

9 ODAC Titles

W&L Alum, Coach Snyder, has led the volleyball team through an incredible 11 seasons.

SPORTS / page 8

Home sweet home?

Looking forward to your warm bed and food-laden kitchen table? New Englanders may be in for a bit of a shock.

A&L / page 6

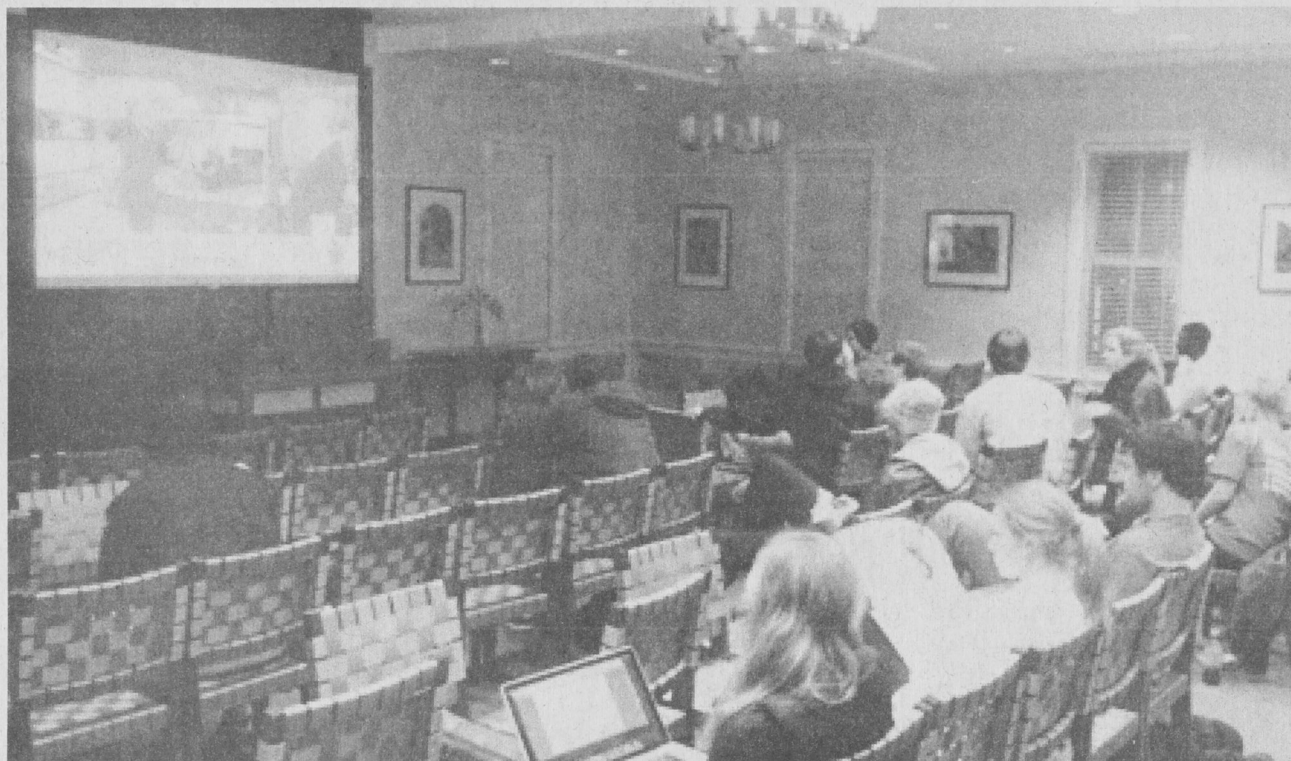
WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012 BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CXVII, NUMBER 9

Hillel, Chick-fil-A and 4 more years

By Randy Karlson
STAFF WRITER



Last Tuesday America spoke, and told us that they want four more years of Barack Obama. Obama won the popular election by just over three million votes and won the Electoral College by a margin of 126 votes.

The domination of the Electoral College by President Obama is due to his virtual sweep of the swing states, which included Virginia, Florida, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio, Nevada and Colorado. Obama won every single one of these states, but none were won very convincingly with Governor Romney putting up very good fights.

In Virginia, which usually votes red, Obama pulled out a victory. The Congressional seat was won by Democrat Tim Kaine, who beat out Republican incumbent George Allen. Washington and Lee's very own, Republican Bob Goodlatte (L '77), won Virginia's Sixth District convincingly by a margin of 32% of the vote.

When asked about Obama's victory on Tuesday, Todd Smith-Schoenwalder (College Democrats' President) and Lex Luther (College Republicans' President) had very different reactions about the win.

Smith-Schoenwalder had believed that "an Obama victory was very likely." Luther said he "was surprised and disappointed" and he "didn't think President Obama was going to be able to essentially sweep the swing states."

Luther also believed that this election has to be a wake-up call for the national Republican Party leaders in Washington, D.C.

"I think with back-to-back defeats this has to be a wake-up call for the party," said Luther. "The leaders in Washington have to realize that voters want solutions, not just ideology."

Smith-Schoenwalder did not have anything to say about the state of the Democratic party, but he was extremely proud of his group on campus.

"Every weekend, College Democrats had been canvassing all over Rockbridge County," said Smith-Schoenwalder. "Everyone was excited that our efforts made a difference."

Despite all of the differences that the two parties and the two groups have, the College Republicans and the College Democrats put on a very successful Election Night Viewing party at Hillel House on Tuesday night.

Throughout the night the two groups were selling Chick-fil-A sandwiches and

chicken nuggets in order to fundraise for future events.

"The W&L College Republicans were much more successful than the national party," said Luther. "Selling Chick-fil-A was a great fundraiser for the club and we are looking forward to

ations kept absolutely civil, making the event enjoyable for all who attended."

Jack Clarke, a first-year and first time voter, said he identifies with the Republican party and was quite worried about the election in the early part of the night. First-year Matt Kinderman said

"Every weekend, College Democrats had been canvassing all over Rockbridge County," said Smith-Schoenwalder. "Everyone was excited that our efforts made a difference."

Todd Smith-Schoenwalder, College Democrats' President

the next term." Smith-Schoenwalder had a similar reaction when asked about the turnout on the night.

"We had a great turnout at the Election Night party, co-hosted by College Democrats and College Republicans," said Smith-Schoenwalder. "More importantly, students from all political affili-

he identified with the Democrats and was not surprised by the results of the election. He was quite confident in the Democrats' strategy for the Electoral College.



Students met in the Hillel House for an Election Watch Party on the night of the election.

RANDY KARLSON / Staff Writer

Fighting for pledgeship

By Hamlet Fort
STAFF WRITER

Fraternity men at Washington and Lee can expect changes to New Member Education beginning in January.

The Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), Student Affairs Committee (SAC), and Campus-Community Coalition have worked simultaneously to alter New Member Education, or as it is colloquially known, pledgeship, in a way that is more conducive to the New Members, or pledges.

Starting this year, new fraternity initiates will see changes to contact hours from fraternities and the minimum Grade Point Average required to join.

The SAC, led by Dean of Students Sidney Evans, formed a report on the state of New Member Education at W&L, and commissioned the IFC in an effort to make amends. Among the recommendations presented was a proposal to shorten New Member Education from its normal eight weeks to six weeks. The SAC's main objective, according to IFC President Danny Murray, is to "change the culture of New Member Education that would legitimize the purpose, which is to instill a sense of brotherhood."

Murray says the administration's main concern for pledges is a diminished quality of life, including lower GPAs, a less regular sleep pattern and forced action in certain situations. Most fraternity presidents disagree with the proposal to shorten New Member Education, according to EJ Wislar, President of Sigma Chi.

"Less time would simply mean heightened intensity and very little would change except making those 6 weeks worse," says Wislar.

However, Wislar admits some as-

pects of New Member Education should change. "As of now, a step must be taken by the fraternities in order to show that we are willing to work with the administration," Wislar says.

The IFC countered the SAC's report with a report of their own, a list of proposed amendments to pledgeship that

"Less time [for New Member Education] would simply mean heightened intensity and very little would change except making those six weeks worse."

EJ Wislar, Sigma Chi President

would keep the eight-week length intact, including the changes to contact hours and minimum GPA. Previously, the hours in which New Members would be "on-duty" were from 7:00 a.m. to midnight. These hours have been changed from 9:00 a.m. to midnight.

New Members also must now have a minimum 2.3 GPA in order to join a fraternity, instead of the previous 2.0. This change comes in an effort to realign New Members' priorities from pledgeship to academics, a major concern for the SAC.

Additionally, a New Member Education Task Force has been created to further investigate potential changes. Wislar says one alternative being considered is removing one day a week from New Member Education altogether, essentially shortening it to seven weeks, while maintaining the eight-week time frame. Murray agrees that changes need to

happen, though not so drastic as cutting pledgeship to six weeks.

"We want to increase the student quality of life and have a better structure that allows for less manipulation of the system," said Murray.

The IFC and the New Member Education Task Force has ideas for doing so,

says Murray, including "mandating that pledge educators have more control."

Murray and Wislar are confident that all parties involved can get what they want. "The IFC has worked hard to maintain the Greek values which have made this University great and will continue to do so," says Wislar. "In my opinion, a happy medium can be reached that will not jeopardize the fraternal tradition but will appease those administrators and faculty who have complaints."

As of now, only the changes to contact hours and minimum GPA will be in effect this January. These minor changes, and potentially others, will undergo a one-year trial period to judge their effects. The issue will be revisited next fall by the SAC and the IFC, and more changes could come then.

Easing the adjustment: parents to come back earlier

By Douglas McNeil
STAFF WRITER

Although Parents Weekend is usually held late in the fall semester, it will be moved to an earlier date next year.

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Sydney Evans said that there are multiple reasons for the switch. She cites the main reason as the administration believing that it would be more beneficial to first-years if their parents visited earlier on in the fall semester.

initial gap of starting school and seeing parents at Parents Weekend will be shortened. The administration expects that this will help the first-years have a better transition to college living.

Besides the main issue, another reason for the switch is the increased chance of inclement weather. While the possibility of poor weather was not the main factor, Evans cited the icy weather,

Parents Weekend Schedule:

2013: October 4-6
2014: October 3-5
2015: October 9-11

If parents visit earlier in the semester, then there is a better chance that they can contact and/or alert the deans of any initial problems their child might face in the transition to college, according to Evans.

While first-year parents are by no means the only parents who visit during Parents Weekend, the majority of the programming is aimed toward them.

Currently, only two weeks separate Parents Weekend and Thanksgiving. By the time the break rolls around, many students have already seen their parents recently.

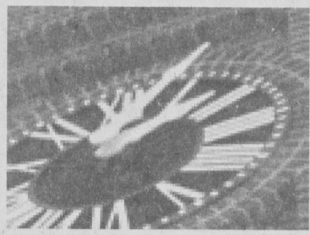
The administration believes that it makes more sense to widen the gap between parental interactions so the

er, which occurred in the 2011 Parents Weekend.

