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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CXII, NUMBER 14

Wide open spaces

Leyburn Library's main floor opens for business after extensive renovations

By John Henderson
NEWS EDITOR

Spacious, bright, good colors, great computers and lots of places to sit-- these are some of the words students have used to describe the newly renovated Leyburn Library main floor, which was officially opened at 9 a.m. last Monday.

By 1 p.m., clusters of students were already at work around the library. Some were sitting in the front of the library where couches and armchairs are arranged in various configurations for group studying.

Some students had spread out their books on the long tables or the shorter booth-style tables in the reference section in the middle.

Still others occupied the group study rooms in the back and the new computer stations that flank the glass-fronted offices used by library staff.

In addition to those who were quietly working, many visitors walked around to explore the new space, which includes a centrally-located information desk where stylish cylindrical lights overhead give the clear plastic desk-top a translucent glow.

For newcomers, there is a sense of awe at seeing how the old main floor, a poorly lit labyrinth of shelves and offices, has been transformed into a bright, inviting work place.

"It feels like a normal college library should ... not like a dungeon," said sophomore Lauren Skerrett, who had set up shop by the new commons-side entrance to do work last Thursday.

"It used to be the last resort, like, if you can't do work anywhere else then OK, I'll go to the library. But now it's like, 'Oh, let me go to the

See "Library Opens" on page 2

Trident goes online

Past debt prevents the Trident from continuing to print

By Valaree Tang
STAFF WRITER

The Trident, one of Washington and Lee's student newspapers, has made a transition from print to web publication due to issues with funding.

Because of prior debt, the Trident has been struggling to fund print editions of the newspaper.

"We are choosing to cut costs and publish strictly online," said Editor-in-Chief Alexandra Scaggs. "We think that we can reach the student body and alumni better this way."

While the EC has never provided funding for the Trident in the past, writers for the Trident approached EC members to request funds for coverage of old expenses. The EC did not provide funding to the Trident for reasons which one EC member said were confidential.

Nonetheless, the Trident has been receiving a steady stream of income from advertisements this school year

"When you take the newspaper aspect out of a campus newspaper, you're bound to lose some readership."

John Scully, back page columnist for the Trident

that should cover old costs, according to Scaggs. The debt that the Trident owed was incurred prior to Scaggs becoming the Editor-in-Chief.

The Trident started publishing its ar-

ticles online on Feb. 3 and should continue to put out articles exclusively on the Internet for the rest of the school year. Scaggs is hopeful that the Trident will serve the student body with breaking news via email. A blog for commentary will also be available.

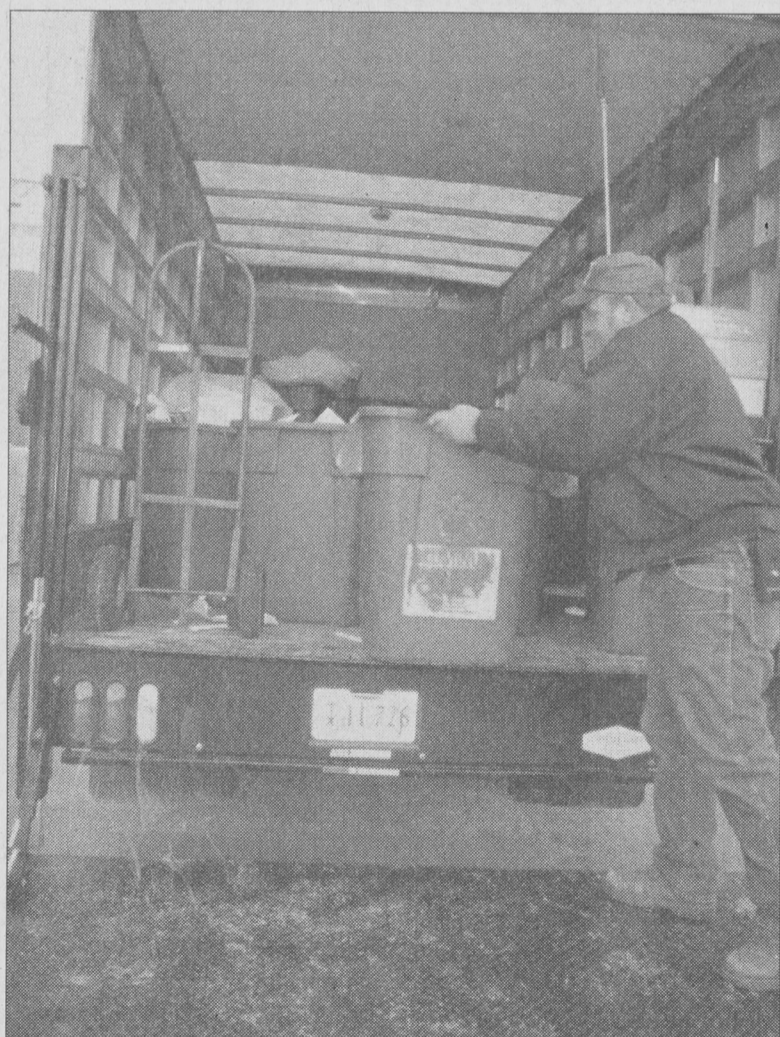
The Trident will be publishing weekly issues, with about five news stories, four sports stories, and the same writers in the Distractions section each week. The Trident will feature breaking news updates that can be accessed by registering at www.thetrident.org. The Trident is currently seeking a Web master to improve the appearance and layout of the website.

While the Trident has not advertised its transition from print to web, writers remain confident that the changeover will

See "Trident" on page 2

Recyclemania: bring your bottles

Recycling initiative designed to create sustainable waste disposal begins



VICTORIA TAYLOR / Staff Writer

John Coffey, a facilities management grounds worker, loads mixed paper onto a truck to be taken to the recycling center.

