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MAR 24 1998

W&LIFE

Students may have an easier time winning a pub in Ireland than getting Dave Matthews Band tickets.



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OPINION

The Phi wants to know what students think about printing the names of students arrested for a DUI. Read the editorial and respond to: phi@wlu.edu

PAGE 4

SPORTS



Men's lacrosse posts an important overtime 8-7 victory against the Gettysburg Bullets.

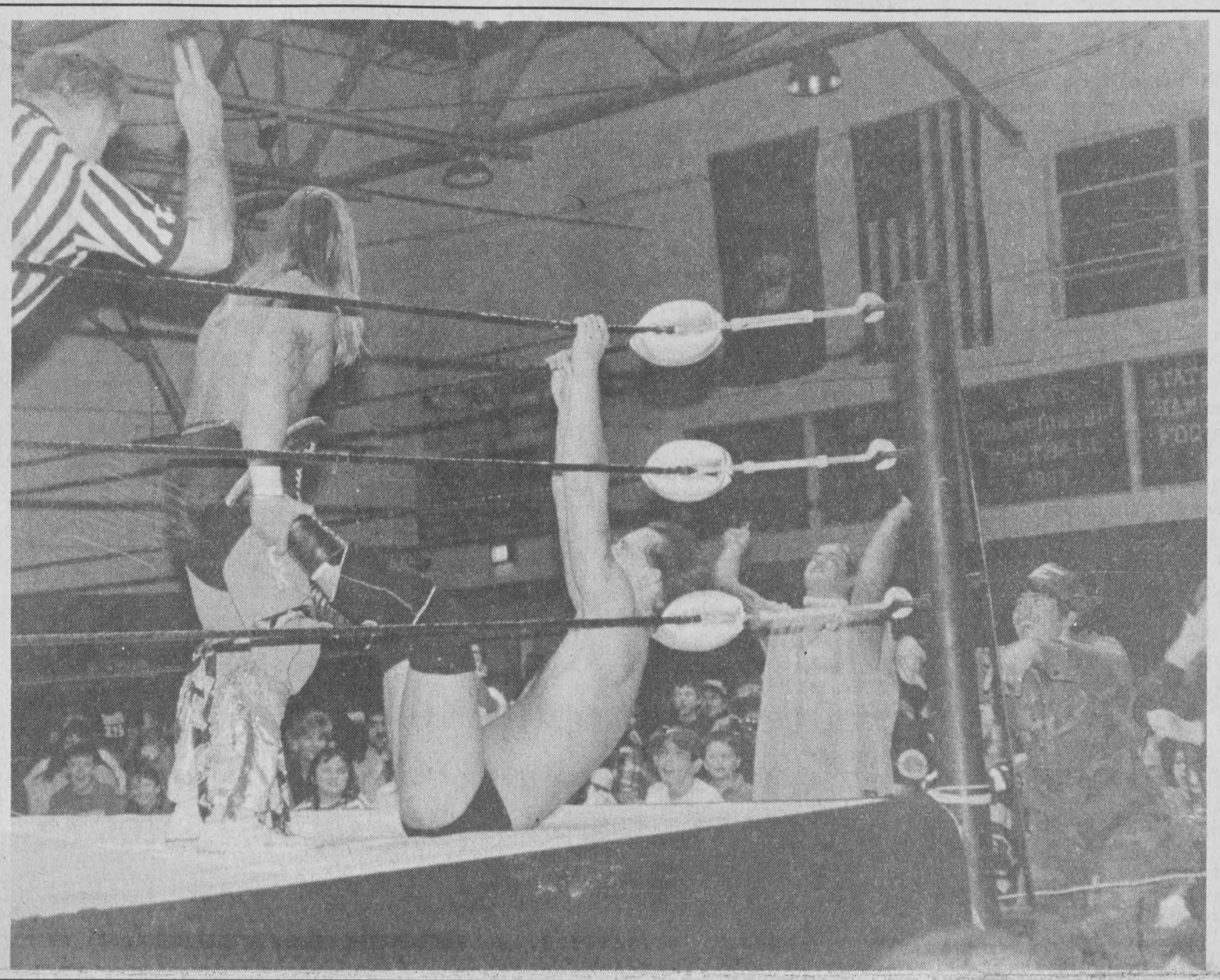
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# The Ring-tum Phi

Washington and Lee University  
VOLUME 100, NUMBER 17

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## NWA BUENA VISTA STYLE ...

David Jerico (standing) prepares to put "The Lady Killer" into a figure four leg lock at an NWA wrestling match in Buena Vista on Saturday night.

Greg "The Hammer" Valentine and Ax of WWF fought in the title bout. Wrestling fans can tune into Steve Purrell's wrestling commentary about Monday Night Raw, Monday Nitro and Thursday Thunder every Saturday morning on Channel 2 and WLUR.

## Master plan to solve multiple campus needs

By JASON ZACHER

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Washington and Lee's rash of construction and renovation is not over yet. The University still has more than \$53 million worth more to complete.

With the final approval of the five-year plan by the Board of Trustees, W&L took the first step toward making many rumors reality. The proposals in the five-year plan include a parking garage, sorority housing, a new art and music building, improvements to athletic facilities and a University commons. University officials are hoping that the sorority houses and the parking garage can be completed by the fall of 2000.

W&L officials went before the Lexington City Planning Commission on Thursday night to receive a final approval for the structures. A decision from the city is expected sometime in early May.

"The University has worked from the start with cooperation from the city," said David Howison, dean of students. "There has been support from the city."

While W&L is exempt from standard zoning by the city, the University must still go through the city for approval of construction projects.

The specifics of many of the capital improvements are still being finalized, but the basic plans have been decided.

**Art & Music:** A \$15.4 million art and music facility will be built between the Warner Center and the Lenfest Center. The art department will receive a 35,000 sq. ft. facility that includes studios and galleries. A 31,400 sq. ft. area will be dedicated to the music department, including a 200-seat recital hall. DuPont hall will be renovated for administrative offices.

"The art and music building is a high priority," Howison said. "At a liberal arts university, there should be first-rate facilities for the arts."

Even though current music and art students will not benefit from the new facilities, there is excitement about the proposal.

"It's definitely needed. We need to grow as a department," said Josh Harvey, a junior music major. "The composition department needs to be updated and expanded, and Lenfest is amazing, but it will be better to have a small recital auditorium."

**University Commons:** Plans for a 90,000 sq. ft. commons are still being made, but it will probably be located on the existing Warner Center parking lot near Graham-Lees Dorm. Some of the ideas being considered for inclusion in the commons include: meeting rooms, the bookstore, a post office, recreation

SEE PLAN PAGE 2

## A few good candidates Wanted

By COURTNEY MILLER

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

When the class of 2001 head to the polls next Monday, they won't just be electing two Executive Committee representatives.

The individual with the most votes will also replace the class' current EC representative, who left school due to chronic fatigue.

Tyler Jorgensen, the current Freshmen EC representative, returned to his home town of Houston, Texas, on Saturday March 9.

He is not expected to return. "I believe he is out indefinitely, which means there is a good possibility he won't be here during the spring term," said Chris Baldwin, EC vice-president.

Petitions for class EC representatives, presidents, vice-presidents and Student Judicial Council members are now available in front of Carol Calkins' office in the University Center. The petitions must be re-

SEE VOTE PAGE 2

## Exceeding occupancy limits threatens safety of students

# Popular bands draw big crowds to frat basements

By ERIC SWENSEN

STAFF WRITER

The Breakfast Club, a popular 1980s cover band, often packs the basements of Washington and Lee's fraternity houses. At times the crowd becomes so dense students have little or no room to move. When do these crowds become dangerous? Can there be too many people in a fraternity basement?

