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The Ring-tum Phi

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 104, No.3

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450

MONDAY, MAY 14, 2001

E-mail news briefs to
phi@wlu.edu

GENERAL NOTES

Relay for Life raises money for cancer research

The Rockbridge Area American Cancer Society held its annual Relay for Life this weekend at Rockbridge County High School.

The 24-hour event began at 3 p.m. Friday and continued through the night to raise money for cancer research and to honor survivors and victims of cancer. Seventy-three teams raised about \$108,000 for the cause. "Travelling for a cure," W&L's team, raised more than \$14,900.

University President John Elrod spoke at the opening ceremony and walked the first lap with 120 other cancer survivors to kick off the event. They were followed by care givers and the Relay for Life teams.

Activities included a human ring toss, volleyball, board games, a hula hoop contest and a tug-of-war.

Nabors Service Day is success

Saturday brunch kicked off W&L's third annual Nabors Service Day this weekend. Volunteer projects included SPCA work, being with the elderly, yard work and painting.

The event was sponsored by the Nabors Service League, which was created to honor the memory of Jonathan Nabors, who died his freshman year in a car accident.

W&L to celebrate second annual China-Japan Day

The Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at Washington and Lee presents its second annual China-Japan Day on Saturday, May 19. This celebration of Chinese and Japanese cultures will be held from 10-3:00 at the Red House. The program includes hands-on activities and demonstrations of calligraphy, Chinese and Japanese cooking (tasting encouraged), Japanese origami, Chinese paper crafts and Japanese summer kimono wearing. There will also be two student presentations. A traditional Japanese "Bon" dance under the Red House trees will end the day.

W&L T-shirts with the university's name in Chinese and Japanese will be on sale. For more information, call Janet Ikeda at 463-8936.

Sen. John McCain to speak at VMI commencement

Senator and recent presidential hopeful John McCain will speak at Virginia Military Institute's commencement, joining class of 2001 Valedictorian John-Henry J. Niederhaus at 11 a.m., Sunday, May 19.

County planners recommend approval for new Lowe's

Despite some hesitation, the Rockbridge County Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the board of supervisors rezone property near Wal-Mart so that a Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse can be built.

The proposed store design is smaller than originally planned and calls for additional landscaping. Lowe's would be one of several additions in the area, which include a new car wash, a Wingate Hotel and a Ruby Tuesday.

24/7: W&L'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today

7 p.m.—Javapalooza. Agents of Good Roots. Baker-Davis-Gilliam Quad.

7 p.m.—Lecture. Prof. Dale Kent, UCR. "Cosimo de' Medici: Florentine Patron." Room 214, Science Center.

7:30 p.m.—Lecture. Dr. Andrzej Paczkowski. "Nazism and Communism in the Experience and Memory of Poles." Room 114, Science Center.

Tuesday, May 15

Noon—Luncheon/Lecture. Florin Berindeanu, University of Georgia. "The Practice of Mysticism: Mystical Ideas in Medieval and Renaissance Italy." Room 114, Science Center.

7 p.m.—Lecture presentation. Dr. J. Christopher Haney. "Why Older Forests Are Important." Northern Auditorium.

Wednesday, May 16

7 p.m.—Politics Filmfest. "Rollerball" (USA 1975). Room 221, Williams School.

Thursday, May 17

7:30 p.m.—Lecture. Ross Terrill, Harvard. "The New Chinese Empire." Northern Auditorium.

Friday, May 18

All Day—Trustee Meetings.
7:30 p.m.—Film Society. "You Can Count on Me" (USA, 2000). Troubador Cinema.

Saturday, May 19

All Day—Trustee Meetings.
10 a.m.—China-Japan Day celebration. Red House (rain site: Room 114, University Center).

7:30 p.m.—Film Society. Film Society. "You Can Count on Me" (USA, 2000). Troubador Cinema.

Law students graduate

By Matthew McDermott
EDITOR IN CHIEF



READY, SET, GO. The W&L law class of 2001, minutes before becoming the university's newest alumni.

Many Washington and Lee undergraduates got their first glimpse of a law student Sunday as 119 of them gathered on the Front Lawn to commence graduation.

The graduates, 70 men and 49 women, were awarded juris doctorates by Law School Dean David Partlett and University President John Elrod.

"Our Law School's proudest moment comes when we gather to recognize the achievement of our students," Partlett said.

The graduating law class of 2001 will join legal firms from California to New York. Several dozen will work as public defenders or prosecutors. Twenty-three graduates will clerk for state and federal court judges.

Over the past two years, the Law School has had a 95 percent placement rate, one of the highest in the country.

The year's commencement speaker was Richard Butler, former United Nation's Economic and Social Council president. Formerly Australia's ambassador to Thailand and the United States, Butler also served as director of UNSCOM, a special U.N. commission that oversaw Iraq's disarmament.

Graduation activities began Friday, with an afternoon awards reception on the Sydney Lewis Hall Front Lawn. The next day graduates enjoyed a noon barbecue and an evening display of fireworks, with champagne.

IFC asks faculty to delay vote on alcohol

By Michelle Lally
STAFF WRITER

The Alcohol Task Force met again Wednesday with students and teachers to review their recommended alcohol policy changes and to address existing concerns.

Interfraternity Council President Quincy Springs kicked off the meeting with a presentation outlining reduced alcohol arrests, reduced infirmary visits and fewer damages done to the fraternity houses since new IFC policies were implemented in late January.