The team that was charged to oversee the change faced many challenges, including scheduling the new dates around all the other events that occupy the fall University calendar. They wanted to find a weekend with a home football game, while not interrupting important events such as Homecoming and the Board of Trustees meeting.

The earlier Parents Weekend is already on the calendar for the next three years. In 2013 it will occur on Oct. 4-6, in 2014 it will occur on Oct. 3-5, and in 2015 it will occur on Oct. 9-11.

news



Celebrating success

By Krysta Huber
STAFF WRITER

The Celebrating Student Success Initiative selects two students to be recognized for their accomplishments and contributions to Washington and Lee as Generals of the Month, every month. This month's recipients, awarded at a reception in the Marketplace on Nov. 1, were seniors Ali Hamed and Jennifer

ia Tech Research Symposium. Hamed has also been a teaching assistant to physics students, according to wlu.edu.

Ritter is an Appalachian Adventure Leading Edge Trip Leader and co-president and student choreographer of the W&L Repertory Dance Company. She is also the personnel chair of Chi

the Physics Honors Society, works for Traveller, is in his third year as an RA and has been a member of the varsity basketball team for three years.

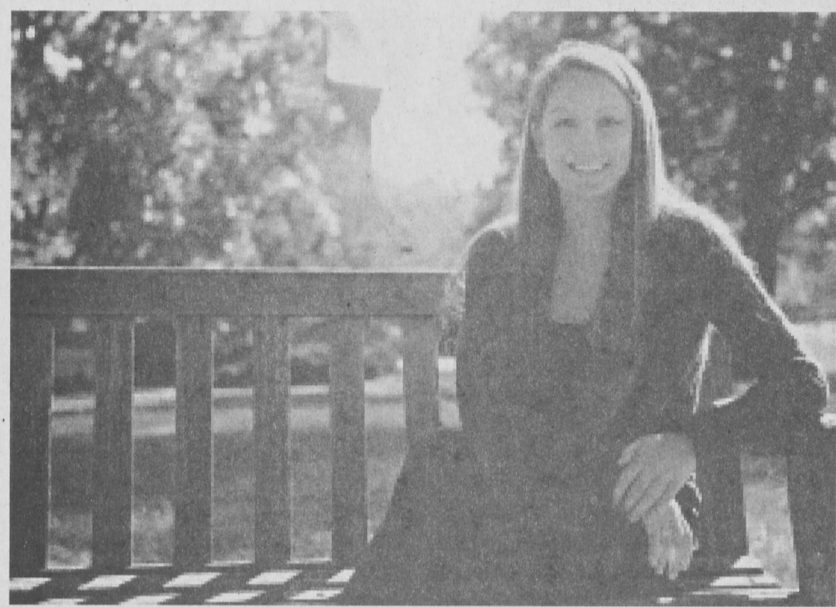
"The award was a great pat on the back," Gilfillan said. "When you're so involved in multiple projects, it's good to know your work has not gone unnoticed."

Deutsch is also the Assistant General Manager and Music Director of 91.5 WLUR FM, Co-Chair of First Book, Vice President of Philanthropy of Pi Beta Phi sorority and Programming Chair of SPEAK.

"Winning the CSS award was such a humbling and exciting experience," said Deutsch. "I never really took into account how much work I did on and off campus prior to the CSS nomination, so having my work recognized was such a wonderful surprise."

After an informal five-minute ceremony in the Marketplace, two posters of the Generals of the Month, created by Director of Publications Ms. Mary Woodson, are hung in the Marketplace. The ceremonies are always held on Thursdays, between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

"We intentionally put the ceremony on the same day as a special dinner so that the posters get the widest recognition," said Rodocker. "On a typical day, 500 people may come through. On



Ritter, according to wlu.edu.

"The Celebrating Student Success Initiative is purely an effort at praise," said Assistant Dean for First-Year Experience Mr. Jason Rodocker. "It's

Omega sorority and the co-president of Catholic Campus Ministry, according to wlu.edu.

In addition, both Ritter and Hamed are members of several different honor

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Joni Deutch '14

an effort to draw attention to positive things that occur within student life. So often people focus on some of the negatives and that's what all the conversation revolves around."

According to Rodocker, the CSS committee is composed of students, faculty and staff. The committee looks to award students who add significant depth to the W&L community, but aren't being recognized for their efforts.

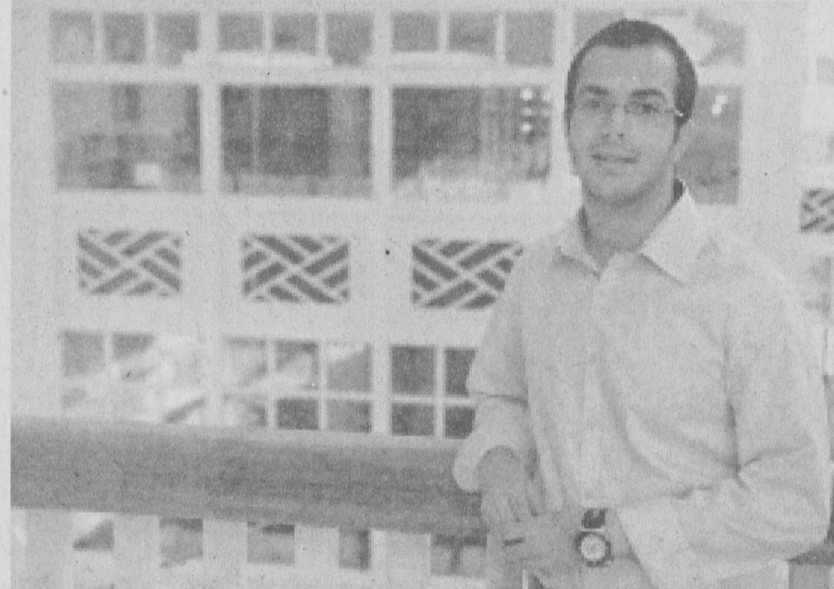
The CSS initiative is typically spread by word-of-mouth: if a friend is named General of the Month, students will usually nominate other peers that they believe are deserving of the award. Rodocker hopes that more members of the W&L community will participate in the nomination process in the future. Students can be nominated at go.wlu.edu/ess.

"We're looking for the person that is running an organization and doing it in a really good way, or they're involved in Habitat for Humanity, but no one other than those in Habitat know that," said Rodocker. "A lot of times it's not just one thing, but an accumulation of things – the student is a good friend to their peers; they're someone who is trustworthy and dependable."

The November Generals of the Month were recognized for a variety of activities that they are involved in across campus. Hamed, who is a double major in physics-engineering and economics, participated in extensive research studies over the last two summers, which led to his involvement in presentations at the American Physical Society Meeting and the W&L-Virgin-

societies on campus and have been awarded a number of scholarships

a special dinner, they might have 1000 people."



Ali Hamed and Jennifer Ritter (above) were Generals of the Month for November.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN REMINGTON

throughout their four years at W&L, according to wlu.edu.

Along with Ritter and Hamed, seniors Taylor Gilfillan, Alexandra Fernandez, Ronald Magee and Rachel Pityk, and junior Joni Deutsch have received the Generals of the Month award this school year. Both Gilfillan and Deutsch were recognized for their involvement in Orientation Week: Gilfillan served as First Year Orientation Committee Chair this year and Sodalis chair in his junior year, while Deutsch acted as the General Co-Chair of FYOC this year.

Gilfillan is also chapter president of

Rodocker also added that a similar poster is sent to the students' high schools, letting them know that their graduate has been recognized at W&L.

"It's doubly beneficial because it is recognition for the students back home and is also nice PR for us as a university," Rodocker said.

"I can say that spending time with the students who are receiving this recognition is the best reminder I have of why I do what I do," Rodocker said. "It's exactly why people want to come to this college, be involved with this college and work with this college."



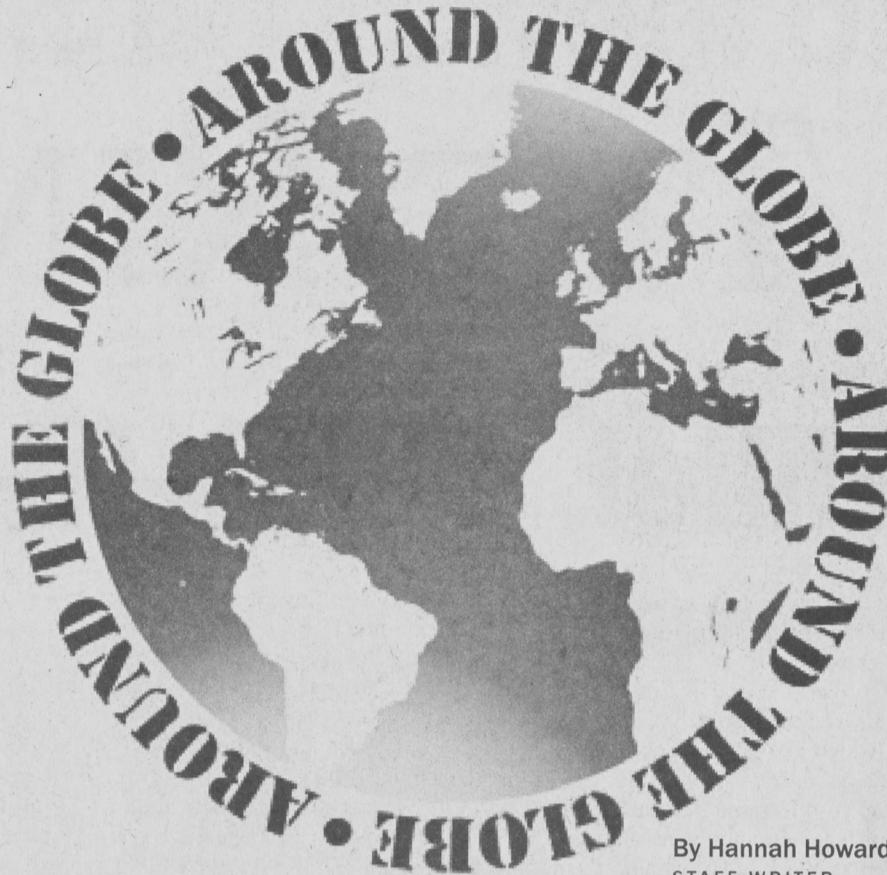
Last Saturday evening in Wilson Concert Hall, the University-Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra (USSO) opened its season, called "Around the Symphonic World," with a concert consisting of "Music of Eastern Europe and Russia."

Dr. Barry A. Kolman, the Music Director and Conductor of the USSO, led the orchestra in its performance of Shostakovich's "Ballet Suite No. 1, op.

84"; Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme, op. 33," featuring Julia Goudimova, cellist; and Goldmark's "Rustic Wedding Symphony."

