

Work while you walk

New TrekDesk lets W&L staff members get their fitness on while getting down to business.

ARTS & LIFE / page 5

Volleyball 12 - 0

Following Saturday's win, the Generals streak is the best in the program's history.

SPORTS / page 8

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011 BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CXV, NUMBER 2

A new weapon in an old battle

Washington and Lee security officers receive special training for handling sexual assault cases

Editors's note: There have been many stories dealing with the issue of sexual assault in this newspaper over the years, met with varying levels of enthusiasm. Some on campus are tired of reading stories full of terrifying anonymous accounts of sexual assault and endless statistics. This Phi story isn't like the others.

By Kelly Mae Ross
STAFF WRITER

Three Washington & Lee campus security officers were sent to the town

of Normal, Ill. last month to attend a two-day training seminar that focused on different aspects of handling sex crime investigations.

The three officers—Larry Stuart, Lisa Datz and Kay Bostick—attended two eight-hour sessions in which they learned how to better help victims go through the process of reporting a sexual assault.

Members of Campus Safety and the Student Affairs Office speculate different reasons as to why sexual assault seems to be underreported on campus. Whatever the reason, Sidney Evans, the dean of student

life, decided it was time for the school to be more proactive in addressing sexual assault crimes on campus.

"Knowing the [Student Faculty Hearing Board] procedures had been addressed, we sort of felt like it was time to make sure we were looking at our educational efforts but that we were also looking at how people get into the system," said Evans. "Because no matter how good your procedures are, if people aren't reporting [crimes], your procedures are never even going to come into play."

Mike Young, director of public safety at W&L, said he hopes that providing easy access to these specially trained officers will encourage more people who have been sexually assaulted to come forward.

Young said he hopes to have at least one of the trained officers working during every shift throughout the day. The

officers will be doing their jobs just as before, but they now have another tool in their arsenal that they can use to help students should it become necessary.

While Young said he believes that those who commit acts of sexual violence "need to be in jail," he encourages people to report a crime through the school if they are more comfortable with that.

"For nine months this is your home and we want you to be comfortable here," said Larry Stuart, one of the trained officers and a 28-year veteran of W&L Public Safety.

W&L is not the only organization pursuing new and innovative ways to combat sexual assault. In July, Vice President Joe Biden, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy announced a new "Apps Against Abuse Technology

Challenge"—a competition to design the best app that will somehow help prevent sexual assault and dating violence.

The winner of the challenge will be announced in October, but the Vice President doesn't want Americans, particularly college students, to wait until then to do something about sexual assault.

"Start talking about this on campus ... let me know what else we should be doing," Biden said in a video message posted on the "1 is 2 many" section of the White House website (whitehouse.gov/1is2many).

W&L would also like to hear students' opinions about its campus sexual assault policies, preventive or otherwise, and ideas of ways that the school might improve upon them.

"If students have thoughts," said Evans, "boy, we would really love to hear them."

Need Help?

Student Health Center

540-458-8401

University Counseling

540-458-8590

W&L Public Safety

540-458-8999

CAIR resources

540-458-5800

CAIR.wlu.edu

Educational Programming

540-458-4501

Violence Intervention-Prevention
go.wlu.edu/VIP

Hillel says 'shalom' to meat

Logistics, cost and storage issues force e-cafe to eliminate meat options from its menu

By Leigh Dannhauser
STAFF WRITER

Returning students may have been surprised over the past two weeks when they headed to the Hillel House excited for their favorite bagel, only to realize that it's no longer on the menu.

Hillel House's new menu, implemented on Sept. 5, is now dairy-kosher instead of the kosher menu that they have used in the past. Translation: no more meat.

With the removal of meat comes the removal of some of people's favorite Hillel House meals.

Eight items, including the Reubenstein, the twisted chicken salad, and the hot dogs, are no longer available in the café.

"I'm mad because I liked the Shenandoah Turkey. It was a good source of protein" said sophomore Meredith Lavin.

"The only other option is fish, which I don't like."

Many in the W&L community have yet to hear about the changes. Sage Um is one of these people.

"No meat, at all? What?" Um said.

Samantha Rosier, an officer of Hillel, knew about the changes early but is still not pleased.

"I am very upset but I understand it. We weren't making money," Rosier said.

Amenie Mitchell, the head of the e-café, said that there were two main reasons for the menu change.

"One, the logistics, time and effort involved with maintaining our kosher status by keeping meat, pareve, and dairy separate was unsustainable" Mitchell said.

"The second reason for changing the

menu was the cost and storage issues involved with sourcing certified kosher meat," added Mitchell.

Meat and dairy have to be stored in separate places, and workers cannot work with both items at the same time. Also, kosher meat is not readily available nearby. To reduce the cost of shipping, meat must be ordered in bulk but there is not enough storage space readily available.

Although meat is no longer available, there are vegan, gluten, and dairy free options. Ten new sandwiches and four new salads have been added to the menu.

And students can still find some of their favorites elsewhere. Hot dogs, formerly provided in the e-café, are now available in the co-op.

Keep it Kosher!

No pork
Disregard the 2nd Amendment
Shooting animals is never kosher
Translation: no wild game

Butchering 101

Only certain cuts are kosher. If you don't know them make sure your butcher does

Just add salt

All kosher meats are "koshered" (salted)

Go Fish

All fish (assuming they have fins and scales) are kosher

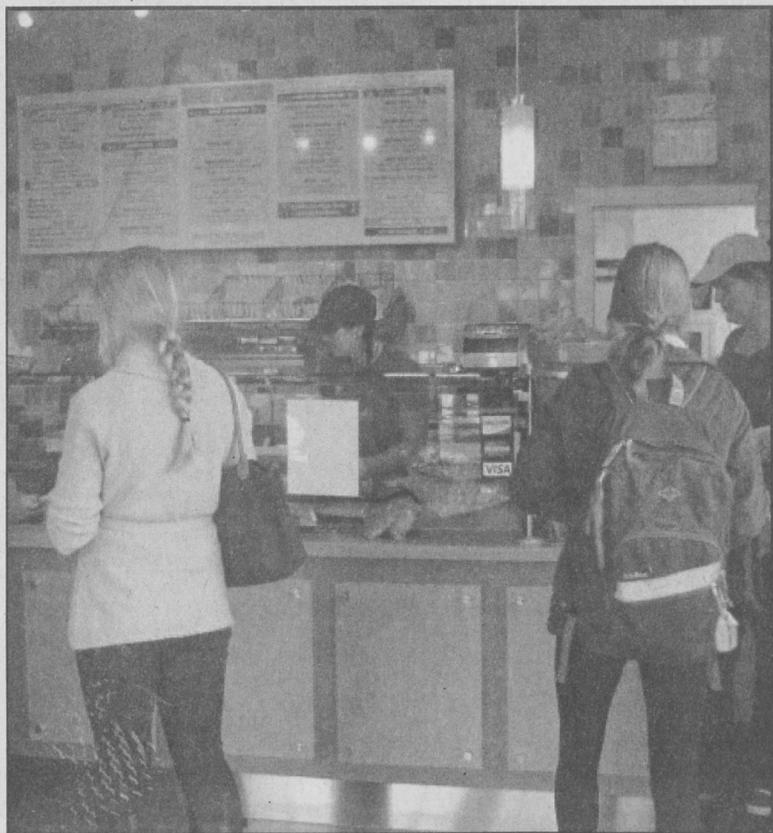
...That means no eel or shellfish

Segregation is a good thing

Food is categorized into dairy, meat and pareve. Rule of thumb: no dairy or meat in the same meal. Ever.

Bring in the Rabbi

Kosher food isn't necessarily "blessed" but the Rabbits supervise to make sure all guidelines are being followed



GABRIELLE ESPY / staff photographer

Students enjoy bagels, sandwiches and salads in the e-café at the Hillel House. Logistical difficulties forced the organization to cut meat from its menu.

opinions

Courtney Stodden: Christian turned Nympho

Opinions editor Campbell Burr calls the 17-year-old newlywed's quest for fame hopeless and her behavior ironic



By Campbell Burr
OPINIONS EDITOR

Curvier than the ride to Pink Palace; long, golden ringlets; self-described "Model, Recording Artist, Actress, Dancer, TV Show Hostess, & ... Doug's Girl;" seventeen years old; husband, Doug, calls God her "plastic surgeon;" virgin...until her recent wedding. Ladies and Gentlemen, meet Courtney Stodden.

If you have not seen her in the news, and by news I mean E! TV or a cheap tabloid, you are missing out. Courtney Stodden, a 17-year-old recently made famous by her marriage to former Lost star, 51-year-old Doug Hutchison, is Hollywood's newest wannabe—"It Girl." Key word: wannabe. It appears that Courtney will do whatever it takes to be famous, including dying her dog's hair pink, pretending that she never thought that her marriage to a man 4 years older than her father would capture public at-

ention, and pretending to be a devout Christian while simultaneously acting like a...(thinking of a nice way to put this—oh well)...slut. Courtney is willing to bare and share every inch of her body and detail of her relationship to the public. She began her quest for fame by advertising herself as a devout Christian. Look how far she's come.

