

## Scandal is so five minutes ago.

John Paul Beall advises us to keep the mudslinging to a minimum and to enjoy Mock Con.

OPINIONS / page 3

## W&L crushes Randy Mac.

After a devastating defeat last Wednesday, the Generals came back swinging against the Yellowjackets, winning 43-25.

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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

# THE RING-TUM PHI. 12

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## Recent grads share dreams

Career Services hosts documentary screening

By Tilden Bowditch  
STAFF WRITER

After graduating in 2009, Alexis Irvin and Chip Hiden quit their desk jobs bought a flip-cam and tripod and set off on a road trip that they hoped would change their lives- and hopefully, they say, the life of any college student with a dream.

Career Services hosted a screening of their documentary *The Dream Share Project*, in Stackhouse Theater on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

The documentary follows Irvin and Hiden on a cross-country road trip as they interview people who do what they love. In the film, Irvin and Hiden ask professors, entrepreneurs, and celebrities about the meaning of success, risk-taking, and the rewards of pursuing a dream.

"We wanted to take a road trip but we wanted to make it more than a road trip. We wanted to do something that would make a difference," Irvin said.

Over a span of three months, the two drove from Maryland to California and back again, interviewing a variety of professors, entrepreneurs, artists, and more.

In the film, Irvin and Hiden explain how they stumbled across interesting characters to interview. Some of these included a young CEO of an eco-friendly flip flop company, a comedian from the original *Latin Kings of Comedy*, and a *Project Runway* fashion designer.

Neither Irvin nor Hiden knew much about making documentaries before they embarked on their journey. Irvin studied print journalism at the University of Maryland, and Hiden majored in history at Washington College. They used flip-cams and a tripod to record the interviews.

Washington and Lee University was the second of 35 colleges Irvin and Hiden will visit on their spring tour. The two are showing their documentary to college students to inspire young people in taking risks and pursuing dreams.

The screening at W&L was poorly attended. Only two or three students and a handful of Lexington residents came.

Stephen Twining, a junior at W&L, says he saw notices on campus and thought the film looked interesting.

Twining called the film as "eye-opening." He said it gave a realistic perspective of what it means to follow a dream instead of taking the safe route.

"It didn't glamorize it, but it definitely challenged social norms and the pressures from society to do the safe thing," Twining said.

"The flip-flop guy, for example, he didn't have a plan but just took risks and made some big moves and it led to him finally discovering a really cool opportunity," Twining said.

The film encouraged young people to take big risks, to step out of their comfort zones and to do something they love.

Irvin said they are working on a book proposal for the fall. "It'll be a self-help guide for college-age people."

## Mock Con comes to town

Four years of preparation concludes Thursday with opening debate and address

By Neil Haggerty  
STAFF WRITER

With about a year of preparation, the Washington and Lee Mock Convention is ready to go this week. Events begin this Thursday and the Republican nominee for president will be announced on Saturday.

Throughout the school year students have been getting ready for Mock Con by joining state delegations, attending the Mock Con Gala and purchasing memorabilia.

Students can purchase ties, shirts, glasses and state delegation shirts at [store.mockconvention.com](http://store.mockconvention.com) and in the Commons Living Room through Feb. 9.

On Wednesday and Thursday students must pick up their tickets for the convention in the Elrod Commons Living Room. According to the Mock Con schedule released last week, students will not be admitted into the convention if they do not pick up their tickets and each person may only pick up his or her own credential.

From 5-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, the debate between Ann Coulter and David Carville will be held in the Warner Center. Mike Allen '86 and Kelly Evans '07 will moderate.

Following the debate in the Warner Center, students can see opening speaker Mike Huckabee from 7-8 p.m.

While there are no seating designations on Thursday's events, students must sit with their state delegation on Friday and Saturday.

On Friday morning from 9:30-10:00, students can grab a bite to eat at the Hillel Bagel Breakfast. This will be immediately followed by the Mock Con Parade, where all delegations will be able to show off their state floats. The parade will last until 11:30 a.m.

From 1-4:30 p.m. on Friday, the first session, including speeches by Virginia Gov. Bob McDowell, At-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOTHERJONES.COM

Mock Convention announced Friday that Jon Huntsman, former U.S. ambassador to China and presidential candidate, will address the convention Friday night.

torney General Ken Cuccinelli, U.S. Rep. Shelley Moore Capito and House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, will be held in the Warner Center.

Session two of the convention will begin again at 7:00 p.m. ending at 10:00 p.m. This will include speeches by recently announced Congressmen Thaddeus McCotter and J.C. Watts. According to [mockconvention.com](http://mockconvention.com), McCotter currently represents Michigan's 11th Congressional District and Watts represented Oklahoma's fourth Congressional

District until 2003.

Following these two speakers will be Jon Huntsman, former candidate for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination.

From 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, the third session of Mock Con will begin and will feature speakers Dick Morris, Attorney General Henry McMaster, Rep. Bob Goodlatte, former Virginia Gov. George Allen and Sen. Fred Thompson, according to the Mock Con Schedule.

The final session of the con-

vention will go from 3-6 p.m. and will feature keynote speaker Haley Barbour. This session will include the state roll call as well as the announcement of the 2012 Republican presidential nominee.

Concluding the Convention will be one final band party celebration at the Pavillion. This will begin at 8:30 p.m. and will conclude at 1 a.m., featuring Full Metal Jacket.

## New farm raises questions

W&L sustainability committee wonders how new land can be used educationally

By Tommy Kent  
STAFF WRITER

Washington and Lee University's purchase of Warner Farm, a tract of land contiguous to back campus, has led to discussion by members of the Sustainability Committee and other faculty on how to use the land. Because more than half of the land is under a conservation easement, the types of activities that can take place are limited.

