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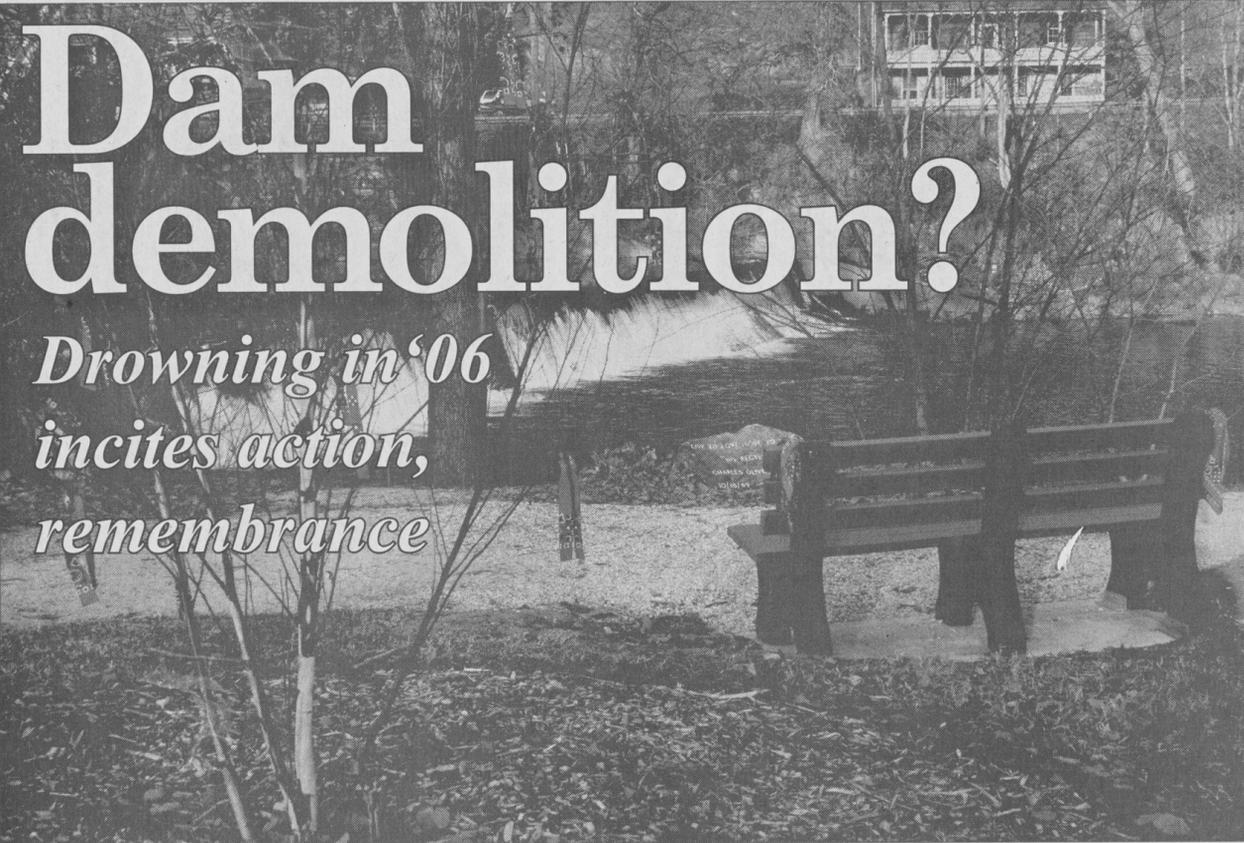
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897

VOLUME CXI, NUMBER 9

Dam demolition?

Drowning in '06 incites action, remembrance



By Jacob Geiger
MANAGING EDITOR

Lexington City Council will meet Thursday night to discuss the future of the Jordan's Point dam. The dam's future has been uncertain since Charles Volpe, a 16-year-old student of Rockbridge County High School, drowned there in April 2006.

If the city decides to remove the dam, the normally still water near the Pole Houses may once again become a flowing river.

Since Lexington opened Jordan's Point Park, the tiny island has become a popular hangout and swimming hole for students of all kinds. Local high school students, Keydets, law students and W&L undergrads have all enjoyed a spring afternoon at the park.

Now the park has a new feature — a memorial garden built in honor of Volpe, who drowned beneath the park's dam on April 23, 2006.

"I had the idea to do something when Mr. Volpe and Mrs. Volpe said they never wanted Charles to be forgotten," Dylan Fitzgerald, a Rockbridge County High freshman, said.

Fitzgerald erected the garden as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Fitzgerald moved a bench inscribed with Volpe's name and one of his favorite sayings to a spot that over looks the dam. He also planted a birch tree and will add more plants when spring comes.

The saying seems to capture the way Volpe
See "Dam" on page 2

LENORA NUNNLEY / Staff Photographer

What is legal?

Alum reflects on his time advising Bush about terror war's legal limits

By John Henderson
STAFF WRITER

Jack Goldsmith, W&L Class of 1984, spent ten months as assistant attorney general, giving legal counsel to the White House on issues from counterterrorism to Guantanamo Bay in 2003 and 2004. When asked whether he would do it again, Goldsmith said, "I might flip a coin." He spoke at Washington and Lee last Monday on his experiences.

Goldsmith graduated summa cum laude from W&L in 1984, earned B.A. and M.A. degrees at Oxford and later attended Yale Law School. In 2003, while working for the Defense Department, Goldsmith was called to the White House for an interview with Alberto Gonzales, the President Bush's legal counselor. Weeks later, Goldsmith was sworn in as the assistant attorney general.

As head of the Office of Legal Counsel,

dent have been restricted by criminal laws, meaning that a violation of those laws is punishable with a prison sentence. Bush and his cabinet needed to know just how far they could go in the "War on Terror" without breaking the law.

Goldsmith was in the uncomfortable position of telling the president (through Gonzales) what he could and could not do. When the Bush administration pushed against the law, Goldsmith had to push back.

Towards the end of his term, Goldsmith was exhausted and fed up with the secrecy and unilateral decision-making within the White House. The Bush administration was making decisions without expert advice, Goldsmith said. He believes that the President should have been working more closely with Congress. Instead, Bush took the "go-it-alone approach" and thereby lost a lot of trust.

"The central irony is, the agenda to expand presidential power will end up weakening the presidency in the foreseeable future."

Jack Goldsmith, former Assistant Attorney General and 1984 alum

Goldsmith determined whether certain executive actions were lawful. In his first eight weeks he was briefed on various counterterrorism operations for which the president would need approval. In time, Goldsmith came to the conclusion that the opinions of his predecessors, in support of these actions, were "deeply flawed."

"It began to dawn on me that I could not... stand by or reaffirm these opinions" he writes in his book, "The Terror Presidency."

Goldsmith spoke in Lee Chapel on Monday to an audience of students, professors and local residents. He argued that the presidency is torn between two fears — fear of attack and fear of the law. After September 11, Goldsmith explained, the White House tried everything possible to prevent another terrorist attack. There was the sense that a second attack would be blamed on the president. "They pushed against the law, feeling that they had to go right to the line," Goldsmith said.

At the same time, there was the fear of pushing too hard and crossing the line. Since the 1970s, the war powers of the presi-

"The central irony is, the agenda to expand presidential power will end up weakening the presidency in the foreseeable future," Goldsmith said.

Politics Professor Rob Strong agreed with Goldsmith's analysis, and added, "We're going to be living with this kind of threat for a very long time." It will be up to future presidents, he said, to balance civil liberties with the need to address threats.

After the talk, a reception was held in the Alumni House. Goldsmith chatted with members of the audience and elaborated on his earlier points. Several members of the audience waited to have their copies of "The Terror Presidency" signed. Attendants felt like they were standing in the presence of a dignitary.

But Goldsmith is just an ordinary man who has experienced an extraordinary career. He now teaches law at Harvard University, which is a welcome change after the arduous schedule that kept him away from his wife and sons. "It was a painful experience" he said, but he was grateful to have learned so much from it.

