

The Ring-tum Phi

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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

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W&L is 23rd choosiest college in country

By Marie Dunne
Co-editor

Washington and Lee University is the 23rd choosiest college in the nation according to an article last month in USA Today.

The 43 choosiest colleges were ranked according to the percentage of applicants accepted for the 1986-87 school year. All of the colleges ranked accepted less than 50% of their applicants and had average SAT scores greater than 1200.

W&L accepted 34.2 percent of those high school seniors who applied for a place in the class of 1990. The average SAT score for the W&L's class of 1990 is 1230.

The top five colleges in the survey

were the U.S. Military Academy, accepting 10.2 percent; the U.S. Naval Academy, 11.9 percent; Stanford University 15.6 percent; U.S. Air Force Academy, 16.2 percent; and Princeton University, 16.5 percent.

According to Julia Kozak, Associate Director of Admissions, W&L will most likely move up in the survey next year. The admissions department accepted only 29 percent of the applicants for the class of 1991, down almost five percent from the 34.2 percent for 1990.

"I think Washington and Lee has always enjoyed a national reputation," said Kozak, "but there's no question that everywhere we go we're seeing more interest in W&L."

Kozak said while co-education is not singly responsible for the in-

crease interest in W&L, "co-education has made W&L a more popular option for some students."

"It's wonderful to be in this kind of company," said Kozak, referring to W&L's ranking with other prestigious schools. However, incoming students should not base their college choice on surveys, cautioned Kozak.

"We're the 23rd choosiest college, but we're not the college for everyone."

The 43 choosiest colleges selected by USA Today are listed in order with percentage of applicants accepted and average SAT score:

1. U.S. Military Academy, 10.2%, 1205
2. U.S. Naval Academy, 11.9%, 1245
3. Stanford University, 15.6%, 1325
4. U.S. Air Force Academy, 16.2%
5. Princeton University, 16.5%, 1325
6. Harvard & Radcliffe Colleges, 16.7%, 1365
7. Cooper Union, 16.8%, 1320
8. Yale University, 18.1%, 1355
9. Duke University, 18.9%, 1300
10. Brown University, 20.3%, 1280
11. Georgetown University, 20.6%, 1287
12. Amherst College, 21.4%, n.a.
13. Dartmouth College, 22.3%, 1300
14. Bowdoin College, 24.5%, n.a.
15. Williams College, 24.7%, 1355
16. Columbia University, 27.5%, 1300
17. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 28.4%, 1380
18. University of Virginia, 28.7%, 1245
19. Cornell University, 29.1%, 1290
20. Davidson College, 30.0%, 1220
21. Rice University, 30.4%, 1321
22. California Institute of Technology, 30.7%, 1405
23. Washington & Lee University, 34.2%, 1230
24. Wesleyan University, 34.6%, 1310
25. Tufts University, 34.7%, 1230
26. Colgate University, 35.1%, 1210
27. Haverford College, 35.3%, n.a.
28. Swarthmore College, 36.3%, 1325
29. University of Pennsylvania, 37.2%, 1270
30. Lafayette College, 37.2%, 1205
31. Middlebury College, 37.8%, 1250
32. Bates College, 38.8%, 1200
33. College of William & Mary, 40.3%, 1220
34. Trinity College, 41.1%, 1220
35. Northwestern University, 42.7%, 1230
36. New College, 44.3%, 1243
37. Pomona College, 44.3%, 1270
38. University of Notre Dame, 44.8%, 1225
39. University of Chicago, 44.9%, 1240
40. Harvey Mudd College, 45.0%, 1360
41. Vassar College, 46.5%, 1200
42. Carleton College, 48.3%, 1280
43. Claremont McKenna College, 49.3%, 1215

IBM selected to play at Superdance

By Stacy Morrison
Staff Reporter

One of the two bands has been named for Superdance, as planning continues for the annual fundraising event for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, said Greg Knapp, co-chairman of the Superdance committee. Superdance will be held the first weekend of February 1988.

IBM, a progressive band from Georgia, has been selected to play. The Superdance Committee continues negotiations to determine the second band for the 15-hour long dance.

