

*"It's the bee's knees!"*

# FANCY DRESS BALL 1998

*Anything Goes: Flappers, Flight and Jazz All Night*

## The Ring-tum Phi

Washington and Lee University  
VOLUME 100, NUMBER 15

Monday  
MARCH 2, 1998

### Alcohol abuse dominates State of W&L open forum

By WILL HARDE News Editor

Alcohol abuse on campus dominated President John Elrod's informal "State of the University" open forum in Gaines gatehouse Tuesday evening.

Elrod said that he thought the IFC "bring your own bottle" policy was a good first step, but that further action needs to be taken. "Hazing and alcohol abuse are ... I should say, have been ... a serious threat to the integrity of the institution and the well-being of its students."

Elrod's comments were led by questions from the 40 or so students who attended, and covered a range of issues, including the master plan, the class registration system, University policy on sexual orientation discrimination, and concerns over the increasing size of the student body. But questions about alcohol just kept coming, usually prefaced by, "I'm sorry to flog a dead horse, but ..."

One student asked Elrod's opinion of the decision by five national fraternities to ban alcohol from their houses.

"I think this is a bad move," Elrod said. He suspects it was driven by fear of potential litigation by fraternity members injured under the influence of alcohol.

"There is no way they can enforce dry houses," he said. "Alcohol is a part of human life and has been for a very long time. We need to teach freshmen to drink responsibly. If you ban alcohol from houses, students will drink out in the county like there's no tomorrow."

"Drinking in fraternity houses is fine," Elrod said. "But students should remain conscious and in control and be able to go to bed under their own steam."

"The idea is not abstinence. The right idea is responsible consumption of alcohol. Students shouldn't drink responsibly because of the law, they should drink responsibly because it is the right and healthy thing to do."

Another student pushed Elrod further to explain specifically how he plans to persuade students not to misuse alcohol.

"The solution is incredibly simple," Elrod said. "It is for the people who are the leaders-the older people-to tell the younger people, 'don't do it.'"

The dead horse had to be flogged one last time for Elrod to give details of what he intends to do about alcohol abuse, but still he did not say how or when his plan might be implemented.

"We have to go back to square one," Elrod said. He said that faculty, the administration and students must agree on a set of very specific guidelines for responsible behavior. The student body would have to agree to abide by those guidelines, and would be frequently reminded of them.

There would follow an aggressive education campaign to justify and explain the guidelines, and procedures would be put in place to deal with individuals and groups who flout them. Individual offenders would first be given counseling for alcohol abuse. If that failed, they would be disciplined and, if necessary, suspended.

The disciplinary process would be the responsibility of the students. "We can't say no to drinking," Elrod said. "We're talking about the student mind set here, an alcohol culture. It is the students who make up that culture. You can't change it as outsiders."

"We can't do this in a few days, weeks or months. It will probably take a whole generation of students to implement."

### New lot approved

By WILL HARDE News Editor

The Board of Trustees approved the construction of a new parking deck behind the Warner Center, at its winter meeting over February break.

If approved by the City, the deck would provide parking spaces for the five sorority houses that the University plans to build between Woods Creek and Wilson Field. Accommodating between 450 and 550 cars, the deck would be located between the Warner Center and Woods Creek Drive. It would have four or five levels, descending into the valley.

New parking provision must be made if the sorority houses are to go ahead, because Lexington planning regulations require that a parking space be provided for every bed in a new building.

"The new deck will address the current parking situation as well as the future needs of the University," said Lawrence W. Broomall, vice president for finance.

President John Elrod said he is looking for a design that will fit in with its surroundings. "I hope it will look more like a building than a downtown parking lot," he said.

The deck is part of the University's development master plan, which will be presented to the Lexington Planning Commission and City Council for approval over the next six weeks. If the plan is approved, the University will invite competitive bids from specialist constructors to build the lot. Construction is expected to take 12 months.



### FLAPPER MANEQUINS LOOK ON ...

Steering committee members put the finishing touches to the elaborate decorations for the 1998 Fancy Dress Ball Friday night. Construction is taking place in the Pavilion, and the entire set, including a working fountain, will be moved to the Warner Center on Wednesday.

### Gaines Thanksgiving break burglary suspects tried

By ERIN MORONEY AND WILL HARDE Staff Writer/News Editor

The Commonwealth's Attorney's evidence, or lack of it, determined the fate of the two Rockbridge County teens charged with the Thanksgiving Gaines break-ins. At a preliminary hearing Feb. 17, one was told he would stand a full trial next month; the other was let off with community service.

Jason Alestock, 19, of Lexington, and Thomas Allman, 19, of Raphine, were charged with breaking into Gaines Hall on Nov. 25. Judge Joseph Hess decided that the evidence against Alestock was sufficient to send his case to a bench trial March 4. According to his attorney, Ross Haine, Alestock will plead not guilty to grand larceny.

But Allman's attorney, Bob Armstrong, persuaded Hess that the evidence against Allman was too weak to justify taking his case any further. Allman's plea was reduced to trespassing and he was ordered to complete ten hours' community service.

Armstrong argued that the Commonwealth could prove only that Allman was in the vicinity of Gaines on Nov. 25. "An investigation concluded that he [Allman] wasn't actually in the Gaines building, he was not in possession of any stolen property and he wasn't acting in concert with anyone else," said Armstrong.

According to Lexington Police Officer Fred Smith, a man entered sophomore Courtney Yevich's Gaines apartment during the Thanksgiving break, and stole her Toshiba laptop computer, a videocassette of Jurassic Park, and a Nikon camera. Smith said that the same day a man also entered sophomore Lance Clack's room. Clack's roommate, Steve Straub, became suspicious when a man walked in and asked where "John's room" was. He and several other Gaines residents who had seen strangers behaving suspiciously called campus security, who called the police.

Security officers Scott Rowe and Tony Prince caught local Eugene Jordan, 17, leaving Gaines, then a minute later saw another man walking out of the building, carrying the items taken from Yevich's room. Prince chased the man across the road to the Lenfest center, where he dropped the stolen

items and managed to escape. The police arrived and arrested Jordan, who implicated three other men in the break-in. Prince later identified Alestock as the man who he had chased; Clack also identified Alestock, from a photo line-up.

Just eight days before the Gaines incidents, Alestock was charged with attempting to steal two locks, doors and windowpanes belonging from the Fitzgerald Lumber Company in Buena Vista.

Alestock was found guilty and was sentenced to 60 days in jail. Haine said that the punishment was harsh for that crime, which is a misdemeanor. Alestock's appeal against that conviction will be heard on March 25.

### When buying a used car means treading a minefield

By GINGER PHILLIPS Staff Writer

Over February break, senior Andrew Ruppap went in search of a used car. On his way back to school, he discovered how scary the wrong decision can be.

Ruppap didn't have much time to make a decision; his previous car was irreparable after he slid off a 20-foot cliff on Jan. 27. He also had to find a car for less than \$5,000. Ruppap bought a 1981 Jeep Wagoneer, which required a few minor repairs.

On the way back to school, his car completely shut down, forcing him to coast to the shoulder of the highway. Smoke filtered into the inside of the car, and oil leaked from the engine. Not long after calling 911, Ruppap watched the entire front of his car burst into flames.

Though it took two fire-trucks to douse the flames, Ruppap still believes that buying a used car can be a wise decision. "It's just one of those things," he said. "Somehow the oil or fuel hose must have cracked during the drive back, and nothing was wrong when I had it checked. If you need a car and one that is cheap, a used car is the answer."

"People usually buy used cars because they want all of the accessories that they could not, or don't want to pay for on a new car," Mike Parker, owner of MP Chrysler Plymouth Dodge in Lexington, said. However, he says that a

### Manning to leave W&L for headmaster position in England

By WILL HARDE News Editor

In three months' time Dean of the Freshman Program Dennis G. Manning will be learning a whole new set of freshman names, but this year it will 4,000 miles away.

Manning will leave Washington and Lee at the end of the academic year. He has accepted the position of headmaster at a private school in England.

"He's made an incalculably great contribution here and we're going to miss him," said President John Elrod.

"I have agonized over the decision," said Manning. "I have loved it here and it's going to be very difficult to leave."