The way a woman uses 140 characters to communicate with the world tells a lot about her, especially when she is aware that 28,668 people are following her. Anyone who thinks that Courtney Stodden has an ounce of self-respect should check her twitter (@CourtneyStodden) and reconsider. She misuses words (i.e. "the sultriness of the day gently begins to heighten"), uses terms she thinks are sexual in ways that don't make sense (i.e. "a lush creamy filling") and attempts to use alliteration (i.e. "entwining my body playfully in white willowy sheets as I wildly wallow on top of the wondrous bed"), but fails miserably. She alternates between tweeting passages from the Bible and tweeting details about her sex life. It's confusing, to say the least.

Please explain how the same person who tweeted this on August 2nd ...

"It is the blessing of the LORD that makes rich, And He adds no sorrow to it." Proverbs 10:22*

could tweet this on August 28th...

While I lie beneath this sizzling-sun, the popsicle that I am sweetly sucking on begins to melt & drips irresistibly all over my moist body!

Or this on September 16th...

Sensuously straddling this pillow as sweet fantasies tenderly flutter like butterflies throughout my entire being. :-)

(Complete with a link to a professionally taken picture of her holding a

terday. Furthermore, Courtney pretends to have saved sex for her husband, but she shares half-naked pictures with the whole world. This poor, misguided girl needs parents, but now that she is married, maybe their job is done. Is Doug the new enforcer? I wonder if Courtney still has a strict "bedtime?" Hmmm.

Watch any of Courtney's interviews and you'll be wondering if her vocabulary is big enough for her to understand the interview questions. When asked how she knew that Doug was the "one for [her]," she took a long pause and

you know you love and you know you love everything about him—his face, his body, his hair—go for it!" Wow, Courtney, thank you for the modern-day definition of true love!

Apart from offering a dependable form of entertainment for the workplace, Courtney's service to the community is her anti-bullying campaign. Please look up her hit single, "Don't Put It On Me," and her informational video, "Cyber Bullies and Cyber Victims," so you can appreciate all she is doing for middle school girls: making them feel flat-chested and pale.

Since Courtney's singing and speaking abilities do not seem promising, it's safe to say that she has already had her fifteen minutes. It's time to turn our attention to real women with beauty and brains, like Meg Whitman, Laura Ingraham, and Oprah Winfrey. Of course by writing this article, I've only succeeded in giving Courtney what she wants: a few more Twitter followers and some more YouTube views.

She alternates between tweeting passages from the Bible and tweeting details about her sex life. It's confusing, to say the least.

pillow and a rose in her mouth. #riiiight)

Another way that Courtney tries to play good girl is by advertising that she saved herself for marriage. Good for Courtney for waiting, but give me a break, she wed at age 16. She probably learned about the birds and the bees yes-

then began describing his physical attributes. "Because of his face, of his body, of his sexy hair. I mean, talk about seducing, he seduced me! Immediately. And I knew off the bat that he was the one for me and that was it. You know, and when you find that one man that

The modern-day value of comic books

Columnist Ali Greenberg describes the thrill of escaping into a world of superheroes where anything is possible



By Ali Greenberg
COLUMNIST

As summer winded down and the temperatures didn't let up, I found myself escaping the heat by heading to the movies. Or to go see a "picture" as my grandparents say.

It was about 11:30 a.m., I was riding solo and I was seeing "Captain America: The First Avenger." This scene may sound kind of sad, but it really wasn't. I had been psyched about this movie all summer and had had a similar day in June when "X-Men: First Class" came out.

And then, somewhere during the

opening credits, it hit me like a ton of bricks, or a punch in the face from Jean Grey. I don't know how I hadn't truly realized it before, but I am a geek.

The Harry Potter obsession is one thing, still playing Pokémon on my Gameboy is another— but what really steals the cake is my love for superheroes. It was 9th grade when I was first formally introduced to their world. All it took was the first X-Men movie on DVD and I was hooked.

Soon I was comparing the film ver-

my mutation would be before finally settling being multilingual with a lightning speed metabolism. A girl can dream.

Before long I was dissecting story lines, frustrated that so many different outcomes were written for the same character. Marvel doesn't seem to care much for logistics or timelines, explaining why Cyclops and Prof. X had never met before in the first X-Men set in the 2000s, but somehow worked together in "First Class" set around the Cuban Missile Crisis in the early 60s.

I feel like I have never really known a world that didn't need a superhero or two.

sion of Rogue to her clearly superior comic book version and debating what

And while I am still on that tangent, what is going on with the fourth Spider-man movie? Am I the only one who watched the first one? You can't just completely change the beginning of the story a decade and two sequels later.

But apart from the minutiae and inaccuracies, I came to love the superhero universe. It started with X-Men, but grew to include "Spider-man," Iron Man, and eventually The Watchmen. And yes, I read the graphic novel first

thank you very much.

Soon the midnight premieres became routine as more and more superhero movies came out to satiate the hunger and craze that has developed for the genre in recent years. At least I know it's not just me.

But what is it about this universe that appeals to us? I think there are a few explanations with the simplest being that it is entertaining, colorful and full of action; exactly what summer blockbusters and easy reads are supposed to be.

But, there might be something else there. Something more sentimental. Something less shallow than pure entertainment.

Comic books, like any other book of fiction, are escapes and I think our generation needs an escape. Beyond "Jersey Shore" and "Gossip Girl," we seem to need something to believe in. As silly or farfetched as it sounds— comics and superheroes provide hope, and also provide some pretty gripping social commentary if you just know where to look.

We grew up in an age of uncertainty: one of high alerts and school shootings and wiretaps. We were in 3rd through 6th grade when the planes hit, and I feel like I have never really known a world that didn't need a superhero or two; a Spider-man to clean up the streets of

New York, an Ironman working on Middle East relations, or Professor Xavier mediating world conflicts and promoting acceptance.

We love superheroes because they are fun and kill bad guys. What more could we ask for in a movie. But I also think we love them because we need them, the idea and hope that they represent. There is realness in their flaws that lends credibility to our hopes that good does, or could, exist and prevail.

Maybe I am stretching it, but for me, comics are that much needed escape. One that leads to a world of endless possibilities— where people climb walls and read minds and their bipolar disorder leads to the ability to conjure up energy fields and destroy lakes.

The X-Men stand for tolerance, acceptance of oneself and of others. Batman watches over Gotham. The Green Lantern fights evil in brightest day and blackest night.

We could dissect every series or movie to find societal references or debate the merits of DC vs. Marvel forever. But at the end of the day, we don't have to find hidden meanings. Maybe deep down Superheroes give us hope, but if not at least Tony Stark has some great one-liners.

Fashion without passion

Do W&L students lack individuality when it comes to clothing choice?



By Stephanie Krasnov
COLUMNIST

September 8th, 2011; most people would regard this day as the start of the school year, I was more concerned with the start of the new fashion calendar.

For the third year in a row, Fashion's Night Out took over the shops and streets of New York City and kicked off Fashion Week, while I sat in my room, reading 40 pages in my new textbook. FNO is a global initiative to help boost the shopping economy by bringing together fashionistas all over the world in support of full price retail: essentially, it's the event to be at if you are like myself, and refer to the Vogue on your nightstand as the Bible.

So while I was hitting the books and putting my tuition money to work, all I could think about was how much I would rather be in NYC (ignore the fact that I have no connections to even get me into the tents). I spent the summer interning in the city, and leaving behind that wondrous place for rural Lexington was difficult, to say the least.

As I find myself back on this campus of less than 2,000 students, I cannot help but realize the lack of personal style. I emphasize the word "personal" because the people here definitely have style, but it generally falls under the category of Lilly Pulitzer, Jack Rogers, and Ralph

Lauren. One look into Lee Chapel during O-Week and you can see that the kids here know how to "dress to impress," but not dress to stand out.

There is nothing wrong with the classic preppy look that many a man and women sport on campus, but there is something I crave to see in one's style, and that is the individuality of it. It's all

One look into Lee Chapel during O-Week and you can see that the kids here know how to "dress to impress," but not dress to stand out.

too easy to flip through Elle and find an outfit that is fashionable, but true style comes from taking that outfit and morphing it into something of your own. Walking to class is like walking through a J. Crew catalogue that Jenna Lyons never had time to style.

Yes, Lexington has about one-millionth the number of residents that NYC does, but it is not just the numbers that limit the person style I see here. It also lies in the fact that we live in a rural southern town that does not exactly leap to accept diversity. Since I do not see this quality of Lexington changing in the near future, in the meantime, I quench my fashion thirst online by spending countless hours clicking through Spring 2012 slides.

