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Goal-den ticket

Women's soccer continues its undefeated season and aims for a bid to the NCAA D-III tournament.

- Page 7

All is well in town

Residents in the county may want to shut down student parties, but inside city limits students and their neighbors are getting along fine.

- Page 3

Drinking not required

Believe it or not, it's possible to have a fun night out in Lexington without doing keg stands and drinking out of trash cans.

- Page 5

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2006 BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CX, NUMBER 5



A TRUE HOMECOMING

Alum to be sworn in

Inaugural activities centerpiece of homecoming weekend

By Sacha Raab
STAFF WRITER

Homecoming weekend is two weeks away, and already the students, University Security, and inhabitants of Lexington are beginning to feel the excitement and tension of this major event.

This year the weekend is even more important, as it is combined with President Kenneth Ruscio's inauguration.

Lexington is expecting 3,000 to 4,000 out-of-town guests, and 150 VIP guests, including many representatives from other colleges and

universities.

This influx of visitors is causing concerns for the University Security, who will be employing all of their staff on that Saturday.

The University already struggles with parking arrangements, and the popularity of the weekend will surely cause complications.

University Security is planning on using the parking areas that are typically used for major events; however, they will most likely not be sufficient.

Students typically seem to be excited mostly for Homecoming parties and events. According to sophomore Kel-

si Robinson, it is the first big date weekend at Washington and Lee, though it really only involves a few cocktail parties and maybe a date.

"It always causes some nerves, especially among the girls who have no control over the situation, considering the frats are the ones with all of the events and parties," Robinson said.

Junior Kelly Will agrees that the students are generally looking forward to the parties and all of the visitors coming into Lexington from out of town, especially alumni who have recently graduated.

"I don't really know what kind of stir the President's

Inauguration is making, but people seem to like Ruscio a lot, so I'm sure people are interested to see the beginning of his era," Will said.

According to Will, Homecoming is an important weekend for the school because of all the returning alumni and fraternity rush events.

Homecoming weekend should be a great success this year.

Combined with Ruscio's inauguration, the city of Lexington and the University will benefit from its weekend in the spotlight with alumni, collegiate representatives, and plenty of other supporters of the school.

Ruscio shares his 2006 goals

Alumnus, politics professor, and former dean will be 26th president

News Editor Jacob

Geiger sat down with

incoming president Ken

Ruscio to discuss his

upcoming inauguration

Ring-Tum Phi: What has been your favorite part of the first few months on the job, especially the month since school started?

Ruscio: I think talking with students and talking with alumni. Just hearing once again all the

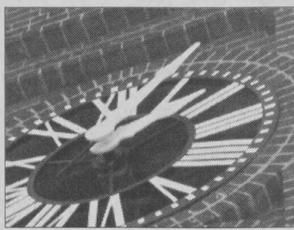
stories about Washington and Lee - what they value about W&L. The characteristics that are meaningful to them. Also seeing the diversity of experiences they convey.

Phi: What surprised you about the new job?

Ruscio: Nothing really. There was no particular issue or problem that surprised me. I think every college president is surprised by the volume and range of issues you have to deal with.

See "BIG PROJECTS" on page 2

news



Quick fix not so cheap

Workers lay down sod and sidewalks during construction

By Dane Davis
STAFF WRITER

In a temporary yet expensive project, thousands of dollars in grass outside the Elrod Commons has been torn up and replaced with sod.

It may surprise some, but this isn't the first time the university has landscaped the Elrod Commons' courtyard. Randolph Hare, Project Manager of the construction and landscaping around Elrod Commons, said, "The area between the Co-op and Commons was reseeded after utility connections for the Co-op were completed."

Then why is money being spent to re-sod the area?

Hare said, "The results were less than satisfactory in part because of the poor quality of the soil. In fact, the area from Reid Hall to Graham-Lees Dorm was in need of improvement. The corners of the green spaces were worn from pedestrian traffic, there were drainage and landscaping issues dating back to the construction of Commons that needed to be addressed."

Hare said the university consulted with a landscaping firm before deciding to re-sod the entire area to make aesthetic improvements. He said the re-sodding is an interim step in a comprehensive improvement of the area from Reid Hall to Washington Street. Hare said the project's biggest changes will happen during the summer of 2007.

That means all work happening in the Elrod Commons'



MICHAEL KEENAN / Staff Photographer

New sod, fresh bricks, and temporary sidewalks are changing the view in front of Graham-Lees. The project will be finished in August 2007.

square is provisional until 2007. According to Facilities Management, the "final courtyard project will not begin until after graduation, June 2007 and will be completed by August 2007." This means that the sod and concrete sidewalks will eventually be replaced.

When asked, Hare wouldn't say how much the construction costs.

Students may have welcomed the improvements more if they weren't temporary fixes. The fact that all of this money is being spent on sidewalks and grass that will eventually be torn

up annoys some of them.

Junior James Heidebreder said, "I think the sod was overkill in the first place. The grass seemed to be growing well before it was raked up and disposed. There's a real problem with the grass there, mainly because that area doesn't drain

well. Fix the drainage problem and you can fix the grass problem."

Sophomore Rob Frasco takes a different approach to the issue. "As long as they make the sidewalks into bricks and have everything done reasonably soon, then I'm okay with it."

Although work is finishing up in the Elrod Commons' courtyard, construction will continue in other areas of campus. The sod has taken root and the concrete is dry, but in a few short months, landscaping will begin anew in the Commons' courtyard.

Big projects still ahead

Continued from page 1

Phi: What are you looking forward to about the inauguration?

Ruscio: It's going to be a celebration of W&L. It's not about me. It's about where we are and where we're headed. It's exciting to me that all different members of the community are involved. It's a chance to think hard about W&L.

Phi: Can we have a preview of your speech?

Ruscio: The general theme is that it'll be about not just liberal arts education, but a Washington and Lee liberal arts education. I'll talk about some of the distinctive qualities of W&L that make us W&L.

Phi: Do you think students will be interested and present at the speech?

Ruscio: What I've told many students is just come and have fun. Come casually, sit on the lawn, and watch what goes on. We want it to not be a serious, overly formal event, and of course there will be lunch on the lawn afterward. We hope students will participate.

Phi: If you could change one thing right away, what would it be?

Ruscio: One thing I consider especially important this year is to consider the teacher-scholar model. This is more intangible than some of the other goals. I want to engage faculty in a discussion about what it is to be on

faculty at a student-centered liberal arts college. That will lay groundwork for some other things we consider.

Phi: What are your goals for the rest of the year?

Ruscio: A variety of things. We have to be very determined to develop financial aid resources for students. To continue to attract the best and brightest students, we must make sure cost isn't a deterrent. We also have to recruit and maintain the best faculty and staff. There are also important physical projects, starting with the Colonnade. We'll be making decisions about specifics and design. Students and faculty should look back 80 years from now and thank us for making wise decisions to preserve the Colonnade.

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CUTERA

schedule of events:

Friday, October 20

• 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Alumni Luncheon
"For W&L I Yell!"

• 2:30-4:00 p.m. Panel: "Liberal Arts in the 21st
Century"

Keller Theatre, Lenfest Center
Moderated by Roger Mudd '50

• 4:00-5:00 p.m. Panel Reception
Kamen Gallery, Lenfest Center

Saturday, October 21

• 10:30 a.m. Inauguration

Front Lawn, Lee Chapel
(Rain Plan - Doremus / Warner Center)

• 12:00-1:30 p.m. Inaugural Lunch
Cannan Green
(Rain Plan - Evans Hall)

• 2:00 p.m. Friends of the Library reception

Hosted by Roger Mudd '50

• 1:30 p.m. Football Game

Generals vs. the Quakers of Guilford College
Wilson Field

• 4:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Virginia Wine Tasting and
BBQ Dinner

Honoring the classes of 2003-2006. All alumni
welcome, but registration is required.

