be a small price to pay to ensure the safety and awareness of hundreds of other women on campus now, and the thousands who are to come in future years.

As for the guys, I apologize to all the real gentlemen out there who are reading this and are possibly just as shocked and appalled as most girls were. It downright sucks that your sex must suffer through the bad rap resulting from a minority of filthy nasty pigs.

As for the women, ladies, we have a choice that is ours and ours alone to make. Let's hear it for the girls.

quick hits

phi@wlu.edu

Phi Beta's done. The Big Four is now accepting applications for next year.

Phi Joel on being a conformist: "I'm not a conformist just because I wear Rainbow sandals! You're the conformist - you have an arm; everyone has arms!"

Phi Someone needs to call child's services. I think a parent left his child to live in the third floor of the Commons to annoy many.

Phi To the person who submitted a Quick Hit last week about that dude's blue hair: Are your high-lights "natural" or did it just say "natural" on the box?

Phi Mike Horning has never won a game of Mario Party in his life.

Phi Does TFC stand for Tubgirl Fan Club?

Phi If you haven't listened to David W. Jacobsen's new album, "Cubicle Wonderland," you are really missing out!

Phi What did you do for your Mother yesterday?

Phi Don't forget to reset your clocks and change the batteries in your fire alarms next weekend.

Phi Congratulations to William T. Brooks for writing a BarnesandNoble.com number one bestseller.

Phi e. e. cummings did not intend to forego capitalization. It was a publisher's decision.

Phi Cosmo is such a raunchy magazine.

Phi Sprees are bad for my teeth.

Phi Overheard this weekend outside FIJI: "This grass is really comfortable, I may make a nest here."

Phi Yahoo! Skyvodka now comes in a low-carb version!

Phi Today was a major day in exploration: 1497, Amerigo Vespucci left from Cadiz for his first voyage to the New World.

1503, Christopher Columbus discovered the Cayman Islands and named them Las Tortugas after the turtles he found there.

1534, Jacques Cartier discovered Newfoundland.

Phi Always look on the bright side of life.

Phi The men's lacrosse team faces Messiah College on Sunday at Wilson Field. Go cheer on the Gennies in the second round of the NCAA tourney!

Phi Thomas Worthy talks a lot.

Phi Too much work, I have yet to see Goshen.

Phi Coincidence? Stonewall Jackson died today in 1863 and today is Confederate Memorial Day in both Carolinas.

Phi Did anyone else see Phi editor Caley Anderson haunting the halls of the Warner Center wearing a black belt, a martial arts uniform, and carrying a bunch of blunt weaponry? Apparently, it doesn't matter to Caley whether the pen or the sword is mightier.

Phi The buggers are coming? Must be a Velasquez thing.

Phi Coach Joe Lyles is ending his umpteen-year reign as Club Sports Director. He shall be missed.

Phi I saw some Iraqi prisoners being tortured on the news and I thought I recognized some Beta pledges.

Phi Raked over the coals? Burning the candle at both ends? Spread too thinly? Try Pilates!

Phi I'm a lumberjack and I'm okay, I sleep all night and I work all day.

Phi Can Bluegrass really ever be red-hot and progressive?

Phi Congratulations to the LCA Ultimate Frisbee Team and good luck in the final game tonight against Phi Del.

Phi Aaargghh! It is actually humanly possible for a bullpen to be as bad as the Cleveland Indians' is?

Phi So, we either have cold and rainy or blisteringly hot? Not to be a whiner, but what happened to 75 and sunny?

Phi The Executive Committee is searching for a conscience and a backbone. Apply through e-Recruiting.

Phi Fear the turtle!

Phi Submit your anonymous Quick Hits (please, please, please) and tales of Spring Term love and lust to phi@wlu.edu.