

4378.795  
R552  
v. 107  
no. 27  
c.2

# THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2005

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897

VOLUME CVII, NUMBER 27

## WHAT'S INSIDE

### Honor in a hypothetical sense

What is honor these days, and how do we appropriately rule on situations where honor is questioned? We want your feedback to tell us how W&L should interpret honor by ruling on our hypothetical case.

Page 3

### Ladies' tennis swings on

Women's tennis is doing unbelievably well! Catch up on the details of how all six singles players made it to the finals.

Page 2

## HOT TICKET

### Nice dreams of ice cream

Incurable sweet tooth? The Commons and Campus Activities understand. That's why they're providing your with six fabulous flavors of free ice cream on the patio of Cafe 77 on Wed. April 27 from 3-5 p.m. I'm sure we'll see you there.

### Kick up your heels for charity

You could have danced all night at the last one, so show up again for another memorable night! On Sat. April 30, come donate to cystic fibrosis as you dance like crazy in Evans Hall. Starts at 8 p.m. and ends, like every good ball, at midnight.

### Very long subtitles

War, drama, comedy, romance, and french subtitles. The makers of "Amelie" bring you all this and more in their moving film "A Very Long Engagement," which will run in the Commons theater at 7:30 p.m. on Fri. April 29 and Sat. April 30.



### Aiming higher

Samuel L. Jackson plays a coach who had higher goals for his undefeated team in the movie "Coach Carter," which will run in the Commons theater.

## SIMPLE LIFE

### Believe it or not, keep warm!

Spring term's here, and you're supposed to be out on the colonnade every day with friends getting a nice tan. You dropped off your warm woolly clothes at home over the break and devoted yourself to those easy, breezy shorts, skirts, and polo shirts. But who would have guessed that a twist of fate would bring random snow flurries and chilly winds? Follow our tips and stay comfortably warm even when those unexpected cold fronts decide to drop in.

■ Don't forget about your socks and closed-toed shoes. Hopefully you haven't completely abandoned yourself to the flip-flops, but there's nothing worse than your toes facing the cold, even if for your favorite Reefs.

■ Never forget: Daily Grind and Lexington Coffee Shop are still at your disposal. Go for a latte or a hot cocoa as much as you can.

■ Layers, layers, and more layers! These days, it's perfectly acceptable to layer camisoles, t-shirts, etc. So take advantage of the times and throw on a button-down, something light under it, and a spring jacket.

■ As a last resort, burn your books for warmth. You won't need them anyway. It is spring term.

## QUICK POLL

Q: Does W&L drink too much?

41.5% Yes  
58.4% No

53 students polled, 26 male, 27 female. Poll has 90% confidence in a +/- 5% margin of error.

## W&L hosts NCUR

Thousands of students visit Lexington

By Chris Lauderman  
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

2,200 undergraduate students from across the country invaded Lexington April 21-23 for the 19<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR).

Washington and Lee and Virginia Military Institute co-hosted the national weekend conference. The two schools began the planning process of hosting the conference a few years ago.

"I went to a meeting at the University of Utah, along with VMI Dean of the Faculty Brower to present a proposal for us to host the conference," Provost Tom Williams said. "The NCUR Governing Board accepted our proposal a bit over two years ago."

A unique twist to the conference this year was the joint sponsoring by VMI and W&L. Two different cultures, a public and a private school, "came together and got the job done," according to Tim Kolly, Vice President for Public Affairs and Communication.

Both W&L and VMI's public relations offices said it was an excellent experience working together.

"This is a great resume piece for both schools," Kolly said.

Students participating in NCUR made oral presentations, presented posters, and performed for peers. Oral presentations lasted for 15 minutes and generally had 10-15 people in the audience. Washington and Lee showcased

35 presenters at this year's conference.

Lain Wilson, a freshman at W&L, was encouraged by one of his history professors to present a European history paper.

"It was a senior project in high school," Wilson said. "I spent six months researching and two months writing it."

All students presenting had the option to submit their work to be published through NCUR. Students will find out later in the year if they have been selected for publication.

Other students, such as senior Ricky Busby, presented their thesis. Busby, a Medieval and Renaissance Studies major, presented Friday afternoon on "Franciscan Art as Propaganda."

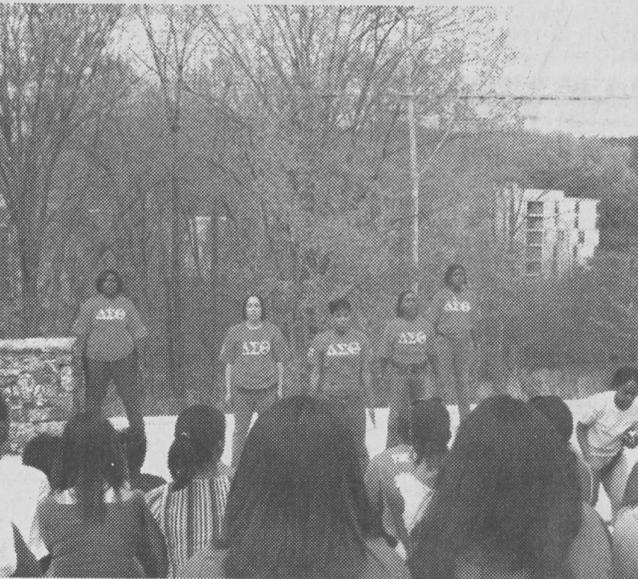
Sophomore Julie Jackson said that this was a great opportunity for undergraduates to present academic research.

"I met a lot of Geology students and professors from other schools," Jackson said. "It was really fun."

Andrew Upshaw, a junior at VMI, presented on the Madrid terrorist attacks. He thought his presentation went well despite the fact that he was really nervous with all of the professors from around the country listening to his presentation.

Kolly was pleased with the involvement of the W&L community saying that "everyone has come together." Many of the faculty was involved in moderating panels and students took interest in the conference.

## STEPPING UP TO THE CHALLENGE



PHOTOS COURTESY MARGO MCCLINTON

The Beta Beta Nu chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and the Tau Omega chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority presented a probate show last week to welcome these two new Greek organizations to the W&L community.

## And the rankings are in!

Chart below shows fall, winter and combined GPA's

Fraternity/Sorority	Fall GPA	Winter GPA	Combined GPA
1. Lambda Chi Alpha	3.395	3.263	3.31757
2. Phi Gamma Delta	3.351	3.265	3.29987
3. Sigma Chi	3.288	3.301	3.29555
4. Pi Kappa Phi	3.319	3.252	3.27694
5. Sigma Nu	3.300	3.151	3.21332
6. Phi Kappa Sigma	3.203	3.196	3.19936
7. Phi Kappa Psi	3.183	3.159	3.16675
8. Pi Kappa Alpha	3.152	3.168	3.16164
9. Kappa Sigma	3.174	3.146	3.15823
10. Phi Delta Theta	3.165	3.148	3.15592
11. Kappa Alpha	3.191	3.033	3.10033
12. Sigma Alpha Epsilon	3.152	3.059	3.09730
13. Chi Psi	3.100	3.009	3.04714
<b>Greek men's total</b>	<b>3.231</b>	<b>3.172</b>	<b>3.19669</b>
1. Kappa Alpha Theta	3.449	3.410	3.42678
2. Chi Omega	3.379	3.384	3.38220
3. Kappa Kappa Gamma	3.419	3.319	3.36440
4. Pi Beta Phi	3.331	3.357	3.34694
5. Kappa Delta	3.306	3.267	3.28463
<b>Greek women's total</b>	<b>3.380</b>	<b>3.347</b>	<b>3.36117</b>
<b>Greeks' total</b>	<b>3.304</b>	<b>3.256</b>	<b>3.27602</b>
Independent men's total	3.066	3.167	3.09803
Independent women's total	3.223	3.336	3.26031
<b>Independents' total</b>	<b>3.144</b>	<b>3.253</b>	<b>3.17912</b>
<b>All men's total</b>	<b>3.156</b>	<b>3.171</b>	<b>3.16341</b>
<b>All women's total</b>	<b>3.308</b>	<b>3.344</b>	<b>3.32556</b>
<b>All students' total</b>	<b>3.231</b>	<b>3.255</b>	<b>3.24259</b>

