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America's first recorded streaker was a W&L alum?

Bet ya didn't know that one. Columnist Ali Greenberg takes a look at uniquely W&L traditions.

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Women's Lac claims ODAC title

Continuing their domination, the W&L women claim two more victories to move on to nationals.

SPORTS / page 6

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

THE RING-TUM PHI.

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011

BY THE STUDENTS AND FOR THE STUDENTS SINCE 1897 VOLUME CXIV, NUMBER 18

Mock Con Spring Kickoff

Bush advisor Karl Rove delivers keynote address

By Leigh Dannhauser
STAFF WRITER

Karl Rove, former deputy chief of staff for President George W. Bush and now a Fox News contributor, addressed the Washington and Lee community last Saturday evening as the keynote speaker for the 2012 Mock Convention kickoff weekend.

Students, faculty, alumni, parents and other community members filled nearly all the seats on Lee Chapel lawn for Rove's speech.

Rove opened with advice on how to understand the upcoming election.

"To look at the coming election, you need to look at the recent past" Rove said.

Rove was alluding to the gains that the Republican Party made during the 2010 midterm elections. He said that these gains were made because the independent voters came out for Republicans over dynamic issues such as the stimulus bill.

Rove spent much of his speech on President Obama's stimulus bill. Rove pointed out what he considers discrepancies between the realities of the bill and how it's been described.

"Every single promise made about this bill is turning out not to be true," Rove said.

Rove also cited health care reform as an area where Obama has not delivered what he promised.

According to Rove, although Obama promised no taxes on health care for individuals, taxing health care companies led them to jack up their prices. In the end,

Rove said, consumers were still hurt.

Audience members had differing viewpoints on what Rove had to say, especially about the stimulus plan.

At least one student said the speech felt like "a rant against the stimulus bill."

First-year Liz Olson disagreed.

"He made a good point in addressing the unnecessary parts of the plan and how the title is deceiving" Olson said, referring to Rove's claim that the bill is actually a spending bill.

Although most of his speech focused on Obama's policies, Rove did address the upcoming election.

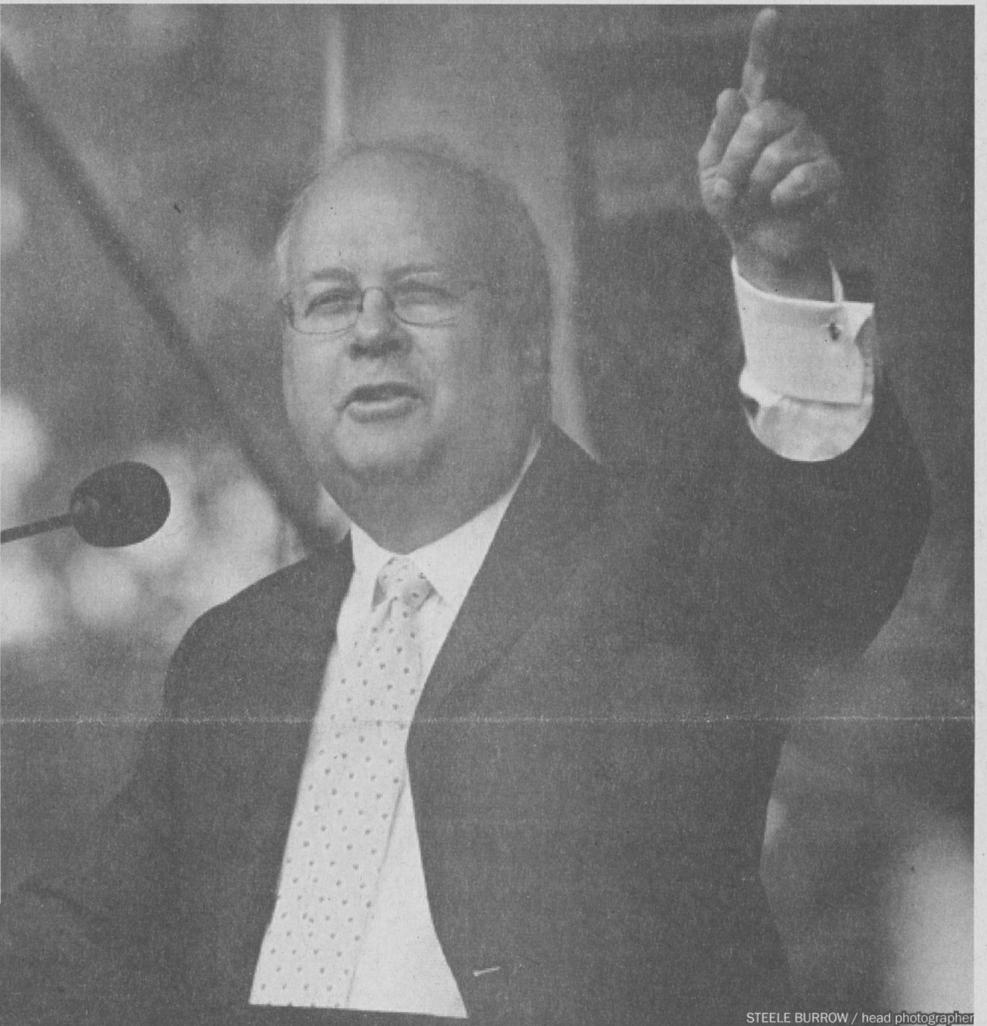
"Who will be the Republican nominee? I have no idea" he said.

Rove continued to say that this Republican nomination is going to be different because, for the first time in decades, there is no "front runner" among the Republicans.

Whoever the Republican nominee will be, Rove said, he (or she) has three main challenges to face.

The nominee must prove why Obama should no longer be president and why he should be instead. He must both unify the party and reach outside its ranks. Most importantly, Rove said, there must be some moment where the future nominee proves he can handle the presidency.

No matter who the Republican nominee is, Rove said the 2012 election will be "one of the most consequential in American history."



Karl Rove, former deputy chief of staff for President George W. Bush, spoke on the Colonnade lawn last Saturday as part of Mock Convention's spring kickoff.

STEELE BURROW / head photographer

How sweet it is: famous cakemaker designs realistic Colonnade cake for students to enjoy at convention kickoff BBQ

By Valaree Tang
STAFF WRITER

A cake created by the bakery featured in the Food Network show "Ace of Cakes," was one of the highlights of last weekend's spring kickoff festivities.