The University will conduct a nationwide search for a replacement, who they hope will take over in time to oversee next year's freshman class.

Manning was offered what he called a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," to be headmaster of the TASIC England school, just outside London. "It's an idyllic setting, a really magnificent campus," he said.

What will Manning miss most about W&L? "It's the people. I feel like I've been part of a family. I've tried to get to know on an individual basis as many students and as many people as I can from the W&L family and I will always treasure those relationships."

"I will also miss the sense of civility among our students. At least in daylight," said Manning. "I will miss least going to bed every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night worrying about students."

Manning is renowned for his ability to remember the names of almost all the students at W&L. "I have only met the guy once, and he knew my name," sophomore Jessica Helm said. "It was really scary."

Dean of Students David Howison will chair the committee that will search for Manning's replacement. The position of Dean of the Freshman Program will be advertised in next week's Chronicle of Higher Education.

"I'm delighted for Dennis and his family," said Howison. "On the other hand, it's sad to lose an invaluable member of the Washington and Lee Community."

"This has to be one of the most interesting and appealing opportunities in American higher education," Manning said. "I am guessing there will be hundreds of applicants. I think they will have no trouble finding someone superior to me."

Howison said that Manning's successor might not be able to start work before August. If so, Howison would have to work with Manning before his departure and then with the successor, to ease the transition. "We have to move efficiently but not rush this because we want to find just the right person," he said.

Manning's new job will start on July 1. "The month of June for me is going to be given over to moving my entire family, selling two cars and a house and somehow picking up lock, stock and barrel and moving 4,000 miles away. It's a daunting, daunting prospect," he said.

"I'm so sad; he's my favorite person," said freshman Sarah Riggs. "I think it's a great opportunity for him, but we'll miss him round here."

## Keep course registration off the computers

It seems as though everyone has gone crazy for computers. The Internet is flooded with web pages authored by hordes of 'net enthusiasts. The frenzy over Microsoft has turned Bill Gates, the least likely of heroes, into a celebrity. And even my grandmother sends e-mail.

**Red Brick Row**  
David Balsley '99

With this excitement has come a drive to adapt more and more tasks to computers. They now perform jobs that would have seemed foreign to them just a few years ago. They have replaced cashiers at supermarkets that offer self-checkout lines. They help your younger brothers and sisters research science reports. In the future, computers will assume even more responsibilities.

The excitement for computers seems to have caught on at the Registrar's Office. A new, friendlier, more functional online course listing accompanied last week's spring term registration. I received my course listing for this semester via e-mail. The Registrar's Office seems to be moving towards an increased use of computers, possibly culminating in a system which would allow on-line course registration.

Computers are useful. It is possible, however, to push them too far, to try to use them to perform a variety of tasks that is too wide, so that they become a hindrance, not a help.

Consider the possibility of publishing books via the web or compact discs. A book has several advantages over its electronic counterpart: it's more portable than a computer, easier to use, and more efficient than any electronic browser. A book is a good example of something that can be implemented on a computer, but whose implementation is less helpful than the tangible object.

The same may be true of the Registrar's Office. Incorporating computers and online offerings into the office's services may make these services less helpful than they would be without computers.

Online registration provides another example. It may be easier to get to the Registrar's Office than to find an available computer in a public lab. Filling in a registration form may be easier than selecting options from web pages. Asking a secretary to sign a registration sheet may be easier than manipulating a program to get permission for a course.

The current means of registering for courses also offers more security than online registration. When you sign up for courses now, you have a written record of which courses you will take next semester — a sort of guarantee that you have what you need.

Online registration, however, provides more room for error. Trusting your course registration to a series of wires and switches increases the chances that something will go wrong, that somewhere in the network your classes will get lost. The consequences of such a loss could mean the difference between graduating on time and staying for a fifth year.

Like an electronic book, a Virtual Registrar's Office could be less useful than the genuine article.

As the Registrar's Office progresses towards increased use of computers, I hope that they will be careful to offer more electronic services only if those services represent an improvement over how the office currently works. Computers can be useful, but pushing them too far could make future course registrations a virtual hell.

## The Ring-tum Phi

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## A new event for the Winter Olympics

Announcer 1: Good evening, and welcome back to Nagano for our continuing coverage of the 1998 Nielsen Ratings. Uh, I mean the Winter Olympics.

Announcer 2: Tonight we've got an interesting event. This event is as stepped in Greek history as the Olympic games themselves, only this event appeals to a different kind of Greek. Yes, it's the always controversial men's freestyle chug.

**The Looney Bin**  
Kevin McManemin '00

Announcer 1: First up is Dan Irongut of the United States. Now Dan is a seasoned drinker who spent six years in a fraternity before turning pro. This is Dan's first non-special Olympics. Dan will be competing in the freestyle chug event — that means that the judges are not only looking at time, but they'll be focusing on the artistic aspects of his program as well as sheer drinking ability. But first, a cheesy video over-sentimentally portraying Dan as a true American hero. *<cue corny music>*

*Narrator: Dan Irongut is a true American hero. When he's not training for the Olympics, he's here, at the Community Resource Center in Tempe, Ari-*

*zona, reading books to underprivileged rodents. Dan: I do it for the animals, I do it for the future, but I mostly do it as part of my plea bargain. It counts as community service.*

Announcer 1: Boy, that Dan is sure a true American hero. And now, Dan is stepping up to the keg. There's the starter pistol ... and he's off! He's tossed away his cup and is drinking straight from the tap! A bold choice.

Announcer 2: Very bold. Reminiscent of Johnson in '88. And he's still drinking ... drinking ... ooh, he has to stop for a second to breathe. That's going to cost him.

Announcer 1: But he's back! Dan is quite a competitor. You know, he's trained hard to get here. He's done a strict physical regiment of 100 push-ups, 200 sit-ups, and 20 shots of Everclear every day for the past month.

Announcer 2: That stuff cleans you out faster than a divorce. Dan has truly ingested an epic amount of alcohol tonight. He's going for the silver, he's going for the gold! No, wait, he's going for the porcelain.

Announcer 1: Now the judges will be looking at his form in this puke. His neck is arched, his shoulders are relaxed, and he seems to getting it all inside the bowl. First-rate puking. And now ... oh my God, he's going back to the keg! What a competitor!

Announcer 2: Eye of the tiger, heart of a champion, liver of a Rolling Stone.

Announcer 1: Dan is back up and ... oh dear, he appears to have gone blind! He's groping around like Bill Clinton in a "Hooters." He's tripped over the keg. The flip — the roll — the triple lutz — flawlessly executed! The crowd is going wild as Dan falls on his face. What a showman!

Announcer 2: I haven't seen anyone this out of it since we covered snowboarding. And ... yes! His heart has stopped. That signals the end of his routine.

Announcer 1: Scores are rolling in. He got a 4.7 from the Irish judge, a 5.8 from the German judge, a 5.2 from the Anheiser Busch judge, and a 4.6 on the breathalyzer.

Announcer 2: The scores are high, and so is he. Excellent round.

Announcer 1: Yes, he will definitely be in contention for a medal, if not a stomach pump. Well next up is Sergei Smirnoff of one of those little hard-to-pronounce countries that used to be part of the Soviet Union.

Announcer 2: Sergei is a very tough competitor. He's been drinking vodka professionally for 27 years.

Announcer 1: Quite a feat for this plucky plucky 26-year-old. Sergei trained under Boris Yeltsin himself. First let's cut away for the true spirit of the Olympics — commercials.

## Letters to the Ring-tum Phi

### Connotation of headline disputed

To the editors:

Having read your front-page report about me in yesterday's paper, I now know what it is like to have journalism done to me.

Your headline, "Hodges quits office," like your first paragraph, "he is quitting his campus office," and "He will work from home from now on," are wrong. I am not moving out of my office. As your article correctly stated, despite the sensational headline, the office will remain open.

Like almost all of our faculty, I have long worked both at home and on campus. What I am now doing, because the President has banned smoking in my office, is to shift everything I reasonably can to my office at home. I shall do more of my research, writing, and grading in the home office — whatever I can do more efficiently there.