Dancer participation is key to the success of Superdance, now in its tenth year, said Knapp. Last year, Washington and Lee raised more than \$25,000 after expenses, the

highest per capita amount raised by any college or university in the United States. W&L was behind only Syracuse University in total amount raised, added Knapp.

Pledge packets and information can be picked up in Carol Caulkins' office in the University Center. The minimum amount of pledges needed to qualify for dancing is \$100 in cash or checks. Any pledges above the base \$100 that are smaller than five dollars must be cash or checks, as well.

As incentives for the dancers to bring in larger donations, prizes will be given in three categories: highest total donation raised, highest cash donation raised, and highest total donation raised for a single organization. There will also be door prizes and dance contests every hour throughout the dance.

At this stage of the planning, prizes to be awarded include a weekend at Hotel Roanoke, a weekend at Greenbriar, and a weekend in Williamsburg. Other prizes are a season ski pass and four free ski passes and rentals for surrounding ski areas. "Right now," said Knapp, "prizes are still coming in."

The afternoon event of the dance will be a "battle of the bands" among three or four local bands, said Knapp. At this time, the bands have not been confirmed, but the Convertibles, a Phi Delt band, and a VMI band have been approached, he added.

The Superdance Committee has also been holding slave auctions at area women's colleges.

"These auctions function both as fund-raisers, and also as a way of familiarizing the women as to what

Superdance is all about," said Knapp.

Kathy Kelso, co-chairman of the Special Events Committee, said that \$500 was raised at Mary Baldwin, and \$800 was raised at Sweet Briar. Slave auctions are slated for the other surrounding women's colleges in January.

Greg Knapp, Chuck Hustung and Mike Herrin are the three co-chairmen of the committee, which has about 100 student members.

"Student participation is paramount to the success of any fundraising event," said Knapp. "Without those students who have been willing to donate their time and money for the last ten years, the Superdance would not have flourished as it has." Knapp urges students "to come out and dance for those who can't, and have a great time while doing it."

Bulimarexia expert to lecture at W&L

By Heidi Read
Staff Reporter

Do you know anyone with bulimia or anorexia? What about bulimarexia, a combination of the two? Dr. Marlene Boskind-White, a nationally known expert on eating disorders and author of "Bulimarexia: The Binge/Purge Cycle," will give a lecture addressing eating disorders on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Moot Court Room of Lewis Hall.

Boskind-White works with her husband, a licensed child psychologist, in Roanoke. Before setting up their practice in Roanoke, both Boskind-White and her husband were on the staff at Cornell University.

In her lecture on Tuesday, Boskind-White will discuss the historical perspective of eating disorders, medical diagnosis and treatment.

Associate Dean of Students Anne Schroer said, "If a person is sym-

pathetic and supportive of a friend who has an eating disorder, they will get over it much faster." Schroer also said that it was much easier to diagnose anorexics than bulimics because an anorexic's symptoms are noticeable.

Anorexics starve themselves to death to stay thin. They usually lose at least 25 percent of their body weight, hair falls out in patches, skin has a pale tone and even on a hot day they will feel cold.

Bulimics appear to be healthy,

which makes their diagnosis much more difficult. A bulimic person appears to have normal eating habits, but in the privacy of a bathroom, will purge themselves of the meal they just ate, losing nutrients in the process. "Although nine out of ten sufferers of eating disorders are women," Schroer said, "men can also suffer from the disorders." Wrestlers trying to maintain a certain weight can easily turn their weight maintenance routine into a habit, she said.



By Mathew Horridge/The Ring-tum Phi

Theological Thespian

Frank King, left, a W&L senior, and Reverend James Noto rehearse a scene from the University Theatre's production of "Mass Appeal." The play will be given Dec. 4, 5, and 6, at St. Patrick's Church.

Phi Eta Sigma inducts 38 students

From Staff Reports

Thirty-eight Washington and Lee University sophomores have been elected to membership in Phi Eta Sigma, the national honor society recognizing academic excellence in the freshman year.

The minimal precondition for membership in Phi Eta Sigma is a 3.5 cumulative grade point during the freshman year.