By Victoria Taylor
STAFF WRITER

Make sure that you properly dispose your plastic cups because Recyclemania is under way.

Washington and Lee University is participating in the 10-week collegiate competition to increase recycling awareness and promote waste reduction.

The Recyclemania competition started on Jan. 18 and continues until March 28. It is a project of the College and University Recycling Council and is administered by the National Recycling Coalition. This year, there are over 500 participating schools.

Washington and Lee's participation complies with President Ruscio's Climate Commitment, a pledge to work toward achieving climate neutrality that he signed in 2007. It is one of the many aspects of the campus' sustainability initiative to become more environmentally friendly.

Participating schools weigh and measure the amount of trash and recycling that they collect and then report their

data by using a forum on the Recyclemania website. The data is then ranked to determine which school has collected the least non-recyclable waste per capita, the most recyclable waste and the highest recycling rate.

As a member of the benchmark division, W&L's results are reported but are not included in the official rankings. Therefore, W&L is not eligible to win the competition.

Environmental management coordinator Chris Wise explained that Washington and Lee is not in the competition division this year because of the changes caused by the campus' incorporation into Lexington's curbside recycling program.

In the past, everything that was recycled on campus was measured and weighed separately, Wise said. Now, aluminum bottles, cans, plastic bottles and cardboard can be placed into the city's blue dumpsters on campus and be collected as part of the program.

Although W&L cannot win Recyclemania, Wise said that the campus is involved in the

waste management aspect of the competition. He explained that the goal of waste management is to not only reduce the quantity of trash sent to landfills but to cut back on recyclables as well.

"Recyclemania is about trying to see how many tons

"I would hope we can keep people's attention long enough to instill lasting habits of green lifestyles."

Kara Fitzgibbon, Student Environmental Action League co-president

of plastic water bottles you can recycle," Wise said, "but the fact is that there are other ways that you can drink water. Any time you recycle something you actually purchased it in the first place."

Although the Student En-

vironmental Action League (SEAL) has taken a lesser role in Recyclemania this year, sophomore co-president Kara Fitzgibbon said the organization will continue to raise awareness on campus. She mentioned that SEAL is responsible for the eco-facts in the daily Campus Notice e-mails and that its members are working on posters with easy tips on how to be green.

Fitzgibbon said she is pleased with W&L's efforts toward sustainability.

"I definitely feel there is an increased awareness of recycling on campus," she said. "With this new fad of going green it seems that the issue is at the very least out in the forefront, and I would hope we can keep people's attention long enough to instill lasting habits of green lifestyles."

Wise agrees.

"I think that there has been more interest on the part of students, fraternities and sororities this year to try to talk about recycling and other sustainability-type issues like reducing the amount of energy and eating local foods," he said.

news

Where did we go wrong?

Economist writer Greg Ip reviews past mistakes, forecasts economic future

By Anne Vesouls
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty alike crowded room 327 in Huntley Hall to hear Greg Ip, a writer and editor for the Economist, talk about America's financial future last Thursday evening.

In his speech, "Economic 9/11," Ip explained how America has reached its current economic nadir. Ip described the approximately five year period leading up to today's financial crisis as the "great moderation"—a period of time with low interest rates during which America's perception of risk greatly declined.

"We had our houses to fall back on," Ip said. "We looked to our houses as ATM's. We had this idea that home prices wouldn't decline, so we bought houses instead of stock. We didn't question lower income families receiving mortgages."

In terms of the global economy, America is "the best house in a bad neighborhood," Ip said. With the economic downturn causing a global panic, Ip considers the United States to be the most fortunate.

In a question and answer period, Ip explained the possible geopolitical changes that could take place due to the economic

downturn.

"It's going to be hard to make a case [for other countries] to adopt free capital," he said.

Ip began his business jour-

worked at the Wall Street Journal for over ten years and began working for the Economist in July 2008.

His opinions and insight re-

"We had our houses to fall back on. We looked to our houses as ATM's. We had this idea that home prices wouldn't decline, so we bought houses instead of stock."

Greg Ip, writer and editor for the Economist

nalism career at the Vancouver Sun in 1989. He then transferred to the Financial Post and the Toronto Globe and Mail. Ip

garding the current state of the economy are respected by professionals across the country.

"I thought Mr. Ip was incred-

ibly interesting," said junior Katie Boiles. "His lecture was probably the most concise, well thought-out description of what's going on. He really did an amazing job of providing all of the historical background necessary to understanding our current problem...I never got bored."

Professor Brian Richardson, head of the journalism department, thought Ip's ability to appeal to non-economists made his lecture a success.

"I'm not an economist, but from what I do understand, he is very knowledgeable," Richardson said. "He speaks English—he has a rare ability to of-

fer a sophisticated analysis in a language everybody can understand. That's hard to do."

Toward the end of his talk, Ip provided insight regarding the future of America.

"There need to be some profound changes, and I'm pessimistic, but there are tentative signs of a turnaround," he said.

Ip thinks consumers will have to practice purchasing restraint, increase long-term saving and think about "retirement sustenance." Through these things, "we have the opportunity to press forward," Ip said.

continued from page 1

library to do my work. I just think it works for a lot of people," she said.

"This week already I've been here more times than I was last term," added her friend, sophomore Catherine Guilbaud.

The renovation of the library's main floor was one of the university's top priorities but had to compete with other projects for funding. For years, librarians recognized that the shabby furniture and interior design needed to change. Eventually the school committed \$2.5 million, allowing architects to draw up plans for a new main floor last April.

