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Women in skirts winning games

What more could you want? Field hockey defeated Catholic—a nationally ranked team—on Friday. Game recap and more...

— Page 6

Give her some respect

Columnist Grace Andrews is tired of being pushed. And stepped on. And spilled on. She wants to know why students at this school have no respect.

— Page 2

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, SEPT 25, 2006 BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CX, NUMBER 3

Full Count

Chi Psi has **one** strike pending for “40s at 4” flyers.
Two houses were caught with beer bongs last week.
A first strike means **two** weeks social probation.
Houses get a **\$500** fine for a first strike.
Five strikes were given for violating dry rush.

By Wesley O'Dell
STAFF WRITER

Jason Rodocker's business is how W&L students play. Perhaps that's simplifying it a bit, but the Director of Student Activities and Greek Life spends a great deal of his time working with student organizations who seek to provide that all-important second part of the “Work hard, play hard” mantra.

As strikes pile up, frats and IFC work to educate

- **The IFC** has given one strike and is currently investigating two other violations.
- **FJI** received a strike in May for an unregistered party.
- **Social probation** means fraternity brothers cannot assemble anywhere except W&L-sponsored events, chapter meetings, and meals.

But there's another part of his job that isn't all about fun: advisor to the Inter-Fraternity Council, the student-run board responsible for Greek education, programming, and mediation.

It also disciplines those who fail to follow university alcohol guidelines by enforcing the “strike system.”

And they've been busy. According to the IFC's website (greeklife.wlu.edu), three fraternities currently have one strike, one fraternity has two, and one fraternity is currently appealing a strike assigned on Sept. 14.

Rodocker said, “Most strikes are dry recruitment violations,” and the record bears him out because five out of the six strikes currently on the books were assigned to fraternities for advertising alcohol at their parties through email or flyer.

Members of the freshman class got a first-hand look at what the IFC Judicial Board con-

sidered a dry recruitment violation earlier this month when handbills advertising “40s at 4” at Chi Psi appeared in the freshman dorms.

Assessed a strike, Chi Psi is currently appealing the ruling to the University Board of Appeals.

The party, which was supposed to be a 1940s-themed affair, is now under appeal. Chi Psi president Padrick Dennis declined to comment.

Rodocker is quick to point out that the so-called “university” strike system for fraternities was, in fact, developed from a committee that had students on it in response to “significant high risk behaviors four or five years ago.”

He says the IFC's top concern when hearing a case is “was it high-risk behavior?”

That may be little consolation for Greek organizations facing hefty fines, lengthy social probation periods, and mandatory member education for strikes awarded. Phi Gam-

ma Delta (FJI), for example, was given its second strike in May for having an unregistered Monday night party.

According to FJI's president, Andrew Rothery, its social probation limited what the fraternity could do by not allowing “more than one-third of the brothers to gather anywhere but at W&L-sponsored events, weekly chapter meetings, and meals. That includes on-campus and off-campus locations and even events like sorority formals.”

Rothery said his membership is frustrated with their situation but eager to put it behind them.

“No one likes to be punished or have sanctions put on their organization, but I believe we have served our sanctions in good faith and we will continue to be a strong house on campus.”

When asked whether his membership considered the strikes fair, Rothery had no comment.

Always seeking to improve the system, both Rodocker and IFC President Andrew Flanigan believe adhering to the spirit of the law is key.

Flanigan said, “While effective at deterring certain types of behavior, the strike system has not been perfected. This year, particularly with the committee reviewing fraternity

See “FRATS” on page 3

Computing search under dispute

Search begins without faculty from computer science department

By Jacob Geiger
NEWS EDITOR

As Provost Tom Williams leads the search for a new director of University Computing, the Department of Computer Science wants to have its say.

The nine person search committee, chaired by Williams, does not include any faculty from the computer science department. The only undergraduate faculty member on the committee is Bob Ballenger, Associate Professor for Information Systems in the Williams School.

Ballenger's background and published works make him qualified to serve on the committee, but Ken Lambert, head of the computer science department, noted the lack of faculty from the

college.

When asked if his department was involved in the search, Lambert said, “No, we're not. ... Not only are they no computer science faculty, but there are no faculty from the College at all.”

Aside from Williams and Ballenger, the following people are on the search committee: John Watkins and Dean Tallman from University Computing, Associate Dean of the College Elizabeth Knapp, Associate Registrar Barbara Rowe, Associate Law Dean John Keyser and University Librarian Merrily Taylor.

Williams said he had considered adding a member of the computer science department.

“A fully representative committee would be of a size that would make it difficult to func-

tion,” he said. “When we get a short list of candidates finalized they will meet with a bigger group on campus, including students and faculty.”

Lambert's department has four full-time faculty members and averages between five and 20 senior major candidates each year. He said the department has a national reputation.