The red velvet-flavored cake was molded in the shape of the Colonnade, with five political figures on the Colonnade lawn, including Sarah Palin and Donald Trump. The main cake was also supplemented by one lemon-berry sheet cake and one mudslide sheet cake.

Wanting to get publicity outside the traditional newspaper, Mock Con Media and Communications Chair Kali McFar-

land contacted Charm City Cakes.

"One of the approaches that my co-chair, Katie Stewart, and I were looking for this year is to take publicity outside of the traditional political newspapers and blogs so that they can focus on the natural lifestyle aspect of the convention," said McFarland.

McFarland's interest in Southern Living and the Cooking Channel were inspirations for contacting Charm City Cakes and working with the bakery to create a special cake for Mock Con.

Though McFarland did not work

directly with Duff Goldman, the man responsible for the success of "Ace of Cakes," she corresponded with general manager Mary Alice over the phone and email.

McFarland and Stewart decided on a cake resembling the Colonnade because they wanted something that was representative of Washington and Lee.

"We wanted something that was iconic W&L, and we wanted something that would be special to the convention," McFarland said. "The Mock Con logo this year is the Colonnade with elephants

flanking either side of it, so we thought 'What's more iconic than the Colonnade and the fact that it tied in with the logo?'"

The cake was served during the barbeque, which featured pulled pork sandwiches, veggie burgers, baked beans, salad, coleslaw, watermelon and cookies.

General Chair Tricia King, Political Chair Zach Wilkes and Personnel Chair Tucker Pribor participated in the ceremonial cake cutting during the barbeque. Student response to the cake was

mixed. Some barbeque attendees seemed to be less than impressed with the cake.

"The cake features detailed work, but I thought that it was going to be bigger," said Lauren Laskowski.

Other students thought that the "Ace of Cakes" cake was a "good use of funds" and "money well spent."

The barbeque in which the cake was featured was part of a new revamped spring kickoff event which included a band party in Red Square that featured two bands.



This cake, depicting the Colonnade and Republican candidates was created by Charm City Cakes of "Ace of Cakes" fame.

opinions

Stereotyping the W&L culture

Our opinions editor examines the nuances tied to campus, singling out some of the unspoken, yet accepted, behaviors

By Stockton Bullitt
OPINIONS EDITOR

It's not much of an opinion to say that Washington and Lee is a pretty unique school. I mean, just look at Spring Term. What other school has an April Spring Break (in case you haven't noticed, we have the same Spring Break as high schools, which makes hooking up even more dangerous) followed by a four week term that features classes ranging from rigorously demanding to "material to glance at while floating down the Maury?" Our school is filled with little nuances that are unique to only our special blend of NESAC and SEC. Some of these little nuances are good things, like the fact that we are the only school that celebrates a dead guy buried in our backyard, our courageous support of dodgeball in the face of tragedy and our unquestioned support for an annual March prom that comes in the form of Fancy Dress. However, some of our little nuances can come in bad forms. For example, we are definitely the only liberal arts school that can have empty seats at a Karl Rove speech for apathy rather than protest. Hey, at least we loved the cake from a *Food Network* show that no longer exists! Anyway, I documented some of these nuances that are unique to W&L culture. **These are by no means emblematic of the entire population of W&L students**, but there are distinct trends that I have seen over my three years here in Lexington. **If you don't think that what I'm writing is entirely accurate, feel free to write in and call me out on it.** Since there is only one more Ring-Tum Phi issue after this one, I can't respond with an article trashing your major. And, for those who believe that this is horribly libelous, I wrote this during an active afternoon at the Pole Houses, so most of this is empirical research.

So without further ado, here are some nuances and types of people unique to W&L with cute phrases attached to them. Think of this as your own personal stereotyping of W&L. And yes, I know that I'm contributing to the degradation of our school's culture, but let's be honest, there's a reason I save the nasty articles for the Spring Term issues: nobody bothers to read them because tubing is just too damn fun.

Skull Givers

The name for the chasers of Phi Kap men. Every fraternity has their respective fan club, but no fan club follows their fraternity with the same dedication and fervor as the Skull Givers. I don't know whether it's the culture of the school or simply these girls' upbringing, but there is something about the combination of long hair, brightly colored lacrosse shorts, no shirt, and the Pole 4 porch that makes these girls extremely attracted to the Phi Kap men.

These girls come in two distinct breeds. Both breeds blend together during the few times when attention is given to them by the Skulls. When they are given the attention they deserve, the Skull Givers get a rush of joy equal to that of a kid on a Christmas morning. To launch a water balloon off the Pole 4 porch is definitely a highlight of their college careers.

However, these two distinct breeds show their true nature when they are ignored. The first of these breeds chooses to give all their love and attention to a "lesser being." This love is genuine and wonderful when the breed is alone with the lesser being. However, once they're at a party with the desired Skulls, the lesser beings suddenly turn into furniture more ignored more than Dupont's study carrels.

The other breed of Skull Givers are the ones who, regardless of how ignored they are, stick religiously by Phi Kap through thick and thin. These girls are willing to spend entire parties listening to the bros converse among themselves, happy to stand on the periphery of the conversation. These girls tap on the shoulders of their prey and have the same efficiency of getting their attention as these boys do of hitting any-

thing substantial when they launch water balloons. That is, the girls are often ignored. But they always succeed in the end because anyone who can stand to watch fist pumping while naked boys flaunt their business in the backyard deserves proper attention.

Mid-level Fantasy

This is the name for the group of guys from mid-level fraternities (Beta, Phi Psi, Pi Phi, Fiji, Sigma Chi, etc.) who have a much higher opinion of themselves than they probably should. If you confront them about this fact, they will smile and say, "Naw, we just like to keep to ourselves and drink in our own house." They will say this like it's a good thing, when in fact, that is just a nice way to say they're into binge drinking. These guys are the types of frat stars who agree to socialize with a certain sorority with whom they don't usually hang out. And instead of simply settling for a nice, little social, these Fantasy Frat Stars take the reins and turn the social into an all-day affair, located at a sorority girl's house but run by the fraternity. This party is advertised as a campus-wide affair, but in reality it's a chance for these Fantasy Frat Stars to have a five keg party for themselves at someone else's house. The actual party may not have that many people, but at least these Fantasy Frat Stars can live in their own little worlds of social success.