Students were packed tightly enough on Jan. 23, for students attending a Chi Psi band party to crowd surf. One of the crowd surfers, an unidentified W&L male, grabbed an exposed pipe along Chi Psi's ceiling and pulled it down.

Stagnant, dirty water, which had apparently been in the pipe since the mid-'70s, flooded the basement with two inches of water.

"Everyone panicked and screamed, probably because there were so many drunk people there," senior Kelsay Berland said.

The most immediate danger was the electric current from the band's equipment. Fortunately, the band pulled the plug immediately.

"I'm just surprised that no one got electrocuted," said Berland.

Fortunately that night, a disaster was averted. Members of Chi Psi and the Breakfast club acted quickly,

containing the flood and pulling the plug on the band's equipment. While some students panicked and screamed, there was no stampede of students to the exits, and no one was injured.\*

But the problems presented at Chi Psi that night lead to an interesting question: When is a party too big, creating a dangerous situation for students out only for a good time?

Most public places, like arenas, clubs and even schools, have occupancy limits which are determined as a building is designed to ensure a safe and speedy evacuation in case of a fire of other emergency.

So what are the occupancy limits for the fraternity party rooms? Not many people know.

In many cities, fire marshals are responsible for determining occupancy limits.

Not in Lexington. A Lexington fireman, when asked how the city fire marshal could be reached, said, "Are you kidding?", and suggested that the Lexington Building & Zoning Administration would know.

Eric Schetzler, an employee of the Building & Zoning Administration, said that each fraternity house should have its occupancy limit posted in the basement.

SEE CODES PAGE 2

## IFC to put cork in hard liquor bottle

After almost a year of BYOB, the IFC prepares to vote on another big change tomorrow night.

By KATHIE SOROKA

STAFF WRITER

The Inter-fraternity Council hopes to reduce alcohol-related incidents on Tear Night by officially banning hard alcohol.

According to IFC President Jason Callen, the initiative started with this year's Bid Night, when two freshmen went to hospital.

The IFC called an emergency meeting the next day and decided to informally ban hard alcohol for the upcoming Tear Night.

Although Rush is supposed to be completely dry, Tear Night is not technically a part of Rush, since the pledges already have their bids.

"It worked out well. It was a really quiet Tear Night," Callen said. He does not feel the ban on hard alcohol was the only reason, but that it was a definite factor.

Former Sigma Phi Epsilon President Glenn Miller had mixed feelings on the matter.

"I think banning [hard alcohol] on Tear Night is a good idea, but I'm afraid everybody might push their Tear Night activities to a different night," he said.

Some are skeptical about the IFC's ability to enforce such a policy.

"There are people in the houses over 21," said freshman Susan Slim. "How are they going to stop them?" Callen responded to such criticisms.

"I'm not naive ... If some frat member really wants to give a pledge brother a shot, we're probably not going to find out ... But, I do believe

it will be toned down."

Callen cites the receptiveness of the fraternity presidents as support.

"If all the frat presidents were opposed to the idea, then I'd think maybe we'd better not try it, but they were receptive to it. So, I'm optimistic."

"I think there would be less chance of people ending up in the infirmary," said Scott Cameron, a Pi Kappa Alpha pledge.

Some freshmen are less optimistic.

"I don't think it's going to make much of a difference," Phi Gamma Delta pledge Mike Crittenden said.

Freshman Dana Early agreed. "If you want to get trashed, you can get trashed drinking hard alcohol or by drinking beer," said Early. Freshman Meredith Bryk holds the same perspective.

"I think on Tear Night, people are going to get drunk no matter what," said Bryk. "It just means all that much more beer consumed."

Bryk also questioned how well the policy could be enforced. "Unless there is someone enforcing [the policy] in each house, I don't think the houses would really voluntarily adhere to it."

Junior Jay Pfeifer, a Kappa Sigma, disagreed.

"Generally, I support [the policy]," he said. "Hard alcohol is the most dangerous of all."

Pfeifer feels this danger manifests itself when students drink shots.

"You can still have fun drinking beer. Kids usually go to the hospital after doing shots, not from beer," added Pfeifer.

Fraternity presidents will vote on the ban of hard alcohol tomorrow night. Callen hopes that "most presidents will take the high ground and realize that it's just one night."

## Students experiment at gym pajama party

By SARH MELDRUM

STAFF WRITER

Some students brought movies. Others brought food. Junior Erika Woodson brought some lab equipment.

"Dr. Wielgus allowed me to steal his heart—model for the teaching exercise!" she said.

The Washington and Lee students joined a group of girls from Maury River Middle School for a lock-in Feb. 27. The slumber party included middle school and college members of Women in Technology and Science (W.I.T.S.).

W.I.T.S. brings the girls from Maury River Middle School about twice a month to run science experiments with them.

The group was formed through the efforts of junior geology major Erin Kraal. Kraal wanted to provide middle school girls with science and mathematics role models. Kraal organized the first lab experiment in the fall of 1996.

The group spent the night in the gym. "We watched movies, swam, ate subs and donuts, played volleyball, got to know each other, and discussed the pros and cons of Leonardo DiCaprio," said Woodson.

The group originally intended to have a yoga instructor come in, but she pulled a muscle and instead sent a video.

Both Doremus Gymnasium and Warner Center remained open all night

with volleyball, basketball and badminton nets set up, and the racquetball courts were also open. A midnight feast included a six-foot sub and make-your-own sundae bar. The group also had use of the swimming pool for an hour.

At eleven o'clock, Woodson ran her experiment measuring pulse rates. She gave a brief lecture about how the heart works and how blood circulates through it, then they measured their pulse rates.

They did jumping jacks for three minutes. "Man, we almost passed out," Woodson said.

"I was like, can't we stop at two? Some of the girls actually stopped. It's not every day sixth graders are forced to do vigorous exercises hours after their bedtimes."

Professor of Biology Dr. Wielgus donated the stethoscopes, stop-watches and sphygmomanometers for the experiment.

"Departments have donated materials and lab space, and individual professors have donated their time," junior Laura Goodwin said. "I think that Erin is a genius for having come up with this."

"The professors are awesome," Kraal said. "We are very grateful for their support. We are also grateful for the support of Mimi Elrod, who funds some aspects of the programs and is always available for advice."

"I think that when it was over,

SEE WITS PAGE 2

**PLAN**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

areas, dining services and offices. Security and other student support facilities will also be relocated. Price tag for the commons: \$19.4 million

**Sorority Housing:** Five sorority houses will be built on the North side of Woods Creek near Wilson Field. Each will be 80,000 sq. ft. and have room for 20 women. The five houses will cost \$8.2 million.

**Athletic improvements:** The University is also planning on making \$2.3 million in improvements to athletic facilities. Plans include an AstroTurf field, renovations to Wilson Field and the Pavilion and relocation of the baseball field.

**Parking Garage:** W&L wants to build a four or five level parking garage that will total 450-550 spots. A bridge will also be constructed to link the garage to the sorority houses. The garage will be designed to accommodate the loss of parking elsewhere due to new construction and should cost \$6.4 million.

**CODES**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Schnetzler, for his part, was unable to find the occupancy limits for any of the fraternity basements. He said that W&L's Buildings and Grounds department would have the answers. Repeated calls to Scott Beebe, Director of B&G, and March Fontenot, Fraternity Supervisor for B&G, were not returned.

Only six of the fifteen fraternities knew the occupancy limit of their house's basement. (See box at right for further information.)

The rest couldn't find the information or didn't know. In nine of the fraternity basements the occupancy limits were not clearly posted.