Arrests are down 50 percent, while alcohol-related infirmary visits are down 25 percent, said IFC representatives. Stop-In sales, which the IFC considers representative of in-town alcohol sales, on Alumni Weekend were \$2000 less than last year, and Fancy Dress Weekend sales were \$873 less than last year.

IFC Junior Justice Chris Pickens added that Lexington Police Chief Bruce Beard was pleased with student behavior overall since January.

Springs urged faculty and students present to take these facts into account and consider postponing additional regulations at this time.

"We feel that our policies should be given more time," said Springs.

The Forum, which broke into small discussion groups, was directed by Dean of Students David Howison. Howison instructed the groups to focus their exchange on the three-strike system for individuals, the three-strike system for groups and the punishment for driving while intoxicated.

Many individuals voiced concern that the strike system was unbalanced. Chemistry Instructor Elizabeth Cox said she found the strike system baffling and perhaps poorly weighted.

"I'm confused about if all the things that are listed as a strike are equal in weight," she said. "It doesn't seem to be a true strike system."

Washington and Lee Attorney Leanne Shank conceded that the proposal might need tweaking before being fully implemented.

"Maybe mandatory sentencing needs to be looked at or eliminated," Shank said.

Associate Dean of Students Buddy Atkins said that he didn't believe in a system that punished severely for lesser offenses.

"It would be a travesty to write rules that are for a series of trivial things," said Atkins.

Further confusion arose over the fact that driving under the influence was listed both as a strike and as an offense worthy

of suspension. Students questioned whether the school should try a student for a DUI when the state of Virginia already has legal jurisdiction.

Romance Languages Professor Jeff Barnett explained that taking responsibility for illegal actions often means punishment from multiple directions.

"I don't see any problem with dual punishments," he said. "That's a part of being part of an organization."

Senior David Sigler noted that the ATF policy proposal calls for no suspension or similar punishment for faculty DUI infractions.

"We call ourselves a community, but then different rules are written for different groups," said Sigler. "It just seems unfair."

Barnett explained that the faculty is encouraged by the administration's steps to combat the alcohol environment at W&L. He said the faculty has seen many tragedies over the years directly related to alcohol use and welcomes policy changes that might lessen the chance of such events occurring in the future.

Senior John Jensen, former president of Sigma Chi fraternity, countered that these policy changes threaten student autonomy.

"What I don't like about (the ATF proposal), is that it's taking away from student responsibility," he said. "As president of a fraternity in the IFC, I think it's our turn to run with the ball."

Executive Committee President Rob Naftel said that IFC rules should be given more time to prove their effectiveness.

"I think it hasty to put these new rules in place when they haven't been tested," he said.

Barnett explained that voting for the new system is taking place now. The rules will be in place for next year's freshmen. Students, however, seemed to agree that IFC policies have changed W&L and next year's freshmen would encounter a W&L campus different than that of a year ago.

IFC Secretary Tarik Bateh said that the IFC is currently working on a counter proposal to remind the faculty and trustees that IFC rules have already achieved the goals and objectives that the ATF recommendations set out to promote.

Pickens summed up the forum by saying that the IFC is still hoping they'll be given more time.

"Ideally, we're looking for a delay of the faculty vote," he said, "or for the faculty to vote down the new policies so our rules can prove their effectiveness."

Preservation week observed

By Katie Howell
LAYOUT EDITOR

Washington and Lee students, faculty and Lexington residents gained a new perspective about many of the historic buildings and locations around town this past week during the annual Preservation Week celebration.

This year's theme was "Preserving African-American Heritage."

"(African-American heritage) is a topic that is most often neglected," said Art History Professor Pam Simpson, a member of the Lexington Historical Society.

"We typically learn the history of the white people," she said. "It is time to have those other stories told as well."

Preservation Week, a national celebration sponsored locally by the W&L art department and the Lexington

and Rockbridge County Historical Societies, began Monday, May 7, with historical tours given to the fourth graders of the community. The students toured places such as Stonewall Jackson House, learning about the African-American historical situations associated with each location, said Simpson.

The week continued with a walking tour of Lexington given by W&L History Professor Ted DeLaney. DeLaney showed participants various places around the community and discussed the significance of African-American history in their past. For example, DeLaney's tour visited the Willson-Walker House, which a black man named Walker had made into a meat-curing business in 1911 that was nationally famous for its hams.

On Friday, Louretta Wimberly, chair of the Black Heritage Council of the Alabama Historic Preservation Office and chair of the Southeast Regional African-American Preservation Alliance, spoke to students, faculty and Lexington residents about the preservation of historically black sites. Her lecture, titled "African-American Places: A Legacy to Maintain" focused on techniques and strategies to follow when saving a building.

"Ms. Wimberly was fascinating," DeLaney said. "She was really quite unusual and interesting."

Wimberly also presented a workshop to interested participants on Saturday afternoon. She participated in the Civil Rights movements of the 1960s and was a member of the Voter's Rights March from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., in 1965.

"It really was a wonderful delight having her here," said Simpson. "She gave us a wonderful definition of what preservation is: the historical places around us are our heritage and who we are. If we lose that, we lose who we are."

Simpson said she was pleased with the outcome of the week as a whole. According to Rockbridge County news reports this past week, county school board officials have considered tearing down the middle school, which was the historically black school before desegregation. Simpson said Preservation Week, along with its theme and speaker, came at the perfect time.