Sigma Chi Phase

This is more or less an extinct part of W&L, so I feel free commenting on it. For the last few years, every guy would go through a Sigma Chi Phase for at least two weeks during their first semester in Lexington. Now, obviously most guys will never admit to being

completely infatuated with Sigma Chi for at least a little part of their Freshman Fall, but deep down, every guy reading this remembers the time they told their friends, "Hey, say what you want about Sigma Chi, there is no better party than Pole 3." This was before they discovered the wonder of Windfall and before they realized that Sigma Chi was not the center of the fraternal universe at W&L.

This is no longer the case with W&L. Sigma Chi has joined the rest of the fraternity landscape and has appealed to their specific niche of W&L student. Now, contented with their lot, the Sigma Chi Phase has vanished only to be replaced by the KA phase. This phase appeals to the freshman girl more so than a freshman boy, as an opinion writer so beautifully illustrated with graphs and data in an earlier article. KA has moved away from epitomizing the Southern fraternity, a title they left to SAE, in favor of appealing to the broader base of freshman girls and boys whose last names sound like items on the Salerno's menu. Now, every freshman girl enters their KA phase during Orientation Week and leaves it...wait, have they gotten over that phase yet? Note: I know that KA will be extremely mad that I'm describing them in this sense. They will probably try to pick a fight with me the next time I try and change the song at a party they are not hosting. But, am I really insulting you that much by saying that freshman girls love you? Think about it.

"Late Night"

Thanks to noise ordinances instituted in Rockbridge County, the term "Late Night" has a unique definition to W&L students. For other schools and even in most cities, the term "Late Night" means 2 in the morning or later. A few years ago, "Chi Psi Late Night" was understood to be a party attended once the clock struck one. However, thanks to LexPo, W&L's version of "Late Night" refers to 11:30. Personally, I don't think that the term "Late Night" should be used while Wendy's is still open, but here we are. I know grandmothers that are awake during our version of "Late Night," but with LexPo's help, we'll soon be calling it "Late Night" once the sun goes down.

W&L Relationship

Seen by many adults here as the demise of modern society, the W&L relationship is evident all around campus. The W&L relationship can easily be defined as a relationship in which both participants do not see each other or interact with each other during most hours of the day. The interaction can start during pre-games for parties, but usually ends up with first meetings during the actual party and true affection only manifesting itself drunkenly on the dance floor. Once the party hits midnight, the relationship is in full swing, and the two participants are truly intertwined in love. If this is an experienced relationship, a party will not be complete until the first loud fight breaks out between the two causing friends of both parties to roll their eyes and attempt to diffuse the situation. The night is ultimately spent together and sometimes, maybe, morning brunch is shared, but by noon, these two participants in the W&L relationship are alien to one another. The only reference to their nighttime lovers occurs during gossip sessions with friends, otherwise these couples do not interact in any way while the sun is up and work is to be done.

The W&L relationship usually works fine for both parties involved until it comes time to break up. The boy usually initiates the breakup by treating the girl at night like he usually treats her during the day. In other words, he completely ignores her entire existence at parties the same way he ignores her entire existence on the hill. The boy tends to act clueless whenever this girl's name is mentioned, and the girl tends to take out

her frustrations on some unsuspecting dance floor victim. These speculative relationships and subsequent breakups are widespread enough to be described thusly by one senior: "every single one of my friends has gotten broken up with without being in a relationship."

Speculative Hatred

Admittedly, this is more of a general college trend, rather than something specific to W&L. Still, there is plenty of speculative hatred that goes around. Everyone has had this circumstance occur in their own respective gossip circles. One of your friends comes in to lunch one day exasperated telling you how much they hate a certain person for a legitimate reason. Your friends, being supportive of their ally, support that person's claim. Then, over the course of the next few weeks, friends start trashing the now hated person for acts that he or she did or did not commit. Soon, the gossip circle has a hatred bubble for this person, and there is seething hatred for a person who probably has only committed one or two social indiscretions. The trend is completed when someone in your circle begins the conversation by saying, "You know, Hated Person really isn't so bad." And thus, the bubble is burst when the entire group starts now sharing anecdotes about how saintly the formerly evil person is. The comical part of this whole process is how oblivious Hated Person is to the entire event.

On another note, it's very interesting to see how quickly the Terrorism Bubble burst in 2011. With the death of Osama bin Laden and the Arab Spring, it's now not a great time to be a terrorist. Back in the mid-2000s, terrorism was so big that even people from rural Alabama were signing up (no, seriously, that happened), and now the 2011 terrorist sector looks a lot like the 2008 housing market. I'm so glad I shorted terrorism in 2010, and I find it incredibly interesting that Pokemon would outlast terrorism. Enough terrorism jokes? Yes? Moving on...

Rabbits

You know that guy in your fraternity who only eats salad and gasps at the mere mention of fried food? Well, he is your fraternity's rabbit precisely because he eats like one. This guy's idea of exercise is the Stairmaster, and his idea of pigging out is eating a hard-boiled egg. Everyone has a friend who abhors Taco Bell and is even resistant to Subway. You can make fun of him all you want, but he is usually more ripped than the guy in the Real World who was on Frat Pad, so just know that while you call him a rabbit, he'll be laughing all the way to his next hookup.

Diamond in the Rough

Freshmen don't know this yet, but during the rush process, there is quite a bit of judging that goes on in the fraternities and sororities. The Diamonds in the Rough are those freshmen who are at first most debated and fought over. Half of the Greek organization firmly believes that if this person is admitted, the world will most surely collapse and the social standing of the respective Greek organization will crumble in the process. However, from Tear Night on, these Diamonds in the Rough are the coolest members of the Greek organization. All their qualities that didn't shine during rush now come out in full bloom, and they are respected and adored by their peers. Every Greek organization has one of these, and most likely they each have their respective Enrons (the members who were liked only for rush and at no other points in their career), but the Diamonds in the Rough are the ones who are remembered and celebrated. They are the ones who represent the best defense for Greek life at W&L: the chance to befriend someone who you normally would never befriend.

Wheel Friend

When relationships venture outside the W&L relationship, friends inevitably get dragged into the process. If you are single in the later years of your W&L career, hanging out casually usually entails being the odd numbered member of a group. If you had three good friends before, then you will inevitably find yourself serving as the seventh wheel to your friends, who are now respectively wife'd up. Every time you want to go out to dinner or watch a movie, you need to check with your friends first to make sure that their boyfriends or girlfriends are available to join your group. This provides pressure on you to get wife'd up and can delay your plans mightily.

