

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, JAN. 23, 2006

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897

VOLUME CIX, NUMBER 12

what's inside

Searching for a savior
Ashley Brightwell looks into the ongoing presidential search on page 2.

Dallas delight
Alumnus and Watson Fellow Paul Seifert showcases his artwork in a Dallas gallery. See page 4 for details.

The staff speaks out
The Phi addresses the issue of sexual assault in a staff editorial on page 3.

simplelife



Changing a tire

Because Triple AAA won't always be around to help you out, here's a fast and furious guide that will get you back on the road.

Know where your tire is: And that pesky tire iron too. If you can't find your spare knowing how to put it on won't help much.

Don't go rolling away: Make sure the parking break is on and put a rock behind another wheel as an extra precaution.

Jack up the car: Most cars have a spot where the jack is designed to go. If your car doesn't, make sure the jack is securely placed underneath the body of the car and not a fender.

Undo the lugnuts: Those are the five or six nuts holding your tire on. Your tire iron should fit around each one. Turn to the left to loosen them. Make sure you don't lose these; you'll need them later.

Switch the tires: Now you're ready to pull off the old tire; slide the new tire onto the axel in the old one's place. Save the old tire. A garage may be able to patch it up, which will be much cheaper than buying a new one.

Replace the lugnuts: Now use the tire iron to screw the lugnuts back on, securing the spare tire to the axel. Make sure the lugnuts are tight to your tire doesn't fly off ten miles down the road.

Go get a new tire: Your spare isn't designed to work forever. Go to a garage as soon as possible and either get your old tire repaired or pick up a new one.

Assault rate above average

Though data shows problems, Washington Hall believes progress is being made

By Jacob Geiger
NEWS EDITOR

One year after student health surveys exposed that Washington and Lee has a sexual battery and attempted rape rate nearly twice the national average, the administration and student health center released updated survey data that reveals a declining number of rapes and attempted rapes.

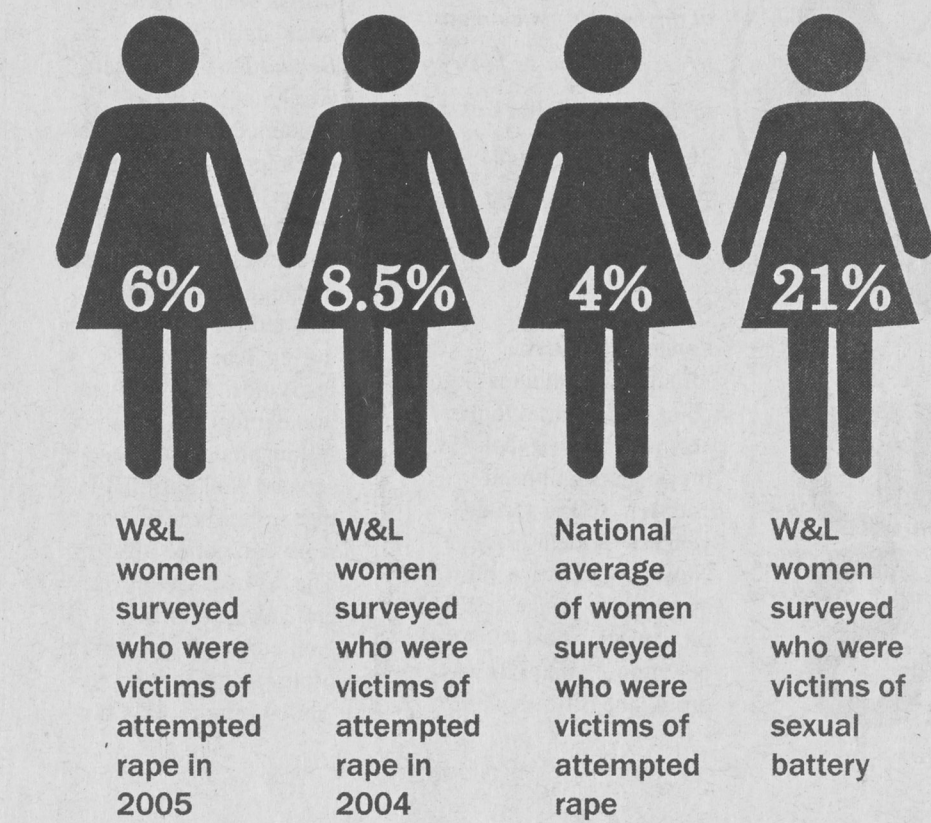
However, 6% of W&L women surveyed in 2005 reported that they were victims of an attempted rape. While this percentage is down from the 8.5% reported in 2004, it is still much higher than the 4% of students nation-wide who have been victims of attempted rapes. On an equally alarming note, 21% of women surveyed reported experiencing sexual battery, a rate similar to the 2004 rate and nearly twice the nationally reported average. This year, only 1% of W&L women reported actually being raped, a sharp drop from last year's statistics and a figure that is approximately half of the national average.

Shortly after Winter Break, Acting-President Harlan Beckley, Dean of Students Dawn Watkins, Vice President of Communications Tim Kolly, and Director of Student Health Services Dr. Jane Horton sat down with editors from the *Phi* and *Trident* to review and discuss these statistics as well as other data regarding sexual assault and alcohol use at W&L.

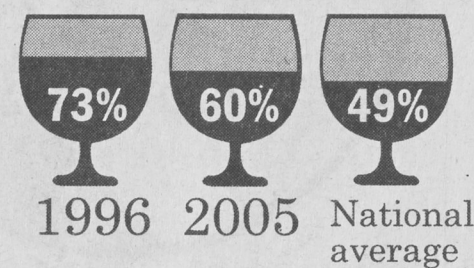
Several times during the meeting and in a press release, Dean Watkins emphasized that "one rape, one assault, is too much." Mr. Kolly added that the school "still has a long way to go," but said the administration "finds the trends [of fewer assaults] encouraging."

The 2004 results were gathered with the National College Health Assessment (NCHA), while the most recent results come from the CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey. All responses both years were voluntary and anonymous. Because Dr. Horton believes "that a majority of incidents are alcohol related," the survey also contains extensive questions about the drinking behaviors of students. Mr. Kolly added that, "National fraternity survey results say 90% of sexual assaults involve either alcohol or drugs."

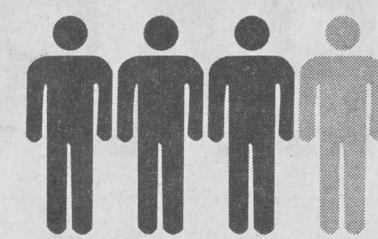
The data on alcohol use contains several positive trends, though in most areas the univer-



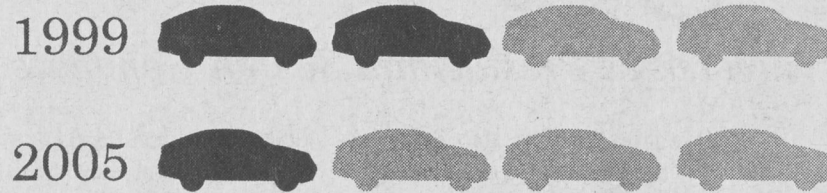
Percentage of students who admit to binge drinking



3 in 4 W&L students admit to playing drinking games, chugging beer, taking shots



Drunk driving



EMILY HULEN / DESIGN DIRECTOR

sity remains far above national averages. Washington and Lee students reported blacking out, suffering injuries, and doing things they've regretted later more often than their peers nation-wide.