Those W&L students who were initiated into membership during ceremonies on Thursday, October 29, are:

Nancy Haynes Baughan of Rockledge, Fla.; Susan Elisabeth Bienert of Lutherville, Md.; Cheryl Lynn Bowles of Marietta, Ga.; George

Wesley Boyd of Dallas, Texas; Leigh Ann Brown of Rockville, Md.; Reid Tarlton Campbell of New Canaan, Conn.; Dedra Lynn Connor of Columbia, S.C.; Richard Scott Cornell of Hopkinsville, Ky.; Kara Lynn Cunningham of Charleston, W.Va.; Donald Alan DeFabio of Gaithersburg, Md.; Michael R. Dixon of Bethesda, Md.; Anna Winnifred Dulaney of Charlotte, N.C.; John Stephen Farmer of Lexington, Ky.; Damon Vincent Fensterman of Lynchburg, Va.; Billie Dallas Hagewood of Franklin, Tenn.; Nancy Louise Hickam of Pulaski, Va.; Laura Earle Horgan of Newport News, Va.; Mary Catherine Hunt of Baltimore, Md.; Amy Jennifer Kitchen of Armerst, N.H.; James Burges Lake of Charleston, S.C.; Carter King Laughlin II of Dallas, Texas; Stephen Scott Mattingly of Webster Springs, W.Va.; Kevin Michael Nash of Cordova, Tenn.; Todd Christian Peppers of Lexington, Va.; Katherine Lorraine Richardson of Gaithersburg, Md.; Colleen Virginia Ryan of Cockeysville, Md.; Donald Caryle Schaeffer of Lexington, Ky.; Matthew Clinton Sackett of Lynchburg, Va.; Courtney Simmons of Alexandria, Va.; Teresa L. Southard of Dayton, Va.; Jennifer Ellen Spreng of Belleville, Ill.; Stephen L. Stanley of Shreveport, La.; Dana D. Stiles of Chattanooga, Tenn.; Michael Edward Thompson of Clotier, W.Va.; Della Fayth Truett of Friendsville, Tenn.; Frederick Johnson Turpin, Jr. of Tampa, Fla.; Tina Vandersteel of Alpine, N.J.; and Terence Adam Wynne of Yorktown Heights, N.Y.



By Mathew Horridge/The Ring-tum Phi

Art for art's sake

Students from Assistant Professor Kathleen Olson's painting class are exhibiting their works at the Student/Faculty Art Show in duPont Gallery. The show will continue through Dec. 18.

Planning for 1988 Mock Democratic Convention keeps moving ahead

State committees discuss fund raising

By Jennifer Bandrowski
Staff Reporter

The 1988 Mock Democratic Convention held its monthly meeting of state chairpersons on Wednesday, November 18. The general administrative meeting was attended by 48 of 56 state and U.S. territory chairpersons.

Convention Co-Chairman Lester Coe announced the funds raised by each individual state, which totaled \$8,910.

Each state has been assigned a fund-raising quota by the Convention Steering Committee.

Coe also made a few suggestions as to how the funds may be obtained. The Chamber of Commerce and other such foundations are a good source of funds," he said.

Convention Co-Chairman Chip Gist spoke on the new Presidential Cam-

paign Hotline, which serves as an aid in political research.

The hotline produces, "...up-to-date information on any news having to do with the presidential race right now, including both the Democrat and Republican parties," Gist said.

According to Gist, updates on "campaigns, all of the latest polls—about two to three a day—and the calendar for the next seven days of each political candidate," are included in the reports.

The service is provided by "...a company based out of McLean, Virginia, made up of political scientists and academics," Gist said.

Gist cited an example of how the service might be useful: If Bruce Babbitt were campaigning in New York, then the New York state chairman would know to consult the following day's New York newspapers for coverage of the campaign.

"This will help us tremendously with our political research," Gist said.

Gist reports that the overall convention planning is going well.

"We're going to do some polling before Christmas of all the Democratic national committee members, including state and local officials, to find which candidate they are backing. So our political research is running right on schedule," he said.

Also before Christmas will be the first large mailing to solicit funds for the convention. Letters will be sent to all who have contributed to W&L's general fund in the last five years.

Journal chairman Jeff Kelsey has been busy selling advertisements for the Mock Convention program.