Drunk Alter Egos

After more than a couple of drinks on a party night, many people at this school lose their own personalities and replace them with their drunken alter egos. Many people have given specific names to these alter egos (for example if your name is Bill, calling your alter ego Dan), some use a play of words on their name (for example, if your name is Autumn, calling your alter ego Winter) and others simply just spell their names backwards to describe their alter egos (e.g., Haram). However, the most common way to describe the drunken alter ego is simply to describe him or her as "Drunk [insert name here]." The alter ego tends to be a little worse at walking in a straight line and much worse at making decisions regarding those of the opposite sex.

Spring Term Fat Chicks/ Spring Term Alcoholic

This was not an idea proposed by me, so before you break out the Student-Faculty Hearing Board, this is a term a group of senior girls used to describe themselves' at a certain birthday party. Not looking to be libelous, I'm using their description of this term as my definition. See, these girls are free from the bondage of academia and are celebrating by consuming either a lot of food or a lot of booze and sometimes both.

The Spring Term Fat Chicks are not Powderpuff linemen, but rather are healthy girls who are venturing to places like Frank's for the first time, and therefore think of themselves as incredibly fat for trying a cheese-steak for the first time. Considering W&L's ostensible lack of an obesity problem, I guess eating your first mozzarella stick in Spring Term of your Senior Spring in this culture makes you a Spring Term Fat Chick, but when I eat the other five mozzarella sticks, I somehow am exempt from being called the Spring Term Fatass.

The Spring Term Alcoholic describes the senior girl who has all but graduated and now celebrates by going on a four week hiatus from sobriety. This celebration does not make her resemble Nicholas Cage in "Leaving Las Vegas," but rather produces a socialite who lives by a few select mantras. 1) "Every day is either a bad day or an Occasion." If the day is a bad day, then you will need to drink to cheer yourself up, and if the day is an Occasion (i.e., someone's birthday, Osama's death day, Star Wars Day, etc.), then you have to drink to celebrate. 2) "Everything revolves around the next drink." Although thinking like this for longer than Spring Term will get you into rehab, the Spring Term Alcoholic does not worry about books or drama or tests, but instead worries about what kind of fruit juice to mix with what kind of alcohol. 3) "The sun and loss of appetite [from too much drinking] are a draining duo." Tanning and drinking are contact sports that can wipe you out. Make sure that you eat even when you are full and wear plenty of sunscreen. 4) "Stairs are HARD." When you can think like this, you know you are having a pretty good Spring Term.

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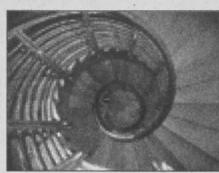
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THE RING-TUM PHI is published Mondays during the undergraduate school year. THE RING-TUM PHI is a member of The Media Board, which can be reached at mediaboard@wlu.edu, but is otherwise independent. THE RING-TUM PHI welcomes all letters. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content and length. Letters and advertising do not necessarily reflect the opinion of THE RING-TUM PHI staff. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

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Opinions

It's Spring Term; it's time for jerseys

Columnist Patrick Smith explains the warmer weather fashion choice, choosing the "dankest" sports jerseys

By Patrick Smith
COLUMNIST

I sit in my disgusting house recuperating the morning after a Red Square party while watching Armageddon on TV. What sounds better than that? A list of dank jerseys I have compiled, perhaps? I made this list with many things in mind, such as on-field performance and overall swag.

If you read one of my past articles titled, "Brocabulary," you would understand what the word dank means.

The reason I decided to make this list is because when I'm not spending my Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classifying the hell out of some plants in Field Botany, I'm wearing sweet jerseys and trying to get sunburned so I'm not white as shit. I can't help it; I'm a struggling day-walker.

If you want an idea of what I'm going for before you read this list, I am currently wearing a Penny Hardaway-Warriors jersey. Get at my level. I lifted this one from a friend who left it at my house. However, I know for a fact that he doesn't read my "crappy" articles, so I'm not worried at all. I'm just an accounting major who can't write, right? Classic case of sucks-bro.

Without further crappy "journalism," here's a short list of six, dank-ass jerseys, two each from the major three sports. Enjoy:

Wade Boggs, New York Yankees #12:

I've been a Yankees fan my entire life and I know this may seem like a bizarre choice for my favorite team. First of all, Wade Boggs got most of his 3,010 hits with the Red Sox, (ew) but he did play five seasons with the Bronx Bombers and win a championship in '96 with them.

The reason I love the Hall-of-Famer Wade Boggs so much is because of one story I read about him.

Back in the day, the Yankees played a game in LA, (which they won) and Wade Boggs decided to get a little aggressive. He had a 6-pack of Budwieser chillin' in his locker, waiting for him at the end of the game.

Another teammate saw Wade Boggs pound all six of those brews before leaving the locker room and proceed to pick up a case of beer before the cross-country flight back to New York. In the seven hours of downtime between the end of the game, and Boggs returning home, he drank 50 beers.

What Wade did that day was a commendable feat, and proper reason for him making my list of dank-ass jerseys.

John Rocker, Atlanta Braves #49

I remember watching John Rocker close out games back in the day when the Yankees always used play the Braves in the World Series (and lose). He would literally sprint from center field to the pitcher's mound before he went into the game. I always used to wish that he would slide into the mound when he got there, but he never did.

John Rocker was a player highly linked to steroid use, which may explain his visible insanity on the diamond. Not only was he a lefty, but he did some legit things in the major leagues before his testicles shrank too much due to the unicorn blood he used to enhance his performance.

His antics were unparalleled and he meant a lot to the best game on earth, therefore, I have no shame in putting him on my list.

Larry Bird, Indiana State #33

Larry Bird had one of the sweetest jump shots in all of basketball. I'm not, and will never, claim to be, a huge basketball aficionado, but it would take an idiot to say Larry Bird wasn't a special player. He knew how to win ball games.

The reason I use Indiana State in-

stead of the obvious choice is because of a friend of mine. He is the biggest Celtics fan and owns this jersey. It's old-school as hell; and the powder blue looks sweet. I envy his jersey flare.

Shaquille O'Neal, Orlando Magic #32

The Big Diesel had the rare ability not only to be good at basketball, but also to be hilarious. He's got 4 championship rings and a movie that got a 4% fresh rating on rotten tomatoes. Who else can say that?