"People are so inspired... hopefully, they will begin right away saving things," she said.



WELL PRESERVED. Wimberly's energetic presentation addressed community issues.

Trustees meet this weekend

By Alison Trinidad
NEWS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee Board of Trustees is scheduled to have its second of three yearly meetings this weekend. Issues slated for discussion include the Alcohol Task Force policy recommendations, faculty reappointments and a progress review of current capital projects.

The nine standing committees will meet beginning Thursday afternoon and report to the entire Board on Saturday.

The Campus Life Committee will be reviewing the recommendations of the Alcohol Task Force as presented by University President John Elrod and Executive Committee President Rob Naftel. The Board is expected to develop a general policy on substance abuse at W&L based on these recommendations. The Capital Projects Committee must review the status of different projects, including the remodeling of Reid Hall and Law School classrooms. It will also review plans for construction of the new University Commons and Doremus/Warner Fitness Center.

Two new trustees, Chris Ball and John Klinedinst ('71, '78L), will join 30 others on Thursday afternoon. From Jacksonville, Fla., Ball is active in her community as well as with secondary and higher education, said Associate Director of Development James Farrar. Klinedinst, an attorney practicing in San Diego, comes from Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

At the end of the meetings, Trustee J. Hardin Marion ('55, '58L) will retire after serving two consecutive terms. Marion will gain Emeritus status, which means he is invited to any board meeting but not allowed to vote.

The trustees are ultimately responsible for governing and managing the University as an institution. They meet once every February, May and October. Each trustee is chosen by the Board and serves five-year terms.

Bush blunders with bilingual address

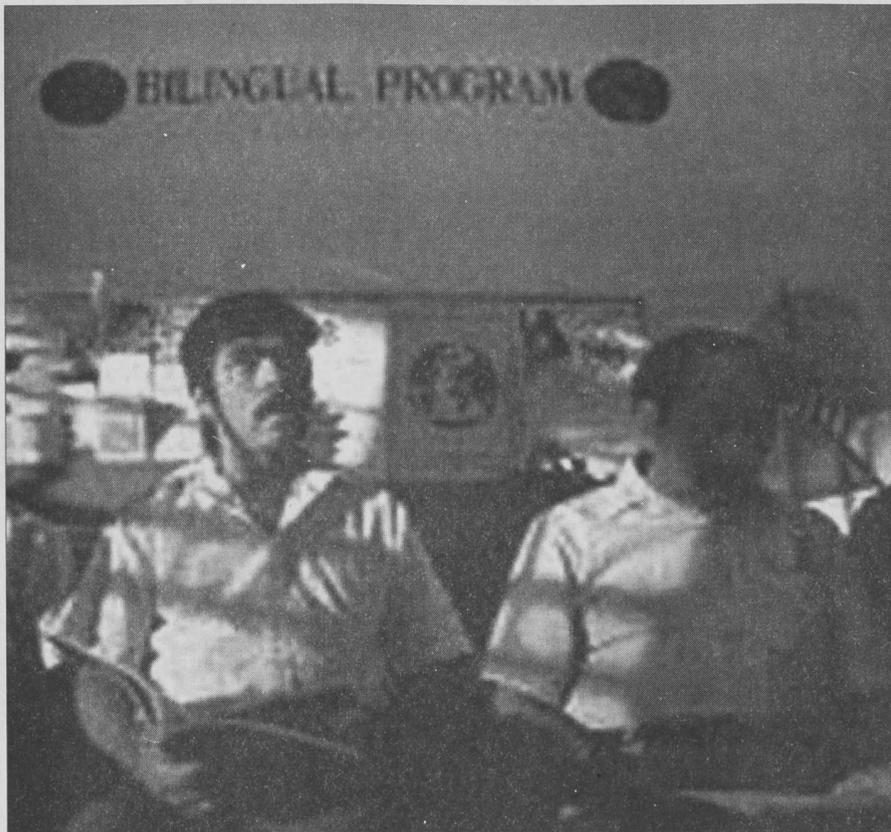
Recently, during his weekly radio address, President George W. Bush committed the first noticeable mistake of his otherwise brilliant administration. He delivered the address in both English and Spanish.

The address, which was given on Cinco de Mayo, concerned the President's appreciation for Hispanic culture and spoke of how much he had learned from and enjoyed Texas' Hispanic culture. Bush's well-meaning outreach is part of the Republican Party's effort to attract minorities. In the election, Hispanics, now the nation's largest minority group, voted between 31 and 35 percent for Bush. If they were to vote only half as heavily for Democrats as blacks do, national and most statewide elections would be unwinnable. Unfortunately, this outreach is misdirected and represents the greatest misstep made by Republicans in this election cycle.

America already has a problem with secondary languages. President Bush doesn't need to exacerbate the situation. The California Driver's License examination is given in over 30 languages. You can be assured that Bush's gesture will lead to outcries of equality from those who speak Urdu, Sioux, Swahili or one of the other 300-plus languages spoken in the United States. New York spent \$1.1 million in the last fiscal year on 911 call translators. Government pandering to foreign language interest groups is both an economic drain and an insult to immigrants who have taken the time to learn English, an incredibly difficult language to master.