The land, purchased in December 2010, consists of approximately 89 acres of land divided into 4 parcels. According to the Rockbridge Country GIS website, the total value of Warner Farm, also known as Peniel Farm, is around \$299,000, with improvements adding another \$828,600.

Although discussion still continues long after its purchase on the various ways to use the property, the reason for the buy arose from the opportunities that it presented.

Steve McAllister, the Treasurer and Vice President for Finance, said, "The majority of the University's property is 'land-locked' and surrounded by small individual parcels that create a challenge economically and politically to acquire for purposes of 'banking' land for future use. There simply is no other proximate parcel to the University that provides the quality and quantity of land that the Warner property brings to the University.

Approximately 69 acres of the property is under a conservation easement, prompting many to wonder how the school can make effective use of the area.

"The conservation easement perpetually protects the property from any further state of development," Jill Fraley, a property professor at the law school, said.

Easements are often put around rivers in order to protect the view and prevent non-point source water pollution, such as land run-off from grazing cattle, Fraley said. Although roads and buildings cannot be built within the easement, recreational activities and farming are permitted.

According to geology professor David Harbor, the conservation easement has led to the question of what can be done on the property and discussion by the sustainability committee. The committee, which includes Prof. William Hamilton, Chris Wise, Fraley, and James Dick, is working on coming up with ways to use the land at Warner Farm.

According to Harbor, discussion is important. "I want people to start thinking about land-use," he said. He said he wants to try and get students to visit the property during the spring and wants the local community to think about sustainability.

Dick, director of campus recreation, said there will have to be a

compromise on everyone's part in deciding on what to do with the land and also mentioned the importance of focusing on the short-term.

"For the first 1-3 years, it is going to be: what is the easiest thing to pick from the tree. All of these low-hanging fruit items are the most obtainable; it takes nothing to use the property to go out and star-gaze or to mark trails. All it takes is for people to buy-in," Dick said. He said the ideas are endless and suggested mountain biking, hiking, camping, use of the water access for canoes, tree identification, teaching and gardening.

Hamilton said he would like to use the land for summer research, specifically about the ecological questions brought up by grazing and fecal contamination in local waterways. He also said, in theory, the compost facilities and campus garden could be relocated to the property.

According to Wise, the Environmental Management Coordinator, W&L has had experience with property like this before. Skylark, a 365 acre farm on the Blue Ridge Parkway about 40 minutes from campus, was formally owned by the University but was sold in the fall of 2010 due to its limited use and cost of maintenance. The site was used as a conference center, but wasn't used much as an educational opportunity.

"[The Warner Farm] definitely has the possibility for education and research that we were thinking about doing with Skylark," Wise said.

Laura Henry Stone, a professor of environmental studies, also supported this idea of possibilities. She said she would like to see the land used for teaching sustainability skills, especially regarding agriculture. She said growing food is a good way for students to see their connection to the natural world and the importance of land to a species.

Henry-Stone said, "Planning for sustainability is about taking advantage of opportunities. A lot of colleges are obtaining property like this. It is sort of a national conversation about how to use the land. It is not an unusual approach. I think what I am most excited about is starting a campus-wide conversation about the best way to be stewards of the land."

"There are opportunities for everyone. These are all ideas. If everyone can agree on an idea, then it will get done. Who knows where it will go from there?" Wise said.

# opinions

## The Ostrich Doctrine

Columnist Yates Wilburn comments on the United State's tendency to bury its head in the sand on Chinese oppression



By Yates Wilburn  
COLUMNIST

In recent weeks, Chinese oppression in Tibet has been in the news more often than normal. Two things have brought this common occurrence to the front of international media: 1) The Tibetan New Year is coming up, 2) a local Buddhist monk set himself on fire calling for the return of the Dalai Lama and the end of the Chinese occupation of the country. This is not a new form of protest; it was used to set off the Arab Spring last year in Tunisia. However, it has been a while since Tibet has been in the forefront of global discussion, so it is unique in that regard. This all plays into a discussion about the larger issue of Chinese oppression as a whole, and in particular the oppression of new media (social networking, blogging, and text messaging) within China. Since the advent of this powerful means of communication, China has been particularly effective and brutal in the suppression of its use as a political tool, thanks in large part to the Western world's adoption of what I call the "Ostrich Doctrine," a strategy calling for willful ignorance or active assistance of China's oppression of its citizens. While the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) can and must be held completely responsible for its abhorrent actions against the citizens of the People's Republic, the Western world shares much of the blame. If the CCP "pulled the trigger," the Western world certainly had a hand in providing the gun.

New media is something the Chinese government never could have been able to monitor, control, or outright ban in certain circumstances without foreign assistance, at least not nearly as effectively as it does today. The PRC was unable to grasp the threat to their power posed by fax machines and pagers during the heat of the Tiananmen Square Massacre in 1989, and failed to halt their effective use during the events of the protests (Time Magazine, "Fax Against Fiction"). Such an inability to mitigate the damning use of the Internet against the government had to be corrected to insure the survival of the CCP as the

dominant political party in China while the capitalistic reforms of Deng Xiaoping swept through China.