\*information taken from the January 26, 1998 edition of the *Ring-tum Phi*

**Occupancy Limits**

Beta Theta Pi	336
Chi Psi*	
Kappa Alpha**	
Kappa Sigma*	
Lambda Chi Alpha	324
Phi Delta Theta*	
Phi Gamma Delta*	
Phi Kappa Psi*	
Phi Kappa Sigma**	
Pi Kappa Alpha	200
Pi Kappa Phi	250
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	418
Sigma Chi*	
Sigma Nu	300
Sigman Phi Epsilon*	

\*Didn't have the occupancy limit  
\*\* reporter unable to contact

Also in the long-term plan is a 90,000 sq. ft. field house so teams can practice indoors during inclement weather. While not included in the five-year plan, the University feels that this too is an important addition.

Some students expressed surprise at spending \$2.3 million on athletic facilities, but Howison argues that there is strong support for the facilities.

"The consensus is that our athletic facilities are, in many areas, not competitive with top Division III programs," Howison said. "The AstroTurf field has strong support. A turfed, lighted field has extended uses with little maintenance."

The men's lacrosse team was forced to play last weekend's game against Courtland State at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville because rain made Wilson field unplayable. Current facilities are tight when considerations are made for varsity, club and intramural sports.

Liz Borges, a freshman lacrosse player, hopes to be able to use the new athletic facilities.

"It'll be better when it rains," Borges said. "We've been inside a few times, and it would have been better for the team if we could have played outdoors."

**VOTE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

turned Tuesday (St. Patrick's Day) during the Rules Meeting at 5 p.m. in the EC University Center room.

The election will be Monday, March 23 and the run-off Tuesday, March 26.

According to Baldwin, a general consensus was reached among members of the EC about Jorgensen's sudden departure. "The constitution mandates that we hold elections to replace someone," he said. "The general consensus was to go ahead and let the elections take place."

A note will be added to each ballot indicating that the class of 2001 is not only voting for next year's EC representatives, but also for a replacement for Jorgensen.

**LETTERS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**Dining Hall worker responds to headline and article on FD cost**

Dear Editor,

As a dining hall worker at Washington and Lee University, I wish to fill in the gaps that the *Ring-tum Phi* left vacant in their story, "D-hall workers upset at FD cost."

The article failed to quote any of the dining hall staff making it hard for me to believe a headline that claims to represent their feelings toward Fancy Dress.

In fact, most of the workers were not upset at having to buy their own FD tickets. In the past some of the student dining hall workers enjoyed getting their Fancy Dress tickets from the kitchen staff who did not want to go.

The new "non-transferrable" policy was a shock that left several dining hall workers unable to attend Fancy Dress. They responded by going through the proper measures to attempt to regain the privilege.

Had they been aware of the policy change earlier, then they could have signed up to work on the FD committee. With less than a week's notice, however, that option was out of the question.

Also, Carolyn Lee said that the FD Committee was losing "thousands of dollars." The wording of the article placed the blame on the dining hall staff, which is inappropriate considering that only 10 workers took advantage of the discounted tickets.

In conclusion, I was disappointed in the bias of the article. The wording of the sentences made it sound as if the dining hall staff was attempting to get something that we did not deserve. To the contrary, we simply wanted to know why our privilege had been revoked.

I hope that in the future, the *Ring-tum Phi* will be more careful when it prints headline stories about a group of people that it never even interviewed.

Sincerely,  
Charlotte Graham '99

**Contact chairman concerned with Jerry Springer article**

Dear Editor,

When she called to interview me for your "W&L almost gets Springer" article last week, Kathryn Mayurnik told me that the *Phi* was looking for news since it was pretty slow the week after FD. After reading the final story, I am sorry to see that Mayurnik printed the story she wanted to print, slanting the article to create controversy.

Contact wanted to bring Jerry Springer to W&L. We felt that he would create a fun event, especially if he agreed to do a mock show on campus. Unfortunately, after talking to his agent, it became clear to us that our chances of getting Springer were extremely slim. His agent told us that Roanoke was not an important TV market to Springer and that Springer therefore expressed no real interest in speaking here.

Since a speaking event takes several weeks to plan at a minimum, we were faced with the probability that we would wait for months, not get him anyway, and have it be so late in the year that we could not try to find someone else. For this reason, we chose to abandon our efforts to pursue him.

We recognize that many speakers appear to promote themselves. That does not disqualify a speaker from consideration, although we do seek speakers that will do more than give a one hour speech.

Sincerely,  
Joshua Heslinga  
Contact Committee Chairman

**Admissions Counselor**

The W & L Admissions Office is now accepting applications for a possible admissions counselor position. All interested graduating seniors should submit a cover letter and resume no later than Wednesday, March 25, 1998 to Julia M. Kozak Associate Dean of Admissions Office of Admissions

**LAX**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

we've ever played," Taurassi said.

Saturday, the Generals were greeted with temperatures in the mid-40s and winds gusting over 40 m.p.h., but Bridgewater became W&L's fourth victim of the season 15-6. Parker, Borges and Taurassi all scored hat-tricks for the Generals. Borgess also picked up three assists, Parker had two and Taurassi added one. Freshman Ellen Ritsch scored twice. Senior Mary Jo Mahoney, sophomore Katherine Riddle and freshman Caroline Gee each scored one goal.

The normally sharp Generals played uncharacteristically sloppy against Bridgewater.

"I'm not sure we were all that intense because of our history with Bridgewater," said coach Jan Hathorn. "We played like we warmed up," said Taurassi. "We were much more focused on Sunday, and it showed."

In their first win of the week, W&L

rolled over Hollins College on Thursday 21-5. Nine different Generals scored goals, led by Borges and senior Mary Jo Mahoney, who each had four goals. Parker and Taurassi added three each. Borges also added two assists. W&L jumped to a 13-3 lead at halftime and never looked back.

The ninth-ranked Generals look to move up in the NCAA rankings after seventh-ranked Roanoke College's upset loss to Randolph-Macon 15-13 Saturday. W&L now controls its own ODAC destiny next Saturday when they travel to Randolph-Macon for a showdown between the only two unbeaten. Roanoke was picked to win the ODAC — Roanoke travels to W&L for a game March 31.

"I'm not that surprised," Hathorn said. "I said last year that Randolph-Macon was going to be good. It's not going to change anything we do."

Before Randolph-Macon, W&L must get past Lynchburg College on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. on the Liberty

Hall Fields.

"Obviously Randolph-Macon is paying better this year," Taurassi said. "We'll deal with them after we get past Lynchburg."

**WITS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

most of the parents were very impressed," junior Beth Arthur said. "A few were a little wary at first, but most of the girls were allowed to come."

W.I.T.S. has more experiments including an analysis of Woods Creek and a cookout.

The participants of the lock-in felt the evening was a success.

"The girls had a blast at the lock-in," Arthur said. "The only complaint we had was that the ice cream was too creamy!"

**Attention Students**

Editors and Business Managers needed for *Ring-tum Phi*.....

.....*Calyx*

*Ariel*.....

.....*Political Review*

*Arete*.....

Submit a **resume** and **cover letter** by **March 23** to the box in the **University Center** in front of Carol Caulkins' office. **Interviews** will be **March 25**.

Need a Disc Jockey for your next party?

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## FD affects local prom

Since the Fancy Dress committee won't be passing on as many decorations as in previous years, Rockbridge County High School is making some changes to its usual prom plans.

By ERICA PROSSER

STAFF WRITER

The Rockbridge County High School prom is getting its first facelift, thanks in part to Washington and Lee.

For the first time ever, the prom is moving out of the gym and into the Natural Bridge Hotel. That's not exactly a break in tradition (the school is only five years old), but it is certainly a change, and it all came about because of the W&L Fancy Dress Ball, said prom sponsor and art teacher Cindy Kleinchester.