“Our curriculum is second to none. In the past we've been a member of the Liberal Arts Computing Consortium along with schools like William and Mary, Grinnell, Swarthmore, Williams, and Dartmouth. We have a staff that publishes in major journals and we have a National Science Foundation grant that's given us a million dollars in funding.”

Lambert also has published

18 textbooks on introductory programming for the college and high school levels.

Though his department is not represented on the search committee, Lambert says they have a strong relationship with University Computing.

“We have a half-time tech support person that we share with University Computing's Instructional Technology Group. He's our liaison to University Computing, so if we need any further support he works to obtain that.”

Lambert said University Computing has several outstanding staff members who have worked well his department over the years, but he said his department “has seen the need to have [their] own tech support.”

Williams echoed Lambert's

comments and said he is currently working on solutions.

“Computer Science needs dedicated support like Chemistry, Biology, Geology and Engineering have.

“Right now they have half-time so it's not really University Computing supporting them. Dean Dobin, Ken Lambert and I are working to find a solution that'll support their unique needs — they're not dependant on University Computing.”

“They have a sub-network needs dedicated support to serve their needs.”

Williams said the new director will need to understand the unique perspectives of the law school, library, Williams School and computer science department. The new director will lead a staff of 31 full-time and four part-time employees.

“In the last decade the Williams

School has grown in its need for tech support,” Williams said.

Ruth Floyd, the Acting Director of University Computing, said her department works to keep up with changes in the industry.

“We look at what's in use nationwide in higher education and business — the Williams School especially is interested in that.”

When Floyd joined the staff in 1981, the department had four employees. She now supervises 31 full-time and 4 part-time staff.

Lambert and the computer science department will wait to who the search committee selects. Though he says the department has knowledge to contribute for improvements on the academic side, the professors have not been consulted.

“We just feel we've got some expertise that we can contribute to a search for a new director,” Lambert said.

opinions

The Pope needs to try some tact

Why Benedict XVI and his critics should calm down

By Craig Malkmes
COLUMNIST

In light of the worldwide religious tension of not only the past several years but indeed the past millennium, the comments issued by the Pope in his recent speech at the University of Regensburg in Germany encompass a mistake that is wholly inexcusable and, as many Muslims would agree, extremely difficult to forgive.

The Pope quoted a 14th-century Byzantine emperor who denounced Mohammad's teachings and ultimately the teachings of the Islamic faith. The emperor accused Mohammed of maintaining "evil" and "inhumane" principles and that he commanded followers of Islam to "spread by the sword the faith he preached."

I'll say up front that I in no way associate myself with the Islamic faith, and that I am a Christian. However, studying religions during college has given me a certain respect for other faiths throughout the world, whether still widely practiced or not. Unfortunately, it remains a certain respect that is, for the most part, unaccepted by a large majority of various cultures.

Indeed, it is never acceptable for one to disrespect a certain religion and essentially attack its followers, whether with verbal defilement or physical violence.

The Pope has since issued a statement in which he claims that the words of this Byzantine emperor do not reflect the actual sentiments of the Papacy.

Indeed, it is never acceptable for one to disrespect a certain religion and essentially attack its followers, whether with verbal defilement or physical violence.

However, the fact remains that the Pope chose not only to include the brief quotation in his speech, but also neglected to question and ultimately disprove it. To quote one of my pledge brothers, "... dude, that's just something you don't do." It is completely inexcusable to make such a public comment as that, whether he embraces it or denounces it.

The Pope is certainly not the only one at fault in this situation; the reactions of some Muslims to Benedict's words are equally disrespectful and audacious. The supreme leader of Iran issued a response to the Pope's speech in Germany in which he accuses the pontiff of planning to launch a new crusade against Islam, and says the Pope has been attempting to incite intense religious fervor. Many Muslims in Turkey maintain that he essentially aims to revive the crusader spirit within Christians that was so prevalent during the medieval ages. Some Muslims have even attacked several churches in retaliation.

Don't be ridiculous. The Pope is scheduled to visit Turkey soon, where he will be surrounded by

Muslims. Surely it was planned as an extension of peaceful sentiment, as the Pope would not be visiting if he was unwilling to understand the differing beliefs as well as the unfamiliar culture around him.

It is incredibly ignorant for Americans to hold a feeling of hatred toward all Muslims as a result of the heinous acts that only a minuscule percent of the Islamic faith commit. It is equally as ignorant for Muslims to commit these atrocities in the name of a God who would not condone them, against people who have not wronged them.

Remarks that have such potential to incite more religious tension should remain unvoiced. Instead, one should respect the faiths of others, for it is nobody's place to comment on what they misconstrue as flaws in something they don't believe in or even wholly understand. The Native Americans accepted the fact that other cultures will have different religions, and they expected it. I find nothing wrong with this mentality.

staff editorial

As others talk, Rodocker acts

Staffer pours time, energy into thankless job

At a school where administrators love giving lofty speeches about student responsibility, Jason Rodocker quietly takes action.