A 2006 Frontline report characterized this challenge best in stating, "Any regime attempting to combine economic freedom with rigid one party rule is faced with a challenge. How do you allow in all the information necessary to keep a free-market economy running, while filtering out anything that contradicts the party line and undermines its authority?" The very nature of the Internet, a free and open source of information accessible to anyone with a connection and a PC, poses an enormous threat to any government attempting to accomplish an authoritarian-capitalist political system. The PRC had to act fast, as over 111 million people in China would have access to the Internet by the filing of that report in 2006. For basic censorship, the Chinese government created Internet divisions within the State Administration of Radio, Television, and Film (staffed with "at least 30,000" law enforcement officers) to monitor and censor Internet access. However, "for more sophisticated controls, China relies on Western technology" (Thomas, Anthony, "Frontline: The Tank Man"). This places everything that goes beyond the simple blocking or banning of sites

like Facebook, Twitter, or CNN solely on the shoulders of Western tech firms. This technology is key to the success of the Chinese Internet censorship regime. The ability to monitor Internet activity on a certain website, change or delete postings, block sites like Facebook and Twitter that were so instrumental in recent revolts in the Middle East, read emails, and implement firewalls is simple for a trained computer engineer. However, for the PRC's purposes, this is not enough. It is for this reason that the CCP has relied and continues to rely on Western tech firms and their superior training and knowledge of new media and the Internet as a whole.

operations based in Mainland China in 2010, censored itself by prohibiting the display of results that the Chinese government finds unwanted. A specific example was demonstrated in the Frontline report, as the program showed Western results for the search query "Tiananmen Square" and then showed the results for the same query in China. In the West, there were 18 pages of results showing images of the iconic "Tank Man," the nameless man that defied Chinese tanks by standing in front of them and refusing to move. However, in China, there were a mere three pages with pictures featuring maps, architecture, cooking hints, and smiling tourists posing in the square. This active capitulation to the Chinese authorities has allowed the CCP to re-write history by nearly completely erasing the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989 from the national memory, as the Frontline television program exposed. The Frontline reporters gathered four students from Beijing University and showed them the iconic picture of the "Tank Man" to see if they could recognize the picture and the event it symbolized. However, as stated by the program's narrator, "they were baffled." The students thought the picture depicted everything from a "military ceremony" to a "piece of artwork." One student even asked the interviewer, "Did you make this up?" (Thomas, Anthony, "Frontline: The Tank Man").

Possibly the most famous participant in this cooperation is also perhaps the most famous symbol of Internet freedom. Google, before it abandoned

*Google, before it abandoned operations based in Mainland China in 2010, censored itself by prohibiting the display of results that the Chinese government finds unwanted*

having been accused of US anti-trust law violations (Follett, Jennifer H. "Cisco Accused of Monopoly In Anti-Trust Lawsuit" CRN.com), found guilty of \$824 million worth of tax fraud in Brazil (Duffy, Jim "Cisco Offices Raided, Executives Arrested in Brazil: Reports" NetworkWorld.com), and accused of misleading its own shareholders (Cisco Systems, "Cisco Shareholder Class Action Lawsuit Resolved"). On its activities in China, several news sources have provided numerous pieces of evidence that paint a damning picture of just how far Cisco is willing to go in order to expand its profit margins. In a general and anecdotal case, Frontline offered the account of one political exile, Harry Wu with the China Information Center, who described the Chinese government's latest efforts to try to "upgrade and modernize the police...system." This new program, known as Golden Shield, began operations in 2003 with the intent to "integrate a gigantic online database with an all-encompassing surveillance network - incorporating speech and face recognition, closed-circuit television, smart cards, credit records, and Internet surveillance technologies" (Greg Walton, Rights and Democracy). This massive undertaking requires the latest in Internet and networking technologies, and as such the Chinese government sought out the biggest and the best in the business: Cisco Systems. Wu, posing as a provider of surveillance products, contacted various police agencies throughout China and offered to provide them with various database management and surveillance technologies. However, each time, the police agency would say that he "was too late" and that they "already had the latest technology from ... Cisco." According to Wu, Cisco signed multiple deals with many provincial security departments across China, proposing to "help make [the police's] work more effective." These deals, according to Wu, covered the supply of numerous products that would aid in several aspects of police work in China, including "patrol car to patrol car connection," "patrol to police station connection," "voice identification," and "fingerprint identification." Cisco defended itself in a written statement to Frontline, stating that it "sells identical products worldwide" and that it is "the customer, not Cisco who determines how specific capabilities will be used" (Thomas, Anthony, "Frontline: The Tank Man").

However, this claim was largely debunked in 2008, when *Wired News* journalist Sarah Lai Stirland reported on a leaked Cisco internal document, which displayed "Cisco engineers regarded the Chinese government's rigid internet censorship program as an opportunity to do more business with the repressive regime." The document was a PowerPoint presentation dated 2002, that outlined how Cisco may service the needs of the Chinese government's attempts to upgrade its censorship capabilities. A particular part of the presentation highlighted by Stirland was under the heading "Cisco Opportunities" that "provides bulletpoint suggestions for how it might service China's censorship system" (Sarah Lai Stirland, "Cisco Leak: 'Great Firewall' of China Was a Chance to Sell More Routers"). The document specifically names and dis-

cusses the Golden Shield program three times on two pages, and calls on viewers of the presentation to "treat information system construction for public security as a strategic and comprehensive work" (Cisco Systems, Overview of the Public Security Sector).

There are many more instances of all this active cooperation and capitulation to the Chinese authority, especially on the part of Cisco Systems, which has possibly been in violation of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act. In 1989, this act forbade the sale of "any crime control or detection instruments or equipment" to the PRC. Cisco claims that this applies to "equipment such as shotguns, police helmets, and handcuffs." The Frontline report went on to say that Congress and the White House were (as of 2006) re-examining the law.