Liberty Hall Ruins

• 6:00 p.m. Milhiser Moot Courtroom Dedication
Lewis Hall

• 7:15 p.m. Five-Star Generals Dinner

Joined by President and Mrs. Ken Ruscio.
Evans Dining Hall

Homeless for a weekend

Nine students will spend part of reading days living among the homeless on the streets of Washington, D.C.

By Sarah Klentz
STAFF WRITER

Most Washington and Lee students look forward to reading days as a break from what can be a long and stressful start of the school year. Many go home; others relax and catch up on homework and sleep. Most, however, do not spend their time living in poverty.

According to sophomore Micaela Coffey, nine W&L students plan on taking the Urban Plunge, a program through the National Coalition for the Homeless. Volunteers spend 48 hours living like the homeless on the streets of large cities. W&L students will be taking the Plunge in Washington, D.C., over the long weekend.

"You're living on the streets in D.C. as a homeless person without the conveniences that we enjoy here," Coffey said. "No cell phone, no credit card, no money at all."

Coffey, the Alternative Breaks chair for Nabors Service League, said that W&L students will be split into three groups. During the day, the groups will be on their own and experience what it is like to be homeless.

"They encourage you to panhandle for a couple of hours," Coffey said. "Well, you have to, or else you're not going to have anything to eat."

Sophomore Alden Wicker, who will be participating in the Plunge, said that although it might be embarrassing, she's looking forward to learning from experiences like panhandling.

"I know it will be the most humiliating thing I will have ever done to actually beg for money," Wicker said. "Hopefully being hungry and seeing how people who are like myself treat me when I look ratty will teach me something about myself."

Junior Woodrow Friend is also participating in the Urban Plunge. Friend said the manual that the National Coalition for the Homeless gives to participants encourages them to face the hardships of looking for a job without the conveniences of a car or a phone number.

"When reading the Urban Plunge handbook, I found a note encouraging others to apply for fast food jobs. Mention that you don't have a home or a phone number but that you are willing to check back every day. Those lines caught my attention," Friend said. "I am looking forward to trying to find a job as a plunger."

The National Coalition for the Homeless also encourages participants to "engage with other homeless people" by playing cards or just talking so that students can "try to delve in as deep as [they] can into that whole world," Coffey said.

fey said.

"We'll be able to experience what it's really like to not have anything to do," Coffey said. "Like the homeless, we'll be walking all day and not ending up anywhere."

Senior Chris Tittle, involved in the Shepherd Poverty Program, said he is looking forward to connecting with the people he meets on the streets.

"I am much more excited than scared about this because I have worked with homeless people in D.C., and for the most part, they are normal people facing a variety of adverse circumstances," Tittle said. "There certainly is an element of danger and risk involved, but that is what makes this such a real experience."

In the evenings, the students will spend the nights as a group of nine with a guide. The group's guide will be John Harrison, a homeless man who has been working with the National Coalition for the Homeless for several years leading groups on the Urban Plunge. The group will either sleep on the street or in a shelter, Coffey said.

"The National Coalition doesn't really want college students to take up beds in shelters, but the group and the guide will make the decision together depending on the circumstances," Coffey said.

Coffey added that the National Coalition for the Homeless "almost requires people to take shifts so someone is awake at all times" if the group sleeps on the street.

Although the experience seems like it might be dangerous, Coffey said the National Coalition for the Homeless has been running the program for over 20 years and have never had any participant be in danger.

Aubrey Shinofield, W&L's Service Learning Coordinator, said she is confident in the group's safety during their Urban Plunge.

"[The National Coalition has] done this program for such a long time, and groups come back on an annual basis," Shinofield said. "I feel comfortable working with them and they've assured a safe experience for our students."

Shinofield said that the number of students who signed up for the Urban Plunge exceeded her expectations, but she is excited for them to step out of their molds.

"It's obviously going to be a very intense experience," Shinofield said. "This isn't going to be a break at all—it may not even be fun. They're going to experience things that are going to make them think, they're not going to get a lot of sleep, but I'm proud of the people that are going. They're choosing to experience something they could never learn in the classroom but that is absolutely

taking the plunge:

Students will:

- spend 48 hours living on the streets of D.C.
- sleep on the streets or in a homeless shelter.
- panhandle and apply for jobs.
- be led by a homeless guide.

part of our education."

Coffey said she's looking forward to the experience, and that she thinks the other eight students will take a lot away from it.

"It's meant to be an emotional challenge," Coffey said, "but I hope we gain a better understanding of this issue that's a big problem in our nation, especially our nation's capital, which is so close to us."

Friend also said he thinks it is important for W&L students to learn how the less fortunate live.

"I believe that experiences like these are very important for W&L students," Friend said. "For many students, including myself, we have been fortunate, being born into wealthy and loving families. Many others have not been so fortunate. It will be a good experience to get out of my element and interact with those people."

Although Wicker said that "some people think [she's] crazy" for going on the Urban Plunge, she's looking forward to finding out how homeless people live.

"I don't think it's important for everyone [to experience the Urban Plunge], but it would help for students who have never experienced want and will be launched directly into a affluent life to live on the other side of the tracks for a bit," Wicker said. "I'm already learning things. I always assumed that homeless people were addicted to drugs, or mentally retarded or something, but I'm finding out that isn't always true. Hopefully I'll come back with some valuable knowledge."

In addition to realizing the hardships of others, Tittle said he feels he'll be able to gain personal growth through the experience.

"I think it is essential for personal growth to put yourself in foreign and often uncomfortable situations to find out who you really are and what you are capable of," Tittle said. "It will hopefully give me some insight not only into the plight of the homeless, but also into my own perspective on life and what I want to accomplish."

City residents happy with students

While problems in the county continue to escalate, students living inside city limits prove they are considerate neighbors

By Jacob Geiger
NEWS AND OPINIONS EDITOR

Lexington Police Chief Steve Crowder says student parties are staying quiet this fall.

Crowder's department has only received a few noise complaints about parties inside city limits.

He said the department issued only 11 court summons last year for noise complaints but said some of those may not have been student parties.

During the first month of school Lexington police officers issued a few written warnings but did not write tickets for any students.

Residents of Rockbridge County have been lobbying the county Board of Supervisors to crack down on large parties held outside of city limits. County residents have been especially upset with the raucous parties held at Windfall Hill and the Pole Houses.

In a meeting Sept. 25, the

board deferred action on a stricter noise ordinance after Sheriff R.W. Day said his department should first try to better enforce the existing ordinance.

The board next meets Tuesday, Oct. 10, and the issue is also on the agenda for the Oct. 23 meeting. Residents are still pushing for the new ordinance.

Crowder, who replaced the retiring Bruce Beard July 1, met with officials from Washington and Lee several weeks ago to discuss his department's policy on noise complaints.

Crowder said he originally planned a three-strike system where the offending party would receive a verbal warning, a written warning, and then a ticket.

Members of the police department later reminded Crowder that neighbors of student houses thought the three-strike system let noisy parties continue for too long. The officers will instead issue only a written warning before writing a summons.

The chief said he and his of-

"There aren't as many gigantic parties. If there is, it's in a fraternity house and there aren't many neighbors nearby other than us."

MIKE YOUNG, Director of Campus Security

ficers know noise from parties is a fact of life.

"As long as there's a college, there are going to be parties," Crowder said. "In a perfect world nobody would drink underage, but we realize that's just not going to happen."

Crowder said his department worked to find a happy medium between the students' parties and what their neighbors are willing to tolerate.