### Most improved pledge class Fall Term '04 to Winter Term '05

Kappa Alpha Theta: increase of 0.208

Lambda Chi Alpha: increase of 0.215

### Highest overall GPA for a pledge class

Pi Beta Phi: 3.399

Lambda Chi Alpha: 3.238

### Most new members above a 3.3 GPA (weighted averages)

Pi Beta Phi: 65% (20 out of 31)

Lambda Chi Alpha: 50% (8 out of 16)

Statistics courtesy of the office of the dean of students.

## World's fastest climber visits W&L

Contact, Outing Club sponsored motivational speaker Hans Florine Tuesday

By Alex Kraus  
STAFF WRITER

World-renowned speed climber Hans Florine said that the cliff face where he experienced one of the greatest disappointments of his life was the same place where he experienced his greatest triumph.

The motivational speaker, sponsored by Washington and Lee's Outing Club and CONTACT, had been suggested as a possible speaker by Outing Club advisor James Dick.

Florine set the speed record for climbing El Capitan at Yosemite National Park in September 2002, clocking in at 3 hours 24 minutes together with Japanese climber Yuji Hirayama.

"This is my back yard. I am very, very lucky," Florine said of Yosemite in Tuesday's speech.

"We thought he was a unique speaker, and we thought attendance would be good," said CONTACT member David Kronenfeld.

Florine spoke to a nearly-full Commons theater, "We were pleased with attendance, he was one of the less expensive speakers so it's always good



*It can look pretty daunting from the bottom, but the view is beautiful from the top. It's all worth it.*

—HANS FLORINE

when people attend those...and lots of people stayed afterwards to talk to him" Kronenfeld said.

Florine first tried to climb El Capitan in 1988. He only made it a fraction of the way up the face before he used up half of his water and food supplies. Realizing he wouldn't make it all the way, he said he had to turn back "with my tail between my legs."

"If you had told me in 1988 that you could climb El Capitan in a day, I would have said you were crazy," he said.

But Florine said it was his personal goal to climb both El Capitan and nearby Half Dome in one day in 1999 that brought him both disappointment and his greatest feeling of personal reward.

Florine heard through friends that a fellow speed climber, Dean Potter, was planning to be the first person to climb

both mountains in a day. Florine resolved to beat Potter to the challenge, though he knew it would not be an easy task. Florine set a date and began telling friends of his plans in order to raise his own confidence.

"I had never soloed Half Dome before. When I practiced it, it took me seven hours," said Florine, who considers "the nose" of El Capitan to be his favorite path.

Florine set out at 3:24 a.m. on July 28, 1999, to begin climbing Half Dome. He reached the top six and a half hours later.

When he reached the valley again, he met up with a friend, Steve Schneider, who delivered a devastating piece of news. Florine's plans had passed by word-of-mouth to Potter, provoking him to complete the two climbs only a day before.

By the time Florine reached the base of El

Capitan, he was so disappointed that he wasn't sure whether it was worth it to go on.

"I just started climbing. I didn't know what else to do," he admitted. "I thought, 'I cannot be climbing with all this negative stuff in my head.'"

Florine said he only got his motivation back when he realized that Potter's sequence was different from his own. Potter climbed El Capitan first, then Half Dome. Florine realized he would still be the first person to climb Half Dome, then El Capitan.

One photo published in a rock climbing magazine showed an exhausted but smiling Florine successfully reaching the peak of El Capitan.

"This photo captures the most rewarded I've ever felt in my life," he said.

Florine summarized his experiences by saying that pursuing your goals even when you feel disappointed or frustrated can lead to the greatest satisfaction.

He said, "It can look pretty daunting from the bottom, but the view is beautiful from the top. It's all worth it."

The day after his speech, Florine held a climbing seminar out at Goshen for interested students.

# sports



## THIS WEEK

### TUESDAY, APRIL 26

- Men's LAX at ODAC's TBA
- Baseball vs Bluefield 3:00

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

- Baseball vs WV Tech 3:00

### SATURDAY, APRIL 30

- Baseball vs SMCM 1:00

### SUNDAY, APRIL 31

- Baseball at Mary Washington
- Men's LAX at ODAC's TBA

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### W&L Women's Lacrosse Defeats Sweet Briar, 8-3, in ODAC Semis (4/23)

Top-seeded Washington and Lee received three goals from sophomore attacker Kelly Evans and two goals and one assist from junior attacker Amanda Strickler in defeating fifth-seeded Sweet Briar, 8-3, in the semifinals of the ODAC Women's Lacrosse Tournament on Saturday afternoon at Watt Field.

### W&L Baseball Drops a Pair of Games in ODAC Tournament (4/23)

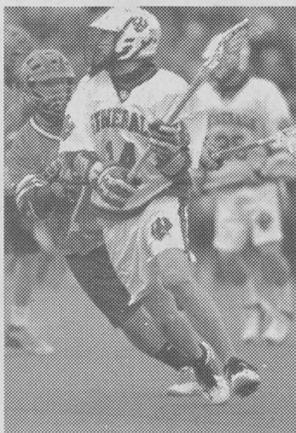
The fifth-seeded Washington and Lee baseball team dropped pair of games in the ODAC Tournament on Saturday at Salem Memorial Stadium in Salem, Va. The Generals fell to sixth-seeded Hampden-Sydney, 7-2, before losing to second-seeded Lynchburg, 8-6.

### W&L Golf Sits in Third Place at ODAC Championships

The Washington and Lee golf team shot an opening round 316 and resides in third place at the ODAC Golf Championships held at the Olde Mill Resort in Olde Forks, Va. The Generals trail leader Randolph-Macon by five strokes and are being led by freshman Nathaniel James, who is tied for fifth with a 77. Freshman Steven Spivey is eighth with a 78. Final round action continues on Sunday.

### W&L Riding Finishes Second at ODAC Championships (4/22)

The Washington and Lee riding team finished second out of five teams at the 2005 ODAC Championships held at Hollins University on Friday afternoon. Randolph-Macon Women's College won with 19 points and was followed by W&L (17), Hollins (10), Bridgewater (10) and Lynchburg (7).



Men's Lacrosse lost to 15th ranked Hampden Sydney on Saturday 10-5

### W&L Golf Wins Buck Leslie Invitational (4/19)

The Washington and Lee golf team shot a 301-301-602 to win the fifth annual Buck Leslie Invitational held at the Lexington Golf & Country Club. Individually, the Generals were paced by senior Ged Johnson (Darien, Conn./Taft School), who shot a 71-75-146 to finish second overall.