In this regard, the US government is to blame for not being more proactive in cracking down on corporations engaging in the sale of equipment, beyond a hearing in 2006 calling out representatives of Microsoft, Cisco, Yahoo!, and Google to answer several questions regarding their practices in China (Thomas, Anthony, "Frontline: The Tank Man"). Although the US government could not possibly hope to actually force China to halt its consistent violations of the human rights of its citizens, either through bi-lateral negotiations, or in one of many IGO's as stated earlier, it can halt its indirect participation in the PRC's efforts to crush any and all resistance to the CCP's authority. Given the proactive nature of the Obama administration in the recent revolutions and revolts of the Arab Spring, its silence over human rights violations in China at the hands of US tech firms serves as a black eye to the administration's foreign policy legacy.

The participation of Western technology firms in the Chinese government's upgrade and implementation of its new media censorship programs is nothing less than the participation in human rights violations themselves. The symbiotic relationship that has developed between the PRC and companies like Google and Cisco Systems has carried programs like Golden Shield to heights and successes that quite possibly never have been reached at the speed that they were. Without Western tech assistance, the PRC would have been forced to bring its advanced new media censorship and monitoring abilities (more than simply blocking sites like Facebook, a fairly simple task) into the 21st century all by itself, being exposed to all the trials and errors experienced by any new program. If the failure of initiatives like the Great Leap Forward are any indicator, a program like Golden Shield could have suffered severe setbacks during development and implementation without the aid of Western companies. For pre-new media censorships, arrests, and oppression, the CCP is to blame, but for post-new media oppression, the responsibility is shared by the CCP and by the Western companies that capitulate to and even aid the CCP's efforts to put down dissent and efforts for freedom.

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And Western tech firms have been more than happy to answer the call to service. As Nicholas Belequin stated in an interview with Frontline, "all the major IT companies in the West have not only embraced

operations based in Mainland China in 2010, censored itself by prohibiting the display of results that the Chinese government finds unwanted. A specific example was demonstrated in the Frontline report, as the program showed Western results for the search query "Tiananmen Square" and then showed the results for the same query in China. In the West, there were 18 pages of results showing images of the iconic "Tank Man," the nameless man that defied Chinese tanks by standing in front of them and refusing to move. However, in China, there were a mere three pages with pictures featuring maps, architecture, cooking hints, and smiling tourists posing in the square. This active capitulation to the Chinese authorities has allowed the CCP to re-write history by nearly completely erasing the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989 from the national memory, as the Frontline television program exposed. The Frontline reporters gathered four students from Beijing University and showed them the iconic picture of the "Tank Man" to see if they could recognize the picture and the event it symbolized. However, as stated by the program's narrator, "they were baffled." The students thought the picture depicted everything from a "military ceremony" to a "piece of artwork." One student even asked the interviewer, "Did you make this up?" (Thomas, Anthony, "Frontline: The Tank Man").

Cisco Systems, however, is by far the biggest culprit in this incredible conspiracy. Cisco is no stranger to controversy,

## Are outdoor fees fair?

Kelsy McCraw responds to the \$4 fee to use Wildlife Management Areas



By Kelsy McCraw  
COLUMNIST

While a skittish rodent spread omens of more winter last week, W&L students reveled in the unseasonably warm weather. Once the thermometer reached 55 degrees in Lexington, sorority girls' skimped on meals for fear of a premature bathing-suit season. One of the most iconic aspects of W&L life seemed closer than ever—spring term—a time when academics are an afterthought to all that the season has

to offer. Hiking the Devil's Marble Yard or House Mountain, tubing down the Maury River, visiting Goshen or Natural Bridge, all of these activities (only to be experienced with a cooler full of beer) are on every W&L students' graduation bucket list.

But now, venturing into the great wilderness will cost us—\$4 per trip, to be exact.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries just updated its permit and license requirements to include general "access" to any Wildlife Management Areas (i.e. all three listed above).

Hiking, camping, tubing, kayaking, walking, sitting, standing—all will require a permit. And try to play a friendly game of ultimate Frisbee or kick around a soccer ball, and you'll be slapped with a \$14 "sportsman" fee.

What's next, a waitlist to pad-

dle down a river?

The VDGF says that maintenance of the state wildlife areas necessitates the permit fees, and that they can't keep nature beautiful or accessible without the extra money in this dire economy. This seems like a stretch.

President Jimmy Carter once said, "If we can teach our children to honor nature's gifts, the joys and beauties of the outdoors will be here forever."

So, the Commonwealth of Virginia has told us that honoring nature's gifts requires a financial transaction—capitalism at its finest.

The natural beauty of the Rockbridge area is undeniably one of its greatest aspects (not counting the meth rings, of course). Just one look at the valley's landscape can be as humbling as Calculus 102 is to a journalism major.

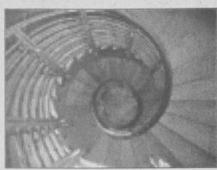
Well, from now on, look-but-

don't-touch might have to do for some people.

Perhaps, you think I'm overreacting. Even the \$14 sportsman fee is a drop in the bucket for most W&L students. However, when 12.4% of Rockbridge County lives under the poverty level and the county has an average individual income of \$23,753, I can't help but wonder how often they will be experiencing the great outdoors.

I'll still be finishing off my to-do list this spring, but the Ron Paul in me wants not to finish out of protest... Or perhaps, just without a permit in an act of defiance.

Either way, and as trivial as it may seem compared to greater issues like, say, the war, I can't help but think the government is reaching out a begging hand where it doesn't belong.



# Opinions

## A case for ignoring non-issues

Should a candidate's personal life determine whether we support him? JP Beall argues there are more matters



By John Paul Beall  
COLUMNIST

With the much-anticipated Mock Convention around the corner, followed by an election for the history books, there is a lot of conversation about the issues that divide the parties, and those that divide Republican nominee from nominee. There has been so much discussion about issues, that the line that divides the important ones from silly non-issues has become blurred. It is for the dignity of our political discourse—what's left of it, that is—that we identify these trifling issues and dismiss them, because they really have no bearing on the problems this country has, nor do they affect the quality of the Republican nominees.