On Feb. 2, the USSO will perform its next concert, titled "Music of Western Europe." On March 30, it will present "Music of the Americas."

Reported by Graham Colton, Head Copy Editor



By Hannah Howard
STAFF WRITER

Earthquake in Guatemala

Guatemala was hit by its biggest earthquake in over thirty years on Wednesday. It measured a 7.4 magnitude and left multiple areas of the country in shambles. Landslides that ensued after the quake are making rescue attempts difficult. At least 52 are dead, many missing and countless trapped. Approximately 73,000 people are still without electricity.

China prepares for space mission

China is preparing for its next space mission, officials say. A manned spacecraft, the Shenzhou-10, is set to launch in June of 2013 carrying two men and one woman. They will be working on the country's first experimental space station, Tiangong-1, for 15 days.

Suicide bombing in Afghanistan

People across Afghanistan were killed on Thursday by various blasts. A suicide bomber in Kandahar killed at least three policemen and wounded other citizens. Five soldiers died in a landmine explosion in the eastern region of the country. In addition, a roadside bomb went off in Helmand killing at least ten people.

Violence continues in Myanmar

Violence continues between Buddhists and Muslims in western Myanmar. Nobel laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, encouraged the government to send more troops to the region in an effort to restore peace. She claimed that more forces are needed if the killings are going to be stopped. The government needs to accept this responsibility for human rights, she said.

Iran puts ban on "luxury goods"

The government of Iran on Wednesday placed a ban on what it deems "luxury goods." This group includes foreign-made cars, laptops, watches, coffee and more. The list of items totaled 75, many of which are basic everyday goods. The purpose of this ban is to save billions of dollars by eliminating many of the nation's imports. Citizens are now left with no choice but to purchase these items on the local markets.

Greek citizens demonstrate outside Parliament on austerity vote

Earlier last week, nearly 70,000 Greek citizens demonstrated outside Parliament as austerity measures for the 2013 budget were put to a vote. In order to repay a 5 billion euro treasury bill on November 16 the Greek government needs a bailout loan. However, the last austerity measures passed were not sufficient to receive the loan. Without the economy could easily default this week.

BBC head steps down in the wake of scandals

The new head of BBC, George Entwistle, stepped down this week after just two months. He said it was the "honorable thing" to do in the wake of two scandals regarding poor reporting about the alleged sexual misconduct of a former BBC employee and a former senior politician.

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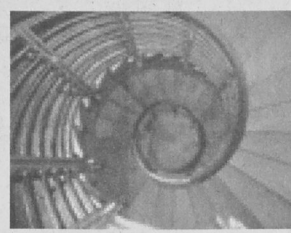
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Opinions

No leeway on Speaking Tradition

By JP Beall
OPINIONS EDITOR



When you think of Washington and Lee and how it came to be, what comes to mind? Do you think of George Washington, and how his gift of canal stock served to keep the young Liberty Hall going? Do you think about the Lee Presidency, which institutionalized much of our W&L culture?

Lee gave this campus many important traits that we might be hard pressed to recognize W&L today without them. Lee cemented the newly forming Honor

System and gave us that "one rule here." From this culture of civility, Lee gave us what we now call the Speaking Tradition. Though sometimes it seems that there are some people who would have the Speaking Tradition fall silent.

I think most people here have had at least one encounter by now with that one person walking down the brick pathway—wearing the "I Whale Bob and George" shirt—who knows people are coming, and rather than give a quick nod, holds out that cell phone for everyone to see, perhaps fakes a text, and looks the other way.

First off, we all text and talk while we walk—I am notorious for it—and sometimes we miss people who smile, nod, or say "hi." It's an honest mistake—maybe you show that you heard them—and they understand. I hardly think General Lee meant for people to drop everything when pre-occupied and shake everyone's hand when between classes.

But he did mean for people to act honestly and with respect towards other

people in their community.

Let's face it, if we all talk and text while we are on the move, we can tell who is faking rather than acknowledge that the rules of civility apply to everyone.

"We have but one rule here..."
~Robert E. Lee

For one thing, the fakes are trying way too hard to look like they're texting or talking. The pained look of effort is smudged all over their face like coal-dust as they struggle to come up with a line to whisper into their phone or tap furiously into the keys.

Of course, there's nothing better than watching that one person use the old singing trick, and mouth "watermelon-watermelon," and try to look interested when Silence, equally interested, an-

swers them.

Isn't it easier at this point to just make eye contact, or nod, or smile? All these other tactics, in addition to being more work, and more transparent, are flat-out dishonorable, and no amount of

W&L tridents or Bob & George pattern can fix that.

I'm definitely not saying that people should be liable for dismissal for snubbing someone on the sidewalk. If nothing else, the EC would never leave their chambers. But the Speaking Tradition used to be enforced.

Not too long ago, there was a campus organization called the Assimilation Committee. It was a group appointed by and answerable to the EC, and was

charged with enforcing different things of cultural importance to W&L, like wearing blue blazers at Lee Chapel, the Speaking Tradition and other things. Students who did not were ticketed. Never mind the occasions where students were just flat out caned by snubbed upperclassmen.

While an institution like the Assimilation Committee could be a constructive institution here on campus, we are fortunate to be charged with self-enforcement of these things. After all, isn't that what General Lee wanted us to do, was to hold ourselves accountable?

Yes, that gives us wiggle room to put up idiotic pantomime charades with our cell phones as props, but then you know what you're doing and so does everyone else. But at least you didn't have to be bothered for a split-second to return a friendly gesture.

Trump the apprentice: done in one

By Yates Wilburn
STAFF WRITER

To: Donald Trump
Subject: Your Future in American Politics

Just so you know where I'm coming from Mr. Trump, I am a Republican. Now, I'd like to ask you—with nothing but genuine politeness—to take a few deep breaths, count to ten, and cease communication with society at large.

Why, you ask? Well, when you take to Twitter questioning President Obama's citizenship—an issue (if it ever really was one) settled long ago—declare the death of democracy when a president wins electorally but not popularly (which he didn't), claim that 2 million votes were forged, or encourage your fellow Americans to take up arms against their legitimately elected government, it presents several problems. First, less intelligent people in our own party may take you seriously, which could be very bad for their careers, legal situations, and sanity. Second, less intelligent people OUTSIDE our party may take you seriously, and assume we are all reactionary, inflammatory children desperate for attention. Seeing as we now live in a political and economic situation that requires the most respectful and delicate nature of negotiation and compromise, neither of these is helpful.

Now, don't get me wrong, there is

nothing wrong with criticizing, questioning, and improving one's government; that's the American way. Furthermore, I agree that our country is certainly in dire straights that I felt would be better navigated by Mitt Romney. However, simply throwing a toddler's temper-tantrum on the internet in the hopes of validating one's existence in a desperate bid to stay relevant is not constructive. For God's sake, we have reality TV for a reason.

So, please Mr. Trump, stop talking politics and head back to where we like you: reality TV. We lost, President Obama won, time to adjust to a new reality. I suggest you leave the big decisions America is facing to the adults—meaning people with maturity of an 18 year old or higher. Don't take it personally, I think the same of all spoiled children I meet.

In essence Mr. Trump, "you're fired."

Sincerely,
Yates Wilburn

P.S. This obviously disregards the fact that I can't seem to recall you making a super big case when President Bush ACTUALLY lost the popular vote in 2000 OR that you have donated mountains of cash to Democrats in the past only to recently find your tried and true conservative feelings in the past year.



Election leaves America in the weeds

By Julianna Satterly
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Cannabis. Weed, pot, reefer, grass, ganja, moonflower, dope, hash, marijuana. Whatever you call it, Cannabis sativa has made quite an impact in the world. Chances are, you've smelled it, seen it or smoked it in your life. But how much do you really know about the number one illegally used drug in America? Since legalizing the stuff has become a front-running topic of late, I thought I would fill you in on all things pot. And it is quite possible that at some point we will be voting here on the same sensitive bill that just passed in Colorado and Washington.

A brief history lesson
Indigenous to Central and South Asia, evidence of psychoactive cannabis use has been dated as far back as 2,000 years. The ancient Assyrians first used it in religious ceremonies, and the modern name 'cannabis' probably comes from the Assyrian word 'qunubu' meaning 'way to produce smoke.' Traces of marijuana have been found all over the world from the writings of Herodotus to Shakespeare's home in England. Possession of the plant was not made illegal globally until the 20th century, with the United States leading the crusade. Now almost every country has outlawed the possession of any amount of weed.

This is your brain on pot
The active ingredient in Cannabis sativa is THC, or Tetrahydrocannabinol. It affects the transmitters of the spinal

cord, and ultimately modifies the way you feel pleasure and pain, memory, thought, concentration, time perception, appetite and motor coordination. Sound familiar? Other areas of the body that THC impacts include the heart and lungs.

There are both negative and positive effects of using reefer. People claim that smoking relieves pain, lessens nausea, decreases stress-related problems, and even clears up asthma. The downside: a combination of lowered blood pressure and increasing heart rate causes smokers to have a 400 percent higher chance of heart attack. Also, pot users have the same lung problems as tobacco smokers, and are three times as likely to get cancer as a non-user.

More obviously, it hinders driving and thinking ability.

Guys, you might want to have a seat, because grass also decreases sperm production and functionality if smoked by young men.

Informed voters?
Washington and Colorado have both

passed bills decriminalizing the possession of less than an ounce of dope for people twenty-one and older. Now, stop jumping up and down, because all is not rainbows and sunshine in the world.

government is missing a giant opportunity. Yes, ganja affects the brain pretty severely. So does alcohol. The only real difference is that hash causes more lasting damage. Can you imagine the rev-

housing for cannabis rule-breakers.