## WRITE SPORTS FOR THE PHI

Email: [rulep@wu.edu](mailto:rulep@wu.edu)

## OFF TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP



Jon Rogers / Staff Photographer

The lady General's lacrosse team advanced in its semifinal game against Sweet Briar on Saturday in Lexington. Sophomore local Kelly Evans led the Generals with 3 goals including two in the first half. Amanda Strickler and Kristen Brown each notched tallied two goals of their own. Sweet Briar was only able to score two goals thanks to stellar defense led by goalie Sarah Tilbor who had five saves. With the win over the fifth seeded Vixens the top seeded Generals were able to move on to face the third-seeded Yellow Jackets of Randolph-Macon.

## Ladies' Tennis rolls into ODAC Finals

By Kathryn Krall w/Sports Release  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, the third-ranked Washington and Lee women's tennis team dominated the ODAC Championship playoffs at Hollins University for the second day in a row.

All six singles players advanced to the finals by defeating their players by large margins. No W&L player dropped more than two wins en route to her victory. Senior Lindsay Hagerman again defended her top spot by easily downing her opponent.

Kristen McClung, Emily Applegate, Ginny Wortham, Katie Kingsbury, and Leah Weston all won their semifinal matches and advanced to the championship match in their flight. In addition, the team had all three doubles teams advance to the semifinals, which will be played on Sunday.

At No. 1 singles, Hagerman defeated Kayla Carter of Emory & Henry, 6-0, 6-2, and will play Elizabeth Kristofak of Randolph-Macon in the finals.

At No. 2 singles, McClung knocked off Melissa James of Hollins, 6-2, 6-0, and will take on Trista McGlothlin of Emory & Henry for the title.

Applegate beat Guilford's Songan Nguyen, 6-0, 6-0, and will meet Hilary Teeter for the championship at No. 3

singles.

At No. 4 singles, Wortham bested Avery Latronica of Roanoke, 6-0, 6-2, and will play Hollins' Candice Dalton in the finals. Weston was a 6-0, 6-0 winner over Sarah Sullivan at No. 5 singles and will take on Anne Ryan of Emory & Henry for the title.

At No. 6 singles, Kingsbury beat Emory & Henry's Kate Childress, 6-0, 6-1, and will face Jessie Bayne of Randolph-Macon for the championship.

In quarterfinals doubles action, the duo of Hagerman and Wortham knocked off Kierra McMillian and Lisa Fanney of Virginia Wesleyan, 8-1, at No. 1 doubles. At No. 2 doubles, Applegate and McClung bested the pair of Megan McEwen and Amy Iden of Randolph-Macon, 8-3, while Weston and senior Lora Farris posted an 8-3 victory over Lynchburg's Kathryn Andrews and Erica Seay at No. 3 doubles.

W&L tennis has always been a powerhouse in the ODAC conference, and winning ODAC championships was a goal the team held since the beginning of the year. With the entire team playing at their top form, the team is well on its way to accomplishing this goal.

The Generals return to the court for the final day of the ODAC Championships on Sunday when the singles finals and doubles semifinals and finals will be played.



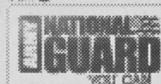
## "YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION MAY BE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK"

With tuition costs and living expenses constantly rising, the price of a college education may seem out of sight. The Virginia Army National Guard has programs that can bring the cost of a college education into focus.

- 100% Tuition Assistance for VA State Colleges/Universities
- Part-time job with great pay and full-time benefits
- \$10,000 Bonus Possible
- Montgomery GI Bill

Joining the Army National Guard does not mean putting off college. You can serve in your community while attending classes. Let your recruiter show you that your education is closer than you think!

Virginia



1-800-GO-GUARD  
[www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com](http://www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com)

## Three General athletes honored for academics

By Sports Release  
Sports Information

Three Washington and Lee athletes received academic honors in the past week. Paul McClure and Nathan Johnson each were named Scholar-athletes of the year for their respective sports. Lindsey Hagerman was also honored by being named one of the six finalists for the Walter Byers Award.

McClure is a philosophy major who carries a 3.316 cumulative grade-point average (GPA). He is currently ranked 25th in Division III among singles players and claims a 14-8 singles record and a 13-8 doubles mark.

McClure is a two-time ODAC Player of the Year and a three-time First Team All-ODAC honoree. Last spring, he earned First Team All-America honors after advancing to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III Singles Championship.

Men's tennis claimed its 10th straight ODAC Championship over the weekend. McClure and the Generals now wait to find out who their opponent will be in the opening round of the NCAA Division III Tournament which begins on May 7.

Johnson, a math and economics major, carries a cumulative grade-point average of 3.706 and earned First Team All-ODAC honors at the 2005 ODAC Indoor Track & Field Championships on Feb. 27.

Johnson won the 5000 meters at the ODAC meet in a school-record time of 15:35.93. He also ran a school-record time of 8:37.24 in the 3000 meters at the Christopher Newport Invitational earlier

this season.

Johnson was also named the 2004 ODAC Cross Country Scholar-athlete and Runner of the Year. At the ODAC Cross Country Championships on Oct. 30, Johnson won the race in a time of 28:16.56 to help lead the Generals to the ODAC title.

Johnson also won the NCAA South/Southeast Regional in a time of 26:43.82 to earn all-region accolades and qualify for the NCAA Championships. At the NCAA's, Johnson finished 83rd out of 215 runners in a personal-best time of 25:48.60.

The Walter Byers Award is one of the NCAA's most prestigious awards and is presented in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and future success in postgraduate studies and planned careers.

The NCAA selects one male and one female recipient each year and awards the winners a \$21,500 scholarship for graduate school. The awardee also has the option of renewing the scholarship for a second year given that they are in good academic standing and a full-time student during the second year of study.

Hagerman is a history major with a 3.677 cumulative GPA. On the tennis court, she claims a 106-17 (.862) career singles record and a 101-15 (.871) career doubles mark, both among the all-time best records in school history.

A six-time NCAA All-American, Hagerman has a 26-1 record in singles and a 19-2 record in doubles this season. She won the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Division III National Singles Championship during the fall and was the ITA's National Co-Rookie of the Year in 2002.

## BlueRidge PHYSICAL THERAPY

Care with you in mind  
463-5688

728 North Lee Hwy  
Lexington, VA

(College Square Shopping Center)  
John 3:16

Specializing in:

Orthopedics  
Sports Medicine  
Spinal Mobilization  
Post-OP rehabilitation

Please call or stop by to speak with one of our staff members with any questions you may have concerning your treatment, or your insurance.

## New Opticians Boutique

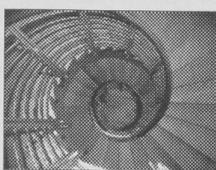
Extreme Fun!

Oakley  
Maui Jim

For all your vision needs come to  
203 N. Main Street, Lexington, VA

540-463-7440

# opinions



## STAFF EDITORIAL

### W&L's NCUR enthusiasm low

Though on the front page of this week's *Phi*, Tim Kolly calls NCUR, "a great resume piece for both schools," meaning for both Washington and Lee and the Virginia Military Institute, we at *The Ring-tum Phi* feel that the University let a great opportunity slip through its fingers.

Though the Conference was well-publicized this past week on Washington and Lee's website, students were less than informed, and thus less than enthusiastic, about the event.

If the Conference was important enough for thousands of students to fly in from across the nation to attend, one would think that W&L students, being as smart and capable as they are, would jump at the chance to present research at such a prestigious event. And yet...NCUR people seemed to swirl around campus and through Lexington in their own little bubble, separate from W&L and not interacting much with our students.