There are many of these ridiculous

non-issues that political commentators and pundits use to draw the proverbial "line in the sand," and the crowning glory of these little quibbles is the idea that a president's family life must have normalcy in such epic amount that it loses all practicality.

This issue plagued candidates in past elections. John McCain's second marriage was a subject of scrutiny, since his first marriage was broken apart by marital indiscretions. On the other side of the election, Barack Obama received lots of flack because his mother was three months pregnant before unknowingly entering a bigamous marriage.

During this primary, Mitt Romney's family connection to polygamist Mormonism and Newt Gingrich's own marital indiscretions have also been the topic of heated argument. For what purpose? Unless we are talking about Bill Clinton's lie to Congress, these should not get in the way of how the Office of President is executed. But somehow the idea persists that the number of marriages a candidate has will affect his or her presidency more than any war, depression or

natural calamity.

If we look back on the past, marriage

them. In fact, all it is now to most people is trivia for Jeopardy contestants or awk-

*Franklin Delano Roosevelt carried on an affair with the First Lady's social secretary while in the White House. JFK had more affairs than Imelda Marcos had shoes.*

ward conversations. So Newt Gingrich's marital situation has not been stable, and Mitt Romney's father was born on a polygamist plantation in Chihuahua, Mexico. If those are problems for you, that's fine. Is it something newsworthy? Not really. At least Gingrich did not hold his previous wives in unhappy marriages, and at least Romney lives according to American law. As someone who is religious, I would rather let the candidates take these issues up with God—He can do it so much better than we can. If you aren't religious, let your moral compass guide you. If you

don't have a moral compass, then you should worry less about Gingrich and Romney, and more about your upcoming dictatorship of a third world country.

I am not advocating that we void the political realm of moral censure; it's bad enough now with what little there is, but instead of worrying about these non-issues, think about the personal qualities of each candidate. Can he accomplish what needs to be done? Can he do it well? Is he a decent and honorable human being of character who follows and respects the law, or is he a crook? What are his values and his platform? Can he represent the US with dignity? These are the things that are going to matter most during an administration, and what history will remember.

Let's leave the smut for the tabloids and the judgment to God. Our hard earned Mock Convention will be so much for enjoyable that way. To the delegates, good luck with your picks, to our esteemed speakers, welcome, and to our visitors, enjoy the show!

## True Life: I go to Dubyunhell

Student body plagued by SAD (Sorority Associative Disorder)



By Cynthia Lam  
COLUMNIST

During this time of year, as the days become longer and the weather becomes colder, it is common for many students to experience Sorority Associative Disorder (SAD), a prevalent psychological syndrome characterized by notably distinct symptoms. Recent reports from the Student Health Center have confirmed over 200 individual cases of SAD to date.

According to Dr. Anita Rush, Director of Community Health and Well-Being, SAD is most common among first-year women students, with approximately 80% of the female freshman class becoming afflicted with the disorder by the end of the semester.

"The earliest cases of SAD typically emerge during the first week back, when a large proportion of the student body engages in Rush Week activities. That's when many of the girls catch the disease, but they don't realize they have it until days later. For these reasons, SAD is

often known as Rush Withdrawal Syndrome," said Rush.

There are a number of factors that make students especially susceptible to SAD, several of which were exacerbated during Rush Week. According to dweebMD.com, these high-risk situations habitually involve "close, confined spaces, sudden spontaneous surges of estrogen, dangerously addictive sorority songs, and successive illusions of matching

outfits."

*I found out that all she could say was, 'So where are you from?' 'What are you majoring in?' and 'What classes are you taking?' And then whenever I said anything, she acted like it was the most exciting fact in the world.*

What distinguishes SAD as such an infectious virus is the fact that its initial stages are almost completely invisible and tend to go undetected for prolonged periods of time. "Students go on with their everyday lives, acting absolutely normal, with no indication of any sign of illness or malnourishment. In fact, they appear to be even happier and peppier than usual - at least until the week ends and Sunday morning rolls around.

That's when it hits," said Rush.

The most prevalent symptom of SAD is the compulsion to keep on smiling. "I knew something was wrong with me when I realized that I couldn't stop grinning. It was like my face was frozen into this giant, goofy smile, and I just kept on laughing no matter what anyone said. Like my roommate told me that she lost my favorite sweater on Tear Night, and I grinned back even though I wanted to

kill her. It was terrible!" said first-year Georgina Turner.

Another obvious indicator that a student may be infected with SAD is the constant urge to engage in repetitive conversation. "Dude, I was talking to this girl I'd just met and it was going pretty well at first, until I found out that all she could say was, 'So where are you from?' 'What are you majoring in?' and 'What classes are you taking?' And then whenever I said anything, she acted

like it was the most exciting fact in the world. It was like talking to a broken record... I didn't know what to do, man," said junior John Tucker.

Other common symptoms include: the inability to complete (or even touch) homework, the tendency to line up in alphabetical order (even in D-hall), the overwhelming desire to sit down at all times (because your feet still hurt), the sensation of butterflies in your stomach (which grows increasingly stronger as the clock approaches 4:30 pm for unbeknownst reasons), the automatic response to "BABY!" (even though that's not your name), and the urge to pose for all pictures flaunting your sorority symbol (no photo is complete without it!).

According to Rush, these symptoms are especially prevalent because many female students are experiencing withdrawal from the experience of Rush Week. "Deep inside, they're craving the attention and the relishing adrenaline rush of meeting all these different people. They just can't get enough," added Rush.