After years of confusing rules and uneven enforcement from the Inter-fraternity Council, Rodocker is working with the IFC to make sure Greek men across campus know what is expected of them.

"I didn't know the rules" will not longer be an acceptable excuse when fraternities or individuals get themselves into trouble, and that's a change for the better.

In past years, only a handful of chapter officers knew the rules and expectations of the IFC, and even those select few seemed a bit shaky on the details.

Officers would sometimes have to check the IFC Constitution, housing corporation guidelines, lease agreements, and university policies to decide how a given rule worked.

Now everything is being consolidated into comprehensive yet concise guide-

lines.

Rodocker and the IFC want everyone to be accountable for the actions of their houses.

Chapter presidents and IFC members will no longer be the only people who understand the rules.

Instead of simply letting chapter presidents deliver messages, Rodocker has started visiting different fraternities to explain the changes.

The IFC wisely met with sophomore men who are living in Greek housing this year.

At the meeting Rodocker, IFC President Drew Flanagan and Senior Justice David Mitchell explained the expectations and requirements of living in fraternity houses.

Rodocker shifted the burden of responsibility onto all Greek men, not just a select few.

These actions don't mean everything in the Greek system is perfect.

Far from it. Fraternities are strug-

gling to adjust to Virginia's harsh new minor-in-possession laws and the suddenly aggressive actions of the Lexington Police and the Rockbridge County Sheriff Departments.

Still, Rodocker, who arrived on campus a year ago, has wasted little time trying to improve the W&L fraternity system.

The IFC will need to help fraternities protect their members as well as freshmen from arrest.

The new get-tough attitude won't stop parties, but it may change how they work.

Each year will bring new challenges to W&L's unique fraternity system, and each challenge will require creative solutions.

We can't vouch for Rodocker's creativity, but we can speak to his commitment.

The lights in his office go dark at eight p.m. far more often than they do at five.

Rodocker is straightening things out. We like that.

Frankly, we'll skip the speeches and take action.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI.

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Where is the respect?

Beer Spillers and Toe Killers need to shape up and watch their step

By Grace Andrews
COLUMNIST

Today's topic is respect, or the lack of it here at Washington and Lee. Let's start with some personal stories. Just the other day my suitemate and I were waiting in line at the Co-Op when suddenly a stampede of people came in. They all somehow didn't see us and broke in line. Now, I do know that I am only 5'3 and a 1—lbs. (my weight is only for God, my doctor, and myself to know), but how did they miss me? Last time I checked, a line usually goes in one direction and the end is behind the person who was standing there when you walked in.

Granted, these people could have been suffering from temporary blindness, but what are the chances of all of them going blind in the same moment and missing me in my bright Skittle Blue shirt? That's right—slim to none! But my problem with the obvious breaking in line was that none of them apologized or even looked back to see the angry little person (me) giving them dirty glances. They didn't even care.

It may sound very third-graderish, but I think that breaking in line is wrong. I try my hardest not to participate in this sort of deviant behavior. I respect lines and I know that if someone has had to wait they deserve to be ahead of me.

My next complaint is how some people treat the D-Hall and Co-Op workers. I can't even remember the number of times that people have asked a worker in the D-hall where something was and used what I call an unacceptable tone. An unacceptable tone would sound like the same tone you

would use to talk to a younger sibling who was caught snooping in your room. The workers here are not your personal servants, and treating them so is wrong.

The most common form of disrespect I see in these areas are when people leave trays, cups, silverware, and even food on the tables. Now, why in the world would someone just leave a tray on the table, or better yet leave so much trash on the table it looks like maybe the table was their tray?

Last year, when I ate in D-Hall, I would always find myself picking up dirty cups and silverware for other people. The problem with this is that my name is not Alfred, and it's not my job to clean up for them. If you are old enough to walk through crowds is like Moses' ability to part water.

Also at these parties, I have been attacked by the Beer Spiller and Toe Killer. The Beer Spiller is usually a little tipsy and wobbles around at parties accidentally spilling alcohol on the floor and whomever is out of their blurred line of vision. This is usually me since everyone at this school seems to be part human, part Jolly Green Giant.

The other place that people leave these sort of messes are in the dorms. Just the other day my friends and I saw orange rinds on the top of the steps right outside of Gaines. Now, I may be mistaken, but I don't think a staircase can be considered a trash can. Oh yeah, and that goes for hallways too.

Now, another place that I see disrespect is on Traveller and at parties. One of my Traveller memories involves me at a party being pushed out of the way by a Small Person Pusher who was clearly about 6'2 or taller. This Pusher was so eager to get on Traveller that he had no problem pushing little ol' me out of the way to secure his own seat.

Honestly, it was like a scene from "Godzilla." Here's this big creature picking up something a million times smaller than him; me. The only difference is he wasn't that big and I didn't see him tossing any cars, picking up people, or climbing any buildings; apart from these small differences, it was just like the movie. The Pusher can also be seen pushing people out of the way at parties. Their ability to walk through crowds is like Moses' ability to part water.