U.S. must reach out

Expert on Islam says peace won't come unless dialogue improves

By Joel Poelhuls
STAFF WRITER

Ambassador Akbar Ahmed, recognized by the BBC as "the world's leading authority on contemporary Islam," spoke at W&L last Wednesday night in Lee Chapel. In a speech filled with hope but grounded in serious realism, Ahmed told attending students, professors and area residents that building bridges between the Islamic world and the United States is essential to global welfare in the 21st century. Ahmed's speech served as the third event in an ongoing Middle East series sponsored by W&L student organization Contact.

Ahmed revealed that the U.S. is perceived by Muslims as conducting an active attack on Islam. These tensions fuel a rising anti-American sentiment and give credence to extremists. The solution to the conflict, according to Ahmed, is a three-part process in which the West must take the lead. The cost of not taking action could drain U.S. resources in expensive foreign wars while destroying the chance for development in Islamic countries. This situation, Ahmed claims, would prevent the U.S. from focusing on other world priorities where its leadership is badly needed.

The first step is to do away with a retaliatory mindset and instead, addressing the underlying causes of the conflict. America's current "war on terror" has a blinding effect, which Ahmed warns could be counterpro-

ductive to its long term goals. Using Pakistan as an example, Ahmed showed how U.S. foreign policy has shifted from promoting democracy to forging short-term military alliances for strategic value. These alliances, claims Ahmed, are not as beneficial to development of U.S.-Muslim relations because they are heavily contingent on U.S. military aid and may not have the overall support of the populace. Foreign aid sent to governments of this type often turns up in military form, which destabilizes rather than develops a region.

Dialogue is Ahmed's second step and one he is personally familiar with. He consistently meets with leaders in other faiths and works to promote inter-faith discussion and is a trustee of the World Faiths Development Dialogue. Ahmed places great importance on the status of Abraham as the root of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths and painted religion as a conduit which could lead to greater cultural and political understanding. Symbolism is crucial in Ahmed's plan for dialogue. For example, when President George W. Bush visited a mosque shortly after the attacks of 9/11, the Muslim world reacted positively. Ahmed said actions like this are important in building credibility for open dialogue. Ahmed also desires greater maturity in the Muslim world, especially the ability to maintain composure when faced with a different opinion. The difficulty with this value, Ahmed

claims, is that "the majority of the Muslim world is young, illiterate, and unemployed," a recipe for trouble in any belief system.

This lack of education and opportunity is one of the problems that lead to the ascendancy of Muslim literalists or fundamentalists over more moderate modernists. Ahmed recommends direct funding of education and infrastructure development as a way to combat extremist views of the U.S. This paves the way for dialogue and opens the door to challenging extremist views with textual evidence from the Quran.

The goal of these steps is friendships between individuals in the Islamic world and the U.S. When personal friendships exist, political differences will not disappear, but will be dealt with in a more mutually beneficial way, according to Ahmed.

Neil Scheaffer, co-chair of Contact, said the current series on the Middle East has boosted attendance of Contact events.

"We wanted to take a relevant topic and approach it from a number of different angles," Scheaffer said.

Ahmed's speech was co-sponsored by the W&L Religion department, which Scheaffer said helped create a strong base of support for promotion and attendance.

The next speaker in the Spotlight on the Middle East series will be General Anthony Zinni on March 6th speaking on "War in the Middle East."

WIS pick of the week Student investors predict steel industry will improve

By Alex Scaggs
STAFF WRITER

Washington Investment Society's basic goods group focuses on manufacturers of basic products, like steel and chemicals. This week, WIS's basic goods group released their decision to buy stock in Nucor, an American steel company, and to sell Kaydon Inc., a producer of friction and motion control products.

Nucor (NUE) is based in America, with 25 facilities in the U.S., along with others in Brazil, Australia, Trinidad and Canada. Nucor has been an innovator in the steel

industry with an eco-friendly focus, a diverse product mix, and a history of successful acquisitions.

Its steel mill operation is a step ahead ecologically: it is 270% ahead of the Kyoto Greenhouse Emission goals. Nucor is also the biggest recycling company in the world because most of the raw material for Nucor's steel mills is scrap metal. Nucor also holds exclusive rights to a new technology called strip casting, which reduces energy consumption and emissions. That, in turn, saves the company money and raises profit margins.

The steel market in the U.S.

has remained strong, especially in relation to the fall of the housing market and the credit crunch. While residential construction has fallen, non-residential remains strong. American steel companies have also become more attractive to buyers. Demand for steel is outpacing supply, says WIS, and since the US dollar has weakened, it has become more expensive for the US to import steel. That leads American construction companies to look into domestic manufacturers: namely, Nucor.

"The U.S. steel market, after years of slowdowns, is on the verge
see "WIS" on page 2

news

QEP project update *Committee seeks community input on 11 ideas*

The Quality Enhancement Plan committee is moving forward in its efforts to select one idea that would improve life at Washington and Lee.

The project is part of W&L's re-accreditation efforts. Junior Rich Cleary said the committee is now seeking input on 11 ideas.

The top three ideas will eventually be presented to the provost, and one idea will eventually be implemented.

The ideas are as follows:

1. Freshmen seminar: This proposal would expand the current freshman seminars so they could be open to all freshmen. Another option would use the seminar to help freshmen with the transition

to college.

2. Student intellectual life: This idea could enhance out-of-classroom ideas to improve intellectual life.

3. Academic life: Help implement the newly approved academic life plan, with a focus on developing innovative courses for the 4-week spring term.

4. Service learning: Focus on making connections between academic objectives and real world issues.

5. Sustainability: A focus on eliminating or offsetting W&L's climate-changing emissions.

6. I Program: Students would participate in one of three "I's": Independent research, international study, or an eight

week internship.

7. Information fluency: Focus on helping faculty and students use technology to find data and conduct research. Also encourage students to share research they have completed.

8. International education: This plan envisions using winter and spring terms to encourage language students to take intensive classes and study abroad.

9. Advising: Clarify the mission of the advising system, articulate its goals and make certain the university supports these goals.

10. Diversity: This plan would require students to take one

FDR course in an area related to diversity, whether racial, gender or economic diversity. Courses that could fulfill this requirement might come from the Shepherd Poverty Program, Women's Studies or African-American Studies.

11. Value enrichment: A focus on improving intellectual curiosity, including self-directed learning and self-examination. Students would be encouraged to "learn more about whatever is in front of them and to improve both their own lives and the lives of others.

By logging on to qep.wlu.edu, community members can read full descriptions of the proposals and also add their own suggestions.

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Comedian gets a laugh wherever he goes

Mary Washington student Watt Smith tries to break through, build his career

By Carson Haddow
STAFF WRITER

Watt Smith is another one of those *funny guys*. The brother of a current W&L senior, Watt was invited to perform a stand up comedy routine in the Stackhouse Theater on Tuesday. To give an idea of Watt's general atmosphere it would do well to consider his simpleton philosophy: "If I took it too serious, I would cry after every show." Kind of a live life as it comes mentality — oh and try to laugh as much as possible.

Watt was born in Richmond and is now at Mary Washington University in Fredericksburg, at least when he's not on a semi-professional joke tour in D.C. or Virginia. He started telling jokes for fun and publicly in high school,

won a joke contest and the career was launched. He does plan to finish college, at least to make the parents happy, but then, of course, he's on to bigger and better things. Watt seems to envision a life in L.A., moving around getting comedy gigs like a musician. He says it is tough to find work and pay: "It's hard to make it as a comedian," especially early in the game. He maintains however that all he needs is enough for some food and a place to live. He will work hard, but he will certainly have a blast doing what he loves.

Watt, or Walter really, just really likes making people laugh. It is always a relief, he says, when the fear of that awkward, post-funny silence is evaporated by the giggles and grins of an at least

somewhat attentive audience.

He always tells new jokes; he writes them before each routine. It seems like too much work and stress going into such a fundamentally carefree and amusing pastime. He's spent nights on end of working in D.C., standing in front of people and desperately bidding for their attention. Watt takes it easy and just lives life. He does not really need to "save the world with laughter," but rather he wants simply "to have fun being funny."

His comedic technique is to honestly setup an idea or scene, and then shock people by giving a surprising twist in the punch line. He makes people see a different viewpoint, and makes them laugh at it and sometimes their selves.

