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## Weekend Weather

**FRIDAY:** Mostly sunny, highs near 50. Clear at night with lows in the 30s  
**SATURDAY:** Mostly sunny, highs in the mid-sixties  
**SUNDAY:** Partly cloudy, chance of showers, mid-fourties

# DANCING WITH THE DEVIL 3

# Men's basketball readies for play-offs 8

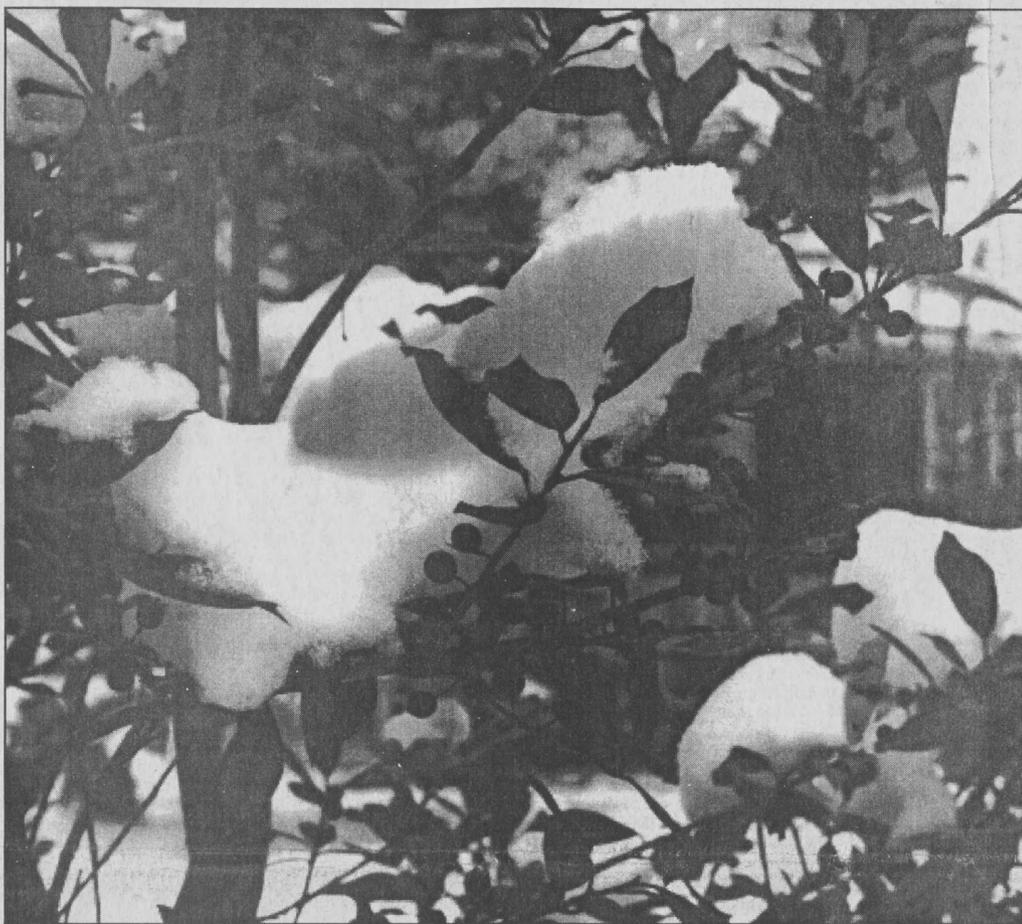
# The Ring-tum Phi

VOLUME 96, NO. 14

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY 9, 1996



File Photo

## Not again...

Washington and Lee spent another week under a frigid blanket of snow this week. Temperatures dipped below freezing prompting many to wonder when Spring will spring.

## Freshmen kicked out of dorm for marijuana

By MICHAEL HEWLETT  
Phi Associate Editor

Two freshmen were found with marijuana by Washington and Lee Security at 3 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 27. The students, Isis Calculus Kirby-O'Connell and Laura Hurst, were subsequently kicked out of Baker dorm and are now living in town. They had a week to move out. O'Connell and Hurst still attend classes and eat their meals in the Evans Dining Hall. Both students refused to go on record for this story. Director of Security Michael Young said they received a call from

someone who had smelled marijuana smoke emanating from one of the dorm rooms. When security arrived, they asked O'Connell and Hurst if they had smoked marijuana and if they had any more. The students were cooperative, and W&L security confiscated two 35mm film canisters of marijuana, which were turned over to the Rockbridge Regional Drug Task Force. The Rockbridge Regional Drug Task Force consists of the Buena Vista Police Department, the Lexington Police Department, the Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office and the Virginia State Police. Officer Gary Coleman said the

police sent the two canisters to the drug lab in Roanoke County in Salem, Va. The lab work should take six to eight weeks. Coleman believes the students had about 2-3 grams. Both O'Connell and Hurst have been charged with possession of marijuana, which is a misdemeanor. The case was also turned over to the Student Conduct Committee. SCC Chairwoman Madeline White said they are investigating the incident but could say nothing more. She added that the SCC will take into consideration what the legal system does to the students, but it doesn't necessarily affect the ruling.

Dean of Students David Howison said that since the University Drug Policy was put into place five years ago, ten students have been kicked out of the dorms for using marijuana, which includes 9 freshmen and 1 upperclassman. Also, three students have been kicked out of fraternity housing because of marijuana use. He said a clarified drug policy was sent to students this Fall Term. The university turns over all drugs found to the Rockbridge Area Drug Task Force. All cases involving university students and drugs are referred to the SCC. Usually, the students are put on probation.

## Coolio to play FD Thursday night

By KELLEY TOTTEN  
Phi Staff Writer

"Been spendin' most your life livin' in the Gangsta's Paradise..." - not exactly a lyric to which the majority of W&L students can relate. Rapper Coolio will bring his act to the Pavillion for Fancy Dress Weekend. Coolio will earn \$17,000 entertaining the W&L crowd on Thursday March 21. SAB treasurer Pete Jalbert said they brought in the act, who has gained DJ-party popularity with *Gangsta's Paradise* to add diversity. "I'm glad he's coming, at least it is something different," said sophomore Jennifer Murphy. "I hope it is something everyone can get into." Coolio will definitely break away from the typical Dave Matthews-guise to add to the party atmosphere of the weekend. Many W&L students are skeptical of Coolio's appeal at W&L (or "Con-

servative Hell," as referred to by an anonymous junior). "I'm curious to see who will get the larger crowd: Newt or Coolio?" sophomore Amanda Robson said. Others had never heard of his hip-hop tunes or eccentric hair. "If he's one of those totally funky guys, he might be a little let down by the W&L audience," said junior Katherine Sawyer. Coolio first hit the charts in Fall 1994 with his "Fantastic Voyage." He has since gained popularity with his movie soundtrack successes of "Rollin'" with the Homies" from "Clueless" and "Gangsta' Paradise" from "Dangerous Minds." Skee-lo, who begs for height in the MTV favorite "I Wish," will open. Because Coolio will draw in fans from outside of W&L, Jalbert urges students to purchase their tickets ahead of time. SAB will sell tickets the week prior to event at a reduced rate to the W&L community.

## West discusses race and democracy

By MICHAEL HEWLETT  
Phi Associate Editor

To talk about race in America is not to talk solely about affirmative action. To talk about race in America is to talk about the problem of evil in the experiment of democracy, said Cornel West in a speech Wednesday night at Lee Chapel. "Our voices ought to be heard at the highest levels that govern and regulate our lives." West is a professor of African-American Studies and Philosophy of Religion at Harvard University and is the author of the best-seller, *Race Matters*. He graduated from Harvard magna cum laude and continued his studies at Princeton University where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. He has also authored the book, *Keeping Faith*, and co-wrote a book with *Tikkun Magazine* editor called, *Jews and Blacks: Let the Healing Begin*. His visit was sponsored by the Minority Student Association, Dean of Students, W&L School of Law, Department of Religion, Hillel, Student Activities, Dean of College, and the Office of President Elrod. He said the discussion of race must also deal with the question of white supremacy. "If there is still some white supremacy in me, then there has to be some white supremacy in my white brothers and sisters," he argued. "The ideology of white supremacy is the degradation of black bodies." West said white supremacy has made some blacks ashamed of their hips, lips and even skin pigmentation. Still, he contended that any discussion of race has to begin with W.E.B. du Bois' book, *The Souls of Black Folk*. In that book, du Bois talked about what it feels like to be a problem. He agreed that all human beings have to deal with problems, but people who are cast as a problem in society have an

extra burden.

Citing Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, West said that blacks have the unfortunate circumstance of both being invisible and being under surveillance. While being targeted, ordinary black people have their concerns ignored in what is supposed to be a democracy. But the practice of democracy is something more radical, West argued. Democracy was shocking to some ancient philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle because it was difficult to believe that ordinary people could govern themselves and control their own destinies. Today's society prevents a dialogue that recognizes the daily struggles of working people and oppressed people, he said. du Bois' metaphor of a veil makes a demarcation between racial groups that prohibits a public conversation. He noted that 86% of whites live in suburbs that is 1% black and argued that issues are racialized in order to polarize the races. "Since 1968, we've seen the association with helping the disenfranchised with helping blacks." He cited affirmative action and welfare as examples. He said people ignore the fact that the primary beneficiaries of affirmative action have been white females or that empirically, whites make up the majority of the people on welfare. There is something wrong with our public discussion, he said, when President Clinton says that the economy is okay while forgetting the 80% of the American people who are struggling on a daily basis. West said that each generation has to renew democracy. "If you think you can muddle through it, you lose it." Americans must deal with the issue of race and enter into a dialogue that is the essence of the democratic tradition, he said. For those who are interested in that dialogue and that struggle to preserve democracy, he said he will be there with them. "I'm going down fighting."