Next is the Toe Killer. This is usually the young lady in too-expensive stilettos who steps on anything and everything that moves and almost always seems to step on your big toe, usually four or five times. Sometimes, the Beer Spiller and Toe Killer are one and the same.

The Beer Spiller is a bit like the Small Person Pusher and Toe Killer since apologizing isn't in their nature. Who cares if you are tipsy. You should still have the decency to say "sorry," or "excuse me."

Once again, I must place a disclaimer here: If any of what I said describes and/or offends you, that is not my goal. BUT if you are offended, I suggest you think about why.

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arts&life

Golden opportunity

Gymnast Dominique Dawes, comedian Tim Young to entertain W&L

By Julie von Sternberg
STAFF WRITER

If you are looking for inspiration, be at Lee Chapel on Tuesday to hear U.S. Gymnastic Hall of Famer Dominique Dawes.

If it's entertainment you seek, a stand-up comedy performance by comedian Tim Young is only a few days away.

Dawes was invited by the Contact Committee to give a speech entitled "Success is a Journey, Not a Description." The committee said that Dawes' words of wisdom will leave students both uplifted and motivated.

Young was chosen by the General Activities Board solely to bring laughter and entertainment to Washington and Lee.

Dawes, called "Awesome Dawesome" by fans, was a member of the U.S. Olympic Gymnastics team known as the "Magnificent Seven," which won Team Gold in Atlanta in 1996. She also became the first African American to win an individual event medal with her bronze on the floor exercise.

This is the first time that Contact has brought an athlete to speak about his or her career.

In the past, the Committee has invited political activists like Ralph Nader, whose discussion of debatable topics was both ridiculed and praised.

"That's all part of providing the campus with entertaining, engaging, and relevant speakers," said Contact Committee Member David Kronenfeld.

However, to start the year off right, the Committee opted for a speaker that is less controversial.

"We wanted someone who people from both sides of the aisle and across a spectrum of ideologies could come together and enjoy," said Kronenfeld.

As the current President of the Women's Sports Foundation and a retired Broadway actress, Dawes is a role model for all young women. Because of high name recognition, members of Contact are expecting a larger than normal crowd than previous years.

Junior Jenny Sproul teaches gymnastics in downtown Lexington and is one of many students excited about Dawes' visit.

"I definitely followed The Magnificent Seven," said Sproul. "I read books about them after the fact because I was so excited they'd won the Olympics. I definitely wanted to be one of them!"

The GAB has the same high expectations for comedian Tim

Young.

In the past the GAB has presented comedy shows such as "Second City," which consists of short "Saturday Night Live" type skits. This year, the committee wanted to find a fresh and unique performer who would attract a larger audience.

Young was first seen by students Katie Carmody, Morgan Harris, Dominique Lamb, and Rohan Poojara at the National Association of Campus Activities national conference in Boston last February.

At the NACA conference, students enjoyed performances by dozens of musicians, speakers, and comedians including Josh Blue, the winner, and Ty Barnett, the 2nd place winner of "Last Comic Standing."

After all the performances, the students unanimously chose Young.

"He was chosen because he seemed to have intellectual humor that the W&L students that saw him believed would be appreciated and enjoyed on campus," said Jason Rodocker, Director of Student Activities & Greek Life.

In addition, Young charges a third of the price for a normal performer, which enables the GAB to bring two more comedians to W&L before the end of the year.

It is unknown what type of material Young will present but the committee is not worried.

"He has a style that could be enjoyed by anybody - not offensive or obnoxious, just solid humor," said Rodocker.

Young has gained experience performing in front of a variety of audiences, colleges and clubs all over the United States. He has even appeared on television as a performer on Comedy Central's "Premium Blend," a commentator on E! television's "50 Most Outrageous Moments," and a guest star on the cartoon show "Daria".

Sophomore Morgan Harris, also a stand-up comedian, looks forward to seeing Young perform again. He describes Young as "an observational comedian like Jerry Seinfeld, but with a faster and more crowd-interactive delivery."

As part of the comedy club, Harris has performed at two W&L comedy shows in the Commons. At this year's student's activity fair, Harris happily watched as 100 students who share his interest for comedy signed up for the club.

Frats struggle to obey IFC orders

Continued from page 1

and sorority standards, we will look to find ways to make the system more effective and more consistent. The system is good at face value, but we cannot begin nor do we want to codify expectations and guidelines for all situations."

Rodocker says the strike system has led to "tangible, noticeable improvements" but cautions against being "complacent because we're better."

He echoes Flanigan's commitment to consistency by making it a goal this year for the IFC to "get better at explaining the logic" behind its actions.

For all parties involved, education is paramount. Rodocker said "educating the chapter members about policy" is the most important pillar of the IFC.