Although school is not as big a concern for him, Watt does enjoy it and plans to major in international affairs. His favorite comedian is actually Mark Twain, the legendary comedic satirist and author.

He also admires people like Jerry Seinfeld for being honest and giving their simple jokes and opinions void of any big, corporate philosophical prodding.

When asked if he plans on doing TV or movies in L.A., he replied that he prefers ordinary standup, that he would want more control of his jokes and ideas than TV programs generally allow.

"Money isn't that important." It seems like a lovely idea, but will he survive a future life "lived in a car"?

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Dam demolition

continued from page 1

lived his life: "Live to love, love to live, no regrets."

The crowning touch of the garden is a piece of limestone that Fitzgerald and Volpe's parents moved from the family's property.

Workers at Hamric Memorials, donated their time and carved the same saying onto the stone.

Though Fitzgerald and Volpe are a few years apart in age, the two became friends at the local skate park. Chuck Volpe, Charles's father, said his son looked out for younger kids at the park.

"It turned out [Charles] liked to help the younger kids," Volpe said. "So I had a lot of these younger boys that were 12 years old come up to me after Charles's death and say, 'your son was really nice to us.'"

Fitzgerald is not the only local teenager working to keep Volpe's legacy alive. Cassie Benson and Ben Goldsmith, two former classmates of Volpe, have been working with Chuck Volpe to raise awareness about the dangers of dams.

The Jordan's Point dam is a

WIS Pick of the week

continued from page 1

of a boom," said the Basics Group report. And although Nucor took a loss during the third quarter, it beat expectations, leading to a 4.1% rise in stock.

The group also decided to sell Kaydon, what they say is the weakest stock in their portfolio. Kaydon manufactures bearings, split-roll bearings, filtration products, linear deceleration products and performance seals. The machinery industry has been hit hard by the slow housing market, and the weak dollar also affected the performance of the company, and it's unknown how long it will take for the stock to recover.

WIS stock picks are strictly the opinions of the aforementioned industry group and should not be used as the basis for individual acquisitions. Always consult your personal financial advisor before making an investment decision, as all stock investments carry risk. Past results are not necessarily indicative of future performance.

"low-head" dam. While these dams often look unimposing, they create deadly hydraulic effects. As water comes over the dam it re-circulates back to the base of the dam, trapping anything that has gone over the dam.

Benson and Goldsmith said they were shocked to hear that Charles, who was an expert swimmer, had drowned.

"We were really surprised to hear it because of how comfortable he was around the water."

The two teenagers, along with Chuck Volpe, worked with Del. Ben Cline (R-Lexington) to get a new dam safety law passed in the Virginia state legislature.

The law urges dam owners to put signs up warning swimmers and boaters not to approach the dam. Owners who put up signs limit their liability to \$25,000 if someone is injured or killed. Owners who don't put up signs risk having to pay much larger settlements in a lawsuit.

Volpe filed a lawsuit against the city in September, claiming that the city was negligent because it failed to put up signs warning swimmers of the dangers around the dam. He is seeking \$3.3 million in damages.

The city did put up no trespass-

ing signs and safety buoys after Charles Volpe's death, but there were no signs in place on the day Volpe died.

In fact, the city didn't even know it owned the dam. Only after Volpe's death did city officials discover they had acquired the dam nearly 70 years ago.

Chuck Volpe initially wanted to see the dam demolished, but other local residents didn't want to lose the flat stretch of river created by the dam.

Now Volpe and City Planner Bill Blatter are discussing an option that could remove the dam's dangers while still preserving the flat water that boaters and swimmers currently enjoy.

Volpe's plan calls for two dams to be built upstream of the current dam, while the current dam would be partially removed.

The result, Volpe hopes, would be Class II rapids that boaters could safely paddle through.

In a way, Volpe hopes his campaign to raise awareness about these dams will serve as a permanent memorial to his son.

But he's glad that Fitzgerald's garden will keep the memory of his son alive at Jordan's Point.

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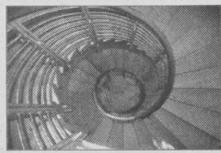
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opinions

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letter to the editor

Abortion: a balancing act

State shouldn't force moral judgments on everyone

This is in reply to Chris Tutor's article "Rudy's Problem" from the Nov. 12 issue of the Ring-Tum Phi. I take Giuliani's position to be internally consistent, and here's why.

As Tutor correctly points out, there are important rights that society should protect, and members of society should not be left to choose for themselves whether to respect these rights or not. In the United States, there is a shared value framework to which we can appeal in negotiating our differences and identifying the rights that should be entitled to legal protection.

An important value we share is that we should not use the coercive power of the state to enforce our sectarian views. Suppose, for example, that my faith forbids me to consume intoxicating substances (such as coffee and alcohol). Since I live in a society containing a plurality of religious, moral and philosophical systems, I recognize that my reasons for abstaining are not shared, and I cannot justifiably expect the state to enforce abstinence for everyone based on my religious reasons. The claims of others to conduct their lives in harmony with their sectarian value systems is as strong as my claim to adhere to my own.

But all reasonable moral systems in society seem to overlap

at certain points, and this overlap constitutes our shared value framework. This common value system recognizes certain basic rights, such as the right to life and security of the person, including the right to bodily integrity (e.g., not to be killed, battered, raped or tortured) and the right to liberty (including the right not to be unjustly imprisoned and not to be enslaved). State coercive power is used, justifiably, to protect these rights.

Still, basic rights are not absolute. Although all people are entitled to their lives and freedom, there are circumstances under which some people's interests in life or liberty must give way to others' corresponding interests.

For example, people can be imprisoned for committing crimes and killed under death penalty statutes in some states.

In some states, such as Virginia, that society should express its moral outrage by executing persons convicted of capital crimes is taken to justify the loss of innocent life on the inevitable occasions when people are wrongly convicted.

One might disagree about whether these particular qualifications to basic rights are justified, but few argue that no qualifications are justified. One who supports an *unqualified* right to life must oppose the death pen-

alty, even use of deadly force in self-defense (which would justify a complete ban on handguns).

Should abortion be legal? That depends on which interest is stronger: a woman's interest in autonomy or a fetus's interest in being born.

Should slavery be legal? That depends on which interest is stronger: a person's interest in owning other people and profiting from their labor, or a person's interest

in liberty and self-government. The slavery question is a very easy one if we don't think the first interest is a legitimate one at all.

But many people do not find the legal abortion question easy, even if they believe the fetus is

a person with full rights like you or me. Many people who oppose legal abortion would make an exception in cases of rape, incest and/or when the pregnant woman's life or health is at risk. In these cases, the fetus is as fully a person as in other cases.

So there must be a balancing of important interests that we value in common that is taking place, rather than an insistence on unqualified rights based on a sectarian view.

Of course people shouldn't be left to choose for themselves when to respect others' basic rights. The difficult question is: What are these basic rights that should be protected?

Finding the answer requires us, together as a society, to recognize and evaluate important competing claims and values, offering each other reasons from within our shared value system that we can expect others to recognize. This is how our shared value system expands and develops.

As Giuliani acknowledges, one value we share is that the coercive power of the state is not to be used to enforce sectarian moral judgments but only rights and values established within our shared value system.

Sincerely,
Melina Bell

People shouldn't be left to choose for themselves when to respect others' basic rights. What are these basic rights that should be protected?

Melina Bell, assistant professor of philosophy

in liberty and self-government. The slavery question is a very easy one if we don't think the first interest is a legitimate one at all.

But many people do not find the legal abortion question easy, even if they believe the fetus is

Friends don't let friends dress badly

Even if you avoid looking like you're headed to vacation, you may be one of the homogenously different

By Grace Andrews
STAFF WRITER

For my last article of this year, I thought of writing an uplifting, engaging article, that reminded us all of the blessings we have and the purpose of the holiday season. This article will probably not be doing any of that.

A few days ago, I was talking to campus favorite Burr Datz when I was forced into a paralyzing silence. For those of you who know me, you all realize what a great feat this must have been.