## W&L instructor arrested on cocaine charges

By DANIELLE BURGHARDT, DARCEY LIVINGSTON, and DAN ODENWALD  
Of the *The Ring-tum Phi*

Kurt Russ, a Washington and Lee research assistant and archaeology instructor, was arrested Monday for conspiracy to distribute cocaine. Russ graduated from W&L in 1978 and is considered one of the foremost experts in local historical archaeology. Russ was suspended by the University without pay. He was released by police on a \$5,000 bond. At a press conference Tuesday afternoon held in the W&L's Mattingly House, Director of Communications Brian Shaw announced the arrest. The Rockbridge Regional Drug Task Force concluded a two year investigation of a major drug trafficking ring this week with the arrest. The Drug Task Force comprises the Buena Vista Police Department, the Lexington Police Department, the Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office and the Virginia State Police. The investigation identified five men as being involved — Russ (Lexington, Va.), Tho-

mas Davis (Rockbridge County), a former W&L Buildings and Grounds employee, William Gossman (Raleigh, N. C.), a former W&L student, Andrew Jones (Charlotte, N. C.), and Eric Jamison (Miami, FL). According to the Drug Task Force, the five men were responsible for the distribution of more than \$1 million worth of cocaine from 1990 to 1994. The nationwide drug ring originated in Florida with the kingpin, Jamison, supplying Lexington with approximately 250 ounces of cocaine valued at over \$1 million. Some of the cocaine was purchased with food stamps and Mexican currency which the police confiscated when arresting those involved. Gossman was the direct link to Russ and Davis. After the University noted Davis' drug problem in 1994, he was fired. According to police accounts, Davis was arrested in February of 1994 for being in possession of nine ounces of cocaine valued at \$50,000. Davis helped the authorities nab Gossman who in turn aided the police in the arrest of Jamison. Both Jones and Gossman were convicted of felony distribution of cocaine in late 1995. Jamison is awaiting trial.

## Students seek Live Drive resurrection

By DARCEY LIVINGSTON  
Phi Staff Writer

When Washington and Lee senior David Thompson was killed in a single-car accident two weeks ago, his blood alcohol level was high enough to affect his driving skills. "Alcohol was a definite factor in the accident," said State Trooper R.J. Noe. Noe's supervisor would not permit Thompson's actual blood alcohol level to be released for unknown reasons. Since Thompson's death on January 29, numerous students and organizations have approached university administrators to discuss the implementation of a sober driving program. Washington and Lee did have a sober driving program during the last school year, but it dissolved during the 1994 fall term. "Live Drive failed because of a lack of volunteers," said Executive Committee President Keith Benedict. "There was no student interest." However, Thompson's

death inspired groups — like the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council — as well as individuals to discuss developing a sober driving program. Dean of Students David Howison was enthusiastic about their ideas. "There have been a lot of positive initiatives from students, and I'm sure we'll be able to move toward a good sober driving system," said Howison. W&L seniors Cindy Logan, Meg Kinder, and Catherine Costantino want to start up a service similar to Live Drive. They believed part of the reason Live Drive failed was because no one wanted to drive the large vans. So, they want to start a sober driving service where people volunteer their cars as well as their time. Logan says she has spoken to students who are willing to do both. Associate Dean of Students and Greek Affairs Leroy "Buddy" Atkins said he worried a sober driving program will breed irresponsibility.

"The purpose of the service shouldn't be to avoid a D.U.I.," said Atkins. "It shouldn't be a way to get knee-walking drunk and not worry about the consequences." According to IFC President Ryan Connolly, fraternities are not required to have sober drivers at their parties. However, Connolly said sober drivers may soon be required at fraternity parties. The IFC would request the drivers' names when each fraternity registers for a party. Then, an IFC member would check the party to make sure the drivers were there and sober. If the drivers violated these stipulations, the fraternity could be fined or put on social probation. Since Thompson was killed, several individual fraternities that did not already have sober driving programs have established or discussed establishing one. "When a student dies of alcohol, everyone must feel a sense of responsibility because it doesn't have to be that way," said Atkins.

## BEYOND THE BLUE RIDGE

### U.S.-China relations deteriorate

U.S. relations with China continue to deteriorate as a series of intelligence reports on China's arms shipments to terrorist nations add to the tension of China's threatened use of force against Taiwan.

Intelligence reports recently made public show shipments of anti-ship cruise missiles from China to Iran, shipments of specialized magnets used in the production of uranium for nuclear weapons to Pakistan, and shipments of crated Chinese-made missiles, also to Pakistan. Under the 1994 Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act, President Clinton must now decide whether to impose trade sanctions, such as blocking loan guarantees made by the U.S. Export-Import Bank, or to formally waive the sanctions for a lack of conclusive information. Many officials say that the information contained in the reports is very strong, but that the decision to impose sanctions on China would affect several major American companies, as well.

### Plan approved to move welfare and Medicaid to states

Washington, D.C.—At the end of their three day meeting, the National Governors' Association unanimously approved a plan to put the management of Welfare and Medicaid into the hands of the states.

Supporters of the plan say that state-run Medicaid and Welfare programs would maintain the quality of service while removing the bureaucratic system of federal control over state administration of the programs.

Political leaders in Congress and in the White House are calling this compromise a very positive move away from the partisan bickering over the programs which has been a central problem in the attempt to approve a balanced budget plan. However, both Congress and the White House have questions about whether the states will be able to continue to provide service to all the recipients of federal welfare and would commit only to hearings and extensive consideration of the new plan.

### Tagliabue asks for NFL anti-trust exemption

Washington, D.C.—In a hearing before a House Judiciary Committee, NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue asked for an anti-trust exemption for the NFL in order to end franchise moves.

After five franchise moves in the last year, Commissioner Tagliabue insists that the only way in which he can enforce NFL rules against the uprooting of franchises is with an exemption from the anti-trust laws which allow owners and states to sue when the NFL will not allow a team to move to a new community. The state of Maryland recently filed a suit against the NFL for extensive damages if the Browns are not permitted to move from Cleveland to Baltimore. Tagliabue says that when faced with the cost of paying reparations to disgruntled states and owners, the NFL cannot enforce its legislation against relocation.

### Reagan turns 85

Los Angeles—Ronald Reagan became the fifth president to turn 85 on Tuesday. His birthday was celebrated with a party at Chasen's restaurant's in Hollywood, where he proposed to wife, Nancy. Reagan supporters made donations of \$85 or more to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, and Republican senators called from their lunch meeting to sing "Happy Birthday" to the President. Reagan was unfortunately unable to attend the festivities due to his Alzheimer's disease.

Beyond the Blue Ridge is  
compiled by Peggy Stuntz

## GOP WATCH

**Editor's Note: GOP Watch is a special weekly feature to keep Washington and Lee's students informed about the Republican Presidential Campaign in advance of Mock Convention.**

### Buchanan wins Louisiana

Pat Buchanan won a decisive victory over Phil Gramm in the Feb. 6 Louisiana caucus. Buchanan's win has dealt a potentially fatal blow to Gramm's chances for the Republican presidential nomination. Gramm stated on Wednesday that if he does not have at least a third place showing in next week's Iowa caucus, he will bow out of the race. The Louisiana caucus was not attended by the two front-runners Bob Dole and Steve Forbes who deferred to Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucus status. Nevertheless, Buchanan's win in Louisiana positions him as the conservative alternative to Dole and Forbes.

### Dole gears up for Iowa caucus

In preparation for next week's Iowa caucus (Feb. 12), the Dole campaign has bought 138 television spots which is significantly more than the number Steve Forbes has bought. The Iowa caucus is critical for the Dole campaign since he is now in second place to Forbes in New Hampshire according to a recent Dartmouth College poll. The poll, however, indicated also that the race is still very close and no clear front runner has emerged yet.

GOP Watch is compiled  
by Laura Knapp

Check out Mock Convention's web site:  
<http://www.mockcon.wlu.edu/~mockcon/>

## Elrod says honor, civility, truth bind W&L

By MELISSA BYRD  
Phi Staff Writer

For President John Elrod, Washington and Lee's future is told in the teachings of historic intellectuals.

Elrod told almost 40 students and faculty members Tuesday night that concepts such as honor, civility, and truth-seeking provide the stability and consistency seen at W&L throughout its history.

"When you're thinking about education, you can't forget about character," Elrod said.

Men like Alexis de Toqueville and Robert E. Lee understood that respect for one another as rational and free individuals, and a constant search for knowledge strengthen and enrich an academic community.

Elrod said the school's encouragement of conversation was important in building character.

"Education is essentially about one thing: conversation. If you look in on the Colonnade from God's perspective, you will see talk, talk and more

talk. It's talk that does it. Something almost miraculous happens in conversation."

Elrod said the students are prepared for life after W&L because they know the art of conversation.

"We need to continue to make our conversation here as sophisticated, refined and appropriately complex as we possibly can. It shapes your mind," he said.

Elrod said he would like to see a greater variety of students and faculty at W&L.

"We need more ethnic, economic, and cultural diversity. We live in a community here, and we need to think more, longer, and harder about what that means," he said. "In an increasingly heterogeneous world where people are pulling farther and farther apart from one another, we can at least make sure our community is not like this."

We will all stick together because we will all have an allegiance to those things that have held this school together for so long: honor, civility and truth."



President Elrod discussed his vision for W&L Tuesday

## On the other side of the footbridge...

By TARAH GRANT  
Phi Staff Writer

We need to begin with, heaven forbid, The Rule. Open your handbooks to Rule VI, Rules of Criminal Procedure. We see under Section III..."

It's 2:00 p.m. on a Thursday afternoon. On the other side of the footbridge, Professor William Greimer is starting his Criminal Procedure class. In front of him students open their textbook, *The Criminal Procedure, The Post-Investigative Process*, and take out the profession's trademark yellow paper pad almost simultaneously.