Dr. Horton also shared fresh data on drinking patterns that was gathered from the Alcohol.edu surveys completed by all freshmen during summer and again during fall term. Nearly three out of every four students reported playing drinking games, chugging beers, and taking shots, while more than half admitted to drinking before going out.

According to Dr. Horton, this data "suggests that this is the environment being set up by our current system. This is fall term freshman year," she added. "It's a very high risk time for freshmen."

In contrast to the other three administrators present, Acting-President Beckley remained quiet for most of the meeting. When asked why he had come, he replied that he wanted to be present "because [the administration] wants students to know that we all think this is an impor-

tant issue on our campus."

Perhaps the most encouraging information to emerge from this year's survey is the sharply dropping drunk driving rate. Whereas almost half of all W&L students reported driving under

"I'm here because the administration wants students to know that we all think this is an important issue on our campus"

HARLAN BECKLEY, ACTING PRESIDENT

the influence in 1999, only a quarter of students in 2005 reported doing the same thing. Drunk driving is one of the only survey categories where W&L students rank below the national average; the administration credits W&L's Traveller service for this drop.

"Traveller has been beefed up significantly in the last five years," Dean Watkins said, "and it's been overhauled in the last two years. It's more reliable and

consistent now, while student involvement continues to be strong."

Dean Watkins and Dr. Horton also met with the Inter-fraternity Council and Pan-Hellenic to discuss the survey data and explore solutions that could further lower incidences of sexual assault and risky drinking behavior. The dean of students said that "both groups were quick to respond last year" when the initial survey data was released. She pointed to the new Gender Relations Council as an example of the Greek governing organization's initiatives.

Another active participant in the battle against sexual assault is Project Horizon, a community-wide organization that educates people about sexual assault and provides support to victims. Sarah Beth Campbell, a senior who is active with the group, said that despite the heightened focus on the issue, "nothing really seems to have changed."

"Awareness is higher this year," she said, attributing progress in that area to the work SPEAK, a women's group founded by Dr. Jen Sayre, a member of the University Coun-

selling department. SPEAK talks with freshmen girls to educate them on the risks of sexual assault at W&L.

Nonetheless, Campbell feels that W&L's culture still has a way to go.

"Some of the culture is a result of the alcohol; it lowers everyone's inhibitions, making guys less aware of what they're doing and leaving girls more vulnerable. A lot of the inappropriate touching goes on in these parties in frat basements."

Still, Campbell said that alcohol was not solely to blame. "Part of the problem is our hook-up culture; lots of guys and girls go out with the intention of hooking up. The physical aspect of relationships is emphasized here."

Campbell offered some final thoughts on the issue of sexual battery, saying that she worries "some people don't consider it to be an important issue."

Nevertheless, she felt that change is possible on this campus. "I believe people here are good, decent people. No one would do this sort of inappropriate touching when they were sober."

Why Dr. Cornel West matters

Nationally known Princeton University professor and activist speaks at W&L

By Jacob Geiger
NEWS EDITOR

Who is Dr. Cornel West? A religion professor at Princeton? A movie star? A rapper? An activist? Perhaps he's all of those things. West is scheduled to speak on campus Monday night, and the fliers tacked up everywhere say his topic will be "Why Democracy Matters." West's most recent book carries the same title.

West has been called "the pre-eminent African-American intellectual of our generation." That compliment was delivered by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., chairman of the Afro-American studies program at Harvard.

West has certainly spent time

at plenty of preeminent institutions, receiving an undergraduate degree in Near Eastern Languages and Literature after spending just three years at Harvard. He later received a Ph.D. from Princeton. West has taught in three Ivy League schools - Harvard, Princeton, and Yale's Divinity School - as well teaching at the University of Paris during the spring of 1987.

While at Yale he was arrested during protests against apartheid South Africa, and when the school canceled his leave for the spring of 1987 he commuted between Yale and Paris, teaching two classes at the former institution and three at the latter.

In 1988 West headed for Princeton, where he worked with

noted author Toni Morrison to improve the school's African-American studies program; West served as the program's director from 1988 to 1994. West published a best selling collection of essays in 1993 entitled *Race Matters*.

After teaching at Harvard for several years, West became embroiled in a spat with then-recently appointed President Lawrence Summers, who caused controversy of his own last year by arguing that there are "issues of intrinsic aptitude" separating men and women. At the time Summers accused West of failing to focus enough attention on academic pursuits. West returned Princeton the following year and currently teaches in the

religion department.

Part of Summers's stated frustration was West's extracurricular

Cornel West speaks Monday night at 7:30 PM in the Lenfest Center

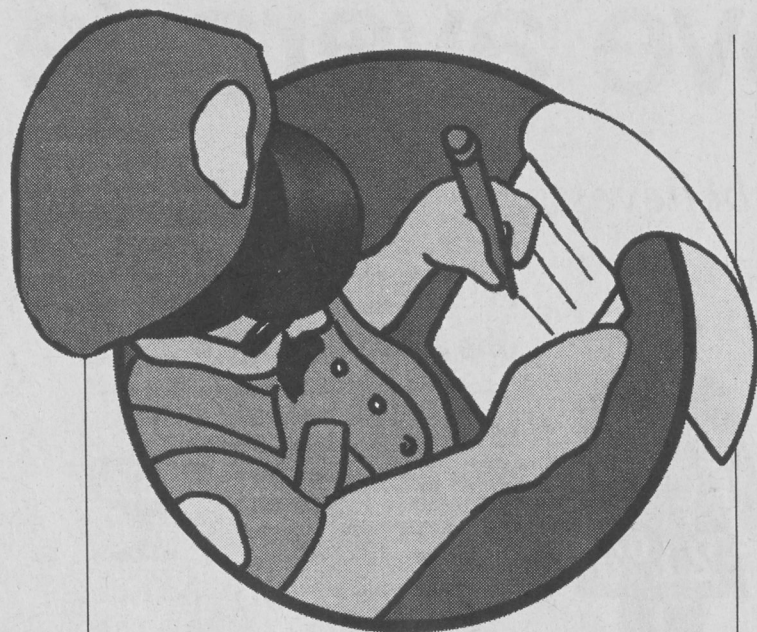
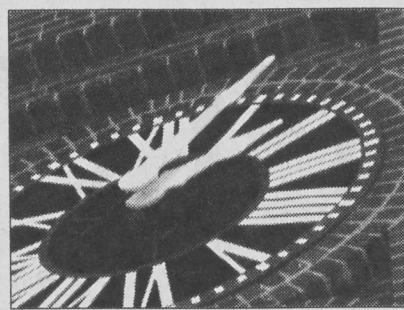
lar pursuits, which include a rap album titled "Sketches of My Culture." West also appeared as *Councilor West* in volumes two and three of the *Matrix* trilogy. He also served as an advisor to Rev. Al Sharpton during the 2004 Presidential campaign. West served as a leader for the Million Man March in 1995 and also has participated in several summits on gang violence.

Another West critic is Leon Wieseltier, literary editor of *The New Republic*. Wieseltier has at various times accused West of opportunism, crass showmanship, and a lack of scholarly seriousness.

In reality, Cornel West does a little bit of everything, but some of his colleagues have finally come up with a definition for him.

"Cornel is foremost a philosopher," said the University of Maryland's Ronald Walters during an interview with CNN. "He has one of the quickest minds among scholars I know and puts together unique perspectives on issues."

news



BEHIND BARS

Here's to laughing at the expense of those who learned their lessons this weekend. News Editor Jacob Geiger took a peek at this week's police reports to see what you've been up to during Rush Week and especially Tear Night. Don't worry, we only used your initials.