During this academic year, there was little to no discussion of NCUR in any of our academic classes. Although several Washington and Lee students did present research, and we're sure they were brilliant, what bothers us is the very blasé attitude most of the campus took toward the whole event. We cannot really blame the students, however, seeing as how there was little effort made to involve the campus.

Few professors encouraged students to attend, publicity leading up to the actual event was fairly sparse, and no activities including NCUR students were well-publicized.

We are afraid that NCUR students from across the country left Lexington with the idea that W&L students are a very apathetic breed.

## UPS & DOWNS

*Opinions Editor Caley Anderson has finished sucking up to his profs to give you his take on what rose and fell this week at W&L and around the world.*

### April

I wore shorts on Sunday. Shorts, and then it snowed. SNOWED, and it's almost May.

### NCUR

Yes, the conference itself was good. But if I had to think of one thing that Lexington needed, "more tour buses" is not at the top of the list.

### NFL Draft

What's really funny is Maurice Clarett receiving the mercy of the Denver Broncos by being drafted at the end of the third round. Poor guy.

### Hawley-Smoot Tariff

An attempt to isolate the U.S. economy and thus, it was reasoned, help it weather the depression, this tariff, aimed mostly at the agricultural sector, severely depended the economic damage of the depression.

### New Construction

Hey, as long as we're building stuff, can we put a new library up somewhere? I mean, really.

### Mirage

Shut down for serving underage NCUR attendees. Ouch. I thought these sort of events were supposed to HELP local businesses.

### Pope

Elected very quickly, showing great confidence from cardinals. But will this noted conservative be able to unify Catholics?

### Mass transit

58% more Americans now using buses, rail, etc. Gas gouging corps, feel our wrath.

### Caley Anderson for '06 rep

Even though I finished in last place in the last election I could have possibly run in, I remain confident of eventual victory.

## Honor Forum

### Student solutions to honor situations

Welcome to the Ring-tum Phi's Honor Forum. Each week, we will provide you with a hypothetical honor situation. In each case, the accused party will have committed some act which they confess to doing, but which they contend does not constitute an Honor Violation. The idea is to determine whether particular behaviors are honorable or not; the validity of facts and the believability of witnesses, etc., are NOT the issues.

In this forum, YOU are the EC. You decide whether the accused has acted with honor or without honor, and thus whether they are dismissed from the University. Each hypothetical will have a presentation of the facts, a summary of the essential question in need of answering, and a short argument from the Opinions Editor as to which answer he believes to be correct. Future editions will print notable responses to the questions from the W&L Community.

For this first installment of Honor Forum, our hypothetical case deals with a W&L alumnus named Sally. Sally graduated W&L with a major in business eleven years ago. During those eleven years, she has worked her way up the ranks to become the CEO of Brain Co., a major software producer.

Recently, Brain Co. has become embroiled in an Enron-esque scandal, and because of direct and obvious lies told to the media by Sally (which have now been revealed), Brain Co. stock has lost all value, Brain Co. employees are being laid off, and a lot of innocent shareholders have had their portfolios ruined.

The Executive Committee, hearing of this, has called Sally back to W&L to face honor proceedings. Sally has not responded, and in absentia the Committee tries her for an honor violation. If found guilty, Sally will be stripped of her degree (we'll work under the assumption that the University has the legal right to do so, and that the administration will cooperate with the EC's guilty verdict).

You are a sitting member of the EC, and the case is in your hands.

The question: If an individual leaves W&L, then causes a massive breach of trust as in this case (not necessarily against members of the W&L community), is that individual guilty of an honor violation?

My two cents:

Sally is guilty of an honor violation and ought to be stripped of her degree. Regardless of whether members of the W&L community were hurt by the fall of Brain Co., Sally has clearly acted in a dishonorable manner. It would be difficult to assert that any act of dishonesty by an alumnus would be dishonorable, but with a lie so obvious and so catastrophic, how can it be denied in this case?

The only problems will be whether W&L's authorities DO strip Sally of her degree, and whether courts will agree that W&L had the right to take away the degree. But these are issues outside the control of the student body, the real question is whether we believe Sally's actions to be dishonorable. And I think that they are.

E-mail responses to [phi@wlu.edu](mailto:phi@wlu.edu)

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

## THE RING-TUM PHI.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ERIN ELIZABETH JULIUS

MANAGING EDITOR MARSHALL RULE  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR KATHERINE SHELL  
OPINIONS EDITOR CALEY ANDERSON  
ASST. OPINIONS EDITOR ANNE FINLEY  
ASST. LIFE EDITOR BREEMELTON  
PHOTO EDITOR STEVEN MARINOS  
LAYOUT EDITOR EMILY HULEN

BUSINESS MANAGER DAVID SEIFERT  
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR YINYAN LI  
ROHAN POOJARA

COPY EDITORS AMANDA THOLKE  
VANESSA ARNESS  
SARAH MURRAY

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

*The Ring-tum Phi*  
University Commons Room 341  
Washington and Lee University  
Lexington, Virginia 24450  
Telephone: (540) 458-4060  
Fax: (540) 458-4059  
Email: [phi@wlu.edu](mailto:phi@wlu.edu)  
Subscription rate \$40

## Sorority sister calls for Derby Days improvements

*In light of the sensitive nature of this topic, this writer wishes to remain anonymous.*

Spring term tends to make me nostalgic for home and the past. You remember the most random things: like Field Day in elementary school. It was always my favorite week of the year. Good, clean fun. And I always dominated against the other little kids and cherished the blue ribbons which were offered as proof of my athleticism. But when I contrast this memory with the inter-sorority competition which is Derby Days, I am left bewildered.

What is Derby Days about really? In the past I went to it to support my sorority and didn't think to analyze its greater purpose. I just got in my gym clothes, perhaps a slightly spruced up version of them, and went. After all, it was for a good cause, right? A full week devoted to philanthropy and sisterly bonding. Now, I'm no longer convinced.

Let's look at the facts. A nationally-recognized philanthropic event for Sigma Chi, Derby Days consists of roughly five days of events. There is field day, two days of powder-puff football, a skit night, and of course parties at the pole houses. But as I'm there, cheering on my friends and sisters, I look around. Besides the fact that no one will convince me that this isn't just another excuse for students to be able to drink during the day, I see the whole picture as generally degrading.

Most men who are around are standing up on their porches drinking

beer and looking on in amusement as women in the five sororities compete against each other. Drinking is encouraged by all participants too, of course. A little nastiness tends to ensue. And even if everyone is completely civil, you would be hard pressed to show that sorority relations are improved or the Greek System strengthened.

And don't get me started on the infamous t-shirts being sold as an alternative to the sororities' winning design. I have yet to see it in person, perhaps because none of my friends would ever dream of buying it, but it apparently depicts one woman spanking another with a Sigma Chi paddle. Needless to say, the design was never approved through the proper administrative channels. What is the message being sent? Is it as it appears: that Derby Days is about sponsoring female cat fights for the viewing pleasure of fraternity men?

Please don't get me wrong. I think Sigma Chi is a great fraternity with a lot of stand-up, nice guys. I am simply left asking myself why they would agree to host such a ridiculous and patronizing event. Derby Days at W&L need to match what is happening at other campuses across the nation. It should fulfill a clear, philanthropic function where all the participants know what cause they are supporting and the dollar amount raised. Alcohol should not be the focus. And it should bring people together and strengthen the Greek System. If not, women should just stop going.