No obligation of secrecy may be imposed on any person except in accordance with this rule. So it may be worthwhile to see whom is bound by this secrecy requirement." When Greimer pauses, the sound of pens piously scribbling down his words creates an intermittent hum.

Kevin Batteh, a first year law student, gazes past the pro-

fessor through the window. A few pine branches frame a picturesque view of the Shenandoah mountains. They beckoned Batteh to come to Washington and Lee University five years ago. As a senior in high school, he knew he wanted a small liberal arts college with "an excellent academic reputation and that had lots of mountains and rivers around it." He thought about attending law school one day but didn't set any specific goals.

According to the admissions office, in an average year, approximately one third of the members of each freshmen class indicate their intention to attend law school. However, by the time they need to register for the LSATs, many have found other paths. Maybe a general education requirement in natural sciences brought out their passion for geology. Perhaps participating in a play in the Lenfest center sucked them into the drama department and now have Broadway aspirations. Even more reconsider

their decision to attend law school when they receive the results of their LSATs. A handful of students, however, end up applying to W&L's School of Law.

According to Assistant Dean of the Law School Susan Palmer, W&L undergrads enjoy several advantages in the law school admissions process. "We have great respect for the quality of the undergraduate education you receive on our front campus," explained Palmer. "We know that you are in small classes, where you are asked to read complex materials, analyze them closely, participate in classroom dialogue, and write."

The number of W&L undergrads who attend the W&L Law School varies from year to year, from a low of 2 to a high of 10 in the years between 1986 and 1995. There were 6 W&L undergrads in the 1995 entering law class.

I decided to stay at W&L when I opened the letter that said I had been accepted," said Batteh. "On the whole, I am glad that I stayed. W&L is a great place to study law even if you have in Lex for 4 years. Did I mention the law school is even smaller than the undergrad?"

Lewis Hall, consisting of five major classrooms, small seminar rooms, and a Moot Court Room, is one of the smallest accredited law schools in the nation. The School of Law accommodates 380 students and 30 professors. W&L's size has many advantages including personal attention from professors.

Greimer picks his first victim.

Miss Hodge. I didn't get a chance to call on you yesterday. See I was up late last night..."

I was too," Elizabeth Hodge responds quickly with a dim hope that witty response may let her escape. The students laugh; so does Greimer.

Great. There I was up late last night and I thought I had to find someone in a similar situation..."

Greimer, like many professors in law school, practices the Socratic teaching method. The professor randomly chooses a student to whom he asks a series of questions. The interrogation lasts from 10-50 minutes depending on the professor.

"Basically, it's just you and the professor, one on one, in front of a class-full of very intelligent people," explained Batteh. "He asks the questions and you provide the answers. It is always nerve racking at first."

Why is the grand jury process kept secret?" Greimer asks Hodges.

Batteh remembers the first time he met Professor Greimer. Batteh was an undergrad working on a paper for a philosophy class. Professor Ramsey Martin recommended that he talk to Greimer about the paper as it dealt with his area of expertise. Later that afternoon, Batteh entered Lewis Hall for the first time and introduced himself to Greimer.

He spent 45 minutes talking with me—about my paper. I think that's typical W&L."

The close relationships that develop between professors and their students is a trademark of both the undergrad and the law school. For the past two years, *The National Jurist*, a magazine for law students, did a ranking based solely on current students' assessments of their schools and ranked W&L #1 in student satisfaction with academics, faculty, and facilities. Last year's U.S. News survey ranked W&L Law School 21st nationwide. Princeton Review ranked it 19th.

Looking at E and 3, how is information disclosed?" Nobody responds. "Nobody knows? Okay, you'll get the APLA Dull Statutory Text award if you find an answer..."

Batteh leans back in his chair and glances at the female student sitting next to him, Andrea Mosely.

"I better not get called on," whispers Mosely. Batteh smiles and then stretches into a yawn. He was out late the night before at the Bela Fleck concert.

Mosely remembers her first impression of Batteh.

He was such a sweet guy but he looked like the devil," she laughs, remembering the goatee he sported at the beginning of the year.

Batteh adjusts the bill on his orange cap, which appears to be held together with duct-tape.

"The Clemson hat has been through a lot," he explained. "Actually I am sponsored by the team, Duck Tape; they pay me to wear this."

Combined with a Headbangers' Ballt-shirt from a 1993 fraternity party, a denim jacket, baggy pants, and hiking shoes, Batteh doesn't model the stereotypical wardrobe of a soon-to-be lawyer.

The generic descriptions only go so far," said Batteh. "There is nothing 'typical' about W&L students. We have many 'smart' students at W&L, but it's good to see that we still have talented students as well. I have friends in the

law school who have raised children, run businesses, practiced medicine, worked for the secret service, been accountants, wasted away on the slopes of Vale, guided rafts, taught high school and so many other things."

"As we can see in 6B..."

Batteh flips the page in his book and starts to underline.

"Challenges shall be made before the administration of the oath to the jurors and shall be tried by the court..."

Batteh doesn't know what challenges lie ahead of his life; he's still undecided on what kind of law he will practice. The law school certainly doesn't lack in alumni role models though. Five presidents of the American Bar Association and five of the history's 104 Supreme Court justices have been W&L alumni as well as a number of state Supreme Court justices and federal and state judges in every region.

"That's another angle we missed. We'll finish up on the Bank of Nova Scotia tomorrow."

The students pack up their belongings to go to their next class. After their classes are over, they work to prepare for the next day's classes.

"I think most students read through the material sometimes several times until it becomes very clear," said Batteh. "Often students will brief the cases they read. This entails preparing a summary of the facts of the cases, identifying the main issue and how the court reasoned to a decision on that issue."

The students were not unaware of the workload that law school would entail. Batteh often reflects on how much his life has changed since he crossed the footbridge. He enjoyed life as an undergrad and misses the time that he had to pursue extracurricular interests.

"That's not to say I don't get out now and then. I just don't get out as much," said Batteh. "At the same time, I feel like I've learned a great deal already. Law school gives you one more way to look at the world and analyze problems and situations. I guess it's a tradeoff of sorts."

Batteh tightens the straps on his black and purple bookbag to head to his next class and then to his carrel in the library to study. A friend gives him a high-five as he leaves the room. "Hey Kevin, are you still having people over tonight?" she asks. "Yeah," Batteh responds. After all, this is W&L. Even studying is a good excuse for a party."

## Mock Con picks Louisiana winner

By EMILY BAKER  
Phi Executive Editor

The Louisiana delegation of the Mock Convention correctly predicted Pat Buchanan's victory in the Feb. 6 Louisiana caucus.

The delegation based its decision on information from political contacts in Louisiana and the Buchanan campaign, such as political consultants, professors of political science and campaign insiders.

"We E-mailed them, sent them surveys, basically stayed in constant contact with them," said Louisiana state chairman Will Elkins. Mock Con appeared to be the only body that correctly predicted Buchanan over his opponent Phil Gramm.

"Everybody predicted Phil Gramm would win. All the polls out and editorials in newspa-

pers predicted Gramm. "We found out ahead of most people," Elkins said. "They called us from the victory party in Baton Rouge."

"We were pretty excited. It feels good to be right when everyone else is wrong."

Last week Mock Con received confirmation that Rep. Tom DeLay (R-TX) and Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour will join the convention's already extensive list of speakers.

"I think this is the best line of speakers we've ever had, said Andrew Olmeh, chairman of the platform committee.

His committee this week finished work on the Republican platform to be debated during the convention. Welfare and social security top the issues of the platform.

"We tried to follow the actual process the Republicans follow in writing the platform," Olmeh said.

## Thompson remembered by W&L community

By DAN ODENWALD  
Phi Executive Editor

The memorial service for Washington and Lee senior David Charles Thompson was more a service of thanksgiving than sadness.

"I want to thank God for the chance to get to know D.T.," said Beta Theta Pi fraternity brother and lacrosse teammate Russell Croft.

Those same sentiments were also expressed by Men's Lacrosse Coach James Stagnitta.

"David, I want to thank you for making a difference, for being a good friend, for making us better people," Stagnitta said. "Your friends will never forget you."

The pews of Lee Chapel were packed Tuesday afternoon with members of the administration, faculty, Beta Theta Pi, men's lacrosse team, V.M.I. cadet corps, and student body.

Thompson was killed in a car accident two weeks ago. A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Thompson was recipient of the Scholar/Athlete Award last year. He was 22 years old.

Those who attended were moved by the memories shared by Stagnitta and Croft who remembered Thompson as a resilient

and popular young man.

"The first time I saw David was at an all-star game in Baltimore," said Stagnitta. "It was hot and the players were exhausted. David spent a lot of the game on the ground, ran funny, and wore yellow cleats. But he played like it was the national championship."

Stagnitta remembered Thompson's "110 percent" commitment to the lacrosse team and his own improvement.

"David also had the unique ability to laugh at himself. We were all lucky to have him in our lives," said Stagnitta.

A friend since high school, Croft remembered Thompson in much the same way.

"D.T. wanted everyone to be happy," remembered Croft. "He taught us how to laugh." David took a piece of all of us when he left, but when we are reunited, we will be whole again, he said.

An open account has been established for donations to be made to W&L in David's name at the request of his mother, said Stagnitta. Where the funds will be used will be determined at a later date.

THE RING-TUM PHI:  
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT IT?

## DANCE WITH THE DEVIL Faust opens tonight

Cindie Young  
Phi Features Editor

To the cliché if fitting line "heaven and hell and everything in between" one cast member adds "and a red sequin dress," describing the W&L Theatre Department's latest production, *Faust*.