Is it worth the cost? I don't think so. I'm not saying that I agree with a "pot for everyone!" world, but I do like the idea of being debt free. The entrepreneur

The FACT'S

Pot is the #1 most used illegal drug in the US

Illegal pot is a \$36 billion industry

CO and WA joined the Netherlands, Peru and Bangladesh as the places where weed possession is legal

Smoking increases the odds of cancer 3x and a 400% greater chance of heart attack

The US annually spends \$15 billion on Prohibition

Cannabis has been around for 2000 years

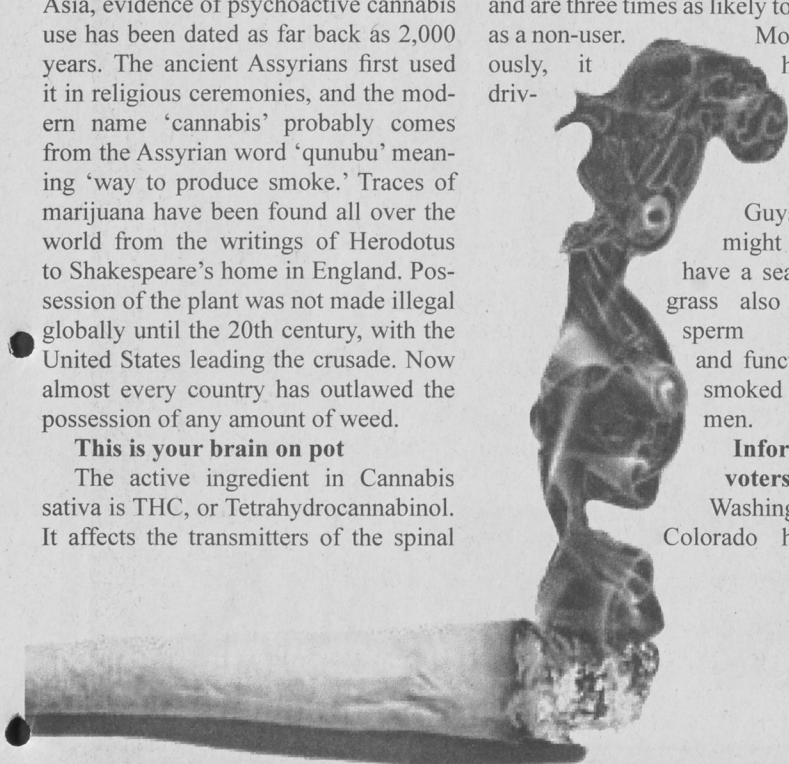
First, the federal government has not lifted the ban. What this means for us is the beginning of a battle between the states and nation. Technically, the federal law supersedes state law. Which is probably the precedent that the Justice Department will want to set, as this is the first time in history a law of this sort has been passed anywhere in the world. So even though two states are pushing for the Promised Land, chances are high that they will get shut down.

If you ask my opinion, the federal

enue generated by putting an outrageous sin tax in place? Economists can, and they say that the industry could generate between \$44 billion and \$100 billion in revenue for the country. Per year. Can you say deficit reduction? More beneficially, drug stores popping up sea to sea would be some serious job influx. Around 75 jobs per store. If that's not incentive, here are some sobering facts (pun intended): the US spends almost \$14 billion every year in prohibition costs, plus over \$1 billion on prison

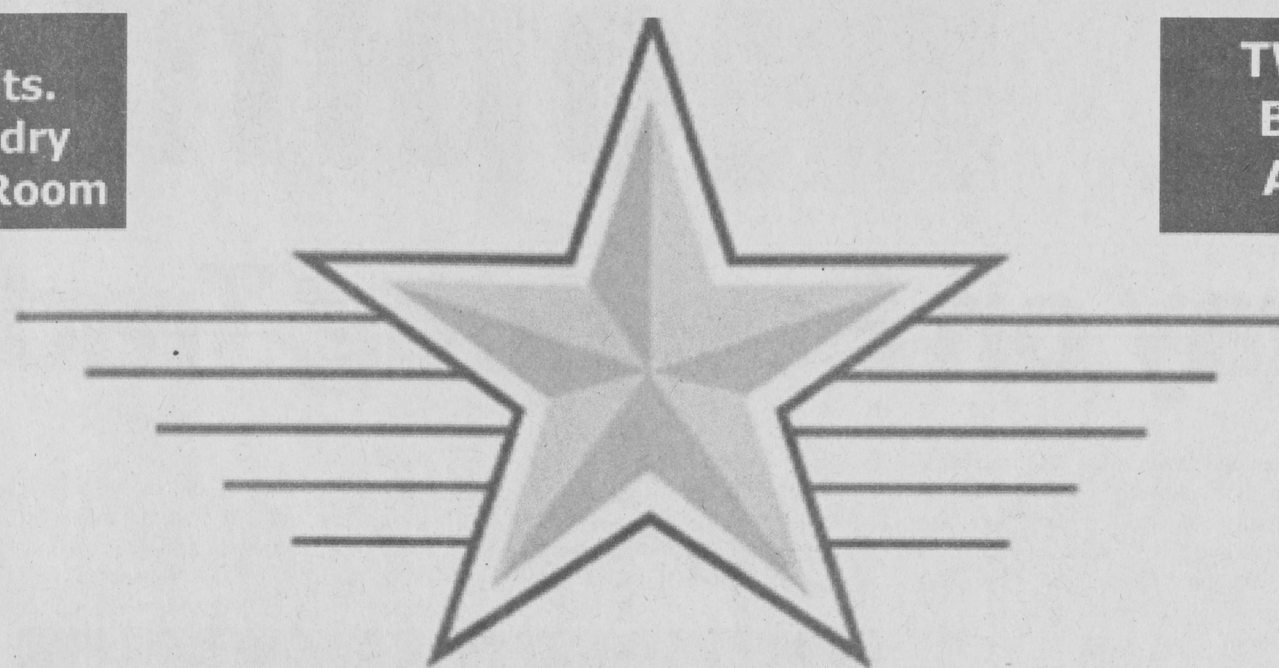
in me sees a booming industry ahead, and I honestly don't think there's much we can do to stop it. The black market already exists. Legalizing weed would decrease the street cost, and therefore drug-related crime, and completely eliminate the related black market. A strongly regulated endeavor can only help us. Marijuana (for medicinal purposes) is already the number one cash crop in California.

All in favor raise your joint.



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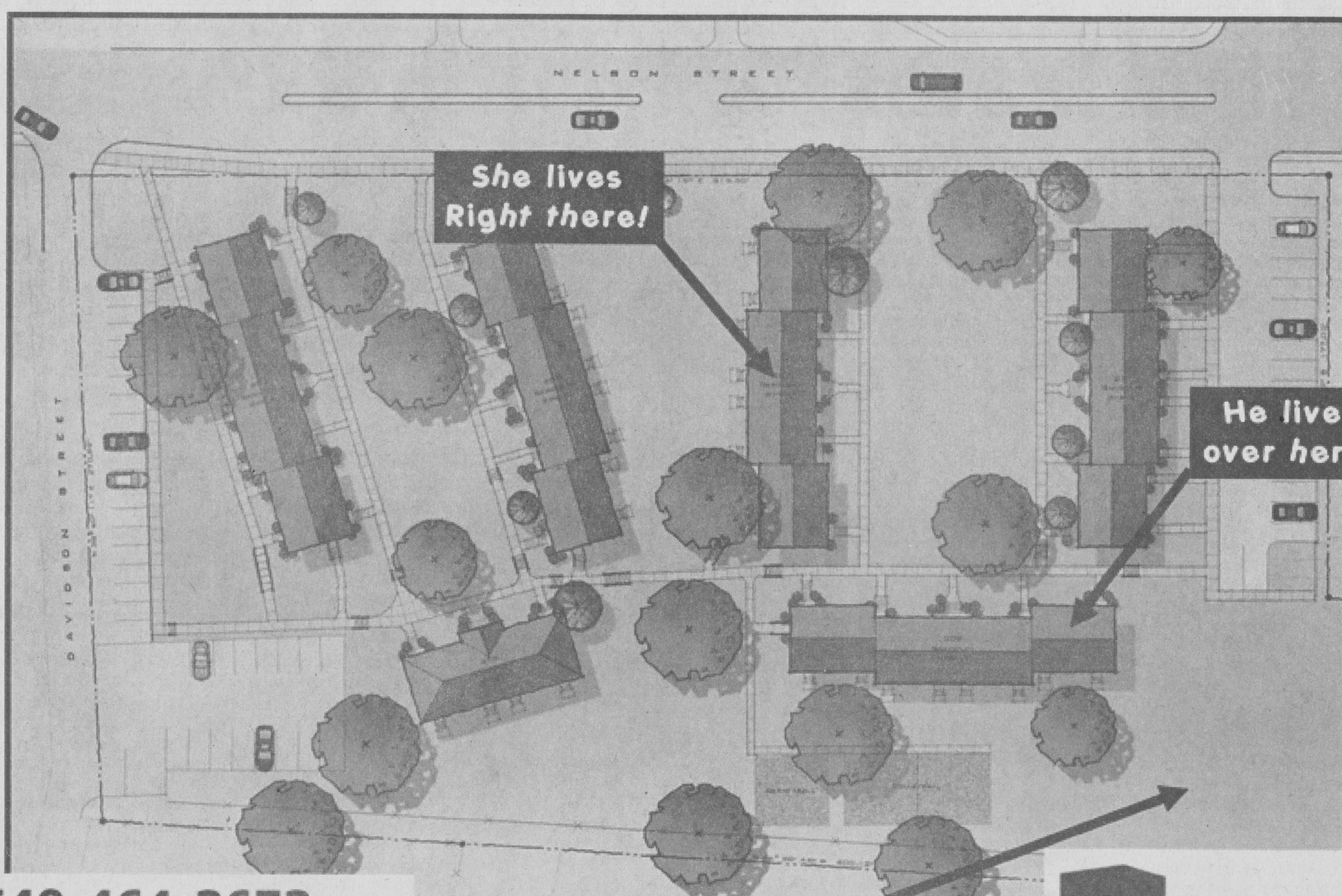
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Dank's Giving comes early to W&L

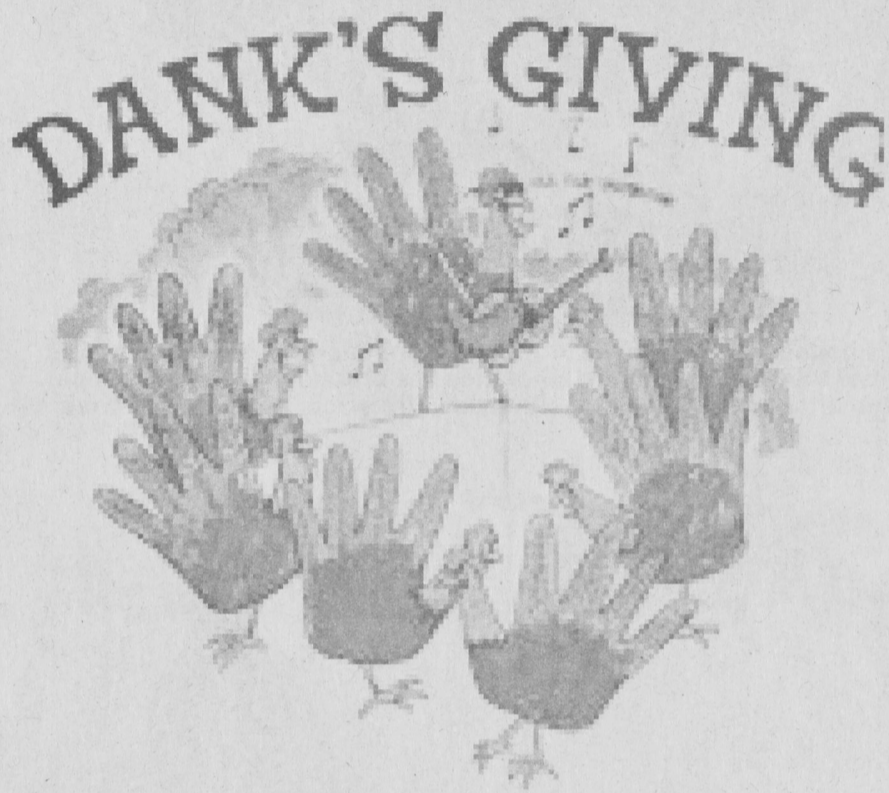
By Christian Kennedy
STAFF WRITER

In preparation for Thanksgiving, a group of student organizations brought the band Dank Sinatra to campus on Friday night. Dank Sinatra, based out of Athens, Ga., is one of the best and most popular jam bands of the South. The five-man band consisted of two guitarists, a bassist, a keys player, and a drummer, all of whom also sang.