The general tenor of your story makes me appear to be deserting students and shirking my professional duty to be accessible. Neither is true, of course. I can be reached by phone, by e-mail, and through Mrs. Murchison, whose hours are 8:00 — 12:00.

As I stated in the Wednesday conference with Dr. Artwick's class and a few reporters, one among the many excellent teaching practices at Washington and Lee is that faculty are available to students in their offices. For 38 years I have viewed that practice as a "tradition," as President Elrod called it, but as more than tradition: it is a duty and obligation of all responsible teachers. I shall continue to meet that obligation, which I have welcomed over many years.

Sincerely,  
Louis W. Hodges

### Wheeler commends rape article

To the editors:

I'd like to thank Jason Zacher, Hollister Hovey, Tarah Grant, the *Ring-tum Phi*, and, most of all, the women who gave such frank and moving testimony in the special report of February 2nd, "Campus Rape." Sexual assault has caused persistent academic and personal problems for many women I have taught and known, here and elsewhere; victims too often suffer in humiliated silence, cut off from the help they need and support they deserve. We need to change the campus culture which tolerates rape, and pieces such as this one are an encouraging start.

Sincerely,  
Lesley Wheeler  
Asst. Professor of English

### Morning-after pill debated

To the Editors:

In your Jan. 26, 1998 issue of the *Ring-tum Phi*, I was appalled to read the article "The Morning-After Pill." This article promotes chemical altering as a healthy, less embarrassing response to pregnancy. The morning-after pill is a form of abortion. Pregnancy is the natural biological response to sexual intercourse and results in a new life.

As journalists, are you willing to provide information on alternatives through your publication? There are many resources for women for support and care through an unanticipated pregnancy. Being a student and being pregnant does not mean the end of pursuing an education. To end a life through an abortion procedure is truly not a choice, but an act of hopelessness or of panic.

Sincerely,  
Madge L.K. Head

### Morning-after pill is "chemical warfare"

Dear President Elrod,

It is with great sadness that I find it necessary to write you this letter, but I have no other alternative given the fact that the University continues to publicize and promote the use of abortifacients by the student body. I refer of course to the article on "The Morning-After Pill" in the Jan. 26, 1998 issue of the *Ring-tum Phi*.

The article contains several outright lies, the first sentence being the most egregious. It says, "The best way to prevent unwanted pregnancy is the consistent

## 15 Minutes of Shame



use of a contraceptive before sex..." The last time I checked, abstinence was 100 percent effective at preventing unwanted pregnancies while the most effective contraceptive / abortifacient was only about 97 percent effective.

Another falsehood that is present throughout the article is the identification of this treatment as a contraceptive rather than as an abortifacient. I know that Dr. Horton and others will continue to play word games in an attempt to cover up the reality of what is going on. They will say that there is no pregnancy prior to the implantation of the fertilized ovum in the uterine wall and that therefore the woman has not conceived. This sort of activity simply attempts to dodge the real issue. At what point is human life present? The only honest answer is at conception. The fertilized ovum is undoubtedly alive (i.e. not dead) and it is also undoubtedly human (it can be distinguished from all other species, it is not a goat, donkey, whale, etc.). The conceptus is both alive and human. The morning-after pill is chemical warfare against this tiny human life.

Some of the terms used in the article would be laughably ridiculous if the matter were not so serious. On the front page next to a picture of birth control pills, the caption reads: "The Morning-after pill: When disaster strikes, your best last hope is close at hand..." Why is pregnancy a disaster? Pregnancy is the natural response of the female body to sexual intercourse. Since when is a healthy body, acting in the way it's supposed to, as disaster? Liking pregnancy to a flood, hurricane or tornado is dishonest and demeaning of the real beauty of human sexuality. I hope you and the students at the University do not consider your existence the result of a "disaster." Calling pregnancy a disaster is simply a transparent attempt to shift the responsibility away from oneself by pretending that one has no control by pretending that one has no control over whether pregnancy occurs.

Equally as ludicrous is Dr. Horton calling this "a wonderful addition to help women with their health needs." Since when is interfering with the normal functioning of the human body by administering a high dose of hormones a "health need"? Indeed the article admits that this treatment is not healthy because it is not safe to be used on a routine basis.

But the crowning irony is that students learn about this pill as part of the *LIFE* program, read about it in the *w&life* section of the newspaper and have it administered by the *Health Services*. This pill does not bring life and health, but death.

As a priest and citizen of Lexington, I ask you to take the first step toward the restoration of respect for human life at the University by banning this so-called treatment.

Sincerely yours,  
Rev. N. Alan Lipscomb

## Remember to vote today in the "Big Five" election.

Polling places will be open:

Co-op: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Library: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Polling can be completed at the dining hall during regular lunch and dinner hours, and there will also be a polling place in the law school.

Vote for Executive Committee President and Vice-President. The other three spots are unopposed.

## Quote of the week:

Dear God, what will we do without Big Brother?

— anonymous freshman on Dean Manning's announcement

## Correction

The *Ring-tum Phi* incorrectly identified two people in the picture on page one on Feb. 9. The two people were not Jason Nichols and Kelly Stewart dressed as Wendy and Peter Pan, but actually Meredith Mlynar and Charles Faulkner dressed as cave people. We apologize for any inconvenience this might have caused.

**A&F**  
QUARTERLY

ON SPRING BREAK  
LOOKING FOR LOVE

The A&F Quarterly/Spring Issue now available at [www.aandf.com](http://www.aandf.com), Fitch stores or to order call 1-800-451-4511  
Visit our website at [www.aandf.com](http://www.aandf.com)

## RESULTS

## Men's Lacrosse (2-0)

Wed.: W&L 23  
Guilford 1

Sat.: Va. Wesleyan 9  
W&L 21

## Women's Lacrosse (0-0)

At the South of the Border Tournament in Durham/Chapel Hill, N.C.  
Season opener Wednesday at home against Guilford.

## Baseball (1-3)

Thu.: Shenandoah 3  
W&L 7

## Men's Tennis (1-1)

Sat.: Methodist 2  
W&L 5

## Women's Tennis (0-2)

Fri.: JMU 8  
W&L 1

Sat.: Stetson 7  
W&L 2

## Women's Swimming (8-6)

Placed first of 15 teams at ODAC/Atlantic States championships

## Men's Track

Finished second at ODAC championships

## Women's Track

Finished fourth at ODAC championships

## Women's Basketball (12-13)

Thu.: W&L 49  
Rand. Macon 78  
End of Season

## AHEAD

## Monday

Baseball —  
West Virginia Tech  
3:00 p.m., Smith Field

## Wednesday

Women's Lacrosse —  
Guilford  
4:00 p.m., Liberty Hall Fields

Men's Lacrosse —  
at Lynchburg, 3:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis —  
Guilford,  
3:00 p.m. Upper Courts

Women's Tennis —  
R-MWC, 3:30 p.m.  
Lower Courts  
at Hollins, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday  
Baseball —  
Bridgewater  
3:00 p.m., Smith Field

Saturday  
Women's Lacrosse —  
Denison,  
2:00 p.m. Liberty Hall Fields

Sunday  
Men's Lacrosse —  
Courtland State  
2:00 p.m. Wilson Field

March 12-14  
Women's Swimming —  
at NCAA Div. III  
Championships

March 19-21  
Men's Swimming —  
at NCAA Div. III  
Championships

## Men's lacrosse drops first two opponents

By BRENDAN HARRINGTON  
STAFF WRITER

For some reason the men's lacrosse team didn't want to score first in either of their first two games this season. But once they did score, they ran away with both games and outscored Guilford and Virginia Wesleyan by a combined score of 44-10.

"We got off to a slow start in both of those games," said senior tri-captain Chip Thompson. "But once we got going, we really showed how strong our offense was."

On Wednesday afternoon the Generals kicked off their season at Guilford with a 23-1 trouncing of the Quakers. The Quakers scored the first goal of the game before W&L went on to score the next 23 goals and shut out Guilford for the rest of the game. The W&L freshmen combined to score 14 of the Generals' 23 goals as attackman Matt Dugan led the team with six points on three goals and three assists. Classmates Ben Lucas, Pope Hackney, and Tom Burke each added three goals in the winning effort.