As work went ahead this fall, students and other visitors were directed past the temporary plywood walls by the entrance down to the circulation desk, which was moved to the first floor. The circulation desk and the help desk had to share the Northern Auditorium, but employees managed to assist students despite their cramped quarters.

Without the use of the main floor, tables and chairs in other buildings such as the commons were in constant demand. Now, students have an alternative, whether it's studying at one of many tables in the back or socializing in the Barnes-and-Noble-style café at the front.

Skerrett and Guilbaud are among many students who have discovered the comfort and flexibility that the main floor of the library offers.

Junior James Dick said the good lighting, variety of seating and openness are all reasons he will be using the library more in the future.

"I used to come to the library to escape from people because I thought no one goes to the library because it's so ugly," Dick said. "But now I think that more people will be here and I would definitely want to come here more to study."

Summer Sterling, a junior, said she would be using the library as an alternative to the commons.

"A couple of my friends, we always hang out in

the commons to study, and now it's like de facto, like, we're all just coming here because ... it just kind of feels like a big living room," she said.

The library has attracted students and non-students alike. On Thursday a local freelance writer did work on her laptop at a table near the coffee and vending machines at the front. In the back of the library, journalism professor Doug Cumming sat on a bench-style sofa reading a journalism magazine.

Cumming, who estimates his office in the journalism school is the closest one to the library, said he would be using the main floor as an alternative to the J-school. Cumming eruditely described the neutral putty tones and simple furniture as "conservative modern."

"It doesn't look like a designer was calling attention to him or herself," he said. "I'm pleased with it. I know the librarians are happy."

One library staff member, Carol Karsch, said she is very pleased with the new arrangement. Karsch, a data and statistical support specialist, helps students do research on the brand-new Macintosh computers and Dell Precision PC's. Her office is one of six glass-fronted offices on the side facing the science building.

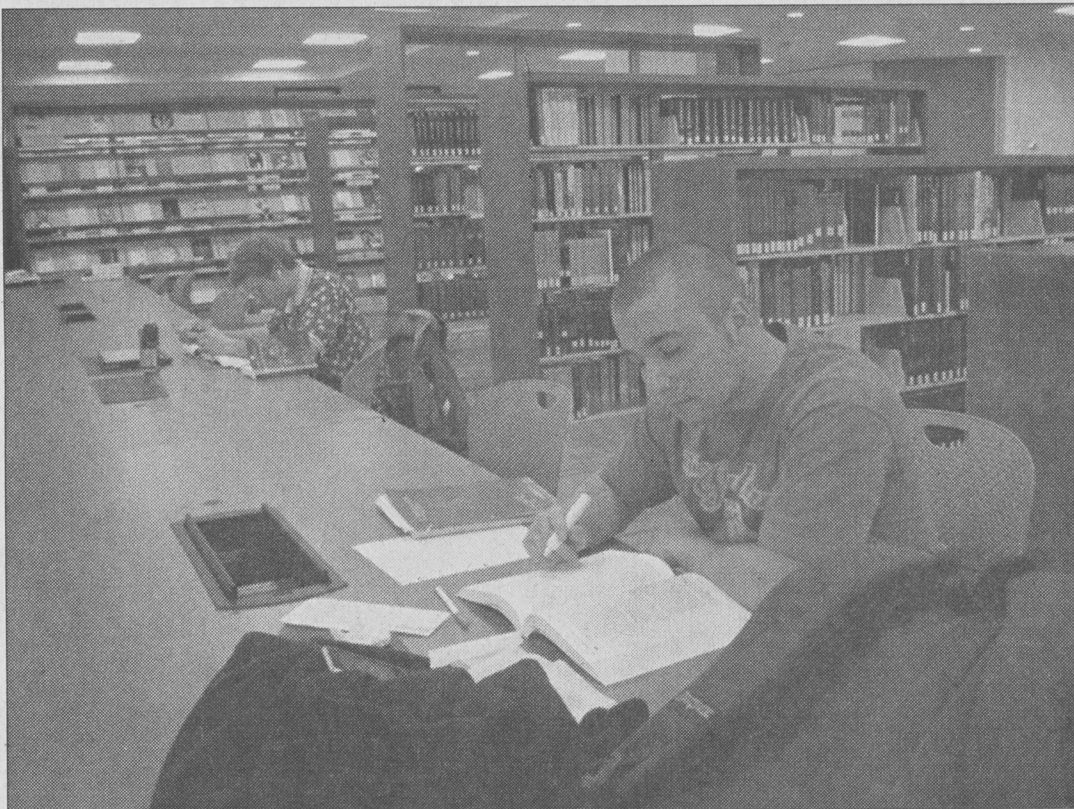
Karsch, who used to work behind the circulation desk, said there are more students using the library now than in the past.

While some features leave room for improvement—some students say the new furniture is a bit stiff—the reaction to the new main floor has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I like how much light there is. I like all the open space. I like how there are so many different styles of study areas," said James Dick. "There's the high chairs, there's the high-backed couches, there's table space. There's also a lot of space for group work which I think is really good."

"I feel like no matter what I'm studying or who I'm studying with I could come to the library and find some space."

Library opens



MORGAN HARRIS / Staff Photographer

Michael O'Brien (left) and John Ditore take advantage of the new work space on the Leyburn Library's main floor.

Trident goes out of print

continued from page 1

go over with little to no complications.

"The Trident is still trying to work on the transition and hopefully it will go as smoothly as possible," said Markheavens Tshuma, writer of the column "Lex and the City" and former distribution manager. "Students, alums and parents alike are very dedicated to the Trident so we foresee the majority of our readers coming along with us to this new chapter."