Lawless lawyers
Usually law students sit in court as a counsel to the accused. Now it looks like the counsel will need counsel. **CD**, a second year law student from Newark, Delaware, ran afoul of the police at 2 AM on Saturday the 14th. After determining that **CD** was drunk, the officers went

ahead and issued a citation for public drunkenness. At press time the *Phi* had not heard whether the offender would hire a classmate or decide to represent himself.

Guess who's back back again?
Behind Bars is pleased (well, not really) to announce the first repeat offender to appear in this space. **EB**, who was stopped while running down Nelson St. at 4 AM one night this fall, was arrested for a second time during Tear Night festivities. **EB** was sent home under the escort of fellow pledge **DM**, and all seemed well until **EB** face-planted thirty feet away from two police officers. The officers sauntered over and arrested both gentlemen, despite **DM's** protestations that he was "only trying to walk his

friend home." After a breathalyzer test the officers decided that both gentlemen would need to visit the station, and tear night was officially over for these freshmen, who now face counts of public drunkenness and underage possession.

Please obey all posted signs
Lexington's maze of one way streets can be confusing, but *Behind Bars* had always assumed that most juniors had the streets figured out by now. Apparently not. Junior **MC** was arrested at 10 AM on Thursday the 12th for driving the wrong way on a one way street. At least she wasn't speeding while doing so. W&L really does run this town, **MC**, but obeying traffic signs is still required.

Just focus on the lines
On Saturday January 7th sophomore **MN** got so wrapped up in not swerving that she forgot to turn on her headlights. So it goes to figure that even if she was driving straight and police officer would notice her. And one did. And then he arrested her not only for driving with no headlights but also for a DUI. *Behind Bars* isn't even going to make a joke here. 25% of W&L students drive drunk. That's just stupid, and this is supposed to be a school for smart kids.

Don't drink and shoot
A ragin' cajun by the name of **MM** of Mandeville, LA was arrested for a DIP and carrying a concealed weapon. Perhaps that's acceptable in Louisiana, but in Virginia the police tend to think that drinking and shooting don't mix.

Searching for a new leader

Working behind the scenes, the university's Presidential Search Committee continues to make progress

Law Professor Brian Murchison and other members of the search committee outline their goals and views on the hunt for a new president.

By Ashley Brightwell
REPORTER

The search for the next President of Washington and Lee University has been continuing to make progress over the last several months. The Presidential Search Committee, headed by law professor Brian Murchison, has been working diligently to narrow a pool of approximately 150 candidates down to a single individual who will take over the leadership of the university.

Professor Brian Murchison of the law school is the Chair of the Presidential Search Committee and has taught at W&L for 23 years. He explained that the process is composed of several steps. The first involved hiring a professional consultant, Barbara Taylor, to assist in the search and forming a committee of faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and students.

This first step of the process also included soliciting nominations from the public, which the Committee did by placing an advertisement of the position in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. From September to November the group received nominations from alumni, former professors, and friends of the school.

The second stage, which occurred around the same time, involved encouraging those who would be good candidates to apply for the position. The current phase has involved narrowing down a pool of about 150 applicants to less than 30. This will be followed by a formal interview process in February and an announcement of the new president shortly thereafter.

When asked about the process of the search, Professor Murchison said that the job "is on schedule thanks to a very hard working and industrious committee. I would hope that we know something in March or April, but I don't want to jinx it."

Professor Murchison's optimism is shared by Search Committee member Dean Hank Dobin, who said that the search should be over by April.

Dean Dobin, who is new to the school this year, also had his opinions on the qualities the new president should possess.

Though he explained that he has tried not to have any preconceived notions, because "it would be good for the committee to have as open a mind as possible", he does think that the person should have experience as a faculty member and be accessible to the different constitu-

encies. Dobin also said that "though the idea of fit is important, it can be somewhat overrated. We want someone who will respect this institution and its traditions but who is willing and able to challenge us."

The idea of fit does seem to be an issue in this search, especially when it comes to the values people expect from the president. Generally, older professors value tradition and hope for a president who maintains and protects traditions, while newer professors seem more open to change.

"The job is on schedule thanks to a very hard working and industrious committee."

**BRIAN MURCHISON,
SEARCH COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN**

Professor David Dickens, who has taught German at Washington and Lee for 45 years, believes that the president should "improve what needs to be improved, strengthen those things that make us a good university, and make no impetuous radical change."

On the other side, Professor James Mahon, a Philosophy professor of six years at W&L, believes that "it is actually quite significant if you have a presi-

dent who is liberal, and I do think all our presidents have been liberal. I genuinely believe that liberal presidents are more concerned with change and improvement than their conservative counterparts. A good president will find new things to do for the university."

These two opinions both have their merits and when blended seem to show a model of presidency that is best for Washington and Lee. This is only one of the many considerations that the Committee must make in the search.

There is also the question of whether we should break the mold of 250 years of male presidents and appoint a woman to the position, and whether the next president should be from Washington and Lee.

Though she is in favor of having a woman as president, Dean Dawn Watkins also made it clear that "it's more about the character and quality of the person than their gender."

The current Acting President, Dr. Harlan Beckley, also supports the prospect of a woman president and believes it could help the school to grow, though he, like Dean Watkins, believes that other qualities are more important. "We would be proud to have a female president," he said, "and should be proud. It would affirm that Washington and Lee is able to welcome leadership from any president who is qualified, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, and who

can become dedicated to W&L."

Questions about the new president's ties to Washington and Lee are another factor in the decision, with some faculty members remembering with displeasure what one called "the Burish experience" and what some saw as his attempts to transform W&L into something it wasn't by increasing the bureaucracy.

These individuals feel that someone connected to the university could better understand and appreciate the things that make it unique.

Others, such as Dr. Beckley, are of the belief that it isn't important that the president be connected to Washington and Lee so long as "he or she is the kind of person who could become attached to the university."

With the end of the search coming, students also need to consider what they want in a president and remain as active in the search process. Information is readily accessible on the university's webpage, and meetings occur regularly that are open to everyone.

Acting President Beckley was Chair of the last Presidential Search Committee and has served as a professor at Washington and Lee for 32 years. He possesses a unique perspective on the matter, having been President and a member of the constituency, as well as being involved in a past Presidential Search Committee.

Having experienced the duties of position, Dr. Beckley brought up some qualities that some people might not realize that the president needs, "an interest in communicating with many different people about their concerns, a willingness to be patient in communicating with the constituencies, a vision of what W&L can be, and a capacity to deal with many issues."

Dr. Beckley also commented on what he wants from his successor. "I want the person who follows me to be a good president. It is a privilege and a joy and a significant responsibility to be the president of Washington and Lee. I want a person who will take on that role and be willing to lead us to an even better future."

Summer 2006 in Paris

A multitude of undergraduate, credit-bearing courses

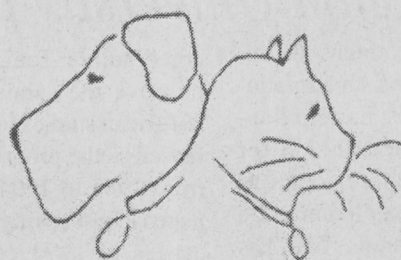
- Two 5-week Sessions
- Fast Track Intensives
- French Immersions

www.aup.edu



THE AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF PARIS

knowledge, perspective, understanding



ANIMAL CLINIC OF ROCKBRIDGE

Helping People by Helping Pets

SMALL ANIMAL PET CARE
Medicine/Surgery/Dentistry/Boarding/Grooming
Is your pet alone while you are at classes or sports?