The most insidious result of the government's acquiescence to gitchy-goo multiculturalism, however, is the balkanization of America. By making minority groups and young non-minority schoolchildren focus on their native cultures, one necessarily ignores or neglects to cultivate their pride in America and American culture. As a nation, we run the risk of becoming merely a collection of opposing culturally-defined interest groups, rather than a strong, united nation committed to American principles of truth, justice and liberty.

One can already see some of the negative effects of our nation's obsession with multiculturalism. The race riots which destroy urban centers, overwhelmed and underperforming public schools, voter apathy and increasingly bloated government bureaucracies are all examples of the negative effects that a nation forgetting its common culture and language can suffer. Hawaii, a state with a sizable minority speaking a second language, has an independence movement. Puerto Rico, which largely speaks another language, repeatedly votes against becoming a state. A common language and culture are America's greatest unifying force.



HABLA INGLÉS. Bush should praise those who learn English, not pander to those who don't.

America is a nation of immigrants, but previous immigrant waves, those of our grandparents, were successfully assimilated. Poles, Italians, Slavs and Jews all learned to speak English and attended schools which taught only in English and recited the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each school day.

Bush's, and the GOP's, ludicrous effort to court minorities by speaking their language will not work. Instead, Republicans should offer a program that works. Bilingual education condemns minority children to a life as second-class citizens. Such programs fail to teach students English, and their academic per-

formance suffers in every category. California, the state which had the most aggressive bilingual education program, abandoned it in 1998. In the state, bilingual education was a complete failure. It is essential to speak English to be truly successful in America today. Bush should admit this and no longer support a program which doesn't work in the hope of winning a few more minority votes.

What Republicans and Bush should do is appeal to all Americans as Americans. They should invite people of all ethnicities to take a full part in the American Dream. They should accentuate the strength of a united peoples, not focus on our divisions and differences.

Φ Right of the Aisle Brett Kirwan '04

Φ Sharper Focus Meg Ferrara '04

New ATF recommendations are vague, arbitrary

The administration should try to obey state law, not save face

Chances are, sometime in the last week the recommendations of the Alcohol Task Force have been brought up, and duly dismissed as unenforceable, mean-spirited or outrageous. But the more important issue is how vague and misleading the recommendations are.

First off, there is the question of discussion. In the opening paragraph of the report, the ATF expresses the hope that everyone involved in the University will join in discussing the recommendations listed. Despite this, parents of students have yet to receive copies of the report.

However, there are more serious questions related to the recommendations themselves. In many cases, the recommendations appear to be either vague or draconian, with far too much left unsaid. For example, the entire policy regarding drinking within non-Greek student organizations is left as something to be elaborated on later by an unspecified person, and is completely devoid of any actual recommendations. Granted, drinking in non-Greek organizations is rather limited, but the idea of the report was to make the actual recommendations, not recommend that they be made.

In a sharp contrast to that, the implication of the three strikes rule seems to be that, regardless of how trivial the offense is, after three strikes you must find a new alma mater. This puts appearing in public drunk on the same level as drinking and driving.

The sheer level of arbitrary action implied by this raises doubts as to whether the rule would be properly enforced. After all, what police officer (much less a by-

stander) wants to ruin a college career because of a drunk in public citation?

Also, the level of the sanctions increases dramatically from "moderate sanctions with primary emphasis upon education and counseling" to suspension for a full semester. The report leaves the exact definition of what "moderate" might consist of to the imagination. Hopefully, these sanctions are determined based on the nature of the offense, but if that was the implication, it was concealed well.

Then too, there is the reference to parental notification. What does this mean? Will someone write home to tell your parents that you have been naughty, or do they call them? Moreover, what does the "education" consist of?

Besides, what about just enforcing the Virginia state laws? If the administration wanted to crack down on drinking on campus, it might start by enforcing those downplayed laws. Consider the penalty for just being in possession of alcohol while under the legal age: a mandatory fine of \$500 and possible loss of your driver's license for a year. How about that as a way to deal with the drinking problem here at W&L?

This, in the end, brings to light the chief difficulty of this report, that is, what a small role the Virginia state law plays in it. Too often, the emphasis seems to be on behaviors that could result in public embarrassment for the University, without attending to student welfare. This particularly comes across in rules that make no mention of the possession of alcohol by a minor, or of the dangers of drinking and driving.

Do we really need another tragedy before we take seriously the effects that alcohol has on our lives?

Dartmouth's frats offer W&L lesson

On Friday afternoon, Dartmouth College permanently derecognized the Psi Epsilon Chapter of Zeta Psi Fraternity. The decision came after over three weeks of heated campus debate concerning the fraternity's now-infamous "sex papers."

According to administrators, the fraternity's newsletters contained "abusive" and "demeaning" references to women that were tantamount to harassment. Members of Zeta Psi challenged that the newsletters were intended to poke fun at fellow brothers by concocting sexual exploits in satirical fashion, that the papers were meant

only for brothers' eyes, and that the College had mistaken "offensive speech" for "threatening or harassing speech." Of particular concern was a promise to reveal a brother's patented date-rape techniques in a future issue. Campus-wide opinion, as might be expected, is divided.

The Zeta Psi debacle follows closely on the heels of another Dartmouth fraternity crisis involving the Zeta Chapter of Psi Upsilon Fraternity. In February several brothers allegedly hollered derogatory and sexist jeers ("Wah-hoo-wah, scalp those bitches!") to a female passerby late at night.

