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W & LIFE



Phi Eta Sigma members offer study tips to students.

PAGE 3

LASTWORD



Alex Christensen reveals the secrets of L.A. Confidential.

PAGE 8

Washington and Lee University
VOLUME 100, NUMBER 6

James gets light penalty

By KATHRYN MAYURNIK NEWS EDITOR

Washington and Lee junior Elizabeth James escaped punishment on a felony hit and run charge when the charge was reduced to a misdemeanor at her trial Tuesday.

If James was convicted under her original charge, she could have received one to five years in prison with a minimum of 12 months in jail and/or a fine of \$2,500. Instead, her sentence under the misdemeanor charge was a \$50 fine and a \$30 court fee. James could not be reached for comment.

James, who is from San Antonio, Texas, was charged with hitting sophomore Dylan Walsh the night of Sept. 13 with her Volkswagen Bug. According to Walsh, the person who hit him yelled "sorry" out of the window and kept on driving. Walsh suffered minor injuries. Walsh did not return phone calls from the *Phi*.

Both James and Walsh had been drinking, Lexington Police Officer Michael Hess said. However, police could not determine whether alcohol played a factor in the accident due to the 90-minute lapse of time between the accident and James's arrest.

Juicy tidbits from the *Registar*...
• International diversity is at an all-time high.
• 67% of students have a religious preference—the highest in a decade.
• Students live in 47 states, D.C. and 25 countries.



SINGING IN THE RAIN ...

A dutiful rugby parent sticks it out at Saturday afternoon's soggy game. The Generals smashed Hampden-Sydney 24-12. HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

Class of 1999 celebrates 250th in style

By HILLARY COOMBS

MANAGING EDITOR

Hey, juniors, were you jealous when upperclassmen snapped up all the 1996 Mock Convention commemorative bottles of Jack Daniels Kentucky Whiskey?

Now's your chance to own an even rarer slice of Washington and Lee history—a ring produced exclusively for the 250th class.

This distinctive limited-edition treasure can be yours for only \$275 (women's styles only).

These commemorative masterpieces are for sale only to the university's undergraduate and law classes of 1999.

Call 1-800-355-1145 now to order!

"To my knowledge, nothing like this has ever been done before," said Neil Penick, director of the 250th Observance. "I can tell you for a fact that it wasn't done for the bicentennial class."

The rings come in yellow or white gold, are set with the university crest and have the 250th Observance logo

on the left shank and the profiles of George Washington and Robert E. Lee from the school seal on the right shank.

The idea of a special ring came from the three-member student committee of the 250th Observance.

"It's a special occasion," committee member Nate Tencza said. "We thought it would be neat to have something a little different while still maintaining tradition."

The Campus Committee for the 250th Observance chose Milestone Marketing Inc., a company based in Exton, Penn., to design and manufacture the commemorative rings. Milestone is one of two companies that come to W&L each year to market their class rings.

"We felt that a smaller, local company would give us something more unique," Tencza said. "We didn't want to just get a generic special-occasion-type ring."

Milestone will take ring orders at the University

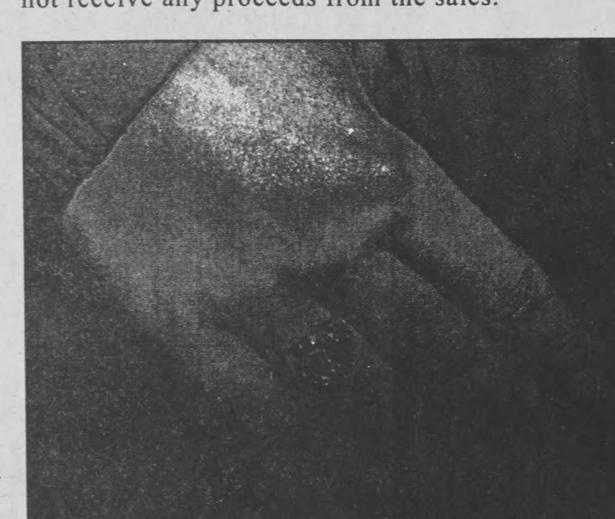
Bookstore on Nov. 5 and 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The company will sell its usual line of W&L class rings as well as the commemorative ring.

"We thought [the commemorative ring] was a great idea only in that it was another option," Penick said. "In other words, we didn't want to shove this down anyone's throat."

Both companies offer an interest-free installment payment plan, and rings can also be ordered through the mail or over the phone.

"The 250th is going to be celebrated in so many ways: big public celebrations, visiting dignitaries and parties," Penick said. "This is one of the most important commemorative items because it's limited."

Penick said all profits from the sale of the 250th Observance ring will go to Milestone. The university and the Committee on the 250th Observance will not receive any proceeds from the sales.



THE 250TH OBSERVANCE class ring is available only to the law and undergraduate classes of 1999.
HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

Picking up the pieces:

Adams moves on after fire

By ERIKA PROSSER STAFF WRITER

Yesterday marked the five-week anniversary of the day Assistant English Professor Adams' house burned down.

Adams had lived for several years in the house, which was built by Washington and Lee students in the 1960s. The fire started around 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 28. It was probably caused by electrical problems, but investigators told Adams that the house had been so badly damaged that the cause was

"hard to figure out."

Two days before the fire, Adams's application for a loan for a new home had been approved. He lived with colleagues for a few weeks, then finally moved into his new home on Jackson Street last Thursday. His new house was designed by famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

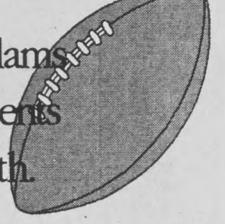
Adams lost valuable material for his second academic book project in the fire, but has already begun reworking the research and returning to the project.

Adams has stayed busy with other

work. Over the weekend of October 25, he attended a conference in Waco, Texas, where a great collection of Browning works is kept. He also visited the Branch Davidian compound and brought back a piece of wood from the rubble. He later joked that he sympathized slightly with David Koresh's losses after suffering from his own fire.

Adams lost most of his clothes and belongings in the fire. "It would be unseemly for me to talk about how in debt I am," he said.

Generals' defense slams Bridgewater in Parents Weekend mudbath.



PAGE 4

SPORTS

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The Ring-tum Phi

Spanky's flouts fire regulations, gets burned

By HILLARY COOMBS MANAGING EDITOR

The Lexington Fire Department responded in moments to a Sunday morning grease fire at Spanky's Restaurant and Delicatessen. Their quick response wouldn't have been necessary if the restaurant had complied with Lexington's building code.

"Any commercial kitchen must have a range hood over all its equipment," said Bill Blatter, Lexington's building and zoning administrator. "Inside should be a chemical fire suppression system."

Such a system is automatically activated by the heat of a grease fire. It immediately shuts off all appliances in the kitchen and sprays out a fire retardant chemical, smothering the blaze.

"Sometime within last few months [Spanky's] had installed a range hood without getting a permit," Blatter said. "But it didn't include a fire suppression system."

Because Spanky's was already in business when the building code was enacted, they were initially exempt from installing such a hood under a "grandfather clause" written into the code. However, when the restaurant installed a new hood, it should have had a fire suppression system.

"Had they had a fire suppression system, the fire should have been out before we got there," said John Mutispaugh, the fire department's investigator. "As it was we ended up having to put the fire out with dry chemical extinguishers."

Mike Ogier, Spanky's manager, refused to comment on the restaurant's failure to comply with the building code.

He did explain what happened Sunday.

"It was a normal day," Ogier said. "I came in and turned everything on and went to the restroom. When I came back, the fryer was on fire."

Ogier called 911, then grabbed a fire extinguisher and tried to put the fire out.

"It was lucky that [the fire department] did get here as soon as they did," Ogier said. "Otherwise we might have lost more equipment."

The fire started around 8:45 a.m. The fire department arrived Spanky's by 8:50 a.m. and had the fire out soon afterward.

The exact cause of the fire is unknown.

"The manager said they had been having trouble with deep fryer," Mutispaugh said. "Whether it shorted and caught the grease on fire, I don't know."

The fire damaged two 220-volt lines electric lines in the kitchen and three 110-volt lines going to various appliances, and did an unknown amount of damage to one panel box.

The fryer and a toaster were destroyed. The toaster has already been replaced. A new fryer has been ordered. According to Ogier, the fryer that caught fire was new and had only been installed about two months ago.

Mutispaugh had not finished the fire report and was unable to make an estimate on the cost of the damage to Spanky's.

Spanky's was allowed to reopened Tuesday at 5 p.m. after installing a fire suppression system and repairing the damaged wiring. Blatter inspected both, but did not cite the restaurant for violating the building code.

"In trying to understand what happened, I don't feel there was any will to deceive me about it," Blatter said. "It was a misunderstanding, and [the citation] wouldn't have stood up. I didn't feel it was worth the effort."

Spanky's was closed for lunch and dinner on Sunday and Monday and lunch on Tuesday. Ogier estimates the restaurant lost approximately \$6,000.

SEE FIRE PAGE 2

Cancer forces projectionist to surrender hobby

By SARAH MELDRUM STAFF WRITER

A small group of students found the Troubadour theater empty and dark when they went to see "Looking for Richard" Friday, Sept. 26. They were among the few that hadn't heard the news that all film screenings were canceled. Floyd Lynch, the film society's projectionist, has cancer, and is no longer able to enjoy his favorite hobby.

"He's a terminal patient under hospice care," said his wife, Dora Lynch. "I'm fortunate I have a daughter-in-law who is a registered nurse."

Mrs. Lynch's daughter-in-law has greatly helped care for her husband, who otherwise would have gone to a nursing home.

Lynch is former head of data processing for the carpet division of Burlington Industries. He loved being a projectionist.

"It was his paying hobby," said Mrs. Lynch.

Lynch was so proficient at operating the projection system that there was no choice but to cancel the screenings.

"The projection equipment is very complicated," Film Society President Marisa Frost said. "That machine is such a monster, and would be too much to explain to a student."

"He was your regular sweet older guy," Frost said. "He always came down before the shows to chat and share his opinion of the film."

"We will really miss having him at the screenings," Meredith Welch, vice-president of the film society, said. "His commentaries on the films were always very enlightening."

Film society screenings resume with "Looking

SEE HOBBY PAGE 2

Qa and Q

By Dan Birdwhistell

We at the Ring-Tum Phi took the time this week to pay tribute to the men of Baker. We randomly posed questions during Parent's weekend; these are the responses:

—How do you like living in Baker?