Some readers look forward to the switch from print to web publication.

"I'm excited to read the Trident online," said sophomore Becky Guynn. "I think that it's great that the staff of the Trident have found a way to continue to publish stories despite their financial situation."

While the Trident is now available to anyone with a computer, it will still be written for the W&L community.

"I am getting really positive feedback from alumni on our website," said Scaggs. "We welcome any more comments or suggestions people have."

The Trident is the only student web publication at Washington and Lee other than the Rockbridge Report, a faculty-advised student publication in the journalism school.

Not everyone is as positive about the transition. "When you take the newspaper aspect out of a campus newspaper, you're bound to lose some readership," said John Scully, a Trident writer.

Scaggs remains confident that the Trident's success from the print editions will carry over to its Web publication.

"I'm pretty excited about taking the paper online. We have great staff members and writers, and I can't wait to see where we can take the website," she said.

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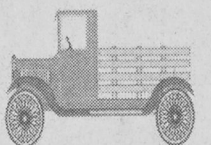
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arts & life

Poignant play shows that magic can happen

'Vaclav Drda' by alum Christopher Cartmill examines value of art

By Kimber Wiggs
STAFF WRITER

The Washington and Lee theater department welcomed back alumnus Christopher Cartmill for the annual Flournoy Playwright Festival this weekend. As part of the Festival, Cartmill directed his *The Apotheosis of Vaclav Drda*. The show ran Thursday through Sunday in the Johnson Theater in the Lenfest Center.

The Apotheosis of Vaclav Drda tells the story of a rag-tag group of theater people – none of whom are getting paid – trying to produce a play with limited funding and even less hope of success. That play is a powerful commentary on war and oppression in 1938 by the fictional Czech author Vaclav Drda.

Early on, there is obvious tension between the actors in this play within the play. Gabriel, played by junior Kevin Mannering, is a self-involved egomaniac who continually boasts about the fact that he has an agent and a manager. Lisa Reppell's character, Joanna, is the passionate female lead who fears this production may be her last chance to "make it" as an actress.

Trying to maintain peace between these two fiery personalities is Nick the director, portrayed by sophomore Johnny Coyle. Nick means well, but his attempts at pep talks generally deteriorate into clichés and unfinished thoughts. To provide comic relief are the wise-cracking stage manager Cecily, played by Marquita Robinson, and Steve, a happy-go-lucky, sweet-hearted simpleton, adorably portrayed by sophomore Dave Curran.

The first half of the show revolves around the conflicts between

"In a way, theater is more real than...what we do day-to-day."

Marquita Robinson, actress

characters who just do not understand one another, as Cartmill later put it. They butt heads on almost everything, from the terrible translation of the Czech script to Nick's casting to Steve's amateur ideas about theater (he calls it "play practice"). Everything seems to go wrong for this bunch, and the tension builds up until Joanna breaks down.

After a long break in the rehearsal, and after one of Gabriel and Joanna's many arguments, the two leads seem to find a real connection to the work and to each other through a particularly poignant scene, beautifully acted by Mannering and Reppell. Suddenly Joanna asks to stop, inexplicably withdraws into a corner, and asks everyone to leave. Gabriel explodes at her for stopping the rehearsal yet again and then storms out. It is a testament to the actors' abilities that there was a sense among the audience of just having witnessed a very awkward public confrontation.

Eventually Joanna is left alone to weep for her dubious future in the theater. Her grief lasts only a short while, however, as she is interrupted by a mysterious custodian, played by Brian Devine.

The peculiarly insightful stranger helps Joanna to realize that "recognition" is not a true test of greatness, and he restores Joanna's faith in theater and in her own hopes of success.

With the help of this Czech janitor (who just so happens to be named Vaclav), the rest of the cast and crew also discover the true meaning of their work and ultimately achieve a theatrical mind-meld that reveals the final image of the play: Jenna Worsham as an angel who is holding a clock and "is saying to me, 'get on with your work, do what you have to do while you have time to do it.'"

Following the performance, Cartmill and the cast engaged in a talk-back session with the audience. They fielded questions that ranged from where Brian Devine got his Czech accent to the, admittedly baffling final image of the angel.

Cartmill's response to the latter query was that the pantomime angel represented the characters' renewed faith in the meaning of the play and their belief that magic can happen.

Theatrically, the image was made even more interesting by the fact that the "roof" of the acting space was mechanically raised to reveal Worsham's angel. That final image met varied reactions from the audience, but Cartmill made a good point that it is for each member of the audience to decide what that image meant.

On the whole, Christopher Cartmill's *The Apotheosis of Vaclav Drda* was a deeply thought-provoking exploration of the meaning of theater in today's society. Lisa Reppell commented that, in many ways, theater has become a consumer industry, which is unfortunate. But hopefully, talented actors performing a profound work, such as these W&L students did Friday night, can still give audiences a meaningful experience.

When asked why she acts, Marquita Robinson spoke of the emotions she must explore when she steps out on the stage. She said that "in a way, theater is more real than, sometimes, what we do day-to-day." So no matter what audiences think, these seven students choose to perform because it is still a meaningful experience for them.

Art exhibit is edgy

Photographer's art includes display on Ku Klux Klan

By Diandra Spicak
STAFF WRITER

The Staniar Gallery will open its doors to an exhibition of William Christenberry's work called "William Christenberry: Site/Possession" on Monday.

Christenberry, a renowned photographer, is most noted for his photos of his childhood home of rural Alabama, but this exhibit focuses on much more. The exhibit will feature paintings, photographs, constructions, "dream buildings" and the "Klan Room Tableau."