Fortunately, we are not completely hopeless in the personal style depart-

ment. Although I often feel overwhelmed by the amount of polos and khakis I see around me, every now and then I get a taste of what I miss most about New York. It's a rock n' roll tee tucked into a leather mini, or a floral dress paired with neon orange combat boots, and I am reminded that some students here do

express themselves through fashion. Not everyone may feel comfortable flaunting an avant-garde style, but for the most part, the students on campus dress impeccably. The colonnade will not look like the Chanel runway this fall, but it would be an understatement to say that as a student body, we will look anything less than really damn good as we walk down it.

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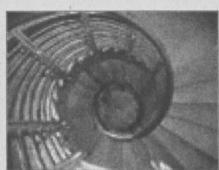
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opinions

How to raise that participation grade

Stockton Bullitt's words of advice... or, at least, some steps for every student when it comes to class-time discussion



By Stockton Bullitt
COLUMNIST

You have probably noticed by now that there are two certainties about going to Washington and Lee. The first is that if you are drinking on private property at a Friday or Saturday night party, LexPo will pull you into the street and charge you for an alcohol offense related to drinking in public. The other is that you will have a participation grade in every class you take this term.

I'll get to this year's problem with the werewolves of Lexington in another issue. But, let's be honest, only a class action lawsuit will do anything to curtail the needless arrests, so I'll focus on something that you can affect, participation. Whether you are taking a biology, music or economics class, somewhere between five and twenty percent of your grade is based on how much you add to class discussions. When you were applying to this school, you were probably tricked into liking this aspect of liberal arts schools. It puts less pressure on your exams, and how hard is raising your hand once or twice a class anyway?

Well, it's tougher than you think. You may be all smiles now. The reading may actually seem interesting and class discussion may seem vaguely interesting. However, once the class honeymoon period is over, that participation grade will be a much bigger burden. There will be days when you have the flu, didn't do the reading last night because you simply had to watch the "Pretty Little Liars" finale, or are simply too hung over.

These are the days when you glance at the clock and tell yourself that there are only 2460 seconds left of class time. This is when you will curse the day Robert E. Lee invented the participation grade. But, if you simply remember this article, your participation grade will be the only thing you're not worried about come mid-December.

The key to the participation grade is developing a strategy. Let's be honest, simply doing the work on time and being interested in the subject isn't going to happen. You are going to need to get the grade without being the perfect student, and to do that, you need to fill a certain role in the classroom. This is important because when the professor goes to the grade book at the end of the year to divvy up participation points, he or she needs to see your name and think, "Oh, that's the student." Even if it conjures up a negative image in the professor's mind, as long as the professor can think of you as doing something in class, you will get a good participation grade. So, here are the different ways you can become that student in class.

Disclaimer: if you are a professor, this has no basis in reality, and you should probably skip over to the sports section. By reading fiction in a newspaper, you are doing your part to undermine the true benefit that newspapers add to society. And by undermining newspapers, you are basically supporting the terrorists because terrorists don't like newspapers, especially Dutch ones. So, professors, just do your part and stop here.

My favorite method is the **Gee Whiz student**. I don't know how things are in

the real world, but in college you can never go wrong with other people thinking that you are incredibly inept but, gosh darn it, do you work hard. Whether on the playing fields, picking up girls, or in the classroom, I have found the most success when people are certain that I'm a well-meaning dumbass. This definitely works with professors, who like parents, want to believe in their ability to captain your ferry from childhood to adulthood. So you should do your best to help them believe that they are changing you profoundly over the course of the semester. Start out with a couple of idiotic comments in the beginning of the year. You know the ones where the professor has to struggle to bring what you said into the narrative of the lecture. You'll know

Even if it conjures up a negative image in the professor's mind, as long as the professor can think of you as doing something in class, you will get a good participation grade.

you are doing well when the professor nods a little too vigorously when you are putting forward a comment, and you'll know you are golden when the professor gives you the "Jenny talking to Forrest Gump" smile whenever you say something particularly dumb. Your next step is the improvement phase. Starting around Oct. 10 or so, you should start making the "quoting text and saying 'I think I know what this means, but I'm not positive'" kind of comments. Finally, around November start actually trying in class and contributing real thoughts. When this happens, the professor will be more impressed than if you had simply said smart comments

for the entire semester because he or she wants to take credit for your progress. Sure, the students who see right through your shameless ploy will probably hate you for manipulating the education system so badly, but you'll have an A, so screw them.

If you have more of a conscience but still don't want to actually do all the work every day, there are other methods to getting your participation grade up. You can be the **Annoying Commentator**. If you are already knowledgeable in a subject, then you are perfect for this position. Whenever anyone makes a comment that you remotely disagree with, simply correct him and pontificate on your point of view. Raising your hand or waiting your turn to talk

is for the plebeians who have to take this class to actually learn something. All you need to do is call out whenever you feel like it and share your omniscience with the rest of the class. Sure, professors will hate you, but there's no way they can dock points from your participation grade because you are constantly talking.

If you still like to pontificate but you aren't confident enough in the subject material to do so every five minutes, then you should be the **Speech Maker**. All you need to do is know about five percent of the material and have an opinion on it for every class. This is perfect for you if homework is a bore. Just do ten minutes of reading and think about it, then when the material comes up in class, all you need to do is take the reins and lecture the class for a solid five minutes. After five solid minutes of talking, you won't need to raise your hand

one more time for the rest of class. The only challenge is to make sure that nobody else beats you to the punch when your subject is brought up.

If sharing original thoughts is too much for you then you should definitely be the **Repeater**. For some reason professors have never caught onto this infuriating, yet effective trend. When another student answers a question, all you need to do is raise your hand and say the exact same thing but in different words. The key to never getting noticed is you need to put emphasis on your statement like you just discovered penicillin. For example, if someone else answers "Christopher Columbus sailed the ocean blue in 1492," you need to raise your hand and say, "You know, if you really think about it, a little before 1500, this guy, Christopher Columbus, well, he sailed across the ocean. An entire ocean. Wow." Cheap and manipulative? Yes. But, also wonderfully effective.

Lastly, if you are too shy to talk in class, you have two ways to get over being the token **Quiet Student**. Either harass the professor with questions after class and during office hours or send paragraph long emails to the professor trying so you can "understand the material a little better." As long as the contact is regular and you appear to sound interested in the material, you are free to zone out and think about what's for lunch during the entire class.

There are other methods to getting that participation grade up, but those are the big ones. Yes, it takes a little more effort than doing absolutely nothing, but, trust me, it's much easier than actually being a quality student all the time. Just remember, if these methods don't work out, kissing some good ole ass never hurt anyone.

A touchdown for any class schedule

The homework for PE 301 may beat getting drunk at the cabins, or so columnist Sally Platt believes

By Sally Platt
COLUMNIST

This past Wednesday as my fellow W&L party lovers were out having a good time I was stuck in my house on the couch. As I imagined them listening to frat-tastic music with cups of Natty Light in their hands (Natty Light? Since when has anyone missed that? Only the truly party-desperate), I was having a bit of a pity party. Could this homework take any longer? I mean seriously, I've been watching ESPN for hours and I still don't know why A-Rod and Cameron Diaz broke up. Did I say watching ESPN? Oh yeah, that's right, that's my homework. Somehow I, the most un-sports-knowledgeable person in the world, ended up in PE 301, Philosophy and Techniques of Coaching. Also known as the-coolest-class-at-W&L. Our homework consists of watching ESPN and keeping up with football and other major sports. Frat lords, be jealous. Oh, except for the insanely hard tests every Tuesday.

I had just failed the first test (30%). It was still Wednesday, so if I wanted I could drop the class, go out to the cabins, and have a fantastic night. But I knew that was not a possibility. For one thing, I wanted to push this whole liberal arts idea to its limits and see where it could take me. Isn't the point of liberal arts to learn at least a bit from disciplines across the board? And isn't sports as far

from history, my major, as possible? Actually, that is just the reason I told myself because I thought it sounded cool. The real reason I was in the class was because I had made a mistake at registration. I assumed any PE class could be used to fulfill the required four classes needed to graduate. Never again was I going to take the 8 AM weight training (with the football coach!) that I had subjected myself to last fall term. Oh how cute, I thought as I looked at the list of options, a coaching class. I bet all we do is have a little talk about who our favorite coaches are and then go mess around in the gym for awhile (kind of like how all you do in Self-Defense is learn a few moves and then congratulate yourself on never having gotten raped). Easy stuff. (Only later did I learn it did not actually count as a PE and would, all two credits of it, end up in my GPA.)

I walked into the class on the first Friday and --- wow, these are all guys. Oh wait, one other girl. Whew. Still, this was different than I expected. We began with a practice test. Who is in the NFL top rankings? What did Manny Ramirez

just get arrested for? What sport would you associate the term "Phillies" with? Ok, that wasn't one, but I still didn't know the answer. I didn't know the answer to any of these. Panic. But luckily this was just a practice test. I did,

I was so busy learning why linebackers have to be fat that I forgot to memorize the exact expletives Serena uttered on her rampage against the evil line-judge.

however, know the answer to the next question the professor (oops, "coach") asked. We were discussing "Coaching Philosophy." "So what, class, does the word philosophy actually mean?" My hand shot up in the air in true Hermione Granger style. "It means: love of learning." A typical test-book answer, right? The coach looked at me quizzically with a "wow, this one's a real retard" look on his face and quickly moved on to Mr. Football Dude beside me who, of course, knew the right answer. Chagrined and embarrassed I walked away from the class determined to do better. I would learn all this "sports stuff" by the

time I came back to take the first Tuesday test.