Bring your pet to our daycare!

We love the Generals' pets!

10% OFF FIRST VISIT WITH THIS COUPON
Route 11 North, 1/4 mile beyond Wal-mart & Lowes
463-2015

Original Italian Restaurant

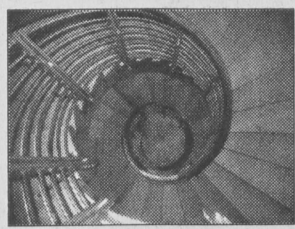
2055 Magnolia Ave
Buena Vista, VA 24416
264-0029

FREE DELIVERY
with \$10 min order

Stromboli-Pizza-Subs-
Pasta-Etc.

Open Monday thru Thursday:
11AM-10PM
Friday & Saturday:
11AM-11PM
Sunday:
12PM-10PM

opinions



staff editorial

Culture must change

Alarming statistics reveal continuing problems in gender relationships

It's a shame that an editorial has to be written about the prevalence of sexual assault in 2006, but ignoring the problem solves nothing.

The fact remains that although we attend a prestigious institution, which should be void of immature and irresponsible actions, sexual assault still occurs with completely unacceptable regularity.

While we acknowledge that the University has begun to take steps towards finding a solution, we would like to address issues that we feel are factors that cause these transgressions and suggest our own solutions.

Washington and Lee is known as one of the top party schools in the nation, and many students boast about our drinking status. We can still throw down with the best of them; however, many students use drunkenness as a justification for an assault or rape.

The use of date rape drugs, alcohol and other means to inhibit one's decision-making ability is an inexcusable violation of another person's rights. Not only is it against the law, it ought to be an Honor Violation since it damages our community. No system based on honor can long survive

when the very trust that is its base is damaged or broken.

It's amazing that at a school with less than 2,000 people that individuals can feel comfortable behaving this way, yet with the strict social standards people want to live up to, too many students feel obliged to forgive and forget.

There are cases when a woman who has been sexually assaulted has refused to turn in her attacker because she fears being socially ostracized not only from the fraternity where it occurred, but from her own group of friends as well.

By failing to report the assault, women also continue the vicious cycle as the perpetrators never feel as though they have to pay for their actions.

We feel it is a problem that there are more negative social consequences for the victim than for the attacker. Students are responsible for creating an environment in which sexual assault is not tolerated. A rapist should not be patted on the back or congratulated, and a victim should not be an outcast. Unfortunately this is what happens all too frequently at our school. It is time for this mindset to change.

Suggestive actions, provocative dancing, or revealing dress are never excuses for rape, but if sexual assault is going to be eliminated, women must be ladies and men must be gentlemen.

Sexual assault is a double-edged sword; men cannot be the only ones that are held responsible to change these statistics.

While it is never acceptable to take advantage of a woman, regardless of how exposed she is, women must take more responsibility for their actions while out partying because sometimes they may lead people to believe that they are willing to do more than they may actually want.

Suggestive actions, provocative dancing, or revealing dress are never excuses for rape, but if sexual assault is going to be eliminated, women must be ladies and men must be gentlemen.

Men are also not the only ones that commit sexual assault. There

have been several reported instances where men have felt as though they have been taken advantage of sexually. Even though they may enjoy it at the time, these men are in no condition to make a rational decision to participate in these promiscuous activities.

The problem of sexual assault will not vanish, despite the University's best efforts, until students decide to take responsibility and consciously choose to change their own actions. Finally, every student must refuse to tolerate sexual assault.

The above editorial reflects the majority opinion of The Ring Tum Phi's editorial staff.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF KATHERINE GREENE
NEWS EDITOR JACOB GEIGER
SPORTS EDITOR AMANDA THOLKE
OPINIONS EDITOR TIM LIVINGSTON
ARTS&LIFE EDITOR KATHRYN KRALL

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS NADJA WOLFE
ASHLEY COONING
ASHLEY BRIGHTWELL
JACOB GEIGER
KEVIN DONOVAN
KATE SHELLNUTT
HUGH TROUT
THOMAS GIFT

DESIGN DIRECTOR EMILY HULEN
DESIGNER MELISSA CARON
WEBMASTER ROB ARMSTRONG
BUSINESS MANAGER DAVID SEIFERT

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, which can be reached at mediaboard@wlu.edu, but is otherwise independent.
The Ring-Tum Phi welcomes all responsible submissions and letters.
All submissions must be e-mailed to phi@wlu.edu or in the University Center mailbox by 5 p.m. Friday to appear in the following week's edition. The Ring-Tum Phi reserves the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters and columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Ring-Tum Phi Editorial Board. Advertising does not reflect the opinions of The Ring-Tum Phi or its staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

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

Timber Ridge Auto Center
1619 Valley Pike
Lexington, VA 24450
(540) 464-1997

ASE CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS

Foreign and Domestic Repairs
Oil change and Lube, A/C, Computer Diagnostics,
Minor and Major Engine Repair, Brakes,
Fuel Injection Service, Transmission Service,
Coolant Flush, Minor and Major Tune-ups.

We can provide factory authorized maintenance without voiding your manufacture's warranty.