"This is the first year we won't be able to get anything [for decoration] from W&L," she said. Traditionally, local high schools have come to W&L the morning after FD and taken decorations for use in their proms, but this year, things have changed. Matt Kirby-Smith, the W&L student in charge of construction for FD, says that Kleinchester is not entirely correct.

"I think there are going to be small things that the high schools can have," he said. But the majority of decorations will not be given away this year. The FD committee is not heartless; rather, it is frugal. Some decorations are rented, and other FD construction tends to be well done and expensive. For the first time, the committee will try to recover some of the expense.

"If we just stored the construction from one FD to the next, the school could save about \$15,000," said Kirby-Smith. Storage is not an option this year, but since many of the decorations are well-constructed theater sets,

they will be sold for a discount to local theater groups. Kirby-Smith said that, for example, the fountain constructed for the small gym will be sold to Shenanarts, a local theater company, when the dance is over.

As financially sound as these ideas are for W&L, RCHS has been left without a source of prom decorations. Kleinchester said that was not a problem. Traditionally, even with the free decorations, the high school has shelled out \$5,000 for its prom. This year, for the same price, the school was able to book the Natural Bridge Hotel ballroom and provide food and drinks for promgoers. The school has even stopped relying on FD themes as themes for the prom.

"We've always gone with the FD theme in the past," said Kleinchester. This year, without decorations to back up a '20s theme, the prom committee came up with a new, simpler theme. Kleinchester could not divulge this year's theme, since it is kept as a surprise until the night of the prom, but she did say that the hotel would "run the show" with its already evident beauty and elegance.

The prom change has led to other improvements, too. A provincial fireplace in the hotel will serve as the backdrop for prom pictures, making a welcome change from the usual backdrop provided by the photography studio. The traditional deejay will be spinning the CDs, and the prom committee will decorate the hotel entrance and each prom table. Kleinchester said that the students have just begun to get excited about the event; junior Meredith Cox said that prom has been the topic of conversation in the school halls lately.

"Everyone is talking about dresses, dates, and other prom stuff," she said. She doesn't yet have a date, but she has a couple of months to get one.

The prom, scheduled for May 9, will host about 400 students for four hours. The junior class must pay for the prom, but thanks to fund raisers held by the class since September, the school can again keep the prom ticket prices low. Tickets are \$10 per person, which makes it easy for even the lower income students to attend.

Money does not seem to be as big an issue as some might expect, Kleinchester said. Even students from low-income families go all-out, renting limos and buying expensive dresses. The result was a success for the handful of girls who participated; they need only purchase accessories and shoes to match the gowns.

Cox isn't sure whether the prom will be better than previous years, but Kleinchester thinks that the whole experience will turn out well. "I'm looking forward to it," she said.



FEW FD DECORATIONS will be used by RCHS this year. HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR



ENTRY FORMS are available wherever Guinness products are sold. HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

# In honor of St. Patrick's Day Drink & Think Brewery sponsors essay contest

By TARAH GRANT

FEATURES EDITOR

If experience helps on job applications, Washington and Lee students will have an advantage in at least one career opportunity.

Guinness Import Company has announced its fifth annual "Win Your Own Pub In Ireland" contest. The job application consists of an essay contest: Explain, in 50 words or less, why Guinness is your "perfect pint." The contest deadline is March 31.

Competition is stiff. Last year 45,000 people entered, and Guinness selects only 10 finalists.

Finalists win a trip for two to Ireland to participate in the Grand Prize contest, which includes an evaluation of each finalist's Guinness pint-pouring skills, a dart-throwing competition and another essay delivered orally. The top-scoring finalist wins the grand prize: Finucane's Pub in Listowel, County Kerry, Ireland.

Finucane's is a fully functional classic Irish pub with a wood bar, booth seating, a pool table, a liquor store and a loyal following of local customers. Above the pub, there's a two-story apartment with four bedrooms, a large kitchen, living room with fireplace, dining room, bathroom and roof terrace.

The grand prize winner will live in the apartment and operate the pub. The approximate market value of the prize is \$330,000.

Students over the age of 21 are eligible to enter the contest. On the Guinness official contest website, the company offers entrants some advice: "When artists need inspiration to create great works of art they often choose a subject that appeals to them most. So, when it comes to writing a great essay on Guinness, what better way to get inspired than by experiencing a Perfect Pint firsthand?"

Lexington's pub, The Staircase,

**"As the cool, creamy head of a pint of Guinness settles, adversaries become partners, problems become solutions and acquaintances become good friends."**

—Finalist Robert Coe of Connecticut wrote in his essay last year.



has three Irish beers on tap, including Guinness. Should a W&L student win the contest, Sam McArthur, owner of The Staircase, said, "I would be happy to give them all the advice they need."

Guinness has many loyal fans at W&L. "I like beer like I like my men—tall, dark and bitter," junior Trevor Reed explains. With Guinness-drinking students and professors, Lexington could generate a fair amount of contest entries.

To enter, complete the form located on the Guinness Web Site, <http://www.guinness.com>. You can enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be different and transmitted separately.

The web site also has examples of previous years' winning essays to read for inspiration and a virtual QuickTime tour of the object of desire, Finucane's Pub.

For people who aren't Internet savvy, you can print your entry on an official entry form (available at Harris Teeter) along with your name, address, telephone number, confirmation that you are at least 21 years of age, and mail it to: Guinness Contest, P.O. Box 3169, Grand Rapids, MN 55745-3169.

Entries will be judged equally on the basis of originality, relevance, appeal, clarity and appropriateness for use in publicity and advertising. Finalists will be notified on or about April 24, 1998, just after we return from spring break. The grand prize competition will take place in Ireland May 8-14.

Previous winners include a female Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife worker, a retired sales manager from Florida and a Minneapolis music technician (who sang an ode to a pint of Guinness during the Grand Prize competition).

So far, no college students have won the contest, but with a little luck and a few well-chosen words, a Washington and Lee student could be the next owner of an Irish pub.

### OFFICIAL RULES:

1. ELIGIBILITY: No purchase necessary to enter or claim prize. Contest open to U.S. residents 21 and older. Employees of Guinness Import Company, its affiliated companies and agencies, and members of the immediate families or households of such employees are not eligible. Void where prohibited.

2. JUDGING: Entries will be judged equally on the basis of originality, relevance to Guinness product, appeal, clarity and appropriateness for use in publicity and advertising. Judging will be conducted jointly by a panel of independent judges and Guinness Import Company employees, under the supervision of Clarion Marketing and Communications. Ten finalists will be chosen, one from each of ten contest zones: Zone 1 (ME, VT, NH, MA, RI), Zone 2 (CT, NY, NJ), Zone 3 (DE, VA, MD, DC, NC), Zone 4 (PA, WV, OH), Zone 5 (SC, GA, MS, LA, TN, FL, AL, AR), Zone 6 (IN, KY, MI, IL, WI), Zone 7 (MN, ND, SD, NE, IA, KS, MO, OK), Zone 8 (CO, UT, NM, NV, WY, AZ), Zone 9 (WA, OR, ID, MT, AK, HI), Zone 10 (CA), provided a sufficient number of qualified entries are received. In the event of a tie, finalists will be determined by the highest originality score. Potential finalists will be notified by mail on or about April 24, 1998. Each qualified finalist will win a trip for two to Ireland to participate in the Grand Prize contest, which will include an evaluation of each finalist's Guinness pint-pouring skills, a darts competition and another essay delivered orally. The top-scoring finalist will win the Grand Prize.