This proved harder than I expected. As I sat and watched my first football game since, I think, that one Superbowl that the Eagles were in, I kept on getting distracted. Tom Brady just looks so good with long hair. He kind of reminds me of a "lax bro." Actually, he kind of reminds me of a Phi Kap. Oh wait, I mean "reminded." (Too soon, too soon, I know.) Anyhow, after I had to ask my RA how many points a "field goal" counted for, I realized just how much work was ahead of me. (Then, of course, the Spanish TA walked in and after staring at the screen for a few minutes, asked me what the biggest football game ever was. I told her about the Superbowl. When she then politely inquired whether I thought the Generals would be in it this year, I knew I was in good company.)

So, despite my best efforts to learn the rules of football, basketball, NASCAR, baseball, and tennis in one weekend (oh and why, by the way, do they have so many scores in tennis? Couldn't they

just condense it all into one?) I failed my first test. I was so busy learning why linebackers have to be fat that I forgot to memorize the exact expletives Serena uttered on her rampage against the evil line-judge. Or, for the matter, what quality of, um, product Michael Phelps so famously imbibed in a few years ago. (Pineapple express I bet, those athletes really got the dough.)

There was no dropping this class. I won't feel like a true American until I know, at least, who won the last Super Bowl. Plus, now I have something to prove to all those guys (did I mention I tied for the worst grade in the class? And that the grades are posted for everyone to see?). And, of course, there is the fact that PE 301 is, after all, the coolest-class-at-W&L. I highly suggest you take it next term. (This is supposed to be the thesis of this article in case you haven't noticed.) There will always be more Wednesdays. And there will always be the cabins (especially if they keep on building more of them). And there will definitely always be more Natty Light. But there will not always be a game between the Colts and the Browns, so now it's time to go watch ESPN.

Party foul: O-Week disappoints

First-year Andrea Siso describes how her impressions of the W&L social scene did not meet her expectations



By Andrea Siso
COLUMNIST

To start this off, I'd like to mention that I'm a Big City girl. You know the type—sometimes into just going to a concert, or to the art gallery, or to a Woody Allen movie. And maybe, if the feeling's right, a nightclub here or there. I went to a high school that never had parties. Mostly because we were all busy cramming for the next big test. Yes, it was one of those

schools—where no one really does anything, because it just so happens that a high concentration of dorks, like myself, went there. Except usually the reason why people wanted to go to my school was because they wanted to be doctors. Not because they wanted to specifically be Meredith Grey, like I did in the eighth grade.

Anyway, I'm not used to the whole "party" environment—no experience in the matter, unfortunately, besides the

ones given through watching movies and TV shows. And of course, I realize that perhaps the party environment de-

This is what the whole building up was all about? A party broken up by the police at 11 p.m.? Really?

picted there is just the result of Hollywood smoke and mirrors, but a girl can dream, can't she?

So when I finally decided to kick my homebody habit and go to a party during O-Week (do you really have to guess what I'm about to say?), I was pretty

much crestfallen with disappointment. This is what the whole build-up was all about? A party broken up by the police at 11 p.m.? Really?

And of course I directed the rage internally. Oh, naivety, you seem to always get me into trouble. I don't know why I set my mental standard so high—I was basically setting myself up for the enormous let down I experienced.

So after that, I decided to save myself from any potential displeasure by staying in, which is an entirely different problem (hey, naïveté! Ol' buddy, ol' pal!)

I want to push this stifling sentiment

aside and just open my mind to any sort of possibility. Of course there will be bad parties, but they will just make the good ones even better. Whatever comes, comes—que sera, sera, right?

And so, readers, guess what I'm going to be doing this Friday night?

opinions

Foreign policy shakes Bronx election

Columnist Beall describes how President Obama's treatment of Israel compromises the Democratic Party's strength



By John Paul Beall
COLUMNIST

A radical foreign policy decision that Obama made in May has come back to bite the House Democrats in a New York special election, in what some might say is another sign of the decline of the Obama Administration's efficacy. The New York 9th Congressional District, former Rep. Weiner's district covering areas of the Bronx and Queens, has elected its first Republican in 100 years. This earthquake of political support took place, according to New York

newspapers, because of Obama's treatment of Israel. Earlier this year, Obama exhorted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reduce Israel's borders to pre-1967 lines through "mutually agreed swaps." Now, in the wake of the Anthony Weiner scandal, New York was given a chance to tell Obama what they thought, when they elected Bob Turner, who won the election with 54% of the vote.

The 9th New York Congressional District, in general, has a rather high election turnout, and a Democrat to Republican ratio of about 3 to 1. The difference, New York newspapers say, was the support of the Jewish community that would have generally voted Democrat in that area.

Former New York Mayor Ed Koch, a Democrat, said to the New York Sun on September 14 that he found this a

"unique opportunity to 'send a message' to President Obama." Since Obama's talks with Netanyahu, many are concerned that Obama is shifting American support away from Israel. This is why Koch endorsed a Republican in a district that was considered invincibly held by the Democratic Party, which is why there was not much support for the

how it happened.

Turner, a New York businessman, was very critical of Obama's neglect in general, but in particular, his poor treatment of the US-Israeli Alliance. This combined with his support for the Defense of Marriage Act made him appealing to many local religious leaders. The two local newspapers, the local As-

The difference, New York newspapers say, was the support of the Jewish community that would have generally voted Democrat in that area.

Democratic opponent. A Democratic analyst, in a statement to The Washington Post, states that he still does not know

assemblyman Dov Hikind (D), and former mayors Giuliani and Koch all came out in support of Turner.

The result is an even more solidly Republican Congress, bringing the numbers to 241 Republicans, 192 Democrats and 2 vacancies, but it means more than this. Even in the more liberal districts in the United States, there is not yet swing-back against the Republican Party. In fact, Democratic Party miscalculations have only further placed it in further electoral trouble and point to a general weakness of the Obama Presidency. Whether these new Republican voters will remain with the GOP is difficult to tell, but now is clearly not the time for another Bar Harbor vacation for the president, because if this election makes one thing clear, it is that Obama has plenty more work to do, particularly when it comes to his most outwardly loyal voter base. This coming election will be one for the history books.

Getting to know Jackie-O

The Jacqueline Kennedy tapes give the world a look into the heart of a favorite first lady, for better or for worse



By Allie Weiss
COLUMNIST

It had been an era of youth and opportunity. After eight years of having a senior citizen in the role of President, 43-year-old John F. Kennedy delivered his famous inaugural address, demanding that citizens empower themselves to do more for their country. For the first time, the United States would hear a promise that would nine years later put a man on the moon. The Berlin Wall would crumble beneath the failure of communism. Women would set out to abolish wage inequality. Martin Luther King, Jr. would carry out the March on Washington. And, in the White House, there would be a young woman who, with gentle manner and a soft voice, would prove to shape the world.

Four months after her husband's assassination, Jacqueline Kennedy sat down with a cigarette and a tape recorder, and quietly began to tell her story. For a woman who made a point of declining to be interviewed after leaving the White House, such an action could have diminished the mystery that seemed to surround her. However, Jackie Kennedy knew what she was doing when she agreed to record an oral history with historian Arthur Schlesinger. The whole process was carefully planned, down to the time that the tapes could be released. In an interview with George Stephanopoulos, Kennedy's daughter, Caroline, says, "This wasn't an interview that was accidentally recorded.... She sat down with Arthur Schlesinger, who was the preeminent historian of his day, and this was for the Kennedy Library.... And she always told us that she was going to put it away for fifty years." Today, half a century after President Kennedy's inauguration, Caroline has decided to release these tapes—unedited.

Jacqueline Bouvier was working as a photographer and was engaged to a stockbroker when she first met John Kennedy. She describes the young Jack

as the "most unselfconscious" man she had ever met, and goes on to describe the near instant dedication that she felt towards him. She recalls the late summer nights she would spend translating French books simply because he asked her to do so. When Jacqueline's mother found out about such chores, she insisted that Jack marry her daughter immediately. The two announced their engagement on June 25, 1953, and were married three months later.

On January 3, 1960, John F. Kennedy announced his intention to run for President of the United States. Stepping into the spotlight may have appeared seamless for Jackie Kennedy, who, with her grace and ever-present smile, looked more like a movie star than a politician's wife. Only now, when her voice drifts through time on the static records, are we able to get a glimpse into what she really felt. "I was always a liability to him. Everyone thought I was a snob from Newport who had bouffant hair and French clothes and hated politics. And he'd get so upset with me when something like that came out. And I'd say, 'Oh, Jack, I'm so sorry for you that I'm such a dud.' And he knew I loved him and did everything I could."