## EC Honor Notices

March 28, 2005

A member of the Student Body withdrew after being found guilty of an Honor Violation. The Executive Committee heard testimony that the student used unacknowledged aid on a math exam. The evidence suggested that the student entered his/her professor's office during a makeup exam while the professor was not there, identified and retrieved mathematics aid materials, and returned to work utilizing the aid to complete the exam.

In defense, the student stated that during the exam he/she went to the professor's office to ask a question. He/She looked inside of the office to determine whether the professor was there, and after concluding that he/she was not, returned to the exam. The student also claimed that he/she returned to the office later when the professor was present, and proceeded to ask a question. The student denied ever completely entering the office during the exam while the professor was absent, and denied that he/she retrieved any aid materials from the office. The student also denied using any aid materials on the exam.

The Executive Committee found, however, by credible evidence that the student entered his/her professor's office during the exam while the professor was not there, identified and retrieved mathematics aid materials, and used them to complete the exam.

April 6, 2005

## Summary of Executive Committee Honor Activity for the 2004-2005 Academic Year

Investigations: 11

Withdrawals while being Investigated: 0

Withdrawals in Face of a Closed Hearing: 1

Closed Hearings: 4

Guilty Verdicts in Closed Hearings: 1

Not Guilty Verdicts in Closed Hearings: 3

Student Body Hearings: 0

"I was acting."

— QUOTE OF THE WEEK The mother of Michael Jackson's accuser, responding to a video in which she is seen praising Jackson for his assistance to her family.

# Anderson reviews W&L strategic plan

By Caley Anderson  
MODERATE MUSINGS

The University's strategic plan draft has generated a lot of noise in recent months. Full of mostly good ideas, there are a few high-profile proposed initiatives that are generating the aforementioned noise.

In a two-part editorial, we'll look at the good and the bad of these standout strategic plan initiatives, while recognizing that the document is mostly full of positive innovation. This week, in true Phi fashion, we start with the bad.

First, and most notoriously, the proposal to make on-campus, non-Greek residence for sophomores mandatory.

The strategic plan states (in its student affairs section) "We propose that freshmen and sophomores live in campus-based residential learning communities while upper-class (juniors and seniors) students live in Greek housing (also residential learning based programs) and off campus. Learning Communities could be developed by theme, including the sciences, foreign languages, environmental issues, social justice, cultural heritage, etc."

The most commonly-raised objection is that sophomores are an integral part of a Greek organization's makeup, and that to force sophomores

away from the Greek houses and into dorms would alter Greek organizations' dynamics for the worse. On top of that, though, there are serious logistical problems.

Presumably, a new (and expensive) dorm would be built to help accommodate the entirety of the sophomore class. Gaines and Woods Creek house a total of 342 people; the typical W&L class is about 425. A new building for the sake of 80 or so people is not terribly cost-efficient when considering that the only benefit is the creation of "learning communities," which, while they have their benefits, may or may not be worth tens of millions of dollars.

This is not to mention the adverse effects on juniors and seniors, who would be faced with the binary choice of either living in a Greek house or off-campus. The Greek houses and the off-campus market are already strained without stuffing ALL of the 850 or so juniors and seniors into them. For Greek students, the choice between Greek housing and off-campus housing would become difficult; for independents, it would be no choice at all.

If the University DOES adopt this option, I would hope it would retain a guarantee to upperclass students that housing of SOME sort in Lexington would be available. Commuting to W&L is not

something I'd ever want to do, but future classes might have to deal with it if the Lexington housing market gets too ridiculous as a result of this idea. (I do like the idea of organizing halls by academic interest, though). Of course, the Capital/Space Planning task force report mentions the need for a specifically non-greek facility, and even looks at the feasibility of it, so maybe there's something we don't know about in the works.

Also from the Student Affairs section is this-

"We recommend that the university institute freshman seminars and the following shared experiences: Two one-credit courses required of freshmen in the fall and winter terms, similar to the model of the Physical Education requirement. These courses would be coordinated by student-affairs professionals but would also draw heavily on the physical-education faculty and academic faculty. The curriculum should include the following subjects: Student development, including time management, study skills, leadership and governance, the Honor System, university resources, and career development. Wellness issues, physical and mental, including alcohol and drugs, nutrition, fitness, safety, and depression. Social issues, including diversity, loneliness and transitions, and open

discussion about social life on campus including the role of Greek life at Washington and Lee before and during pledgship."

In other words, this takes orientation and turns it into two one-credit classes. It's simply not necessary.

Besides increasing the course load of faculty in a bizarre way (what does a history doctorate, or an expert on racquetball have to say about time management, or the vague concept of "leadership and governance?"), this increases student courseloads during the most difficult terms a student has at W&L and is redundant with orientation. I can see no real reason to replace orientation with two classes.

Though the Strategic Plan cites research that shows such "freshman seminars" to improve GPAs, retention, and faculty-student interaction, these were never really problems at W&L.

What I do like, though, is the idea of a course on the Honor System. Mandatory for all freshmen or not, I think that the Honor System is a much deeper subject which the brief synopsis during orientation barely does justice to. If you do a course on non-academics like "study skills," I guarantee you that freshmen will treat it as a non-class, dropping it to the bottom of their priority list and focusing instead on the classes that make serious demands of

them. A course on the Honor System, though, would be very tangible and very interesting. It could even have the effect of decreasing the number of honor violations. The philosophy faculty could teach it, with appearances by EC members.

Finally, we have the trident. The strategic plan's Communications/External Relations task force, as part of a stated need to create a unified graphic image for the University, recommends that the trident symbol be made less ominous and less swastika-like. I like nearly all of this task force's recommendations, but this is not one of them.

The trident has been a part of the University for a long time; you can see pictures in the gym of baseball players at the turn of the 20th century wearing it. I don't think it looks particularly swastika-like, although I grant that it looks sort of ominous. I like that about it, though. It looks mysterious, certainly, and I think it's rather a positive thing.

The trident is already a part of the University's "unified graphic image." Besides, changing it would be a difficult proposition—the trident is everywhere. It's on the gym walls, on University pamphlets, on athletic equipment, etc. Changing it for the sake of making it less evil-looking really isn't a well-placed priority.

Next week, what I especially liked about the strategic plan.

# Black greek organizations spur campus debate

By Becky LeMoine  
THE LIBERAL VIEW

On Thursday the Office of Student Activities and Greek Life and the Office of Multicultural Affairs announced in a campus notice that they were welcoming two new Greek organizations to Washington and Lee, one of which is the Beta Beta Nu Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., which has historically been regarded as an African-American fraternity.

This brings us to the question that has been circling on campus since the announcement: Will the installation of a chapter of Phi Beta Sigma at Washington and Lee have a positive or negative effect on attempts to unify students?

Since it seems that very few people have a definite opinion on this issue, I

would like to simply present a list of pros and cons with the goal of fostering further discussion on the topic.

## ARGUMENTS FOR

As it currently stands, the majority of African-American students at W&L tend not to be involved with Greek life. One possible reason for this is that they do not feel comfortable or welcomed in the mostly-white fraternity environment. The new fraternity would provide them an alternative option for becoming involved in the Greek system.

If the fraternity chooses to play an active role in the Greek community, it could increase friendly interaction between African-American students and other students. For example, at present, parties are usually very segregated. However, involvement with the Greek system could promote integration in social

scenes, and this could help improve relations between all races of students.