Flanigan's hope for this year is "to continually facilitate a better understanding of University policies with a hope that we can make Greek events safer."

Over at FIJI, which just came off its social probation September 21, Rothery is working hand-in-hand with the IFC towards the goal of policy awareness.

"We have taken steps to make sure our brothers know what the rules actually are. We had Jason Rodocker and Margo McClinton

"We have taken steps to make sure our brothers know what the rules actually are."

ANDREW ROTHEY, President of Phi Gamma Delta

come to our first chapter meeting this year to clear up any confusion that existed over our strike situation and social probation," Rothery said.

He points to years of unwritten and often unenforced rules as a major stumbling block to education, but credits Rodocker and the IFC for having taken "large steps to clear up misunderstandings, such as clarifying the IFC Constitution and Grand Chapter Meetings to start every semester."

For Rodocker, it's all part of the job. Education is important, he maintains, because the Greek system is important.

"The University has student issues with potential Greek solutions," he says. "Greek organizations are based on good values and concepts and if members understand those values, it will help lessen student issues."

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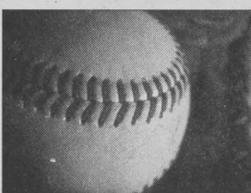
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sports



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	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Cross Country					at Leghigh 2:00pm		
Field Hockey			vs SBC 7:00pm	at B'water 4:00pm		at Juniata 2:00 pm	
Football						vs R-MC 1:00pm	
Riding							at Radford TBA
Men's Soccer			vs UMW 4:00pm			at R'Noke 1:00pm	
Women's Soccer		at B'water 4:00pm				vs E&H 3:00pm	vs MU 1:00pm
Men's Tennis							at ITA TBA
Women's Tennis		at ITA TBA					
Volleyball	vs R-MC 7:00pm	vs RMWC 7:00pm					

in the numbers

50

The number of touch downs scored by New Hampshire's wide receiver, David Ball. This number ties the collegiate record held by Jerry Rice (Mississippi Valley State). Ball achieved this feat in the Wildcat's victory over Dartmouth 56-14.

478

The record for career saves in baseball that was matched by San Diego Padres' pitcher Trevor Hoffman in the win over the Pittsburgh Pirates on Saturday night. For the tying save, Hoffman struck out Pirates' catcher Ryan Doumit in the 2-1 victory.

43.48

The percentage of passes completed by 2005 Heisman trophy contender, former University of Texas quarterback, Vince Young in his first two games with the Tennessee Titans. According to espn.com, Young could start for the Titans as early as next week's game against the Dallas Cowboys due to the disappointing performance of starter Kerry Collins.

soapbox

"Good partners help. Luke and myself make a really good couple."

— Sergio Garcia referring to the secrets of his success at the Ryder Cup, according to www.espn.com.

"There's a lot of crazy things that can happen out there, especially with last year's game and how that all worked out. Until it hits all zeroes on the scoreboard, then it really sets in."

— Notre Dame's quarterback Brady Quinn on the Fighting Irish's comeback against the Spartans last Saturday night, according to www.espn.com.

Field Hockey merits recognition

Continued from page 6

ly dominating Catholic. "It was amazing to finally beat them." Junior forward Kendall Korte said. "[after last year] it was that much sweeter when we won with a shut-out."

The first half remained scoreless as both the Generals and the Cardinals were locked in a defensive battle. However, the Generals got on the board early in the second half with a goal from freshman star Sallie Armstrong. Freshman forward Steph Mansey tallied the assist on the goal.

The Generals added some insurance when senior captain Amy Volkman added an unassisted goal with a minute left in the game.

In yesterday's battle against Hopkins, the Generals played tough, with junior goaltender Tara Rubenstein recording a career high 12 assists. Freshman Mansey scored a goal for the Generals 32 minutes into the game, off an assist from Armstrong. However, Hopkins had jumped out to an early lead and it just proved too much to overcome in the end.

The Generals have had a great start to their season, posting a 4-2 record. They are still undefeated against ODAC opponents with a 1-0 record.

The Generals have been led by many returning veterans. Korte

and sophomore forward Christina Merchant have led the way offensively for the Generals, tallying three goals and an assist apiece.

Rubenstein has been dominant in her first season as starting goalie for the Generals, only surrendering seven goals. Rubenstein is a three-year veteran for the Generals, but this is her first season as the starting goalie.

There have also been some great freshmen contributions that have helped the Generals get off to their great start.

Forwards Mansey and Sallie Armstrong have seen lots of playing time for the Generals, each notching their first collegiate goals. Mansey scored the Generals lone goal against John Hopkins, also notching an assist in their victory over Catholic. Armstrong scored her first collegiate goal in the Generals win over the Catholic.

Korte added, "They are awesome teammates and players. They have contributed so much to the team, and I am looking forward to watching them progress over the season."

The Generals return to action Wednesday evening when they host Sweet Briar at 7 p.m. on the turf field.