When the news came on November 8 of the same year that John Kennedy had defeated Richard Nixon, Jacqueline Kennedy may have feared that the country's distaste of her style would amplify. However, almost overnight, the young debutante had become an idol of the American public. She remembers, "Suddenly everything that had been a liability before, your hair, that you spoke French, that you didn't just adore to campaign, that you didn't bake bread with flour up to your arms.... Well, Jack never made me feel like I was a liability to him. But I was. And then when we got in the White House, all the things that I'd always done suddenly became wonderful." Kennedy's daughter laughingly recalls watching cartoons as a child, in the days when even the Flintstones were attempting to look like the First Lady. "I always remember watching Mr. Ed," Caroline says, "and the women on Mr. Ed were always trying to look like Mama, and I thought it was so hilarious. I mean, obviously she wanted to look nice, but [the clothes] weren't what mattered the most. I think they were important for what she

was trying to accomplish."

In fact, much of what Kennedy had previously considered to be flaws in her character quickly became political tools. The president was not shy about having his wife speak for him in the native language of people whom he addressed.

Stepping into the spotlight may have appeared seamless for Jackie Kennedy, who, with her grace and ever-present smile, looked more like a movie star than a politician's wife.

She could often be heard speaking Spanish, French, and Italian to those who would otherwise require a translator. "People came up [to me].... They used to be surprised that I could speak English!" Kennedy speaks of a certain trip to Paris, in which she and her husband met Charles de Gaulle, a major participant in World War II. "De Gaulle was my hero when I married Jack. And he really sunk down, because, I think, he was so full of spite. I loathe the French." Despite Kennedy's hatred, however, she managed to charm de Gaulle to such an extent that, upon the Kennedys' departure from France, he admitted to have reevaluated his opinion of the president. John would later be heard making the public statement that he was "the man who had accompanied Jacqueline Kennedy to Paris. And I enjoyed it."

Throughout the tapes, there is an ongoing thread of the loyalty and tenderness that the young Mrs. Kennedy felt for her husband. "I always thought with Jack...that once he was in control, anything, all the best things, could happen. In this childish way, I thought I wouldn't have to be afraid."

Kennedy recalls those early days of her marriage, when the White House had only begun to feel like a home. "I think a woman always adapts, and especially if you're very young when you get married [Jacqueline Bouvier was only 24-years-old when she married the 36-year-old John Kennedy]. When you're, you know, unformed, then you can really become the kind of wife that

you can see your husband wants." Upon further thought, she continues with an example. She speaks of a certain night when she brought up the Vietnam War during a conversation with her husband. "It was at the end of the day, and he said, 'Oh my God, kid, I've had that on me all

day.' And I just felt so criminal. And I decided that everyone should be trying to help Jack in whatever way they could. And that was the way I could do it the best, by making it always a climate of affection when he came home."

One particularly striking example of her devotion took place during the Cuban Missile Crisis. "I said, 'Please, don't send me away to Camp David. Please, don't send me anywhere. If anything happens, we're all just going to stay right here with you. Even if there's no room in the bomb shelter in the White House, then I just want to be on the lawn when it happens. I just want to be with you. I want to die with you.'"

Of course, it is not unknown that President Kennedy was less than faithful when it came to his marriage. There was much speculation that he had shared an ongoing relationship with entertainer Marilyn Monroe. But when asked about such things, his wife replied simply, "Whoever they were, the others, I was the one he loved. I always knew that."

Kennedy's daughter had a similar statement, telling ABC in a recent interview that she "wouldn't be [Jacqueline's] daughter" if she shared what she knew.

Since the release of the tapes, Jacqueline Kennedy has been cast in a slightly less tactful light, especially with regard to issues such as feminism.

Jacqueline Kennedy is remembered to have said in one controversial statement, "I get all my opinions from my husband.... How could I have any po-

litical opinions, you know? His were going to be the best." With the release of the tapes, similar statements have surfaced. She can now be heard saying, "One reason I think women should never be in politics. They're just not suited to it," implying later that they are too emotional. Furthermore, Kennedy remembers asking her husband once about rising feminists of the day, South Vietnam's Madame Nhu and famous playwright Clare Boothe Luce. "Once I asked him why these women, who obviously are attractive to men, why do they have this queer thing for power. And he said, 'It's strange, but it's because they resent getting their power from men. So they begin hating men.' Whatever you call that. And I wouldn't be surprised if they were lesbians."

Caroline comments, "That's obviously not the mother that I remember later on, who was a huge booster of women in the workplace.... Of course time has moved on and it shows you that there are really timeless things in here, but it really is a snapshot of a world that we barely recognize." In fact, towards the end of her life, Kennedy would become an editor and a proponent of women's rights.

As the eight and a half hours of tape run out, Kennedy remembers those last moments of her husband's life. "I always think of our whole married life as renewals of love," she says warmly. "Once I asked him, if he could have one wish, what would it be, if he were looking back on his life. And he said, 'I wish I had had more good times.'"

Jacqueline Kennedy's voice fades away, disappearing once more into the folds of time. In 1994, the woman who once influenced a nation was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a disease that would prove to be fatal. At the end of her life, a friend read one of the cultural heroine's favorite poems. It was Constantine P. Cavafy's "Ithaka," which he finished by saying, "And now the journey is over, too short, alas, too short. It was filled with adventure and wisdom, laughter and love, gallantry and grace. So farewell, farewell."

A glance into the world of girls

A favorite YouTube video is not only entertaining, but also a frighteningly realistic depiction of female interactions



By Bridget Rooney & Bella Zuroski
COLUMNISTS

After observing countless YouTube videos during "study breaks" in Leyburn Library freshman year, we are fairly confident that the majority of students at this school are familiar with some of the comedic gems that YouTube can provide between a lab write up, calculus

homework, and a term paper. Although we watch them for pure entertainment and they appear, on the surface, to be completely ridiculous, if one takes a deeper look into the framework behind the comedy it is very easy to find parallels between daily life here at W&L and the lives of these YouTube sensations. The following is our first installment of YouTube videos. **DISCLAIMER:** To fully understand, it would be best if you watch the video before reading this article. We promise.

Boys Will Be Girls, by the Harvard Sailing Team.

Boys — have you ever wondered what girls actually talk about behind closed doors? Although it may seem ridiculous, this depiction by the sketch comedy group, Harvard Sailing Team, (although a bit exaggerated) provides a frighteningly realistic representation of

"girl talk." When girls at W&L retire for the day back to the comfort of the sorority house, dorm, apartment, etc., they often do some of the following:

1) Overanalyze situations, such as running into someone in the daylight who you have only ever seen when the sun is down. "Oh my God, they totes saw me coming out of co-op so I obvi ran the other way."

2) Obsessing over meaningless texts (or lack thereof). "Should I text him? Should I wait? What time should I text him? What do you think this text means? Do I seem too needy?"

3) Getting overly invested into the emotional world of reality television. While watching who shed the most pounds on "The Biggest Loser" or which "Real Housewife" (from Beverly Hills or New Jersey or New York or Atlanta or Miami or DC or Orange County

or any other woman on Bravo) is getting divorced, we feel as though our own emotional state depends on how Bethenny Frankel is feeling today.

4) Talking obsessively about food. Whether we are looking up the sorority menu for the day (OMG, which house has taco bar today?!?!?) or saying that our new lifestyle starts tomorrow when we buy our first fruit cup from the co-op ("our diet starts tomorrow"), we usually find ourselves returning to our old habits of Buffalo Bites, Sunrises, and Pink Hut (our version of Pinkberry). To make ourselves feel better, we return to our old friend (see Number 3) "The Biggest Loser."

5) One of the most important aspects of being a girl is having a "good group" to share everything with. And when we say everything, we mean everything. "Wait, can you read that text

out loud again? I couldn't hear you over Bethenny. He said what!?" Boys beware: when you think you are texting a girl, your messages could be read aloud to the entire third floor of a sorority house or hall. Big Sister is watching... literally.

We are not saying all girls are one hundred percent like this. We know that they (ourselves included) are not. Obviously, this school is filled with intelligent, bright, responsible women whose minds have much more to worry about than Bravo Television and boys, and who are going to go on to accomplish much bigger things than analyzing text messages. However, one must admit that this is an occasional part of every girl's life — and you know it. So in conclusion, if you haven't seen this video, where have you been living — under a stupid rock?



arts&life

Stanianar opens with "Abandon"

Barbara Duval's artwork explores the mysteries of the human figure, utilizing negative space to make a statement

By Ryan Johnson
STAFF WRITER

Mysterious figures populate the artwork in Barbara Duval's "Abandon," the Stanianar Gallery's latest exhibit. Her works provide a fresh and accessible start to the 2011-2012 gallery season.

"The figure tells a story, whether you are aware of it or not," said Duval at a lecture for students and faculty last Wednesday. Her career has consistently revolved around the human form, from early drawings and etchings of models to obscure shapes that she leaves open to interpretation.

Most of the works in the exhibit are either etchings or limited palette paint-

ings of groups of figures.