Since the new fraternity is an "open" fraternity, it is seeking to embrace diversity and brotherhood, not to exclude students. If the fraternity really is "open" to all eligible students, then any objections that it is excluding members of a particular race are invalid.

## ARGUMENTS AGAINST

An African-American fraternity would increase segregation, rather than promote integration, because it would further separate African-American students from other W&L students. This would lead to an even bigger divide between different races of students, and would impede efforts to promote acceptance of diversity.

Why "fix" a problem that does not exist? African-Americans have an

equal opportunity to join the fraternities that are currently instituted at W&L, and to prove this, some African-Americans have successfully done so. Therefore, why should we try to fix a non-existent problem by creating a problem that is so controversial?

Although the new fraternity claims it is an "open" fraternity, in reality it probably will be an option only for African-American students. Thus, the new fraternity will only create more tension between the races.

No matter what your stance is on the issue, we can all probably agree that the results are entirely dependent on the direction that the new chapter decides to take and how other W&L students decide to respond to the new chapter. We students now have a powerful responsibility to act in a manner which

could either benefit or harm the cause for diversity and acceptance, depending on what actions we consciously choose to take.

To end, I would like to inform or remind students of something that the Phi Beta Sigma website says- "The founders deeply wished to create an organization that viewed itself as 'a part of' the general community rather than 'apart from' the general community. They believed that each potential member should be judged by his own merits rather than his family background or affluence...without regard of race, nationality, skin tone or texture of hair. They wished and wanted their fraternity to exist as part of even a greater brotherhood which would be devoted to the 'inclusive we' rather than the 'exclusive we'."

Write for the Phi!  
E-mail  
phi@wlu.edu



**Orchardside Yarn Shop**  
Knitting Specialty Shop  
273 Raphine Road  
Raphine, VA 24472  
540-348-5220 • 1-877-NIT-YARN

Knitting cottage nestled along the creek which carries a fabulous selection of basic and novelty yarns, kits, needles and accessories. Customer service from start to finish with your projects. Mail order and Internet accessibility made easy.

Call for workshop & class information.

Halfway between Lexington and Staunton  
On I-81 / I-64 at exit 205. Raphine. 4 miles west on  
Route 606, Raphine Road. Located on a working  
farm that offers "U-PICK" opportunities for fresh  
fruit when in season.

Tues - Sat 10:00 - 5:00, Wed until 8:00

[www.oysyarnshop.com](http://www.oysyarnshop.com)

**ANN MAYS**  
Certified Massage Therapist  
Lexington, VA  
540-570-4780  
Swedish, Deep Tissue, and Hot Stone Massage  
Reflexology, and Reiki  
1 Hour Massage - \$35.00



Creating solutions, changing lives.

## SUMMER CAMP JOBS

Looking for the best summer of your life? Easter Seals Virginia can help you find it. We are committed to helping people with disabilities gain greater independence. Join our dedicated team this summer at Camp Easter Seals Virginia in Craig County. We have job openings for camp counselors and program leaders (aquatics, horseback riding, music, nature, sports and more). Room, board and salary provided. For information, contact Deborah Duerk at [dduerk@va.easterseals.com](mailto:dduerk@va.easterseals.com) or at (840) 864-5750. Visit our website to learn how you can make a difference. [www.va.easterseals.com](http://www.va.easterseals.com)

## LIFEGUARDS/POOL MANAGERS

Now hiring for summer 2005 NoVa areas!  
Competitive Pay! Call now or visit website!

[www.premier411.com](http://www.premier411.com)

1 877 SEE POOL

## Warning

If you are under 30 or otherwise suffer  
from severe Mass Media Syndrome  
DO NOT read

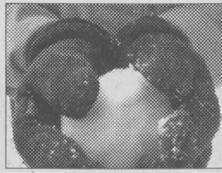
Bob Fussell's (W&L class of '64)

## MY GREAT LIFE

[www.mygreatlife.net](http://www.mygreatlife.net)

without approval of your mental health provider

# arts & life



Kappa Kappa Gamma competes in the tug of war event last week at Derby Days. The annual event is put on by Sigma Chi and all five sororities competed in events ranging from football to collecting the most pennies.



Kappa Kappa Gamma girls celebrate winning Sigma Chi's Derby Days

## Kappa wins Sigma Chi's Derby Days

All five sororities give good effort

By Erin Julius  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sigma Chi jump-started Spring Term's social activities last week with its annual philanthropic effort, Derby Days. The campus' five sororities competed in various events, from powderpuff football to comedic skits, and endeavored to raise money through such activities as penny wars and buying Derby Days T-shirts.

Kappa Alpha Theta won powderpuff football after two days of inter-sorority football games.

Pi Beta Phi won Wednesday night's skit by portraying a Sigma Chi boys successfully winning over a girl with a clever pick-up line.

Kappa Kappa Gamma won both the penny race and Thursday night's pizza race. Kappa Kappa Gamma was also declared the overall winner.

## Greek life creates factions

Fraternities and Sororities mostly good, but have flaws

By Marshall Rule  
MANAGING EDITOR

I have always been a supporter of our Greek system. The good things that come out of fraternities and sororities heavily outweigh the negative byproducts. However there are a few things about the system that are problematic to me.

The main problem that comes with Greeks is the exclusiveness due to the factions the system creates. This problem can intensify after rush due to bad feelings of upperclassmen towards a particular freshman because that person did not go to such and such fraternity.

I didn't notice it too much until I went through the rush process as an upperclassman. When rushing a person you can get to be really close to them and by the end of rush you may feel like that person is definitely coming to your house. When that person doesn't, especially if he told you he planned on it, you will obviously have bad feelings towards the kid.

After rush as a freshman last year, I

felt that I had lost a lot of upperclassmen friends after I didn't choose their house. I would feel awkward seeing them in public and purposely not make eye contact. Now as a sophomore I find me on the other end of those awkward moments.

While I would never be mad at someone for choosing a different house, it seems like a lot of freshmen think I would be. While I understand the reasons behind these fears, I wish they would change.

As freshmen we lose a lot of our friends that we had fall term of freshmen year simply because they went to other houses. In the Greek system fraternities rarely mix outside of class. It's not out of bad blood for the most part, but rather, out of laziness. When you live with a group of friends that is really tight, there is little reason to go outside of that comfort zone and make an effort to hang out with old friends.

Because of the effort needed to hang out with friends in other fraternities there is a sense of exclusiveness to each frat. Thinking back on last term, I realized

that in the whole 12 weeks I did not step foot into another fraternity house even for a band party. While obviously I have attended off campus parties that were hosted by other frats, most of the time I hang out with only fraternity brothers at those events.

It is interesting to see which people are willing to make the effort to hang out with other people, and which ones don't. While I would like to think that I make the effort necessary to keep all of my friends, I am realistic in saying that I have not.

While I will always say the courtesy hello on the hill, or maybe even get a bite to eat at the co-op with an old friend, for the most part, I stick with my frat.

Like I said in the beginning, the Greek system at W&L is very unique and something that works very well and is very enjoyable to be a part of. I think schools with fraternities work are much better for students than ones without.

At the same time, we need to take it a little less serious and find a way to keep our old friends and at the same time make the most of our own fraternity.

### Berky's Restaurant

PEDAL CAR DINER & TIN TOY CAFÉ

Order from our complete menu

Or join us for one of our ALL YOU CAN EAT Buffets!