Sophomore goalie Dan Grattan made the first start of his career; he picked up three saves and only gave up one goal. Senior Scott Jackson and

freshman Wes Hays held Guilford scoreless in the second half.

On Saturday the Generals once again gave up the first goal and this time found themselves trailing 6-3 to Virginia Wesleyan early in the second quarter. The Generals went on an 11-0 run, however, to put them well on their way to a 21-9 win over the Marlins. Virginia Wesleyan went scoreless for over 21 minutes as after leading 6-3 in the second quarter as they did not score again until the end of the third quarter.

The Dougherty boys, Ed and Colin, each added five goals for the Generals while freshman Matt Dugan had two goals and three assists and senior Paul Stanley had three goals.

For the Marlins, junior Scott Chandler led the way with three goals and two assists and senior Tom Lewis added two goals and three assists in the losing effort. The win improved the Generals to 2-0 overall and 2-0 in the ODAC while the loss dropped the Marlins to 0-1 overall and 0-1 in the ODAC.

The Generals travel to Lynchburg on Wednesday afternoon as they take on the Hornets in a key ODAC battle and then host Cortland State on Sunday afternoon at Wilson field.

## Interested in sports?

Want to write about the W&L sports scene in the *Phi*?  
*The Ring-tum Phi* is looking for sports writers.  
Call x4060 for more information.

## Spring sports look to make their mark nationally

## Men's Lacrosse

Their is only one thing the 1998 Washington & Lee men's lacrosse team has on its mind: making a trip to the 1998 NCAA Lacrosse Championships, a goal which barely eluded last year's team despite a very successful 11-3 record. The Generals were ranked as high as No. 3 in the nation last year before a pair of losses late in the season kept them from competing in the NCAA tournament.

This year the tournament field has been expanded from eight teams to 12, which means the Generals, who start this season ranked No. 11 in Division III, will have an excellent shot at qualifying for the NCAA tournament. Coach Jim Stagnitta, however, downplays the expanded field.

"It's still going to be every bit as competitive," commented Stagnitta. "We're not going to aspire to be one of those final four teams that qualify."

The Generals return a core of players from last season and add a talented group of young freshman whose impact should be immediately felt.

"The freshman class is phenomenal, the best class I've seen in my four years at W&L," said senior tri-captain Chip Thompson. "Our senior class is really united. Overall the team

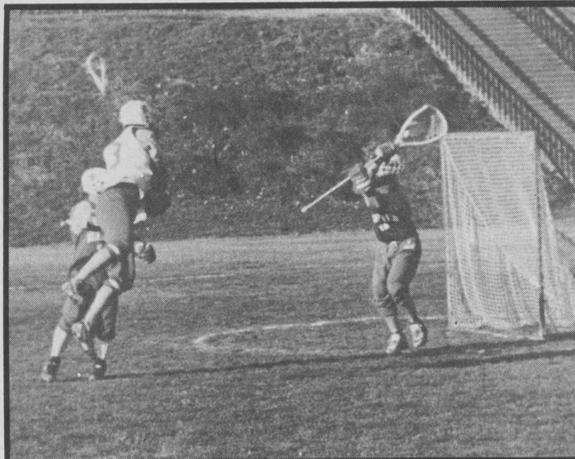


PHOTO BY HOLLISTER HOVEY / PHOTO EDITOR

The men's lacrosse team was flying high during practice this week. Ranked eleventh in the preseason, the Generals hope to make a strong NCAA run this season.

chemistry is just great."

Along with Thompson, midfielders Robb Greenfield and Paul Stanley will also serve as captains for the Generals. Also returning for the Generals is midfielder Ed Dougherty, who received honorable mention All-America honors last season. The Generals will miss the presence of Ande Jenkins, who

was a first team All-American last year.

The Generals' defense will be the biggest question mark in the upcoming season, since the Generals lost their three starting close defensemen to graduation.

"The key for us is to maintain a level of play throughout the season," said Stagnitta.

## Women's Lacrosse

The women's lacrosse team finished their pre-season against mostly Division I foes this past weekend. They finished 4-5 for the weekend.

The Generals are looking to capture the elusive ODAC title this year. They last won the title in 1993, the same year they earned an NCAA tournament berth. Despite finishing eighth in the final NCAA poll last season, the team was locked out of an NCAA berth because of ODAC rival Roanoke College. This year, the NCAA tournament has been expanded to 12 teams, with both W&L and Roanoke picked to represent the ODAC. W&L returns ten starters from last season's 12-4 team.

Like the men's lacrosse team, the women started off with an impressive 10-1 mark before losing three of their last five games. Two of the losses were at the hands of Roanoke, including an 8-7 heartbreaker in the ODAC final.

Leading the Generals will be seniors Mary Jo Mahoney and Whitney Parker, both pre-season All-America selections. Parker will anchor the defense while Mahoney will join senior captain Lorraine Taurassi up front. Taurassi is currently ranked seventh on the all-time W&L scoring list.

"We have a lot of returning players, so we know we will be strong this season," Taurassi said. "The tournament went really well. Things were really clicking."

Coach Jan Hathorn is looking for her ninth straight winning season at W&L.

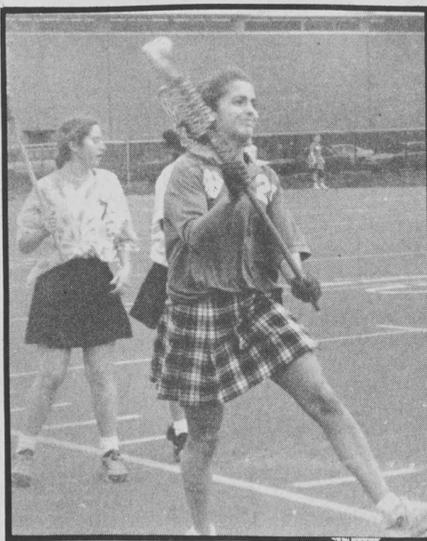


PHOTO BY JASON ZACHER / EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
Senior Lorraine Taurassi makes a pass under pressure against the University of Texas.