What I saw that silenced me were a pair of khaki pants in the bookstore window. However, these pants were no ordinary slacks, they had blue and white tridents ALL over. I would guess that there were at least 30 tridents.

When I first saw the pants, I thought that the trident decals were actually sharks. Why sharks? Well, I assumed that the pants were Vineyard Vines and just following the same mold as the women's slacks that have everything from whales and fish to palm trees and pineapples.

Just the other day, I saw someone wearing shorts that had a whale and skull and crossbones pattern. I did not realize that skulls and whales were the next dynamic duo. Maybe they were trying to do a pirate/sea-faring creature theme? I'm not sure what was going on but it disturbed me and shook up my soul up to the point where I was saying "Ay, matey."

I personally do not believe in having tropical seascapes, insects or fruit on my clothing. I battled that decision, but after some soul

searching I've just decided that I don't support attire that either makes me hungry, swat at myself or want to go on a vacation.

After seeing those pants in the display window, I decided to further dissect some of the fashion on campus. I enjoy nothing more than fun and funky patterns and colors on clothes, but sometimes people make terrible life choices concerning clothes.

If it is cloudy, drizzling and 40 degrees outside, you should not wear shorts with a tee, have on sandals, or be wearing colors so bright that your reflection causes vision loss.

You know what I'm talking about. If it looks like a skittle bag exploded all over your clothes or when describing the color that you are wearing, you have to put the word "neon" in front of the name, you may want to wait

and wear that color in the spring — the time of brightly colored clothes.

Outside of brilliantly blinding bold colors, the mixing of various patterns plagues this campus like a terrible biblical curse. Stripes, polka dots, checks, etc. are great to wear but not together. I've seen people on campus put these varied patterns together, and all it does is make them look like the product of a zebra and cheetah, mixed with a candy cane.

Honestly, if someone may get dizzy looking at all of the designs on your clothes, that outfit may not be the one. Please remember, friends don't let friend wear plaids with polka dots, just DON'T do it!

What I find interesting about the fashion choices is that many of the individuals wearing these style are trying to be "individu-

als" and have their own style. The problem occurs when 200 or more people try to be "individuals."

If everyone is wearing the same striped pants with a polka dot polo, then you have went from being "different" to "looking like everyone else." Thus resulting in a homogenously different campus sense of fashion. Only at W&L would rebellious fashion consist of NOT wearing florescent colored Polo or a madras print skirt. Where I'm from in western Tennessee, neither of those options would be thought kindly upon.

However, I must say that on most days, the intricate attire and attention-grabbing garb makes me smile a big Kool-Aid grin while chucking deep in my soul. I enjoy the efforts made by my peers to be different while still

playing it safe since everyone else is dressed like them.

Tying this article into the holiday season, I suggest that if you have any of the aforementioned attire in your closet and do not wear them, donate them to the Union Mission, Goodwill or another charity of your choice.

Lastly, I implore some of the W&L student to mix up their fashion a little and try new things with next season's style. I have no desire to see 50 million people with the same polo and khaki outfit for all of Winter Term or the same wool dress and pashmina scarf.

As you do your holiday shopping for a new wardrobe, just remember a few of the finer points in this article and ask for help when purchasing or creating an outfit. Remember, friends don't let friends go out looking a

For these, beauty's not even skin deep

No college male in his right mind would hang posters of anyone from Maxim's unsexiest women on their dorm wall

By Kathie Scott
STAFF WRITER

How would you like to open up an issue of Maxim to find your name listed as one of the unsexiest people in the world? Oh, to be a celebrity.

Maxim published its very official list of the five unsexiest females in the world, as follows (with unsexiest listed at the top):

1. Sarah Jessica Parker
2. Amy Winehouse
3. Sandra Oh
4. Madonna
5. Britney Spears

Now let's discuss the logic behind this list. Sarah Jessica Parker is apparently the unsexiest female in the world. This seems so ironic because Sarah Jessica Parker is most commonly referred to as Carrie Bradshaw from *Sex and the City*. Because of this, I questioned Maxim's decision to place poor Sarah at the top of their list.

But then I thought about it and

figured out a way to determine if she is really all that unsexy. Picture a college male's dorm room. Can anyone imagine a poster of Sarah Jessica Parker hanging above the bed? Exactly.

So Sarah really isn't very sexy. Does she deserve to top the list? That is arguable. But let's continue.

Amy Winehouse. Done. There really is no explanation necessary for her position on this list. In case you hadn't heard anything about Amy Winehouse recently, she's insane. A "recovering" heroin and crack addict, Amy Winehouse made her biggest splash in celebrity gossip when she and her husband appeared before the press bruised and bloody.

Apparently Amy's husband saved her life. She was cutting herself alongside of a call girl when her husband came in to save the day. A physical dispute began that left Amy running out of her

hotel very bloody and bruised, her husband not too far behind.

Don't you just hate it when that happens? I can't imagine a poster of Amy Winehouse in her delicate condition on anyone's wall. I personally think she deserves the number one spot as unsexiest female. But maybe there's something Maxim knows that I don't.

Coming in at number three is Sandra Oh. The infamous Cristina from the ABC show "Grey's Anatomy." You either love her or hate her direct and emotionally detached manner. But either way, I don't think she gets many hits on Google for sexy pictures.

Granted, nowadays everybody has a sex tape somewhere or a stack of sordid pictures from early on in his/her career. Nonetheless, Sandra is not a person I would use to define sexy. Her role on "Grey's Anatomy" may or may not have pushed her un-

sexy image, but I just think she's unattractive.

Number four on Maxim's list is Madonna. This is another entry I don't quite understand. Madonna defined sexy for a generation or two when she first started her

Madonna has progressively become unsexy over time. But, hey, isn't that just aging?

music career.

Don't get me wrong, her very muscular look does make her look even older than she already is. She's never really fixed that gap between her teeth, though maybe some find it becoming.

Madonna is also a huge diva

(in the bad way). I mean, for one television broadcast of the Emmys, Madonna refused to appear if she didn't open although Mari-ah Carey was the most logical choice for opener at the time.

And really she has progressively become unsexy over time. But hey, isn't that just aging? Is that really fair? Sandra Oh is just inherently unsexy. But Madonna brought sex to music. I don't like Madonna very much but I'm not sure she belongs in this list.

Our last unsexy female is the Princess of Pop, Britney Spears. This is another person I will argue.

Britney is a mother. She's not as toned as she once was. Yes, she shaved her head. But come on! Not only did Britney top sexy charts at one point, but this girl was really really sexy.

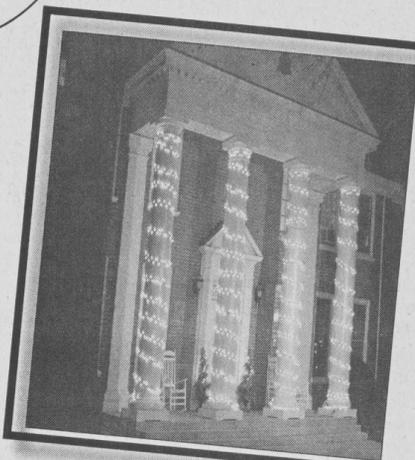
And the true test is that one of the more popular posters in college dorms is the enlarged ver-

sion of her on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine. Now we can all agree that she's not the same girl from her boy short underwear days. And her fall has been quite significant. But even in her current state, I will always remember Britney as a sex symbol for our generation.

And because of that not too distant memory, I feel Britney should be removed from the list. Isn't it enough that she was stupid enough to marry Keven Federline without a prenuptial agreement? Can't we just let her become unsexy in peace without calling her out on it?

All in all, Maxim did a pretty good job of coming up with an interesting and somewhat accurate list of unsexy females. I could argue a case for some of the placeholders but I'm not appalled by the choices. Good job Maxim! I'll be waiting for the list of unsexiest males.