Gist says that he has had "...a real good response so far. It's advantageous to anyone who wants to do that (purchase an ad)."

Convention security plans for the worst

By Amy Balfour
Staff Reporter

The Student Security Committee for the W&L Mock Convention will be spending many hours preparing for the March convention to make sure that everything runs safely and smoothly.

"My main purpose is to brainstorm and go through what could happen," said junior Fray McCormick who is co-chairman of the committee with senior Greg Unger.

A lot of their hours of preparation will be wasted, McCormick said, because all the possible problems they plan for might not happen.

Their work started with Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson's outdoor speech last spring.

The committee coordinated security for the whole event, working with campus security, city police, cadets

from VMI and a state trooper, McCormick said.

Security got together with the facilities committee and went over the floor plan to determine where to put security people in order to keep Jackson safe and avoid any problems.

"It's more behind the scenes," McCormick said of his responsibilities. The committee had to work on such possible problems as where would-be assassins would fire from to what to do if there were alcoholic drinks in the crowd.

For the latter problem, he said, security even had to plan what to do if a VMI cadet had problems enforcing the no-drinking policy.

In that case a W&L security member would have to back up the VMI cadet.

If the convention itself in March draws a big-name speaker such as former President Jimmy Carter or a

current Democratic presidential candidate, McCormick and the committee will have to work and coordinate plans with the Secret Service.

Security will have to go over the floor plan of the gym, where most of the activities will occur, with the convention's facilities chairman, Tim Brennan, McCormick said.

By looking at the floor plan, he said, they will again try to figure out where possible trouble points will be.

He said that security will also patrol the area during the convention and check things out.

The committee is shooting to employ 20 to 25 students, male or female, in addition to campus security.

The main expenses, he said, will be for walkie-talkies and for paying students on the Security Committee.

The students will be paid, he said, because "they are giving up time to be responsible."

Shorter

Some rumors have been circulating that the administration may be planning to change the length of Thanksgiving break. While we do not know if this is true, we would like to encourage the administration to seriously look into shortening Thanksgiving break.

In its present form, the week-long break comes much too late in the term to serve as an effective break. An effective break should be one that allows students to enjoy a brief rest from academics. This does not mean students need breaks during which they do no work, but instead a break that allows them ample time to relax and work.

Ten weeks of classes with no breaks, except for weekends, have transpired by the time Thanksgiving break arrives. Most college students, being the undergraduates that they are, manage to fall behind in their work somewhat in that amount of time, regardless of how diligent they attempt to be. Even students who are up-to-date with their work are often facing term papers and important tests immediately after break. All this work has to be contended with over the break, while visiting relatives and taking care of other such holiday amenities. And after the break is over, finals are looming just two weeks away.

The administration should consider this: make Thanksgiving a four-day weekend and insert a three-weekday reading period at the midterm. This would help the problem in a number of ways. Most importantly, students would be able to catch up a large amount of work at the midterm, while still being able to relax some during their break. This would help reduce the "burnout" among students that tends to hit later in the term when workloads begin to become unwieldy.

Helping students to lessen their workload earlier in the term will also serve to make the Thanksgiving holiday more enjoyable. Students will not have to spend the entire break in a catch-22 situation—feeling guilty for doing academics and not visiting relatives, and vice versa.

A break at the midterm will also enable students to prepare for the numerous exams that are scheduled at that time. It is not fair for the students when they have to neglect some studies because their workload is too unmanageable. The shorter break would help students to do what they are here for—learn the material in their classes, not find ways to get around it.

Some will say that a shortened Thanksgiving break will prevent some students from returning home for the holidays. However, people must remember that Christmas break falls only three weeks after Thanksgiving, and there is plenty of time then for students to fly or drive home. That time can even be lengthened by a student's scheduling of exams, one of the many advantages to life at Washington and Lee.

There are enough positive reasons for a shortened Thanksgiving break to warrant the university to seriously look into implementing the changes. After all, the changes are for the benefit of our education, which is what we are here for in the first place.

—WSB

Ranking

Once again the excellence of Washington and Lee has been singled out in a national publication. USA Today, that newspaper (in)famous for its short news stories and colorful weather map, has ranked our school as the 23rd most selective university in the nation.