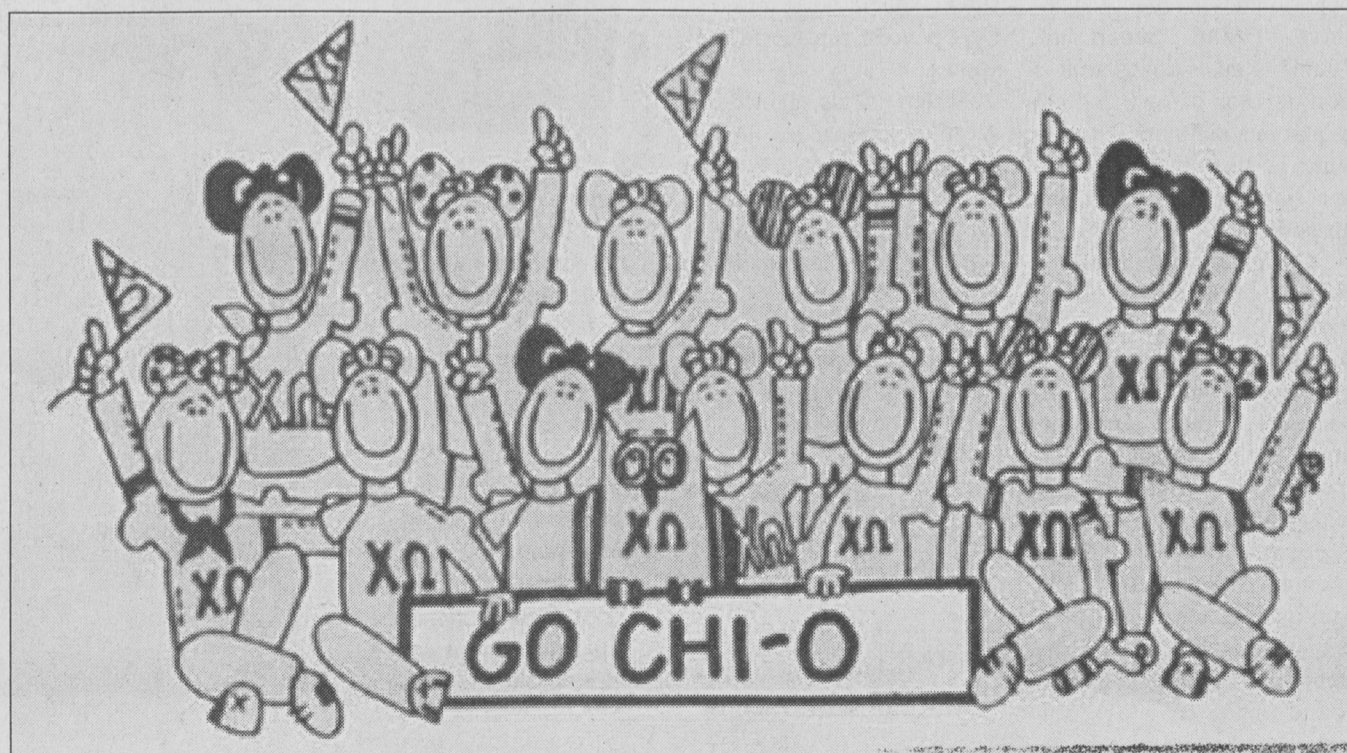
Major Credit Cards Accepted

Congratulations to the Newest Chi Omega Pledge Class!!

Amanda Askew
Katherine Bastian
Kerry Birch
Kasey Bolles
Kelly Bundy
Melissa Caron
Saya Clancy
Micaela Coffey
Sarah Connor
Hilary Craig
Alexis Doyle
Melissa Ginder

Ellie Hanson
Laural Hobbes
Casidhe Horan
Jen Jack
Jennifer Janes
Heather Jordan
Laura King
Carly Levin
Jacque Linton
Julie Mancini
Sarah McCarville
Stephanie McPhaul
Jill Morris

Joyce Noveras
Julie Petersen
Lisa Reppell
Drew Scarantino
Ashleigh Scinta
Alex Utsey
Elizabeth Webb
Logan Whalen
Alden Wicker
Shannon Williams
Ashley Wohler
Allie Zeger



arts&life



Seifert's painting centers around the people and activities of fishing villages. His artwork focuses on the way that a reliance on fish changes the look and feel of the culture.

Gone fishing

W&L alum Paul Seifert opens art show from his travels as a Watson Fellow

The prestigious Watson Fellowship allowed Paul Seifert to unite his two passions: art and fishing. He traveled around the world observing and painting fishing villages. On his venture he turned out fine artwork, discovered the larger world, and gained a new perspective on life.

By Nadja Wolfe
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, January 13th, Washington and Lee alum and Watson fellow Paul Seifert, '04, opened an exhibit of artwork he created on his travels last year at the AL-SO Gallery in Dallas.

As a Watson fellow, Seifert was able to combine his love of fishing and of art as he traveled to South America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle east, studying fishing cultures and capturing them on paper and film.

The collection's ink drawings capture what Seifert calls the "frenzied outbreak of motion" that occurs when the boats came in. "I would be on the sand in the middle of the frenzy, with ink and a reed pen, marking down whatever bodies and objects passed in front of me," he said.

These pieces capture the throbbing activity of each location, from Brazil to Malaysia.

Given the frenetic activity rushing across the pages of his pen and ink work, it is interesting that Seifert gained a

new appreciation for slowing down and sitting with his own thoughts.

In watching the people around him, he says, he observed a lack of the hurriedness to which he is accustomed.

Inconveniences, such as a six hour wait for a bus, became opportunities to reflect and observe. "For me," Seifert said, "thinking takes time, and it is best done on its own and not as part of a multitask." It is no surprise, then, that this introspection carried over to his artwork.

The ink drawings captured the pace of the motion before him as he observed the everyday tasks of the fishermen.

However, in his oil work painted at night, Seifert demonstrates a tempest of intensity through vibrant scenes only less active at a cursory glance.

He also uses bright color to communicate the vibrant and exciting lifestyle of the villagers. Although they lack the same level of physical motion found in the drawings, the

strength of thought in the paintings has an action all its own that enralls and intrigues.

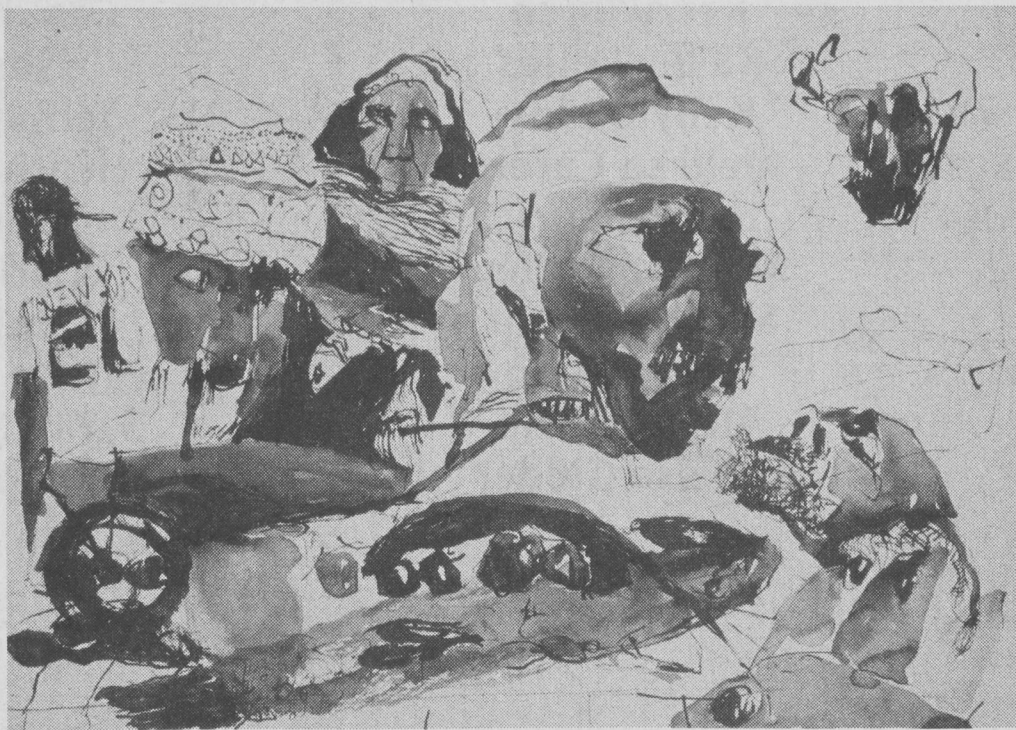
Seifert's travels have given him a lot to think about as well.

He hopes through his art to open others' eyes to a world much larger than it often seems, and would be pleased should others be inspired to look beyond the world they know.

Seifert has also gained perspective, hinting that he sees the world through a lens not necessarily focused on his own needs and actions. It is this viewpoint that has helped him to be "perfectly, unconsciously content with the sitting and doing nothing," happy to be part with and observer of everything surrounding him.