A collaboration between the General Activities Board, the Student Activities Board, and multiple fraternities including KA, SAE, Sigma Chi, and Sigma Nu presented the band at the Pavilion from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. last Friday night. The goal of the benefit concert was to raise money to purchase instruments for students at the Rockbridge County High



Band members of Dank Sinatra played from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. last Friday at the Pavilion, doing the benefit concert to raise money to purchase instruments for Rockbridge County High School students.



Washington and Lee University

School. Tickets were sold the week before and at the door for \$5 each, and alcohol was available at a cash bar for students over 21.

Like many Pavilion events in the past, there was a less than impressive turnout, due to the location as well as poor advertising. This, however, did not affect Dank Sinatra's performance in the least, who put on an exciting show and stayed in a great mood regardless of the amount of people there.

Sophomore Patrick Wellborn commented, "I've been to every single Dank Sinatra show at this school, and they were as good as ever tonight."

Dank's nonstop three hour show was filled with a variety of southern classics mixed with their own originals. By blending different music genres together, the band created a unique sound which was "something that can only be described once it has been experienced," according to the group's biography.

Although there wasn't a majority of the student body present, every person who attended seemed to have a fantastic time. At midnight, Dank Sinatra finished off their set with a glorious, electric guitar-led Star Spangled Banner. After speaking with the band after the performance, they expressed that they really enjoyed

the show and would love to come back and play again at Washington & Lee.

Said bass player Clint Meadows: "We're not going to worry about where this band will be in two to three years. We're thinking about where this band is right now and what things we can do to improve and master the sound of Dank Sinatra for our fans and ourselves alike."

Hopefully in the future, Dank Sinatra will return to play many more shows where many more students will be able to attend.

studentspotlight

By Mariel Pearl
STAFF WRITER

Eric Rosato '13

Name: Eric Rosato '13
Hometown: Syracuse, N.Y.
Major(s): Biology and Politics
Activities on campus: Mock Convention, Peer Counseling

Where will you spend Thanksgiving this year?

It will be my first Thanksgiving outside of the States as I head to London to visit friends and to see a Mumford and Sons show. Trying to honor the holiday in the UK will prove an interesting task, undoubtedly, but I'm sure we'll drum something up.

What are you looking most forward to doing during Thanksgiving break?

Traveling and visiting friends in a setting outside Lexington.

Pumpkin, pecan, apple or cranberry?
Apple.

What will be the hardest part about leaving W&L for a week?
Forgetting that we have to come back to finals and term papers.

Does your family have any Thanksgiving traditions?

Our neighborhood had an annual Turkey Bowl in which the fathers and sons play a game of flag football on Thanksgiving morning before heading off to celebrate the holiday with our families. But as the sons have gotten older and headed in different directions, it's a tradition that has passed. Other than that, it's usually a run-of-the-mill American thanksgiving for us.

What are you most grateful for?
My health. Then my family and friends.

Who would you rather have at your Thanksgiving table,

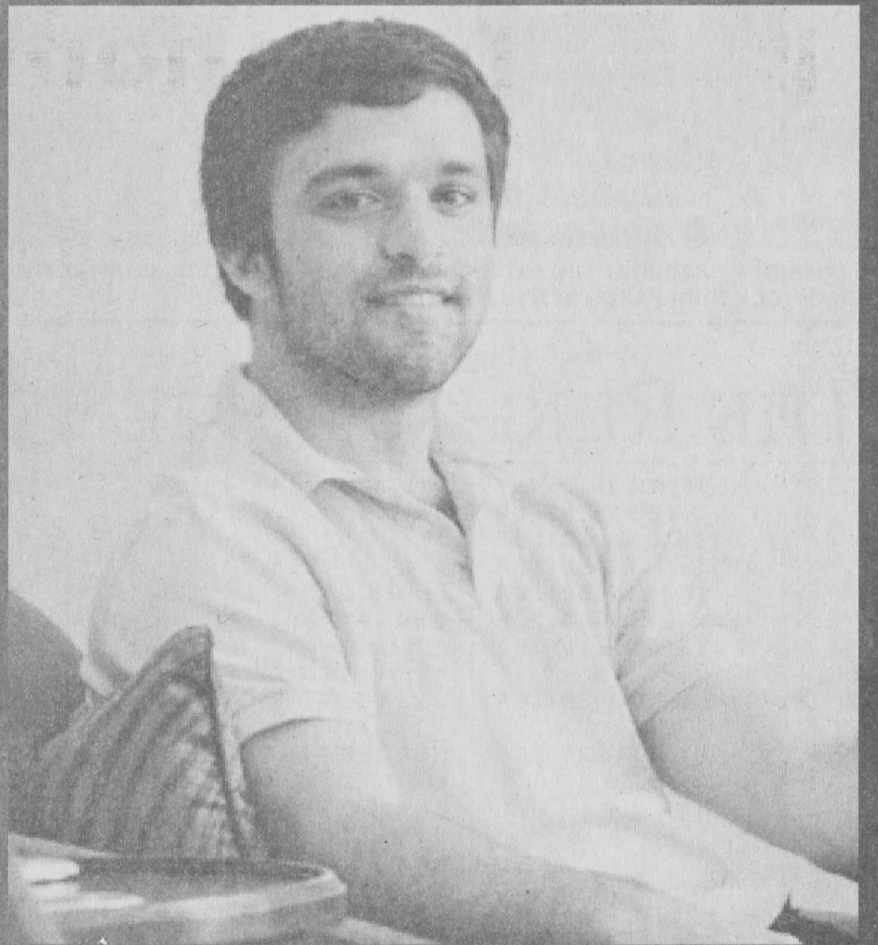
Robert E. Lee or George Washington?

Washington. His instrumental role in the founding of this nation is something I would be more interested in hearing about than the military life of Lee. To have a chance to sit with the first president of the United States and someone so pivotal in the creation of the institutions that still drive this nation today would be great and something I couldn't pass up.

Favorite spot to study on campus?
Leyburn.

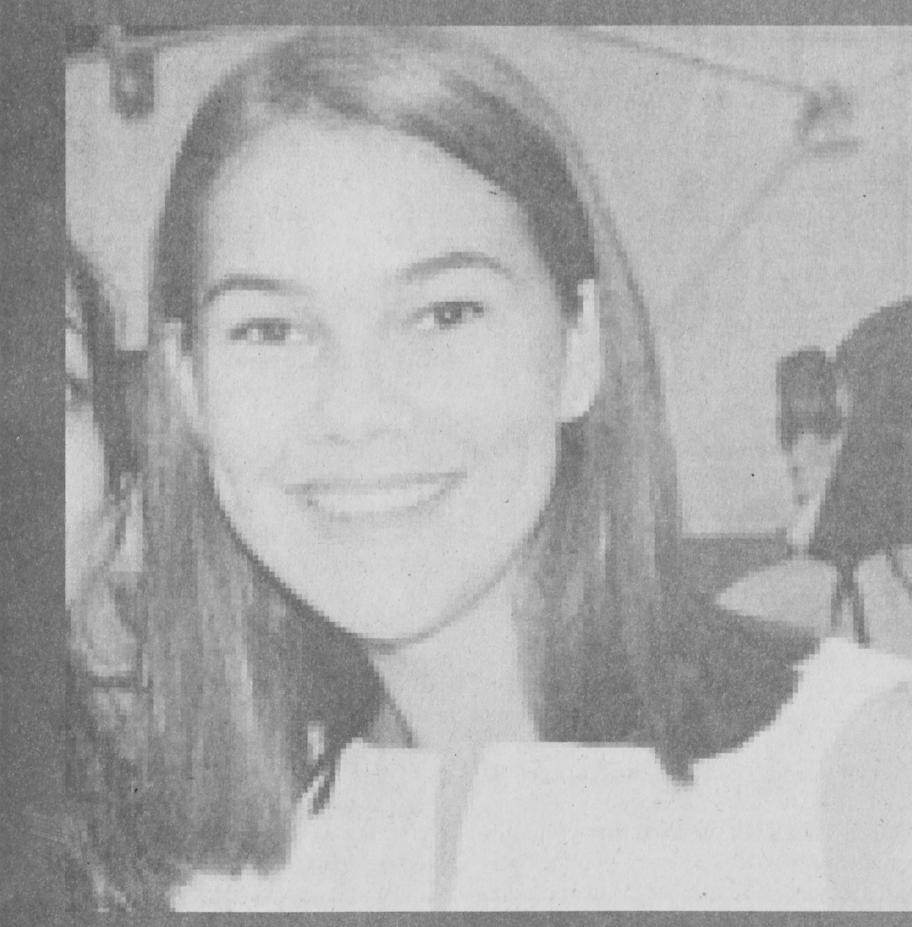
Favorite class at W&L?

African Politics with Professor Dickovick - it was a spring term study abroad program in Ghana. We had a great group of students and professors, the material was beyond interesting, and there's just something about being able



to immerse yourself in the culture and its people that can't be matched by a simple classroom lecture. It is an experience I will take with me for years to come.

What do you do in your spare time?
Spare time?



Caroline Bearden '16

Name: Caroline Bearden '16
Hometown: Summit, N.J.
Major(s): Business
Activities on campus: Riding Team, Outing Club

Where will you spend Thanksgiving this year?
At home.

What are you most looking forward to doing during Thanksgiving break?
Seeing my family, catching up with friends, and relaxing!

What will be the hardest part about leaving W&L for a week?
Missing all of my friends here and the freedom of college life.

Pumpkin, Pecan, Apple or Cranberry?
Pumpkin.

Describe yourself in three words.
Determined, nice, easy-going.

Favorite spot to study on campus?
Book Nook in Leyburn.

If you could choose to stay a certain age forever, what age would it be?
All ages have their advantages and disadvantages, I wouldn't want to live forever and miss the things that come later in life.

Who would you rather have at your Thanksgiving table, Robert E. Lee or George Washington? Why?
Robert E. Lee - he is just the ultimate gentleman and man of honor (not that George isn't, of course).

arts & life

Going home to family and Sandy

By Allie Weiss
DESIGN EDITOR

For most families, Thanksgiving is a time of reflection and rest. It is one of those all-too-rare days when we can come together to share a meal, recall memories of the years gone by, and show gratitude for those we love. But for students, this Thanksgiving break won't be what we have all come to expect. Those who will be traveling home to places hard-struck by recent weather catastrophes are in for a far different experience.