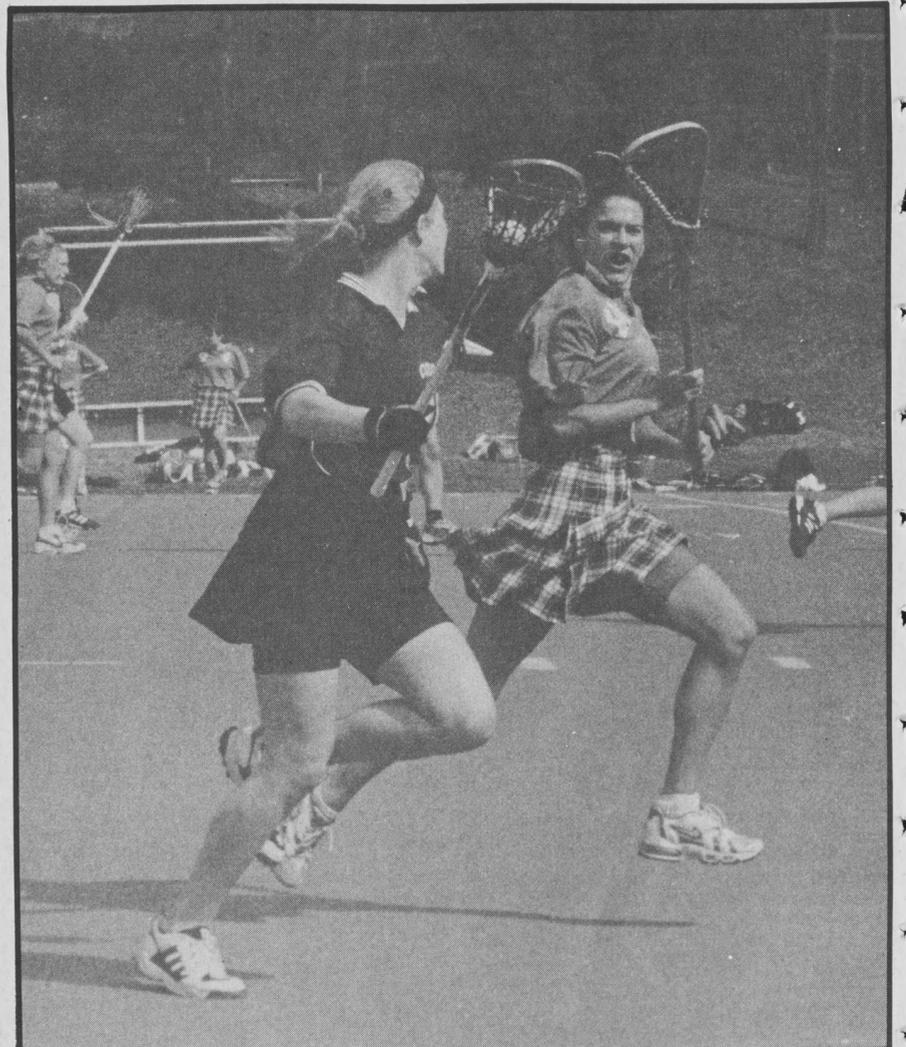


PHOTO BY JASON ZACHER / EXECUTIVE EDITOR

GETTING BACK ON DEFENSE, senior All-American Mary Jo Mahoney hunts down a Colgate attacker in Saturday's 9-1 jamboree loss. The Generals were in action this past weekend at Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill in the South of the Border Tournament.

## Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team plans on making it to NCAA Tournament again this year. They finished fourth last year in the championships and second the year before that. This year, they are ranked fourth in the preseason.

"We're pretty confident," said sophomore Erin Eggers. "We did really well in the fall."

The team mourned the loss of senior Natalia Garcia, a highly-ranked national player.

"She was a valuable member of the team," Eggers said. "I think it was important for her to concentrate on her education major. But we can't dwell

on the fact that she's gone."

This weekend, the team played James Madison University and Stetson College, both Division I teams. The Generals lost to JMU 6-1 and lost to Stetson 7-2.

"I think that we went into it knowing they were very strong teams," Eggers said. "We thought of it as good practice. As a whole, we played well."

Eggers said that the strong freshman players make up for the three top six players the team lost last year.

Their schedule remains strong, with games against nationally ranked Kenyon College and Emory University.

## Men's Tennis

The Washington and Lee Men's Tennis team is entering this season ranked 18th nationally.

The team now has a one and one record losing to Division I Radford University. "They are looking good," Coach Gary Franke said.

Junior Dave Pretilla is playing in the number one spot, and is currently ranked 18th in the nation. He is paired with Freshman Chris Haun to form the Generals' top doubles team. The doubles team of Pretilla and Haun are 15th in the national rankings.

Haun is the number two singles player for the Generals this season. Jun-

ior Scott Babka is in the number three spot with senior Glenn Miller, freshman Kelly Radford and junior David Lehman rounding out the top six.

Babka and Radford form the second seeded doubles pair while Miller and Junior Thomas Washburn form the number three doubles team.

Coach Franke says the season has gotten off to a good start, and he will watch the team in the next three to four weeks as they enter conference play.

"The team is not as experienced as last year, but we are just as good. The guys have good strokes and are fundamentally sound," Pretilla said.

## Baseball

Washington and Lee baseball will be returning eight regular starters in all eight fielding positions and will lose only one after this season. The Generals hope to make up for a disappointing season last year, and are looking forward to a rebuilding season for the team. Coach Jeff Sticklely says the process is "a two to three year deal. To keep building is the key."

The pitching staff includes eight who will be here for at least two more years. Junior Bob Weston will be the starting pitcher. Last year, Weston ties for second most single season wins in the history of the team with six. He leads the team with eleven starts and is expected to do so again this year.

This year's number two pitcher is sophomore Chris Stakem. The left-hander adds depth to the Generals pitching. Stakem has a .357 batting

average and started all 29 games during the 1997 season.

Juniors Chad Reynolds and Al Dominick add experience to the young pitching team that includes sophomore Kevin Senson and freshmen Will Ogilvie, David Sigler and Bill Christ.

Sophomore Christian Batcheller will lead the outfield playing right field. Batcheller had a .490 batting record while breaking W&L records with nine home runs and 45 RBIs.

Coach Sticklely said "our team should compete in the ODAC. We have to improve on defense. Experience will play into improving the defense. Hopefully our offense will stay the same."

Last year's offense hit .332 as a team, with 28 home runs and 208 runs scored in 29 games. The team's performance is expected to be present again in 1998.



Ball theme revealed, prepare for a:

## Rhapsody in blue and white

BY LIZ DETTER

W&L LIFE EDITOR

Waiting for the library elevator on the Thursday before Washington Holiday, two Washington and Lee students turned to each other in confusion. "What were those strange eyes copied onto a white page and tacked to the bulletin board all about? Was it a cryptic reminder about the Honor System as the midterm crunch hit?"

The eyes were everywhere, but it wasn't the Executive Committee that was responsible. The eyes were a hint from the Fancy Dress Steering Committee about this year's FD theme: "Anything Goes: Flappers, Flight and Jazz All Night."

"I knew people were going to think it was an E.C. plot," said FD Publicity Chairman Sarah Rector.

Every year, the FD Steering Committee puts up posters and signs before February Break to raise excitement about the Ball. Junior Susannah Carr drew inspiration for her rendition of these eyes from the eyes of Dr. T. J. Eckleberg, a famous literary symbol from F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic story of the good life in the 1920s. Along with several other hints, the posters were intended to give clues to the theme of this year's FD Ball.

"The eyes are a play on the Great Gatsby," said Rector. "In the book, the eyes look over the town, so we thought they were appropriate."

Rector also posted signs that read "You're Wright," evoking the popularity of airplanes in the 1920s. Earlier in Winter Term, students may have noticed signs that read, "The

Great Bambino." That was the nickname of Babe Ruth, legendary baseball figure of the '20s.

Once students returned from Winter Break, they received FD invitations in the mail that unveiled the theme of the Ball. This year's choice of the 1920s marks a departure from the themes of the past few years.

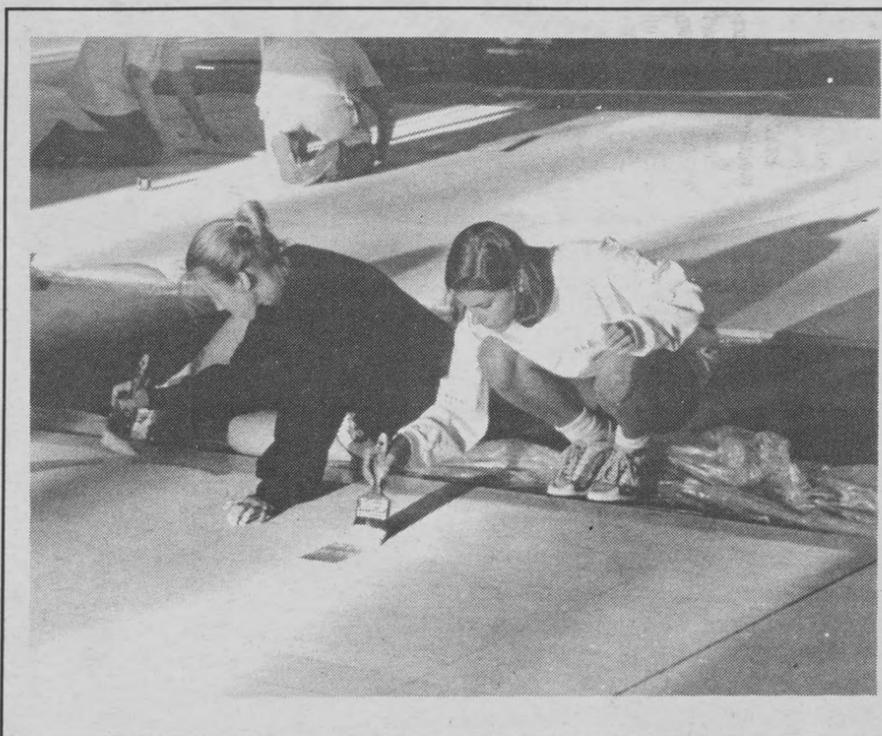
"I'm very excited," said Rector. "I think it's going to be elegant and a lot of fun. The theme is getting back to reality — it's not Alice in Wonderland. It's not a circus. It's more real."