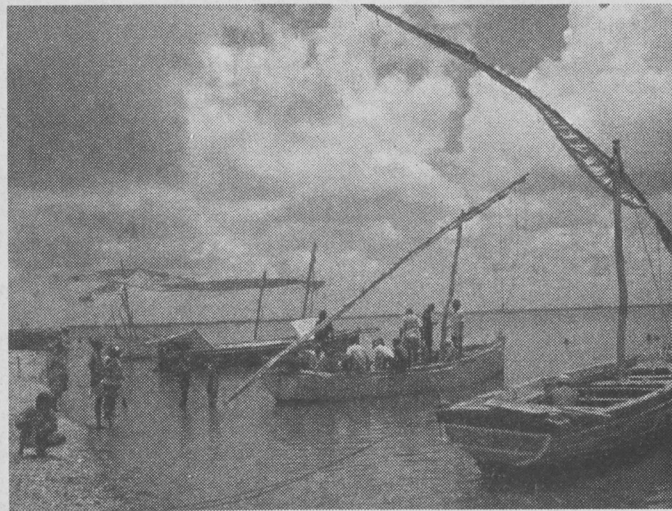
This gallery exhibit is the first for Paul Seifert, who has hopes for future showings and to sell his work on display.

Visit online
www.pulseifert.com



Above: Paul Seifert's artwork captures the "frenzied outbreak of motion" that would occur when a fishing boat arrived on shore.

Right: Seifert's photography takes a more relaxed tone. Waiting for the perfect shot taught Seifert to be "perfectly, unconsciously content with sitting and doing nothing."



Night of sixty-five roses

The Cystic Fibrosis Charity Ball raises money to battle the disease and provides entertainment for students

Shunning the frat scene for an evening, students danced the night away in the classy atmosphere of Evans to raise money for CF research.

By Nadja Wolfe
STAFF WRITER

Saturday night, W&L students gathered in Evans Dining Hall for an evening of dancing—and to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

The CF Charity Ball Committee's annual fundraiser, "A Night of Roses," directly benefits research for a cure to the illness which affects thirty thousand Americans, with a thousand new cases being diagnosed each year.

Cystic Fibrosis is caused by a genetic defect that inhibits lung function and interferes with the

"I came because it's a lot of fun and I think CF is a troubling illness."

DEBBY NEWELL

digestive tract.

CF treatment has made significant strides due to extensive research, so that CF patients are now living into their thirties.

The illness is also a prime focus of gene therapy research, an area of research that shows much promise in finding a cure.

"CF research is a very great thing to support," said James Heidbreder, '08, chair of the CF Charity Ball Committee.

"They're on the edge of the

cure. You get a lot more bang for your buck—all they need is more research." And, thanks to the EC's generous funding, he added, 100% of the evening's proceeds go directly to the foundation.

The ball, named for a symbol of the CFF because children with the disease often pronounce it as "sixty five roses," was a great success. Burr Datz's band, Monrovia, and caller Becky Mackenzie, had the room square and contra dancing all evening.

Although new to many people, the room was filled with smiles as dancers learned figures and steps such as ladies' chain and promenade.

Not knowing the moves was a benefit, said committee member Dane Boston, '08.

"When you go to a [regular] dance... it's things some people are really good at, and some people aren't," but since everyone's learning, everyone can have fun.

The CF Charity Ball committee, with an active membership of about twenty people, hopes to fill Evans next year.

"We'd like to see more people out here... having fun at the dance," said Boston.

For next year's ball, said Heidbreder, "we've been kicking around the idea of a swing dance, [which] might have more popular appeal."

The committee's plans are not only limited to the yearly ball, however. Heidbreder also men-



PHOTO: DEBBY NEWELL

Jessie Coulter and Allison Stokan swing around each other in one of many intricate patterns of contra dancing.

tioned plans for a Valentine's Day fundraiser selling CFF teddy bears for sweetheart gifts, as well as participating in the Great Strides Walk, CF's version of the Relay for Life.

Raising awareness about CF and increasing student participation in events are also on the agenda.

"You really feel like you're doing something," said Heidbreder, "A cure is really close."

And since the EC is funding

events, every dollar goes to help the people who need it most.

"I think it's a great evening for a very wonderful cause," said Boston.

Ball attendee Debby Newell, '08, agrees. "I came because it's a lot of fun and because I think CF is a really troubling and serious illness for children," she said. "So it's a win-win situation."

Newell is right. Cystic Fibrosis is a serious illness that affects many people.

And right now, as Heidbreder says, "research is very cutting edge," because it is so close to a cure.

The more students participate, the money we raise, the closer we get to a cure.

As a university community with many luxuries and an active nightlife, it's easy to forget about causes such as the CFF.

"I would've come if it wasn't for charity," said Newell, "but because it's for charity, I couldn't not come."

Hopefully, more students will adopt her positive attitude and help raise money for CF research.

Heidbreder's committee raised just over \$1,550 for the CF Foundation, with proceeds from ticket sales and generous donations. Said Heidbreder, "I was pleasantly surprised at the spontaneous generosity of the University community. Strangers and students alike gave generously, and we're grateful."

THETA CONGRATULATES ITS NEW MEMBERS!

Sarah Atkinson
Caroline Avent
Kassie Bagley
Brittany Bradshaw
Becky Bratu
Jackie Burns
Erin Coltrera
Kate Corr
Shannon Curran
Caroline Davis
Emily Deddens
Melissa Dolan

Audrey Fell
Sara Foster-Reeves
Gretchen Graves
Andrea Hidalgo
Jess Hudock
Mackenzie Hutton
Megan James
Sarah Kientz
Jen Lysenko
Laura Maurer
Christina Merchant
Jule Miata
Allison Moore

Kiki Moreo
Kara Nadeau
Elizabeth Polanco
Mary Caitlin Ray
Alex Scaggs
Jessica Shaw
Ali Smith
Guada Suarez
Katie Tabb
Anne Van Devender
Abbey Wilson
Gaby Zamora

sports

Dancers draw crowd

Jazz and Tap Ensemble performs in front of packed house

Washington and Lee dancers showcase diverse talents during winter concert as ushers are forced to turn away concert-goers at the door.

By Ashley Cooning
STAFF WRITER

The Washington and Lee Winter Dance Concert was held on Friday, January 20th at the Keller Theatre. The program presented a stellar variety of dance forms, ranging from classical ballet to funky hip-hop, and everything in between.

Senior Mary Christopher, president of the Jazz and Tap Ensemble, choreographed the "Fame" piece, inspired by the Broadway musical. "I took a very creative twist on the piece this year," explains Christopher, "and staged the actual piece as a rehearsal hall."

During the piece, Christopher acts as the dancers's instructor and coaches them through the piece, really setting the dance apart from the rest of the show.

The girls practiced four days a week, and more frequently as the concert approached.

"Rush interfered a lot with preparation," said sophomore Alice Shih. "Rush week, we would go to class, then in between classes rush to the studio to get in an hour or two of rehearsal and then run to the so-

rority houses." Keeping to this hectic schedule took its toll, but the success of the concert made it all worthwhile.

Shih, an accomplished ballerina, choreographed the lyrical piece "Calling All Angels". "[This dance was] my favorite

"Rush week, we would go to class, then in between classes rush to the studio to get in an hour or two of rehearsal and then run to the sorority houses."

ALICE SHIH, DANCER

because of the emotion and the hard work each girl put into it."

Though they performed for a packed house on Friday, Shih explains that she does not feel W&L dance receives the attention it deserves: "I would like the community and the school to take dance more seriously. There is such a rich population of danc-

ers at W&L yet there is very little money, staff, and time invested in this noble art form."

The W&L dance program is always encouraging people to take as many classes as possible and try anything and everything. Freshman Jackie DiBiasie enjoys this aspect of the program, saying, "I had a great time in my first hip-hop experience. It's a lot different than ballet and Irish-step dancing, which I did before W&L, but it's something I've always wanted to do."