- ~ Friday Night Seafood Buffet with Crab Legs 5PM-10PM
- ~ Saturday Night Steak & Shrimp 5PM-10PM
- ~ Sunday Baked Chicken & BBQ Ribs 11AM-9PM
- ~ Breakfast Bar 7 Days a Week 6AM-11AM
- ~ Daily Hot Country Bar 11AM-10PM
- ~ Daily Soup, Salad, & Fruit Bar 11AM-10PM

Home Cooked Meals & Southern Hospitality!

Order Breakfast 24 Hours a Day, Seven days a week!

Located at

LEE HI TRAVEL PLAZA

1-81 & 1-64, EXIT 195, 2516 NORTH LEE HWY, LEXINGTON, VA

540-463-3478

Great Food & a great collection of  
Antique Pedal Cars & Tin Toys!



## PURE VALUE.

Scion's "Pure Price" purchase experience means No haggle. No hassle.

Vehicle starts well equipped. You can accessorize (or not). Simple, straightforward menu pricing.

Price starting at  
**xB \$14,195\*** Price as shown  
**\$16,070**

### Standard features include:

160-watt Pioneer CD stereo with six speakers, including two tweeters and Scion Sound Processing / MP3 capable and XM satellite ready / Air conditioner / Choice of three wheel cover designs / Anti-lock brakes / Power windows, door locks, and outside mirrors / 5-year, 60,000-mile Powertrain warranty!



31 MPG City  
35 MPG Hwy

Locate your nearest Scion Dealer at [Scion.com](http://Scion.com) or call 1-866-70-SCION.

\*MSRP includes delivery processing and handling fee; excludes taxes, title, license and optional equipment. Actual dealer price may vary. TRD USA, Inc. (Toyota Racing Development), an aftermarket performance parts company, markets a line of parts through some Scion dealers. These aftermarket parts are not Genuine Scion parts, and cannot be utilized for Scion warranty replacement. TRD parts are warranted by TRD, not Scion. Note that certain aftermarket equipment may not be street legal in all states and may impact your vehicle's performance or safety. \*EPA Estimates for xB manual 5-speed. Your mileage may vary. See your Scion dealer for additional details on the Scion limited warranty. © 2004 Scion and the Scion logo are trademarks of Toyota Motor Corporation and Toyota is a registered trademark of Toyota Motor Corporation. For more information, call 866-70-SCION (866-707-2444) or visit [scion.com](http://scion.com).



what moves you  
[scion.com](http://scion.com)

# last word



## You've been served

*Trout explains why sequel to "You got Served" will change your life*

By Hugh Trout  
THE SHEPHERD

I just got served. And we're not talking just a little bit...we're talking the kind of served that you stay awake at night thinking about it was so bad...I was served straight street.

At first I didn't recognize the full extent to which I had been served, but the more I think about it, the more I now understand that I was served so bad that it can only be characterized as off the chain. That's right, I said it...I was served straight street off the chain.

But the point of this article isn't to disclose my own personal serving...it is rather to warn you all of a massive scale serving that will be dealt to not only every single W&L student, but to everyone in the world. But how could so many people be served? Who or what is going to serve you and me so mercilessly?

I will warn you that the information I am about to divulge will dramatically and permanently change not only the way in which you live your life, dear reader, but the way you view the world. They are making "You Got Served 2."

Let the word ring out...there is a God, and he likes You Got Served. At first, when I learned of such a glorious development, I thought that all the serving that could have been shown in a movie had clearly been depicted in the first movie.

But, in fact, there is more serving to be done. While the movie is far from going into theatres (you just cannot rush true art), we can only speculate as to what will happen in the movie. Who will get served? Who will be serving? Will they incorporate Lil Saint, the young friend who was tragically killed due to inner-city violence (I'm thinking a re-occurring ghost kind of a deal...it could be done really well if the acting is as good as it was in the first movie)?

While you may watch the movie solely for the joy of seeing some super-sweet dance moves, I watch for true character development. The first movie was filled with all the trappings of a great

American film: romance, tragedy, loss, redemption, friendship, break dancing, villains, and, most importantly, break dancing.

While we can only speculate as to what will happen in the second film, one thing we can be sure about: someone is gonna get served. But perhaps there is something greater to be learned from the production of "You Got Served 2."

At a time when there is much violence and disruption in the world, it is truly comforting to know that we can all come together as people to enjoy the common fascination of watching people get served.

Sure, we may disagree as to issues of religion, democracy and the basic ways of how to live one's life, but we all can agree that the only thing more beautiful than happy innocent children playing or the sight of two people falling in love is seeing some sick break dancing moves.

Before I had the privilege of seeing "You Got Served," my life was a mess. I was so confused that at one point I thought that I was going to get a job and start a family when I got older.

After watching the glorious serving that was shown, I realized that my life was to be devoted to starting my very own dance group to travelling the country and fighting crime by day while serving people at night.

I have had to put this dream on hold until I get this whole college degree thing out of the way, but believe you me, one day I will be serving people straight street. That's right, be sure to behave because if you're bad there is a chance that me and my crew will have to roll up on you and serve you straight street, off the chain.

But don't you worry, you don't have to wait until I serve somebody to see some serving, you can watch professionals serve other professionals in the greatest cinematic event of this or other century: "You Got Served 2."

*After watching the glorious serving that was shown, I realized that my life was to be devoted to starting my very own dance group to travel the country and fight crime by day while serving people at night.*

## Breka introduces the party characters

By Eka Alpkap and Bree Melton  
BREKA

Breka's back after quite a break and we have some spring cleaning to do. When we go out, we encounter some very interesting types of people.

First of all, there are the guys you run into on your way out. They've already started the drinking and need to relieve themselves...in the parking garage. Brilliant boys, there are cameras in the parking garage.

Next, there are the kids you meet on Traveller, the obvious freshmen with the visiting relatives. They try to impress them by naming every place they've ever partied and point it out as Traveller passes it. Don't do that. That's annoying.

Alright, so now you're at the party, you've got a beer in your hand, you look over to see who just changed the song on the stereo and find...jumping guy. Not dancing guy, but jumping guy, fist in the air as he makes his way through the party.

Then he goes out the back door

meanwhile his friend is still at the stereo, he's a much more mellow drunk. Peer pressure, however, soon overcomes his mellowness as jumping guy comes back in the front door and his friend becomes jumping guy, the second.

You leave the craziness inside and go to find the keg. There you meet over-share drunk girl. This girl is not only wasted, but insists on talking to everyone that walks by the keg, convinced that she knows them all.

This leads to awkward silence since the girl really doesn't know...anyone. She shares stories from freshman year while people nod, smile, and slowly back away. Goodbye, over-share drunk girl.

Back inside. You find a place on the couch because all this people-watching has got you tired. You're sitting back, having a nice conversation with strung out guy, who doesn't have much to add to the conversation but at least he's entertaining to watch.

Suddenly...you feel a hand stroking your hair gently. You'd like to think it's a hottie, but low and behold it's roll-

ing girl. We don't mean she's doing cartwheels, we mean she's doing ecstasy.

You introduce yourself, and while your attention is on her, strung out guy gets distracted and disappears. A little creeped out, you decide to peace out.

Now let's fast forward 20 years. Not much has changed, you're at an Alumni cocktail party and the types of people are about the same.