Mike Young, Director of Campus Security, said the city has avoided some of the country's problems by building a good system for noise issues.

"Part of the difference is that

the city has set up a lot more structure. The city requires you to register parties in advance, which the county doesn't do," Young said.

Young said the current city ordinance has been in place for nearly 20 years, allowing students to familiarize themselves with the city's standards and regulations.

Because student houses inside city limits are usually modest residences with small yards, it is rare for city parties to draw the large crowds that flock to Windfall Hill or the Pole Houses.

"There aren't as many gigantic parties," Young said. "If there is, it's in a fraternity house and there aren't many neighbors nearby

other than us."

Mimi Elrod, the Director of W&L's Summer Scholars program and a member of the Lexington City Council, says she never hears from angry neighbors.

"I think people who move in close to the university anticipate some noise," Elrod said.

Elrod said the Housing Directors of most fraternities make an effort to get to know their neighbors and solve concerns without involving the police. The also said Lexington's small size allows the police to have a more visible presence.

"Problems don't go on and on because the police are out and about," Elrod said. "It's not that the police don't have anything better to do, but it just doesn't take long to get places in town."

While residents in the county continue to battle with W&L students over large parties, relationships between students and their neighbors remain placid inside city limits.

Elrod thinks that students who live in town do a better job of getting to know their neighbors.

"You're more patient when you know people," Elrod said.

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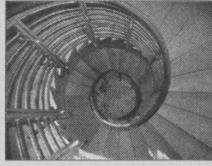
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opinions



The steady pressure to party

Believe it or not, you can have a fun and exciting night life without getting roaring drunk every single night

By Grace Andrews
COLUMNIST

Today's topic is the party scene at Washington and Lee, or at least the pressure to party. Once again, I must place a disclaimer here: If any of what I say describes and/or offends you, that isn't my goal. My goal is simply to share a few of my opinions.

The other day, I was talking to a friend who doesn't go out much. The first time she attended a W&L party, she saw people she knew hanging upside down, drinking from garbage cans and getting wasted. These students were people that she had thought were "moderate drinkers," or something of the sort. My friend, who shall remain nameless, remembers random people chanting her name and trying to get her to take shots. She was smart, strong, and

[insert adjective here] enough to walk away, but some of her friends were not.

They drank because they wanted to be cool. After witnessing these "activities," my friend rarely goes out. Her story inspired me to write this article. I thought to myself, "how many people here have been changed because of the social pressures to party and to drink?"

Let's start with a few of my own personal stories. A few weeks ago, I went to a party and saw some friends who were "drunk." I use that term loosely because one of them was pretending to be drunk so that his friends wouldn't give him a hard time about not drinking.

I had another friend tell me recently that while at a party, one of her drunken friends tried to coerce them repeatedly and almost belligerently into drinking.

They even went so far as to use the "good friend" excuse. I know you've heard it before, because it starts with, "You would ___ if you were a 'good friend.'"

Now, what is the common thread in these stories? Ding, ding, ding, that's right, all these people were asked to drink. If you really

Last time I checked, a good time didn't involve a visit to the health center, making out with a total stranger and then not recognizing them the next day on the Colonnade, or losing everything valuable at a Pole House.

need the non-drinkers to drink, have water as a beverage option for beer pong, or take alcohol free Kool-Aid shots. However, if this were to happen, the cases of H₂O poisoning or sugar shock would skyrocket.

Let me give a few stats to support my thoughts. In September alone, there were 30 alcohol arrests in Lexington.

This was only through Sept. 20; this was seven more than the 23 average of all alcohol related arrest per month for the past four years ('02-'06).

When all the drinking incidents were averaged out from since 2002, we surpassed the median score repeatedly. Granted, these averages aren't just us, but all of Lexington.

Although I wonder exactly how much partying the retired population of LexVegas is participating in.

I'm not going to lie; I sometimes don't go out because I just don't want to deal with offensive drunk students.

I have no desire to carry a babbling conversation or pretend to listen to a drunken account of some "hilarious" event that is not funny because my BAC is lower than 0.1.

I'm even guilty of going to a party in my study clothes (I like to call it my "hobo chic") staying for ten minutes and leaving.

The only reason I do this is because some of my friends will laugh at me and even worry because they don't think I'm going

out enough.

It's not that I don't want to have fun, but since I don't drink, there seems to be nothing for me to do at a party.

Now, I would go if great music and even better dancing was guaranteed, but since I find some of the music hard to dance to and refuse to watch or accept drunken teetering and tottering as dancing, I just don't go. I know that I'm not the only one who feels this way.

Sometimes the party scene here thoroughly confuses and scares me. I have a hard time understanding why people get so drunk that they can't remember anything they did the night before, or even their names.

Last time I checked, a good time didn't involve a visit to the health center, losing everything valuable at a Pole House, making out with a total stranger and then not recognizing them the next day on the Colonnade.

It seems like to me that if people drink for a "buzz," or to feel "loose," a moderate amount of alcohol could do the job.

The problem is when people drink their own body weight in fluid ounces.

When I see people doing this, I just have an urge in my heart to

give them watered-down apple juice.

Honestly, they are so drunk they wouldn't know or taste the difference.

I know that right about now, some people are reading and rolling their eyes all around their head at what I have to say and have no intention of ever reading what I write again (don't worry, the comedic articles will be returning after reading days!).

Once again my goal isn't to offend anyone.

If you actively drink and even get totally wasted, that's your business, but please be a "good friend" and respect the choice that others have made.

I'm not judging you, and I personally don't care if you drink.

Seriously, who cares if you destroy brain cells, do things you will regret, or even kill your liver?

Just don't want to be at a party and repeatedly badgered to drink or to hear that my friends are, or that some students aren't going out because they don't want to be forced to drink by those that they care about, aka friends.

Remember that friends don't ask other friends to drink when they don't want to.

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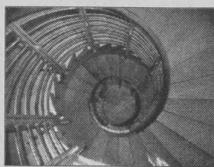
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opinions



Looking to lose on election day

In this anti-incumbent election, neither party wants to win

By Abel S. Delgado
COLUMNIST

The closer we get to Election Day 2006, the more apparent it becomes that both parties are determined to lose.

As ridiculous as this sounds, all signs point to a Democratic party too afraid to take power and a Republican party that doesn't want it anymore.

Let's start with the Democrats. In 2004 they could have chosen John Edwards to run for president.

Edwards was young, charismatic, relatively inexperienced (meaning not a Washington bureaucrat), relatively moderate and able to cross party lines, and, most importantly, southern.

Basically, he fit the same mold that Bill Clinton did in 1992 and George W. Bush did in 2000, a formula proven to win time and again.

Instead the Democrats chose John Kerry, an old school "intellectual liberal" from the Northeast. Name the last Northeastern "intellectual liberal" president. It might take you a while to go that far back.

The Democrats had other choices. If they wanted to beat Bush at his own game, they could have chosen Joe Lieberman, who is more Republican than Bush and more pro-Bush than many Republicans are.

He would have gotten votes from Republicans and from people who refuse to vote Re-

publican, the two biggest voting groups in the country.

If they actually wanted to stand for something, they could have chosen Howard Dean and gone screaming into battle.

I'm not saying this would have meant victory, but at least it would have made things more interesting.

Why would the Democrats want to lose? Apparently they had a crystal ball.

Just look at all that's happened since November 2004: Iraq has gotten worse, Afghanistan has taken a few steps back, gas prices are so high people are actually walking a few blocks to get places, the world is worried that birds are going to sneeze on us and kill us off and the largest natural disaster in American history happened.

Of course, this is the president's fault entirely. It always is.