Students from New York City, New Jersey, and Long Island have been hearing stories for weeks about the chaos in their hometowns. After Hurricane Sandy struck, it left a host of issues in its wake. Some families have been living without power for more than two weeks. With the chilly weather of November well underway, the loss of heat is more than merely an inconvenience.

Said Frank Diez '14 of Bronx, N.Y.: "I didn't have any power in my house for almost a week. My mom couldn't stay in her house because nothing was working."

"My family lost power on the 29th and, with the recent snow storm, they're not expected to get power back until the 13th at the earliest," said Kristina Seon '15 of Long Island, N.Y. "It's frustrating being here and knowing my family is going through this. It's incredible how much we rely on electricity now and they don't have any of it."

Hurricane Sandy proved to be the most destructive storm in the history of Con Edison, the energy company which provides electricity to much of New York City. 174,680 customers lost power on Staten Island alone. While turning the power back on is the company's main priority, many homeowners now have to contend with the damages from the flood which might delay the restoration of electricity.

According to Diez, "I know that most of Manhattan got flooded. My friends who live in the lower part of Manhattan were forced to stay home because everything was so flooded. There wasn't anywhere to go."

Furthermore, New York City and New Jersey have become subject to fuel shortages. For the first time since the 1970s, officials have started rationing gasoline. This posed a huge problem in recent weeks for parents of W&L students, who had planned on visiting campus for Parents' Weekend.

"There were hour-long lines at the few pumps that were still working, and sometimes they ran out before everyone had a chance to refill, so people had waited hours for nothing," said Sarah Scaffidi '15 from New York City. "My mom was able to make it down to see me for Parents' Weekend, but she had to drive an hour upstate to get gas because there is such a shortage in our neighborhood and in New Jersey."

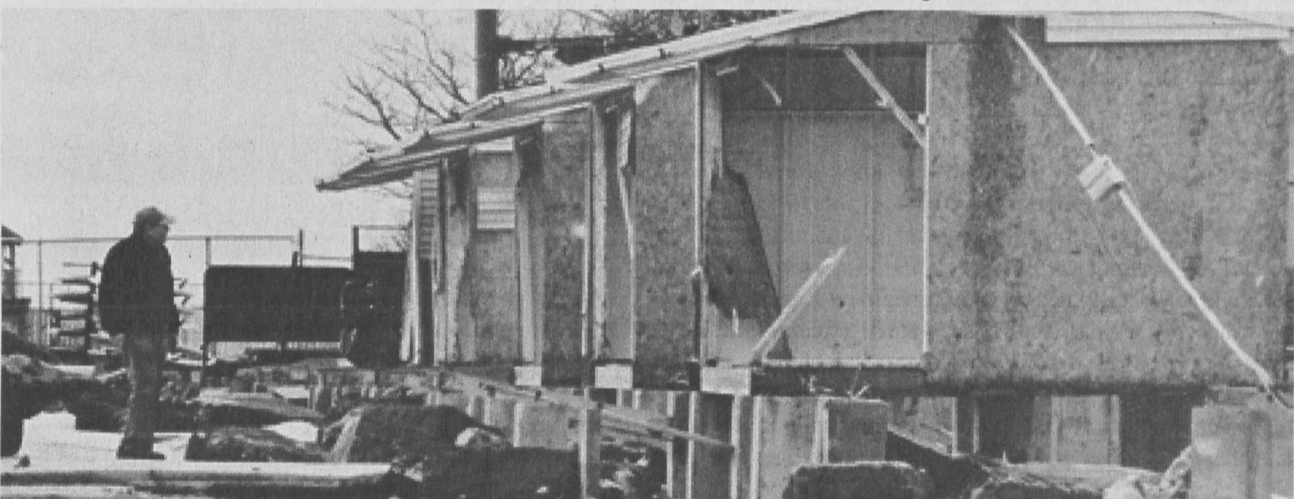


This aerial photo shows a collapsed house along the central Jersey Shore coast on Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2012. New Jersey got the brunt of Sandy, which made landfall in the state and killed six people. More than 2 million customers were without power as of Wednesday afternoon, down from a peak of 2.7 million.

MIKE GROLL/AP PHOTO

With Break right around the corner, students from these areas are gearing up for the unexpected. Though the clean-up has been a slow process, the city has begun to repair itself.

Said Seon: "The city is still trying to get back on its feet too. I think Thanksgiving is going to have a different feel this year, [and we will be] thankful for things that we didn't think about before."



A passerby examines the extensive damage left behind by Hurricane Sandy at the Shenerock Shore Club in Rye, N.Y.

KATHRYN LANG



A car goes through the high water as Hurricane Sandy bears down on the East Coast, Sunday, Oct. 28, 2012, in Ocean City, Md. Governors from North Carolina, where steady rains were whipped by gusting winds Saturday night, to Connecticut declared states of emergency. Delaware ordered mandatory evacuations for coastal communities by 8 p.m. Sunday.

ALEX BRANDON/AP PHOTO

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

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A new spin on things

By Lindsey Burke
STAFF WRITER

For Politics Professor Eduardo Velasquez, spinning isn't just a form of exercise, but rather a source of revival from a debilitating illness. "Spinning brought me back to life, literally," said Velasquez.

Several years ago, the Colombian-born professor was diagnosed with Lyme disease. It took 15 years before he was finally diagnosed, allowing the bacteria to spread into his system and brutally alter his metabolism and sleeping patterns.

According to Velasquez, many students unconsciously carry Lyme diseases. "It just completely incapacitated me," said Velasquez about the illness. "At that point, I thought: 'my career is over.'"

Before physicians could find the cause of Velasquez's pain, his body could hardly handle simple, everyday tasks. "I came to the point where walking up four flights of steps was painful," he said. "I wanted to move my body, but everything hurt so much that I couldn't even exercise."

In October 2009, the pain became so severe that Velasquez was forced to take a leave of absence, with the advice of several professionals. However, even Lyme wasn't strong enough to stop his tenacious character.

"I have spoken with and continue to speak with students devastated by ill-



Professor Velasquez, aka Eddie V, will be teaching spin classes Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 12:15 p.m. during winter term.

nesses they don't yet fully comprehend -- because even specialists don't," he said. With the help of a heavy dose of hope and antibiotics, Velasquez began his career on the bike. The slow peddling at the start of his spinning career is symbolic of his incremental recovery, where each step forward is like one turn higher on the bike dial.

Although his "body is not what it was," he uses every ounce of strength left to teach spin classes at the University, with the goal of helping others feel happy and supported. "I surrender to spin and celebrate that life is a gift," said Velasquez. "Whatever that is reminds me that we are not alone in this universe."

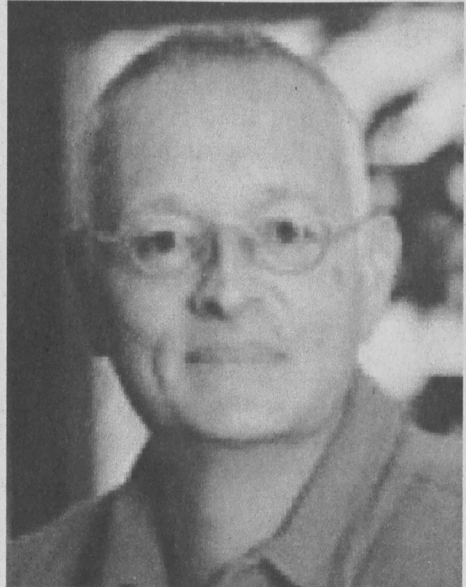
Velasquez's spin classes are more than just a series of scheduled workouts. He uses his background music to create trust with his students. With the help of social media, it's "impossible" not to get to know his students on a personal level. This week, he used first-year spin student Elizabeth McGarry's online Spotify playlist during class. He also creates

Facebook pages for his politics and spin classes.

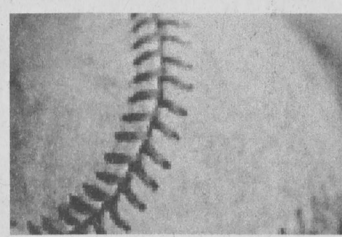
Professor Velasquez spins like there's no tomorrow, as he says spinning tomorrow is no guarantee. He tends to smile after every workout "because me teaching spin does not make sense." After all, he never imagined that he would be in the condition he is in today - feeling stronger and better than ever before.

"My illness is an odd sort of blessing. It reminds me at every moment that that moment is all we have, and we don't even have that," said Velasquez. "I can't avoid the conclusion that I am a better person for it."

EddieV's spin classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12:15 p.m. during winter term. He will be offering a spring term course titled, "A Course About Nothing," where he will incorporate spin and yoga into teaching about getting out of our heads and learning to be present in everything we do. Check out his spinning Facebook page online!



Professor Eduardo Velasquez gives politics a whole new "spin."



sports

W&L takes Shenandoah, next NCAAs

By Sarah Ward
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee rounded out the regular season with a 42-23 win over Shenandoah in Lexington on Saturday afternoon. With 4:10 left in the first quar-

ter, senior running back Sasha Vandalov ran six yards for a touchdown, posting

the only points for either team in the first quarter. Shenandoah scored the first points in the second quarter, completing a field

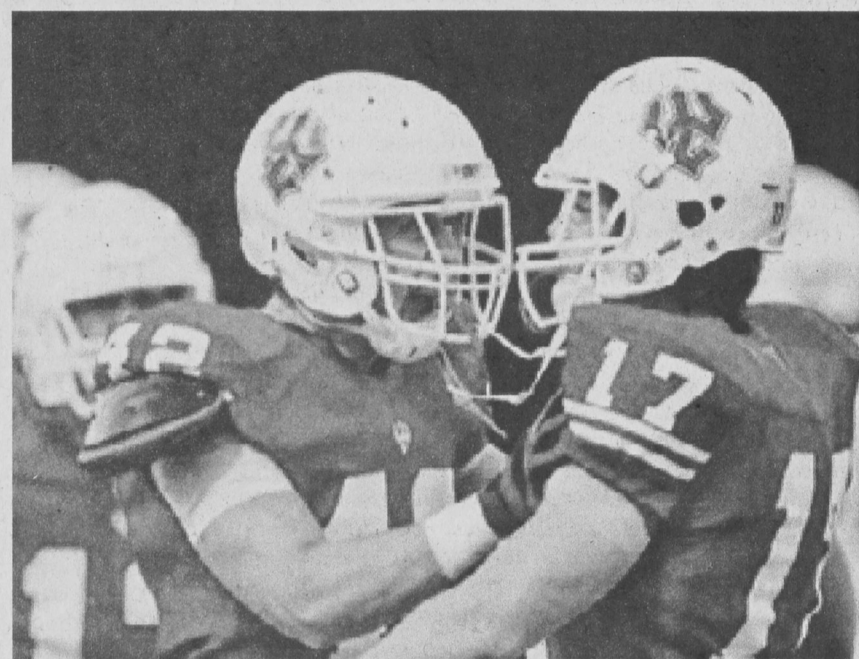
goal with 12:38 left. The Generals responded with two touchdowns in the last

43 seconds of the first half. Vandalov ran four yards for his second touchdown of the afternoon. The first play of the Hornets' next drive resulted in a fumble recovered by the Generals and consequently a 13-yard pass from junior quarterback Nick Lombardo into the endzone to junior tight end Alex Evans with just 26 seconds left in the half to bring the score to 21-3.