Back when I was a dumb little ginger hiding from the sun, I owned the Reebok "Shaqnosis" shoes (Google that ish). I would wear these and pretend to be good at basketball. Besides his impressive career statistics, he's the man and deserves to be on this list without question.

Deion Sanders, Florida State #2

"If you look good, you play good, if you play good, they pay you good!" Too bad I play Division 3 baseball...

Deion was not only an amazing football player, but he was also a spectacularly average baseball player. He was an eccentric personality known as

"prime-time," and if asked to rank the five best cornerbacks of all time, he would respond with 1. Deion 2. Deion 3. Deion 4. Deion 5. Deion.

Get his college jersey from Florida State. The only thing that could make this jersey cooler is if he went to the U instead.

'Nuff said.

Joe Namath, New York Jets #12

I'm not sure what's cooler, the super bowl ring Namath guaranteed, or the fur coats he used to wear: definitely the ring.

Namath played nine strong seasons in the NFL and has one notable ring to show for it. He was a loud mouth and Brut man; both very cool things. Joe was a notorious New York party animal and has one huge superbowl victory to show for a remarkably sub-par career.

Whatever, this is a sweet jersey and he was a major bad-ass. Well worth the purchase.

This is the end of my list, and the end of my story. Peace.

Me - "I don't think this article is going to be funny"

Joe Gannet - "Surprise, surprise."

Tradition! Tradition!

Columnist Ali Greenberg explores the history that makes our campus unique

By Ali Greenberg
COLUMNIST

During my week at home over Spring Break, I had very few obligations or responsibilities. My days tended to follow the schedule of wake up eventually, get up eventually, find food somewhere, walk the dog, lie back down, find more food, watch TV, sleep.

So besides catching up on "30 Rock" and "Family Guy" and potentially finding a new team to root for in the NBA, I really only had time in my busy schedule for one thing: spending hours upon hours on my computer. I actually had to recharge my laptop three times in one day. That's obscene.

I read blogs, watched Netflix and generally wasted a lot of time. During a moment of intellectual intrigue, I even looked up our fine institution on Wikipedia.

While scrolling through the article, I learned a lot about our school. For instance, did you know that Meriwether Lewis, as in the Lewis in Lewis & Clark, was class of 1793?

Or that our fight song, "The Washington and Lee Swing," was actually an incredibly popular tune and has been adopted by dozens of schools as well as recorded by just about every famous jazz musician at the time, including Louis Armstrong.

And in the spirit of Mock Convention, another alum, Mr. John W. Davis (1892, 1895L) was the 1924 Candidate for the Presidency (we predicted correctly that year!). While he inevitably lost to the incumbent, Coolidge, he still went on to become a very successful lawyer, up until he picked the wrong side on the whole Brown v. Board debate. Awkward.

Up 'till this point I was pleasantly surprised and enlightened by my new

knowledge, and then I read about an alum that was an absolute gem.

George William Crump, class of 1804, was the United States' first recorded stalker. Yes, stalker. He was caught one night his senior year by Ye Olde Lex Po running naked through the streets of Lexington.

And while he was suspended for a

While I never got the opportunity to experience the 6-week, two-course term, I do know that the 4-week Spring Term of today is where it's at.

Yet, is four weeks really enough? By the time we actually get adjusted to the course content and the professors' expectations and grading, we are already halfway through the course. Sometimes it seems as pointless as the Pacquiao/Mosley fight.

But it's in the social sense where the time limit is both a gift and a curse. We come back from Spring Break refreshed and, well, ready to party. And yet we are greeted with only three weekends. Three!

And two of them are already gone, slipped away already from right under us.

However, just as distance makes the heart grow fonder, our limited time provides an extremely dense concentration of events over the shortened term. So while there are only four weeks, there is so much room for activities!

I am not calling for a return to the six-week term. I like things how they are now and the administration has been very clear that the switch back would simply be infeasible.

I am really just writing this as a reminder that we are halfway through if this paper actually comes out on Monday like it is supposed to. So stop wasting time reading the *Ring-tum Phi*, get out your lax penny and go enjoy Spring Term.

Because there is nothing more W&L than day drinking and band parties, and we are nothing without our traditions.

The fact that Washington & Lee produced the new worlds first recorded stalker is just an incredible testament to the social structures and attitudes of our illustrious university.

semester, he went on to graduate from Princeton, UPenn Medical School, become a U.S. Representative, and land an ambassadorship in Chile. Essentially making him the entire student body's new hero.

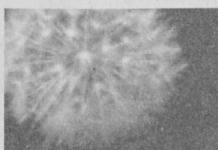
The fact that Washington & Lee produced the New World's first recorded stalker is just an incredible testament to the social structures and attitudes of our illustrious university.

And now that Spring Term is finally here, we shouldn't expect any shortage of undergrads streaking the Colonade and then hoping to get hooked up with a sweet job after graduation. Over two hundred years later, so little has changed.

We have many traditions at our school, with one of the greatest being the Spring Term. Started in 1970 and born from the hippie and alternative educational movements of the generation, Spring Term was created in order to provide a unique and enriching academic environment that gave students the opportunity to truly engage themselves in a specific course and form better relationships with their professors.

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arts&life

Capitol Steps kicks off Mock Con right

The Hill-based comedy troupe entertains students, faculty, community and provides satirical outlook on politics

By Sage Um
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday night, the satirical political comedy group The Capitol Steps performed at Keller Theater as part of Mock Convention's Spring Kick-off.

The Steps did various skits about Sarah Palin, the events in Egypt, Obama's health care efforts, and former Presidents Bush and Clinton. One mem-

orable speech was at the very end of the performances where the performer flipped the first and last syllables of all his words.

Many students, faculty, and community members showed up to the performance and enjoyed their savvy parodies.

The Steps first started as a group of Senate staffers mocking their employ-

ers at a Christmas party in 1981. Their first intentions were to stage a Congressional nativity play, but when they failed to find three wise men or a virgin in Congress, they chose headlines of the day to parody and make songs for a new type of satirical humor. And since then, they have been famous for their unique political comedy. Most of the cast mem-

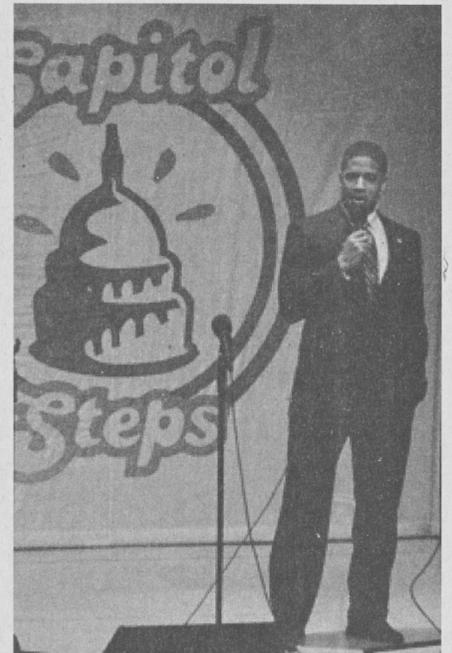
bers have worked in Congress, for both Democrats and Republicans.