The students behind W&L's *Faust* have indeed dressed the play in '90s clothes, with such modern adaptations as the use of what is now everyday language, the background of the beach for God and His angels, and the setting of a rave bar for other characters.

The origins of the play lie in a seminar taught last year by Al Gordon, Professor of Theatre and current director of *Faust*. In his course, Gordon presented students with scenes from older versions of the Faust legend, and then rewrote them for a modern audience.

The older scripts from which the students worked include Goethe's original version, those of Christopher Marlowe (*Doctor Faustus*) and Vaclav Havel (*Temptation*), and even the Broadway musical "Damn Yankees."

"Most of my colleagues looked at me slightly askance when I told them I was going to direct a production of *Faust*," Director and Professor Al Gordon admits. "I started out thinking I would deconstruct the original script."

But after much interaction with students and collaboration with Professor Robert Youngblood of the German Department, Gordon feels that this year's *Faust* will overall be faithful to its predecessors.

"[Gordon] did a lot of polishing," Phaedra Cianciulli (God) recalls of the modernized versions turned in by herself and other students, and this year's production indeed promises to present an imaginative and fresh - and polished - approach to a well-established plot.

The aim of this newest version has been "to preserve the essential elements of the [Faust] legend, while making it more accessible to the audience," Gordon comments in a press release.

While casting of the play fell during the month of November, and the actors attended one "read-through" before Christmas Break, the bulk of the effort behind *Faust* has occurred in the past few weeks of this term.

And not without setbacks. The generous portion of snow allotted Lexington in recent memory "cost a week of building," estimates cast member Megan Johnson (Monkey). "We didn't get onto a set until two weeks ago."

However recently assembled, the set will be elaborate nonetheless, with one structure as high as what a cast member guesses to be 27 feet, and many more set pieces that roll on and off the stage.

Master electrician Eric Sproul, reflecting on the intricacy of the set, describes the show as "a pretty tech-y kind of show."

"A lot of special things need to happen," Sproul readily admits, but he is confident that they will, assuming no catastrophe.

Not only lighting but sound and electrical arrangements, the teching of the show, and the actual acting are all accomplishments solely of a dedicated group of students, with members of the faculty holding only the positions of director, set designer and costume designer of the production.

On the night before the curtain rises on W&L's own *Faust*, a general enthusiasm emanates from tech and actor, designer and dresser alike.

Cast member Dan Tipton predicts "a very visually pleasing show," praise that technician James Christovich reinforces with his promise of "a lot of special effects."

The efforts of so many students, and also of the participating faculty members, should indeed combine in a production stimulating not only to eye but to - and in - every other sense as well.

*Faust will run through this weekend and early next week. For more information on ticket availability or show times, contact the Lenfest Box Office at 463-8000.*



Above: The devil (Zach Hanks) tempts Faust (Drew Higgs) with everlasting youth, power and pleasure. Right: Wrath (Matt Kirby-Smith) and Envy (Maria Hardin) share a shady moment.

Photos courtesy of Louise Uffelman



## Restoration Costume extravaganza

KURT SUSONG  
PHI REVIEWER

*Restoration* - ☆ 1/2  
*Restoration* is essentially one big excuse to employ all the costume and set designers in Hollywood. This is beautiful and interesting for about the first twenty minutes, but then the awful script begins to bore us. Before I knew it, I was busy daydreaming; and there's no reason I should pay five dollars just for an excuse to daydream.

*Restoration* follows the exploits of one Robert Merivel (Robert Downey, Jr.), an intelligent but poor doctor in largely superstitious seventeenth-century England. His courage and originality are soon noticed by King Charles II (Sam Neill), and he is whisked away from his friends in the poorly-lit hospitals to the King's Court. However, Merivel is adventurous in more ways than just intellectually, and he is soon dragged down into sensual distractions of the Court.

At the same time, the King needs to hide one of his mistresses, the gorgeous Lady Celia (Polly Walker); he decides the easiest way to do this is to arrange a paper marriage as a perfect cover for her. Naturally, Merivel is given the job of becoming the 'husband' of Celia. He is then sent off to a country house so that this farce of a marriage is safely beyond most people's gaze.

However, Merivel promptly does the one thing the King forbade: fall in

love with the woman who is supposed to be his wife in name only. As a result he sinks into disfavor with the King, and the rest of the movie is the story of his fall from and return to grace.

Precisely as you might expect, the screenwriter (Rupert Walters) has thrown in so many silly metaphors and grandiose ideas the entire plot is quickly lost in a haze of overstatement.

Every action is trite and easily forecast. If a seventh-grader were writing a story about spiritual redemption, he would undoubtedly throw in all the neat tricks that we see here. A prime example is that by the end of the film Merivel saves the very woman who refused to love him.

Even the director (Michael Hoffman) is a party to the absurdity, as this scene is filmed exactly as another scene at the beginning of the film - as if we needed to be reminded or literally shown just how far Merivel has come. The result is absolutely not inspiring, but sickening.

At least you'd think this film, unlike so many in the theaters today, does justice to its characters, instead of treating them as simply pawns on the board of action. But *Restoration* fails there as well.

We never care about these people, and we are never given a reason to care. Merivel is thrown to us, and we are expected to like him immediately. As if this weren't impossible enough given the poor development, there is another problem with the good doctor's character.

The centerpiece of the movie is

played by none other than Robert Downey, Jr. There is probably no actor in Hollywood I find less interesting or magnetic.

His face is contorted into a perpetual smirk, so his "serious moments" look just like a real jackass pretending to be serious for a moment before revealing his true apathy to your problem.

Luckily, some of the supporting actors are quality. Sam Neill is wonderfully fickle and condescending as King Charles II, while both Hugh Grant and Meg Ryan perform admirably in two, peculiar supporting roles.

Those few bright point aside, *Restoration* is a set designers dream. Every detail of the King's gaudy Court and opulent parties is reproduced with flair.

Even the dark and dirty streets and filthy hospitals are brought right onto the screen. Unfortunately, there is no film to accompany the extravagances of the sets; the result is a very uninter-

esting, very stale, rather predictable movie full of lots of colors.

*Restoration* is a bad film. I wouldn't recommend this for very many occasions, unless, perhaps, its to make fun of Robert Downey, Jr.

## XO The single's guide to Feb. 14

COURTNEY E. MILLER  
PHI FEATURES EDITOR

By now I am pretty much sick to death of hearts, and cupid, and all that lovey dovey stuff associated with this "couples only" holiday. So maybe I sound a little bitter, it isn't like I haven't had one of those significant others for this overrated holiday (in fact this is the first time in three years I am single for the big V-day) what I am trying to say is this year, my eyes have been opened I understand how stupid, and useless this holiday seems to most of the W&L students. (Gee aren't 98% of us single?)

Anyway to get back to my point, this is the single's guide to making it through February 14th without puking, or calling your ex-boyfriend in a blatant attempt to receive flowers. (not that I've ever been that desperate...)

First off, find a constructive way to eat up your time. My suggestion; write to Ricki Lake, beg to be on her show. I'm not joking here. (Has a W&L student ever actually appeared on Ricki?) There are lots of great things she does, ummm... setting people up with really good looking guys

pulled off the streets of New York and paid to say they would date you. Or how about those make-overs? You know, girl goes in looking typical jeans/sweatshirt, and then some model comes out in her place. "Doesn't she look fabulous folks?"

If nothing else you could beg to do a whole show just about W&L. Think of the possibilities: former student, now archeology professor busted in million dollar cocaine ring. Truth is stranger than fiction...

Okay, so maybe you've already had your fifteen minutes of fame and are looking for something a little more tame, with less exposure. Call MTV and dedicate videos to your pets. Rationalize: goldfish need love too.

Go to The Source and rent some of those classic 80's movies, you know the movies that celebrated the Me decade. What ever happened to that concept anyway? *Vision Quest* is a must, especially if you haven't seen it in about 10 years. Best bonus is Madonna's performance in some cheesy bar. Okay I guess I have to throw in *Can't Buy Me Love*. Only, I want to know whose mother would actually own a white suede fringe outfit?

Okay, so you think I am stretching it? Nope. There is nothing better to help you forget red and white lovin' than laughing at Patrick Dempsey.

This one is more of a personal note, but watch *Dukes of Hazard* on at 7 p.m. on TNN five days a week. Start now, a week of "goodole boys never meaning no harm" will put Valentine's day into perspective.

Throw a "Happy Hate Day" party. It is a terrific way to counteract those hearts and cupid.

I really wish Hallmark would market a line of cards for the darker side of Valentine's day. I just can't find a card with "I hate you" on the front and inside reading "You really weren't worth the \$1.25."

Speaking of parties, your life could be so much worse. I have some close friends who actually have their birthdays on the dreaded V-day.

So nothing in my snappy guide that appeals to you? Spend the day commiserating with your friends and blame everyone else for all of your problems. There's only so much I can do.

## Elisabeth Cutler at GHQ

DAN ODENWALD  
PHI EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Looking for a break from the gray dreariness of the February snow?

Want to hear a soulful blend of refreshing and original folk/rock/pop music?

Then, the GHQ Pub is the place for you tonight as Elisabeth Cutler performs for the Washington and Lee community.

Cutler is quickly gaining wide recognition for her strong guitar playing, poetic lyrics, and passionate performance.

Her appearance is sponsored by the Student Activities/Pub Committee.

Admission is free and Cutler is scheduled to begin playing at 10 p.m.

The Pub was established this fall as an alternative to Lexington's stagnating social scene. Since its inception, the Pub has been successful in attracting large groups of students eager to escape the monotony of fraternity parties.



# The Ring-tum Phi

The Student Voice of Washington and Lee  
Founded September 18, 1897

## West speaks to all

One would think Cornel West would play at Washington and Lee as well as Hillary Rodham Clinton would do at a radiologist's convention.