3. PRIZES: (1) Grand Prize - An authentic Irish pub located in Listowel, Ireland, with approximate market value of \$330,000 as of December 1997. Guinness Import Company will cover all standard closing fees. Winner will be responsible for any and all other expenses related to taking title, obtaining any required licenses, arranging for appropriate insurance coverage upon taking title to the property and operating pub. (10) Finalist Prizes - A trip for two to Ireland. Prize consists of round trip coach air travel from the Aer Lingus gateway city closest to winner's residence, double room accommodations for six days/five nights, and ground transportation to and from Listowel, Ireland. Approximate retail value is \$4,000. Trip must be taken at time specified by sponsor (currently anticipated to be May 8-14, 1998) or prize will be forfeited and an alternate finalist will be selected.

4. GENERAL: Taxes on prizes are the sole responsibility of winners. By participating, entrants agree to these rules and decisions of judges which are final in all respects. All entries become the property of sponsor, and entrant grants to sponsor all rights of ownership. Sponsor is not responsible for late, lost, incomplete, stolen, ineligible or misdirected entries. Finalists will be required to execute an affidavit of eligibility and a liability/publicity release which must be returned within seven days or an alternate winner may be selected. Travel companions must also complete a liability/publicity release. Each winner and travel companion agrees to the use of his/her name and/or photograph for advertising and publicity purposes without additional compensation. No prize transfer or substitution except as determined by sponsor due to unavailability.

5. WINNERS LIST: For a list of winners, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to be received by March 31, 1998, to: Guinness Contest Winners, P.O. Box 704, Sayreville, NJ 08871-704. Requests will be fulfilled after June 30, 1998. Additionally, the list of winners will be posted on the Guinness Web site at <http://www.guinness.com> through June 30, 1998.

## Local boy gone big time returns to his old stomping ground

Dave Matthews' 1998 tour starts in Roanoke. Tickets go on sale Saturday.

By STEPHEN PESCE

STAFF WRITER

Spring term classes commence on Monday, April 20. Saturday the 18th, Dave Matthews Band opens its 1998 Tour at Roanoke's Victory Stadium. Opening in the band's home state, the U.S./Canadian tour will last through July 7. The Roanoke performance should potentially receive wide national attention because it is the first of the tour.

The band's fourth album, "Before These Crowded Streets" will be released on April 28, ten days after the concert. The ten-number song list contains: "Rapunzel," "The Last

Stop," "Don't Drink the Water," "Stay," "Halloween," "The Stone," "Crush," "The Dreaming Tree," "Pig" and "Spoon."

The first day of spring marks the first day that tickets will go on sale for the concert. Doors open at 10 a.m. this Saturday, March 21, at the Roanoke Civic Center box office and Ticketmaster offices.

Dave has not played in the area since October 1994, when he appeared at the Rockbridge Horse Center. Many students remember or have heard stories of when the band performed in vari-

ous fraternity house basements. W&L students feel a close tie to Dave Matthews from his performances way back when and affection for the band within the community remains. The local boy gone big time will certainly draw an enormous crowd, and students hoping to get tickets may have to resort to the freshman tactic of camping out for what they want (though the results of this campout would certainly be

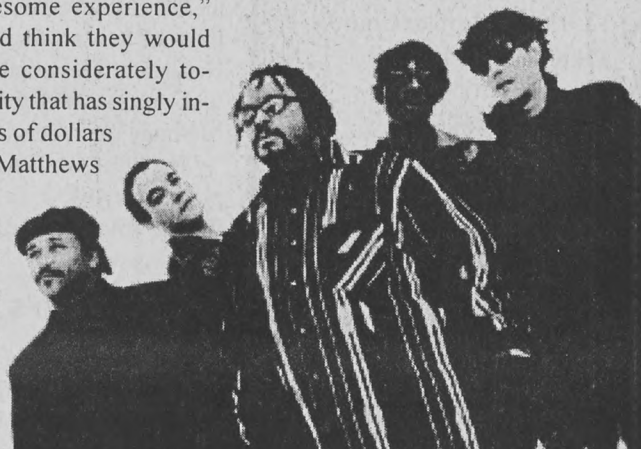
more memorable than a scarcely attended biology class).

Freshman Jean Rowan expressed disappointment that the band will be playing while students are still on break. "Many friends who won't be able to make it in will miss a chance to share an awesome experience," she said. "You'd think they would have acted more considerably towards a community that has singly invested in millions of dollars worth of Dave Matthews Band CDs."

Yet, quite possibly, the timing of the concert may be ideal. Students will have a great opportunity to

witness first-hand a band that many enjoy so much without lingering worries of classes and tests. Potentially, the Dave Matthews concert on April 18 may prove a fabulous beginning to a fantastic Spring Term.

*Students will have a great opportunity to witness first-hand a band that many enjoy so much without lingering worries of classes and tests.*



## RESULTS

<b>Men's Lacrosse (4-1)</b>	
Sat.: Gettysburg	7
W&L	8
<b>Women's Lacrosse (5-0)</b>	
Thu.: Hollins	5
W&L	21
Sat.: Bridgewater	6
W&L	15
Sun.: F&M	8
W&L	11
<b>Baseball (3-5)</b>	
Thu.: Bridgewater	5
W&L	2
Fri.: Lynchburg	1
W&L	2
Sat.: VA Wesleyan	1
W&L	4
VA Wesleyan	5
W&L	3
<b>Men's Tennis (5-1)</b>	
Tue.: Roanoke	0
W&L	7
E. Mennonite	0
W&L	7
Sat.: Hamp.-Syd.	1
W&L	6
<b>Women's Tennis (7-3)</b>	
Thu.: Rand.-Macon	0
W&L	9
Fri.: Kenyon	7
W&L	1
Sat.: Colgate	3
W&L	6
Sun.: VA Wesleyan	0
W&L	9
Sun.: E. Mennonite	0
W&L	9

## AHEAD

## Monday

**Golf** —  
at Ferrum Invitational  
**Men's Tennis** —  
Ripon, 3:00 pm,  
Upper Courts

## Tuesday

**Baseball** —  
Savannah A&D, 3:00 pm,  
Smith Field  
**Golf** —  
at Ferrum Invitational

## Wednesday

**Women's Lax** —  
Lynchburg  
4:00 p.m., Liberty Hall Fields

## Thursday

**Baseball** —  
at E. Mennonite, 3:00pm  
Smith Field  
**Women's Tennis** —  
at Lynchburg, 3:30 p.m.  
**Women's Tennis** —  
at Roanoke 3:30 p.m.  
**Men's Tennis** —  
at VMI, 3:00 p.m.

## Saturday

**Women's Lacrosse** —  
at Rand-Macon, 1:00 p.m.  
**Women's Tennis** —  
Mary Washington  
12:00p.m., Lower Courts  
**Men's Tennis** —  
Wooster, 1:00 p.m.  
**M&W Track** —  
Roanoke Invitational, all day

## Sunday

**Baseball** —  
at Mary Washington  
1:00 p.m., Smith Field  
**Men's Lacrosse** —  
at Franklin & Marshall  
1:00 p.m.

## Men's lax upsets Gettysburg in 2nd OT

BY BRENDAN HARRINGTON  
SPORTS WRITER

For anyone with a history of heart problems and high blood pressure, it was probably best to avoid Wilson Field yesterday afternoon during Washington and Lee's showdown with national rival Gettysburg.

W&L freshman attackman Tom Burke scored the game winning goal with 2:00 left in the second sudden-death overtime to give 12th ranked W&L an 8-7 victory over fifth ranked Gettysburg in front of an elated home crowd.

W&L had a number of opportunities to end the game in both overtimes as the Generals outshot the Bullets 8-0 in the extra frames. With just over 2:00 left in the second OT, senior captain Paul Stanley blew by a defender, faked a shot, and made a spectacular pass to Burke, who ripped a shot into the back of the net to give the Generals the dramatic victory.

"I just tried to attack the goal and I saw two guys open in the crease," said Stanley, describing the last play of the game. "Burke made a great move to get open, I got him the ball, and he put it in."