The Capitol Steps have recorded dozens of albums and appeared on various TV shows like "Good Morning America". They have also done specials for public radio ("Politics Takes a Holiday") and even performed for five US Presidents.

Larry King said, "They're the best. There's no one like them, no one in their league."

The current parody/song on The Capitol Steps website addresses Osama Bin Laden's death and President Obama's birth certificate, comparing the two.

The Capitol Steps was definitely a great way to start Mock Convention's



The Capitol Steps performed last Wednesday in the Keller Theater of Lenfest, helping kick off the 2012 Mock Convention. The comedy troupe is comprised of bipartisan cast members who have worked on the Hill, under both Democrats and Republicans.

STEELE BURROW / head photographer

Students fish on the fly

W&L's Outing Club journeyed to the Piney River for a fly-fishing expedition

By Dane Davis
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Outing Club have been busy rafting, hiking, and most recently, fly fishing, as they take advantage of the warm spring weather. Early last week, James Dick, Outing Club director, and four Washington and Lee students trekked out to the Piney River to fly fish on the stocked pond and two miles of creek that runs through a 100-acre property.

"It was a lot of fun," said Steele Burrow. This was his first time fly-fishing in the East

and he said it helped him "get a little more out of the countryside."

According to the guys on the trip, the biggest fish caught was about 12 inches, and everyone hooked at least two fish. Dick, however, managed to angle nine fish, tripling everyone else's catch. All of the fish caught during the three-hour excursion were Brook Trout, and all fish were released.

It may have helped that the group encountered no one else on the trip except for

the two experienced locals who guided them to the best fishing spots. Burrow described the landscape as spectacular and said it was a great opportunity to get to know other W&L students.

The next upcoming OC trip is SCUBA diving on the New River in West Virginia, but keep an eye out for paddling, caving, hiking, and other outdoor trips at the Campus Recreation blog <http://wlvrecreation.wordpress.com/>.



The Outing Club ventured to the Piney River to take part in fly-fishing. James Dick, director of the club, and four students were pointed to the best fishing spots by experienced locals - the only other people they met on the trip.

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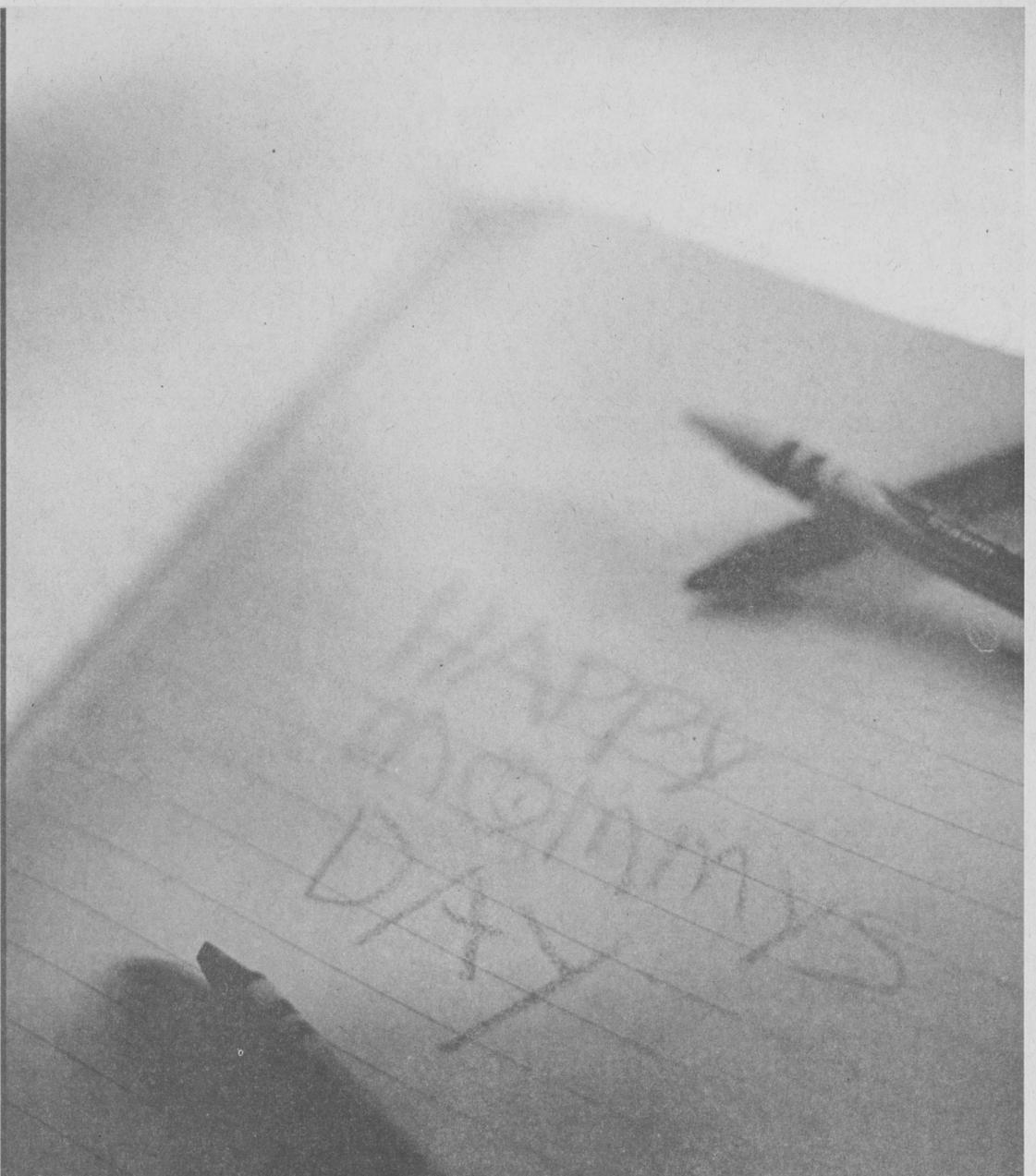
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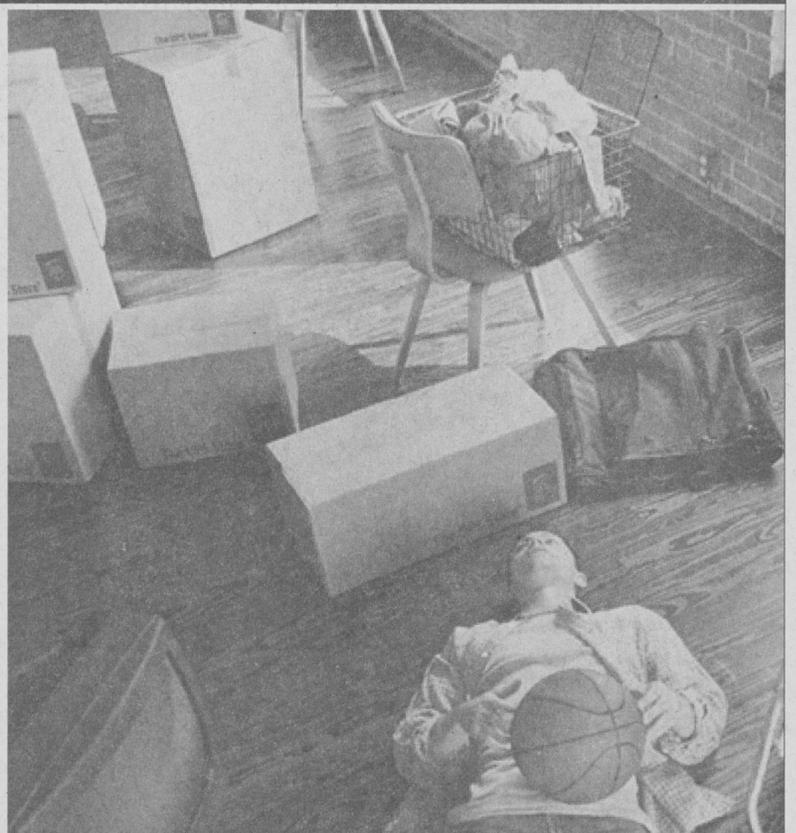
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sports