After all, this campus is not a hotbed of radical liberalism, multi-culturalism, or rabid affirmative action supporters.

Knowing this, I expected few to attend West's lecture on race and democracy Wednesday evening in Lee Chapel. I was wrong.

In fact, the chapel was filled with a representative gathering of W&L students, V.M.I. cadets, Lexington residents, and faculty. More importantly, West's message seemed to be well received by those in attendance. What could have been an extremely hostile audience turned out to be very receptive and attentive.

The eminent professor of Afro-American Studies at Harvard University won the audience over by bringing intelligence and purpose to the debate over racism. West spoke to the audience -- not at them. He raised the level of the discourse by informing and not blaming. With compassion and a sense of history, West explored the legacy of white supremacy in the experiment of American democracy. Therein lies his genius.

In the age of Farrakahn's lunacy, the Supreme Court's smashing of minority electoral power, and attacks on affirmative action, West seeks to heal.

West does indeed present a disturbing picture of the American cultural scene. Young people suffer from the dearth of morals and the market culture prostitutes the American ideal. But there is cause for hope: the democratic desire to do better.

Perhaps the most moving part of West's lecture was his colorless and classless call to arms among young people. History demonstrates that social revolutions are manned by America's young.

As we enter the 21st century, it is our responsibility to eradicate racism from society, to raise the level of the discussion, and to free ourselves from the ties that bind us.

Will we ever get to the Promised Land? No one really knows, but like West, we should all go down fighting.

-- D.O.

## Quote of the Week

"Apparently, the lead was dry heaving on stage last night."

—Student commenting on the outbreak of sickness among the Faust cast.

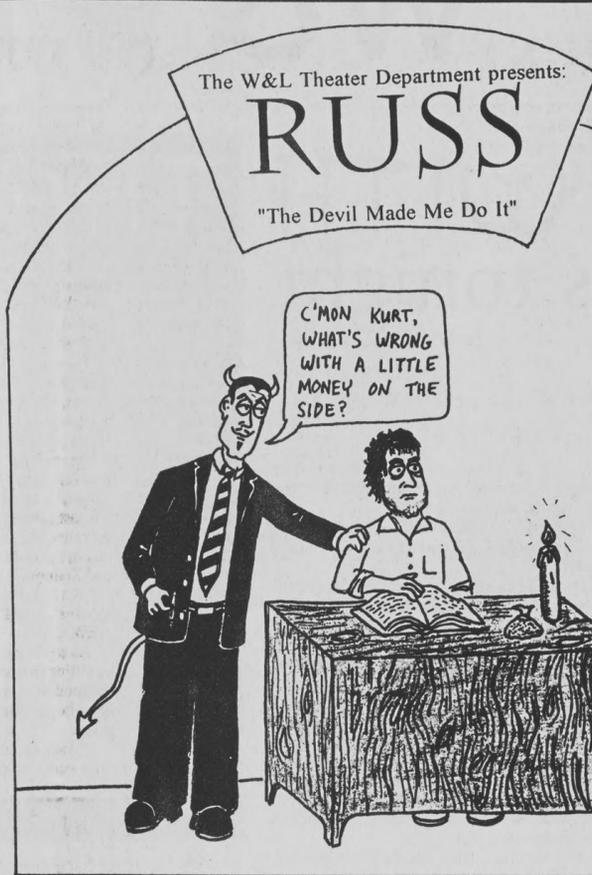
# The Ring-tum Phi

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Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday in the Lenfest Center

# Politics: a matter of perspective

## MY VIEW

Nova Clarke, '96

I have to admit that I succumbed to curiosity and bought a copy of *Primary Colors*. I have no idea who the author might be, and I don't really care—it is a good novel. I read it in a day because once you start, you're caught up in the story, wondering whether the "scorps" (short for scorpions - the nickname for the press corps) will ever learn all of Jack Stanton's secrets. I also have to admit that even if I'd missed all the hype in the Washington Post about this book that had to have been written by an insider because it portrays the '92 Clinton campaign so well, I would have thought of Clinton as I was reading it. The book doesn't make you want to nominate Clinton for Man of the Year, and it is undoubtedly not a flattering portrait of Clinton, but it isn't a negative one either. Yes, he is pictured as a very flawed person, but after reading the book, I think one has to realize that you aren't going to ever find a politician who isn't flawed.

Why do we expect to have a near perfect leader? There's been a lot of blame put on the press for building up expectations and then completely shattering them by portraying the person running for office as they truly are and not an ideal. Is there really anyone who is perfect enough to satisfy our expectations—George Washington maybe, but he's long dead, and his actions are glossed over by the rosy glow of history.

James Fallows in the February issue of the *Atlantic* suggests that the problem of the press is always asking how—as in, "How will this speech affect your reelection in the year 2010?" These

aren't the real issues. Ideally a candidate shouldn't be thinking about the implication of every statement he makes for his future. He should be focusing on the what—"What do you plan to do to ease the problems of poverty in this country?" Unfortunately, if we get all our political education and candidate information from the media, we're likely to get an image of a candidate concerned solely

“  
*Unfortunately, if we get all our political education and candidate information from the media, we're likely to get an image of a candidate concerned solely about reelection.*”

about reelection. I think most of us are fairly realistic people. We expect our candidate to be worried about getting reelected. If he or she wasn't, what reason would we have to believe that he/she would listen to us while in office, but the press takes this idea too far.

That is the reason why Jack Stanton or Bill Clinton likes to stay away from the "scorps" and maybe that's why all of us are looking towards Iowa and New Hampshire. There is a scene in the book where Henry Burton is talking to Daisy, one of

Stanton's PR people about the last night in New Hampshire before the primary when Jack Stanton spends hours standing in a local mall and talking to potential voters. At that point he's behind in the polls and eventually comes in second, but the point was Stanton wasn't listening to the press and neither were most of the voters. They were more interested in the "what" and not "how" the result of New Hampshire would mean for the future. Clinton is like that too. It's been said that he's on a permanent campaign. What's wrong with that if it means the people are getting a true picture of the candidate or the President?

So here's a twisted idea about why we focus so much attention on these two basically unrepresentative and electorally poor states. We want to be like them, we would like to actually meet the politicians and find out what they would do to solve our problems instead of deciding on a candidate based on his stylish (or not) ads. Another option is maybe we would like to trust government again. There was a whole series of articles in last week's Washington Post about the lack of trust the average citizen has in the government. That's probably a function of him/her never meeting the "government," i.e. his senator, representative, or the President. His closest contact may be the guy he sees at the passport office. In New Hampshire and Iowa all of the voters are being overwhelmed by personal attention from the candidates. So theory two is that if we can't look the candidates in the eye and make a choice, maybe we can follow the example of those who have had that opportunity.

So if you get a chance, read *Primary Colors*. It will take your mind off the midterms you have next week, and maybe it will make you think about what qualities you think are necessary in a politician.

# Examining the economics of liberty

## MY VIEW

Jason Sorens, '98

Having discussed issues of foreign policy and civil liberties in previous columns, I will now move on to economic issues. For, as P.J. O'Rourke concisely put it, "Most of our liberties have to do with money stuff." In this column, then, I will discuss the one issue that concerns us all the most: taxation.

Taxation has for centuries been perhaps the most uncomfortable topic in economic theory. Economists have perpetually disputed over which sort of tax is the most efficient, or more properly, the least inefficient. This concern has spilled over into our modern debate over federal revenue. In recent years, we have debated the appropriateness of tariffs, the income tax, and consumption taxes. Some economists and politicians call for an end to the income tax and the institution of a national sales tax or value-added tax. Others favor a flat income tax, and some favor no taxation at all.

The reason taxation is such a slippery topic is that anyone who assumes the appropriateness of taxation cannot come up with any kind of tax that does not distort or burden economic activity. I will prove that distortion is inevitable in all kinds of taxation, whether tariffs, income or property taxes, or consumption taxes.

Tariffs have a twofold distorting effect. First of all, they raise prices for the domestic consumer, thus causing "under-consumption" in the economy. Second, as a corollary, tariffs encourage the misallocation of resources and production.

Tariffs raise domestic prices because they stifle competition. Putting a tax on imported products causes their

prices to rise commensurately in the long run. In the short run, the foreign exporters will absorb some of the blow, but in the long run, the whole burden will pass to consumers, after foreign companies that could not withstand the decrease in their revenue have gone out of business. But driving foreign exporters out of business is no help to our consumers. It was this sort of action that precipitated the worldwide depression after the Smoot-Hawley Tariff in 1932.

After the tariff has stifled foreign competition, domestic industry will have the freedom to raise prices as well, but they will reap the full benefits of higher profits without having to pay the tax that foreign producers do. In the long run, these new profits will incite new competition, which brings prices down again but brings about misallocation of production. For instead of producing what we are "naturally" capable of producing, the nation has turned to producing what other nations used to produce for us. This consequence flies in the face of the division of labor so important to an efficient economy. If France is producing wine and exporting it to the United States, and we put tariffs on French wine, then the United States will start producing wine. But the United States is not naturally fit for producing wine; otherwise it would have been doing so beforehand. We end up producing wine when we could have been producing silicon computer chips or another product for which we have more and better resources.

Thus, we see that tariffs have a distorting effect on the economy. Let us then turn to income and property taxes.

Income and property taxes, especially those of the progressive sort, tend to discourage the making of income and the ownership of property.

"If you tax something, you will discourage it," is a general rule. Ironically, the only exception is for inferior goods, which are so dear that they must be attained at any price.