Mystery and layers of meaning are constant forces in her art, she said, and help to develop her artwork into a multifaceted narrative.

Anthony Kirby, a junior art major, said the exhibit, "allows you to connect to art on a more personal level."

First-year Brian Morrison said, "the gallery evoked a sense of suffering in me." Christian Kennedy, also a first-year, was "amazed by the way Duval used simple shadows and silhouettes to portray the vivid emotions of mankind."

Kathleen Olson, a W&L studio art

professor, agreed by saying, "Our students can learn a lot from studying Duval's powerful imagery and energetic mark-making."

The typical work by Barbara Duval is an abstract, analysis of either a figure or group of figures against a very intentional negative space. To Duval, this negative space - what she called "air" - is just as important as the subject itself.

It interacts with the subject to create the visual mood of the entire piece. She also said the technique of mark-making was important in creating a "web of stability" that compositionally anchors her

pieces. This stability holds in place the figures that she often depicts in movement.

Though most of the examples she presented were etchings, she said she enjoys repeating her compositions in other media like charcoal or paint. Not only do you have to "do something a lot before you get a handle on it," she said, but also "different media inform each other" and give a new lens to the same subject.

In all of her media, her use of color is subdued, though she said that "pink is an underrated color."

Duval named Seurat, Picasso, and Rembrandt as her influences, among others. Duval completed her B.A. at the Pratt Institute and M.F.A. at Yale University. A current studio art professor at the College of Charleston, Barbara Duval has exhibited numerous times and is included in such collections as the Fogg Art Museum and Contemporary Art and Culture Center in Osaka, Japan. "Abandon" will be on display through Oct. 6.

Paintball extravaganza!

Students and staff fire paintballs during the campus sponsored activity on Friday and Saturday

By Paige Gance
A&L EDITOR

Students and staff fired 56,000 paintballs last weekend at the campus recreation sponsored paintball tournament. On Call Paintball provided the equipment needed for the 230 participants, who all played multiple matches.

RA's brought their halls, fraternities and sororities organized teams, and friends came in groups to face off against each other in 3 v. 3, 4 v. 4, or 5 v. 5 games. On Call said they preferred to

limit the action to three on three or four on four because the size of the arena was not ideal for larger matches.

But often the line grew so long that five on five matches were necessary to allow everyone a chance to play. For twelve hours total on Friday and Saturday, the pop of paintball guns and the yelps of hit players echoed off the back of the science building and library.

The rules were simple, if you get hit

once, even on your gun, then you are out. One catch is if the paintball fails to burst, it may hurt more, said one referee, but you can stay in the game.

Each player seemed to have a different strategy. Some sat behind the same barrier the whole time, attempting to snipe opponents across the field, while others made mad dashes through the center, spraying shots haphazardly.

Many participants had never played

paintball before, but the employees of On Call would give out advice before the match started or coach inexperienced players who found themselves in a tight spot.

The company, based out of northern Georgia, brings all the necessary guns, safety masks, paintballs, and course obstacles. Their inflatable barriers dotted the basketball court-sized playing field located between Woods Creek and the

science center.

"It was a great space to host this event," said Ray Ellington, assistant director of campus recreation, "we'll definitely try and utilize it more in the future."

Washington and Lee has its own paintball club, headed by senior Robert Uhlman, which organizes paintball outings throughout the school year.

Staff works while working out

The new TrekDesk, a desk on a treadmill, can help W&L employees work on their fitness while getting their work done

By Kelsey Cotter
STAFF WRITER

Employees at Washington and Lee can now work and walk simultaneously thanks to a combination work station and treadmill called Trekdesk.

This innovative idea began with Dr. James Levine of the Mayo clinic and has trickled down to Washington and Lee's campus under the supervision of Mary Katherine Snead, assistant director of human resources for work/life Initiatives and director of W&L's wellness program.

The desk itself costs \$479.00 and the treadmills used for them at W&L come from the fitness center.

Snead said there are currently three on the W&L campus and that "people are lining up for them". The desk will rotate to different employees so that more people can try out the set up.

Catherine McElhannon, administrative assistant to the theater department, made room for the structure in her office after hearing about the new device.

McElhannon began using the Trek-

Desk in June after a simple installation process. A sleek white structure atop a regular treadmill, the TrekDesk now stands next to her regular office desk so she can go back and forth between the two.

Her TrekDesk supports a computer, phone, and other office supplies. She wears regular work shoes on the treadmill while carrying out her normal tasks and plans to walk four miles a day at a 2.4 mile per hour pace, which she says is a comfortable pace that allows her to work efficiently.

Shana Levine, associate director of athletics at W&L, also decided to make the TrekDesk part of her routine beginning in August. Her office fits both the structure and a regular desk for larger projects.

Levine says she uses her TrekDesk when she knows she has at least a fifteen minute window available away from her regular work desk. During this time she makes conference calls or reads

long emails at about a 1.5 mile per hour pace. Both McElhannon and Levine say they are pleased with their TrekDesks and Levine says that in January, when the TrekDesks rotate to other employees, she might even buy a treadmill and TrekDesk of her own.

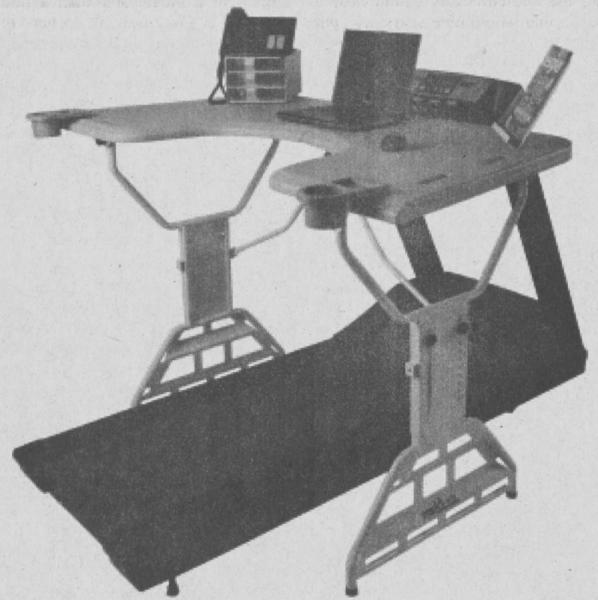


IMAGE COURTESY OF GOOGLE

letter to the editor

While the sentiment behind Ali Greenberg's 9/12 article is awesome, can we try addressing "girl-on-girl crime" without blaming oppressed groups for their own oppression? Negativity and competition between W&L women -- and women all over the world -- can certainly end with us, but it sure as hell doesn't "start" there. Who do you think invented the terms "bitch" and "whore" in the first place? (Hint: it wasn't us, especially since we're not usually the ones who get all het up about members of our gender "daring" to be aggressive or sexual.) Let's make a concerted effort to be positive and supportive toward other girls, but let's not pretend that the root of the problem is anything other than everyone's BFF, the patriarchy.

anonymous

In case you missed it... Last Thursday, Sept. 15th, the Golden Dragon Acrobats returned to W&L. The Chinese acrobatic group came back due to popular demand after their sold-out show last year.



IMAGE COURTESY OF SUSAN WAGER

So, I see you like our
Opinions section....

...but there's much more to
W&L's oldest (and only) school
newspaper.

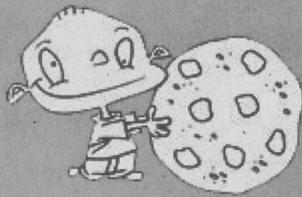
And **YOU** can be a part of the
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Yes, things like that happen in Lex.

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the one thing you look forward
to on Mondays.



That, and Monday Night Football.



sports

ALEXANDER MARAGOS
STEPHEN PECK


Sports writers Stephen Peck and Alexander Maragos go head to head to determine which Major Leaguer deserves to be the American League MVP this year: Gonzalez or Verlander?

This year's list of candidates in the American League appears deeper than in years past, forcing fans to think twice before rushing to select an obvious winner. A decade ago, fans were able to choose among the usual suspects like Frank Thomas, Manny Ramirez, Ivan Rodriguez and Ken Griffey Jr. among a few others. Pick any name out of that group and it was easy to make a case for him to win MVP.

So what's changed? There are no usual suspects. What about Mark Teixeira, David Ortiz, Vladimir Guerrero or Alex Rodriguez? Can't they claim that title for the last half decade? No. And that reason makes it so hard to pick this year's winner.

The difference lies in the numbers that MVP candidates put up 10 years ago. They were gaudy. No, beyond gaudy—obscene. These men who tore apart pitching staffs for the better part of a decade found themselves a part of a very exclusive club. They were the only players perennially producing with such obscenity. Such a club no longer exists.

Gone are the days where our MVP candidates churn out a .333, 43 HR, 137 RBI season. I'm looking at you, 2000 award-winner Jason Giambi. You can blame it on the decline of steroids, better pitching, new bats, or whatever else you like. This much is clear, the playing field is leveling out. Instead of picking from a group of eight to 12 players in the race, the drop in production forces the voter to consider as many as 15 to 20 players.