3rd annual



Seasons Greetings
from

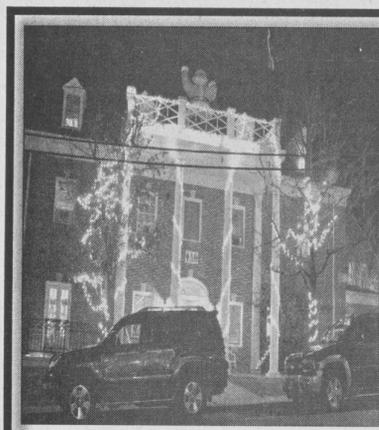
Kappa Alpha

At least all of their lights work. The plantation house look works for these Southern gents. Unfortunately, they live in a frat house, not Tara. There's a theme going on here: the white columns match the white lights and white rocking chairs to create a white Christmas. Now if only we could get some snow...



Phi Kap ^{HO} _{says} ^{HO} _{HO}

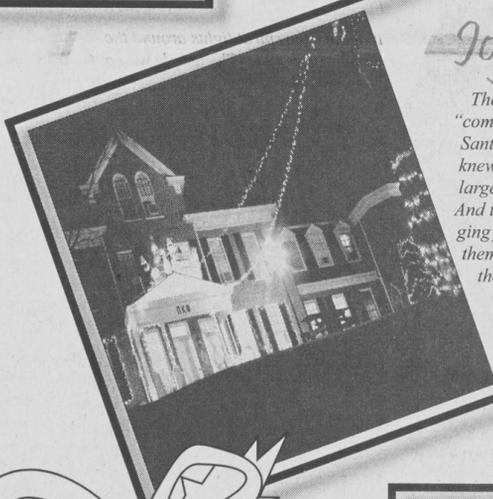
We know these guys aren't very nice, but who in God's name is mean enough to kill Santa Claus? Anyone at Chi Psi late night can see how tough you are; you don't need to kill Santa to prove your point. The lights are better than last year but still lame.



Merry

Phi Delt

Phi Delt always think they're on top, so they put Santa on top too. It's nice to see them finally take a page out of Sigma Nu's book with the scraggly trees. Maybe the lights will help the Phi Delt in the quest to get more Ho, Ho, Hos.



Pi Phi wishes you

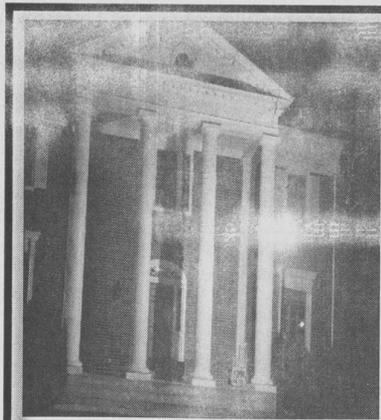
Joy N' Love

The people on the roof say it all: "come party with us." Unfortunately, Santa and his entourage (who even knew Santa had an entourage?) are larger than last year's pledge class. And the third floor windows are begging for some something to be put in them. Kudos, though, for decorating the tree in the middle of the yard. Our vote: 3rd place.



Fa la la la... Lambda

Lambda's electricity bill might be so high that they'll have to stop booking Snackbar Jones every weekend. If all of Davidson Park goes dark, it's probably their fault. They've got it all again this year, even down to the lights synchronized to music. They lose points, however, for not having the nativity scene with a lamb. These boys try too hard at everything from grades to rush to lights.



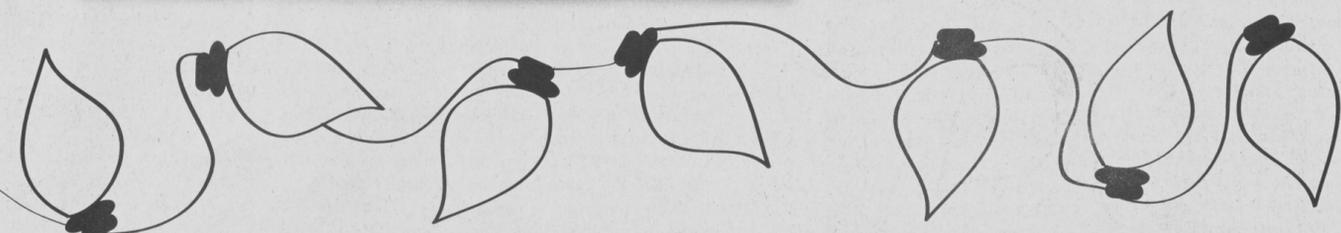
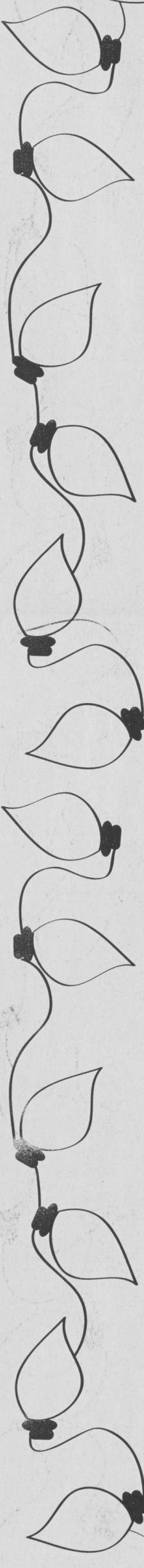
Let's all wish a Merry Christmas to the scrooges at Kappa Sig headquarters. Maybe they couldn't get any soaking wet freshmen to stand in the cold and set up the lights. But then again, Kappa Sig's lights would have just matched K.A.'s. First off campus, but last in our "Fratty Lights" competition.

Bah Humbug Kappa Sig

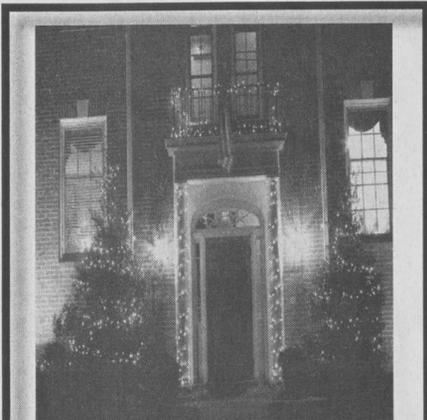
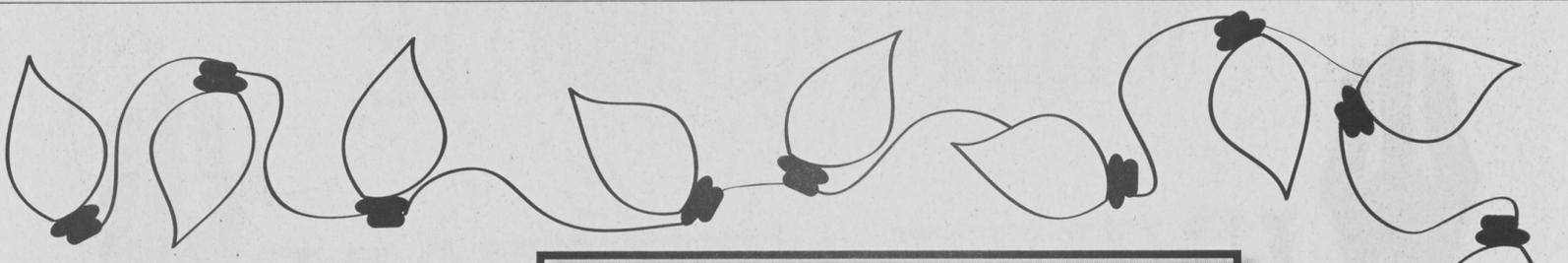


That's strange, we always thought Fallout was the Phi Psi chapter house. We know red and green are Christmas colors, but they're also your frat colors. Stop showing so much Phi Psi pride. We do like your spiral staircases. And the wreaths work well, even if they aren't creative. You're doing better than most.

Joy to the world Phi Psi



fratty lights



Happy Holidays from Pika

The only thing these lights have going for them is their patriotism. The flag shows Lexington that Pika loves America. But they apparently don't love good decorations. You have five strands of lights. Simply not acceptable in 2007. Maybe they spent the Christmas budget on holiday cheer of a different type. Judging by the trees, they enjoyed the holiday cheer before decorating.