The Generals got off to a quick start and led the Bullets 5-2 midway through the second quarter before Gettysburg scored four unanswered goals to take a 6-5 lead with 4:06 left in the first half. Matt Dugan then scored his third goal of the half to tie the game 6-6 before Ross Garetson gave the Bullets a 7-6 lead with 3:08 left in the half in what would turn out to be Gettysburg's last goal of the game.

Gettysburg went scoreless during the second half and both overtimes as W&L scored the only goal of the second half on a short handed goal by senior Ed Dougherty with 1:23 left in the third quarter. Senior goalie



**YOU TAKE IT.** Senior captain longstick midfielder Robb Greenfield slides between two Gettysburg players and passes it to junior midfielder Tom Super. The General's defense was on fire in their double overtime win over the #5 Gettysburg Bullets.

HOLLISTER HOVEY / PHOTO EDITOR

Scott Jackson was the unsung hero for the Generals, as he came up huge in his first start of the season, a career high 17 saves and shutting out the Bullets during the final 38 minutes of the game.

"I had a strong game because of our defense and because of our coaches," said Jackson. "The defense really played well and our coaches did a great job getting us prepared."

"Scott had a really strong game and our defense really stepped it

up," added Stanley. "The coaching staff really prepared us all week; we knew what was coming and we got it done."

The Generals, who came into the game ranked 12th in the nation in Division III lacrosse, improved their record to 4-1 on the season.

The victory is extremely important for the Generals NCAA tournament hopes, especially after they lost to 10th ranked Cortland State last week.

"They were ranked fifth in the nation so it's obviously a huge win for us," said Stanley.

"This puts us one step closer to our goal: making the NCAA tournament," added Jackson. "But we still have a long way to go."

The victory marked the third consecutive year that the Generals have defeated Gettysburg College, a team which made it all the way to the NCAA Division III semi-finals last season. It was only the second

game of the season for the Bullets, who fall to 1-1 with the loss. The Bullets have played five overtime periods in their first two games; it took them three overtimes to defeat Roanoke 10-9 in their first game of the season.

Next, the Generals hit the road and travel to Lancaster, Pennsylvania to take on Franklin & Marshall next Sunday. They return home on March 25 to host Connecticut College on Wilson Field.

## Undeclared women's lax crushes Bridgewater, F&amp;M

BY JASON ZACHER  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Cold temperatures and strong winds could not cool off the women's lacrosse team last weekend as the Generals picked up three wins in four days.

Washington and Lee moves to 5-0 (3-0 ODAC) on the season, outscoring their opponents 78-32. It is the second time in the last three years that W&L has opened their season 5-0.

Led by sophomore goalkeeper Ginny Jernigan, the Generals' defense stoned Franklin & Marshall 11-8 and Bridgewater 15-6 over the weekend. Jernigan made 40 saves on 53 shots in the two games.

On Sunday, W&L dumped Franklin & Marshall behind the strong offensive play of senior captain Whitney

Parker. Parker scored five goals, including one in the first minute of the game. Mid-way through the first half, F&M held a 5-3 lead, but behind three goals from Parker, the Generals went on an 8-1 run to take the lead for good.

Even though the Generals were held scoreless in the final 20 minutes, Jernigan made 23 saves to preserve the victory for W&L.

"Even though she has only played for two years, she looks like she has been a player forever," said senior captain Lorraine Taurassi. "We feel very confident with her behind us."

Taurassi added three goals for the Generals. Freshman Liz Borges, sophomore Katherine Riddle and junior Lauren Francis also scored.

"We played one of the best games

See LAX page 2

## Jock Shorts

• Track claims 4th at W&L Invitational • Women's tennis wins five of six matches •

## Track

Wilson Field was the site of the annual Washington and Lee Track and Field Invitational on Saturday afternoon and both of W&L's track teams took fourth place in what was the opening meet in the outdoor track season. Senior Greg Ruthig led the way for the men as he won the 1,500 and finished second in the 800.

For the women, junior Lisa Brennan also won the 1,500 and took second in the 800. In the women's 800, W&L took three of the top four places as junior Natalia Dorofeeva finished first, Brennan took second, and freshman Kathleen Moroney took fourth.

The W&L women also captured first place in the 4x400 relay. Frostburg State won the overall title for both the men and the women.

## Women's Tennis

The W&L women's tennis team had a tough week, playing six matches in five days. They came away with five wins, only losing to NCAA nemesis

Kenyon College. The Generals blanked their four ODAC opponents, Va. Wesleyan, Sweet Briar, Randolph-Macon and Eastern Mennonite, winning all nine matches.

The Generals have won seven of their last eight matches, bringing their record to 7-3 (6-0 ODAC). W&L has not lost a single individual match to and ODAC opponent.

No. 1 flight player, senior Ericka Shapard, only lost two games in her three ODAC matches. No. 2 player, senior Berry Blankinship, swept her two ODAC matches. Kenyon, who beat the Generals in the semi-finals of last year's NCAA tournament, dropped the Generals 8-1 on Friday the 13th. Only freshman Anne Castello won for W&L. The doubles team of sophomore Erin Eggers and sophomore Brook Hartzell almost pulled out a victory, losing 9-7.

This week, the Generals play split-squad matches Thursday against Lynchburg College and Roanoke College. Saturday, Mary Washington comes to town to take on the Generals on the Lower Courts at high noon.

## WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

## Annual Fund Staff Associate

The Office of University Development has an opening for an Annual Fund Staff Associate. This position assists in the development and management of strategies to increase involvement in the financial support of Washington and Lee through the Annual Fund which provides direct support to the University's operating budget. The term of the position is one year, renewable for a second year, with preference given to recent W&L graduates

As this entry-level position depends on creative communication to a varied constituency, the successful candidate should possess excellent writing and verbal skills. Also necessary are demonstrated initiative, an ability to work within specific deadlines, ability to prioritize and juggle multiple tasks, an ability to supervise and manage student workers and alumni volunteers, and a willingness to assist other staff members as needed. Candidates should also be prepared for evening and weekend work and some travel. Familiarity with computers and with public relations principles is a plus. A bachelor's degree is required.

Candidates should send a complete resume and letter of application to Robert W. Fox, Director of Personnel Services, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia 24450.

Equal Opportunity Employer

# Opinion & Editorial

PAGE 5 MAR. 16, 1998

## To print names or not to print names

A letter which appeared in last week's issue of *The Trident* attacked their policy of printing the names of students charged with drug possession in the dorms. This raises interesting issues, namely the *The Ring-tum Phi's* policy of not regularly publishing the names of students who are charged with driving under the influence.

This information is a matter of public record, and though we often come across DUI charges in the docket book at the Lexington Police station, we do not publish them.

Since only two students since January have received DUIs, this seems not to be a serious problem at Washington and Lee. However, one intoxicated person who gets behind the wheel can mean death for the driver or an innocent bystander. Drunk drivers kill hundreds of people each year. This is a tragedy, a tragedy that can easily be avoided with one easy step—don't get behind the wheel.

With the institution of BYOB this year and two upcoming dry houses in the year 2000, many suggest that incidents of drunk driving will possibly increase due to more drinking in the country and less drinking in fraternity houses.

A debate ensued in the *Phi* office about what we, as a student paper, could, or should, do as a deterrent for drunk driving. One person suggested that we print, as a matter of policy, the names of students who receive DUIs.

Perhaps the feeling of shame in front of classmates would serve as a deterrent to driving under the influence. We realize that this is a policy change that will cause a ruckus on this campus. As a student newspaper, we always try to benefit the students as a whole and to minimize any harm that may be caused as result of our policies, editorial or articles.