The 1920s is a theme idea that is submitted every year, said FD Chairman Jennifer Justema. In years past, 1920s' themes have included "A Tribute to the Silent Screen" and "Gatsby's Gala," but this year's theme aims to incorporate several aspects of the decade at once.

"It was the feeling of the decade that appealed — the glamor — obviously FD is a glamorous affair for us," said Justema. "The whole idea of decadence and danger was a good idea for a black tie event."

"Think of the old days when FD was the social event of the South, when people use to come into Lexington by the train-load for the Ball," said Christine Bragg, one of the decoration planners. "We're trying to get back to that instead of the \$80,000 prom."

So throw on a beaded dress or some spats, practice the Charleston, and get jazzed for Friday night when flappers fly into town for the social event of the season.



### BRUSH ON, BRUSH OFF

Senior Mary Michael Pettyjohn and Junior Ashley Smith work on Fancy Dress Decorations. FD workers earn free tickets and a memorabilia package for one for 25 hours of work.

Construction started before February break and will most likely continue until the eve of the ball.

HOLLISTER HOVEY/  
PHOTO EDITOR

## Decorations hit home run

BY ANDREA EWING

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

It is all in the details. This is perhaps the most true for events like the annual Fancy Dress ball at Washington and Lee University.

This year's decorations may not be the whimsical tents of a circus or the large mushroom of Alice's caterpillar, but they will transform the Warner Center and Doremus Gym into a night that might have taken place 75 years ago.

The decorations for the 91st annual Fancy Dress ball are meant to carry the W&L community into another age — a time of "Anything Goes: Flappers, Flight and Jazz All Night." According to Decorations Chairman Jenny Stone, the outside entrance was designed to look like a Broadway Marquis.

The hall between the Warner Center and Doremus Gymnasium will be carpeted in red carpet, and there will be a grand piano in the entrance hall.

"I think it will look really elegant and impressive this year," Stone said.

Doremus will be decorated in a "Great Gatsby" mood. The gym where liquid Pleasure will play is meant to capture the garden party atmosphere of the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

A large white tent with white drapes and streams of white lights will surround a working fountain. Silhouette shadows will surround the tent.

The large gym will be a 1920s night scene with different buildings guests can look inside. There will be a bar, a hotel, and even a gangster scene with a shot-out car.

"This year is really impressive, because it involves a lot of actual building," FD Steering Committee Chairman Jennifer Justema said.

On the balcony a speakeasy with a bar will be set up.

This will be lit with reddish

lighting to give the area a surreal kind of atmosphere

Perhaps the biggest difference this year from the last two years is the approach the whole committee is taking.

"This (theme) allowed us to do something more glamorous ... the others were fun and colorful," Justema said. "This one is sophisticated ... it was a nice change."

Justema feels the decorations will speak for themselves, "Everything is done on a grand scale this year. There isn't one specific thing that stands out. There is an overall continuity ... It is very much one big set. I am looking forward to the whole thing ... I can't wait to see it finished with all the details."

Students will work on the decorations in the Pavilion and then move them into the Warner Center and Doremus before the event. But, the real magic comes when everyone is dressed up and the music plays.

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# Take plunge, bring flapper

BY JASON ZACHER  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

For many Washington and Lee students, the search for a Fancy Dress date can be as simple as calling a girlfriend or boyfriend, or as random as figuring out who they woke up with last Sunday morning.

Some students have it easy. If they are in a relationship, the search for an FD date starts and ends with their "significant other."

"He's a built-in date," said sophomore Kelly Sewell of her boyfriend Louie Stryker. "It is one of the perks of a serious relationship."

Senior Ericka Shapard's search for a date took her to her boyfriend, senior Nick Hodge.

"It was easy," Shapard said. "I've been dating the same guy for three years."

Another issue many W&L students contemplate is whether to stick with another W&L student for a date or import from a road school or home.

"The past two years, I've imported a date from home," said

Junior Travis Winfrey. "This year, I'm sticking with a W&L student."

Senior Steve Komonynsky, who prefers W&L women for dates, may have to head to the old W&L dating grounds — the local girls' schools.

"I'm going to call her today," he said. "If she's taken, I will seize on a girl from down the road."

While some students, including Winfrey and Komonynsky, simply pick up the phone to find a date, some guys, like one potential date for Shapard three years ago, go to great lengths.

"Freshman year, I had a boy come into a midterm I was taking," Shapard said. "He told me he needed to talk to me, mid-test, mind you, pulled me out into the hall and asked me to FD. It was very strange! I bombed my midterm and we did not go together."

No matter what approach you take, some seniors give this advice for those having trouble finding a date for this year's Fancy Dress.



1. Go out on a limb. Ask that person you've had a crush on.

2. Ask a friend to go before you ask that random hook-up victim. You just might have fun.

3. For W&L women, Virginia Military Institute boys are always an option. Pro — men in uniform, always a good thing. Con — they have to be home by 1 am. For W&L men, it's about time they start bringing VMI women to FD. Pro — women in uniform. Con — bald women don't make for good party pics.

4. Pick up a random townie at Spanky's, the Palms or the ever-popular Taco Bell.

5. RCHS is only a short drive away.

# Working down to the wire

BY WILL HARDIE  
NEWS EDITOR

Although the mammoth organizational operation behind this year's Fancy Dress ball has taken dedication, commitment, blood, sweat and tears by the bucket-load, many of those who have toiled away think it's worthwhile.

Around 100 students applied in September for places on the Steering Committee, responsible for organizing all aspects of the ball. About half were accepted.

"We were looking for people with some experience, some skills and some ideas," said FD Committee Chairman Jen Justema.

Justema, with the help of the vice-chairman and auditor, chose sub-chairs for decorations, construction, publicity, memorabilia, invitations and the playbill.

This year's ball will cost between \$60,000 and \$70,000, all of which will be paid for by ticket and memorabilia sales.

For their pains, committee members will receive two ball tickets and a package of memorabilia. The 40

student contract workers hired to help put the finishing touches will each get two tickets and half the memorabilia package.

As well as that reward, Justema said a lot of committee members had fun putting it all together.

"It's nice because there's a real variety of the student body," Justema said. "There are people from every class and it's a good chance for different classes to get together."

Vice-chairman Mary Michael Pettyjohn agrees.

"It's been great just because it's such a diverse group," she said. "We have people from every sorority. And we've even had a couple of boys. We've all worked well together."

There have been no major hitches.

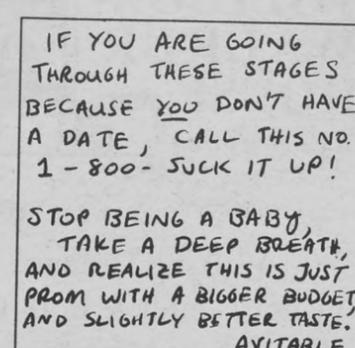
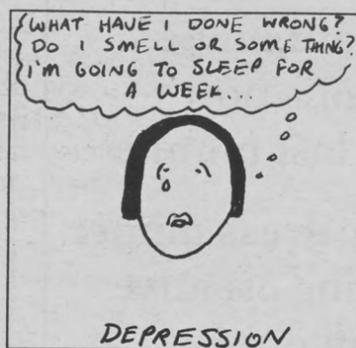
"It's gone pretty smoothly, and it's been relatively stress-free," Justema said. "Hopefully we can finish it all up within the week and put on a good ball."

Students can purchase two tickets to the ball for \$53, or two tickets and a memorabilia package for \$88. The sale starts Monday in the Uni-

versity Center.

"Everybody seems very dedicated," Pettyjohn said. "It's really fun. I'd much rather be in the pavilion than in the classroom."

## The five stages of the FD date experience



# Avoid jail bait, Swensen says

BY ERIC SWENSON  
STAFF WRITER

Out of all the staff columnists, I was the lucky one chosen to write the column on Fancy Dress. I'm sure I was chosen because my editor has faith that I will turn out a column on FD that will warm your heart and tickle your funny bone. More likely than that, she was throwing darts at pictures of her columnists while trying to decide who to pick and happened to hit me right between the eyes. Anyway ...