The supportive atmosphere of W&L dance allows people who want to try something new to not feel pressured or intimidated, and rather to just enjoy the new experience.

Freshman Helen Coupe attended the concert and noted the dancers's infectious energy, saying, "I especially loved watching senior Kristin Evans perform because I could tell that she was loving every moment of it."

W&L dance, despite admittedly not receiving the attention it deserves, is a remarkably diverse program that succeeds in bringing together people of all experience levels to participate in something they are passionate about.

Alice Shih echoed these sentiments, saying, "Everyone who performed was there because of their pure love of dance. We all have that in common."

Records fall in Marietta

Freshman Stacy Doornbos breaks her own school record in 55m meter dash

By Kevin Donovan
STAFF WRITER

The Washington and Lee Generals competed for the first time this season as a complete track team, garnering twenty-one top three performances, eleven of those first place finishes, and setting two school records in the process.

The team competed in Marietta, Ohio. The women finished fourth out of twelve teams, while the men finished sixth.

This was the first time the long-distance squad was able to race this year, and the group of runners didn't disappoint. Freshmen phenom Vance Berry placed first in the 800, and with a terrific kick in the 1600 meter leg of the Distance Medley Relay

carried his teammates Steven Rivoir, Matthew Harrison, and Anthony Ives to another first place finish.

Other outstanding performances came from freshmen distance runners, with Robbie Varipapa taking first in the 500m and Alex Jackson finishing second among D-III runners in the 1000m behind teammate Alex Mahoney. Jackson ran well despite battling leg problems earlier in the week.

Marshall French also had two impressive races, taking first in the 400 and helping the 4x400 team of Will Holliday, Chip McCoy, and Wilson Robinson take another first. The jumpers also had an outstanding day, with Drew Martin taking first in the pole vault while Ryan Edge and Peter Martinez took second and third in the high jump.

An equally exciting meet took

place on the women's side. Freshmen Jackie Burns dominated the 1,000 meter race, while fellow freshmen Elizabeth Webb and Becca Taylor achieved first place finishes in the 800 and mile, respectively.

Freshmen Stacy Doornbos broke two school records, one of them her own in the 55m dash and another as part of the relay team of Caroline Davis, Stephanie Stelter, and Tara Hildenbrand, which also finished first. Doornbos also holds the school long jump record with a mark of 17 feet, 4.5 inches.

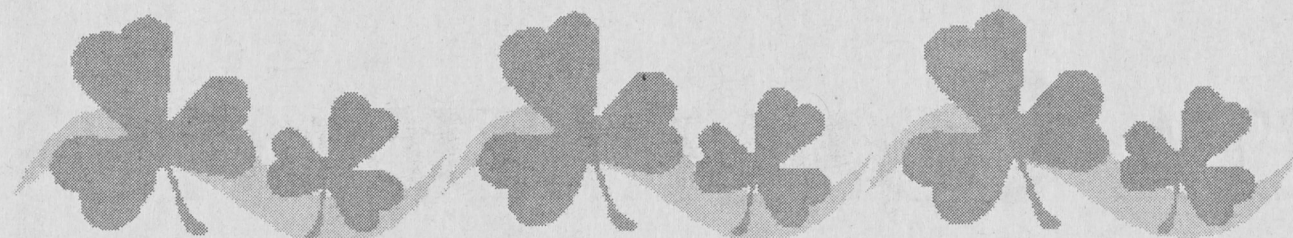
Another notable performance came from Elizabeth Brandler with a second in the pole vault.

The Generals Track team next competes on Saturday the 28th at the Liberty Open in Lynchburg, Virginia.

IM Cup Standings

Kappa Sig carries a commanding lead into the upcoming volleyball and racquetball tournaments.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Kappa Sig - 760 | 10. SAE - 240 |
| 2. Lambda - 510 | 11. Better w/ Age - 190 |
| 3. SAO - 430 | 12. General Mayhem -180 |
| 4. Pi Phi - 420 | 13. Phi Delt - 140 |
| 5. Phi Kap - 410 | 14. INDY/Ex. Beta - 90 |
| 6. Chi Psi - 340 | 15. Pika - 80 |
| 7. KA - 300 | 16. Phi Psi - 70 |
| 8. Little Rascals - 300 | 17. Sigma Chi - 60 |
| 9. FIJI - 290 | |

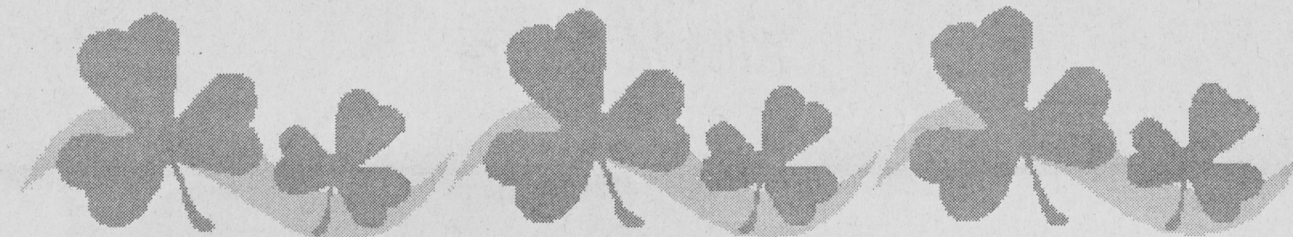


KAPPA DELTA

Would Like to Congratulate

Their 2006 Pledge Class:

Amy Beamer	Catherine Gerhardt	Staci Karpova	Katie Simpson
Kate Beckett	Erica Giordano	Katie Kern	Kate Smith
Tori Christmas	Leslie Hauser	Anne Lindsey McCulloh	Meg Spalitta
Siobhan DePietro	Jane Hendrickson	Kara McElroy	Julia Spieler
Stacy Doornbos	Helen Hill	Krista Palmgren	Lindsay Strachan
Jennifer Flanagan	Allie Hiltyard	Brea Phillips	Linda Tan
Katie Flippen	Catherine Hook	Hillary Prey	Jess Ulrich
Brigid Forrester	Weston Jones	Sarah Ratzel	Jacey Wilkins
Grier Gardner	C-J Joseph-Guevara	Kelsi Robinson	Sara Wilkins
Liz Garson			



Coaches drive winners

Syracuse, Florida and Connecticut picked to be winners in March

By Thomas Gift
STAFF WRITER

More than ever before, there exists a tremendous amount of parity in college basketball. From the Big East to the ACC to the PAC-10, teams are evenly matched in terms of talent level, depth, and overall competitiveness.

As a result, coaching has unquestionably been the X-factor in determining the early-season rankings. Coaches with the most experience and ability have been able to impel their teams to the top.

Despite a plethora of great coaches, a few clearly stand out among the rest: Jim Boeheim, Billy Donovan, and Jim Calhoun are the best that college basketball has to offer.

Jim Boeheim, in his twenty-ninth season at the helm of his alma-mater, has been instrumental in leading the Syracuse Orangemen to another winning year. Although many counted out the Orange in the preseason polls, Boeheim has taken a

quasi-talented cast of characters and transformed them into a winning unit.

Boeheim's emphasis on hard-nosed, physical defense in conjunction with a strong low-post game has allowed Syracuse to excel against one of the toughest road schedules in the game.

Billy Donovan is on pace to lead the Florida Gators to yet another

Coaching has unquestionably been the X-factor in determining the early-season rankings

other Final Four appearance.

Bursting onto the college coaching scene just over a decade ago, Donovan has recently become Gainesville's new wonder boy, the first since the departure of football legend Steve Spurrier.