The exhibit offers a glimpse into the artistic process of Christenberry, including one of his earlier drawings from 1959, when he had just begun to hone his skills, and also a more recent drawing from 2006, which employs the techniques he has gleaned from his years of work.

The drawings feature a range of subjects, from Southern gourd trees to tenant houses to dream buildings, and each drawing shows the scope of Christenberry's 40-year career.

On the more controversial

side, the exhibit also houses the "Klan Room Tableau," a mixed-media display which includes dolls costumed in Ku Klux Klan regalia, miniature effigies, photographs, drawings and signs that all evoke the KKK's rituals.

Christenberry began to assemble the Klan Room in 1962 as "a public exorcism of the demons that have haunted him ever since he attempted to enter a Klan meeting more than 40 years ago."

According to those who help host the exhibit, while the exhibit is, no doubt, "in your face," the material is meant to challenge the viewers, causing them to draw their own conclusions.

"What the Staniar Gallery does is to try to make Washington and Lee talk," publicity and marketing intern for the Staniar Gallery, senior Mallory Ruymann, said.

"This exhibit is really edgy, seeing as it deals with the KKK. Different people will react differently to the material, and see-

ing as W&L is rather 'southern,' parts of the exhibit may be hard to stomach."

Though critics have questioned Christenberry's creation of the Klan Room, Christenberry, in his defense, has said the work is a way for him to come to terms with the Klan.

During a 1996 interview, Christenberry was cited as saying, "The Klan is a manifestation of evil, and it's hurtful to me as a Southerner, as someone who in most instances is proud of where he comes from, to be identified with something so terrible."

The exhibition is curated by Dr. Andrea Douglas of the University of Virginia Art Museum. She will present a lecture on the exhibition on Monday, Feb. 9, at 6 p.m. in the Staniar Gallery.

Christenberry will also visit W&L to give a lecture about his work on March 11 at 6 p.m. Both lectures will be in the Concert Hall in Wilson Hall and are free and open to the public. A reception will follow each program.

Christenberry majored in art at the University of Alabama and has taught at the Corcoran School of Art since 1968. His art is owned and featured by many museums, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, Museum of Modern Art, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. He is represented by Hemphill Fine Arts of Washington.

While the nature of the Christenberry exhibit in the Staniar Gallery is controversial, the main point of the exhibit is to showcase talent and to get the W&L student population more involved with the artistic process and with art in general, said Ruymann.

"Art should get you thinking, and that's what this exhibit does," she said.

"Hopefully, people will come to appreciate the works in the gallery, and understand that it is more than just a edgy topic – it's art."



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Profiles in Leadership:

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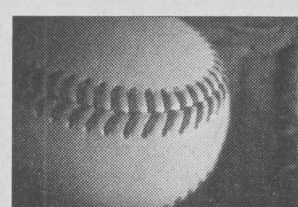
Volunteer at the Manor of Natural Bridge; Chamber Singers; ODK; Senior Voice Recital with Matt Amling; a role in the upcoming Bentley Musical, *The Secret Garden*; RUF worship music leader and member of Chi Omega

What energizes you about taking on the responsibilities of campus leadership? "To live in excess while others live without does not fit with my personal commitment to love my neighbor as myself. I think the ability to bring people together across racial, political, and socioeconomic divides is one of the most inspiring experiences I have found. People often get so caught up in being right, that they fail to see how much common ground we all share. I have been drawn to the Shepherd Poverty Program and the music and theater departments specifically for their tendency to attract people from all walks of life and unite them behind a common goal."

What has been one of the most rewarding aspects of leadership at W&L? "Organizing and leading a book study of Jim Wallis' *The Great Awakening* last Spring gave me the opportunity to bring together a group of surprising diversity in age, race, academic focus and socioeconomic background to discuss how religious faith can be utilized to unite people behind a just cause, rather than as a divisive partisan tool. We tackled issues that often prevent deeply partisan politics from effectively addressing the needs of our society's most vulnerable members. Facilitating group members of different races and political persuasions as they found common ground on previously incompatible issues was one of my most exciting and humbling experiences at W&L."

Any words of advice for those who follow? "Find what you are passionate about and go all out. It takes a lot of work to max out life!"

Tuesdays with Leadership:
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sports

A tainted reputation

Crighton Allen discusses A-Rod's alleged steroid use

By Crighton Allen
COLUMNIST

According to a report by Sports Illustrated, the national pastime of baseball has received yet another horrible scar to its already beaten image. According to the report, Alex Rodriguez tested positive for anabolic steroids in 2003, when he was with the Texas Rangers and won the AL home run title and MVP award. Rodriguez, the 275 million dollar man, the face of not only his club, the New York Yankees, but of arguably all of baseball allegedly tested positive for testosterone and Primobolan, an anabolic steroid.

Since his teenage years, Rodriguez has been hailed as the man that might one day rewrite all the record books. Blessed with tremendous size, talent and an incredible drive, he had all the tools needed to one day go down as the greatest baseball player ever. Alas, he, like so many others, has apparently fallen victim to the illusion that he needed an artificial boost in an effort to stay atop of his profession.

As much as I don't want to believe this report, Sports Illustrated bears the most respected name in all of sports journalism. This isn't some random fan rambling on his blog; SI possesses the finest reputation in the field and would not run the report and risk its reputation were they not very certain of its validity.

What a sad, sad day for anyone who calls himself a baseball fan! In 2006, when Barry Bonds broke Henry Aaron's all-time homerun record amid cloud of steroid allegations, many took comfort in the fact that in all likelihood, Bonds was only renting the space atop sport's most hallowed record. Most everyone assumed that one day, the Golden Boy, Rodriguez, would one day pass Bonds and restore the integrity of the record.