MORGAN HARRIS / Staff Photographer

Junior midfielder Kay Dyt (8) rivals a Johns Hopkins' opponent in yesterday's game at home. Dyt had the most shots on goal for the Generals with two.

Young team maximizes its depth

Continued from page 6

be first going into the ODAC tournament so that we can host it at home.

"This is the first year for volleyball that the number one-ranked team can host the tournament, and it is such an advantage."

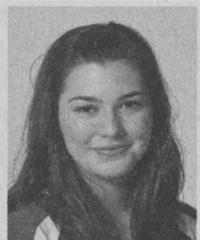
In order to place first for ODACs, the team sees it needs to work on endurance skills.

"I think that one of the biggest things we need to work on is

simply finishing," Hurt said. "We have a tendency of either being ahead of or tied with a team, then letting them break away from us about half way through the game."

The team faces Randolph-Macon for the second time on Wednesday at 7 p.m. The women have another chance to overcome their ODAC opponents.

On Thursday, the Generals take on Randolph-Macon Woman's College at the same time.



LAURA MAURER

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Line unappreciated

Offensive core largely contributes to Generals' wild success

By Joel Poelhuis
STAFF WRITER

If football were a business, the lineman would be the blue collar workers. Though they do the dirty jobs, heavy lifting and form the core of any team, you are unlikely to hear their names called in the stadium nor mentioned in the Monday paper. Of course, anyone associated with the game knows the importance of this group.

Thus, a season as successful as the Generals' last (the winningest in 20 years) is largely attributable to the strength of their line. This year's team returns five players with significant experience from last year: Left tackle Bob Hetherington (Jr.), left guard Dan Felezzola (Jr.), right tackle Alex Skotnicki (Jr.), center Chas Collins (Sr.), and right guard Hunter Whitfield (Sr.), a team captain who earned first team all-conference honors.

Subs are kept to a minimum so the five get used to each others' presence on the field.

"It's good to know what everybody's going to do before the play," Felezzola said.

The line is also close off the field, going out to eat together every Wednesday night.

With expectations high, preparation must correspond. The team holds winter workouts and spring practice before giving the individ-

ual players workout assignments for the summer.

Football is time consuming, and Division III schools do not provide athletic scholarships. What then is the motivation for playing?

"The love of the game," Whitfield said, "And of course for all the ladies."

"Pretty much the credit goes to our coach, Gavin Colliton," Collins said. "He's made us the men we are."

So far the hard work has been paying off as the team is off to a 2-1 start, defeating Centre 24-15 on Saturday.

"It's nice to be able to play when you're ahead like that," Felezzola said.

The Generals led for most of the game, which included a fourth quarter deluge that left the field and players muddy. The rain was so thick it was difficult to see.

Offensive linemen have very few personal statistics; the team's performance is the reflection of their performance as a unit. One particular number the group keeps their eyes on is the sack total.

"We didn't allow many sacks last year, and that's something we'd like to continue," Felezzola said.

Contrary to the popular image of the "dumb jock," offensive linemen have some of the most mentally challenging responsibilities of the game. They must memorize diverse blocking schemes and apply them in short order to an ever-shifting defense.

The Generals have a fairly small offensive line, with no player approaching the 300 pound mark, meaning they are often outsize by their opponents.

But as Felezzola explains, there are more important characteristics than size.

"Coach Colliton works with us a lot on technique so we always know what to do. We're also pretty fast."

This speed and discipline allows the Generals to execute plays from the shotgun without a huddle, keeping the defense on its heels and giving the smaller offensive line the edge.

"We like to run the inside/outside zone if we really need a first down," Felezzola said.

Collins explained the concept. "In zone blocking everyone is assigned to a gap rather than a man, so we know our steps before the snap." For a running back with good vision, this scheme can open up multiple lanes for cutbacks. The team also runs an array of options, screens, and draws.

There is still a lot of season left

and both the line and the team in general will have plenty of time to work on their goals.

Some of these, according to Felezzola, are keeping sacks low, focusing on every game one at a time, and not thinking too far ahead. However he does concede that the conference match up with Bridgewater will be especially significant.

It has been said that football can be reduced to two basic parts: blocking and tackling. The difference between the two on any given play is fought in the trenches.

This is the aspect of football that makes it different from any other sport: players physically clearing the way for their teammates' success.

So next time you attend a football game, gasp at the amazing catches, the precision passes, and the spectacular interceptions, but also remember to take note of the subtleties of the line. Your football experience will be all the better for it.

Steroids taint records

Howard avoids juicy temptations

By Adam Lewis
STAFF WRITER

New Home Run Champ?

Okay, so it's mid-September, and if you're not engrossed in the thrill of preseason hockey, you are most likely focused on foot-



ball, both NCAA and NFL. And while both sports are off to exciting starts, one can't help but notice that baseball is still in full force, and amidst an intense NL Wild Card race, one Ryan Howard is emerging as an MVP candidate, with 57 home runs through 149 games.