—Well, being gay, I really love the love the idea of being trapped with so many guys. The best thing about it is that we have no shower curtains. Sometimes, I just go in the bathroom and act like I'm using the bathroom, but am really watching my prospective partners in the shower.

—Anonymous

—What is it like living on the third floor of Baker with the Dave Lehman, the coolest dorm counselor in the world?

—Well, it's always nice to be next to greatness. I feel that just maybe, one day, I will be as cool as Lehman.

—Brent Walker

—What are you going to do with your parents this weekend?

—I'm gonna take 'em out, get 'em drunk, and take their money.

—Martin Boyle

—Hey Chris, do you want me to ask you a question?

—What?

—For the newspaper, do you want me to ask you a question?

—I don't understand, what are you talking about?

—Chris Wahl

—If Dave Lehman was a girl, would you go out with him?

—Sure.

—J Duncan

—What's up, man?

—I'm waiting for my parents—Dammit, they're taking forever.

—Pat Renton

—What are you doing?

—I'm waiting for my parents.

—Do you think they'll show up?

—They better, they're bringing me food.

—Nick Stawasz

—How do you like living in Baker?

—I hate it cuz I think that there is this guy

—Andrew Nash

—Hugh, how was your shower?

—Hot and Sweaty!

—Did you notice that guy watching you the whole time?

—Yeah, he was hot and sweaty too.

—Hugh Rabb

news Computer logins get face-lift

Changes are more than cosmetic

BY JOSHUA HESLINGA

SPECIAL TO THE RING-TUM PHI

Over the past few days, University Computing installed a new program that will improve the network login process.

The new program, named SFLogin 95, allows students in computer labs to log into the W&L network by typing their user-ID alone, instead of having to enter their class year after their user-ID.

This change does more than improve appearance. SFLogin 95 uses a search process to automatically identify the full network context, or user group, of each user. This eliminates the need for the class year and allows faculty to use lab machines without remembering their network context.

SFLogin 95 improves network security too. It erases the last user from the screen, so the machine's next user can't identify the previous user. By automatically routing each user to his or her group, it also makes administrative systems off-limits to those without access privileges.

Finally, SFLogin 95 integrates the login process with Windows 95. Computers will no longer tell students that they have not logged on at that machine before or display other annoying messages.

This upgrade marks an effort by University Computing to make the student Computing Coordinator said. "I know it makes some minor adjustments but it makes the login process simpler and quicker."

Van Assendelft cautioned students to pay attention to the change. Repeated efforts to enter a class year in SFLogin 95 can interfere with a student's ability to log in successfully.

"The first time you enter your year, it ignores it," he said. "But if you insist on it, you will have problems logging in."

So far, students seem to have mixed reactions to the latest change.

When informed of SFLogin 95's new features, junior Dan Hiley said simply, "Sweet."

Others displayed cases of technological whiplash. "As soon as we understand the procedure, they change it," said Elizabeth Richey, a junior.

Computers in Newcomb, Leyburn, Reid, and the Commerce School all received the upgrade to Intranetware and SFLogin 95. The Science Center and Gaines labs will get the upgrades soon.

Due to licensing restrictions, SFLogin 95 is not available for students on their personal computers.

CD FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to \$8,000 in revenue.

French fries will be the only things missing from the menu while Spanky's waits for its new fryer to arrive. Although many of the restaurant's other appetizers are usually deep-fried as well, Ogier says they will be prepared by other methods.

Ogier was the only person in Spanky's at the time of the fire. He was treated for smoke inhalation at Stonewall Jackson Hospital and released.

CD HOBBY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

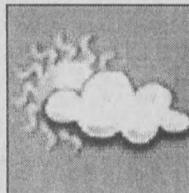
for Richard" on Nov. 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. Carol Calkins, University Center Coordinator, organized the search for a new projectionist. The efforts yielded local resident Todd Owens and Andrew Martin. Owens will be the head projectionist and Martin will be the backup. They will show "Everyone Says I Love You" the next weekend and "In the Company of Men" Dec. 5 and 6.

"Koyla," the last film that Lynch projected, was a good movie for his final showing, the Lynches agreed.

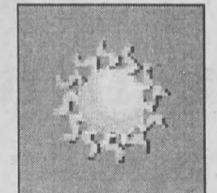
"It was such a wonderful movie," Mrs. Lynch said.

This Week's Weather:

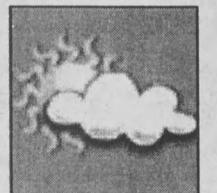
Tuesday

High: 46°
Low: 36°

Wednesday

High: 54°
Low: 30°

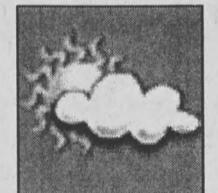
Thursday

High: 54°
Low: 43°

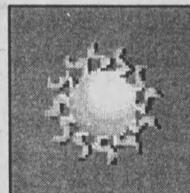
Friday

High: 58°
Low: 38°

Saturday

High: 60°
Low: 38°

Sunday

High: 62°
Low: 40°

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Going down... Depression

By LIZ DETTER & WILL HARDIE

W&L LIFE EDITORS

"Always alone in the midst of people, I return home in order to give myself up, with unspeakable melancholy, to my dreams. How do I regard life today? I give way to thoughts of death." If the words of a 17-year-old Napoleon Bonaparte strike a familiar chord, you may be depressed.

Depression is one of the most common mental illnesses, especially among young adults. Some estimate that as many as one in five women and one in fifteen men experience clinical depression during his lifetime.

Depression can also be difficult to diagnose. Signs include: a change in eating and sleeping patterns; headaches and stomachaches; loss of interest in life; fatigue; feelings of worthlessness,

sadness, hopelessness and guilt; the inability to think; and suicidal tendencies. Transitory feelings of depression can be totally normal reactions to stress, but the long-term or recurrent presence of four or more of these symptoms in combination is cause for concern.

Since self-diagnosis of depression can be elusive, Washington and Lee University Counseling Services decided to offer the W&L community the opportunity to be professionally evaluated for depression. Oct. 9 was National Depression Screening Day, and Counseling Services and Peer Counselors administered tests for depression in the University Center.

The tests were designed to determine whether a person exhibits symptoms of depression and the severity of those symptoms. Test-takers responded

to 20 questions about the frequency with which they experienced feelings of depression.

The screening was successful, and Counseling Services plan to do it again next year.

According to Dean Anne Schroer-Lamont, 18 people were screened, including undergraduates, law students, staff members and family members of staff. Roughly 40 percent of those screened were clinically depressed.

"I think a lot of people came in to see where they stood and were pleasantly surprised to realize that they were just having a down day," said Catherine Haddock, senior, after helping to administer the test.

Those who were diagnosed depressed had the option of a 15-minute counseling session with either Dean Schroer-Lamont or Dr. James Worth. Most

Φ See DOWN page 4

Did you miss the depression screening test on Oct. 9? Here's a shorter version for a quick self-test. If you have five or more of the following symptoms, you should consider seeing a counselor.

- I don't enjoy the things that once gave me pleasure (e.g. job, hobbies, sports, friends, sex).
- My sleep patterns have changed, and I don't sleep enough, or maybe too much.
- I feel sad and/or irritable.
- I can't concentrate, remember things, or make decisions.
- I've been having medically unexplainable aches and pains.
- My appetite and/or weight has changed.
- My friends have noticed that I am restless or that my activity has decreased.
- I am tired all the time and have no energy.
- I feel guilty, hopeless or worthless.
- I often think about death, or have even tried to commit suicide.

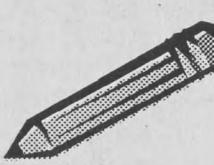
source: *Why Don't I Feel Good? - Understanding Depression*

Want to raise your grade-point average?

Phi Eta Sigma members reveal their secrets

By KELLEY TOTTEN

STAFF WRITER



Parties are over. Weekend getaways are things of the past. And, you've finally canceled the premium movie channels.

After midterm grades and a visit from the parental unit, you have decided (been forced) to study*. Now before foreheads start to crunch, migraines take hold and fingernails are bitten to the quick, RELAX -- you can do it! As a service to its readers, *The Ring-Tum Phi* asked the experts how to tackle the daunting task of studying for success.

The following study tips were gathered from the new initiates of Phi Eta Sigma, the sophomore honorary society. These studious sophomores gave advice on everything from what to write to what to eat. Follow their advice, and you too can earn an A**.

Write it all down.

Writing everything down on notecards helps Brittany Ahlstrom organize, learn and remember. It also keeps her from getting behind.

Shannon Bell has a more sophisticated system. She makes study guides by recopying her notes in two columns. On the left side, she writes down what the professor said in question form, with the answers on the right side. Bell keeps up with the study guide throughout the term, so at test time she can use it to quiz herself.

Key words and phrases help trigger Nancy Reinhart's grey matter, so she makes a list and tests herself until she can identify all the test material with the key words.

Just get it done.

"I do work all day between classes so I don't have to cram at night," said Brandon Chalk. He actually finds he can study amidst all the distractions of his room.

Jason Nichols suggests the library. "Lock yourself in a carrel," he said. "It motivates you to do your homework so you can finish and go home."

"There are so many other things to be doing with your time at W&L," said Ashley Buck, whose secret of success is "just getting around to it."

Eat, sleep and be merry.

"A quiet place with chocolate" is Heather Reid's answer. She always studies with some form of chocolate near by, preferably Reese's Peanut Butter cup.

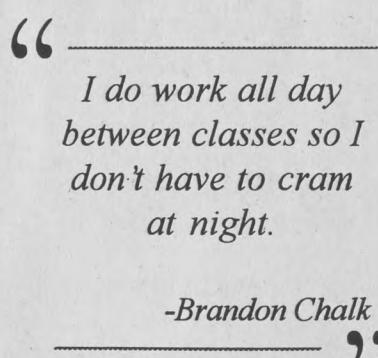
Jordan Bulger takes a more serious approach to his brain food. "Eat as though you're an athlete," he suggests. "It's a competition and you need to be set, mind and body."

Dr. Thomas Nye, professor of biology, suggests proteins in the morning rather than carbohydrates. Bell finds this helpful, especially before tests.