Added to them are the Senators that make "snaps to them" comments about how great they are, trophy wives, and drunken boyfriends that aren't even alums. Of course you still have your frat boys that are in the band (look out for Cho, coming to campus this spring) and the little frat boys in training with their khakis and blue blazer.

We would like to end this article by giving props to the most impressive type of person we've met: Tripp. He's ready to schmooze at the Alumni parties and has mastered the art of introduction. He had a firm handshake, looked us in the eye, and made interesting conversation. Congratulations, four years of W&L partying has served you well.

## Reflections on Spring Term

*Kristine discusses the first week of school after break*

By Kristine Early  
THE MILK AND CHEESE GIRL

Welcome back to Virginia! I hope everyone had a lovely time soaking in the sun...in Destin, of course. Thank goodness for the NCUR conference to ease us back into college life. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to go see any presentations. I was too busy working and (cough, cough) playing for that. A three-day weekend the very first week back from break...what a lovely way to start Spring Term. Thank you administration for such a rare treat.

And thank you Sigma Chi. You made my week fly by, despite the fact that I had 200 pages of reading assigned each night. And of course, I have to be one of those extremely driven people that actually *does* the reading. (I heard spring term courses were less demanding. Thanks for getting me all excited and then bursting my bubble. I really appreciate it.)

I deprived myself of sleep to participate in the week's events, and I must say I can't complain.

Sigma Chi, because of you I got the rare opportunity to throw around a football. Of course, I didn't actually get field time. Anything beyond the treadmill

and the elliptical machine severely tries my athletic skills. But I did learn what "blitzing" is. I plan to pull that out the next time I meet a football enthusiast. I'll throw in "quarterback," "linebacker," and "center" - which thoroughly exhausts my football vocabulary.

Wait! I can add in "halftime" and "Budweiser commercials." I'll sound like a true Sportscenter fan. I know, I know. I'm a failure at life. I hail from the land of brawls, beer and *football*- the "milk and cheese" thing is really just a misleading moniker- and a tree probably has more authority on the subject.

I must say though, for having so little arm strength, I wasn't that abysmal at chucking it across the field. Okay, more like chucking it ten feet, but considering an eight year-old could beat me at arm wrestling, I was pretty proud of myself.

Anyway, mad props (I can write it, but I think I'd die laughing at myself if I ever said that out loud). Every srat girl loves you. Okay, let's be honest. Every srat girl loves you even more.

Derby days, an upcoming trip to Foxfields, not having to obscure my carefully crafted mixer costumes with a bulky coat... I couldn't be more thrilled that winter can now be put behind us.

Most importantly, it's finally warm!

We can all put away our medium black Northface fleece jackets and pull out the sandals and short-sleeved polo shirts. I am, admittedly, ready for a new topic among campus notices. "Lost Speedo. Could be lying among the rocks in Goshen." Now *that* would be interesting.

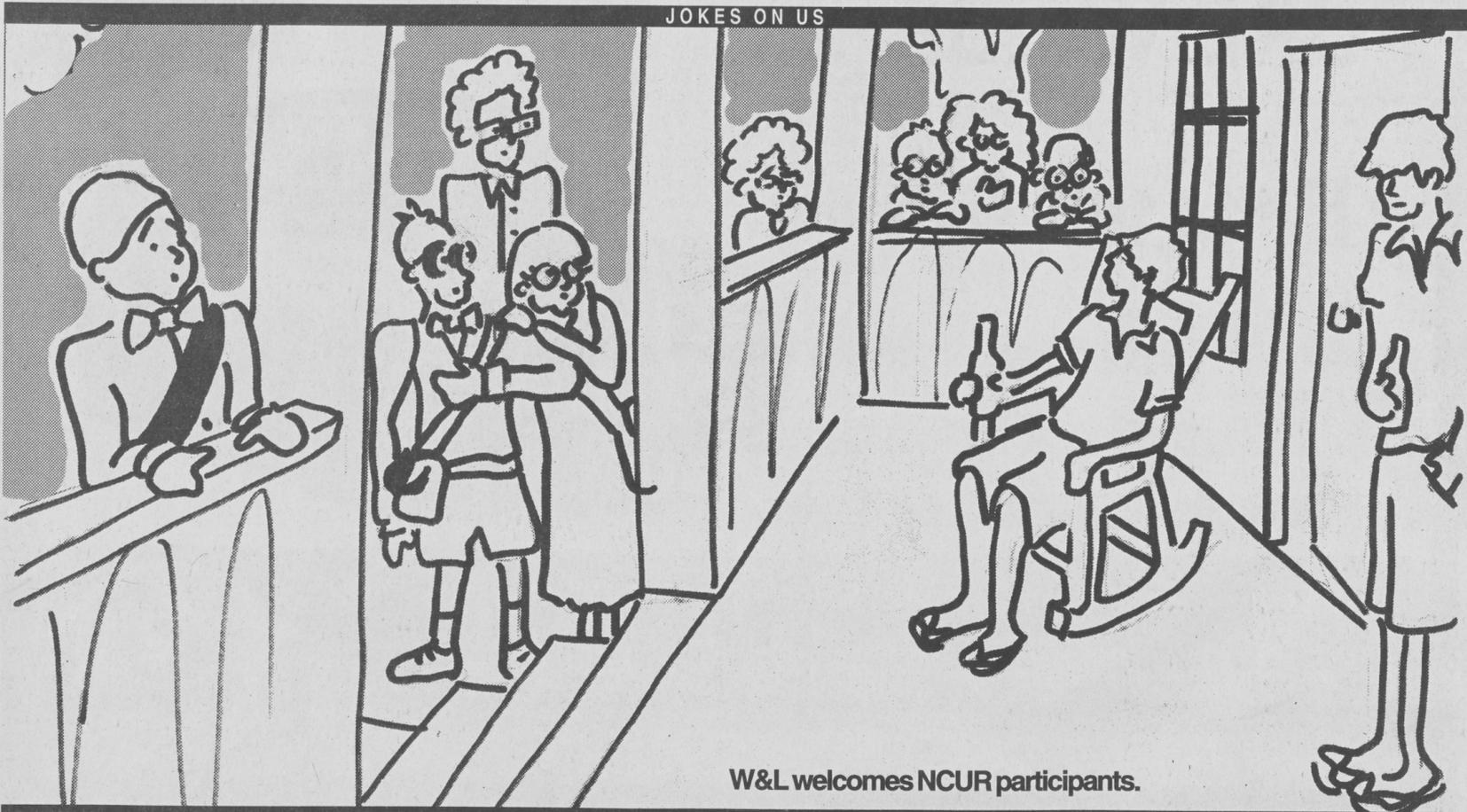
The opening of the Ice Cream Factory also puts a smile on my face. I'm overjoyed that it is located a good walking distance from campus. If it were nearby I'd have to spend an extra few hours in the gym each week. Just a note: if you want to get on my good side, I'm a huge fan of Reese's Peanut Butter Cup shakes.

If you are at the pink hut anyway (purchasing ice cream product for your favorite columnist, of course), be nice and pick up something for your favorite senior.

He needs all the sympathy he can get. Five weeks until you hit the "real" world, hun. Unless you've figured out some clever plot to avoid it. And if so, you don't mind sharing, do you?

Here's to a wonderful spring term for those poor seniors and to juniors, sophomores, and freshman alike. Have fun, be safe, and try not to lose your bathing suit.

### JOKES ON US



W&L welcomes NCUR participants.