After much self-deliberation, my pick is Adrian Gonzalez. I know this might be the year (or era) of the pitcher, but if Pedro couldn't win the MVP in 1999, I don't see a hurler taking it this year.

Gonzalez has been as steady as they come at the plate, making 2011 the fifth straight year in which he drove in 99 runs or more. As of Friday, he was hitting .337 with 26 HR and 111 RBI.

For a little perspective: in 1998, Albert Belle hit .328 with 49 HR and 152 RBI. He finished eighth in the AL MVP race. I'll say that again—eighth! Even if Gonzalez reaches 30 HR and 120 RBI by the end of the season, there will be 13 players projected to be within 20 RBI of each other at the top of this year's RBI list.

In 1998, that number doubled as the top 13 run producers covered a difference of 40 RBI.

I think you get my point. Here's why Gonzalez is this year's AL MVP...

If the season ended today, Gonzalez would be among the top five in the league in six major offensive categories including first in batting average and RBI. He is also tied for first place in AL Fielding Percentage with "Bargain of the Year" Casey Kotchman at .998. He has produced throughout this up and down season for the Red Sox.

Boston lost its first six games of the season on their way to an 11-15 April. They hit .243 as a team that month, but Gonzalez kept Boston's head above water, hitting .314 and accounting for 10 of the team's first 48 doubles. He then hit his stride in May, batting .341 with nine HR and 31 RBI, propelling the Red Sox to a 19-10 month. The Red Sox knew that they couldn't win the championship in the first two months, but they could sure lose it. Gonzalez kept Boston from stumbling into the dead of summer, and hit .404 in June to fuel a run to the top of the American League East.

Gonzalez put up stellar numbers month after month, even when free-agent dud Carl Crawford was unable to get on base ahead of Gonzalez in the lineup. It's fair to say that if Crawford had hit like the Red Sox paid him to, Gonzalez would be blowing away the other AL MVP contenders. But that's what MVPs do: when things don't go as planned, they find a way to help the team win.

"No hitter for Verlander through 7," the text read from my Dad. It was June 14th. The Tigers were playing the rival Cleveland Indians. And Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Justin Verlander was spinning yet another gem.

His no-hit bid was broken up with one out in the eighth that night, but that did nothing to take away from his masterpiece. JV finished with a complete game shutout, only giving up two hits while striking out 12.

"The most dominant performance I've ever seen," my old man said once the game was in the books.

That kind of praise may seem a little over the top, but to those who have witnessed JV pitch this year, it is entirely justified. Verlander did not throw a perfect game versus the Indians that night, or no-hit them, but he did redefine dominance as the ability to make major league hitters look foolish. It's something he has done all year and is one of the main arguments for his MVP worthiness. Verlander has electric stuff. He owns a repertoire of 100 mph fastballs and otherworldly breaking pitches, all of which he can locate with pinpoint control. And this year, he is simply and spectacularly untouchable. He is far and away the most dominant player in professional baseball.

Every adjective in the book has been used to try and sum up what everyone is already seeing. Overpowering. Nasty. Workhorse. Dynamic. Unfair. Perhaps that last one is the most telling. Verlander has been like Danny Almonte in the 2001 Little League World Series: a man amongst boys. And if there is one player in baseball you can say that so easily about then he clearly is MVP.

If you want to look at stats we can do that as well. Verlander has all the numbers to satisfy the sabermetric nerds (he leads the league in wins, ERA, strikeouts, win-loss percentage, walks and hits per innings pitched, hits per 9 innings, innings pitched, and games started), but I still don't think that's the leading reason why he should win MVP. It is because he is asked to do so much as the ace of the Detroit staff, and he always answers.

Detroit is a decent baseball team with some big name players and some even bigger holes. They should be a .500 baseball team. Instead, they are the first team in baseball to clinch their division and are only three games behind the Yankees for the best record in the American League. They have Justin Verlander to thank primarily for that.

Every time he takes the mound, Verlander is expected to win. With a 24-5 record, he pretty much always delivers. 15 times Verlander has started a game following a Tigers loss. 15 times he has won. Even more impressive is the fact that he has gone at least 6 innings in every single one of his starts this year. He gives the Tigers a feeling of invincibility every time he is scheduled to start. And that confidence is invaluable.

Take Adrian Gonzalez or Jacoby Ellsbury away from the Red Sox and they are still a playoff team. Take Curtis Granderson away from New York and the same can be said. But take Verlander away from the Tigers and you have a mediocre non-contending baseball team. It is as simple as that.

The detractors will simply whine that starting pitchers do not deserve MVP recognition. But when you have a guy who qualifies as the most exciting player to watch this year, a guy who has the ability to throw a no-hitter every outing, a guy who can throw 100 mph in the ninth inning, a guy who makes opposing hitters look as if they are swinging toothpicks, a guy who has 24 wins and a guy who has lifted a middling ball club to the AL Central title, then I do not know what an MVP is.

Generals outranked by Colonels

Football's loss to Centre College Saturday marks the end of a nine game winning streak

By Jayna Johns
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite jumping out to a 14-0 lead just six and a half minutes into the game, the Washington and Lee football team fell to Centre College 42-35 on Saturday evening in Danville, Kentucky, moving to 2-1 on the season and ending its streak of nine consecutive regular season wins.

The shootout included a combined 891 total yards on offense. The Generals accounted for 450 of those, including 338 rushing yards.

W&L found the end zone on the first drive of the game after taking the opening kickoff and moving 67 yards on seven plays. Senior quarterback Charlie Westfal found sophomore tight end Alex Evans with a 19-yard pass to give the Generals a 7-0 lead only 2:44 into the game.

The defense held strong on the Col-

onels opening possession, forcing a 3-and-out and giving the ball back to the offense. W&L put together another solid drive, this time covering 44 yards in six plays and capped by a nine-yard touchdown run by junior running back Sean Pattwell to put the Generals up 14-0 with 8:34 left in the first quarter.

The Centre offense found its engine in the second quarter, reaching the end zone for the first time 50 seconds into the second quarter off a one-yard touchdown run.

The Generals responded with another touchdown of their own, this one a six-yard run by junior running back Luke Heinsohn with just under nine minutes left to play in the first half.

A 40-yard touchdown pass by Centre put the Colonels back in striking

distance with less than two minutes before the break, and a 37-yard field goal attempt with seconds remaining on the clock came up short, sending the teams into the half with the Generals holding on to a 21-14 lead.

W&L again scored first to start the second half when Heinsohn took off on a 24-yard touchdown run to put the Generals up 28-14 with 10 minutes left in the third quarter.

Centre responded with a four-yard run into the end zone, and an ill-timed fumble by the Generals on the first play of their next drive gave Centre excellent field position and the opportunity to tie the game.

The Colonels capitalized on the Generals' mistake, putting seven more on the board with a one-yard run.

Tied at 28 with 3:50 left in the third, the Generals regrouped and marched down the field with an eight-play drive that covered 80 yards. Junior running back Brett Murray broke into the end zone off an 11-yard run to give W&L its final lead, 35-28, of the game with 43 seconds left in the third quarter.

The Colonels tied the game up again with a 67-yard run into the end zone with 11 minutes left to play, and the Generals fumbled again on their next possession. Centre returned the fumble to the W&L 36-yard line, and eight plays later, took its first lead of the game after a five yard run put them up 42-35 with 5:43 left on the clock.

A strong defensive effort by Centre forced the Generals to go 3-and-out on their ensuing drive, and the Colonels

were able to run out the clock to hold onto the win.

Murray lead W&L's rushing attack, carrying 18 times for 137 yards and a touchdown, and also caught three passes for 45 yards. Heinsohn finished with 59 yards on 12 carries and found the end zone twice.

Westfal was 7-of-16 for 112 yards and a score through the air while adding 95 yards on 17 rushing attempts. Defense was led by junior defensive back Jake Pelton who finished the day with 10 tackles.

The Generals will be back on the field this Saturday to take on Alma College in Lexington. Kickoff is set for 1:00 pm.

Have a story idea?
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sports



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	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Football						vs Alma 1 PM	
Volleyball		vs Bridgewater 6:30 PM			Pioneer Classic	Pioneer Classic	
Men's Soccer		at Eastern Mennonite 4 PM				vs Hampton Sydney 1 PM	
Women's Soccer		vs Randolph 4 PM				at Eastern Mennonite 12 PM	
Field Hockey						vs Bridgewater 7 PM	
Cross Country						Dickinson Invitational 11 AM	
Golf							

in the numbers

16

The age of Lexi Thompson, making her the youngest player to ever win a LPGA Tour event. Thompson won by five strokes at the NAVistar LPGA Classic, shattering the previous age record that was set in 2005 by then-18-year-old Paula Creamer.

61

The age of Alan Moore, the newest member of Faulkner University's football team and the oldest collegiate football player in history. Moore played football as a freshman in the 1960s before heading off to Vietnam for a year. A kicker, Moore has one year of eligibility left.