Therefore, the *Phi* is very interested in knowing what the student population thinks of this idea, and would appreciate any feedback, in the form of a signed letter to the editor, that anyone would like to share.

## Quote of the week:

"I hope I'm turning it out when I'm sixty-two.

— Anonymous senior on sex

## The Ring-tum Phi

Executive Editors Courtney Miller  
Jason Zacher  
Managing Editor Kathryn Mayurnik  
Associate Editor Andrea Ewing

News Editor Will Hardie  
w&life Editors Liz Dettler  
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Opinion & Editorial Editor Frances Groberg  
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The *Ring-tum Phi* is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. Funding for the *Ring-tum Phi* comes primarily from advertising and subscription revenues. The Washington and Lee Publications Board elects the Executive Editor and Business Manager, but the *Ring-tum Phi* is otherwise independent.

The *Ring-tum Phi* welcomes all responsible submissions and letters. All submissions must be in the *Phi* office, room 208 of the University Center, by noon on Saturday to appear in that week's edition. The *Ring-tum Phi* reserves the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters, columns and "My Views" do not reflect the opinion of the *Ring-tum Phi* Editorial Board. Advertising does not reflect the opinions of the *Ring-tum Phi* or its staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

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## Will tear night get ripped off?

A potentially troublesome message was sent out to fraternity members at the Inter-Fraternity Council meeting held last Monday. At that meeting, proposals for a number of rule changes were made. Two are of particular interest.

The first would ban all hard alcohol on Tear Night. The second proposed change deals with destruction of university-owned property in fraternity houses.

### From a Bar Stool

Eric Swensen '98

Whenever University property in a fraternity house is broken, that fraternity's judicial board will be required to investigate the incident and present its findings to the IFC. If the person responsible for the damage is a member of that house, then the judicial board must also impose a punishment on that person and report it to the IFC, which may refer the student to the Student Judicial Council for further action.

If a fraternity will not reveal who is responsible for a particular act of destruction, the entire fraternity will be put on social probation until that person's identity is revealed to the IFC.

My point is not to debate the merits of these proposals. From what I've heard, these and the other proposals before the IFC will likely undergo some revisions and endure more debate before they are voted on. It's not my desire to sit here and take potshots at the IFC. I don't believe that they made these proposals entirely of their own free will.

What bothers me, and should bother every fraternity

member on this campus, is that these proposals send the message that the fraternities lack the ability to take care of their affairs responsibly. The proposal to ban hard alcohol on tear nights suggests that fraternities are unable, as the number of visits made to the hospital by freshmen over the last few Tear Nights indicate, to ensure that its members and pledges drink even semi-responsibly. The proposal mandating an IFC review of punishments for acts of destruction in fraternity houses suggests that this damage has gotten out of control and that the punishments handed out by fraternities have been ineffective or nonexistent.

Are these suggestions true? I don't know. I don't have an intimate knowledge of the workings of every fraternity on campus. But I believe someone — whether it be the Board of Trustees, the faculty, the administration, or all three — holds these impressions to be true. Whether they are true or not doesn't really matter. As long as these impressions are held by people with the power either to force changes or to pressure us to make changes, our autonomy will be slowly chipped away.

A lot has changed since I arrived on campus four years ago. As a freshman, BYOB wasn't enforced, rush was three weeks long, and pledgship lasted almost two semesters. That has changed, and these two current proposals may lead to even more changes.

Maybe times have changed. Maybe — especially in regard to BYOB — the University is finally realizing what a litigious society we live in today. But I believe a lot of it has to do with a growing lack of faith in the fraternities' ability to take care of their own business. We had better change this impression quickly. Who knows what they might look to change next.

## 15 Minutes of Shame



What else can we blame on El Niño?

## Voter participation can't be counted on

I saw the voting booth in front of the Co-op during the last student election, and a member of the Voting Regulations Board waiting expectantly for people to fill out little slips of paper. I saw him watch me as I walked by. I didn't vote.

### Red Brick Row

David Balsley '99

I know that it's important to vote. If Tabatha Soren has taught me anything, it's that I must vote as often as I can, even if I am bedridden in Pakistan.

But I didn't feel I knew the candidates well enough to vote for or against them. I have been in class with some of the candidates and I can attach faces with most of their names. Of the candidates I knew, however, I did not know any well enough to decide whether they would be suited to the positions they wanted.

Even worse, I didn't know some of the candidates at all. Maybe I don't hang around Lewis Hall often enough, but I have never met our new Executive Committee President Beth Formidoni or our Vice President Wen Hutchinson. I would not feel comfortable voting against

a stranger who, for all I know, could turn out to be the General Robert E. Lee of EC presidents. So I didn't vote.

Prior to the election, I could have learned more about the candidates so that I would have been prepared to vote. But I never have a lot of spare time, and when I carve up what spare time I do have, learning about the candidates in the next big election falls low on my list of priorities.

I imagine that a lot of other students feel the same way. That may explain why nearly 1,000 of them did not vote.

To explore educating students about candidates, we should first consider students' time restraints. This restriction rules out a public meeting where candidates could explain their qualifications to students. No one would go.

Instead, I suggest that both campus newspapers reserve their Opinion and Letters to the Editor pages for candidates one week prior to an election. The candidates could write letters to the papers in which they would introduce themselves and explain why they are running for office. This way, students could learn about candidates, via the papers, at a time which would suit their needs — between class, during a homework break or whenever fitted their schedule best. Publishing information about the candidates would make that information portable and convenient.

## Letters to the Ring-tum Phi

### Security concerned about editorial

Dear Editor,

In the March 9, 1998 issue of the *Ring-tum Phi* there appeared an editorial concerning the honor code at Washington and Lee. The editorial was critical of something we should all hold in the highest regard. I was particularly interested in these comments because of my personal involvement with matters of theft on our campus. We have had several incidents of theft reported during this school year. The increase in the reports is troubling and the security department is concerned about it.

I am more concerned with what I believe is misleading information coming from this editorial. As I read, "in the last week alone, over one hundred dollars was stolen out of Graham-Lees dorm rooms." I wondered where this information came from. No reports of thefts of cash had been reported to the security department in that period. If money is being stolen from dorm rooms at any time, the security department needs to be aware of it. In order for us to have any opportunity to stop theft, we must know about it.

As in any community, there are bad things that happen to its members. Theft of anything of value is a difficult thing to deal with. But it does sometimes happen. Even here at Washington and Lee.

Unfortunately, we have had several reports this year of clothing being taken from our dormitory laundry facilities. Most of these reports indicated that the owners of the clothing taken did not promptly remove their clothing when it was finished being washed and dried, and in many cases, left the clothing unattended for several hours. I am certainly not attempting to blame the victims of these crimes but would try to make you all aware of the growing necessity of taking proper care of your items in order that you not become a victim.

While it is difficult to determine who the thieves responsible for these incidents may be, we can, and must, work together to do our best to prevent this activity. Do not leave your valuable items unprotected at any time. Be aware of who is in your area and report any suspicious activity. Our card access system has significantly reduced the number of criminal incident reports over the past three years. On any given weekend there are still visitors to our campus and our dormitories that are not members of our community. These persons may not believe in the honor code as we do. Please lock your room doors whenever you leave or are sleeping.

The honor code at W&L is the most important single concept by which we live. At times, it may appear that it isn't working as well as it should. Some students may not adhere to the honor code and commit acts that are judged to be dishonorable. Any student who violates the honor code is, and should be, dealt with severely.

I truly believe in the honor code at W&L. We must be able to trust each other. Only you can reinforce the constant use of this wonderful life concept. If you are having difficulty complying with the requirements of honor, perhaps you should re-think your status at W&L. If you are aware of a student who is violating the honor code, you are duty bound to report that violation.