Sleep is a common tool used by these honor students. "I'm big on making sure I have a decent night's sleep," said Leah Schaefer. "I would rather forgo some

I do work all day between classes so I don't have to cram at night.

Brandon Chalk



Both Connors and Nichols have lucky pencils. Nichols used long-term thinking to choose his charm, a mechanical pencil. Connors, on the other hand, prefers the traditional pencil.

"It's kind of a limited supply," said Connors, referring to her lucky standard graphite. "So it has to be a really, really, really important test."

Nichols has another ritual to help him out. He always untucks the back of shirt, leaving the front neatly in place.

"I did it once before a test and did really well," he said, figuring it must have helped him out in some way.

Beanie Babies provide support for Jacobs. She uses the little creatures to have something to hold on to, in the same manner a stress ball works. She chooses different animals from her collection depending on the subject.

Of course, superstition is not for everyone.

"I don't use luck," said Stephanie McKnight. "I either know it or I don't."

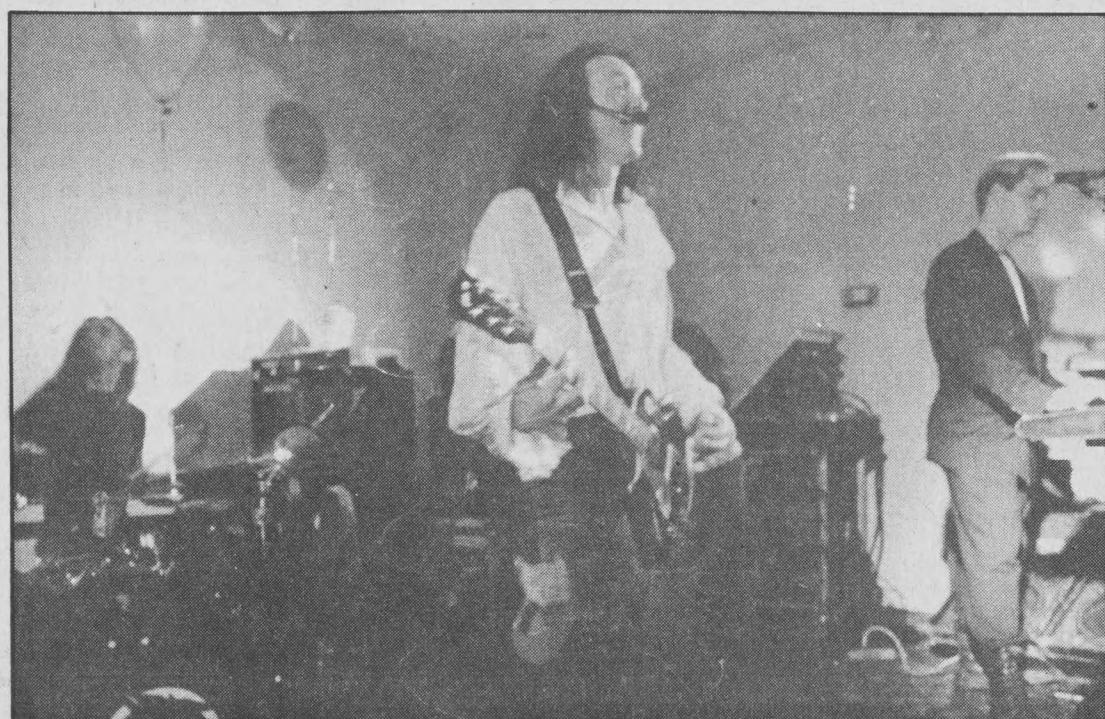
"I am decidedly anti-lucky charms," said Roshni Nirody, referring to "charms of luck," but also expanding on the cereal. "They just use way too many marshmallows. They keep adding them to make it more appealing, but eventually it is just going to be all marshmallows and there's going to be no merit to that cereal."

When it comes down to it, you just need to learn the material in order to ace the test.

"If you really want to learn what you're doing," said Matt Mills, "turn the TV off!"

* Study (as defined by Random House dictionary): application of the mind to the acquisition of knowledge, as by reading, investigation, or reflection.

** This is not a guarantee, the author and *The Ring-Tum Phi* relinquish all responsibility in the outcome of your grades. If a method fails, blame the honor students for their lousy advice!



THE BREAKFAST CLUB is one of W&L's most popular bands. PHOTO BY GUY MOLYNEUX

Breakfast Club comes to the Pavilion and students are Hungry like the wolf

By SYBIL PRINCE & LIZ DETTER

STAFF WRITER

Remember a time when the most pressing thing on your mind was the number of holes in your jeans? When Michael Jackson was only on his third nose and Madonna was still not quite a virgin? Remember the '80s?

Φ See CLUB page 4

Richmond Ballet comes to the Lenfest Center

FROM THE PHIL FILES

The Lenfest Series at W&L will open its season with the Richmond Ballet on Nov. 10 and 11 at 8pm in the Keller Theatre.

Featured in the program are masterpieces of the 20th century--John Butler's *Carmina Burana* and Balanchine's *Concerto Barocco*.

"Each of these works," says artistic director Stoner Winslett, "exhibits the path of evolution of ballet in this century, one which has seen the most exciting, intense, widespread period of creativity in all of dance history."

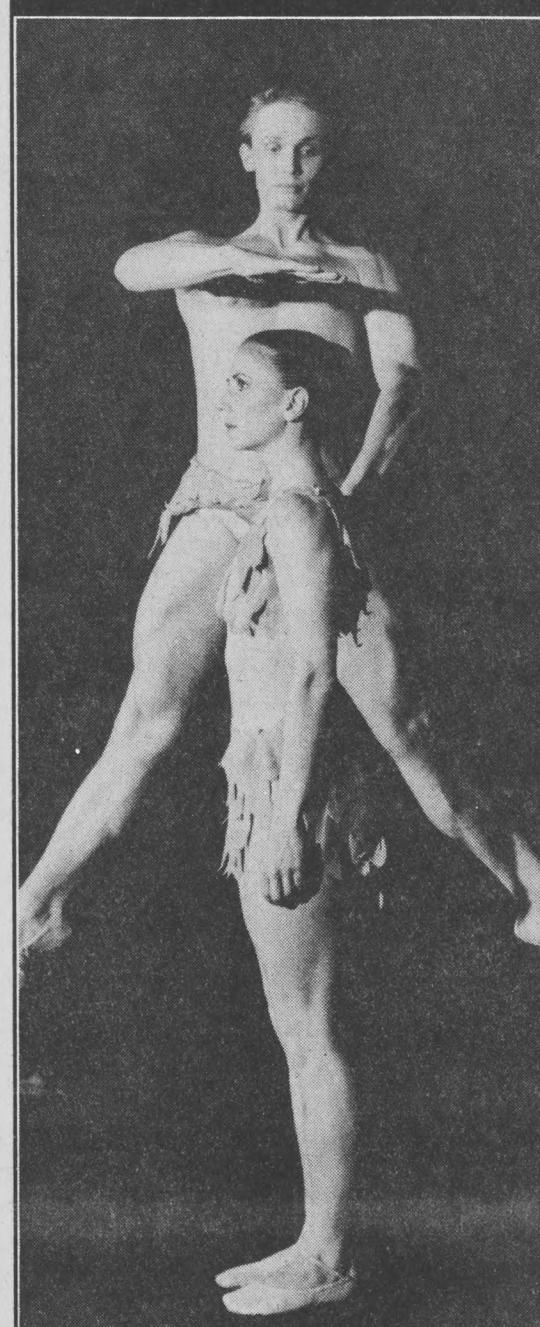
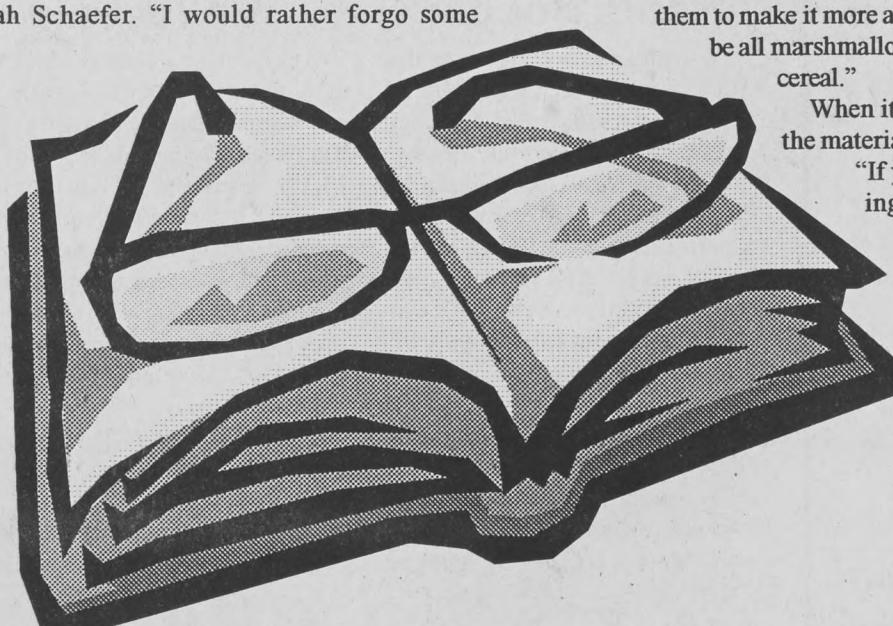
Carmina Burana is a theatre piece based on poems discovered in the library of the Bavarian Benediktbeuren Monastery and set to the stirring music of Carl Orff.

A collection of 13th century songs and poems by minstrels and monks who had freed themselves of the monastic discipline, they are secular rather than sacred. The ballet is an abstract landscape of movement, not a realistic portrayal of the poems. The prologue bemoans the ever-changing fate of man who can soar one moment only to come crashing down the next.

Carmina Burana is divided into three sections: the first part sings of the delights of spring; the second celebrates the pleasure, extravagances, and despairs of the tavern; and the third is a series of love poems. The epilogue echoes the tone of prologue.

Concerto Barocco, set to the music of Bach's Concerto in D minor for Two Violins, is described by Balanchine as trying to "interest the audience only by its dancing, its treatment of music, just as Baroque art and architecture interest people not because of their subjects, but because of the decorative treatments that embellished those subjects."

Tickets for the Richmond Ballet are on sale now at the Lenfest Box Office. The price is \$3 for students, faculty and staff.