Right now, A-Rod stands at 553 homers, needing only 211 more to pass Bonds. At only 33, Rodriguez has at least another ten years of good ball left in him, and if he hits, conservatively for his standards, 25 dingers each year, should comfortably pass Bonds. If indeed that happens, I am

left wondering: so what? Will the record mean anything?

Can it mean anything when so many of baseball's great sluggers of the past 15 years, Sammy Sosa, Mark McGuire, Rafael Palmeiro, and, of course, Bonds, have all been convincingly linked to steroid scandals? Even pitchers like the great Roger Clemens have been on the juice as well.

Baseball has always been a reflection of the American mentality. In the days when the American spirit was characterized by gritty determination, hard work and humility, the great ball players of the day, think Ted Williams for example, manifested these traits heroically. Yet, as America has morphed into a nation obsessed with its image and determined to achieve the desired ends at cost, baseball players have unfortunately demonstrated that shift, too. Now, drama queens that tear apart locker rooms and play for salaries that would make a big-oil CEO blush have come to dominate the game.

Maybe I was naïve, but I really thought Rodriguez was different. In him I saw a humble hard-working guy that played the game the right way, a man that through his honest actions could restore the game back to its once proud origins. It appears that I, and the nation, have been duped once again by someone we thought we knew so well. It seems the only thing stronger and more fervent than our hope in the ideal is the harshness of the reality. A-Rod looked around him and saw his great contemporaries cheating and saw no other recourse but than to join them if he wanted to continue to compete at his usual high level.

I can only hope that I and Sports Illustrated are wrong. I want A-Rod to be clean, the game of baseball needs A-Rod to be clean, but it appears that neither I nor the game can continue to live under that assumption. It pains me to see baseball endure yet another scandal, but it looks like we are in for a long off-season of continued accusation as speculation about the fundamental integrity of the game. And I could not be the sorrier.

Swimming conferences

continued from page 6

pared this year's team to the 2007-2008 squad. "This year's team has much more depth in the strokes. While we miss Alex and Tim, the desire of each team member this year to race is stronger," he said.

Shinofield and his team hope that they can match and even improve on last year's success. In November, the head coach said, "The guys have set their goals very high. They want to re-capture the conference championship and finish in the top ten at NCAAs for the third straight year."

In order to ensure that his team is rested for conferences, Shinofield has decreased the difficulty of his practices since the Hopkins meet. He said, "Really for most people it's just a fine-tuning period. We definitely back off on the volume quite a bit. Most of the guys are at about 40 percent of their max volume during the season. And then the intensity level is down significantly as well. Really most of its just about making sure the technique is perfected and that they are prepared to go fast."

The Bluegrass Mountain Conference has 17 men's swimming teams in both Division II and III. Three teams in the conference are in the top 16 of Division II teams in the nation, according to collegesswimming.com.

Shinofield recognizes the stiff competition that his team will be up against this weekend. "We could have a great meet and still finish fourth in our conference," he admitted.

The team's head coach said his team is anxious for the start of the meet. "I think they are prepared, but I think that if you care about something, you're going to be nervous. So I think they have that nervous energy about them, but I definitely believe they can do it."

The team leaves for Charlotte on Wednesday afternoon.

On the other hand, the women's team is 9-6 overall and 2-0 in the ODAC. Although they have had fewer meets against conference teams, the Lady Generals currently sit at the top of the ODAC standings.

Head coach Kami Gardner said, "We've had an outstanding season. The freshmen have really contributed; put that together with our great leadership, and we've had a very good year."

At the beginning of the season, Gardner said,

"As a whole, I want the women to develop into a great team that is supportive of each other's goals and obviously to succeed at the ODAC and national level."

Gardner thinks that the team has indeed accomplished the first part of that goal. She said, "[The team] has been very supportive of each other and knows what everyone is doing in the water. They are very invested in the program this year."

In 2007-2008, the team went 13-6 including a 7-0 conference record. In addition, the women finished first at the ODAC Championships last year.

W&L is looking to repeat as conference champions this year, but Randolph-Macon will likely provide some pretty tough competition. The Yellow Jackets are currently ranked second in the conference with an overall record of 11-3 and a 6-1 ODAC record. Its sole conference loss was to W&L on Nov. 7 (156-102).

While Gardner recognized that Randolph-Macon is probably the biggest threat to prevent W&L from being back-to-back ODAC champions, she also hopes her team doesn't focus on their competition. "I think [ours swimmers] are very confident in that they are going to swim fast. We can't control Randolph-Macon. We are looking to focus on what we can control," she said.

Just like the men, the women over the past week have been tapering for conferences this weekend. Gardner said, "Since [the Hopkins meet], we are really looking to develop speed and give them rest. I think that we are very healthy, mentally and physically."

Senior captain Jule Miata thinks that her coach's program has worked in preparing the team for conferences. She said, "I definitely feel the changes in my body with the lower yardage and extra rest time that we have in practices."

Feeling rested, Miata is confident for the conference championships. "We have what it takes to win another ODAC title," she proclaimed.

W&L women's swimming team leaves for Radford Thursday afternoon.



C2C College To Career Fair

WHEN: Wednesday, February 25
10:00 am-4:00 pm

WHERE: Greater Richmond Convention Center
Richmond, Virginia

WHO: All W&L students

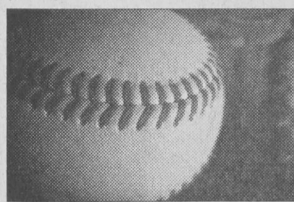
WHAT: An opportunity to talk with employers about internships and full-time, post-graduate options
www.collegetocareerfair.com

WHY: Why not? Explore all of your options!