People often stop me in the street the week before FD and ask, "Eric, oh wise one, I don't yet have a date for Fancy Dress weekend. What-ever shall I do?" (OK, so no one talks like this, and no one stops me in the street to ask me questions. It's a column. Work with me a little bit.)

My first response is usually, "Have you trolled the parking lot at Rockbridge County High School yet?"

Most people laugh, like I'm joking. Then they realize I'm serious and begin to panic. They ask almost pleadingly, "Is there nowhere else I can turn?"

Of course there is. You can turn to the bottom rung on the date weekend totem pole — the blind date. Suddenly, RCHS looks much more attractive. But wait just a minute. Blind dates can work out beautifully. Here's a true story from which the dateless and the desperate can draw

some inspiration.

Back when we were both freshmen, a good friend of mine (who will remain nameless in case he doesn't want the entire campus to know this story) was set up on a blind date with a young woman for a formal at, shall we say, another nearby institution of higher learning (a.k.a. a road school). My friend had a reputation back then for being, well, a bit of a booze hound, and the guy who set him up did so expecting my friend would pass out, leaving his blind date ripe for the taking. My friend found out about this little scheme. Mainly out of spite, he stayed semi-sober the entire weekend. He ended up really hitting it off with his date, who turned out to be a knockout. They fell in love and began dating. The first date function they went to as a couple was FD. This year, they'll be going to their fourth FD together.

So what is the moral of this story? Blind dates can work out better than your wildest dreams. Of course, the chances of that happening to you are about as likely as getting struck by lightning and winning the lottery in the same week.

After all, blind dates are the ultimate crapshoot, sort of like leaving your car parked on the streets of Lexington for more than two hours.

Then again, if you're not willing to take that risk, the lovely men and women of RCHS are but a short drive away.

## 'Kiss Off' Thursday night

BY HEATHER McDONALD  
NEWS EDITOR

Thursday night, the Pavilion will burn like a blister in the sun. This year, the SAB contrasts new and established musicians with blues guitarist Corey Harris for the opening act and the ever-popular Violent Femmes for the 1998 Fancy Dress concert.

Many have asked, "Who is Corey Harris?" Corey Harris is a young, up-and-coming blues guitarist that some have compared to a young B. B. King.

Harris released his debut Compact disc, *Between Midnight and Day*, in 1995 on the Alligator Records label after being discovered in New Orleans. His follow-

up, "Fish Ain't Bitin'", was critically acclaimed. Rolling Stone magazine said that with his "country-blues acoustic guitar style and soulful voice, Harris recalls old blues masters." However, Harris attributes some of his influences to African drumming styles he heard while studying linguistics in West Africa.

The Violent Femmes, originally from Milwaukee, had their first release on the Slash label, way back in 1982.

Their most popular song, "Blister in the Sun," was first released on this album, along with "Kiss Off," "Add It Up," and "Gone Daddy Gone." Since then, the Femmes have released 11 CDs.

They finished recording a twelfth CD in January. The release date is unknown. The Femmes were popularized recently for their re-release of "Blister in the Sun" for the "Grosse Pointe Blanke soundtrack."

Gordan Gano, the lead singer and composer, writes lyrics that are personal and powerful.

If you can't get enough of the Femmes and don't have a date for FD, drive on up to Washington, D.C. on Friday night. The Femmes will be playing at the 9:30 Club.

The concert begins at 9 p.m. The show may sell out, so purchase tickets in advance. Tickets are \$10 for students (\$12 at the door) and \$16 for non-students.

### In Concert



In 1982, a band came out of Milwaukee not with a whimper, but with a bang. The Violent Femmes had appeared, and with the group came a multi-platinum album full of songs of frustration and rage. Still together to-

### Violent Femmes

day, they have changed only a little from their early sound and style.

The group is made up of surprisingly normal people. Gordon Gano, the lead singer and composer, is a practicing Christian and responsible for the religious-sounding songs the band performs. Bassist Brian Richie is an atheist who puts up with the sometimes-Christian slant of things.

Drummer Guy Hoffman replaced Victor De Lorenzo, the former drummer for the group, in 1993. Now, the three-man band is riding the wave of their "come-back," after a lull of success in the 1980s.

*Courtesy of Erica Prosser/ FD Playbill*

### Small Gym



*Courtesy of Erica Prosser/ FD Playbill*

### Liquid Pleasure

Liquid Pleasure will be the featured band in the small gym at Fancy Dress 1998.

In an industry where the average life of a band is about five years, Liquid Pleasure has set a new standard. As they enter their 20th year, they have firmly established themselves as the area's premiere show and dance band.

Three out of the six present musicians who make up Liquid Pleasure are original members. This type of consistency combined with exceptional talent sets Liquid Pleasure apart from the rest.

Over the years, the band has appeared with such notable artists as Paula Abdul, The Temptations, Whitney Houston, The Four Tops and Aretha Franklin.

### Bo Thorpe

The Bo Thorpe Orchestra will be the featured band in the big gym for Fancy Dress 1998.

Every now and then something truly unique comes along in the world of music. One of these is The Bo Thorpe Orchestra. This is a band that has this generation of Americans dancing again.

*Courtesy of Erica Prosser/FD Playbill*

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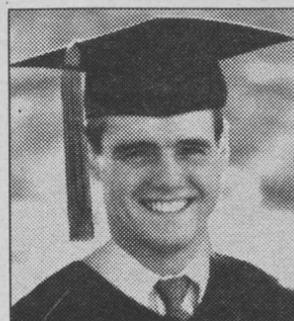


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After constraints of the twenties, W&L is ...

# Speakin' easy

BY KATHRYN MAYURNIK  
MANAGING EDITOR

Some would think that Washington and Lee students had enough of Prohibition in the 1920s. Apparently not.

Sigma Nu is holding a "speak easy," a party that will mirror a 1920s club during Prohibition. The location is secret, and the guest list is exclusive. If you don't know the secret password, you'll be spending Wednesday night watching Beverly Hills 90210.

All music at the party will consist of jazz and swing tunes from the period, as well as retro-swing like "Big Bad Voodoo Daddy."

"The purpose of the party is to circumvent Prohibition and drink bootlegged alcohol smuggled directly from Al Capone," said the suave host.

Other activities during Fancy Dress will follow traditions that have been around longer than underage drinking.

Sigma Nu other tradition is for the brothers and their dates have dinner together at the fraternity house., in-

stead of breaking apart into smaller groups and traveling to Roanoke or other nearby towns.

"All of the brothers get a chance to get together and eat together, toast together and walk over to the ball together," Senior Doug Hesney said. "It really brings us together as a brotherhood."

Toasts are essential at Sigma Nu, and get quite interesting after the house goes through the wine.

"We have two that we do every year," an anonymous fraternity member said. "To honor ... get on her and stay on her ... to honor!" and 'Here's to lying, cheating, stealing and drinking. If you're gonna lie, lie for a friend. If you're gonna cheat, cheat death. If you're gonna steal, steal a woman's heart. If you're gonna drink, drink with me!"

One bottle of wine is ordered for each person at

dinner, ladies included.

"We always run out," Senior Aaron Michaelove said.

Other fraternities like Sigma Chi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon hold champagne brunches after the ball.

Pi Kappa Alpha has perhaps the most interesting tradition of all.

"We have one tradition," Brian Rogers said. "Every year all of the brothers and their dates rub Scott Hooks' head for good luck and good dancing - mostly for good dancing, though."

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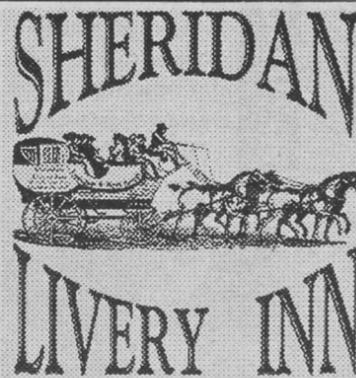
The W&L Admission Office is now accepting applications for summer tour guide positions. All interested students should submit a cover letter and resume no later than Monday, March 30,

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Doug and Robin's  
**Restaurant  
Reviews**

**Fancy Dress***Where to eat.***Restaurants reviewed:**

Maple Hall  
Sheridan Livery Inn  
Willson-Walker House  
The Inn at Union Run  
The Staircase  
The Homestead  
The Olive Garden

Lexington and the surrounding area offer a host of dining options on the average night, but the quest for a pre-Fancy Dress restaurant requires more thought and planning. For FD most restaurants in this area provide a special, albeit limited, menu. This normally consists of at least three varied entrees, and can also include appetizers, etc.