RESULTS**Football (3-5)**

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Sat.. Bridgewater | 10 |
| W&L | 22 |

Volleyball (16-9)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Thu.: E. Mennonite | 0 |
| W&L | 3 |
| Sat.: Greensboro | 3 |
| W&L | 1 |

Women's Soccer (14-2)

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Wed.: W&L | 10 |
| E&H | 0 |
| Sat.: RM | 0 |
| W&L | 1 |

Men's Soccer (7-2)

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Tues.: Roanoke | 2 |
| W&L | 1 |
| Sat.: Denison | 2 |
| W&L | 1 |

AHEAD**Football**

Sat.: at Emory & Henry

VolleyballSat.: ODAC Tourny
@ Hollins**Men's Soccer**Tues.: ODAC Tourny
1st Round (TBA)**Cross Country**

Sat.: ODAC Tourny

THE SPORTS JUNKIE

BY BRENDAN HARRINGTON

NBA Preview: Will it be a six-pack for 'da Bulls?

Well, it's that time of year again, time for another NBA season and that usually means time for another Chicago Bulls Championship season. The Bulls will attempt to win their sixth NBA championship in the last eight years, coincidentally, the two seasons that they lost were the years Michael Jordan wasn't around.

My philosophy is simple, never bet against Michael Jordan. This man is simply superhuman: he's the only player in any professional sport with such a tremendous influence on one team. Even as a fan of the New York Knicks, the ultimate enemy of the Chicago Bulls, I can't help admiring Michael, even if he is scoring double nickels against my beloved Knicks. With this in mind, and a supporting cast of Pippen, Rodman, Kukoc, and company, I will have to go with Chicago as my odds-on favorite for the NBA crown. There are many other teams, however, that have a shot at dethroning the Bulls.

So the next question to answer is: who? Let's start with the Bulls' own division, the Central. Look for the Detroit Pistons to have a solid year and finish second behind the Bulls, but don't expect Detroit to knock off the Bulls come playoff time. Grant Hill will once again lead the Mo-town squad. The Pistons picked up Brian Williams from the Bulls in the off-season but still lack a quality center.

In the Atlantic Division, Miami and New York will both have quality teams, and I expect the Knicks will give Chicago the toughest challenge in the Eastern Conference. The Knicks return virtually all their players except for John Wallace, and have gained forward Chris Mills

sports**Generals poach Eagles, 22-10**

Forcing four Bridgewater turnovers during a Parents' Day mudbath, the Generals' defensive squad unleashed its beast

By BRENDAN HARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

Led by an outstanding defensive performance, the Generals made it a happy Parents' Weekend as they defeated Bridgewater 22-10 Saturday at Wilson Field. Bridgewater held a slight edge in most of the key statistics but the combination of solid defense, key kick-returns, and early turnovers helped the Generals get the win.

Things didn't get off to a great start for the Generals as quarterback Christian Bacheller was intercepted by Bridgewater defensive back Richard Glouier, on the first play of the game. Bacheller tried to make a difficult pass on the run while being pursued by a Bridgewater lineman and wound up throwing a floater, which was easily picked off.

But Bridgewater would quickly return the favor as Generals defensive back Ryan Flettemeyer intercepted Eagles quarterback Brit Osinkosky after the ball bounced off Flettemeyer's teammate, John Bennazzi. Flettemeyer returned the interception 39 yards to the Bridgewater 23, setting up a Christian Bacheller 1 yd QB sneak for a touchdown. On the ensuing extra point attempt, the kick was blocked but the Generals' David Ritchey was able to recover the ball in the endzone for a two-point conversion and the Generals took an 8-0 lead.

The teams then exchanged punts for a good portion of the first half. The Eagles failed to capitalize on a scoring opportunity early in the second quarter when kicker Michael Padgett missed a 22-yard field goal. It appeared that the ball was partially blocked. Bridgewater did manage to

put points on the board late in the second half as Padgett booted a 21-yard field goal with one second left, to cut the Generals' lead to 8-3.

Early in the third quarter, the Generals' Harry Brookby returned a punt 27 yards to the Eagles 39 yardline setting up another Washington and Lee touchdown. After tailback Hanley Sayers exploded for 14 yards to the Eagles 3-yard line, fullback Scott Moses ran it in for the touchdown. The touchdown was followed by a Bacheller run for the two-point conversion and the Generals' lead was increased to 16-3.

Bridgewater refused to roll over and the Eagles attempted to mount a comeback in the fourth quarter. On a 4th and 8 play Eagles' punter Von Lewis faked the kick and ran the ball 28 yards to the W&L 24-yard line. The Eagles converted on the fake as tailback Colby Allen ran it in from the 3-yard line, cutting the lead to 16-10.

But once again the Generals' defense stepped up and got the job done. With five minutes left in the game and the Eagles driving, Matt Luca recovered Colby Allen fumble and ran it back to the Bridgewater 30. This would prove to be a game-saving play as the Generals went up 22-10 after tailback Wesley Sayers rushed 5 yards for a touchdown.

"The ball just popped out of Allen's hands and I was just right there," said Luca. "I was just in the right place." Luca was a large part of the Generals' solid defensive effort: he was in on 11 tackles, recovered a fumble, and also had a big sack on a crucial third down play. But Luca was quick to point out that it was a team effort. "It was a great effort by the entire defense; the whole defense was



TAKING A BREAK, the defensive unit receives praise from Head Coach Miriello following their shutting down of the Bridgewater offensive attack. The Generals' defense forced four turnovers and held the Eagles to 274 yards on 64 plays. Despite the rain and mud, the team enjoyed their third victory in front of a capacity Parents' Day crowd. HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

in on it," he said.

Defensive Back Ryan Flettemeyer, who came up with the big interception early in the first half, was also pleased with the defensive effort. "The defense did a great job," he said. "We really shut them down, we were all playing a little harder because of Parents' Weekend." Most of the players seemed to agree with Flettemeyer. They do seem to play a little harder for the games during Homecoming and Parents' Weekend, and the Generals won both of those games.

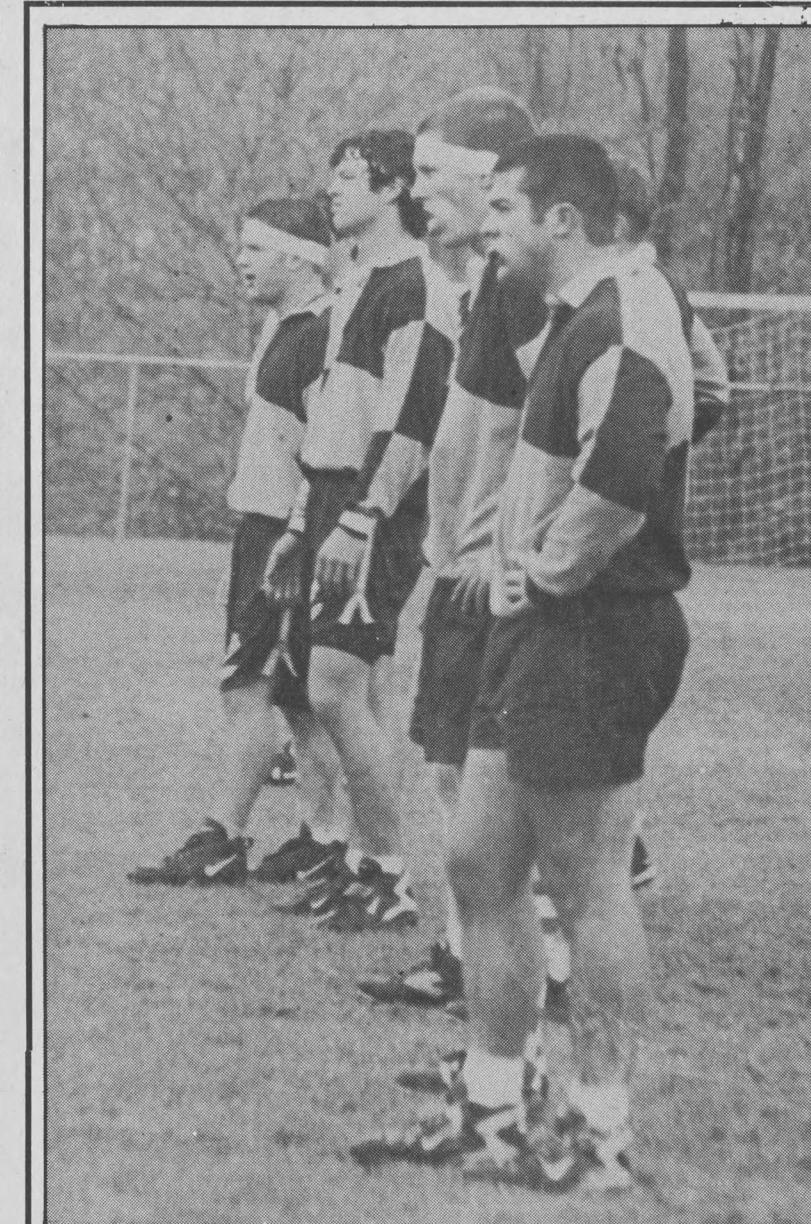
The Generals have 2 games remain-

ing. Next week they travel to Emory and Henry before returning home the following week to face Swarthmore. So now the question for the Generals is can they win their last two games and make it to the .500 mark? The Generals seem

to be confident that they can as they will go in to the final 2 games having won 3 of their last 4. "I think we can do it," added Flettemeyer. "We're playing really well right now and have a good shot at it."

STATS:

| | 1st Downs | Rushes-Yards | Passing Yards | Off. Plays-Yards | Time of Possession |
|-----|--------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| BC | 16 | 39-177 | 97 | 64-274 | 28:26 |
| W&L | 12 | 44-149 | 74 | 62-223 | 31:24 |



STEAMING IN THE COLD, members of the Generals rugby team await their chance to crush a Hampden-Sydney tiger. In the end, they did, defeating the Tigers by a score of 17-12. HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

Women's soccer season ends in the ODAC semisBy FRANCES GROBERG
STAFF WRITER

Traditions die hard at Washington and Lee. Tailgating lives on, the honor system still works, and the women's soccer team still fail to capture the ODAC title. The Generals, after shutting out Sweet Briar 2-0 in the first round, were defeated by six-time defending champions Randolph Macon, by a score of 2-1.