Both for his leadership skills and fierce competitiveness, Donovan has established himself as one of the preeminent coaches

in the game. Stressing cutthroat defense and a run-and-gun offense, it is no wonder why so many of the top players have chosen to play at Florida.






Everyone knew Jim Calhoun could coach when he was producing outstanding teams at Northeastern. In his twentieth season at Connecticut, Calhoun is now considered one of the most respected coaches in the nation.

Under Calhoun, UConn has undergone a volte-face, transforming from an ordinary team to an extraordinary powerhouse.

Calhoun stresses the mid-range jump shot (witness Ray Allen, Ben Gordon, and, of course, Richard "Rip" Hamilton for proof) and a disciplined defense that includes his signature 2-2-1 press, which focuses primarily on pressuring the ball down the sideline in the back court and reserving traps until the ball has passed half court.

For these reasons, do not be surprised if you see Jim Calhoun holding his third NCAA Championship trophy come April.

W&L Sports for the Week January 23-29

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
Men's Basketball 		Vs. Emory and Henry, 7:00 PM at Warner Center		At Roanoke College, 7:00 PM
Women's Basketball 	Vs. Emory and Henry, 7:00 PM at Warner Center		At Mary Baldwin College, 7:00 PM	At Roanoke College, 5:00 PM
Swimming 				Vs. Johns Hopkins University, 10:00 AM at Twombly Pool
Track 				At Liberty Open in Lynchburg, 10:00 AM
Wrestling 		Vs. Southern Virginia University, 7:00 PM at Doremus Gymnasium		At Apprentice School Invitational, 9:00 AM

THE RING-TUM PHI.

Need clips? Write for the Phi.
Email us at phi@wlu.edu.

Kappa Kappa Gamma

proudly welcomes our new pledge class!

Louise Bance
Olivia Claire Barrett
Caren Beck
Michelle Boniface
Lissie Cain
Teresa Carlin
Brice Christy
Hannah Citron
Julia Coskey
Helen Coupe
Alice Dixon
Mary Beth Edwards

Betsy Ellis
Lizzie Gotimer
Lauren Jaskolski
Harriet Kilgore
Lizzie MacPherson
Susan Mahoney
Hadley Miller
Kathleen Morphis
Liza Morten
Coleman Nalley
Allison Rigsbee
Laura Sanders

Logan Schonekas
Katie Shaub
Kasey Sherrick
Brittany Simpson
Libby Spears
Dana Statton
Liz Twining
Kate Vilutis
Emily Wallace
Reilly Ward
Margaret Ward
Lauren Wood

lastword

The W&L-Mart

What would W&L students and local residents do without this vital store?

It is a relief to know that there is nothing that we need that cannot be found at the wonderful world of Wal-Mart.

By Hugh Trout
COLUMNIST

While Lexington doesn't have sex appeal, a real bar scene, or many two-way streets, it does have one asset that is simply indispensable to maintaining the way of life we share here in Lex Vegas: Wal-Mart.

Without this mega-store, nay, ultimate-store, many of us might have gone days without toothpaste, discounted fake spinner wheels, or cheap high-powered rifles.

While some students are hesitant about patronizing a store with questionable business practices, Lexington offers few other options for dorm and household goods at a reasonable price.

When you can get everything you need from a buck call to a cartilage piercing in one huge building, the convenience of the store outweighs many negatives. The efficiency of shopping for food and mixers

simultaneously is hard to pass up.

Wal-Mart can give you what you didn't even know you needed. Here are some examples:

- a razor that has one more blade than your current one does
- Cheap Hillary Duff posters
- *Saved By the Bell* DVD complete collection (Time out, Kelly is going to the prom with Slater?)
- discounted fake spinner wheels for my car
- anything camouflage

So what doesn't Wal-Mart sell? For the edification of all those who have little or no Wal-Mart experience, I have comprised a short list of what cannot be purchased at Wal-Mart.

- Pride. You cannot buy pride from Wal-Mart if you have lost yours. Got drunk and pissed your top bunk bed with someone else in it? Yeah, you can search those aisles all day but you will never be able to replace a loss of pride like that.
- Chuck Norris DVDs- trust me, I've tried.
- Remote controlled blimps as seen in Sky Mall magazine
- First semester freshmen year. Wouldn't that be nice to do over again?
- A sincere belief that it is them

Without this mega-store, nay, ultimate-store, many of us might have gone days without toothpaste, discounted fake spinner wheels, or cheap high-powered rifles.

and not you. Come on...you know the truth...it was you.

- Ace of Base music videos on DVD

- \$1 blue *Corona Extra* sandals. That's right, they're all out and I got on that before they sold out. I use them as my shower sandals to let everyone know how rad I am.

- Direction in life. Remember how you wanted to be a fireman or a princess when you were younger?

At what point did I decide to say the hell with being a professional kick ass rock star and started worrying about the fastest way I could get into a cubical?

Watching *Office Space* is becoming less of pleasurable experience and more like a Ms. Cleo vision of what my life is going to be in three years.

The worst part of it all will be when I'm drunk in an airport bar and want to get angry at someone for why I'm not giving

high fives to Jack White or doing Jager shots with Kelly Clarkson the only person I can blame will be myself because I traded in my dream of melting faces for crunching numbers.

If you keep compromising yourself and giving parts of what you want to get out of life away to those who want you to be practical and fit into the norm one day you'll wake up and find out that you are a shell of a person who no longer has an identity, and identities are not sold at any Wal-Mart.

- Dunkaroos...damn, those were good.

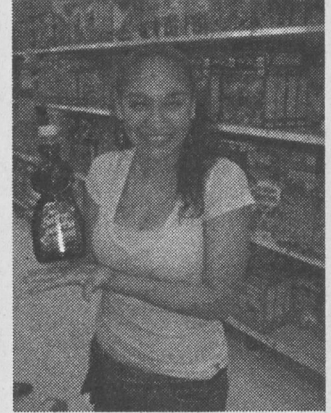
- A decent *Super Soaker*

- Starbucks... (That would be one sweet axis of corporate evil).

So remember: while it can be an unpredictable and demanding world, Wal-Mart cannot provide everything, but it will be able to sell you all the cleaning, food, baby, beauty, entertainment, and hunting supplies you'll need to get through.

talkbacks

What are you doing at Wal-Mart? Whether or not we have moral qualms about the store, its convenience and the lack of other options have made us dependent.



Crystal Benevides, freshman, says she visits Wal-Mart at least twice a month. "I like it, it's not HEB, but it's cool."

Amy Karwan, sophomore, says she visits Wal-Mart once every two weeks. "You can find everything at Wal-Mart. It's also perfect for mixer costume shopping. Right now, I am buying supplies for a Zoolander mixer."

Max Vilenchik, sophomore, says that he visits Wal-Mart about once every two weeks. "WalMart is fine. It's convenient."



Victoria Childress, sophomore, says she visits Wal-mart once a month. "Not a big fan of Wal-mart's business practices, but it's so convenient and there's nowhere else to go."

This week's Talkbacks was conducted by Amanda Tholke

Julia

Rebecca

Erika

Mackenzie B.

Juliee

Liz

Crystal

Kelly

Diana

Pi Phi Loves Our

Jackie

New Angels!

Bethany

Tara

Blair

Sarah M.

Shreya

Kavita

Becca

Lauren

Briana

Sarah B.

Jen

Hila

Cecilia

Ellen

Stephanie

Amber

Rachelle