Visit the C2C web site to register, and contact Career Services if you are interested in transportation.

There will be space with internet access reserved for your use throughout the day.

sports



ondeck

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Men's Basketball	at Randolph-Macon 7 p.m.		vs Lynchburg 7 p.m.			vs BC 2 p.m.	
Women's Basketball		at Emory & Henry 7 p.m.				at Randolph-Macon 4 p.m.	
Men's Swimming			at Bluegrass Mountain Championships				
Women's Swimming						at ODAC Championships	
Men's Track						at Lafayette/Rider 4 p.m.	
Women's Track						at Lafayette/Rider 4 p.m.	
Wrestling			vs Apprentice School 7 p.m.			at McDaniel 11 a.m.	
Riding						at BC Invite	
Men's Tennis							at Emory & Henry 1 p.m.
Women's Tennis					vs Radford 4 p.m.		

in the numbers

52

The number of points scored by LeBron James in the Cavaliers' 107-102 win over the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden Wednesday. He also tallied 11 assists and was originally credited with 10 rebounds. The NBA later decided his last rebound was mistakenly credited to him, causing James to lose what would have been the first 50-point triple-double since 1975.

\$500,000

Center fielder Andruw Jones' 2009 salary after he agreed to a minor league contract with the Texas Rangers organization. He made \$14,726,910 last year but hit just .158.

soapbox

"It's not my decision. It's theirs. I have nothing to say, but if that's they want to do, that's their choice. It's something that USA Swimming came up with. It's fair. Obviously, for a mistake you should get punished."

Fourteen-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps after USA Swimming suspended him for three months. A photograph of Phelps inhaling from a marijuana pipe was released last weekend. Courtesy of espn.com.

"She said make sure that doesn't hurt me on Valentine's Day."

Boston Celtics coach Doc Rivers expresses his wife's hope that his recent fine won't affect her Valentine's Day gift. The NBA fined Rivers \$15,000 for verbally abusing the referees in the Boston Celtics' 110-109 overtime loss to the Los Angeles Lakers Thursday. Courtesy of cbssports.com.

"You'll have to talk to the union. I'm not saying anything."

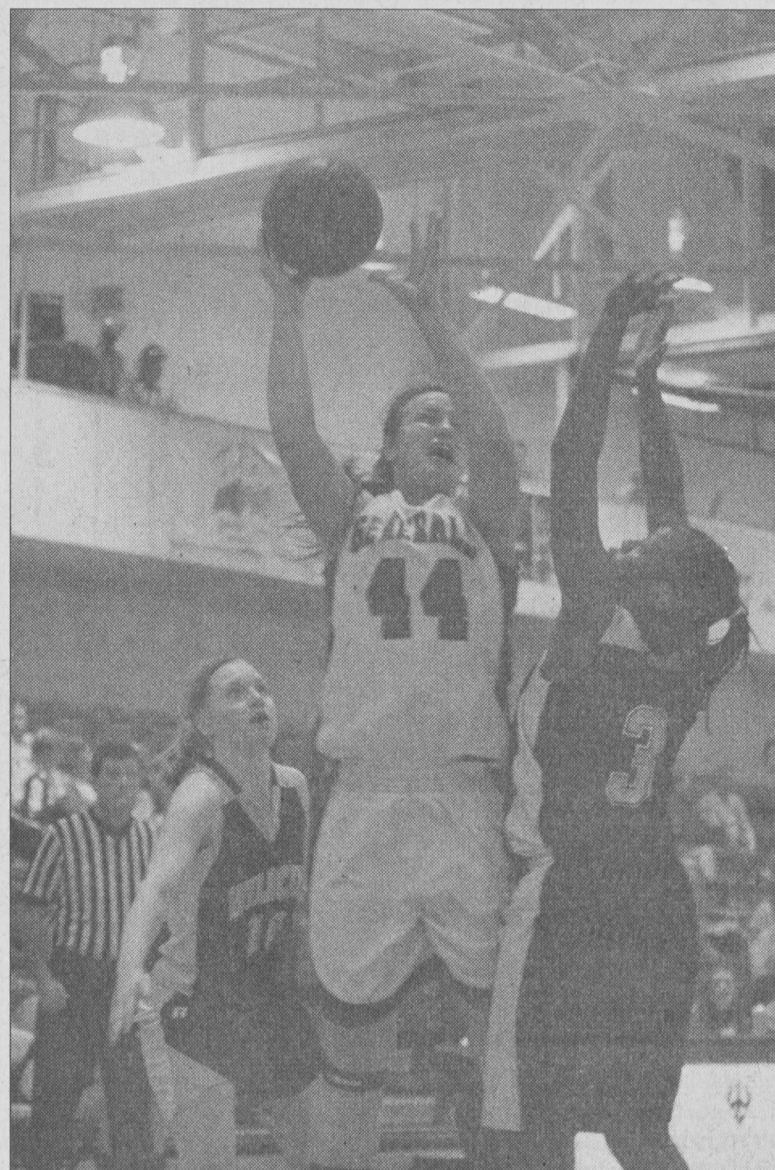
New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez after Sports Illustrated released a report Saturday that he had tested positive for two anabolic steroids in 2003, the year he was named the American League MVP. Courtesy of mlb.com.

"I love the fact that Urban had to cheat and still didn't get him."

Tennessee head coach Lane Kiffin accusing Florida head coach Urban Meyer of a recruiting violation at a signing day breakfast celebration Thursday. Kiffin said that Meyer called recruit Nu'Keese Richardson during his visit to Tennessee's campus. Richardson signed his letter of intent Wednesday to Tennessee. The SEC later said that Meyer's calling Richardson did not violate any SEC regulations. Courtesy of espn.com.