The fraternity received sanctions of two terms of social probation, a penalty which—like that imposed upon Zeta Psi—struck some as excessive and others as progressive.

Dartmouth is at a crossroads, and at issue is the fate of the Greek system. The message implicit in the administration's recent sanctions is that the Greek system is, to borrow a line from the Dartmouth-inspired movie *Animal House*, "on double secret probation." That is, inappropriate behavior will not be handled lightly, and the transgressions of one might jeopardize the future of all.

It's tempting to label the debate as one of alumni and Greeks versus faculty, administration and liberals, but the reality is much more complex. Before considering whether the Greek system is at odds with the community at large, members of the Dartmouth community must first decide what exactly "community" means in the first place.

In light of the recent events at Dartmouth, I think it would be wise for us to reflect upon our own institution, our goals, and our definition of community.

We, too, are facing some important issues: the tragic deaths earlier this year and the unabated flow of DUIs and other drinking-related violations have raised concerns among many about the sanctity of those time-honored, tradition-laden activities and institutions we hold so dear. The recently unveiled Alcohol Task Force Initiative is the product of such anxieties.

As with the Dartmouth situation, there is a tendency to oversimplify and to construct lines between administration and students and alumni. Such uninformed banter does little good for anybody.

We students must realize that we have been blessed with unmatched autonomy and thus the ability to influence the future of W&L. Such autonomy, I might add, is the envy of many, many schools, not the least of which is Dartmouth.

I do not advocate that we take up the Task Force's initiatives, but rather that we listen attentively to different opinions and ideas, and decide upon solutions that are mutually acceptable. We must understand that in order to take we sometimes have to give.

Unlike at Dartmouth, the Greek system is hardly in any danger at W&L. In fact, I would say it is thriving. But the reason for its success, I purport, is because the spirit of fraternity is alive and well in our Greek system, and because the principles upon which our University was founded echo those that the Greek system perpetuates. Yet, complacency is not the answer to our current problems, nor is divisiveness.

If we show some nuance and empathy in dealing with alcohol issues, we'll go a long way toward protecting that autonomy and mutual respect that has defined W&L for over 250 years.

Quote of the week:

"I think people everywhere prefer blondes because we're just better. I'd prefer a man with blonde hair so we'd have cute children."

— Anonymous blonde friend of equally anonymous brunette Phi W&Life editor

Write for the Phi!

Contact us at phi@wlu.edu, x4060, or stop by Room 208 of the University Center

The Ring-tum Phi

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TALKback: What do you think about other schools being finished?



"It's not fair."
-Rachel Mallis '04



"In Japan, they'll be in school until July or August."
-Satomi Hagiwara '04



"Other schools don't have Spring Term."
-Eric Ritter '04



"They have made a mistake."
-Dan Vos '04



LOOK AT ME. Liam Bent, 2-year-old son of Art Professor George Bent, shows off the face-paint rainbow he received at the Kid's Carnival. The event was sponsored by Omnicron Delta Kappa, a service organization founded at W&L.

photo by Alison Trinidad/news editor

Twins graduate W&L, VMI

Sisters become closer through college despite different schools

By Amy Blevins
W&L LIFE EDITOR

One student wakes up every morning to military formations and the barracks. Another student wakes up to the colonnade. While Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee sit side by side, how much could these two students have in common? They're twin sisters for starters.

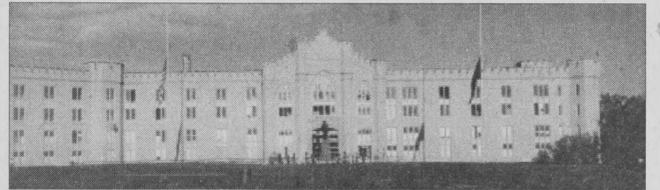
In the first year of VMI's graduating class to include women, twin sisters Alicia and Alexis Abrams will be walking with the W&L and VMI class of 2001.

The Abram sisters did not plan to end up right next door to each other, but looking back they are both thankful.

Alexis knew she wanted to attend VMI by December of her senior year. With Alexis already set on her college Alicia was still looking for a small school that offered a good Air Force ROTC program. Alicia ran across W&L at a college fair. "I was offered a scholarship and after doing some research, found out it was one of the top liberal arts college(s) around," said Alicia.

At first the idea of attending college right next door to Alicia seemed strange for Alexis.

"My sister and I did not make our college decisions together. If anything, I think that at first I was trying to get as far away from her as possible. You know



Ring-tum Phi File Photos

WORLDS APART. Twins Alexis and Alicia Abrams graduate this year from VMI and W&L respectively. This is VMI's first four year rotation of females.

how teenagers are when they are in high school, they are ready to set out and experience new things on their own," said Alexis. "Well, I thought that I was going to be able to do that and then my sister

Despite the differences in lifestyle, the two sisters say they have grown even closer together in the past four years. "When all the family you've got is next door, you really learn to appreciate that," said Alicia. "Plus, we're twins ... we'll always have that close, 'special' relationship."

"I do not find it hard to identify with my sister at all," said Alexis. "I can talk to her about the things that go on here at VMI and she will understand completely."

Have they ever thought about what it would be like to attend their sister's college? "Sometimes I do wonder what it would be like to be a regular college student, to wear whatever I want, and not have to follow a military regimen each day, but then I wake up and realize that I love my school and I wouldn't exchange the experiences I have received her for anything," said Alexis.