So the crystal ball told the Democrats to lose in 2004 to receive no blame for things no one is able to control anyway. I figure the Democrats had the same crystal ball right before the Great Depression.

Now it seems the Republicans have found their own crystal ball. Things are probably going to get a lot worse. Why else would the Republicans start a huge fight with each other based on something decided in Geneva a long time ago?

Why else would they hide a suspected pedophile Congressman until right before the elections?

Why else would they choose Katherine Harris to run for Senate in Florida? Does anyone like Katherine Harris? Does Katherine Harris even like Katherine Harris?

The Republicans look well on their way to losing these mid-term elections. They might just want to keep traditions alive.

Second terms for presidents are not supposed to go badly; they're supposed to go horribly (i.e. Watergate, Iran-Contra, Monica Lewinsky).

And the ruling party is not supposed to win mid-term elections, because people get bored of seeing the same letter behind everyone's name.

So maybe the Republicans want to lose just to keep political history easy enough for our textbooks to simplify.

If the Republicans don't manage to lose this election, it proves two things.

First, people will stubbornly vote for their party regardless of what their party does or doesn't do.

Second, there are way too many people like Katherine Harris in the Democratic Party.

Still don't believe the parties want to lose? Just remember, whoever loses in 2006 can just criticize the winners in 2008 and not actually stand for anything.

Isn't that what party politics is all about?

staff editorial

Press priorities miss the mark

Election coverage focused on the wrong issues

Cowboy boots versus combat boots.

Is that really the most important issue in Virginia politics today?

After reading local and national coverage of the Senate race between George Allen and Jim Webb, that's certainly how it seems.

We could care less about the shoe choices of Allen and Webb. It's too bad we cannot say the same of the press corps covering this election.

Politics dominate the news pages year-round these days, so it's hardly surprising that trivial issues can come to dominate coverage. But shoes?

Apparently the American political scene really is as ridiculous as it seems.

Allen and Webb both seem reluctant to debate serious issues. They would rather trade petty insults.

That is the prerogative of both candidates, but the press should quit being lazy and stop regurgitating the drivelt spit out by each campaign.

The complacent media would rather rehash Allen's

"macaca" comment than dissect his votes in the Senate.

The uninspired press corps would rather recount Webb's early opposition to coeducation at the Naval Academy than consider his plans for Iraq.

Even Tim Russert, the moderator of NBC's "Meet the Press," couldn't steer a September debate on his show away from character issues.

Russert asked the candidates about Iraq and terrorism but still had plenty of questions about the so-called controversial pasts of both men.

Allen denied being half-Jewish, because his mother didn't tell him that she had been raised as a Jew when living in North Africa.

Does that mean her son can't represent Virginia in the Senate?

Webb argued in 1979 that women shouldn't be admitted into the Naval Academy.

Does an article he wrote 27 years ago exclude him from serving in the Senate?

Sadly, this isn't the only recent campaign being run on ancient history.

What was the defining issue of the 2004 election? Not Iraq, Osama bin Laden or Social Security reform.

It was Vietnam—a war that ended 31 years ago.

And politicians wonder why young voters don't go to the polls.

Why did the press focus on Kerry's swift-boat service and Bush's time in the National Guard?

Because it was an easy story guaranteed to sell newspapers or attract television viewers.

Because it was juicy and full of gossip.

CBS News, in its rush to scoop the competition, relied on forged documents to question Bush's guard service.

Not only was the story irrelevant, it was inaccurate.

Enough overkill on juicy political scandals. It doesn't matter if your business department thinks that scandal sells well.

Journalists should serve their audiences, not the almighty dollar.

Abandon petty scandals and focus on real issues.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY THE RING-TUM PHI.

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Thank God for the ACLU

The ACLU says it speaks for the people, but does it really do what it says?

By Chris Tutor
COLUMNIST

Thank God for the American Civil Liberties Union. Seriously, America needs the ACLU. The United States Constitution needs the ACLU.

Without fail, the ACLU defends the freedom of speech. Without fail, it fights violations of the Fourth Amendment. Without fail, it protects the rights of the accused. The list continues.

However, there is a problem. Despite its many admirable actions, the ACLU often distorts the Constitution and disregards the intentions of the Framers.

Although the ACLU's mission is to "preserve...First Amendment rights...the right to equal protection...the right to due process...and the right to privacy," it constantly contradicts itself regarding the constitutional role of the government and often exalts the judiciary over the electorate.

The ACLU seems to suffer from a crisis of identity concerning what the government can and cannot do, particularly at the federal and state level.

Whatever your opinion on each of these issues, the ACLU displays a frustrating and alarming lack of consistency and reason.

The ACLU maintains that the government cannot criminalize the sale of child pornography (see the 1982 Supreme Court case *New York vs. Ferber*).

According to the ACLU, the government cannot criminalize drugs. The government cannot

ban partial-birth abortion. Also, the government cannot allow a moment of silence in public schools (*Wallace vs. Jaffree*).

Simultaneously, the government can force doctors, health workers, hospitals and insurance companies to perform or subsidize abortions.

According to the ACLU's website, the government should also order private employers and schools to set "goals and timetables" for the hiring of under-represented groups.

Also, the government can force private employers to cover contraceptives and birth control in health insurance programs.

Absurdly, the government can also demand that the Boy Scouts allow homosexuals to serve as scout leaders.

The ACLU's support for the legal concept of corporate personhood further complicates its contradictory position. Corporate leaders maintain that corporations possess many of the same constitutional rights guaranteed to U.S. citizens.

Therefore, the ACLU cannot simultaneously justify an individual right to privacy and exempt a corporate one.

To be consistent, the ACLU cannot just pick and choose.

Where does the ACLU draw the line regarding the proper interference of the government? How far does the right to privacy extend? The ACLU does not provide a credible answer, only a contradiction.

Obviously, there is only one common factor behind the AC-

The ACLU implements that agenda by consistently undermining the voters. In effect, it uses the judiciary as an alternate legislator. Does it take its issues to the ballot or the legislature?

LU's contradictory positions on the role of the government in these matters: The ACLU uses that role only when it promotes its liberal agenda.

There is no constitutional standard. There is no logic. There is only an agenda.

The ACLU implements that agenda by consistently undermining the voters. In effect, it uses the judiciary as an alternate legislator. Does it take its issues to the ballot or the legislature?

Rarely, because it would most likely lose. Instead, the ACLU files countless lawsuits to utilize the courts to impose its ideology on the electorate.

Would the Founding Fathers of the United States agree with this method? For the ACLU, it is obviously a practical one, but does it follow the spirit of the Constitution and our Republic?

On October 15, 1788, James Madison, the principal architect of the Constitution, wrote "as the courts are generally the last in making the decisions [on laws], it results to them, by refusing or not refusing to execute a law, to stamp it with its final character. This makes the Judiciary depart-

ment paramount in fact to the Legislature, which was never intended, and can never be proper."

According to Madison, judicial usurpation is not the way our Republic was meant to operate.

The power of the people invested in their representative assemblies was intended to be greater than that of unelected officials serving as judges.

As I wrote at the beginning of this article, the ACLU is good for America.

Courageously and consistently, it defends the constitutional rights of such groups as the North American Man/Boy Love Association, neo-Nazis and even the Ku Klux Klan.

America needs the ACLU. However, it is not fulfilling its mission.

It does not maintain a rational, constitutional position on the role of the government. It uses the courts to implement its agenda, not the people.

James Madison would not be a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

Neither would Jefferson. Neither would Hamilton. Neither am I.

arts&life

Dragging out tolerance

The campus celebrates National Coming Out Week with mixed opinions

By Queenie Wong
STAFF WRITER

The most widely attended event of National Coming Out Week (NCOW), the drag show, was cancelled Friday due to rainy weather.