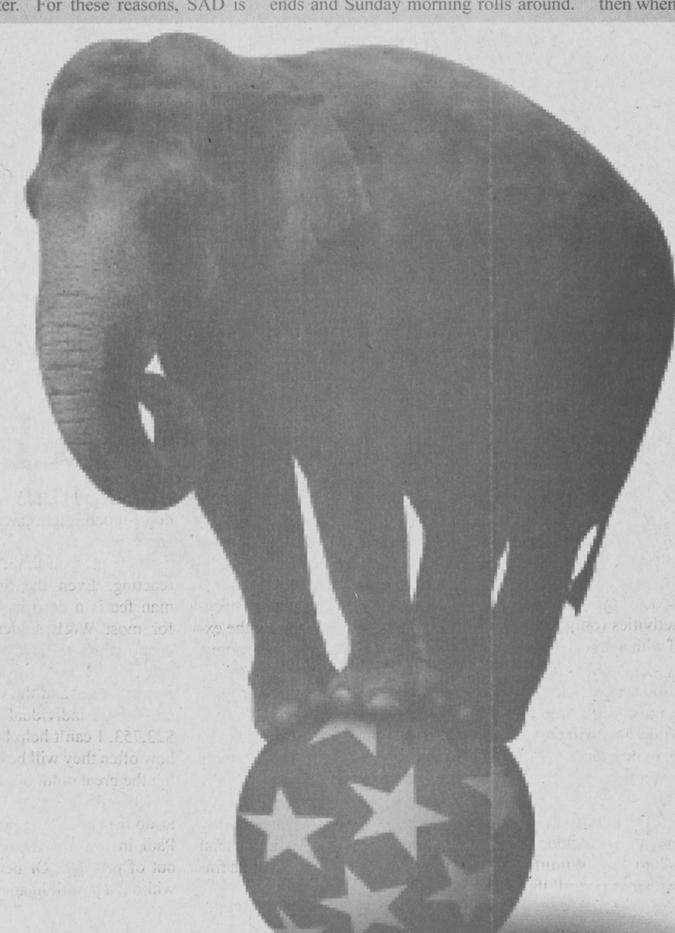
"This is going to sound really weird, but a few days ago, I purposely put on a dress and heels, then pulled on a pair of sweatpants and tons of layers over it - it was just like old times - and walked all the way over to the sorority houses, just so I could wait outside in the cold again.

*all the news that didn't make the front page*

I was planning to stand there for exactly 9 minutes, then strip off my jacket and wait for another minute before leaving - see, I had it all planned out, too - but then the house mom came out and saw me standing there. It was really awkward," admitted first-year Becky Applebaum.

The safest and most effective way to treat SAD is to wait it out, stated dweebMD.com. It can take anywhere from one hour to four years to fully recover from the virus, and it varies from person to person. Although the symptoms may continue to persist, they normally tend to vanish by the time Big-Little Week rolls around.

Nonetheless, Rush recommends students - especially first-year males - to remain cautious and practice good hygiene to avoid catching SAD. "This is a highly contagious disease, and in my years of experience here, the boys have always caught it immediately after the girls had it. Interestingly enough, it tends to have an opposite effect on them - they become exhausted, withdrawn, and a lot better dressed. It's quite a rush!"



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*Rolling toward November*

# arts&life

## Take some time out for self-reflection

Inspired by Henry David Thoreau, one W&L senior has an idea to help the campus take a break from everyday stress

By Colleen Moore  
STAFF WRITER

College students seem to exist in a constant state of stress. Sometimes, we need to take a step back from our schoolwork, athletics or other obligations and focus on ourselves. Outing Club senior, Henri Hammond-Paul, has undertaken a project to address this issue and in the process bring students closer to nature.

A cabin is his answer: a place for self-reflection, deep thinking and environmental awareness. Located close enough to be within walking distance of campus, but far enough to feel surrounded by nature, the cabin will be available to every community member of W&L, staff and students alike.

Hammond-Paul said the cabin will be a "detox in many ways." It will remove people from the busy blurs of everyday life and offer a space to organize thoughts or just clear heads.

W&L is able to offer unique opportunities for interaction with its natural surroundings, however many students do not take advantage of these experiences. Hammond-Paul wants "to incentivize interaction with and contemplation of our place in the natural world by providing a place that is readily available and easily used by our community members."

He said he has found that the modern digital age separates people from the

natural environment and hopes the cabin can be a place to mend that division.

Inspired by his thesis on environmentalism and eco-social theory in the works of Henry David Thoreau, Hammond-Paul has a deep passion for the wilderness. He wants to share this passion, something that has been so influential in his personal growth, with the W&L community to encourage them to grow individually as well.

"It is really important for people to be able to escape, find solitude, and have time to be alone and reflect," he said. The cabin will be a place to do just that.

To self-reflect is to take the "time to

think about who we are as individuals, what we care about, what the implications of our actions are, and how we should act," said Hammond-Paul. The next step would be to apply these revelations to social interactions, environmental issues, humanitarian concerns and the greater community at large.

Although Hammond-Paul is still in the process of determining the exact location of the cabin, he has been working with some architecture students on the design. With enough help from the W&L community, the project should take about a month or even less to complete. He is excited about the experience

of building – "there is great merit in academic learning, but experiential and physical learning is something, that in my opinion, is deeply undervalued."

However this is not a project about just one person – the whole W&L community needs to take ownership of the cabin, as Hammond-Paul will be graduating in the spring. There is a place for every discipline to take part in the project, whether it's the physical labor or an administrative role. Hammond-Paul encourages anyone to find a way to get involved. Contact him at [hammond-paulh12@mail.wlu.edu](mailto:hammond-paulh12@mail.wlu.edu).