"So what?" you may say. "Fifty-seven home runs with two weeks left? Big deal. Didn't Barry, Mark, and Sammy have, like, 65 by now?" And yes, that would be correct. But before you go back to watching the Canucks battle the Flames, let's take a better look at this.

Let us begin with Barry Bonds. If you have kept up with news and evidence surrounding Bonds, you will know that he shares the same slogan as Juicy Juice™ ("100% Juice"). Okay, maybe that was speculation, as it has not been "proven" that he knowingly took steroids (other than "The Cream" and "The Clear" of course). Then let me say, using political correctness, that there has been much controversy surrounding Bonds involving his alleged use of performance enhancing drugs. Blah blah blah. No matter which way you look at it, somehow at age 37, Bonds' head randomly grew one full size and his body made the Hulk's look average. So, for argument's sake, I am assuming he did a little more than alter his diet and work out routine, and thus temporarily erasing his 73 home run season from the record books.

Next, we have Mark McGwire. His case is simple. In 1998, when he broke Maris' record of 61 home runs (for the first time), he admit-

ted to using Androstenedione, which is a dietary drug that had been banned by the NFL already, despite not yet being prohibited by the MLB. With that said, it is now clear that whether the drug was illegal or not at that time, it significantly enhanced one's performance, thus, I will again temporarily remove his marks of 70 home runs in 1998, and 65 home runs in 1999.

Lastly, we have "Slammin'" Sammy Sosa, who broke Maris' record three times. When the steroid scandals began to leak out, his name was one of the first to be circulated, along with the other afore-mentioned sluggers. Though we cannot be sure whether he used performance enhancers, a dramatic decline in his power totals following the scandals may indicate that he did. Additionally, he was involved in the infamous "corked bat incident," which says enough on his potential to cheat, and as a result, let's say good-bye to the 66, 64, 63 home runs seasons he put up.

So what does this leave us with? Well, besides the fact that we have three players whose biceps have their own zip codes, we also are left with a Mr. Ryan Howard and his 57 home runs. Granted, he still must hit four more to tie Maris, but for the sake of arguing, let's assume he reaches and surpasses that point.

In the minds of most baseball fans, a definite certainty is needed for them to discount statistics, especially those of the game's greatest sluggers. And that in itself makes it very difficult to suddenly erase records, or even place an asterisk next to them. So with that in mind, I am not asking you to pretend that Bonds, McGwire, and Sosa didn't squash Maris' record (with their juiced up bottoms), but rather I am asking you to merely consider the evidential support, and then see the new result.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am proud to announce to you the (potential) new single season home run champ: Ryan Howard.

(Well, at least until they start testing for human growth hormones).



HUNTER WHITFIELD,
Right Guard

First team all ODAC, 2005

Second team All-State, 2005

Soccer wipes out opponents

Men continue undefeated quest, shut out Bridgewater, Hampden-Sydney

By Mike Fahey
STAFF WRITER

The Washington and Lee men's soccer team continued its dominance over every team it encountered, adding two wins this week to take their record to 6-0.

This is the best start that the team has had since 2000. The Generals captured their fifth win over Bridgewater College, 2-0. W&L had not defeated Bridgewater since 2001. The Generals scored their six win of the season with a 4-0 victory over Hampden-Sydney.

On Saturday morning, the Generals got off to a strong start when junior forward and leading scorer Jack Palmer scored off an assist from senior forward Kyle Garcia. The Generals then notched three goals in the second half to put away the Tigers.

Sophomore midfielder Tommy Pignatelli and sophomore midfielder John Lindsay both found

the back of the net for the Generals, and freshman midfielder Drew Crowley scored his third goal of the season off a pass from senior midfielder Shep Russell.

Junior goaltender Ted Sheddy notched his third shutout of the season tallying five saves. Sheddy is a veteran goalie for the Generals, having recorded a record of 7-4-2 and posting a GAA of just 0.93 with a .780 save percentage last season. This season, Sheddy has been a force to be reckoned with a GAA of 0.20 and a .938 save percentage. Sheddy has also recorded 15 saves so far.

The Generals contest against Bridgewater game started off as a defensive battle, until the 39th minute when Crowley scored his second collegiate goal off a pass from senior defender Scott Pittman.

The Generals carried their momentum into the half, with a 1-0 lead. Garcia notched the Generals' second goal of the game off

an assist from junior midfielder Josh Dodds. Garcia's goal served as insurance for the rest of the game, and the Generals never let Bridgewater get into the contest.

The Generals have gotten off to their great start behind leading scorer Palmer. Palmer has scored six goals so far this season, while Crowley and sophomore midfielder Whitt Larkin have been the Generals second leading scorers so far recording three goals and an assist. Palmer led the team in scoring last season with 11 goals and 2 assists. He was also named as a First Team All-ODAC selection.