"The rain site wasn't ideal and we would have to cancel certain services that we had planned for so we just decided to cancel the entire event," said Gay-Straight Alliance president Stephanie Wiechmann.

Both the GSA and its law school counterpart, OUTLaw, sponsored the Third Annual Drag Show.

The show, originally scheduled on the law school patio, would have been moved to classroom B, a more enclosed environment that lacked a stage. Based on the figures last year, said Wiechmann, the GSA and OUTLaw were expecting a fairly large audience that wouldn't have fit.

In the past, the drag show has been held in the Moot Courtroom, but because of renovations, it was not available this year.

In addition, the serving of alcohol posed a problem. According to Wiechmann, the majority of law school parties involve alcohol because the students are of legal drinking age. The beer garden that could have been outside could not be set up inside a classroom due to security problems.

Although no definite date has been announced, Wiechmann said that the drag show will occur sometime this year as a singular event.

"The goal is to support those who make a decision to come out... and to let [Washington and Lee] students know that there are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students here," said Wiechmann. "Washington and

Lee is not immune to the outside world and different alternative lifestyles."

Prior to the drag show, the GSA and OUTLaw held other events throughout the week to promote coming out.

These events included passing out Skittles, hanging National Coming Out Week posters, showing the movie "Latter Days," urging students to vote, inviting author Christian de la Huerta to speak about his experiences in the religious community, and holding an ice cream social.

Reactions to NCOW have been positive, for the most part, Wiechmann said, praising the involvement of the freshmen class. "We've had a lot more freshmen than usual at these events."

However, not all students had the same reaction. Arturo Roa, a conservative Catholic and a freshman at W&L, said, "The whole concept of National Coming Out Week revolves around the idea that the homosexual lifestyle is not a choice."

"It's genetically predetermined and it is irrevocable. I believe this position is fallacious."

"To say homosexuality is genetically determined is to say that other positions such as alcoholism are predetermined," he said. "If that were the case why not have a National Alcoholic Coming Out Week?"

The nature of celebrating gay pride has also posed questions about its effectiveness in promoting tolerance.

De la Huerta, author of the critically acclaimed book "Coming Out Spiritually," agreed that a drag show may have negative and positive effects.

"Not only does it perpetuate stereotypes, but it also puts women down," said de la Huerta, who graduated from Tulane University

Why should gay, lesbian, bi[sexual] and transgender people mimic heterosexuals? After all, they are not heterosexuals.

TED DELANEY, history professor

with a degree in psychology.

De la Huerta referred to California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's comment about "girly men" in the 2004 election as a prime example.

"The reality is that the majority of gay and lesbian Americans don't dress or look like that," he said.

Nevertheless, by pushing the boundaries, organizations such as the GSA are forcing others to deal with these sensitive issues. According to de la Huerta, getting the community to more readily accept gays and lesbians requires a multi-pronged approach.

The most effective method is for gays and lesbians to come out and reclaim their moral standing, he said.

As for promoting tolerance on the campus, de la Huerta had three words to say: "Support the GSA."

Dr. Kirk Luder of University Counseling also said he acknowledged the possibility of a drag show perpetuating gay and lesbian stereotypes.

On the other hand, because it is a "defiant rejection of the social norm," Luder said that this extremity could be useful to the gay and lesbian community, especially in a predominately conservative campus like W&L.

Luder also cited conformity and conventional thinking as major problems facing the student body.

Education is crucial in promot-

ing tolerance, Luder said.

Last spring term, W&L offered History 353: Gay and Lesbian Life in the 20th Century-United States. History professor Ted Delaney will teach the course for a second time this spring.

"The course is important as a means of breaking down stereotypes and teaching the political and social history of queer people in 20th century United States," he said. "I hope the students come away from the course with the understanding that no stereotypes apply. Gay men can either be very masculine or very effeminate or variations of both."

In regard to more extreme forms of expression such as drag shows and the Gay Pride Parade, Delaney emphasized the thought-provoking questions they bring up.

"[It] challenges those of us to look on and ask: Why does this offend me? Why should gay, lesbian, bi[sexual] and transgender people mimic heterosexuals? After all, they are not heterosexuals."

Wiechmann agreed. "[The drag show] is a way to step outside yourself for a night," she said, "to dress as the other gender and to have fun in a safe environment without any inhibition."

"I don't think it perpetuates the stereotype because the drag culture is a part of the GLBT [gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender] lifestyle that W&L students never get to see," she said.

Captured in the limelight

NPR, History Channel call professors

By Julie Von Sternberg
STAFF WRITER

National Public Radio and the History Channel recently invited two Washington and Lee professors as guest speakers on their broadcasts.

Classics professor Dr. Miriam Carlisle and Law professor, Mark Drumbl were recognized by the stations for their expertise and intellectual energy.

As a classics professor, Carlisle has extensive knowledge of Latin, Latin Literature and Roman history, or what she likes to call "ancient stuff." She did not gain this wisdom solely from the classroom but also from personal experience.

"Her extensive background, not only in her studies, but in her travels and the people she's met really comes out in her teaching," said senior Matt Krieg.

On campus, Carlisle is known for having a laid-back attitude and a genuine interest in her students. Senior Matt Miller is one of many students who appreciate Carlisle's personable teaching style.

"She's always willing to talk to students about topics ranging from translation problems to questions of their future or life in general," said Miller.

In the summer of 2005, Carlisle exhibited the same enthusiasm when she agreed to appear on the History Channel documentary "Sahara." The show provided an in-depth picture of the development of the desert, beginning during prehistoric times.

During a three hour interview, Carlisle provided detailed descriptions of the wars fought between Rome and Carthage, the life of Roman soldiers and the persecution of Christians.

"It was fun... surprisingly fun," recalls Carlisle.

Students who missed the documentary last year were excited to hear of its re-showing. "I will definitely be watching it on the 16th in hopes of gleaming some more nuggets of wisdom from Professor Carlisle," said Classics major Matthew Loar.

Like Carlisle, professor Drumbl is well known on the W&L campus for his enthusiasm and teaching skills.

"With his passion, he brings to W&L a contagious interest in international affairs, wonderful expertise and teaching ability, and top notch specialists in the field," says law student Nick Devereux.

In the classroom, Drumbl uses the Socratic method to create engaging discussions. "When the class is tired and not participating, he gets visibly upset. He starts yelling, 'Come on people, you have to have an opinion!'" said Devereux.

In his book "Atrocity, Punishment, and International Law," Drumbl focuses on the connection between crimes against humanity and the implementation of international legal orders. In addition to international criminal law, Drumbl's teachings and research include global environmental governance, transitional justice, contracts and comparative law.

Drumbl recently had the opportunity to share his opinions on an interesting issue of international law. On Sept. 28, Drumbl was invited to speak on National Public Radio's show "All Things Considered," where he analyzed the Nuremberg war crime trials when military tribunals sentenced political, military and economic leaders of Nazi Germany. The trials concluded 40 years earlier from the date of his broadcast.

In his address, Drumbl criticized the rulings at Nuremberg. "Certainly there is much to celebrate in the Nuremberg judgment," he said. "However, trials alone will not reconstruct a shattered society. Trials will not thwart the hatreds that give rise to Sectarianism. Trials do not create socioeconomic stability."

These words provide just a hint of the passion and excitement that Drumbl exudes in the classroom.

Both Drumbl and Carlisle have had positive influences on their students. Their discussions on NPR provided the listening public a rare opportunity to also experience the educators' knowledge in and enthusiasm for their respective subjects.