## the low-down on Mock Con

### Thursday

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

#### Republican v. Democrat Debate

(Ann Coulter v. James Carville; moderated by POLITICO's Mike Allen with special guest CNBC commentator Kelly Evans) \*Warner Center

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Convention Opening Speaker

(Governor Mike Huckabee) \*Warner Center

### Friday

10:00 am - 11:30 am

#### Mock Convention Parade

(Featuring a live elephant) \*Lexington

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

#### Mock Convention Session 1

(Speakers Shelly Moore Capito, Governor Bob McDonnell, Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, and Eric Cantor) \*Warner Center

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

#### Mock Convention Session 2

(Speakers Thaddeus McCotter, J.C. Watts, Jon Huntsman) \*Warner Center

### Saturday

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

#### Mock Convention Session 3

(Speakers Dick Morris, Attorney General Henry McMaster, Bob Goodlatte, Governor George Allen, and Fred Thompson) \*Warner Center

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

#### Mock Convention Session 3

(Speaker Governor Haley Barbour; also features the Roll Call during which time the 2012 Republican nominee for President will be announced) \*Warner Center

### update

Just in case y'all wanted to know, Lip Sync featured 30 participating teams, and raised \$8,500 for Rockbridge Area Relief Association, Natural Bridge/Glasgow Food Pantry, and Campus Kitchen



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Wednesday, February 8

Resume Review  
by CIA Representative  
9:00 - 4:00  
Career Services Office  
(call for appointment)

CIA Information Session  
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Huntley 323

Go Government Webinar:  
Landing Your Dream Internship  
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Commons 345

All programs open to all students.  
Contact Career Services for additional information



CareerServices



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# sports



## ondeck

|                       | MON     | TUES  | WED               | THURS         | FRI                   | SAT                                     | SUN                                   |
|-----------------------|---------|---|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Riding                |         |   |                   |               |                       | @ Bridge-<br>water<br>Invit-<br>ational | @ Sweet<br>Briar<br>Invit-<br>ational |
| Men's<br>Track        |         |   |                   |               |                       | @ Bucknell<br>Classic                   |                                       |
| Women's<br>Track      |         |   |                   | @ Navy<br>4pm |                       |   |                                       |
| Men's<br>Tennis       |         |   |                   |               |                       | @ CNU<br>2pm                            |                                       |
| Women's<br>Basketball |         | at<br>R-MC<br>7pm   |                   |               | v.<br>Guilford<br>7pm |   |                                       |
| Men's<br>Basketball   |         |   | @ Guilford<br>7pm |               |                       | @ Bridge-<br>water<br>2pm               |                                       |
| Swimming              | Sunday: | Men @ V-Tech 10am, 4am<br>Women @ ODAC championship 10am, 6pm |                   |               |                       |   |                                       |

## in the numbers

### 53

The number of points given to the baseball team in the annual survey of Old Dominion Athletic Conference coaches. The Generals were picked fourth in the pre-season poll.

### 7

The number of top 5 finishes among Division III athletes for the women's track and field team on Saturday. They took part in the Christopher Newport Vince Brown Invitational.

### 1,250,000,000

The number of chicken wings eaten on Super Bowl Sunday. That is equal to four chicken wings for every person in the United States.

### 42

The total number of points scored by Tony Parker of the San Antonio Spurs in a 107-96 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Saturday

## soapbox

"People really count on me to be consistent each week, to play well. Knowing that my performance, the fact that I touch the ball every play, I have a direct impact on the game, the way I play"

-- Aaron Rodgers after winning the NFL Most Valuable Player award, from SI.com

"This wasn't something I planned on doing. Football is something I did so I didn't end up jailed or dead."

-- Curtis Martin after being elected into the NFL Hall of Fame on Saturday, from SI.com

## W&L grounds Eagles 62-58

After strong performances by Bolton and Ingram, the Generals overcome a 13-point deficit

By Leigh Dannhouser

SPORTS EDITOR

Washington and Lee's Women's basketball team won a close game with Bridgewater on Saturday as the second game of a basketball double header in the Warner Center.

The Generals defeated the Eagles 62-58 in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference contest to rise to 9-11 overall and 7-8 in the ODAC. After the loss the Eagles record is 13-7 overall and 9-6 in the ODAC.

The Eagles had a good lead entering the second half. They led 36-23 after twenty minutes of play.

In the second half, the Generals came out and pulled the game close, taking the lead with 9:58 left in the game. W&L was able to put a six point gap between them and Bridgewater, which lasted until about the five minute mark. The Generals were leading 55-51 when the Eagles came back to tie the score at 55 apiece with just 2:09 remaining in the game.

Less than a minute later, the Eagles took a one point lead to surge ahead 58-57, but they would not score again.

W&L was led by the performances of Becca Bolton and Meg Ingram. Bolton tied the game high of 19 points while completing a double-double with ten rebounds. Ingram scored 18 points while going a perfect 4-4 from the line.

Holly Morgan led Bridgewater. Morgan, like Bolton, scored 19 points and completed a double-double. She had a game-high 11 rebounds.

The Generals return to the court Tuesday when they travel to Randolph-Macon for a 7:00 pm contest.