Another strong force for the Generals has been their defense. All three of the senior captains are defenders, indicating the Generals' backfield is filled with skilled veterans. Senior captains J.D. McDermott, Alex Phillips and Scot Pittman have all had a great start to their season, as the Generals have only allowed an astonishing two goals as a team.

The Generals will take the field to continue their quest for an undefeated season on Tuesday, when the take on non-conference opponent Mary Washington at 4 p.m. on Watt Field.



Kathekon and the Alumni Association will out and about on **Wednesday** between 10 and 2.

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Heb. 13:8

sports

sportsbriefs

Women's Soccer

The women end the week undefeated, tying their last game on Saturday 0-0 with Virginia Wesleyan College in double overtime. Last Wednesday, the women destroyed Hollins University 12-0. Defensively, the Generals were able to hold Hollins to a single shot. Leading scorers were junior midfielder Martha Caulkins with three, senior forward Anne Wiltshire with three and sophomore forward Anne Van Devender with two. The women face Bridgewater College Tuesday.

Golf

In its first tournament of the season, the golf team defeated opponents from Randolph-Macon College, Hampden-Sydney College, Bridgewater College and others. The Generals secured first place by a five-stroke margin. Leading the Generals was first place finisher junior Nathaniel James with 141 total strokes (one under par). Sophomores Beau Allen and Andrew Green finished with 147 and 149 points respectively.

Cross Country

Both teams held most of their top runners at the Roanoke Invitational this Saturday. The women placed sixth of nine teams with top performances from juniors Lauren Morea in 13th (21:52.48), Lindsay Erickson in 20th (22:32.0) and Jessica Buckingham in 23rd (22:48.8). Sophomore Liza Njuguna and freshman Maureen Ford placed 33rd and 35th respectively. The men did not qualify for a team place having only three runners. Top finishers were sophomore Anthony Ives in 14th, freshman James Wolff in 19th and junior Steve Rivoir in 24th.

Hockey strikes back

Field hockey defeats first nationally ranked team on Friday

By Mike Fahey
STAFF WRITER

The Washington and Lee field hockey team continues to make its mark on its 2006 campaign, scoring a victory over a nationally ranked opponent and playing strong against another tough opponent. The Generals defeated the Cardinals of Catholic University by a score of 2-0 last Friday,

but fell at the hands of the Johns Hopkins yesterday, 4-1.

The Generals scored their first ever defeat of a nationally ranked opponent when they defeated Catholic on Friday.

The Cardinals were ranked sixteenth in the nation, and their loss to W&L was only their second of the season. Last season, the Generals lost to the Cardinals 7-0. This year, the team got its revenge, completely dominating Catholic.

"It was amazing to see
See "FIELD" on page 4



MORGAN HARRIS / Staff Photographer

Junior midfielder Kendall Korte (15) and sophomore defender Lizzie Gottimer (10) work to stop a drive from a Johns Hopkins' opponent. The Generals fell to Johns Hopkins yesterday 4-1, but defeated Catholic on Friday.

Volleyball struggles at Emory

Women defeat one of four at invitational in Atlanta, fall to first ODAC opponent

By Lara Jordan
STAFF WRITER

The Generals ended their play at the Emory Invitational last weekend in Atlanta, Ga. 1-3.

After early success on Friday against Rockford College 3-0 (30-22, 30-24, 30-23), the Generals fell to opponents from Emory University on Friday and Carthage College and Randolph-Macon College on Saturday.

Against all three contenders, the Generals did not secure a single match.

The closest game came on Saturday afternoon against Randolph-Macon with scores of 25-30, 25-30 and 27-30. This was the first ODAC loss this season that adjusted their ODAC record to 3-1.

With only two seniors and two juniors, the young volleyball team has overcome a disadvantage in experience, already winning eight of its 12 games.

"There are quite a few new people filling starting positions," senior captain Ashley Hurt said. "Our play has improved since we first started, but there are still a lot of things we have to work on."

One reason for their strong record is the enthusiasm and support of the senior captains.

"The senior captains encourage and push every player to be the best they can be," freshman Rachael Phillips said. "Even if we made a mistake, they cheer us on and give us confidence."

According to Phillips, the freshmen bring new possibilities and ideas to the team.

"The freshmen have really brought a lot of energy to the team

whether they are on the court or not," Hurt said.

"It is great to have a bunch of girls excited to be at W&L and be playing volleyball. I think we have eight people who, with some training and experience, have the potential to fill big roles in their careers at W&L."

A large number of underclassman players gives the team has a deep bench advantage.

"We've got a lot of depth," freshman Aleisha Thornsberry

said. "Seventeen girls is a really big volleyball team, and it allows us a lot of choices when we get into tight situations."

The team looks to win the ODAC Championship.

Last year, the women qualified for the NCAA tournament falling in the first round to contenders from Southwestern University.

"Our main team goal is to win ODACs," Hurt said. "We want to

See "YOUNG" on page 4

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