In the case of the income tax, income is an inferior good for the very poor. Those who have little income will, when taxed, try to make up for that loss by working harder to make even more money. Thus, income taxation perversely causes the wealthy to move their assets to sheltered places and not to work as hard or produce as much, and causes the poor to work even harder for less pay. Meanwhile, taxes on the rich encourage them not to work or produce at all and to move their investments to sheltered areas, tactics which the rest of us are not able to use. The progressive nature of our income tax today takes the burden off the poor but exacerbates the other problem, that of discouraging wealth-production.

Property (in the sense of land), on the other hand, is not an inferior good, because property taxes do not take away land itself, but rather wealth. Thus, they encourage the poor to work harder to make up yet another shortfall in income, and encourage the rich not to buy large plots of land but instead to put their wealth in speculative ventures, for example. All these distorting effects of income and property taxes are serious problems in the national economy because they force consumers to make decisions that do not bring them the greatest utility.

The consumption tax is equally destructive. Its proponents argue that it would not require an intrusive bureaucracy such as the IRS, but this assertion is unfounded. A national sales tax would require a myriad of inspectors to make sure that every small business and every day-to-day transaction factored in the state's percentage. Furthermore, such a tax would

unnaturally discourage consumption, as should be obvious by now. The exception would again be for inferior goods, such as food and gasoline, which are virtual necessities. When the prices of these items rise, they cannot be substituted, and people will continue buying them. Poor people, who spend a greater percentage of their income on necessities, would be hit hardest.

Thus, most sales-tax proponents favor deductions for the poor or withholding the sales tax from necessary items. But once this happens, we still have the problem of unnaturally discouraging consumption of luxuries and thereby distorting economic allocations. The problems are inescapable: a consumption tax hurts the economy.

In fact, these problems dog any kind of tax proposal. Not only do taxes hurt the economy by taking large amounts of capital out of productive use, they further damage us by encouraging misallocations and distortions. Unless we can envision an all-wise government that can somehow factor in every problem it causes by taxation and then remedy these problems with equal and opposite policies, we cannot justify taxation on economic grounds. I submit that we cannot envision such a government, unless we believe in a God-government that could also run the minutiae of an entire economy. The complexities of our modern-day economy simply will not allow any kind of effective micro-management.

The statist may justify taxation on one final criterion: coercive taxation might be necessary to fund certain crucial operations that for some reason a free market cannot do. I will analyze the problem of "public goods" and "externalities" in my next column. Unless the argument for public goods succeeds, we must conclude that taxation is wholly unjustifiable on economic grounds.

# You're the next contestant on...

## GREEN LAND

Betsy Green

Since I have too much work to do now anyway, I've started wasting more time with a new hobby: I sit on my couch, watch *The Price Is Right*, and yell at the television. It is, after all, educational. I know all about how to be a good consumer and get the best deal on new carpeting. *The Price Is Right* has always held a special magic for me. I remember watching it over the summer when I was a kid, thinking about how much I'd like that new car and listening to my mom tell me I'd rot my brain, and I should read a book. Ah, memories.

One of the cool things about the show is that nothing seems to have changed in all the years I've watched the show. The set is the same orange, red, and purple monstrosity it has been since approximately 1860. And the contestants will probably never change. I hope not, because lately I've dreamed of becoming one.

Near as I can tell, there are a few ways to ensure that I will one day here the words, "BETSY GREEN, COME ON DOWN!" All I'd have to do is wear something that will give Bob Barker something to talk about. A t-

shirt with the name of your hometown is always a good choice, or huge Greek letters or a college name. Another popular choice is a huge cowboy hat and belt buckle set, but the best choice by far seems to be any military uniform. Bob Barker loves the soldiers. Come to think of it, anyone in Lexington would have a pretty good shot of getting on the show, W&L students in their letters, townies in their... townie gear, and VMI students in their little grey outfits. We'd be a lock.

Figure if my name didn't get called, the thing to do would be to look excited and run down to Contestant's Row anyway. If I beat the real contestant there, maybe no one would notice. Such obnoxious behavior seems to be encouraged. And if I can't get on the show, I'd want them to have to call security to drag me out of the studio. That would be cool.

If you ever have any doubt as to the poor job the American educational system has done, tune in to *The Price is*

*Right* and watch people try to bid. They leave themselves a margin of three dollars between bids, like they

are so sure they were dead on accurate in their estimation of the price of that curio cabinet. These are the people who are bound to spend the entire show bidding, guessing wrong, and bonding with the other losers. Probably the coolest thing you can

do is bid a confident, "One dollar!" I'd probably do that for every item, regardless of whether or not anyone overbid. It would work for me eventually.

Once I got on stage, I'd scream and jump up and down a lot. Since Bob Barker no longer kisses contestants, I'd just pat him on the butt. He doesn't seem to mind a little sexual harassment now and then.

Bob would then explain the game to me, and when he'd say, "Do you understand?" I'd keep saying no until he got mad. And if the game was

everyone's favorite, Plinko, I'd fall off the Plinko Platform. Suing the show is bound to be worth more money than I could possibly win. But once the game started, I'd be all concentration. The worst thing to do on the show is to irritate the studio audience. Follow their advice or pay the consequences. Man, you don't want to turn those people against you. If you try to spin the wheel and don't get it to spin all the way around, I think they have interns who hold off the audience with cattle prods.

Naturally, I'll get to the Showcase Showdown. This is, after all, my daydream. On every show I have ever watched, there has been one showcase that's really cool and another one that is just useless. When they show me the first one, if they even start to mention carpeting, a bedroom set, or new socks, I'll just interrupt them right then and there and pass the hell out of it. Let the guy in the sailor suit have the furniture and Stainmaster carpet. I want the jet ski, the home ice cream parlor, the trip to Isreal, and I'll drive to Isreal in A NEW CAR!

As my dream comes to an end, I'll be sitting in that new car and yelling at the models to stay away so they don't chip the paint as America watches with pride.

I'll see you on the small screen. Get your pets spayed or neutered.

## GENERAL NOTES

### Senior Cocktail Party Scholarship

The senior cocktail party has been postponed until Friday, March 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Alumni House. Non-refundable tickets are available by advance sale only. Tickets will be sold outside the Co-Op from Wednesday to Friday March 6-8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. You can still charge the \$10 fee home. If you have already bought your ticket, you need not reregister. If you have any questions, please call Justin King (463-8464) and let him know.

Scholarship opportunity: The John Gyles Education Fund make financial assistance available to students in the U.S. and Canada. Full Canadian or U.S. citizenship is required. Also required is a minimum GPA of 2.7. Selected students will receive up to \$2,500.00. Deadlines: April 15, June 15, November 15. For application forms send stamped self-addressed envelope (NO.10) envelope to:

The John Gyles Educational Fund  
Attention: R. James Cogle, Administrator  
P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Dr.  
Fredericton, New Brunswick  
Canada E3B5G4

### Oxford Exchange

Washington and Lee is one of six area schools that sponsor a summer program of study at St. Anne's College, Oxford, England. The Virginia Program at Oxford follows the English tutorial system and studies the subject areas of literature and history of Tudor-Stuart England. Dates are July 1 to August 10, 1996. Application deadline is March 1, 1996. There is some scholarship aid available. See Prof. Pamela Simpson in the Art Dept. or call 8857 for more information.

### Alumni Office

Applications from members of the class of 1996 who wish to be considered for the Alumni Office Staff Associate position for the 1996-97 academic year are due by Monday, March 11, 1996. Graduating seniors should submit a letter of application and resume to Alumni Secretary Jim Farrar at the Alumni House. The Staff Associate position is currently held by Justin King '95 and becomes available July 1, 1996. Personal interviews will be scheduled upon receipt of applications.

### CDPO News

Seniors: Don't miss the newest recruiting and interviewing opportunities with the Career Development Office. Included are positions in publishing, banking, consulting, paralegal and teaching. Most of these have FEBRUARY 16 deadlines so stop by soon to get details.

### Dance Lessons

Frank Rupas is offering ballroom dancing lessons. Learn how to dance for Fancy Dress. First lesson is free. New lessons will be taught on the hour from 6 to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27.

### Film Society

The next presentation from the Washington and Lee Film Society will be SAFE (USA, 1995), directed by Todd Haynes. Screenings will be at 8:05 PM on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 9 and 10, in the Troubadour Cinema, at the corner of Main and Henry Streets. There is no charge for admission.

### Exercise Workshop

Women's Forum is sponsoring a "How to start Exercising" workshop 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11 in Doremus Gym.

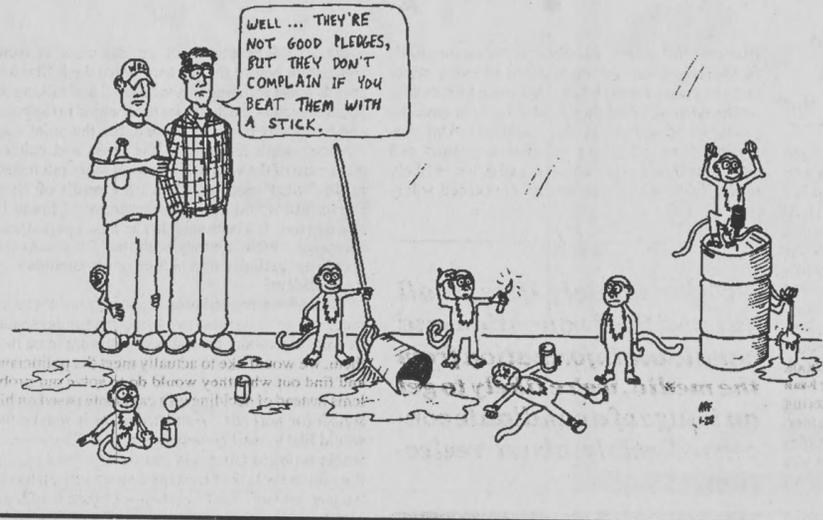
Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Student Development Committee, I would like to inform you of the competition we are hosting on Feb. 11 and 12. Different campus organizations will be calling alumni asking for donations to the 1995-1996 Annual Fund. Two representatives from each group are to call for three hours, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The different competing organizations are Pi Beta Phi, the Society for the Arts, Alpha Phi Omega, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, the Resident Assistants, the International Club, Kathekon, Lambda Chi Alpha, and Kappa Alpha Theta. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 463-1779.