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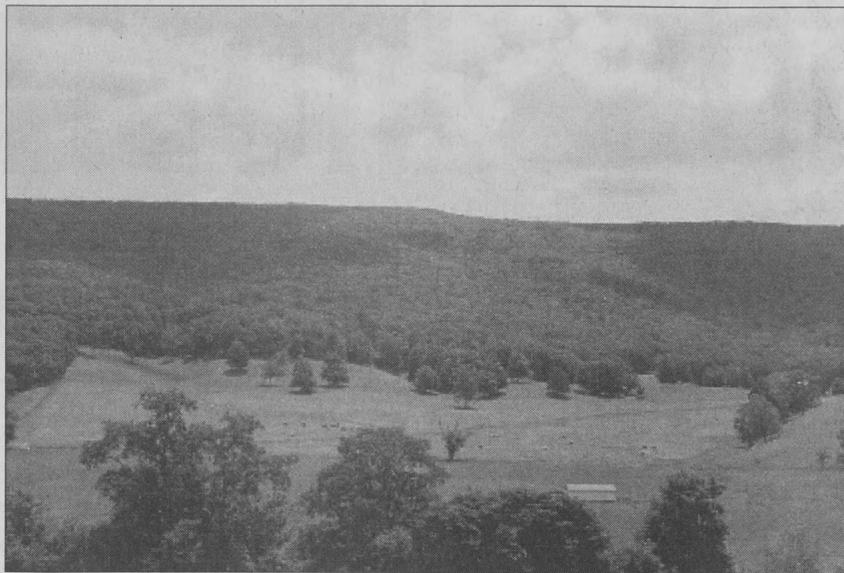
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sports



sportsbriefs

Women's Cross-Country

The women dominated the Virginia State Division II-III Meet on Saturday, placing first out of 11 teams. Washington and Lee was led by sophomore Jackie Burns, freshman Katherine Telfeyan and sophomore Becca Taylor, who earned fourth, fifth and sixth places respectively. Also in the top ten were freshmen Dorothy Todd and Mary Francis Weatherly. The women face Gettysburg college on the road next Saturday.

Football

The Generals shut out Catholic this weekend 28-0. Junior Mark Snoddy caught two interceptions, helping to keep the Cardinals from advancing more than 100 yards the whole game. Freshman quarterback RJ Varner completed 17 of 28 passes, and Stuart Sitterson and Colton Ward contributed 316 yards combined. The team hosts Hampden-Sydney on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Men's Soccer

After tying Virginia Military Institute on Wednesday, the Generals put another one away on Saturday versus Guilford College, winning 2-0. The men's record now sits at 10-0 for the first time in W&L history. Scoring for the Generals were junior midfielder Josh Dodds and junior forward Jack Palmer. The men look to continue this streak when they face Eastern Mennonite University on Wednesday on the road.

Volleyball

The volleyball team did not drop a game this week. Early in the week, the Generals defeated Lynchburg College and Ferrum College 3-0, 3-0. This weekend, they traveled to Danville, Va. and beat all four teams. The only tight match was against Averett on Friday. The Generals face Sweetbriar College Tuesday.

Matching D-I

Continued from page 10

there," junior Natalie Day said. "A lot of the upperclassmen were really nervous, but I think she appreciates that the value to the team is more than just the playing ability. There are a lot of team leaders in the junior and senior classes."

After tryouts, Rankin decided to keep 20 on the roster. The team also picked up new assistant coach Eric Ishida. According to Tabb, he has been a crucial asset to the team.

"Our new assistant coach is fabulous," she said. "He's done a really good job at preparing us for this weekend. He's done a lot to restructure our doubles, which is good, because it is our weak area."

Tabb also said the team dynamic is forming extremely well.

"Everyone's really positive and motivating," she said. "They all really want to be out there. That's the big difference between D-III and D-I—it's not you're job—you want to be out there."

For the first time, the Generals competed against Division I opponents last weekend at the Virginia Tech Invitational.

"I think it'll give us a good chance to test ourselves in situations where we will be playing better players," junior Leah Weston said.

"It's a good opportunity to prepare us for the Spring—to get us in the mentality for harder matches that are going to make us compete our best and really have the will to stay out there."

This weekend in doubles play, freshman Lauren Caire and Tabb won the 'B' doubles final when they were pitted against teammates Weston and junior Ginny Wortham in the final round. Caire and Tabb defeated the pair 8-6.

"We definitely try to take it seriously, but we were both trying to win the flight of doubles," Wortham said.

Wortham also noted that the match was more laid back and that all four had fun.

Junior Rebecca Timmis and partner, freshman Katie Bouret were defeated in the first round by a team from the University of Mary Washington 8-1.

The pair of sophomore Tori Christmas and junior Kelly Will met Caire and Tabb in the semi-final round and fell 8-0.

In singles competition, Timmis won the D flight 6-2, 6-4 against teammate Weston. Wortham and Will advanced to the semi-finals in the C flight but were both defeated by VT opponents.

Caire was eliminated by VT's Bethan James in the quarterfinals of the C flight, and Tabb was defeated in the first round of the B

flight by VT's Natalie Kretzer. Bouret and Christmas were both eliminated by Mary Washington competitors in the quarterfinals of the D flight.

"I think we were definitely prepared," Wortham said. "I think we went in there with the mindset that we had nothing to lose and everything to prove."

This tournament marks the end of the fall season for women's tennis. They will return again in the Spring with renewed energy.

Last Spring, the team beat Emory 6-3 in the regular season.

"Last year, I liked playing them during the season, because our win against them gave us a lot of confidence going into Nationals," Weston said.

"At the same time, it's nice to wait to play them, because that way going into it, we won't know what to expect."

Tabb said she looks forward to the potential challenge.

"It's always a nice indicator of where we are in the season. It won't happen for a long time, so we'll have a chance to practice and improve before we get there."



REBECCA TIMMIS,
Junior

Singles

5-1

Doubles

3-3

Teams establish rules

Continued from page 10

if the team had a good enough chance that season.

Despite the vested-interest approach that coaches are encouraged to take with their athletes, O'Connell did note there is University policing about drinking within athletics.

Said O'Connell, "We do have a three-strike policy for our teams that mirrors the University's three-strike policy for the fraternities and other organizations."

On the first strike that is assessed against any given athletic team, the players involved are suspended.

When a second strike is given, the team will lose its off-season practices.

So, for example, if the football team was assessed two strikes, it would not be allowed to practice in the spring.

On the third strike, the team forfeits their next season.

"Also," said O'Connell, "one important thing to remember about this three-strike policy is that it isn't just effective over the academic year, but for a 365-day period, so it's a little bit more serious to get any strikes."

Overall, however, there is an over-arching consensus that alcohol consumption among athletes

specifically isn't—as O'Connell put it—"enough of a problem to be an issue."

Said O'Connell, "My experience from talking to coaches and administrators from other colleges is that W&L is really no different in terms of alcohol consumption from other schools, we've just been pegged with the reputation as a party school."

"Now, for us to think that there's any team that is in no way involved in the consumption of alcohol would be naïve, but we're really no different from other schools and other colleges across the nation in terms of alcohol consumption by athletes."

Professional criminals?

Athletes receive special treatment, violence becomes pattern in sports

By Adam Lewis
COLUMNIST

This past week, Tennessee Titans' defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth was suspended five games by the NFL after he stomped on the face of Dallas Cowboys' center Andre Gurode. It looked as if Haynesworth was practicing the Polo ritual of replacing the divots on the field, except that the divot was Gurode's bare (non-helmeted) face. Gurode needed thirty stitches to replace his own facial divot, and is currently deciding whether or not to press charges.