But W&L did not give up without a fight. The Generals fought into two tough overtime periods before the Yellow Jackets were able to score and seal the victory. Randolph Macon scored first, with a goal from Beth Kirby at the 44:30 mark. W&L got a goal from sophomore Ginny Jernigan at 63:13 to even the game. The score remained tied until the second overtime period, when R-MC Kirby scored her second goal of the game. Freshman Lauren Harris was credited with six saves for the game.

W&L's first round game in the ODACs against Sweet Briar turned out much more favorably for the Gen-

erals, as they pulled out a 2-0 victory. Junior co-captain Karin Treese scored W&L's first goal of the game midway through the first half, picking up a rebound from co-captain Claire Bowers and blasting it past SBC goalie Carol Skriloff. With 23 goals this season, Treese shattered both the record for goals in one season and for all-time goals.

Freshman Amanda McDermott, with her third astounding goal of the season, sealed the victory with a rocket of a shot. The Generals outshot Sweet Briar 35-0, and won 12 corner kicks to Sweet Briar's zero. W&L was so dominant in the middle that goalies Lauren Harris and Stephanie McKnight did not have to make a single save to record their seventh shutout of a season.

Though this year's season ended with a loss, the women's soccer team can be consoled by the fact that for most of them, there is always next year. Of the 22 players on this year's squad, 18 will return in '98 for another run at the ODAC championship. It was a great season, and the '97 Generals have nothing to regret.

Jock Shorts

- Men's soccer loses two more OT battles •
- Volleyball wins its sixth straight •

Men's Soccer

The regular season drew to a dismal close for the men's soccer team Saturday as they surrendered their third straight 2-1 overtime loss, this time to non-ODAC contender Denison College. The loss seemed to epitomize the season for the Generals, who seemingly had been on the brink of glory all season long, but consistently fell short. The Generals will play their first game in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference Tournament on Tuesday, with a final chance to turn their season around.

The game on Saturday against Denison was a messy one that quickly deteriorated into a muddy game of

Volleyball

The Generals volleyball team won its third straight ODAC regular season championship on Thursday. They beat Eastern Mennonite 15-13, 15-9, 15-12. Both teams entered the match with an 8-1 conference mark, and the win propelled the Generals to the no. 1 seed for this weekend's ODAC tournament. Following that victory, the squad hosted their non-conference foe Greensboro, to whom they lost in the Emory Tournament in October. This time, the Generals concluded the regular season with a 16-14, 9-15, 15-8, 15-11 victory.

As befitting a big game, both teams entered Thursday's match excited.

See SOCCER page 5

See VOLLEYBALL page 5

The W&L Riding Team**Results at Virginia Intermont****Beginner Walk Trot**

Susanah Carr - 4th

Meredith Welch - 2nd

Intermediate Equitation on the Flat

Christine Starer - 4th

Intermediate Equitation over Fences

Lydia Nichols - 4th

Christine Starer - 4th

Open Equitation on the Flat

Lydia Nichols - 2nd

Britta Gaffey - 5th

Open Equitation over Fences

Britta Gaffey - 4th

OVERALL SCHOOL PLACEMENT - 6th

et cetera

DOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

people took the option. Schroer-Lamont and Worth advised people as to whether they should seek further treatment.

"We have caught some situations that might have gotten worse if we hadn't done the screening," said Schroer-Lamont.

Depression is on the rise nationally. Schroer-Lamont attributes this to the high stress-level in modern society. Depression often surfaces in college, when new situations and pressures increase student's stress. Alcohol can exacerbate the situation.

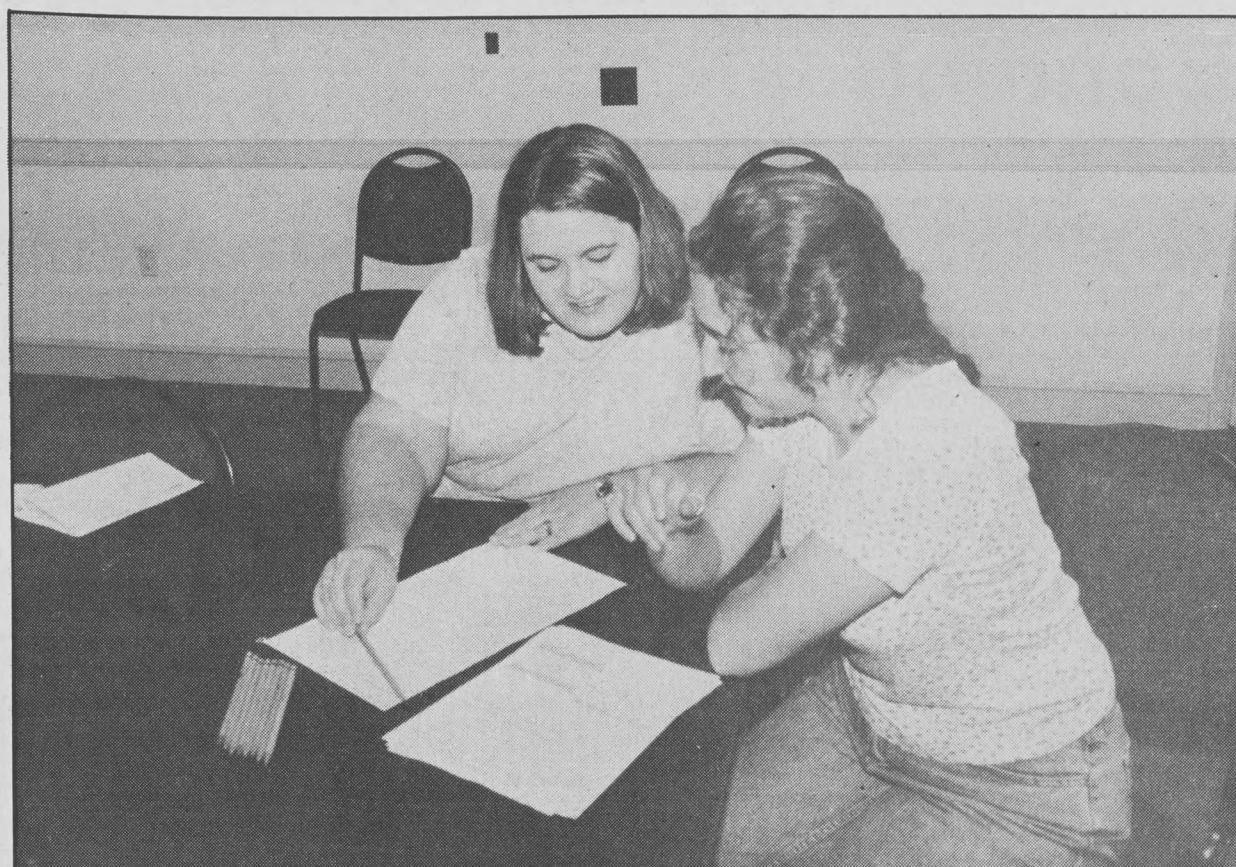
Everyone gets depressed when something major goes wrong in his life. But some people find it harder than others to get back on an even keel. These are the people who are at risk to depression.

Several factors contribute to such problems, including genetics and probably brain chemistry. But many psychologists believe that the way people think about their problems is particularly important. A person who is susceptible to depression is likely also to be the type to blame failures and problems on fundamental and enduring aspects of himself. And three times more women than men are diagnosed as depressed.

Counseling Services and Peer Counselors are available to help students who feel overwhelmed.

"Here at W&L we have two professional counselors," said Haddock, "and I think that if anyone needs to talk to a counselor they should take advantage of that. We have the resources, and it's not cheap off-campus."

Schroer-Lamont was unsure whether the location of the depression screening in the University Center deterred more people from participating. She does not believe, however, that students attach a stigma to depression



EIGHTEEN PEOPLE came to the university-sponsored depression screening clinic last month.

PHOTO BY HOLLISTER HOVEY/PHOTO EDITOR

or counseling.

"More and more students seem to talk openly about their depression, especially about medication," she said.

Depression is a serious illness that can be treated. Counseling, medication therapy, and psychotherapy can be effective. All of these services are available on a confidential basis through the university, which also has links to professionals in Lexington and Roanoke.

Do not hesitate to seek help if you think you need it. Friends are supportive, but talking to a professional can make a depressed person feel a great deal better surprisingly quickly.

sports

SOCCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

slosh-ball. The Generals scored first off a free kick from Andy Crawford. The ball fell just short of the goalie's range and Jaime Parker, seeing the advancing keeper, skinned it off his head and over the keeper's outstretched arms for an easy goal. Despite the Generals' early lead, the game did not go their way. The wet field conditions seemed to favor Denison's sloppy style of play. Denison scored the equalizer early in the second half. After the W&L squad failed to retaliate with a goal of their own, the game moved to overtime. With two minutes remaining in the first overtime period, Denison's Brian Hylbert connected on an unassisted goal to win the game.

Washington and Lee's game on Thursday with ODAC rival Roanoke was less ugly than Saturday's 2-1 overtime loss to Denison, but the result was identical. After falling behind 1-0 to Roanoke in the first half, the Generals came back with a second-half goal by Jaime Parker which forced a sudden-death overtime period. Three minutes into the period, W&L keeper E.J. Murphy made a great save, knocking a hard blast from Roanoke's Chris Hewitt over the goal and out of danger. But, Roanoke's Kevin Goodwin won the game with a header goal on the ensuing cornerkick.

The 1997 season was one of ups and downs for the men's soccer team. With an overall record of 10-5, the team won twice as many games as it lost. But

the Generals fell just short in several essential games that could have transformed their season. Now there will be no room for error. On Tuesday the Generals will begin the ODAC tournament, most likely against rivals Hampden-Sydney. Will they rebound from their regular season losing streak and finally come together to win a big game, or fall hopelessly short of glory once again? As far as their fans are concerned, victory is inevitable.

VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"We knew it was for the championship, and that EM is a pretty big rival anyway, so we were very fired up entering the match," said junior Megan Snodgrass. Both teams played especially strongly on defense, and the W&L offense was in full force. In game one, the Generals opened a 3-0 lead behind a block from senior Hilary Martin and freshman Williams, a kill by Williams, and a kill by sophomore Nancy Reinhart. The teams traded points before a block by Williams, and Snodgrass gave the Generals a 5-2 advantage. EM closed the gap to one before Snodgrass ended the rally with an emphatic kill. She then served, and with offensive help by senior Holly Thomsen and good defense by the entire team, gave the Generals an 8-4 lead. The teams subsequently battled to a 10-5 score, with the tenth W&L point coming off a block by Reinhart and Martin. EM then went on a rally, evening the game at 10-10 due mainly to some W&L defensive breakdowns and some timely offense. The Generals then went on a run of their own behind the serves of Martin and took a 13-10 lead, which they never relinquished on their way to a 15-13 victory.