Michael L. Young  
Director of University Security

SEE LETTERS PAGE 2

## Clarification

The *Ring-tum Phi* would like to apologize to the members of the women's swim team for the errors in their letter to the editor last week. The mistakes were the *Phi's* fault and in no way reflect the original letter. We apologize for these mistakes.

## TALKback: What do you like best about W&L?



"The small classes, professors, and the honor code."  
— Elizabeth Manning, Ft. Worth, TX



"I like the classes and the professors and I like the architecture."  
— Lindsay Maybin, Irmo, SC



"I love the friendly people."  
— Katie Mitchell, Wichita, KA



"The people are so nice, especially my host!"  
— Alison Trinidad, Corona, CA



The pitch: "It's like 'Hawaii Five-Oh' meets 'Passenger 57.'"

# "U.S. MARSHALS": Mediocre TV. cop drama at it's most mediocre

By Alex Christensen

One good thing about "The Fugitive," even though it was adapted from a TV series, is that it left that heritage behind definitively. Like all good TV-show adaptations, from "The Flintstones" to the "Brady Bunch" films to the SNL successes, "The Blues Brothers" and "Wayne's World," "The Fugitive" succeeded because it took full advantage of the longer and yet more succinct story arc and the cinematic visual style. This lends itself very well to increased symbolism and less close-up-focused than television's visual style, to tell an old, familiar story with panache and a certain freshness.

A couple of years later, in walks "U.S. Marshals," with different writers, a different director, and no Harrison Ford. From the opening moments of the film, you feel like you're watching the opening of a really good episode of "Starsky and Hutch" or "C.Hi.P.S." Despite its appearance, this really is not a criticism. I

love a really good episode of "C.Hi.P.S." Always have. But the filmmakers here simply cannot even leave that TV-show level of good enough alone.

Think about it. You know what you're going to get when you tune in to any cheesy TV drama. That's precisely why they're successful. You've got two partners. One is old; one is young. Or one is the ladies'

man, one is the straight-arrow with wife and kids. Or one is the bad-ass and one is the moral compass. They have conflicts. Their boss gets on their backs halfway through, and it really unites them.

There's a shoot-out. One gives his life for the other, or tries to. Book 'em, Danno. There's nothing too hard about it, except, of course, doing it well.

"The Fugitive," of course, didn't follow this formula at all. That was a very large part of its considerable success. It knew it was a movie and so it set up a protagonist and an antagonist who were both good guys, but whose priorities put them in conflict. There's

nothing quite as breathtakingly simple or effective in the sequel.

"U.S. Marshals" starts out with some passable action and then we get Robert Downey, Jr., a counterintelligence agent, as Tommy Lee Jones' foil in the hunt for fugitive Wesley Snipes. So the conflict is young vs. old, experience vs. inexperience, and federal government vs.

shadowy spy-type agency. These are all rich conflicts rife with potential. If there had been a straightforward hunt with some interesting chases interspersed with scenes where these conflicts could flare up individually, "U.S. Marshals" would have been far more satisfying. It still wouldn't have anywhere near approached the quality visible in "The Fugitive," but there was never any danger of that, really, now was there?

Nevertheless, they throw even this potential away. The plot is convoluted completely unnecessarily. Interesting characters are only barely shaded in. There are no really good conflicts between Jones and Downey. The resolution of the chase is deeply unsatisfying. There aren't even any good catchphrases, an absolute must in my book for any self-respecting action film, be it something standard like "Face/Off" or "Supercop," or something a little bit more ambitious like "The Fugitive."

"I didn't kill my wife." "I don't care." There's nothing nearly that stunning in "U.S. Marshals." Not even close.

And Marshal Sam Gerard is practically a cipher. Now, I've seen Tommy Lee Jones in bad movies. I've seen



PHOTO COURTESY WARNER BROS.

him in movies I wouldn't show my dog. But if you watch him closely, you can still enjoy your time in the theater. He's never simply just wisecracking or scenery-chomping. He's always creating a character who is powerfully real and alive.

But even Tommy Lee Jones isn't more powerful than a bad director in an editing room. Sure, he can take all the bad scenes in the world and make them work, but if the director doesn't know enough to keep as much of him in as possible, he might as well have hired Jamie Farr. Director Stuart Baird, who was so good with "Executive Decision," seems to have lost all his good instincts here. Jones still manages to shine through in a couple of powerful moments, but there's nothing like his Oscar-winning "Fugitive" role here for him to work with.

In the end, it's unfortunate. Robert Downey, Jr. is working hard. Wesley Snipes is ready for action. Irene Jacob, the fine French actress from "Red" and "Othello," seems poised to do something interesting the whole film.

But, in the end, none of these potential strengths pays off.

## Marian Kelly

March 20, 1998

Washington and Lee will be bowled over by **Marian Kelly, March 20 in the GHQ at 8 p.m.!** She is a writer and featured comedian for the "Tonight show with Jay Leno." She has also performed on MTV's "Half-Hour Comedy Hour" and Evening at the Improv." She has received rave reviews due to her reality based act which is without the usual clichés. She promises to overwhelm the audience with laughter and you get to see her for **FREE!**

*-sponsored by Fridays!*

## 24 seven

MONDAY \* 3:00 p.m. Men's Tennis vs. Ripon, Varsity Courts. \* 7:00 p.m. Lecture: "Hitler, Florence, and the Manipulation of the Renaissance," Roger Crum, duPont Auditorium. \* TUESDAY \* 3:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Savannah Art & Design, Smith Field. \* 7:30 p.m. Lecture: "NATO Enlargement and European Security in the 21st Century," Ambassador Janusz Reiter of Poland. Commerce School, Rm. 327. \* 8:00 p.m. Senior Recital: Mary New '98, cello. Lee Chapel. \* WEDNESDAY \* 4:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse vs. Lynchburg, Liberty Hall Field. \* 7:30 p.m. CONTACT presents "The Biochemical

Challenge to Evolution," Michael Behe, Northen Auditorium. \* Lecture: "Silver Rights: The Struggle for Justice in Mississippi," Constance Curry and Mae Bertha Carter. Science Center Rm. 214. \* THURSDAY \* 7:00 p.m. PRIDE sponsored showing of "Skin Deep," Science Center Rm. A214. \* 7:30 p.m. Reading by Dan Philippon and Mike Branch, authors of "The Height of our Mountains: Nature Writing from Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah Valley," Commerce School Rm. 221, book signing to follow. \* 8:00 p.m. University Chorus concert: "Music for the Four Seasons," Lenfest Center. \* FRIDAY \* 7:30 p.m. Film Society presents "Mrs. Brown." \* 8:00 p.m. FRIDAYS! presents comedian Marion Kelly at the GHQ. \* SATURDAY \* 12:00 p.m. Women's Tennis vs. Mary Washington, Varsity Courts. \* 1:00 p.m. Men's Tennis vs. Wooster. \* 7:30 p.m. Film Society presents "Mrs. Brown." \* 8:00 p.m. Sonoklect 20th Century Vocal Fest, Lenfest Center. \* Right On at Sigma Nu \* Gran Torino at PiKa

## Work for The Ring-tum Phi

The Phi is always looking for people to fill positions with all aspects of the paper's operation. If you would like to write, come to our story board meetings on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. at the Phi office, or e-mail us at: [phi@wlu.edu](mailto:phi@wlu.edu).

The Phi is also looking for help with advertising

and circulation. We offer commission on ad sales, so you can make money! If you might be interested in advertising, contact Business Manager Jill Jamieson at: [jjamieso@wlu.edu](mailto:jjamieso@wlu.edu). Circulation interest should be directed to Matt Craig at: [mcraig@wlu.edu](mailto:mcraig@wlu.edu).