The Generals began the second half with a four yard touchdown run by senior running back Brett Murray as a result of an interception by senior linebacker Zach Zoller. The Hornets then scored a touchdown on their next drive to end the third quarter with the Generals up 28-10.

W&L scored the first points of the final quarter as well with yet another touchdown by Vandalov, who ran 22 yards to reach the endzone. Sophomore kicker Joe Campbell took over kicking duties from senior Luke Heinsohn after Vandalov's third touchdown to score his first point of the game.

Several first-year players saw time in the fourth quarter, including freshman running back Jimmy Moynahan who scored his first career touchdown on a three yard run with 8:03 left in the game. Shenandoah scored two additional



Defensive back Jeff Schulte and inner line backer Peter Partee
Courtesy of W&L Sports Information

touchdowns in the fourth quarter, but the Generals still finished on top with a final score of 42-23.

Kevin Travaline, Jake Pelton, and Walter Ramsey each had six tackles on defense for the Generals.

The Generals now await their matchup

for their first NCAA Division III playoff game, which will be announced on Sunday night. W&L, the ODAC champions, earned an automatic bid with their win last Saturday over Hampden-Sydney.



Courtesy of W&L Sports Information

ter, senior running back Sasha Vandalov ran six yards for a touchdown, posting

the only points for either team in the first quarter. Shenandoah scored the first points in the second quarter, completing a field

goal with 12:38 left. The Generals responded with two touchdowns in the last

Rugby comes with challenge and responsibility

By Hendley Badcock
STAFF WRITER

As with many club sports, the rich tradition and spirited camaraderie of Washington & Lee Minks Rugby Club provide players with an enjoyable environment to compete and challenge both themselves and their teammates. According to Coach John Welsh, rugby's inclusiveness is what makes the sport so distinct. He explains, "there truly is a position for everyone on the field [as] each position demands something different."

Generally, the team consists of twenty-five men; fifteen players comprise an "A" and a "B" side during match play.

This year, seven seniors have led the club through the regular season with a 5-1 record.

Watching the complex plays and unique formations for the first time can undoubtedly lead to some confusion about rugby. Having to learn and enact those plays brings out a whole new level of devotion to the sport.

"You definitely have to want to learn," first-year Wilson Prioleau states. Surprisingly, 80% of the club has never been exposed to rugby before. Prioleau, a first-time player, recalls how it took a

couple of games to really figure out their positions. Fellow first-year Blake Odom agrees. "It was pretty easy to pick up because most of the other freshman hadn't played either," said Odom. Welsh and Coach Tom Lovell, as well as the upperclassmen, always offer help and encouragement to the younger players. Welsh himself began playing rugby at Radford University before participating in the Roanoke Men's Club.

Minks rugby competes in the Virginia Rugby Union against Lynchburg College, Roanoke College, Hampton Syd-

ney, Mary Washington, and Christopher Newport, their most challenging opponent. Outside of official matches, rugby also plays against some Division I and II teams, namely VMI and James Madison University. From mid-August to the beginning of November, Minks rugby participated in the fall season; beginning after February break, they will advance to the spring post-season. "Even if we don't make the post season [due to our fall season ranking], we still schedule tournaments and matches," Welsh states. "Players not only learn how to compete

but how to handle the responsibility of managing a team," Welsh remarks. A club sport, rugby requires much leadership from players to handle everything from scheduling matches to managing fiscal issues. These jobs are distributed among the president, treasurer, match secretary, recruiting chair, and captain.

Rugby welcomes new players at any time; those interested should contact rugby President Jack Gallagher, gallagherj13@mail.wlu.edu. Practice takes place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 4:00-6:00 on Fudge Field.

Volleyball falls in the first round of the NCAA tournament

By Shelby Flores
STAFF WRITER

The Washington & Lee volleyball team will not move on in the NCAA Tournament after a loss to fifth-ranked Christopher Newport University last Friday.

The Generals kept the first and third games close but were unable to pull out the win in the 25-22, 25-11, 25-20 loss to the Captains.

CNU's strong blocking kept W&L at

a .099 hitting percentage. Head Coach Bryan Snyder said that CNU blocked better against them than the first time the teams met in early October.

"In general, both teams played at a higher level," Snyder said. "We just couldn't come up with a big kill when we needed it."

First-year outside hitter Anna Lausberg

led the Generals with 14 kills in her first NCAA Tournament appearance. Junior setter Meghan Meleski and first-year libero Kasey Cannon led the team with nine digs a piece.

The loss ends the 2012 season for the Generals. The team finished the season with a 26-10 overall record and a 10-1 conference record. This year

marked the team's 13th ODAC title and its 11th trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Snyder is happy with the improvement his team made this year and he says he is excited for next year. The Generals will return all 12 players next season, including seven first-years.

"We can continue to build and improve, rather than try to rebuild," Snyder said.

Coach Snyder says he would like to thank the players, the coaching staff, the athletic training staff, and everyone else who supported the team this year for making the 2012 season so successful.

Kyle Jaeger

Michael Vick is perhaps the most polarizing quarterback to ever play in the NFL. Vick has dazzled fans for years with his unique skill set, but shocked them with his off-the-field issues. In 2007, he was implicated in a dog-fighting ring and it seemed that his career was over. The Falcons, his former team, were disgraced and promptly released him. After serving jail time and filing for bankruptcy, the Eagles took a chance on him. Initially not the starter, Vick worked hard and created a QB controversy, earning the starting job. In 2010, his second year with the Eagles, Vick was a revelation, however, he has been in a downward spiral ever since.

It appears that Vick has reached another rock bottom in his career. This season, the Eagles are 3-5, following last year's performance in which an incredible offseason earned them the "dream-team" label. Vick led this so-called dream team to a disappointing 8-8 record. This season is going even worse. Through eight games, Vick has thrown 9 interceptions and fumbled 10 times. Vick has been so bad that Andy Reid, one of the longest tenured coaches in the NFL, might lose his job.

Not only has Vick been bad on the field, he has created controversy off it. His brother, Marcus Vick, recently tweeted during last week's Eagles-Saints game, "Please trade my brother. We're requesting out of Philly!!!! Please please please." Michael Vick had nothing to do with the tweet, but the people who Vick surrounds himself with have let him down yet again. Michael Vick has not handled the press particularly well himself, either. When asked how he felt about his potential benching, Vick said he would support Andy Reid's decision. Vick should've been more outspoken, asserting himself as a leader and claiming his stake as the starting quarterback. Instead, he appeared unsure and timid.

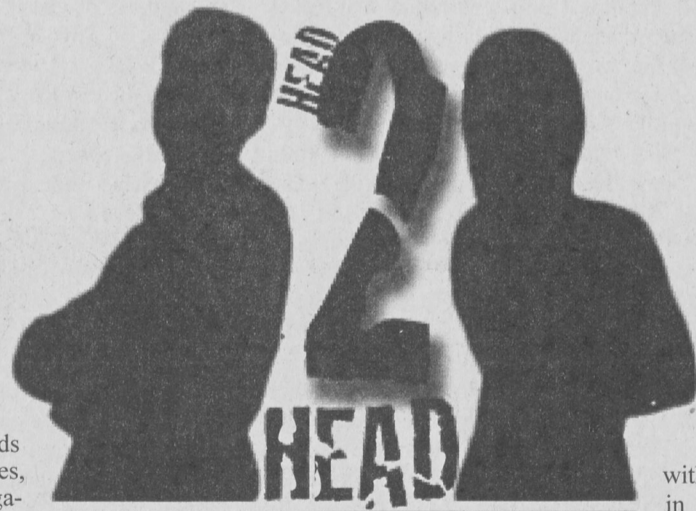
After two disappointing seasons, Andy Reid

is on the hot seat. In order to protect his job, Reid needs to make changes, to show the organization and their fans that he is still a great head coach. The change started with the firing of defensive coordinator Juan Castillo. Vick will be next.

The Eagles have rookie Nick Foles waiting in the wings for his opportunity. Reid can bench Vick and insert Foles, and if Foles shows promise and wins some games, Reid's career could be salvaged.

Starting Nick Foles is a win-win move for the Eagles. If he performs well, the Eagles have found their quarterback for the future. If Foles tanks, the Eagles will have a better shot at a high draft pick, where they can select a long-term solution to their quarterback problem.

The Eagles organization is in a state of disarray. The team has failed to meet expectations time and time again. The Eagles have some great pieces on both sides of the ball, but a struggling quarterback and offensive line has kept them from reaching their potential. Andy Reid needs to do something soon, for the team and for his own sake. It appears that change will be starting Nick Foles at quarterback. No one can know for sure when this impending move will happen, but it seems inevitable. If the Eagles lose to the Cowboys this weekend, and Vick continues his poor play, get ready for Nick Foles against the Redskins on November 18th.



The Eagles have been struggling this season. They are 3-6 and are at the bottom of the NFC East standings. Who is to blame, Quarterback Michael Vick or Head Coach Andy Reid? Kyle and Hailey line up on the issue.

Super Bowl champions, and the division race is always close.

The Philadelphia Eagles are 3-5, home to some of the toughest fans in the nation, and people are calling for heads. When Michael Vick arrived, fans and NFL experts believed that this was the Eagles' time. They picked up huge defensive free agents last year in Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie and Nnamdi Asomugha. The Eagles were poised to be the Miami Heat of the NFL. So what isn't working?

One of the most frequent suggestions to help fix this error-prone team is to bench Michael Vick. The guy's status as a superstar just hasn't been what it was when he was in Atlanta. There are flashes of his brilliance, and then he drops the ball... and not on purpose. But should Vick really be benched? Probably not.