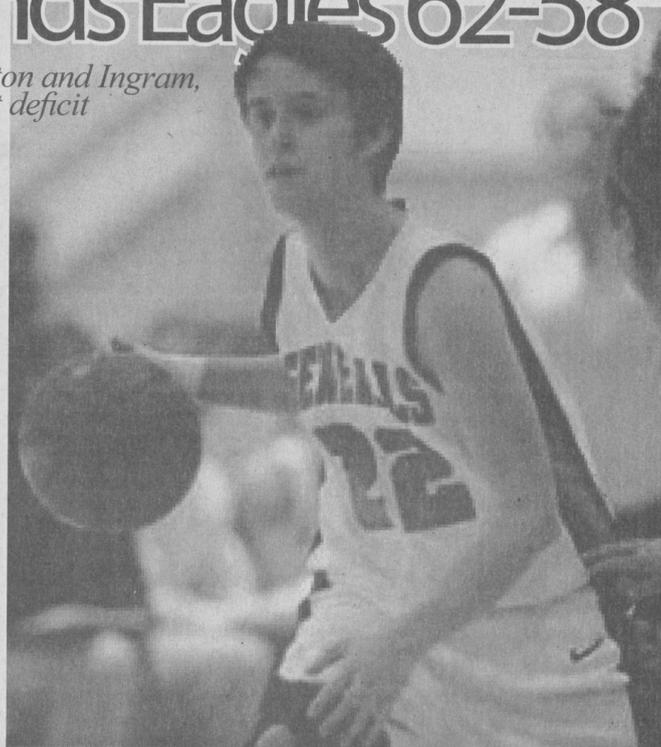


PHOTO COURTESY OF GENERALSPORTS.COM

## Wildcats thrash the Generals...

Washington and Lee men's basketball shoots just 22 percent from the floor in loss

By Zackary Richards

STAFF WRITER

With a barrage of threes setting the tone in the second half, Randolph College expanded a six point half-time lead to a 22 point victory over Washington and Lee on Wednesday night in an ODAC matchup at the Warner Center.

The Randolph Wildcats shot an astounding 65 percent from the field in the second half, including 69 percent from behind the arc. Shooting percentages were the story of the game, as the Generals shot only 22 percent from the floor.

After a first half that only produced 36 total points, a 21 to 15 lead for Randolph, the Wildcats came out on a 10 to 2 run to open the second half.

The Generals could not keep up with the excellent shooting displayed by Randolph, as the six point deficit at half was the closest W&L ever got in the second half.

Nine successful three pointers keyed the Wildcats to victory in the second half, as each team took 13 attempts from long range in the final 20 minutes. The difference was five shots, as the Generals only made four of their thirteen attempts, compared to Randolph's

nine.

Mike Ehilegbu and Chris Battaglia led the way for Randolph in the second half, scoring nine and eleven points respectively, coming off the bench. Ehilegbu made three of five three-point attempts in the half and scored eleven points overall. Battaglia scored all eleven of his points in the second half.

The first half of the game was defined by subpar shooting, turnovers, and generally sloppy play. Both teams did tremendous jobs grabbing defensive rebounds, 12 for W&L and 14 for Randolph, but that was due to the inability to put the ball in the hoop.

The Generals only made five baskets and three from the line in the first half, but they benefited from poor shooting from the Wildcats to keep the game close.

Despite the first half struggles, Randolph found their offense in the next half, as they made shot after shot all over the court while the Generals could not break out of their offensive funk.

Randolph was led by four players with eleven points, starters Zach Desgain and

Colton Hunt and the aforementioned Ehilegbu and Battaglia from the bench.

Starter Dylan Shiflett's 11 rebounds were the game high and teammate Hunt put up a solid effort with eight rebounds and four assists, which was also the game high.

On the Generals' side, JD Ey and Larry Whitaker were the night's best players. Ey put up nine points and nine rebounds along with five blocks in a starting effort. Whitaker had eight boards and seven points.

Starter Jeremy Adkins scored eight points, including making two of three three-point attempts.

W&L managed just two points off the bench. They came from Devin Dillard in the final minute of the game.

The loss puts the Generals at an overall record of 11 and 9, 4 and 7 in the ODAC. They will return to action at home on Saturday against 21st ranked Randolph-Macon.

After the win the Wildcats tied W&L in the ODAC with a 4 and 7 record, while sitting at 9 and 11 overall.

## ...so W&L squashes the 'Jackets

After Wednesday's loss, the boys rallied to crush nation's #21 team, Randolph-Macon

By Leigh Dannhouser

SPORTS EDITOR

The Generals bounced back from a tough loss earlier in the week to defeat Randolph-Macon, ranked 21 in the nation, in the Warner Center on Saturday.

In front of a home crowd of nearly 300 people, the Generals held Randolph-Macon to 29.6 shooting percentage to win 78-56.

In the first half, Randolph-Macon was held to just 19.2 percent shooting. At the half the Generals led 37-21.

The Generals shot 50.9 percent from the floor. Each team took close to 55 attempts, but the Generals made 27 compared to the Yellow

Jackets, who made just 16.

One of the biggest differences in the game, besides the shooting percentage, was rebounds. The Generals outrebounded the Yellow Jackets 43 to 25. The Generals grabbed nearly double the amount of defensive rebounds as the Yellow Jackets.

Leading the Generals were Javon McDonald and J.D. Ey. McDonald scored 16 points, including going seven out of nine from the free throw line. Ey led the Generals in rebounding with a game high 17. No other player on the floor grabbed more than seven rebounds.

The top scorer for the Yellow Jackets was Marcus Badger. Badger scored 14 points while going a perfect six for six from the free throw line.

The loss was just the third loss in Old Dominion Athletic Conference for Randolph-Macon. They fell to a record of 17-4, and 10-3 in the ODAC.

With the win the Generals rise to 12-9, and 5-7 in the ODAC.

W&L returns to the court Wednesday as they travel to Guilford for a 7:00pm contest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GENERALSPORTS.COM