"VMI is not me ... I don't have to go there to see what it's like ... I know, and have no burning desire to experience a day there whatsoever," said Alicia. "I'm glad (in certain regards) that I went to W&L. I'm most glad about the fact that I got to experience my college years with my sister."

"As soon as 'Hell Week' started here at VMI, I was thanking God everyday that I had a sister next door."

— Alexis Abrams

Alexis plans to work for the U.S. Postal service next year in Portland, Ore. in the Office of Inspector General. Alicia plans to go to the Air Force for Officer Training School.

Over the years they have lived considerably different lives. At W&L, Alicia enjoys more freedom from rules than her sister. "They have so many (rules) at VMI that cadets must live by and I don't. I get up when I want, eat when I want, skip class if I want ... They have very restricted lives there," said Alicia.



the rumors are true!

Javapalooza presents

Agents of Good Roots



May 14

7:30-10 p.m.

Baker-Davis-Gilliam Quad

Java will be serving hot and cold coffee drinks, as well as ice cream from SWEET THINGS.

Bring a blanket and bring your friends for a music-filled night under the stars!



Restaurant review: El Puerto

By Micheal George
STAFF WRITER

EL PUERTO #12
Rt. 11 N Lexington
540-464-4270

El Puerto Mexican Restaurant may be one of Lexington's finest eateries, but not too many people seem to know about it.

Nestled away in the Ramada Inn near Interstate 81, El Puerto serves up exceptional Mexican cuisine at affordable prices. I first discovered El Puerto while visiting Lexington as a prospective W&L student, and found it to be one of my most memorable experiences.

El Puerto's dining room is casual, focusing on substance over style. Guests of the restaurant sit at simple red tables which partly overlook the Ramada's pool. Although a taste of Mexico can't be sensed in the environment, fast and friendly service makes El Puerto a worthwhile experience.

El Puerto serves up a variety of dishes suitable for any taste. On this visit I ordered the Chimichanga lunch special. Served with rice and beans, the Chimichanga is a dish comprised of a beef-stuffed tortilla fried and smothered in cheese. I was surprised by the rich flavor of the Chimichanga, noting its lively taste and mixture of textures. I was also pleased to find that the

Mexican rice served with my meal was soft and flavorful.

El Puerto offers its guests unlimited refills on many of its drinks and an unlimited supply of tortilla chips to snack on while awaiting the main course. I was pleased with the chips, which were served fresh and hot. As an appetizer, I ordered a bowl of cheese dip, which arrived promptly before my meal. Although the dip was a bit runny, its sharp flavor seemed a perfect addition to the crisp tortilla chips.

The biggest draw of El Puerto seems to be a combination of good food and affordable prices. My bill came to under five dollars, less than the cost of a typical lunch at any one of Lexington's many fast food establishments. El Puerto is perfect for a date or a visit among friends. With great food and great prices, El Puerto Mexican Restaurant is one eatery you can't afford to miss.

COMPANY

A Musical Comedy

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by George Furth

Directed by Al Gordon

Musical Direction by Jerry Myers

May 25, 26 & 28, 2001 at 8 p.m.

May 27, 2001 at 2 p.m.

Keller Theatre • Lenfest Center
Tickets and Information • 540/463-8000

Generals tennis storms way to nationals

By Dave Crowell
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

One week ago, the Washington and Lee women's tennis team faced Mary Washington College and won convincingly 7-2.

In the Atlantic South Regional final, the rematch between the two squads held higher stakes, with the winner advancing to the NCAA Division III National Championships.

Same opponent, similar results. The Generals, host of the regional, followed a 9-0 defeat of Salisbury State on Friday afternoon with an 8-1 defeat of the Eagles. W&L now will travel to the National Championships at Trinity University, in San Antonio, Texas, next weekend.

In the semifinals, the Generals easily outplayed Salisbury State and moved their record to 19-2 on the season. W&L won all six singles matches and finished the sweep with three doubles victories.

W&L was led by junior Melissa Hatley, The Old Dominion Athletic Conference Player of the Year won her No. 1 singles match 6-1, 6-1. Hatley also teamed with sophomore Erika Proko — a 7-5, 6-2 winner at No. 2 singles — for an 8-2 victory at No. 1 doubles.

"I think we did so well because we were excited," Hatley said. "It definitely helped. We were ready to go in our matches."

The Generals used their rolling enthusiasm on Saturday afternoon to dis-appoint Mary Washington for the sec-

ond time in seven days. In the final, Proko and classmate Laura Bruno led W&L. Proko won her No. 2 singles match 6-1, 6-2 in addition to an 8-1 doubles victory, again teaming with Hatley.

Bruno avenged an earlier defeat to Mary Washington's Ashley Knapp with a hard-fought 0-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory at No. 3 singles. In last weekend's action, Bruno fell by a score of 7-6, 7-5.

Bruno also teamed up with junior Sallie Gray Strang at No. 2 doubles. The duo easily disposed of the Eagles with an 8-1 victory.

Hatley faced a tough defeat for the second time against the Eagles' Lea Schon. Despite the 6-0, 6-4 defeat, Hatley held high hopes for next week-

"Lea Schon is a good player," Hatley said. "It was a good match and I'm sure it will prepare me for the tournament."

Other winners in singles competition on Saturday included sophomores Alyson Brice and Brandi Jane Wedgeworth and freshman Liz Law. Law teamed with fellow freshman Ellie Simpson for an 8-4 victory in No. 3 doubles.