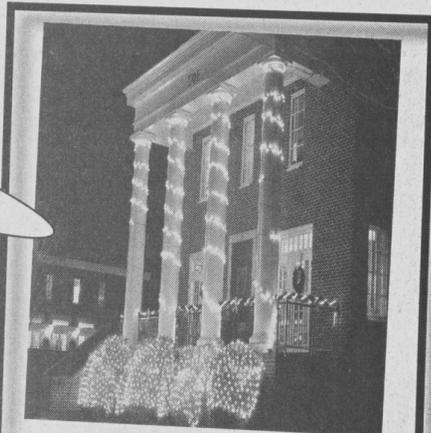


SAE

wishes you a

White Christmas

The frat lords in Davidson Park are always fond of inflatable snowman and Santa Claus. And major points for adding the snow globe to the roof. Every frat should show as much pride in their windows as SAE does. Maybe the decorations are so good because their dads all gave them some advice from their own days as students. Our vote: 2nd place. If not for Lambda's music, the frat lords would have stolen the crown.



Half your lights are burned out on Dec. 1. You can't even do boring well. Yes it's pretty, yes it's classy, but this is "Fratty Lights," not the White House.

P.S. You and Sigma Chi should really stop dressing like lame twins each year at Christmas.

Silent Nights

at

Sig Ep



Feliz Navidad

from

Sigma Chi

We've said it before and we'll say it again: the spiral lights around the column are boring. The people who put on Christmas in the Country should be able to do better than some measly strands of white lights. Also, congrats on matching Sig Ep and about seven other houses on campus. Based on the size of their egos, we expected more.



Peace, love, and sketchiness

at

Chi Psi

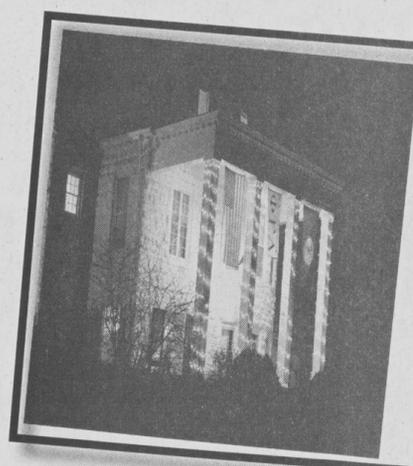
The house that brought you Sketchy Late Night did not bring you sketchy lights. No inflatable nativity? No frosty stumbling down the front porch like everyone else on campus does? With so much potential here, all you turned out is something that looks like City Hall.



The tree in front of the house looks like it belongs in a Charlie Brown Christmas special. They hoped that the door outlined in light and bright balcony might draw people but unfortunately that only works with moths, not drunk freshmen.

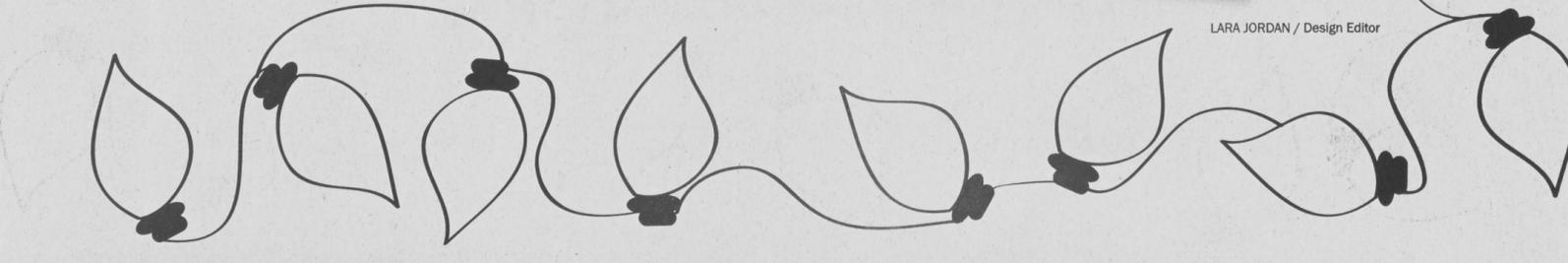
Sigma Nu

Decks the Halls



White house, white stone, colored lights? Did anyone think this through? Another house goes for the suburban look with a tree visible from a top window, but the poor tree looks like it was decorated by the same person who did the columns. Here's the real question: will there be lights next year?

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WASHINGTON AND LEE



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By Russ Weems
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team had a busy week, playing three games. They went 1-2 facing three tough opponents, Mary Baldwin, Randolph-Macon and Virginia Wesleyan, a combined 10-1 coming into the games.

The team started the week Tuesday night against Mary Baldwin Squirrels. W&L started slow, going down 0-9. At one point in the first half, the deficit was 14. It was looking bleak for the Generals who had yet to post their first win. After a run by W&L to end the first, the Generals had cut the difference to two at half time. The second half was close and intense. The half featured 11 lead changes and 8 ties. With 71 seconds remaining in the game, the score was tied 59-59. The tie was broken by a lay-up by senior guard Kristin Krouchick who led the Generals with a season-high 21 points and 9 boards. She added a free throw to make it 62-59, the final score. W&L had their first victory of the season. Other Generals also provided strong performances. Sophomore center Kaitlin Kamp had one of her best games, tallying a career-high tying 15 points and a season high 7 rebounds. Senior Amanda Kane also scored in double digits. It was an exciting win for the Generals, giving Mary Baldwin their first loss of the season.

Friday, the Generals faced the 22nd ranked Yellow Jackets of Randolph-Macon. The Yellow Jackets came out firing from the beginning. They shot 55 percent from the field in the first and took an 18-point lead twice in the first half. They looked like a nationally ranked team. The score was 40-26 coming into half time. After half, the Generals went cold, hitting just one shot from the field in the first 10 minutes. The Generals could not handle the ranked Yellow Jackets, and the game ended 81-57. The Generals had ball security issues, committing 22 turnovers in the defeat. Also, they allowed the Yellow Jackets to get 4 players in double figures and shoot over 50 percent. There were some bright for the Generals, however. Junior guard Bethany Ridenhour had a season high 16 points and four steals. Freshman guard Allie Long had a career-high 11.

Saturday, the Generals took on the Virginia Wesleyan Marlins. The Generals started off strong, building up a seven-point lead with 5:55 to play in the first. After this point, the Generals went cold, and the Marlins went on a massive run. The Marlins scored 33 of the next 35 points. By the end of the run the score was 50-26. The Generals were able to chip away at the lead some, but it was not enough. The game ended in a 17-point victory for the Marlins, 61-44. This run was the obvious difference in the game. The Generals controlled the beginning and the end of the game but just couldn't stop the bleeding in the middle. W&L again had turnover problems, committing 20. The team was led by Kristin Krouchick's 15 points with 6 boards. Senior guard Emily Wolff had 9 points and 6 rebounds.

The Generals return to action Tuesday in a 7:00 away contest against Hollins.

Busy week for bball

Team starts 0-2 in ODAC play



MICHAEL KEENAN / Sports Editor

Senior Amanda Kane drives to the hoop during Friday night's 81-57 loss to #22 Randolph-Macon.

Track team takes off

Billington leads with top D-III shot



MICHAEL KEENAN / Sports Editor

Sophomore Ryan Castle competes in the high jump at the Liberty Kick Off on Saturday. Castle finished third among D-III competitors with a jump of 6' 0.5".

Wrestling in action

By Michael Keenan
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee wrestling team traveled to Grantham, Pa., to take part in the Messiah-Petrofes Invitational this weekend. After two tough days of wrestling, an undermanned Generals team managed to place 11th out of 13 teams with just ten wrestlers, compared to 23 for champion Heidelberg and featured several strong individual efforts.

"The team did far better than last year," said junior John Christopher. "However, everyone still has a good amount of work to do in order to have a successful dual meet season."

The Generals were led by Christopher's third place finish in the 197-lbs weight class. Christopher was seeded third started out strong downing Corey Proscia in the opening round and followed up with a 4-0 decision against sixth-seeded Mike DiOrico of Oneonta. However, his run through the championship bracket was derailed when he was beaten by second-seeded Tyler Schmidt of Johns Hopkins in the semifinals. However, Christopher rebounded by running the tables in the consolation bracket. He defeated Proscia for the second time in the tournament and then bested Bill Sholly of Muhlenberg by a 6-1 decision to claim third place, the highest of any General.