Games two and three were equally competitive. EM opened game two by exploding to a 4-0 lead. The Generals battled back, however, behind two kills from Reinhart and one kill from Williams. A service ace by Reinhart evened the game at 4-4. The teams traded points and sideouts until the score was 7-6 in favor of W&L. The Generals then ran off six unanswered points with kills by Williams, Reinhart, Thomsen, and Snodgrass. They ultimately rolled to a 15-9 victory.

Game three was a back and forth affair, with each team managing no more than one point per service opportunity. Then, the Generals broke open an 11-11 tie, behind the serves of Thomsen. A kill by Martin closed the game and the match at 15-12. Overall, Nancy Reinhart led the way with 13 kills. Snodgrass had 8 kills, while Martin had 8 kills, 10 digs, and 5 blocks. Senior Ali Beard, who last week broke the school record for assists in a career, totaled 36 more of them.

The Generals defeated Greensboro Saturday to improve their record to 16-9 for the season. Reinhart had 16 kills and 18 digs and Martin had 15 kills. Snodgrass and Thomsen chipped in with 12 kills apiece.

Beard finished the regular season with a season high 51 assists. The Generals can now look forward to the ODAC tournament, where they have won only once (in 1995) despite being the No. 1 seed for the past three years. They are confident entering this weekend.

"We hit our peak this week, which was a good time to do so. We have a lot of momentum going into this weekend, where we expect to have some good competition," said Snodgrass.

Do not hesitate to seek help if you think you need it. Friends are supportive, but talking to a professional can make a depressed person feel a great deal better surprisingly quickly.

John Stewart

meet the man,
meet the myth
stewart@wlu.edu

Letter to the editors

Libertarian president responds to Knapp

I'm writing to defend the honor of the College Libertarians, whom Laura Knapp viciously slandered in her last "From the Left of Lenin" column. Miss Knapp misrepresents our peaceful activities as "ideological warfare and brainwashing," a claim the more frenetic because, whilst Miss Knapp evidently is a great believer in social engineering, libertarians are the arch-enemies of physical force.

Miss Knapp also attacks the national student libertarian newspaper *Liberty*, which we distributed around campus. She finds it "extremely disturbing" that we distributed the newspaper "anonymously and furtively." (Come now, Laura. What would you have us to do: staple our names and personal data to each copy?) Our work was no more "anonymous and furtive" than the way in which her newspaper, *the Rung-tum Phi*, is distributed.

Miss Knapp looks for intrigue behind everything, so it seems. Contrary to her claims, the publisher of *Liberty* does not wish to remain secret. As the paper itself stated, the publisher is the Cato Institute, a well-respected Washington think-tank. Their social security project, which has gained positive recognition around the world, is based upon sound data available for public

viewing at www.socialsecurity.org. *Liberty* newspaper states as much. Evidently Laura did not pay much attention when she read the paper.

Finally, Miss Knapp alleges that "the goals of Libertarians are contrary to and a subversive of the American political and legal tradition" and that we "demand the repeal of laws which ban or seek to control the sale of weapons to anyone, meaning criminals and the Freeman groups as well [sic]."

The latter claim is simply false on the face of it. No libertarian advocates giving weapons to persons with criminal intent. The former claim, that libertarianism subverts the American political system, is again quite frenetic given the fact that libertarians base their views on the likes of John Locke, Thomas Jefferson, and Adam Smith, while Laura Knapp's ideology springs no-so-subtly from the mouth of Marx.

In conclusion, I hope the capable editors of the "Phi" will in the future restrain Miss Knapp when she seeks to engage in another histrionic fit in print.

Cordially,
Jason P. Sorens '98

TOYOTA COROLLA... IT'S CHANGED!



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TOYOTA | everyday

Ms. Miller, Mr. Zacher,
Ms. Coombs, Ms. Ewing,
Ms. Mayumik, Mr. Hardie,
Mr. Stewart, Ms. Groberg,
Ms. Grant, Ms. Detter and
Mr. Coffee. These are the
people who live and die
for the *Phi*. Most of them
are failing at least one
class, others have given
up weekly conversations
with the parents and
other loved ones. They've
been sucked into the
black hole of University
Center 208. You may not
see us again, but if you
do it'd be great if one of
you faithful, loyal, smart
and cool readers would
say, "thank-you." So
when you see our bleary-
eyed, ponytail/ ball cap
heads on the hill today,
Smile and speak to them.

Opinion & Editorial

PAGE 6

Nov. 3, 1997

Ah, midterm grades. Letters on a tiny slip of paper sent home to tell parents one of two things: either that the education their little darlings are receiving is indeed worthy of the tuition money for which they've mortgaged the house for, or that they are paying \$20,000 a year for their child to party farther away from home.

Are these grades accurate? Not really. In fact, they probably cause both students and parents a lot more perspiration than is really necessary.

There are essentially two causes of midterm inaccuracy. The first is beyond the professor's control. The second, well, the second is just the professor's fault.

Midterm grades tend to exclude one essential ingredient in their calculation: the grade for the respective midterm test. Because many classes wait until after reading days to administer tests, there is a lack of time left for grading them before grades are due. Because most of us like the fact that we get the extra days to study (or procrastinate about studying), there's no reason to complain about this.

The second reason for grade inaccuracy is that some professors, in order to scare students into working harder (or, for that matter, starting to work), will deflate marks, sometimes by an entire letter grade.

This is wrong. Why should students have to guess what their grade is in a particular class, when professors have the ability — and the responsibility — to accurately represent a student's efforts? The result of this is that students are handed letters and numbers on a sheet of paper that essentially have no meaning.

So why even have midterm grades? True, they can be an effective motivational tool, prompting students to work harder. But to be truly effective, the grades must be accurate representations of a student's achievement (or lack thereof) in a particular class. Professors who "guesstimate" grades can cause students to panic, but no one pays attention to a grade they know has been deflated.

To make midterm grades worthwhile for anyone, freshmen or upper-classmen, both students and teachers will have to start taking them more seriously. Professors have to stop trying to scare freshmen into studying, and in turn, freshmen will actually pay attention to the ominous number at the bottom.

Many students, especially in winter term, completely discount their grades because they understand how the professors are grading.

This makes the midterm grades worthless.

“Quote of the week:

“I never thought to equate Dr. Nye’s smile with a s#!%-eating grin.”

— Psych. major to a Bio. major

The Ring-tum Phi

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Bilingual Bonding

I always worry when my parents come to see me.

In the days before my parents travel to Lexington to visit, I fret over what we will do. I worry that we won't have anywhere to go, or worse, that we won't have anything to say to each other. The sights of Lexington can be exhausted in little over an hour. My classes don't offer us much common ground for conversation. Where does that leave us?

Red Brick Row

David Balsley '99

My parents make things a lot easier by planning what they want to do. Last year, we drove to Goshen Pass to see the changing colors of the leaves. This year, we walked under Natural Bridge.

And we talked. We discussed my classes, roommates, sleeping habits, plans for a major, hopes for an internship and taste in beer. We talked about my brother, my dog, my neighbors at home, my highschool teachers and my e-mail. We were comfortable with each other. I was happy to see them, and they were happy to see me.

It turns out that my parents and I are a lot alike. When an announcer introduced himself on TV Saturday evening, my dad and I waved and said hello. My mom and I both moaned at some of my father's jokes. My dad and I look a lot alike, which is all right with me, because my dad's good looking.

Our similarities made it easy for us to talk to one another. I found out last weekend that a mother, father and son don't need similar schedules to get along. They just have to have similar personalities, which my parents and I do.

On Sunday morning, the three of us ate brunch at Aunt Sarah's. We sat and talked to each other — like adults. In this respect, our relationship has changed since I came to college.

I hope that I've become more mature since high school, and I hope that has helped us to better get along. I don't think of my parents as being disciplinarians as much as I used to; I think of them more as friends.

Being able to talk to my parents on an even keel means a lot to me. It also requires a lot of me: I have to be more responsible and I have to do a better job of taking care of myself, so I won't be embarrassed when I tell my parents what I've been up to. The fewer bad grades I have to report, the less I feel like a child when I call home. The more responsible I am, the more I feel like an adult, and the better I can talk to my parents as an adult.

My mom, dad and I finished the day with a drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway and a trip to Harris Teeter. They took me back to my apartment, helped carry the groceries inside, then started to get ready to leave. My mom gave me some money for dinner. I gave my parents a hug and walked with my mom outside.

My concerns about not having anything to say or do during their visit seemed silly. We had talked about everything. We had gone different places and had a good time. I had enjoyed their visit and looked forward to talking to them again next weekend. I had realized that we really are a lot alike.

I stood and waved as they drove away. I was happy to have shared a wonderful weekend with my parents.

Doonsbrewery

By Keggy Trudeau

BUDDY, DAVE DENNIS - I'VE DECIDED TO RELINQUISH MY AUTHORITY TO THE STUDENTS AND LET THEM HAVE FULL AUTONOMY.

HA HA HA HA HA HA

“WHICH GOOD ONE, JOHN. HOW ABOUT ANOTHER DRINK?”

AVAILBLE

Things just haven't been the same since Lee's departure

It's 3:30 a.m., and deep in the dorms, groups of students have gathered to play computer games. Where is your school is headed?

My View

Douglas Brown '98

one was friendly. Fraternities had pledges early in the year, and used them help to do things to give back to the Lexington community. Save for the occasional fight with VMI, the community and the students interacted well.

I know it sounds like I am describing an idyllic place, but that's what this school used to be. Recently, however, admissions has chosen to recruit a bunch of really bright students who have no idea what they are getting into.

I came here knowing full well what sort of place I was coming to. Why have so many other students come here wanting to change the school? Diversity isn't a bad thing,

but if diversity is what you expected to find at college, you came to the wrong place.

Recently a few noisy students have decided that the only things to do here are drink, study, and hook up. That is a very narrow-minded view, and I think some of the more naive students

have started to believe this. Look around you! The Shenandoah Valley is one of the most beautiful parts of the world; enjoy your surroundings. Get out, meet people — you don't have to drink if you don't want. Join a service or social organization to make new friends, but please stop trying to change our school just to make yourself happy.