The resounding victory left the Generals with a 20-2 record and one of eight automatic berths to San Antonio. The team is still unsure of its opponent, but feels ready to match last year's third-place finish.

"We're really excited about getting to go," Hatley said. "We all believe we have a good shot, if we play our hardest."

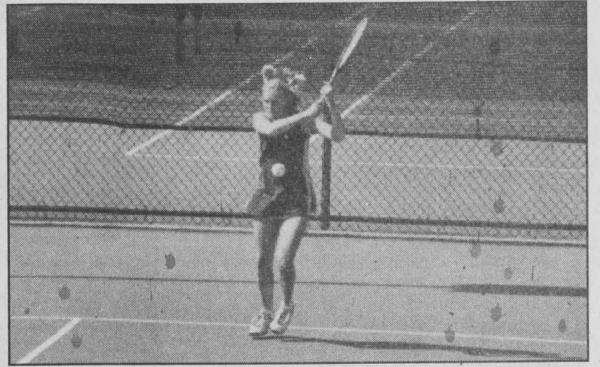


photo by Mary Guy/Photo Editor
SAN ANTONIO BOUND. Junior Sallie Gray Strang returns a shot in her doubles win with sophomore Laura Bruno against Salisbury State.

Eagles knock W&L out of playoffs

By Jeremy Franklin
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee women's lacrosse team ended a record-setting season on Saturday with a 10-6 loss to Mary Washington in the first round of the NCAA Women's Lacrosse Tournament in Salisbury, Md.

Senior attacker Bridget Geiman's four goals for the Eagles were too much for W&L to overcome. Freshman midfielder Leë Wheeler and junior midfielder Courtenay Fisher scored two goals apiece for the Generals, who set a school record for wins in 2001.

W&L finishes the season with a 15-4 record that included a nine-game winning streak and an ODAC Championship.

"They have more depth than we do, and they're definitely a very good team," W&L head coach Jan Hathorn said of the Eagles. "Our lack of depth yesterday definitely made a difference. Not to discredit Mary Washington, but we also had a lot of turnovers, so we didn't help ourselves."

Geiman scored an unassisted goal just 25 seconds into the match. After Mary Washington sophomore Pam Kramer upped the advantage to 2-0 at 25:58, Geiman added another goal just 26 seconds later.



Ring-tum Phi File Photo

PLAYOFF PERFORMANCE. Junior Courtenay Fisher (center) scored two goals against Mary Washington, and classmate Emily Owens added one.

The Generals, who lost to the Eagles 17-6 on March 24, played a much better mental game, according to Hathorn.

"The number-one thing is that we kept our composure," Hathorn said. "We got down early the first time we played them, and they took us out of our game. Saturday,

we knew better than to be intimidated by them. Therefore, we were able to stick to our game plan."

Wheeler scored her two goals, both unassisted, over the next 7:11 to cut the Eagles' lead to 3-2. However, goals from junior Briana Gervat, senior Jenni Foy, and junior Meghan Twomey gave Mary Washington a 6-2 lead. W&L freshman Kelly Taffe scored with 11 seconds left before halftime to trim the lead back to 6-3.

Fisher's first goal of the contest, which came with 24:51 remaining in the second half, cut the score to 6-4, but the Generals would come no closer.

Freshman Joanna Perini made 14 saves in net for W&L; her counterpart, senior Heather Carter, stopped 12 shots for the Eagles. Although disappointed that the season came to a close, Hathorn admits that her team exceeded anyone's expectations in 2001.

"I'm proud of the girls, their work ethic, their pride, their team chemistry," said Hathorn, who has coached the team since the program's inception in 1988. "They're an excellent group of women who are very dedicated to what they're doing, and it's a pleasure to coach them."

"(Qualifying for the NCAA Tournament) is not what we necessarily set out to do, but we knew in the back of our minds that it was a possibility. The intangible things were what made the difference."

Men's tennis team falls in regional final

By Jeremy Franklin
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's tennis team avenged a regular-season loss to Swarthmore on Saturday before falling to Washington College in the finals of the NCAA Atlantic South Regional on Sunday in Chestertown, Md.

The Generals, who lost to the Garnet Tide 4-3 at home on April 1, knocked off Swarthmore 4-1 in Chestertown. Freshman No. 3 seed Austin Kim topped Justin Singer 6-3, 6-4. At fifth-seed singles, freshman K.C. Schaefer edged Frank Visciano 6-4, 6-4, and junior sixth-seed Rob Moynihan knocked off Scott Grant 6-2, 6-2.

The Generals took all three doubles matches for their fourth point. Juniors Rhys James and Andrew Roberts handed Schilla

and John Thomas an 8-4 loss at the top seed. Kim and freshman Graham Nix defeated Grant and Jayson Yost 8-4, and Schaefer and junior Zac Vuncannon knocked off Visciano and Singer 8-5.

W&L was unable to avenge another regular-season loss on Sunday, dropping a 4-0 decision to host Washington.

Kim and Nix produced W&L's only victory of the day, an 8-6 win over Bart Prytula and Peter Taylor at No. 2 doubles. W&L finishes the season with an overall record of 13-6.

Borges selected to play in IWLCA All-Star game

By Jeremy Franklin
SPORTS EDITOR

Senior attacker Liz Borges capped off a season of honors this week with her selection to play in the IWLCA Division III North/South Women's Lacrosse All-Star Game in Baltimore on June 9.