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	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Baseball							
Men's Lacrosse							
Women's Lacrosse			vs Christopher Newport TBA		NCAA Tourney 2nd round	NCAA Tourney Quarter-finals	
Men's Tennis					NCAA Tourney First round	NCAA Tourney Second round	NCAA Tourney Third round
Women's Tennis					NCAA Tourney First round	NCAA Tourney Second round	NCAA Tourney Third round
Track		Deacon Combined Events	Deacon Combined Events			Swarthmore Last Chance	
Golf							

in the numbers

22

The age of Derrick Rose, who just became the youngest player ever to be chosen as the Most Valuable Player for the NBA.

Rose plays for the Chicago Bulls and the 2010-2011 season.

marked only his second season playing professional ball, and

he is the second Bulls player to win the award, joining the legendary Michael Jordan in the honor. Rose led his team to an

NBA-best 62-20 season record.

24-1

The odds that the Kentucky Derby winner Animal Kingdom

started with. While far from a record breaking long shot, only

six horses started with longer odds out of the 19-horse field.

Animal Kingdom's odds were enough to pay out \$43.80 on a \$2 bet.

25

Number of innings it took the Chicago White Sox to finally de-

feat the Milwaukee Brewers, 7-6, on today's date in 1984. The

game clocked in at eight hours, six minutes and spanned two

days - the longest game (in elapsed time) in major-league his-

tory.

soapbox

"I told Robby [earlier in the day Saturday], 'Don't worry, if we win this race I'm going to take care of you.'"

— John Velazquez, the jockey who rode Animal Kingdom to victory in Saturday's Kentucky Derby, acknowledging his friend and fellow jockey Robby Albarado. Albarado was set to ride Animal Kingdom in the race until he fell off his mount the Wednesday before, breaking his nose and prompting Animal Kingdom's owner and trainer to replace him - despite his having been cleared to ride by doctors.

"One thing that I can credit since I got here is the fans have been great. I'm just happy to be a part of this organization and happy that we can move on. I don't want to be a party-pooper or nothin', we'll enjoy tonight, but tomorrow we'll move on."

—Oklahoma City Thunder center Kendrick Perkins said after taking down the Denver Nuggets 100 - 97 and winning the series 4 - 1 to move on in postseason play.

ODAC champions

Women's lacrosse earns conference title

By Jayna Johns
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee women's lacrosse team completed yet another successful week by adding to its already impressive win streak and clinching its 12th conference championship.

On Wednesday, the top-seeded Generals defeated fourth-seeded Virginia Wesleyan College 9-6 in the semifinal round of the ODAC tournament, played in Lexington.

W&L started the game hot, attempting nine shots in the first 10 minutes while the Marlins only managed one. Despite the bombardment of W&L shots, Virginia Wesleyan found the net first, taking a 2-0 advantage with just under 17 minutes left in the first half.

The Generals responded by putting in three consecutive shots in the next three minutes, taking a 3-2 lead. Senior attacker Wilton Megargel made in the first goal, and junior attacker Alli Shearin followed 30 seconds later with a goal of her own. Senior attacker Kate Speare kept up the pressure by scoring less than two minutes later.

Unlike most of W&L's previous conference opponents, VWC kept the match close, answering with another goal to tie the game with just over 11 minutes left in the half.

Senior midfielders Kate Donnelly and Emmy Mathews were able to each put in another goal before the end of the half, allowing W&L to go into the break with a 5-3 lead.

The Generals opened the second half in a similar fashion to how they opened the game, except this time the shots went in. The team scored four unanswered goals to take a 9-3 lead, its largest of the game, with 12 and a half minutes left in the game.

Mathews accounted for two of the additional goals, and Speare and Megargel each also added another goal. Mathews scored first, putting in an assist from Speare, and then Speare made in her goal. Mathews followed and Megargel finished the run with her goal. The last three goals came in a span of just over two minutes.

The team managed to hold off a late surge by the Marlins, who put in three goals in the final 10 minutes, and were able to secure the victory and move on to the tournament finals.