103

The number of straight AP Top 25 polls the Ohio State Buckeyes had been ranked in, a streak that ended Sunday when the team dropped out of the rankings for the first time since Nov. 20, 2004, following a 24-6 loss to Miami.

03:35

The time Sunday morning when the Oklahoma State-Tulsa football game ended. The game, which originally was scheduled for a 9 p.m. kickoff, was postponed more than three hours due to rain and lightning. The teams finally kicked off at 12:16 a.m., and no. 8-ranked OSU pulled out an easy 59-33 win.

soapbox

"You know what I'm going to do? Because you never give me a fair shake, you know that? So I'm going to let you talk to Victor Ortiz, alright. I'm through. They can put somebody else up here to give me an interview...You never give me a fair shake! HBO needs to fire you! You don't know (expletive) about boxing! You ain't (expletive)!"

—After winning the WBC welterweight championship by controversially knocking out Victor Ortiz, Floyd Mayweather turned his attention to 80-year-old and long-time HBO commentator Larry Merchant. Merchant stood his ground, and if not for others who pulled them apart, there may have been two fights that night.

"Ribs are tough. It's just hard to breathe, and talk really. You have to talk loud, especially on the road."

—Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo broke a rib during Sunday's game against the San Francisco 49ers yet managed to continue playing, leading his team to a 27-24

PHOTO COURTESY OF GENERALSSPORTS.COM



Generals soar to 12-0

Volleyball continues winning streak after defeating Maryville College Saturday

By Jayna Johns
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee volleyball team remains unbeaten this season with 12 straight wins, marking the best start in the program's history — and they are making it look easy.

Ten of the team's victories have been 3-0 shutouts; the Generals have dropped only two sets out of the 38 they have played.

Their most recent win came against Maryville College Saturday afternoon in W&L's Warner Center. W&L won in straight sets 25-20, 25-21, 25-16.

Sophomore outside hitter M.A. Boles continues to dominate the nets, leading the ODAC conference in kills (162) and coming in third in hitting percentage (.342). Against Maryville, she tallied 13 kills.

Senior outside hitter Megan Daily was third behind her with 12 kills in the game.

The team recorded 10 service aces, three of which came from first-year setter Corinne Hemmersbach and another two came from Boles.

Third in the conference for digs (156),

junior libero Cameron Hill tied Boles for the team high with 11, and sophomore setter Meghan Meleski, who leads the conference in assists, accounted for 10 digs in the game.

Meleski has 361 assists this season after adding 32 on Saturday.

Conference play began last Tuesday when the women travelled to Guilford College. W&L made easy work of the Quakers, winning the sets 25-13, 25-20, 25-12.

The Generals hit .257 in the match; Guilford, in contrast, was limited to a .071 hitting percentage.

Senior middle blocker Lindsey Dee, who leads the conference in hitting percentage (.403), recorded 10 kills while Boles added nine more. Junior right side hitter Taylor Maxey contributed with six.

On Friday, Hollins University travelled to Lexington and, like so many others, left with a 3-0 loss. The Generals took a quick lead and never looked back, winning the sets 25-6, 25-11, 25-21.

Boles was again a force on offense, notching 15 kills while also leading the defensive side of the game with 14 digs and two solo blocks.

Senior outside hitter Megan Tomlinson served up seven aces and contributed eight digs.

Saturday morning before facing Maryville, the Generals took down Roanoke College, also members of ODAC, 25-21, 25-8, 25-11. Roanoke had jumped out to a 20-13 lead in the first set, but W&L pulled together just in time.

The Generals' dominating defense and offense continued, as the team recorded a .302 hitting percentage while limiting the Maroons to a .011 percentage.

With the win, the Generals move to a perfect 3-0 ODAC record.

W&L will look its 13th win on Tuesday when Bridgewater College comes to Lexington. The match is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Field hockey wins, 6-2

W&L defeats Frostburg State on Sat., season record even at 3 wins, 3 losses

By Jayna Johns
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee field hockey team brought its season record up to an even 3-3 with a 6-2 win over Frostburg State at W&L's Turf Field on Saturday afternoon.

Leading the offensive attack was senior midfielder Christina Benedetti, who scored a goal and assisted on two others.

The Generals' opening goal came off a penalty corner when Benedetti and sophomore defender Lauren Boone assisted senior defender Lizz Dye to take a 1-0 lead less than two minutes into the game.

First-year forward Candice Stefanic extended W&L's lead to 2-0 after 22 and a half minutes, but the Bobcats quickly responded by netting a penalty stroke two minutes and 12

seconds later. W&L was able to add to its lead with an unassisted score by junior midfielder Chelsea Stevenson to take the Generals into the break with a 3-1 advantage.

Frostburg threatened early in the second half, putting in an unassisted goal after just over two minutes of playing time. That would prove to be the Bobcats last goal, however, as the Generals added three more scores and the Bobcats were unable to get off another shot for the remainder of the game.

Benedetti scored first in the second half for the Generals at the 41:46 mark, and sophomore defender Izar Moure further extended the lead with an unassisted goal just four minutes later. For the final score of the game,

Benedetti found sophomore forward Taylor Zusi to put W&L up 6-2 with nearly 22 minutes of play left.

Junior goalkeeper Kirsten Kyne was in goal for the first half and pulled in four saves while allowing only one shot to get by. Fellow junior Caroline Sutherland played the second half.

Frostburg State keeper Maggie Edwards played all 70 minutes in the net and managed to record six saves.

The Generals will return to action on Friday when Bridgewater College visits for a 7:00 pm match.

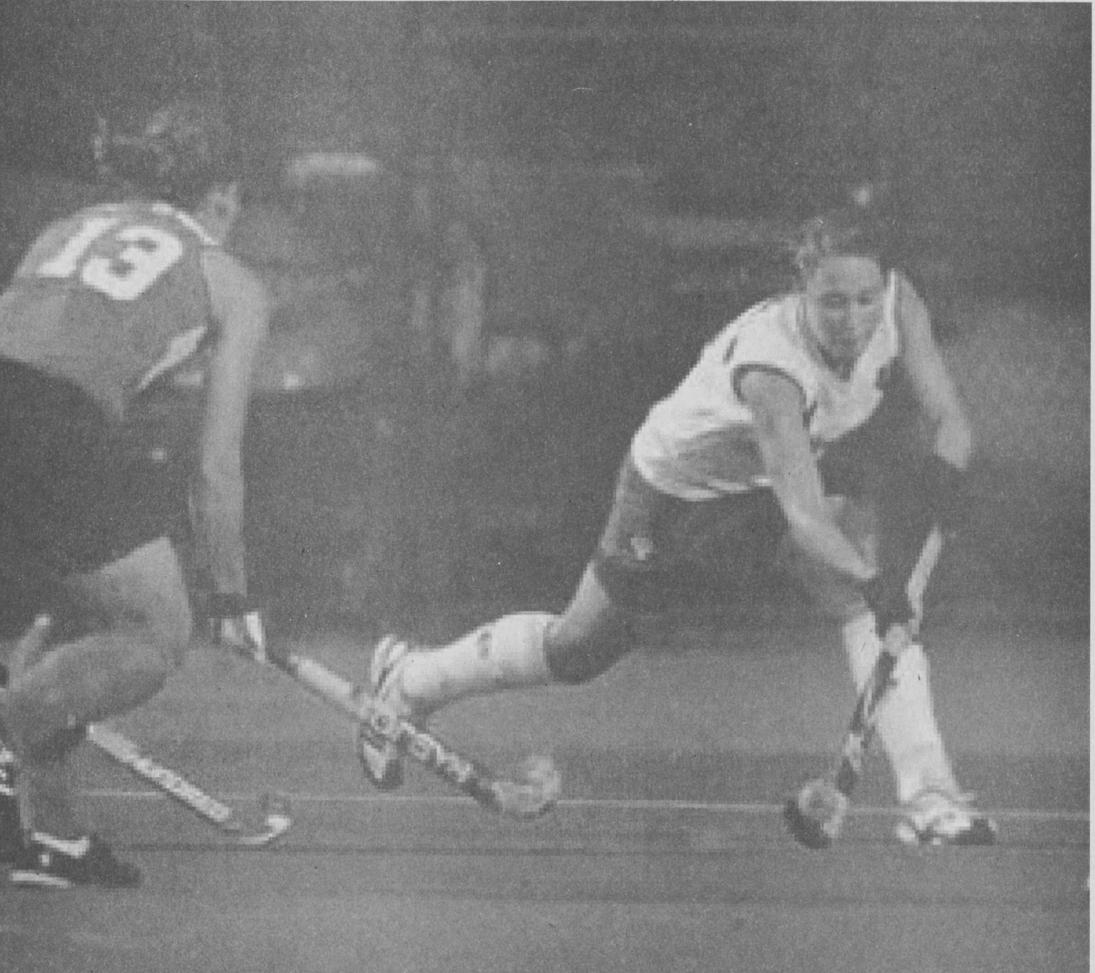


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