Borges' other 2001 recognition includes being named to the All-Old Dominion Athletic Conference First Team and All-ODAC Tournament Team, two selections as ODAC Player of the Week, and Division III National Player of the Week status for the week of March 19.

"Obviously, it is nice to get the honors, but I am more excited with how the team is doing than the individual stuff," Borges said. "The team is an amazing bunch of girls, and I think one of the reasons that we have done so well is because we get along so well on and off the field."

The Generals, who lost to Mary Washington by a 10-6 score in the first round of the NCAA playoffs on Saturday, finished the season 15-4, setting a school record for wins in the process.

"We had no expectations at the beginning of the season, and

that helps as well," Borges said. "Everyone on the team is so dedicated and encouraging to everyone else. I would not have all the individual honors if my teammates were not as good as they are."

"Our defense is so strong and our transition game has gotten very strong as well. All I have to do in my position is put the ball in the net."

Watson, Hegg fail to qualify for NCAA Championships

Senior Marc Watson and junior Mike Hegg fell short of qualifying for the NCAA Division III Championships with their performances at the James Madison Invitational, held Saturday in Harrisonburg.

Watson's season-best time of 10:82 seconds in the 100-meter dash landed him in sixth place. Hegg placed sixth in the 110-meter high hurdles at a time of 16.32 seconds.

W&L's team competition ended April 28 with a fourth-place finish at the ODAC Championships, hosted by Bridgewater.

Sigler, Hanson named to All-ODAC baseball squad

Senior pitcher David Sigler and sophomore shortstop Michael Hanson were named to the All-Old Dominion Athletic Conference teams on Wednesday.

Sigler received first-team honors, posting a 6-2 record and a 2.86 earned run average. The Pennsylvanian tossed seven complete games, including two shutouts, striking out 48 batters in 66 innings pitched. Sigler was also named First Team All-ODAC in 1999. He holds nine W&L pitching records, and is second in career strikeouts with 214 and fourth in ERA at 3.62.

Hanson was named to the second team for the second consecutive year. The sophomore batted .379, leading the team in eight major offensive categories, including a .647 slugging percentage and 29 runs. Hanson was also 2-0 with a 1.65 ERA in 16.1 innings of work.

W&L ended the season 23-8, setting a school record for wins. In the ODAC, the Generals were 9-7, finishing in fifth place.

The Press Box

Hornets create little buzz in Queen City

The Hornets' days in Charlotte must be numbered.

The Queen City and the state of North Carolina never fell in love with the Hornets. Because of this presumable lack of attachment, one of the larger and nicer facilities in the NBA, the Charlotte Coliseum, may soon be vacated.

College basketball and NASCAR are institutions in North Carolina. The NFL is catching on, too; unlike the Hornets in basketball, the Panthers can claim that they produce a product superior to any college football team that plays in the Old North State.

Even the NHL's Hurricanes are gaining credibility; Raleigh is experiencing a dual novelty of professional hockey — including Stanley Cup Playoff action for the first time this year — and its own Big Four franchise.

Poor Hornets. No one cares. No one cared that they demolished Pat Riley's Miami Heat in the first round of the NBA Playoffs (also known as the greatest six months of American sport) or that they have a shot at knocking off the number-two Bucks to advance to the Eastern Conference Finals.

Sure, NASCAR drivers Dale Earnhardt, Jr., and Michael Waltrip and former *Seinfeld* star Jason Alexander were on hand for Thursday's 102-92 Charlotte win. So were 17,389 other folks — over 6,000 short of the Coliseum's seating capacity for NBA contests.

Well, at least the lead story on *The Charlotte Observer's* sports web page Friday morning was about the game, right? Not quite — a high school football coach's decision to remain at his current position is evidently more important to the newspaper's online readers.

Sunday's attendance for the Hornets' 85-78 win wasn't much better, with just 18,756 fans showing up.

The series, which is tied 2-2, must be at least a decent one, Milwaukee fans packed the Bradley Center for the first two games of the series, even if only because Packers' training camp doesn't start for another couple of months.

The other three conference semifinal series have drawn better crowds. Even Dallas packed its Reunion Arena to see the Mavericks host the Spurs in Games 3 and 4 of their series, watching San Antonio extend its series lead to 3-0 before the Mavs staved off elimination with a 112-108 win on Saturday.

Rumors have circulated recently that the Hornets are on their way out of Charlotte; with the apparent indifference of the community, why shouldn't they leave?

Tobacco Road opponents veer different directions

They've faced off five times in the past two seasons, but now we'll have to wait to see them match up again.

The two best guards in the Atlantic Coast Conference (if not in the country), Duke's Jason Williams and North Carolina's Joseph Forte, heard the NBA calling after their sophomore years in college.

Forte answered the call; Williams didn't. After winning an NCAA championship in April, Williams is still hungry for college glory. Meanwhile, Forte is leaving to pursue his "lifetime dream."

The shooting guard has been assured that he will be drafted in the first round, and maybe that will hold true. However, another season in Chapel Hill might have propelled him into the top 20 or even the lottery. Forte is a pure shooter, to be sure, but lacks the size or ball-handling ability to have an immediate impact in the NBA.

Money is the primary motive, of course, but Williams — the more rounded of the two — knows the money will be waiting for him in another year or two.

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