If you really did not know what to expect when you came to this school, and you are not happy with what you found, then you can always work hard, improve your grades, and then transfer somewhere you think you will be happier.

Most importantly: don't let school get in the way of your education. You can learn so much from college just by being here. Get your nose out of the books, or off the computer screen, and see what other experiences are open to you. You may find that you really are happy here after all, and that there is no need for change.

Registration in terms of who, not what

This upcoming week is one of my least favorite times of the entire year. It's registration week, the one week when otherwise normal, well-adjusted students here at W&L decide it's a good idea to break out the sleeping bags and camp out at Newcomb Hall and the Science Center all night for those classes they absolutely must have. Now, I could sit here and write a lengthy tirade about the registration system that requires me to get up before the crack of dawn to get the classes I want, but, quite honestly, would be like shooting fish in a barrel. Besides, you can always make use of the drop/add period in January and end up with the classes you wanted anyway without pitching a tent.

From a Bar Stool

Eric Swensen '98

With that problem solved, the next problem is how to schedule as enjoyable an academic term for yourself as possible (without taking a term off). Of course, there are always at least one or two classes a term, either in your major or for general education requirements, that you can't possibly avoid. Science majors have organic chemistry, and journalism majors have...well, since I still need to

graduate, I can't reveal that right now. Anyway, the average student is left with a class or two per semester in which he can take pretty much whatever they want.

Many students look for the easy way out through an easy class. Let's face it: this isn't State U., and there aren't any easy classes (Well, actually, there are, but I'm sure as hell not going to tell you what they are. I want to sign up for them). Even if you do discover an easy class, chances are people began camping out for it on Friday, so you won't get in.

The real secret is not to choose classes, but professors. A lousy professor can suck the life out of a subject you've been fascinated about for years, while a great professor could make underwater basket weaving the best twelve weeks of your life. For example, when I do venture outside the journalism department, where, of course, every professor is absolutely fantastic. I've found a lot of good professors in the history department. Professor Jeans is one of the few professors I know who can lecture for over an hour - 82 and a half minutes, to be exact - and actually hold my interest for the entire time. He also runs a great seminar, so I've ended up taking classes on Japan during World

War Two and modern Chinese history which I likely wouldn't have taken otherwise.

Professor Porter is another truly entertaining history professor. His enthusiasm for his subject is undeniable. He often punctuates the point he's trying to get across in class by slamming his fist down on a table. Then there is his disdain for the supposed intelligence of freshmen. As everyone who has been here longer than a year knows, every freshman class that enters this university is the smartest ever. A quick aside: wouldn't you love it if one year the admissions department said, Well, this year's freshman class isn't all that bright. The people we really wanted chose Swathmore and Davidson, so don't expect much from the freshmen we ended up with. Professor Porter loves to mock that notion. His quote this year, after asking us if we had found a freshmen tutor yet: "This is the only school in America where you pay \$100,000 and leave dumber than when you came here."

Just about every professor on this campus can teach you something, but not all of them can really challenge you, make you laugh, or even keep you awake. Remember, whenever you praise or criticize a class, you're not talking about the class, but the professor who taught it. So why not choose a professor instead of a class?

TALKback: What did your kids do with you this weekend?



"It was wonderful, except for the rain. We went to the football game, the honors banquet, listened carefully to the chemistry lecture, and then failed the test."

— Bill and Kim Connors
parents of Michelle '00



"She was 1/2 an hour late for breakfast this morning—she's really busy. We were just concerned this morning 'cause we were the only parents without a daughter."

— Bob and Cheryl Hazard
parents of Rebecca '01



"She made us wait an hour and a half while she was in the bathroom doing her hair and make-up."

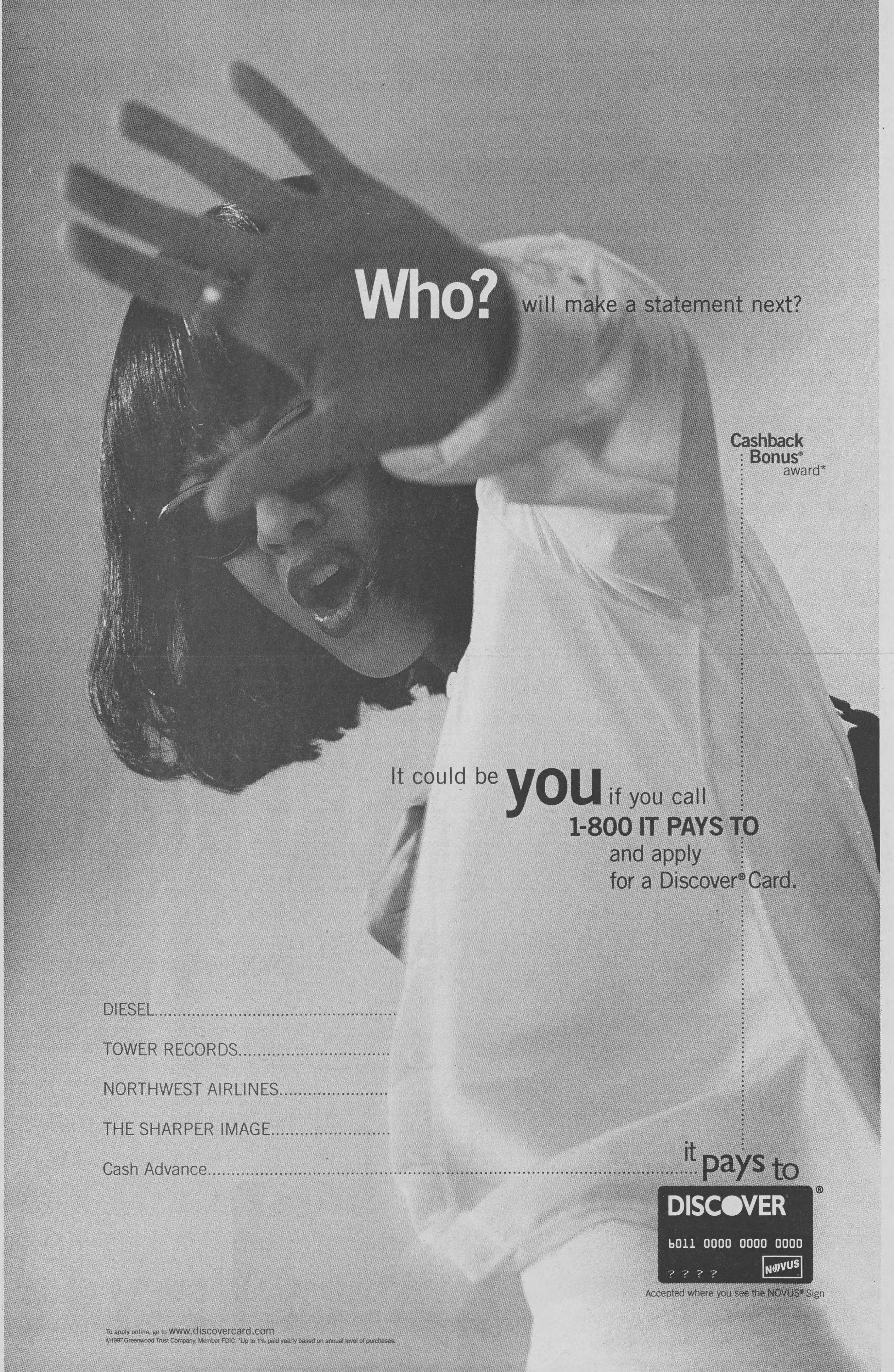
— Jim and Dolly Terrian
parents of Susan '00



"She got us warm beer from Sigma Chi, and that was really an act of love."

— Jay and Kim Reynolds
parents of Cecily '99

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Get out and ...

By Courtney Miller

Rock the Vote Girl

Hey freshmen! Yeah you with the unusually-high-brown-nosed mid-term grades and a roomful of goodies stocked by your parents. You've got something to do today.

Vote! That's right wander over to the D-hall (you know the place with free meals that's ginning to look a lot like, not to mention that awfully familiar taste) pick up a ballot and check someone's name off.

Maybe you were won over by the chalk-on-the-sidewalk-advertisements, or the multitude of colored paper plastered around campus. Maybe your roommate or hall mate in is running. I don't care if you vote for someone based purely on the sound of his/her name. Or even pull my favorite stand-by - cast your ballot based on gender.



Basically, someone has to be in charge, or there will be no one to blame. SAB takes all the heat for band selection, and the FD steering committee gets to defend such all-star theme choices as the "Reconciliation Ball of 1865" (for further information on see issues of *The Ring-tum Phi*, 1988.)

Look around and decide who can handle the pressure of being "frosh" class president, otherwise known as the dude who gets to collect class dues. This is the person who'll be knocking on the doors of Graham-Lees, hat in hand, begging for money. It's got to be a face you'll want to see.

Your E.C. representative of today could be president of the E.C. tomorrow. You could make history here, vote for a FEMALE. There has never been a chick in the office of prez. It would cement your place in history. Put that class of '01 (affectionately known as the Millenium Falcons) on the map of Washington and Lee.

So for better or worse, waste some paper and vote.

last word

On the run

President

- ① Dan Birdwhistell, ② Stephen Philipson, ③ David Sullivan

Vice-President

- ① Tim Angelillo, ② Katie Baldwin, ③ Catherine Mead, ④ Emily Ramey, ⑤ Brent Walker, ⑥ Carter Williams.

E.C. Representative

- ① Ashley Anderson, ② Stephanie Bianco, ③ Vanessa Chen, ④ Jeff Cook, ⑤ Mike Crittenden, ⑥ Tyler Jorgensen, ⑦ Mills Palm, ⑧ Kathie Soroka, ⑨ Keenan Weston.

The Caddy that zigs ...

Near the end of September as we were driving back from Staunton, we tried to stop at The Pink Cadillac for dinner, but it was closed. A note on the door indicated that the restaurant was "closed indefinitely due to staff shortages," but a sign out on the street said "Opening October 1". We were quite confused but went on our way to find dinner elsewhere.

A short time later The Trident did some checking on this situation and found that the restaurant had undergone a

change in ownership. The Pink Cadillac has now been open for a month, so we decided to check it out and see if change was truly bad in this case.