Most restaurants accept reservations several days, even weeks, in advance, so planning in advance is a must. Lexington is a strange place. There are many fine restaurants to serve a very small popula-

tion, but some of these places would not make it in the big city.

If you come from a place that is known for fine dining (Houston, Atlanta, D.C.), then comparing these restaurants to the places you have back home is an exercise in futility. For many different reasons, including the availability of certain ingredients and a competent staff, it is always best to judge the restaurants in an area against each other.

**Maple Hall** - Situated out past Lee-Hi on route 11, Maple Hall has been our pick for the last three years. At Maple Hall you will receive fine food and excellent service. You do pay well for what you receive, but compared to the other Lexington options, we consider Maple Hall the best choice.

**Sheridan Livery Inn** - Located in town for convenience, the Inn normally provides good food and service. The prices are more reasonable than those at most places, but the boisterous atmosphere can be a big detraction. For the budget conscious dinner, Sheridan Livery Inn is a great choice.

**Willson-Walker House** - Also located in town. Most people seem to like Willson-Walker as a back up in case they can't get reservations somewhere else. The service and the atmosphere are both always great, but from our experience the food is not nearly worth what you pay for it. We guess the owners have to make a living somehow. If dining in town is important, you have money to burn, and you are not ravenously hungry as

Doug always is, Willson-Walker is a good choice.

**The Inn at Union Run** - Some people really like Maple Hall; some people prefer Union-Run. The debate has been raging for years at W&L, but we feel both places have their merits. If you don't mind a short drive for your meal, Union Run offers a delightful atmosphere and quality food.

**The Staircase** - Probably not most people's first choice, but this little bar and grill has been known to bring out the tablecloths and fix up a special menu for Fancy Dress. Another eatery located close to the action, the prices should be reasonable and the service good.

**The Homestead** - President Clinton has been there several times; the food must be pretty good, or then again maybe they are serving him fried chicken. In any case we have heard of several couples making the really long drive to dine at the Homestead, and all have returned with good reports. If you are looking for something really different, and you don't mind the drive, then this may be just what you are looking for.

**The Olive Garden** - You'll have to drive to Roanoke for this one, but it

may be just what you want. The menu never changes, not even for Fancy Dress, and the quality of the food is consistently good. The prices are reasonable, and on a good night the service is great. However you may not be able to get reservations. Recently the Olive Garden stopped taking reservations for Friday night,

so this could be a problem.

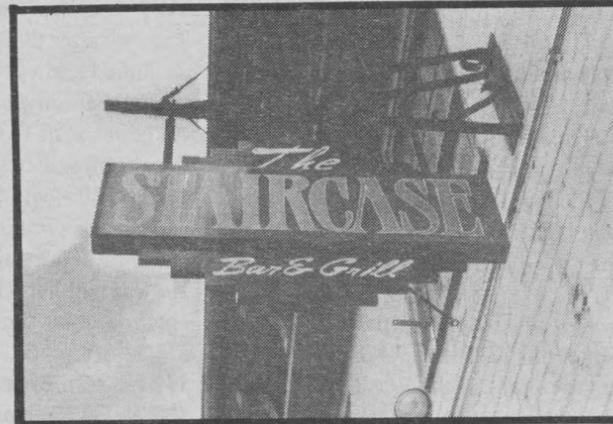
**Tips for a pleasant dinner and FD:** Many restaurants allow you to give a credit card number in advance, so after your meal, there's minimal hassle with the bill.

Don't try to put the cork back in the wine bottle. You might hit your date in the head with a cork!

(Personal experience)

If your chosen restaurant plays music (or muzac) in the background, call ahead and make a request for some lighter classical music, rather than tinny renditions of Hanson and the Spice Girls.

Wherever you eat, we hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable FD, and one more word of caution: it's probably a bad idea to get sick on the Dean or University president of your choice.

**BAND SCHEDULE**

BΘΠ

NO BAND

XΨ

Uncle Mingo OPEN

E N

Baker CLOSED

ΦΔΘ

Deep Banana Blackout CLOSED

ΦΓΔ

Belizbaha DAY OPEN

ΦΚΣ

Voltage Brothers DAY OPEN

ΦΚΨ

NO BAND

ΚΣ

Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts

OPEN

ΠΚΑ

Junkyand Bhuda OPEN

ΠΚΦ

Big Mama Boogie Band DAY OPEN

Breakfast Club CLOSED NIGHT

ΣΧ

Convertibles DAY OPEN,

HOUSE CLOSED

Belizbaha NIGHT OPEN

ΣΑΕ

Circle Jerk and the Wonder

Dogs DAY CLOSED

Voltage Brothers NIGHT OPEN

ΣΦΕ

Wild Grass DAY CLOSED

Convertibles NIGHT OPEN



Capture the spirit of the twenties with a

**'Last' flick for FD**

BY ALEX CHRISTENSEN

PHI MOVIE CRITIC

F.W. Murnau's "The Last Laugh" (1924) is an odd film, one that defies film conventions of plot, characterization, value judgement which can still be seen throughout the cinema. "Der letzte Mann," the German title, can also be translated as "The Last Man," with the connotation of "The least of men." To examine a man described with such an appellation is a fascinating experiment. And even more than most films with title characters, "Der letzte Mann" concentrates completely on its old doorman. There are perhaps four or five scenes that do not include his physical presence, and these are all set-ups for his reactions to them. The audience is truly invited to get inside the psyche of this hotel porter, almost to the exclusion of other characters or the

milieu of his city or home life.

The doorman, played masterfully by Emil Jennings, is a pathetic yet noble character who is, ironically, fired for doing his job too well. He heroically moves a heavy trunk without any assistance, assistance he normally has, then stops for a short break. Only the break is noticed by the hotel manager, who demotes the doorman to restroom attendant, stripping him of his identity and station in life.

Previously, we have seen the effect his uniform has had on the doorman. Respected, at least to his face, by his friends, family, and neighbors, he moves with pride and a puffed-out chest down the streets where he lives. We see him salute passersby, who seem as delighted by his joviality as he is. He is dignified and correct, yet tender, stopping to prevent the

other little children from teasing another child, brushing the child off and giving him some candy before passing on. Jannings plays all of the doorman with gusto and big, robust movements which never go overboard.

So the firing, with its repossession of the doorman's uniform, hits hard. Besides the effect of firing on the man himself, the neighbors begin to gossip and make fun of the doorman and his family, finally driving the doorman's new son-in-law to kick him out of the house. Although this is the most unbelievable part of the film, it does have some validity and moves the story to its intended, and necessary, destination.

The camera effects, ones which might be criticized in a film reaching for realism, actually add to the realism here. Effects such as see-

ing things from the doorman's point of view, even when he is drunk or confused, actually recreate natural processes in ways that take the viewer inside the doorman's mind.

And the elaborate production design, with beautiful sets and well executed costumes, allows Murnau to show us a place that does not really exist: the city from the perspective of the doorman, darker and more forbidding than a real city might have looked had it been used for shooting some of the exterior scenes.

"Here the story should really end for, in real life, the forlorn old man would have little to look forward to but death. The author took pity on him and has provided a quite improbably epilogue."

This sarcastic statement, near the end of the film, points the film in a new direction, changing it from

a moody, almost documentary story about a fired doorman to a short "rags-to-riches" comedy vignette.

We see the man, abandoning the family who has abandoned him, lording his newfound wealth over the manager who fired him, now remembering the night watchman who took pity on him and the poor who are treated by others with disdain.

The shock of the ending, strangely, seems to counteract some of the heavy-handedness of the first part of the film which was not as believable. Now the audience is simply happy for the doorman instead of considering his own missteps that may have added to his misfortune or the overreaction of the other characters. The ending provokes thought long after the film has ended.