Actions like this have been taking place more and more in sports over the last few years. It was only a few months ago that France's Zinedine Zidane seemed to confuse Italy's Marco Materazzi's chest for the ball as he headed him to the ground. And it was only a few years ago that Ron Artest, Jermaine O'Neal and other Pacer players brought "Celebrity Death Match" to the Palace at Auburn Hills in Detroit. Moreover, you may remember just two months after the Pacers-Pistons brawl, the Canucks' Todd Bertuzzi punched the Avalanche's Steve Moore in the face before smashing his head into the ice, causing spinal fractures, a concussion and other injuries.

These acts, all of which occurred during the game, are just four of many that have been a part of sports for the past several years. All of them, if taken out of the context of the game, except maybe the head butt, could be interpreted as criminal acts. I would like to discuss the extreme lack of sportsmanship that is now a major aspect of the American sport.

I challenge everyone to watch a sporting event, be it football, basketball, baseball, hockey, soccer, or even poker, and tell me if the game ends without some form of confrontation between players, player and coach, player

and referee, or coach and referee.

No matter where you look in sports these days, you will find some form of Jeff Van Gundy holding on to Alonzo Mourning's leg like a life vest.

So what can be done about this? I mean, these athletes are full-grown, professional criminals, or men rather, and the chances of controlling their unruly actions are slim.

But what if that's it? No, not the Olsen twin part, but the fact that these athletes act so childishly savage that calling them "professionals" doesn't seem to fit too well.

So why then are the rules established for professionals? With that in mind, here is my proposal, and yes, I know it sounds like a rule-book for pee-wee football:

1. Players will shake hands before and after the game, regardless of score or criminal record.

2. If a player falls to the ground or ice, and play either temporarily stops or moves elsewhere, players are encouraged to assist their fallen opponent. As incentive, a sum of money will be donated to the assisting player's charity.

3. There will be a specialized referee, or group of referees, who will watch for and discipline all instigations, trash talking, and petty, unnecessary contact.

4. Three incidents where a player fails to abide by these rules will result in a suspension and loss of pay.

5. Each event will be judged independently from one another; therefore the extent of discipline will be able to be assessed.

6. Each player will understand what it means to be a professional athlete. Until that meaning is fully comprehended, sports will not reach a respectable state.

So Mr. Haynesworth, next time you bash your cleat into a player's face, do the American sport a favor and help him off the ground.

outloud

Steroids and good sportsmanship collide

Sports Beat team analyzes the effects of bad athletes

Andy: Hi, hello and welcome to OutLoud, your weekly sound off on the World of Sports, from the Monday Night Sports Beat team.

Just last week another report surfaced that linked several more baseball players to using performance-enhancing drugs. And still none of the major sports have implemented strict enough drug testing standards to crack down on players that try to cheat their way to success.

Is it the pressure of winning and making millions of dollars that drive athletes to try to find the shortcut and the easy way to win? When did athletics become all about winning? Sports serve as a venue in which individuals can learn life lessons.

Sports can teach a wide range of lessons that can apply directly to everyday life.

When athletes try to cheat their way to success, they set up role-model situation where children believe that it is OK to bend or break the rules.

When kids take shortcuts they miss valuable lessons such as learning how to work with others, playing by the rules, and playing the game the right way. These lost, valuable lessons will haunt our society by creating a world in which it is OK to take the easy way out, break the rules and along the way avoid serious punishment.

Professional leagues and athletes need to realize their role in society and eliminate activities that can set a negative example

for young athletes everywhere. The leagues must severely crack down on athletes that break rules, making sure that the costs of using performance-enhancing drugs are so high that athletes will not even consider using any banned substances.

Athletes need to get back to promoting work ethic and that through work ethic anything can be achieved. All is not lost. With a few minor reforms both by the leagues and the athletes, they can regain the majesty that has dominated American culture for the past 100 years.

Neil: Steroids huh? Let the rant begin. Well, the story with steroids is this... steroids exist, they suck, they have no place in sports, or in life really. That's a

fact. And I think that's about all that needs to be discussed about steroids. Why must we keep talking about steroids, but do nothing about it? Ban people who test positive and that's that.

I think we need to start focusing on bigger problems, like sportsmanship. Albert Haynesworth can stomp on a guy's bare face and only get suspended 5 games? How about Marcus Vick?

Or how about the Ohio State player this year who intentionally twisted Michigan receiver Steve Breaston's leg at the end of a play?

While some of these players were punished for what they did, others were not. This trend of violence is a much bigger problem in sports than steroids is.

Or at least I think everyone in the media, and the world, has beaten the steroids story to death.

Let's try and clean up our sports on all levels. We can't focus only on steroids, as we have done so far. Haynesworth should have been kicked out for the year. Case closed.

I shouldn't even mention steroids, or poor sportsmanship, when I can write about good sportsmanship.

Baseball lost one of its ambassadors when Buck O'Neil passed away. A Negro Leagues legend, as a player and coach, O'Neil inexplicably fell short of making the Baseball Hall of Fame. Unfortunately O'Neil never got a chance to play in the major leagues, but did make his mark as a coach and scout, discovering players such as Lou Brock and Ernie Banks.

Steroids (and problems in general) get the big coverage, and maybe deservedly so (but not this much).

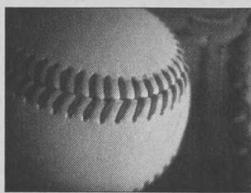
The good people and good stories often get brushed aside. At the end of the day, sports meant to be for fun. As Andy wrote last week, sports can be such a unifying force.

With sports having so much positive potential, why has it turned into such a dividing and negative force? I'm not completely sure how things can be fixed... I wish I knew. What I do know is that everyone is responsible. Players, fans, coaches, everybody.

We cannot just sit back and accept rampant steroid use. We cannot sit back and accept such ugly breaches of sportsmanship.

These are the issues in sports these days, and professional athletes who are some of the most visible people out there. Do your part and help bring back sports to the purists. Please.

sports



ondeck

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Cross Country						at Gettysburg 10:00am	
Field Hockey				at MBC 4:00pm		vs. R-MWC 12:00pm	vs Sewanee 1:00pm
Football						vs H-SC 1:00pm	
Golf						at Transy TBA	
Men's Soccer			at EMU 7:00pm			vs VWC 11:00am	
Women's Soccer		at SBC 4:00pm				at NC-Wesleyan 1:00 pm	
Women's Tennis				at ITA TBA			
Volleyball		vs SBC 6:30pm			at S'Western Tourney 1:00pm	at S'Western Tourney 12:00pm	at GBoro 1:00pm

in the numbers

243

The number of yards University of Southern California quarterback John David Booty threw for in a win over Washington University on Saturday. The Huskies were edged by the Trojans when time ran out during WU's final drive of the fourth quarter. The final score was 26-20.

101

The number of years the Red River Rivalry has been in existence. Saturday, the seventh-ranked Texas Longhorns secured a 28-10 victory over the fourteenth-ranked Oklahoma Sooners at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Tx. Longhorns freshman quarterback, Colt McCoy, threw for 108 yards, completing 11 of 18 passes.

13

The number of shootout rounds required for the New York Rangers to beat the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday. In the thirteenth round, Rangers' left wing Marcel Hossa sank the winning shot, ending the game 5-4. Last year in their victory against Washington, the Rangers went into 15 rounds of a shootout.

soapbox

"I just wanted to go out and attack them. I just wanted to leave everything I had on the field, and I think I did. This is the greatest thrill in the world. You can't ask for anything better."

— Detroit Tigers pitcher Jeremy Bonderman on the win against the New York Yankees in game four to win the American League Championships, according to www.espn.com.

"You kind of get tired of giving the other team credit. At some point, you just have to look in the mirror and say, 'I sucked.'"

— Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez on the Yankees' elimination from the Atlantic League competition by the Detroit Tigers on Saturday, according to www.espn.com.

Soccer shooting for ticket to nationals

Women record eleventh straight shutout versus Catholic Saturday

By Lara Jordan
STAFF WRITER

The women's soccer team saw huge success both offensively and defensively in its shutout over Catholic University on Sunday, 3-0.

With three goals in the first half from freshman midfielder Roz Klann, junior forward Martha Caulkins and senior forward Anne Wiltshire, the second half saw little action.

The Generals had 16 shots to Catholic's four. Sophomore Catholic O goalkeeper Kiki Moreo was heavily protected by Washington and Lee defense, only needing to make one save.

"The defense played really well against Catholic today," sophomore defender Sara Foster Reeves said.

"We were challenged at the back. They were a strong team. We were definitely up to the challenge."

Last Wednesday, the Generals tied ODAC competition Guilford College in double overtime.

W&L clearly dominated the field outshooting Guilford 30-5.

Guilford's goalkeeper, Veronica Zych, recorded 16 saves, while Moreo posted three.

This season, games against Moreo attributes the team's successes to its chemistry, dedication and depth.

"Our team gets along really well," said Moreo. "We are all friends, and we all joke around

constantly."

"However, at the end of the day, we are all willing to fight for each other to get a good result."

The team is currently ranked eighteenth in the nation with a 9-0-2 record after its victory over Catholic on Saturday.

The Catholic game marked the team's eleventh straight shutout.

The defense has been a critical part of the team's success.

"I feel like we have a really strong defense this year, and we have come together really well at the back," Reeves said. "We have a fairly young defense. We've played really well together so far."

The team has several goals this season, including winning in ODAC competition.

"I think if the team continues playing as well as we have been playing, we have a great shot at going to the NCAA's [this year]," Reeves said.

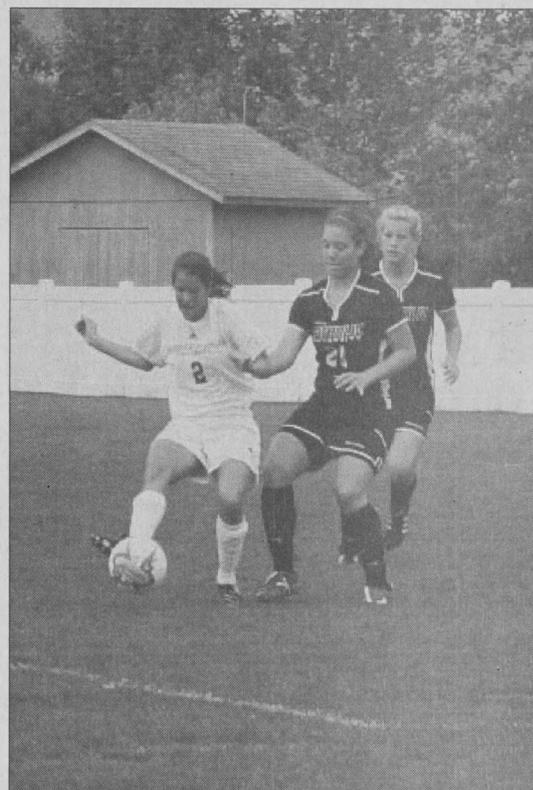
The team is hoping to accomplish this goal and is having a strong start to the season.

"Since the seniors have been freshmen, we haven't won the ODAC, so winning the ODAC is a big and immediate goal," said junior Martha Caulkins.

"We have set ourselves up in a good position winning opening weekend, and we haven't let any goals in yet."

The dedication of each team member also contributes to the strong record.

"We go early to practice to improve on a specific aspect of our game, we stay after to work



MICHAEL KEENAN / Staff Photographer

Senior forward Anne Wiltshire maneuvers around a Catholic opponent in the game last Saturday. At the contest, Wiltshire contributed five shots, four shots on goal and one point for the Generals.

through a problem with our game and we work incredibly hard during our practice to create a competitive environment," said Moreo.

Every member of the team contributes in the games.

"Many teams cannot trust their subs to go into the game with the

same intensity and ability as their starters," said Moreo.

"Each of our players can go into the game and continue or improve what was done there before."

The team will play Sweet Briar on Tuesday Oct. 10.

Alcohol in sports

Athletic director, coach claim consumption not pressing issue

By Cody Beauchamp
STAFF WRITER

The general consensus among many athletes, coaches and administrators is that drinking among student athletes at Washington and Lee is no more of a problem than alcohol consumption for non-athletic students is.

One athlete, who requested anonymity due to the sensitive nature of the issue, said, "Yeah, most athletes here drink—who doesn't? I think it's a little misleading to separate athletes from the rest of the student body and say 'they drink a lot,' because there are plenty of non-athletes who drink too."

Echoing the sentiments of the student, Interim Athletic Director Chuck O'Connell said, "I don't think [drinking is] any more of an issue for the athletic teams than it is for the rest of the college."

"Of course it goes on. For me to sit here and say that none of our athletes drink would be naive," said O'Connell. But he said he had a hard time thinking of any incident where athletes showed up

to practice or a competition under the influence of alcohol.

However, "athletes showing up to practice while being affected by hangovers has occurred."

Overall, O'Connell doesn't believe that alcohol has had a detrimental effect on the competitiveness of W&L's athletic teams.

"Our coaches attempt to work with our teams to address the way that the athlete's decisions off the field affect their performance on the field," O'Connell said.

He explained that each individual team has rules about alcohol consumption set by the coach of that team and his or her athletes.

"It's really up to the individual coaches to work with their athletes to set the rules for the team, and that's where we'll see rules like the 48-hour abstinence rule that some teams will set for themselves," he said. "Any violations of those team rules are addressed by the coaches. It's really up to them as to how they respond to the violations."

O'Connell said that allowing the students to work with the

coaches to set their team's rules also had the effect of letting the students "buy into" the rules.

One coach, who wished to remain anonymous so as to not implicate his team's members in any illicit activity, said that the approach to setting the rules works well in a way that allows the team to be responsible in the way they drink.

"We could sit here as coaches and set hard-and-fast abstinence rules," said the coach, "but this way works out a whole lot better. The way we do it now, the students get to work with us to set their own rules about when they and their teammates can drink. It keeps the coach from being someone who's against the student should they decide to participate in the Greek social scene, because the coach is just enforcing the rules they agreed upon."

It also allowed the students to determine how serious they wanted to take their sport, the coach noted.

"It does vary from sport to sport and from season to season," said O'Connell. "If your season is going really well, you may want to abstain and place winning and having a good season over going out to the parties."

Many of the student athletes interviewed agreed with the idea that they would be willing to place team victories over parties

Tennis performs at V-tech

Ladies take on D-I competition

By Jessica Shaw
SPORTS EDITOR

After a frustrating loss to Emory University in the finals of NCAA Division III Nationals last Spring, the Generals are hungry for revenge.

With six freshmen joining the squad, a new assistant coach and a determined attitude, the Washington and Lee women strive to capture the title that has eluded them for so long.

At this moment, however, the team is putting Nationals out of its mind, exploring its strategy and its dynamic, and taking each match as it comes.

"We're definitely focusing on our own games and ourselves," sophomore Katie Tabb said.

"We want to peak at the right time. We definitely aren't looking to Nationals or any of our team matches yet—just taking it a day at a time."

According to teammates, try-outs this year were a bit tense.

Only graduating two seniors last year, the team remained deep coming into this season.

"Last year [coach Cinda Rankin] only kept 16 people, and clearly there were more than 16

See "TEAMS" on page 9

See "MATCHING" on page 9