W&L goes 1-1 on weekend

Women's basketball falls to Lynchburg, beats Randolph



By Russ Weems
STAFF WRITER

This weekend, the Washington and Lee women's basketball team took on two ODAC opponents, Lynchburg and Randolph, losing one and winning the other.

Lynchburg came into its contest with W&L at 7-12 overall with a 5-9 ODAC record. Randolph was 3-15 and 2-13 in the ODAC before they faced the Generals. W&L came into the weekend 10-8 with a 9-4 ODAC record.

The team opened up the weekend Friday at Lynchburg. The Generals came out strong, controlling most of the first half. The Generals' lead got up to seven points at one point. However, the Hornets rallied at the end of the half with a 6-2 run to tie the game at 40 going into half.

Lynchburg carried their momentum into the second half as they scored the first 13 points of the half. This run was carried on by a shooting slump from the Generals. W&L missed its first 14 shots of the half. This streak was finally broken by a Bethany Ridenhour lay-up with 11:31 to play that brought the score to 53-42.

The Generals began to chip down the lead from this point. Ten minutes later, with 1:37 left, the Generals regained the lead at 69-68 on a free throw by first-year guard Meghan Ingram. The Hornets went ahead once again with 1:12 left as junior forward Tamara Snead sank two key free throws. Clutch free-throw shooting by Lynchburg sealed the game leaving the final score at 73-70 for the Hornets. The loss snapped a five-game winning streak for the Generals.

W&L was led by Ingram's 20 points. First-year forward Rebecca Bolton added 17 points and a career-high 12 boards. Ridenhour contributed 15 points.

Saturday, the Generals took on the Randolph WildCats. Randolph got out to an early six-point lead over the Generals, but W&L quickly recovered to tie the game at 16. Randolph finished the half on a 10-6 run that left the Generals with a 22-26 halftime deficit.

The Generals started the second half strong, scoring nine of the first 11 points. This run was capped off by an Ingram three-pointer with 16:15 left that gave W&L its first lead of the game at 31-28. Over the next six minutes, the game was back and forth with four lead changes. With 10 minutes left, the Generals started to pull away. They outscored the WildCats 18-10 in the last 10:51 to earn the win. Lockdown defense for the Generals created this run. Randolph only made four shots in the final 13:51 of the contest. The final score was 55-46 for the Generals. The victory gave W&L six wins in their last seven games and a 10-5 ODAC record.

The Generals were again paced by Ingram with 16 points, five rebounds and four steals. Ridenhour matched Ingram's 16 points and also had seven rebounds. Senior forward Kara Nadeau had a well-rounded game with six points, seven rebounds, four steals and three assists.

W&L's defense was a big part of the win. The Generals scored 24 of their 55 points off of 30 Randolph turnovers. The Generals also held the WildCats to 40.0 percent shooting including 30.0 percent from beyond the arc.

The team returns to action on Tuesday as it travels to Emory & Henry for a 7:00 p.m. contest.

Friday's Score	Saturday's Score
W&L 70	W&L 55
Lynchburg 73	Randolph 46

TOP: Sophomore center Felice Herman attempts a shot over Randolph's Michelle Brockman in the Generals' 55-46 victory Saturday. W&L also played Lynchburg Friday night but lost that game, 70-73.

BOTTOM: First-year guard Meghan Ingram goes for two of her 16 points Saturday afternoon. Ingram leads the Generals this year with 15.0 points per game.



RYAN ELSEY / Staff Photographer

Generals await championships

Men's and women's swimming teams prepare for conferences

By Will Dorrance
SPORTS EDITOR

Both the Washington and Lee men's and women's swimming teams will compete in their respective conference meets later this week. The men are set to race in Charlotte, N.C., for the Bluegrass Mountain Championships this Wednesday through Saturday while the Lady Generals will swim in the ODAC Championships this Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Radford, Va.

Both teams' last meet was on Saturday, Jan. 31 at Johns Hopkins. The men lost 119-143, and the women also fell to the Blue Jays, 97-156.

Since then, they have been conserving their energy in preparation for what will be, for most swimmers, their last meet of the year. Those top few that qualify for nationals will swim at the NCAA Championships March 18-21 at the University of Minnesota.

On the men's side, the Generals sit at 9-2 on the year with their only losses coming to Wingate and Johns Hopkins. According to collegesswimming.com's national rankings, Hopkins is the fifth

best men's team in Division III while Wingate is ranked 14th in Division II. The website put W&L at 13th on its Division III rankings.

Head coach Joel Shinofield, who is in his sixth season at W&L, seemed to be pleased with his team's performance in the regular season. "I think [the season's] gone really well considering the number

history. Sweet finished first in the 50 free at nationals, broke the Division-III record for that event, and swam in the Olympic Qualifiers this summer. McGlaston was also a first-team All-American and finished seventh in the 50 free.

Last year, the Generals went 9-2, finished second at conferences and eighth at nationals. The only team to finish ahead

"I think they are prepared, but I think that if you care about something, you're going to be nervous. So I think [our swimmers] have that nervous energy about them, but I definitely believe they can do it."

Joel Shinofield, head coach

we graduated last year and having to rely on a number of freshmen this year."

The W&L men's swimming program lost eight swimmers to graduation last year. Alex Sweet and Tim McGlaston, both members of the Class of 2008, were two of the better swimmers in the team's

of them at the 2008 Bluegrass Mountain Championships was Wingate, who earned 821 points as compared to W&L's 638.

Senior captain Chris Diebold com-

See "Swimming conferences" on page 5