"I feel like I did a solid job but could have done better," said Christopher of his performance. "I realized a several things I need to work on and have a month now to iron them out."

The biggest surprise of the tournament for W&L came from senior Kirk Adamson in the 184-lbs. weight class. Adamson was unseeded but knocked off sixth-seeded Ed Bizorik of Heidelberg 6-4 in his opening match. He followed up with an even bigger upset, defeating third-seeded Matt Horn from Muhlenberg with a 4-2 decision. That was as far as he would get. Second-seeded Eric Fishel of Johns Hopkins knocked him into the consolation bracket where he lost to Bizorik 3-0 and then to Horn in the 5th place match.

Senior Peter Lawrence provided the only other top eight finish for the Generals, wrestling in the 149-lbs. weight class. Lawrence defeated Brockport's Pat Fallot in a 12-6 decision and then crushed Evan Kidwell from Messiah by a 20-7 major decision. Lawrence came up short against first-seeded and eventual champion Paul LeBlanc from SUNY Cortland. He bounced back by overpowering Heidelberg's Frank Dudzik by a 14-3 major decision before falling to fifth-seeded Zach Mizer of Heidelberg 8-1 and then seventh-seeded Sean Dreger of Mount Union in the seventh-place match.

The Generals had several other wrestlers record wins though they did not place. Seniors David Shubeck, Tim Manson, and Anthony Boniello won two matches each. Junior Rob Terrin and sophomore Jonathan Brown tallied a win.

"The Messiah Tournament was a very good gauge of how the team is doing so far and consisted of both in-conference and non-conference opponents," said Christopher. "The Tournament was easily one of the most competitive events of the year, with several nationally ranked teams."

The team will come back to Lexington on December 29th to practice as a team over break and will return to the mats when they travel to Washington, PA, for the Washington and Jefferson Quad against Centennial Conference opponents Waynesburg, Gettysburg and host Washington and Jefferson.

XC goes to MN

Three Generals
run at nationals;
Telfeyan places
103 out of 245

By Kevin Corn
STAFF WRITER

Three of Washington and Lee's fastest runners spent their first weekend of Thanksgiving break not gorging themselves on home cooked meals or long nights of sleep but running in cold Minnesota at the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships. In Northfield, Minnesota, on a freezing morning and a light dusting of snow on the ground, Junior Michael Welsh, Junior Becca Taylor, and Sophomore Kat Telfeyan competed with the top runners in the country in Division III.

His first time running at Nationals, Welsh finished in a time of 26:10 to place 164th out of 280 runners. Welsh is a junior and has higher goals for next year.

"I definitely want to be back at nationals next year, ideally with some other guys on the team," said Welsh. "This year was all about learning how it feels to race with the big boys. Next year, I'd like to be

one of them."

Meanwhile, Taylor and Telfeyan sported strong runs in the women's race. Taylor crossed the finish line in 23:56 to claim 235th place out of 245 runners. Telfeyan took 103rd after completing the course in 23:00.

"Nationals was a great experience this year," commented Telfeyan. "Being in that kind of environment really encouraged me to run hard. It got me excited for track and next year's cross country."

"The team is only getting better and I think we will surprise everyone next year," shared an excited Telfeyan.

Three months after the season officially began, the cross country teams have put their shoes away, though most have now only exchanged them for track spikes.

sports



ondeck

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Men's Basketball			Next game is Dec. 30 vs. Thomas More in W&L Invitational. The team will also play on Dec. 31 at home.				
Women's Basketball		at Hollins 7:00 p.m.		vs. Newport News Apprentice 6:00 p.m.			
Men's Swimming				vs. Marymount and Wingate on Jan. 12 1:00 p.m.			
Women's Swimming			vs. Marymount and Wingate on Jan. 12 1:00 p.m.				
Wrestling			at Washington and Jefferson Quad Meet Jan. 5 1:00 p.m.				
Track			at Marietta Invitational Jan. 19. 11:00 a.m.				

in the numbers

43

Number of consecutive losses the Washington and Lee men's basketball team had suffered at the hands of Randolph-Macon and the number of consecutive losses the Navy football team had suffered at the hands of Notre Dame. Navy broke the streak by beating Notre Dame on Nov. 3, in a triple overtime 46-44 victory. W&L broke the streak on Dec. 1 by beating Randolph-Macon 77-75 in overtime. The Naval Academy officially canceled classes on Monday, November 5, to celebrate the victory. Sadly, W&L has not made any such announcement at the time of printing.

46'10.75"

Distance of sophomore Billy Billington's shot-put at the Liberty Kick Off on Saturday. The toss was Billington's personal best and was good enough for first place among D-III competitors.

20.43

Senior Alex Sweet's time in the finals of the 50 Free at the Nike Cup, good enough for an automatic qualification for nationals. Sweet won the event and set a new pool record.

soapbox

"This was something we dreamed about and to be here and see what we've accomplished, and the perfect record, is just mind blowing."

Hawaii quarterback Colt Brennan on the Warrior's undefeated season.

"What a great feeling— to be a senior and beat [Randolph-Macon] for the first time in thirty years. Hitting the game winning shot was awesome, [I'm] just glad I could be there for my teammates."

Senior Greg Bienemann on his lay-up 4.13 seconds to spare in overtime against Randolph-Macon.

"It meant a lot to our team to end that winning streak. We have gone through so much together as a team, and to be able to say that we're the team that ended that losing streak shows how much we have grown. Two years ago, we may have lost that game in regulation. Last year, we might have lost in OT. But this year, we pulled it out with a lot of great plays - we got stops when we had to have them and finished buckets when we needed them. Our next task is to start the W&L winning streak over Randolph Macon."

- Junior Isaiah Goodman on ending Randolph-Macon's 43 game winning streak against W&L.

Men snap 43-loss streak to R-M

Overtime win against Randolph-Macon first since Feb. 9, 1979

By Hank Nathan
STAFF WRITER

The Washington & Lee men's basketball team ended its 30 year losing streak to Randolph-Macon College by beating them in overtime as the Generals went 2-1 this past week.

The Generals lost to the Yellow Jackets by one point in their final matchup last year when now senior captain Greg Bienemann missed two free throws down the stretch. This year, Bienemann got his redemption - he hit a layup with 1.3 seconds remaining in overtime to seal the victory.

"What a great feeling— to be a senior and beat [Randolph-Macon] for the first time in 30 years," said Bienemann. "Hitting the game-winning shot was awesome. [I'm] just glad I could be there for my teammates."

W&L won the opening tip and Bienemann scored on a layup, which set the tempo en route to a 33-point game, tying his career high. Randolph-Macon immediately responded with a layup and a subsequent 7-0 run. However, Bienemann thwarted the run when he hit a layup on a pass from fellow senior captain Femi Kusimo.

The game went back and forth until Bienemann sparked the team with 11:45 left in the first half by sinking a shot while being fouled. This propelled W&L to a 25-15 lead just two minutes later and the team ended the half up by 12, 40-28.

Bienemann opened up the second half the same as the first by converting a layup on a feed by junior Chris McHugh. Again, the Yellow Jackets answered with a 5-0 run, cutting the lead to nine. This time, junior captain Isaiah Goodman ended the run as he hit a baseline jump shot. Randolph-Macon responded by scoring the next three points.

W&L then went on an 8-0 run of its own. Sophomore Ben Goetsch and junior Kirk Jones made back-to-back three-pointers and Bienemann added in two. The score was 52-36, the Generals' largest lead of the game.

Both teams then traded baskets when a relentless Randolph-Macon team went on a 17-0 run to re-take the lead with under four minutes to play; this was the Jackets' first lead since the first few minutes of the game. Bienemann once again ended the run and hit two crucial foul shots to make the score 61-60.

Later, in the last two minutes of the game, McHugh hit a three despite a defender in his face to give W&L a two point lead. Randolph-Macon, undeterred, went right down the court and knotted the game at 67-67 with one minute to play. Neither

team was able to score again in regulation and the game went to overtime.