Sincerely,  
John N. Bator

## GENERATION LEX

A SOLUTION TO SHORTENED PLEDGESHIP:



# O'Rourke castigates whiners of America

## MY VIEW

Celeste Rasmussen, '98

When debating about politics with some of my liberal friends, factual contentions and constructive reasoning usually turn into dirty attacks.

"But Democrats are so much cooler," they say, and usually cite x and y rock band and our sax-sporting president. "Well, you may have all of them," I respond, "but we have P.J. O'Rourke."

O'Rourke, one-time editor of *National Lampoon* magazine, author, and contributing writer to publications that span the spectrum from *Rolling Stone* to *The American Spectator*, spoke last

Tuesday night in Lee Chapel. Being a great fan, I was more than impressed with his speech which included the same wittiness and multi-layered humor that can be found in all of his best-selling books.

He discussed "The Whining of America," a spin-off topic from his book *All the Trouble in the World*, and reminded us that despite all of the so-called troubles of the worry-mongers, (there's a hole in the ozone, the Republicans took all the money in the 1980's) life is better today than it ever has been.

"Just think of King George's dentist," he added. In fact, in true W&L style, he reminded us that life was better last Tuesday night than it was at 9:30 that morning, after aspirin and two Bloody-Mary's, of course.

Indeed, only O'Rourke could ex-

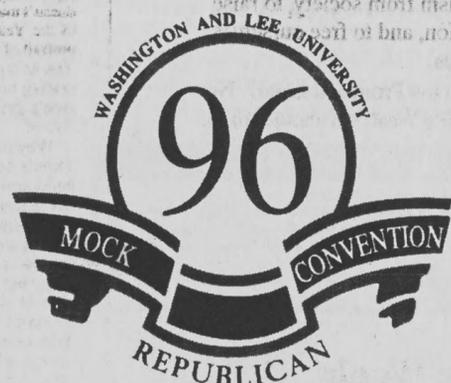
plain the S&L crisis in 15 minutes, relate the Omnibus Farm Bill to the artificial insemination of cows, and compare life under the Democrats to a visit to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The fun didn't stop even after the speech, when he fielded questions from the audience. After being asked if the current "whining trend" of America would ever stop, he responded with: Trends come and go, just like in the 1980's when the trend was to dress like a preppy. The W&L look was in back then...

Kudos to the Contact Committee for bringing in one of my favorite authors to campus. The highlight of my evening was when I met O'Rourke, and he autographed a book for me. "To Celest," he wrote, "Peace kills - P.J. O'Rourke."

Be a part of a  
98-year-old tradition

# The Ring-tum Phi

Tuesdays 7 p.m. room 208, University Center



## Joining a state delegation is the only way to SEE the 1996 Republican Mock Convention

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Guam, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming

All have spaces left on their delegations  
This is your last chance to join a delegation.

Monday, February 12 through  
Friday, February 16  
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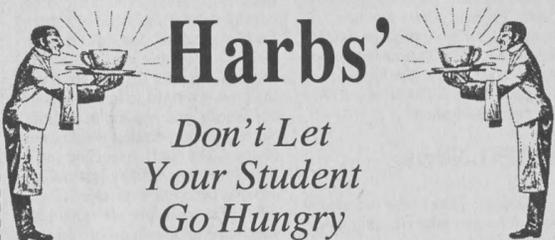
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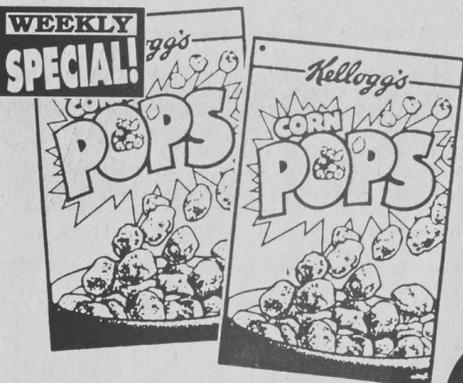
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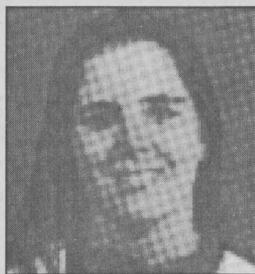


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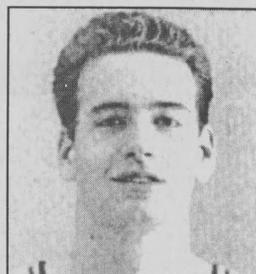
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## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Jill Sheets  
Women's Swimming

Senior co-captain Jill Sheets picked up a pair of victories during the women's swimming team's meet with Hollins. Sheets breezed to wins in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke as the Generals captured their 25th straight ODAC meet, 128-97. Sheets and her teammates will defend their ODAC/Atlantic States Championships title on February 23-25 at Radford.



Cam Dyer  
Men's Basketball

Senior tri-captain Cam Dyer played an impressive game last Saturday against Eastern Mennonite. Dyer led the Generals to a season high 100-point performance over the EMU Royals. He remains on top of the ODAC in scoring, averaging 21.8 points per game. Dyer scored 23 points and matched his career-high 13 rebounds in the victory over Eastern Mennonite.

## The Magic is back in L.A.

THE BIG FAN, from Page 8

and 7 rebounds on Utah's Karl Malone, a player who had been vehemently opposed to Magic's first comeback. Magic has always been the consummate team player. He made the triple-double a household term in the '80s because of his brilliant play both offensively and defensively. He makes the most difficult plays look easy. More importantly, his determination to win is paralleled only by Jordan. Magic has the type of personality and leadership that can elevate a team. The Lakers have been talented but inconsistent so far. Here's a guess that Magic will help mold them into a coherent unit. Why did Magic return? Maybe he felt he retired too soon and had something left to prove. He may love playing basketball so much that he can't stop. Or maybe

he just wants to enjoy life while he still can. Few of us understand the urgency that Magic may feel. Although he looks great now, he could live for 10 or 20 more years, or he could live for one more year. If he develops full-blown AIDS, who knows? One thing I've learned is that this isn't the usual Brad Lohaus or Manute Bol who hangs around too long and becomes annoying. Magic will no longer be the director of Showtime, but he's still one of the best players around. He certainly has proved that thus far. Johnson and Jordan are probably the best basketball players of our generation. We should appreciate them for the players they have been and the players they still are. But if things sour this time, I hope Magic will gracefully decide to permanently retire so that his magnificent career does not turn into a farce. The clock on Magic's career and life is ticking down. We should give the man one last shot.

## Generals show improvement

HOOPS, from Page 8

time lead and then buried the Generals with a 24-3 barrage to start the second half. W&L would only be able to reduce the gap to 19 points by the end of the game. Senior Allison Hull had a tremendous game for the Generals, netting 14 points to go along with 7 assists and 6

rebounds. Sophomores Hicks and Tonia Dean each scored 12 points. The Generals came up on the short end of a 67-60 heartbreaker Tuesday against Bridgewater. W&L rallied from a double-digit deficit in the second half to close to 62-60 with 1:34 remaining. That was as the Generals would get, however. Bridgewater came up with steals on the next two W&L possessions to seal its win. Despite the narrow loss, W&

L dominated Bridgewater on the boards with a 47-26 rebounding advantage. Sandra Holmes collected 14 of those rebounds to compliment her 14 points. Freshman Chrissy Burghardt also had a strong night for the Generals, tallying 16 points and 9 rebounds. The Generals' record now stands at 4-14 overall and 3-13 in the ODAC after their 1-2 week. Washington and Lee returns south to battle Roanoke Saturday afternoon.

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## Last Week:

**MBASKETBALL** - W, 100-79, vs. Eastern Mennonite; L, 88-71, vs. Randolph-Macon; L, 68-66, at Lynchburg

**WBASKETBALL** - L, 79-60, vs. Roanoke; L, 67-60, vs. Bridgewater; W, 62-46, at Hollins

# The Ring-tum Phi SPORTS

## This Week:

**WRESTLING** - Saturday at Virginia State Championships (at Longwood College)

**MBASKETBALL** - Saturday at Roanoke, 7:30 PM; Wednesday at Eastern Mennonite, 7:30 PM

**WBASKETBALL** - Saturday at Roanoke, 5:00 PM; Sunday vs. Villa Julie, 4:00 PM; Tuesday vs. Virginia Wesleyan, 7:00 PM; Thursday at Lynchburg, 7:00 PM

PAGE 8

BASKETBALL, SWIMMING, WRESTLING, INDOOR TRACK

FEBRUARY 9, 1996

## Return of Showtime

THE BIG FAN  
BY SCOTT BOOKWALTER

Last spring, I wrote a column blasting Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, and other athletes who hang on too long to their respective careers or cannot decide about permanently retiring.

Well, I take that back. Sort of.

I still feel that it is more honorable for a player to retire instead of his career becoming a memory. Why can't players decide whether they want to play or not?

Johnson retired on November 7, 1991 after being diagnosed with HIV. He had little other choice. He knew that NBA players, like many others in the nation, would not understand the minimal risks of playing with a HIV-positive player.

We mourned for Magic. We decried the end of an era, the final curtain on Showtime. Everything seemed so final. The Lakers retired Magic's number. Magic played on the 1992 U.S. Olympic Dream Team, but more as a tribute to his great career than to his current status. We began to wonder how much time Magic had left.