We arrived late on a Thursday night, after Doug's ballet class, to find things much the same. Same wonderful atmosphere, and the same wonderful menu with the addition of new dinner specials.

The majority of the specials featured "fresh" seafood, but due to Doug's issues with seafood we refrained. Earlier in the evening we spotted Steven, our grill-chef friend, passed out on his couch from low blood sugar, so we brought him along in an effort to revive his spirits.

Robin and Steven both selected the "Elvis" burger, Robin's perennial favorite. A double-decker masterpiece with two patties, a center bun, lettuce, tomato, and a special sauce, the Elvis burger typically arrives with a side of fries. Both paid extra to upgrade to Brew City fries, a Pink Cadillac specialty.

Doug chose 16 ounces of prime rib (because there is something about eating a pound of cow), also with the Brew City fries. To drink the men opted for vanilla milkshakes, while Robin had a chocolate. Doug also ordered a "Route 66" root beer (in the bottle); Steven had Coca-Cola (in the bottle), and Robin drank Diet Coke (in a glass).

The beverages arrived and we found that the milkshakes had changed slightly: they are no longer served with whipped cream and a cherry on top. The waitress now brings the extra shake to the table in the metal sleeve, however, so you really get your money's worth.

Next the entrees arrived and our grill-chef companion proclaimed them all to be properly grilled and well-prepared. The prime rib in particular was cooked to perfection; the way in which the fat melted down Doug's throat was, in his opinion, second to none.

Both burgers were juicy, succulent, and tasty. The special sauce on the burgers gives them a unique and pleasing flavor. The Brew City fries, as usual, proved excellent — well-seasoned, freshly-prepared, and hot.

Our meal lasted beyond the Pink Cadillac's normal closing time, and yet we felt no pressure to hurry with our meals. Our waitress encouraged us to try some of the tempting desserts, but after such a filling meal, we had to decline.

The brief drive back to Lexington provided an excellent opportunity to recap a fabulous and plentiful meal. The Pink Cadillac's new owner seems to have improved upon a good thing.

This change appears to be a positive; the staff is friendly and courteous, and the food is just as good as, if not better, than ever. Fans of this classic diner have nothing to fear.

SPANISH TEACHER WANTED:

I am looking for a person who is interested in teaching my two children (a boy and girl, ages 6 and 8 respectively) Spanish. They are both keenly interested and I would want the teacher to commit to lessons twice a week and to teach them both at the same time, if that is possible.

Please call L. Shank at x8941 if you are interested.

• By Alex Christensen
Phi Movie Critic

Lost in the translation



My first choice to direct an adaptation of a James Ellroy novel would not be Curtis Hanson. He's basically a director-for-hire (not that that's a bad thing) who just takes whatever he's given and puts it on screen with little imagination or style. If you've read James Ellroy, you know that his novels are all imagination and style and hard-charging, blackly funny, gut-punching action. Hanson, on the other hand, is the director of the crap-fests "The Hand that Rocks the Cradle" and "The River Wild." Films that play on rather mindless levels of low-grade suspense. "Will the crazy killer be around the next corner?" Brian Helgeland, the hack screenwriter of "Conspiracy Theory" wouldn't be my first choice to co-write either.

All of my doubts about the two men are confirmed by the flawed film "L.A. Confidential".

For a long while after seeing the film, I just couldn't decide what I thought. I thought I might want to

see the film again, sitting farther back in the theater to get a literally new perspective on it. I also read the novel a long time ago, and hadn't wanted to reread it in case it might spoil the experience of the film for me. This review should definitely be read with these cautions. "L.A. Confidential" left me conflicted.

The things I'm not conflicted about are many. The acting in the film is uniformly superb, even from Kim Basinger, who hasn't done anything good since "Batman." The art direction and cinematography are stunning, though Hanson takes rather moderate advantage of these strengths. The material, Ellroy's novel, is the major factor contributing to the strengths the film does exploit.

I believe the major problems are all found in the adaptation from novel to screen.

The story of "L.A. Confidential" is a complex play of power among people who live outside of society's ethics. Criminals and corrupt cops, movie stars, prostitutes, pimps and tabloid reporters. Russell Crowe ("The Sum of Us," "The Quick and the Dead") plays Bud White, a tough cop who hates violence

against women and is dedicated to stopping all of it he can. He's a physical powerhouse, solving crimes often by bringing them to violent confrontations, which he wins. Kevin Spacey plays "Trashcan" Jack Vincennes, the least developed character, a Hollywood cop who is an adviser on a "Dragnet"-like TV show and who engineers high-profile busts with Sid Hudgens (Danny DeVito), the editor of the tabloid "Hush-Hush." And Guy Pearce ("Priscilla, Queen of the Desert") is Ed Exley, a supposedly principled cop trying to live up to his detective father's memory. A mass murder in a coffee shop, known as the Night Owl Massacre, and the subsequent investigation, lead these three men into conflict with each other, a weird movie-star lookalike prostitution ring, and L.A. Police Chief Dudley Smith (James Cromwell of "Babe").

I understand that things have to left out of movies made from thick books when they are transferred to the screen, but if this redaction is all that goes on, it's got to ultimately fail.

The effort has to be made to capture the attitude and style of the

fiction on screen. By all rights, "L.A. Confidential" should look and feel darker, make you laugh at things that aren't funny, punch you in the gut and leave you breathless. It's a tall order, but Ellroy has given the filmmakers the interesting creative problem of capturing making such a film. They largely squander that potential. They cut too much, they make it too cute, they invent devices which are too clever by half to get across information they could have conveyed with dialogue or by picking up the pace.

There are a few exceptions. The shootout at the end is a great scene until the end. Kim Basinger's role is given the kind of attention it deserves. Spacey's performance allows a lot of room for certain plot points to be glossed over. And some of the atmosphere is right, though it's choppy.

Overall, "L.A. Confidential" is a good film, probably better to watch if you haven't read the book. But after you've seen it, if you want more, darker, less easy,

check out some uncut Ellroy.

24 seven

★ MONDAY ★ Winter Term Registration Begins (if you are a science or history major it means bonding with others in the registration line) ★ TUESDAY ★ become one with your W&L Catalog ★ WEDNESDAY ★ go out to the Palms and drink away your night; it will help you deal with the stress of registration ★ Biv Markie at Pi Kappa Phi ★ THURSDAY ★ study so you can go out this weekend; also make sure you watch "E.R." and the rest of Must-See-TV ★ FRIDAY ★ the HELL ends; Registration is over!!! ★ Go and see the most awesome Eighties Band ever to

play at W&L; The Breakfast Club will play in the Pavilion at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion ★

Sigma Phi Epsilon will jam with Sideshow Bob ★

★ SATURDAY ★ Become a more

cultured person ... The University

Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra in the

Lenfest Center at 8 p.m. ★ Lambda Chi

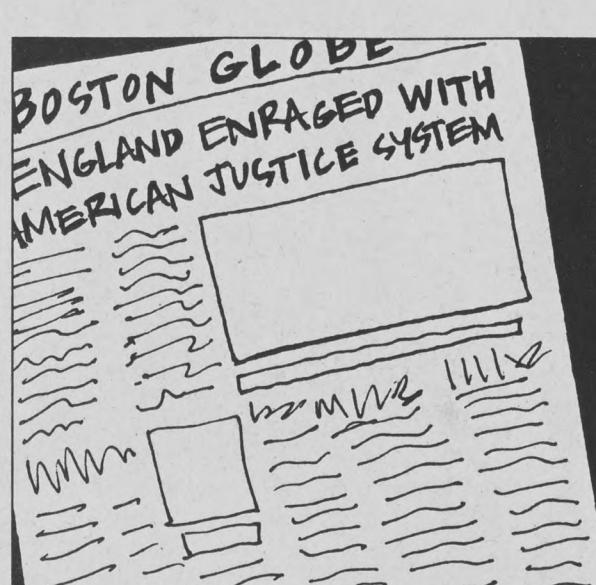
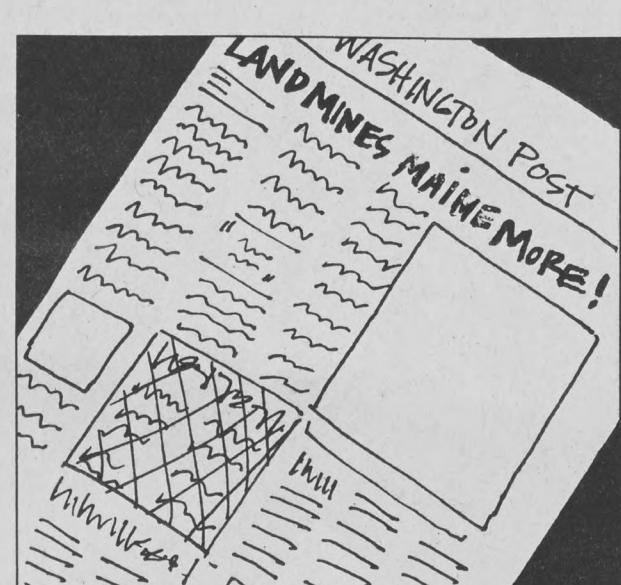
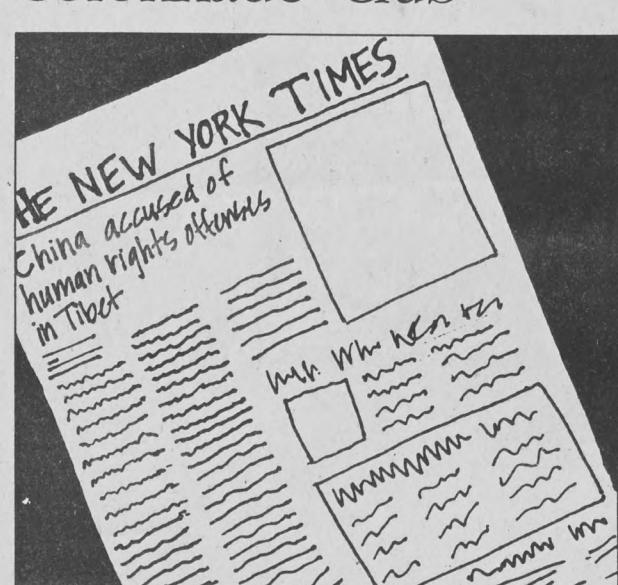
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Colonnade Club



By Hollister Hovey