Mathews led the team with three goals while Speare was right behind with two goals and an assist. Megargel also added two goals. Senior Katharine Farrar spent the entire game in the net and recorded 10 saves for the day.

On Sunday, the Generals faced third-seed-

ed Roanoke College in the final round, winning 21-13 in Lexington to secure the conference title.

Similarly to Wednesday's game against VWC, Roanoke jumped out to a 2-0 lead. Both scores came within the first five minutes of the game.

The Generals responded with vigor, putting in five straight goals in only four and a half minutes and taking a 5-2 lead with just under 18 minutes remaining in the first half. Shearin started the scoring run after forcing a turnover and taking the ball directly to the net. Donnelly put one in less than two minutes later, and Shearin added another 57 seconds after Donnelly. This gave the team its first lead of the contest with just over 19 minutes left in the half, a lead that it would not give up for the rest of the game.

Mathews and junior attacker Maddie McKaig finished the run by each scoring free position goals.

The teams finished out the first half alternating goals. Roanoke put in five goals before the break, and the Generals put in six to go into the half with an 11-7 lead. Three of those goals came from Mathews, while Shearin put in two and Donnelly added one.

Just a minute and a half into the second period, Mathews put in her fifth goal of the day to give W&L a five-goal lead. The Maroons stayed in the game, putting in two shots back-to-back and bringing the score to within three with 27 minutes left in the game.

The Generals responded with two goals of their own, one each by Mathews and McKaig. Roanoke snuck in one, but W&L then took off on a six-goal streak, taking a 20-10 lead with just under eight minutes remaining in the contest. First-year midfielder Meade Brewster, Mathews and Shearin each put in a goal, while Megargel contributed the other three.

The Maroons managed to score three more times but were unable to overcome W&L's



COURTESY OF GENERALLSPORTS.COM

impressive lead, giving the Generals a 21-13 victory. Mathews accounted for the final W&L goal.

Mathews bested her previous career record of six scores, which she set the week before against Randolph-Macon, by putting in eight goals. Shearin tied her career-high of five goals and Megargel finished the day with four scores. Farrar again spent the entire game in the net and recorded five saves.

Senior Kathy Brown, Mathews, Shearin and first-year Alex Van Horn were all named to the All-Tournament team for their performances throughout the ODAC tournament.

Winning the ODAC title gave W&L an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Women's Lacrosse Tournament. The women will play Christopher Newport in Lexington on Wednesday for the first round of the national tournament. The time is yet to be determined.

The team played Christopher Newport last year as part of its regular season, winning the contest 16-7, but lost in the first round of the NCAA tournament 13-12 to Elizabethtown.

The Generals will go into the tournament with a 14-4 overall record, including an undefeated conference record.

Generals shine at meet

Track & field athletes compete at Liberty and pull out impressive performances

By Jayna Johns
SPORTS EDITOR

The Washington and Lee men's and women's track & field teams competed last Thursday afternoon in the Liberty Twilight Meet, both trying to earn bids to the NCAA Division III Championships. Those who competed faced teams from across the South in the event, including several NCAA Division I members.

For the men, sophomore Dylan Mills finished third overall in the javelin throw but was first among competing Division III athletes with a toss of 58.60 meters. His toss before this meet was 60.99 meters.

First-year Kevin Sullivan also competed in the javelin throw, coming in right behind Mills at fifth overall and second among Division III throwers with a 53.20 meter toss.

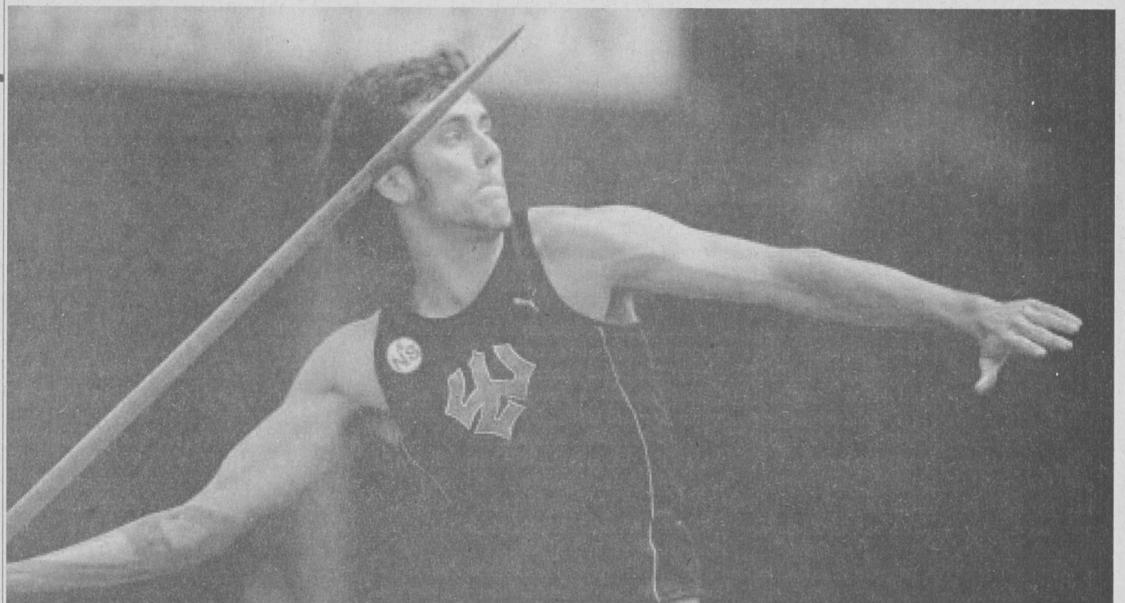
The women also had two strong performances in the meet. Sophomore Lauren Schultz ran in the steeplechase, recording a personal-best time of 11:32.08. Her time placed her third overall and first in Division III runners.

First-year runner Annelise Madison ran in the 1500 meter race, finishing fourth overall and first among Division III competitors after

posting a time of 4:48.73.

Competing teams in the meet included Liberty University (Div. I-AA), Coastal Carolina University (Div. I-AA), Radford University (Div. I-AA) and Lynchburg College (Div. III).

Both W&L teams will return to action on Tuesday. They will travel to Wake Forest University to compete in the all-day Deacon Combined Events.



Washington and Lee sophomore Dylan Mills throws the javelin while competing in the Liberty Twilight Meet. Mills was third in the event, but first among other Div. III athletes.