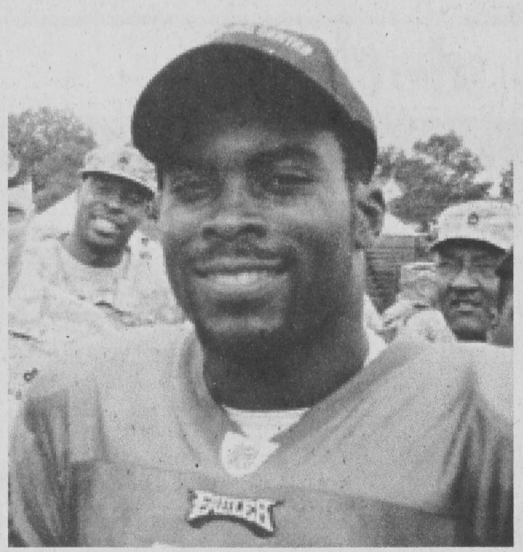
Nick Foles definitely is not the answer. Michael Vick hasn't lost his talent; he seems to have lost his direction. His offensive line is horrendous, and the few times he actually gets a chance to do something with the ball he's probably so

Hailey Hartley

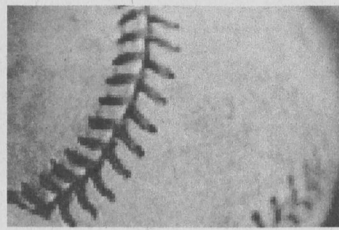
A losing record is never really acceptable in the NFL; with only 16 games in a season, even week one can have playoff implications. The NFC East has traditionally been one of the toughest divisions in the league. The Giants are the defending

shocked he forgets what he's supposed to be doing. Hence the 19 turnovers. The team is talented and under the right direction, they could be living up to the standards that they have set for themselves.

The solution for the Eagles is for Andy Reid to step down as head coach. The guy has had a rough year, no one can blame him for that, but his inability to inspire and drive his team is unacceptable. He's been a great coach and loyal to the Eagles, but his time as head coach is winding down. I believe that given a new coaching staff, the Eagles can play at the highest level. If they are able to come out strong the second half of the season, Philadelphia can still salvage the season. Their best chance of doing this is with Michael Vick under center.



sports



in the numbers

10

The total number of weeks in a row that the Alabama Crimson Tide spent at the top of the Associated Press college football poll. Alabama fell to fourth this week after losing to Texas A&M on Saturday, 29-24, while at home.

76

The total number of goals that Lionel Messi has scored this calendar year. He scored numbers 75 and 76 to take the record from Pele when Barcelona beat Mallorca on Saturday. He is also nine goals away from Gerd Mueller's career record.

17

The average point differential for the New York Knicks this season. The next highest for any team is the Miami Heat with 9.5. The Knicks are 4-0 while the Heat are 5-1, with their only loss going to the Knicks.

55

The total number of points that the Baltimore Ravens scored in their game versus the Oakland Raiders on Saturday. This is a franchise record for the Ravens. This also ties the Raiders' franchise record for points allowed. The Raiders allowed 55 points twice before, once in 1961 and again in 1981.

420

The total number of touchdowns that Peyton Manning has thrown in his career. He threw number 420 while leading the Denver Broncos over the Carolina Panthers on Sunday. He is now second on the all-time list. Only Brett Favre has thrown more touchdowns in a single career, with 508.

Congratulations to Molly Ortiz and Lauren Schultz for earning bids to the NCAA Cross Country Championship. They earned their bids by placing eighth and ninth respectively at the South/Southeast Regional Championships on Saturday at Emory University. The National Championship is Nov. 17 at Terre Haute, Ind.



Seniors Lauren Schultz and Molly Ortiz.

W&L voted last in ODAC preseason poll

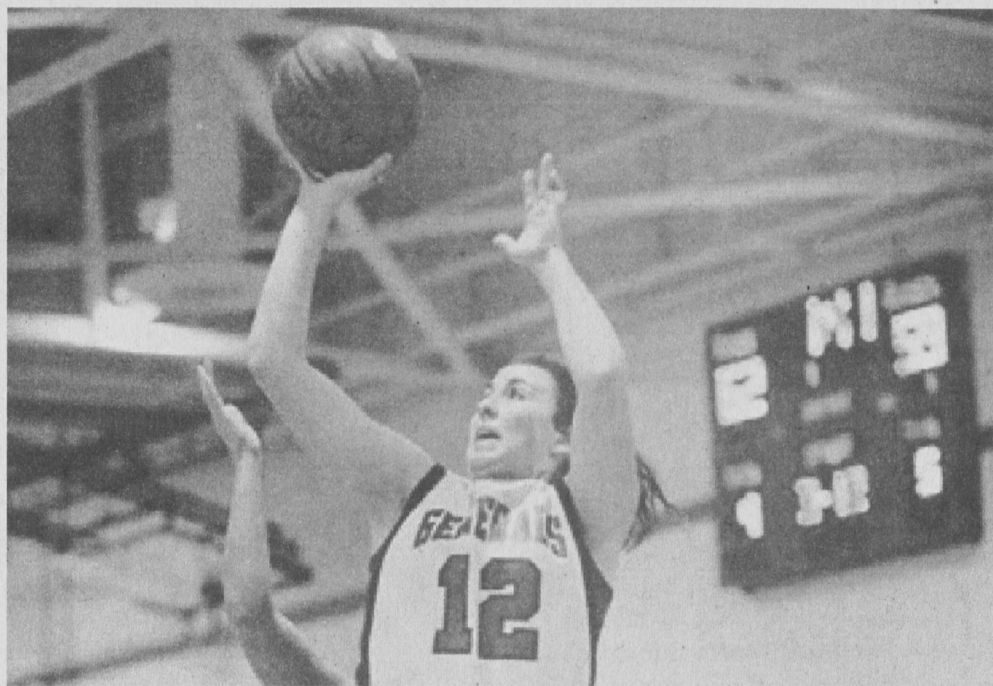
By Bailey Russell
STAFF WRITER

The Old Dominion Athletic Conference released its 2012 Women's Basketball Preseason Coaches Poll and placed the Generals at 12th place. Guilford, the defending ODAC champion, received eight first-place votes and took the top spot in the coaches' poll.

Washington & Lee will return with five players and two starters from the 2011-12 team that went 14-13 overall and 11-9 in the conference. The Generals progressed to the ODAC semifinals, where they lost to Virginia-Wesleyan, 60-58.

Senior forwards Rachel Warrick and Katy Wilson return as the top two scorers. Warrick started 26 games last season and averaged 8.1 points per game and 4.0 rebounds per game. Wilson, a 2012 Third Team All-ODAC selection, started all 27 games last season and had 11.8 points per game and 8.8 rebounds per game.

The Generals' team will feature 11 members, including five first-years. W&L begins the season under the direction of new head coach Christine Clancy on Thursday in Roanoke for a 7:00 p.m. game.



Senior Katy Wilson
Courtesy of W&L Sports Information

Women's swimming leaves Sweet Briar in their wake

By Hailey Hartley
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee's women's swimming team won their only match this week when they visited Sweet Briar by a score of 114-78. The Generals swept five individual events in the match-up and set four pool records.

In the 200 Free, first-year Sarah Schaffer won with a pool record of 2:12.73. Sophomore Kate Feeser and senior Kelly Mae Ross rounded out the top three. The Gennies also swept the 800 Free, led by Sydney Gay. Rebecca Brown, Emma Swabb, and Rachel Adams-Heard, taking the top three spots respectively, swept the 50 Free. Sophomore

Caroline Hamp led the 200 Individual Medley efforts and Colleen Moore won the 200 Fly.

The Generals set several relay pool records, including the 200 Medley. A time of 2:06.61 was set by Hamp, first-year Stephanie Foster, Swabb, and Schaffer. Foster's leg of the 50 back set an individual pool record. The 400 Medley, made up by Swabb, Schaffer, senior Delaney Rolfe and sophomore Meredith Hardy set a pool record with a time of 4:09.28.

The Generals will return to the pool when they travel to Carnegie Mellon for a quad meet on Nov. 17.



Junior Katie D'Innocenzo
Courtesy of W&L Sports Information

Snyder sets up the volleyball team for success

By Pat McCarron
STAFF WRITER

Having grown up in rural Ohio and Pennsylvania towns and attended Washington and Lee during his college years, Coach Bryan Snyder is no stranger to the tight-knit community of W&L. Perhaps it is his upbringing that makes him the perfect coach to bring teams together, to get the most out of his players. The last eleven seasons for W&L's women's volleyball team prove this notion.

On Nov. 3 the volleyball team won its ninth Old Dominion Athletic Conference title under Coach Snyder's tenure, a reign that has also brought him the honor of ODAC Coach of the Year eight times. His team moved on to the NCAA tournament, where they hoped to expound upon the team's already successful 2012 campaign.

But don't expect Coach Snyder to place much value on his Coach of the Year accolades. He says they mean little to him personally. He prefers to view them as a representation of the team's success as a whole.

"[They are a] sign that the program is very strong, but there were years when another coach deserved it and didn't win. It's just given to the best team, but not really the best coach," said Snyder. "But it validates all the hard work and it's something I'm very proud of."

Snyder tends to credit his team more than himself, but his guidance has instilled key values into his players. As is necessary for success in any sport, Snyder demands "consistent

hard work," something that as a coach, he has prided himself on his whole life. The bottom line is, the players know what they are getting themselves into: they are put to work every day, and are placed in a tough schedule. But according to Snyder, the key attributes of the typical W&L student athlete allow his players to rise to the challenge.

"The student athletes of W&L are great: they are willing to be pushed and respond to that. A great coach without great players is nothing," said Snyder.

Bryan Snyder knows a thing or two about the typical W&L student. He is one. Before graduating from W&L in 1995, Coach Snyder played for W&L's club men's volleyball team. This was not any ordinary club team. Snyder was pitted against some of the great club teams in the area, challenging the likes of Duke and the University of Virginia in the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association South Conference. In addition to serving four years in the men's volleyball club team, Coach Snyder honed his coaching skills as a student assistant for W&L's women's team. He has not stopped coaching since.

Although his return as a General was not immediate upon his graduation, there is no questioning Coach Snyder's allegiance to the school, and it was his familiar sense of community that brought him back. When asked to return, Coach Snyder did not hesitate.

"To be able to come here and impact their

experience in a positive way was something I couldn't pass up," said Snyder.

The most special aspect of coaching at W&L has been the relationships he has formed over the years. Having gone through the experiences of his athletes himself, he "can share successes and support through challenges." These relationships have hardly been limited to the prototypical coach-player bond. Whether it's attending a former player's wedding or a simple visit during alumni weekend, the relationships he has built with his players have formed lasting memories that he will forever cherish.

The prospects were high this year, as W&L's youngest, and perhaps most well-rounded team headed to the most important games of the season.

"This year's team, from top to bottom, is skilled in all areas. We have no specialists and the skill level all-around is probably the highest it's ever been. We're not as big, but we're athletic and fast. Everybody can do everything and we have a plain style and system this year where we're wide open."

Although the Generals lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament, next year they will lose just one senior from this year's team.

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Men's Basketball					at Rutgers-Newark 6pm	at Rutgers-Newark	
Women's Swimming						at Carnegie Mellon	
Men's Swimming						at Carnegie Mellon	
Women's Basketball				at Roanoke 7 pm		vs Swarthmore 7pm	at Swarthmore
Cross Country						NCAA's	
Football							at Hobart
Wrestling							at George Mason