The Yellow Jackets opened the scoring in overtime on a fast break that led to an easy two points. Kusimo countered with a jump shot at the foul line, to deadlock the score at 69-69. Randolph-Macon scored the next four points, but Bienemann responded with the next four points. With 1:36 left to play, the Yellow Jackets knocked down two foul shots. McHugh was fouled on W&L's next possession and matched Macon's two foul shots.

With the shot clock turned off at the end of the game, McHugh drove past his defender from the top of the arc, but was blocked on the shot attempt. Bienemann, who was in the right spot the whole game, grabbed the loose ball and banked in a shot with 1.3 seconds remaining to win the game.

Goodman said the win was a testament to how the program has progressed over the past few years.

"It meant a lot to our team to end that winning streak,"

said Goodman. "We have gone through so much together as a team, and to be able to say that we're the team that ended that losing streak shows how much we have grown. Two years ago, we may have lost that game in regulation. Last year, we might have lost in OT. But this year, we pulled it out with a lot of great plays - we got stops when we had to have them and finished buckets when we needed them. Our next task is to start the W&L winning streak over Randolph Macon."

W&L Lee defeated Dickinson College at home earlier in the week in the team's first home game. The Generals started out fast, building a 22-6 lead in the opening 10 minutes of the game; they hit 12 of their first 15 shots. W&L improved its lead and went into halftime up by 20, the score was 35-15.

Dickinson would not relent in the second half and cut the lead to 12 with just under 12 minutes to play. However, W&L did not let up and increased its advantage to as high as 24 points (70-46). The final score was 70-52.

Bienemann notched a then

season high of 24 points on 10 of 15 shooting from the field. Goodman and Jones were also in double figures, scoring 11 and 10 points respectively.

Goodman attributed the win to execution and good defense.

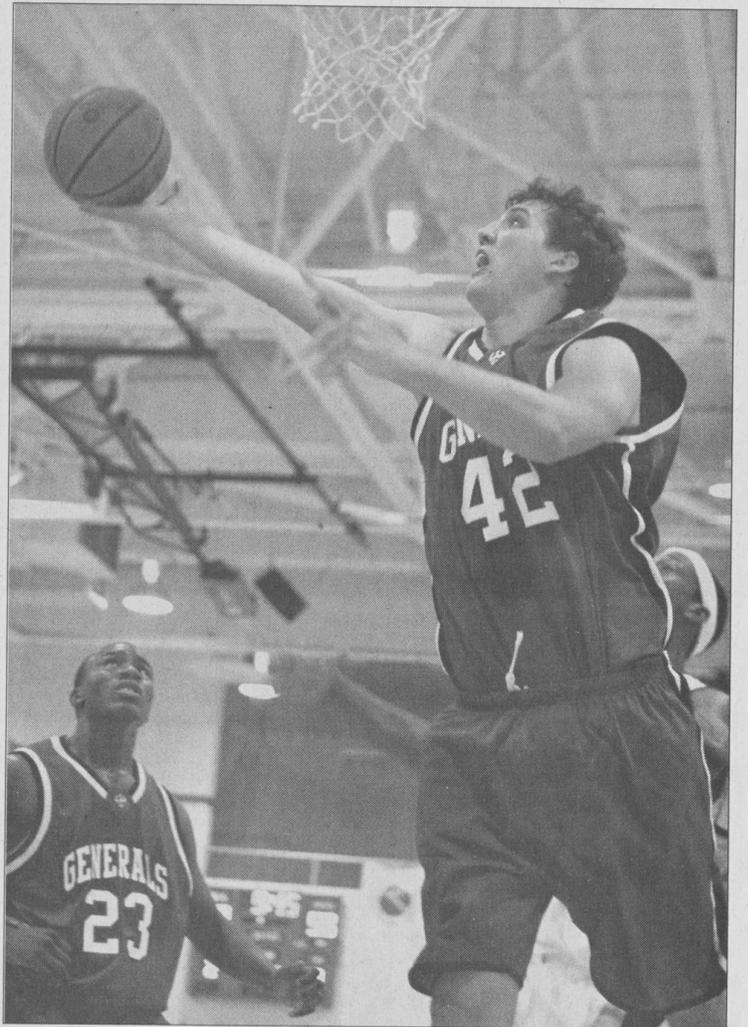
"We played great defense and held their leading scorers below their averages," said Goodman. "We took care of the ball and picked their zone apart."

The Generals were not as effective against fifth-ranked Virginia Wesleyan on Sunday. Bienemann got the Generals off to a quick start scoring on the first possession but Virginia Wesleyan's outside shooting overwhelmed the Generals from the start. The Generals trailed 37-26 at halftime and, despite a few sparks could never mount a serious threat to the Marlin's lead, falling 68-53.

W&L now has a 2-4 overall record and is 1-1 record in the ODAC.

Bienemann said the team has lofty goals this year.

"The team's goal this year is to win an ODAC championship and go to the NCAA tournament."



Senior Greg Bienemann scores a layup and gets the foul during Sunday's loss to No. 5 Virginia Wesleyan. Bienemann had 17 points during the game.

MICHAEL KEENAN / Sports Editor

Sweet swims for men at Kenyon

By Michael Keenan
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's swimming team is picking up the pace as the quality of their opponents rises. From Thursday through Saturday the teams traveled to Gambier, to participate in the Nike Invitational at the Kenyon Athletic Center Natatorium for the Nike Cup, against their stiffest competition all year.

"Some of us just wanted to swim lifetime bests, some wanted to make national cuts, and others are recovering from injuries and just want to see where they are so far this year," said senior Alex Sweet. "We had a lot of great swims and are looking forward to our next chance to compete."

The men finished with 296 points, good for sixth out of seven teams and just 15 points behind Davidson.

On Thursday evening, the Generals got off to a strong start when their 800 free relay team of juniors Paul Crook, Chris

Diebold and Brett Tatman, and Sweet took fifth place with a time of 6:51.56, good enough for a provisional cut.

"As always there is a high sense of pride and team when we are on deck, whether it be at a duel meet, conference, nationals, or the Nike cup," said Tatman. "People tend to take their swims very seriously at this mid-season meet because we have rested and (some of us) shaved, although that's not to say we're not joking around together. I think we all swim better when we are having fun on deck, some teams tense up and stress too much at big meets, but I think that's one advantage our team has. When the atmosphere is fun and you can joke around with your entire team (coaches included), you are going to be less stressed about your swims and swim much faster."

The Generals were led by Sweet's multiple automatic qualifying times on the second and third days of competition. In the prelims for the

50 free, Sweet broke the pool and W&L record, touching the wall in 20.55. In the finals, he broke his new record by recording a 20.43, which automatically qualifies him for nationals. Sweet also placed third in the 200 free with a time good enough for a provisional cut.

"The atmosphere is certainly more intense with all of the great competition," said Sweet. "But we have already had a very close meet with Carnegie Mellon, which helped us to prepare for Kenyon."

Other day two highlights included Crook placing eighth in the 200 free with a provisional cut time of 1:42.40 and senior Tim McGlaston placing fifth in the 50 free with another provisional cut time of 20.90. Sweet and McGlaston teamed with Tatman and sophomore Brandon Barnds to take fourth in the 200 free relay with another provisional cut.

"We are also on the bubble in the 800 and 200 free relays," said Sweet. "Ideally we would

like to get the A cuts in these events at conference and settle the issue for sure."

Day three saw Sweet leading the way again, this time in the 100 free. He broke his school record in the preliminaries with a time of 45.15 and then reset the record again in the finals, placing second in a time of 45.04, his second individual automatic cut of the meet.

In the final event of the meet, Sweet, McGlaston, Barnds, and Crook teamed up for the 400 free relay. Though they broke the pool record set last year by W&L's relay of Sweet, McGlaston, alumnae David Croushore and Michael Ginder, they placed third behind Penn's and Johns Hopkins' relays. However, they did beat rival Kenyon by just three hundredths of a second.

After training in Florida over Christmas break, the Generals will host Marymount and last year's Bluegrass Mountain Conference runner-up Wingate on Jan. 12 at 1p.m.