Magic attempted a comeback in 1992, but he soon aborted it. After a short stint as the Lakers coach, he retired again. We figured that was the end of Magic's public life.

So I didn't know what to think when Magic announced that he was returning to the Lakers. After all, the guy is 36 and has not played in the league for four years. Both the players and the league have changed. How productive could Magic be at this stage of his career? Would he now be a benchwarmer?

But after watching Magic roll up 19 points, 10 assists, and 8 rebounds in his first game back last Tuesday against Golden State, I realized how much the NBA needs Magic.

The NBA has stepped backwards in recent years. After the "Bad Boys" Detroit Pistons elbowed and chucked their way to back-to-back titles in the late '80s, the NBA degenerated into a physical, pound-it-inside league. The Rockets and the Knicks may be good teams, but how much fun is it to watch them? This certainly isn't the Lakers' fast-breaking and the Celtics' precision shooting of the '80s. Besides, who would you rather watch play basketball: Magic Johnson or Anthony Mason?

Even worse is the attitude of today's players. Dream Team II, led by Derrick Coleman and Larry Johnson, embarrassed itself with its horrendous sportsmanship in the summer of 1994. The NBA has changed from elegance to arrogance.

Magic can change some of this. True, he now has Elden Campbell, Cedric Ceballos, Vlade Divac, Nick Van Exel, and Eddie Jones as teammates, not Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, James Worthy, Byron Scott, and A.C. Green.

Magic, now 27 pounds heavier, is playing power forward for the Lakers instead of his customary point guard position. And he hasn't been starting.

But just think how much better he can make the Lakers. His first shot last Tuesday was a driving layup, a classic Magic shot. In fact, the Lakers looked like they were reincarnating Showtime as they scored more than 70 points in the first half. Sunday, Magic rung up 21 points

See THE BIG FAN, Page 7

## Generals gear themselves for playoff charge

By CHRIS PUGSLEY  
Phi Staff Writer

The pressure put on the Washington and Lee men's basketball team to make the Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament culminated in a strong win over Eastern Mennonite on Saturday. The Generals kept their playoff hopes alive by defeating Eastern Mennonite 100-79 in an extremely physical matchup.

It was a game of extremes, seeing both teams combine for a total of 50 fouls and a combined 73 free throws and 51 three-point attempts. But these extremes were not to be outdone by the physical play of both teams.

When the smoke and carnage cleared, the Generals came out on top. Cam Dyer led the Generals with 23 points and 13 rebounds, but the talk of the game was senior guard Jon Coffman. His inspired play produced a season high 22 points, 4 assists and 2 steals, not to mention his outstanding leadership and intensity on the floor.

Chris Couzen continued his consistent performance with 20 points, 5 rebounds and 4 steals

before fouling out.

The win sustained the Generals' position in ninth place in the ODAC and kept them mathematically alive in the hunt for the eighth and final playoff berth in the ODAC tournament.

The Generals put together another impressive show on Monday. In the stands for the matchup against Randolph-Macon College were the families of seniors Cam Dyer, Jon Coffman and Derek Carter as they played their last career home game. With the eyes of visiting lecturer and Boston Globe sports columnist Bob Ryan looking down from the Warner Center press gallery, the Generals battled against Kurt Axe and the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets.

It was extraordinary to see an instance where an opposing player refers to a road game as "home cooking", but then again, Axe is definitely an extraordinary player.

After an 11-point first half, Axe exploded for 20 second half points en route to an 88-71 Yellow Jacket victory. Axe finished the game with 31 points and 4 steals, hitting 6 of 8 from three point range.

But, the Generals would not

go unheard from in the second half. Kelly Dyer's three-point shot with 6:30 left brought the Generals within seven and the continued inspirational play of Jon Coffman kept the Generals' hopes alive.

But with 1:13 left, Axe produced a feat that would win a place at the ESPY awards ceremony. Axe grabbed a loose ball and, falling out of bounds, threw up a shot from behind the backboard and hit nothing but net. Talk about extremes?

Nevertheless, the Generals received strong performances from Cam Dyer, with 22 points and 8 rebounds, Jon Coffman, who scored 14 points and dished out 4 assists, and Derek Carter, who hit two three-pointers for 6 of his 7 points.

On Wednesday, the men traveled to Lynchburg College. The game was close throughout, but the Hornets handed the Generals a tough loss.

W&L pulled within one with two seconds left on Kelly Dyer's three-point basket. But two Lynchburg free throws made the final score 68-65.

Cam Dyer turned in a 23-point, 6-rebound performance while Chris Couzen posted 16



Photo by Betsy Green, Phi Photo Editor

Jon Coffman drives toward the net in a recent W&L men's basketball game.

points and 5 rebounds.

Couzen was helped in the back court by Kevin Cobbin, who added 5 points, 4 assists and a career-high 8 rebounds. W&L was hurt by 22 turnovers, and 30 percent

shooting from the field in the second half.

Despite the loss, which drops their overall record to 3-19, the Generals still remain in the hunt for the final playoff spot in the

ODAC tournament.

The Generals have two road games remaining: Saturday's contest with Roanoke and next Wednesday's season finale against Eastern Mennonite.

## Freshmen women make immediate contributions to W&L swimming

By JASON ZACHER  
Phi Staff Writer

Five freshmen women joined the swimming team this winter with a large void to fill and a lot of work ahead of them.

For freshmen Margaret Hoehl, Laura Goodwin, Jen Selder, Greta Richter and Courtney Tyler, all of the effort has paid off. They had nine of the best times in the fourteen events that the Generals swam this year, and they finished second in three events.

All five have made an impact this year. Senior co-captain Jill Sheets noted the depth that they bring, and the points they have scored. Fellow teammate sophomore Ali Kappel commented, "They've added strength to our relay teams and a lot of team spirit."

At the end of last year, the Generals lost several excellent seniors, leaving a void in many events. Head Coach Kiki Jacobs is very pleased with the contribution of the freshmen. "There is not one person that could fill Susan Fisher or Brandi Henderson's spot, but between all of them, they have stepped up. They can swim anything you need them to."

Margaret Hoehl has made the biggest impact on the team. A prospective biology major from Tullahoma, TN, Hoehl holds the top team times in seven events, four of those in freestyle. In addition, she has the second best time in two events, both behind senior All-American Rebekah Prince. "Margaret is our strongest freshman," said Jacobs.

Hoehl began swimming competitively when she was only five years old, and stated that her best moment in her swimming career was her trip to states last year. She said her best moment of her freshman year so far was the 500 free at the Sewanee meet. She only lost by four hundredths of a second.

Greta Richter, who was a teammate of Hoehl's at Tullahoma High School, is very active outside the pool. Richter is a Kappa Kappa Gamma pledge, on the Freshmen Leadership Council and is a tutor in the community. She is currently undecided on a major.

Like Hoehl, she began swimming at age five. "My mom made me at first, I didn't like the water because it was too cold. After that I loved it and I love the competition."

Richter keeps swimming because she has so much fun on the team. "I love everyone on the team here, we have a great time, and are all friends."



Photo by Betsy Green, Phi Photo Editor

Freshman Amber Hinkle looks to pass inside.

## Women's hoops prevails at Hollins

From Phi Staff Reports

The women's basketball team continued its improved play this week, capturing one win in three attempts.

W&L journeyed to Hollins Thursday night and returned with a 62-46 victory.

The Generals were on fire early in the game, storming out to a 19-2 lead. Hollins closed the gap, but W&L finished as well as it started. The Generals shut out Hollins over the final 4:29, enabling W&L to snare the win.

Freshman Karin Treese scored 11 points, all on foul shots. Her 11-12 free throw shooting

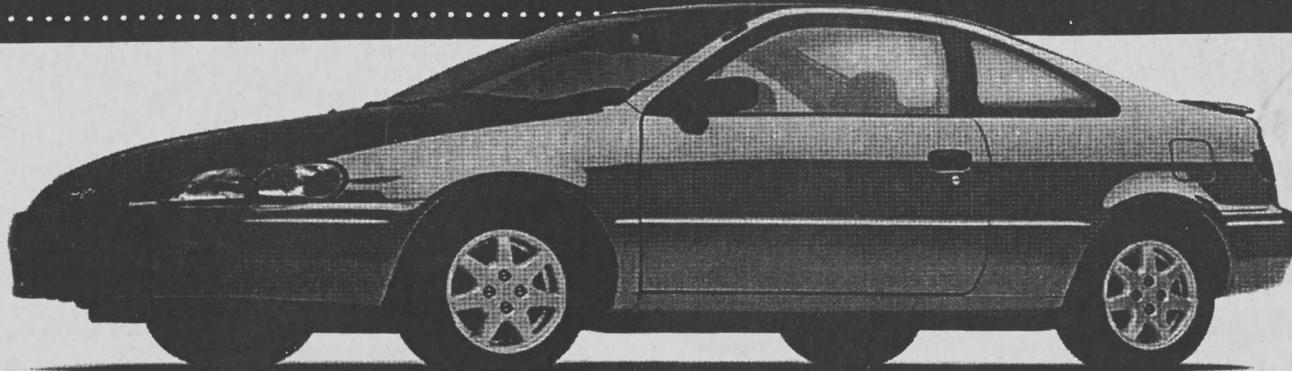
performance set a W&L record. Sophomore Michelle Hicks scored 12 points and senior Sandra Holmes had 14 rebounds.

After a 58-48 victory over Randolph-Macon Women's College last week, snow prevented W&L from trying to win its second straight game Saturday against Villa Julie. The contest was postponed to this Sunday at 4:00 PM in the Warner Center.

W&L tried again Sunday against Roanoke, but the Generals proved to be no match for the red-hot Maroons, losing 79-60. Roanoke cruised to a 42-28 half-

See HOOPS, Page 7

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