This honor follows the ranking of W&L as the 25th best liberal arts university in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. While it is definitely good to see the prestige of the university on the rise, everyone needs to realize something important before they call home excitedly with the USA Today results.

The U.S. News ranking was the result of a survey of college presidents across the nation. They were asked to name the best universities, in their opinion, in a number of different categories (liberal arts, pre-professional, etc.). This, in effect, is ranking by peers, one of the most telling types of evaluation there is.

However, the USA Today list only took into account the selectivity of any particular institution. This means the paper took the number of people accepted to a particular college and divided by the number of applications received by that college. While this gives people a general idea of a college's worth, it can be misleading.

For any small school, W&L for example, the number of people accepted will be naturally low. In order to raise the ranking all the university needs to do is solicit large numbers of applications and still accept the same number of people per year.

This means that if W&L convinces large numbers of students who have no chance of admission to apply, our rating will go up.

Of course, it is still an honor to be recognized for outstanding qualities, and selectivity is one of those. However, people do need to realize that not all ranking systems are what they seem to be.

Well, I found out that I'm an adult when I pay the tuition.



Grading

Numbers do not gauge learning

MY VIEW

By Jon Solomon

It's 10:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day and I've stayed in Lexington during this vacation, not because I'm interested in doing a case study on the quality control at Lloyds once the students leave, but rather because I felt I needed this time for several impending papers. Yet as I sit at my desk I begin to think back on the many times I've been in similar situations, studying for great periods of time and consuming vast amounts of knowledge only to end up with a 73 on the exam.

Of course, after each experience like this I would always ask myself

the same question. "Did you know the material?" To which the usual reply was, "Sure, I knew that stuff backwards and forwards."

My point to all this is that making grades for the sole point of getting the grade is absurd. We are not here to be assigned a number grade which can be translated at the end of the term into a letter grade. We are here to learn. I feel myself constantly being crunched by grades. I deserve better; we all deserve much more than a rhetorical grading system.

Have you ever found yourself thinking: Well, lets see if I can make a perfect score on my next exam, then maybe my final grade will be a "B". "B" for what? Very good. Ah, yes, I'm very good. God forbid I should get a "C" and be just average. Can anyone tell me that I'm just average? That everything I've learned is just average? That's crazy.

I'm sure about how many of you

are asking why I'm writing this? Well, if I had gotten a better grade on my last test I probably wouldn't be writing this. But this is not just for those people who are dissatisfied with their grades, but for everyone at this fine University. Don't worry so much about the numbers on a scale or the letter assigned to you. If you make a good grade and learn nothing, then you have failed.

I'm not about to suggest any radical changes in the grading system here. We have all been told how excellence stems from the observation of material and ability to recall it at any given point in time. This is why our teachers give us quizzes and exams. But I believe it is wrong to rank excellence at the top of our objectives. Success should be at the pinnacle of our minds. Being an astute student does not involve a number or letter. Being successful is something that has to come from

within. You do not have to look at your exam grade to feel successful. You should know before looking at the grade whether or not you have been successful. Ask yourself if you have learned anything. If you answer "yes" then I believe you have surpassed any letter or number grade that could be given to you. You have attained a sense of self-satisfaction. Maybe this is all too idealistic. But who can tell me that assigning a number grade isn't idealistic. A number means nothing, it is just a way of satisfying our need for rationality or realism. To me, that is idealistic.

With the impending arrival of exams not far away I hope some of you will think about this and possibly learn something. Well, it is now after 11:00 so I better end this bit of personal testimony here, and start doing some work so I can get an "A" on my next paper.

LETTERS

Deferred Rush is not the right idea

To the Editors:

After reading Miss Reynold's article in the Ring-tum Phi on November 19 concerning the faculty petition asking for a deferred rush, I am only more convinced in my belief that the whole question of rush is somehow getting into the wrong hands. With all due respect, Mr. Sessions, I really do not think that you know what you are talking about and therefore should have no say in our Rush calendar. Two of your observations in particular led me to this conclusion.

First, if you had any inkling as to what the situation in the dorms is you would realize that there can be no "dorm parties" due to the dormitory regulations. Parties in the dorms would be unsafe at best as there is no room for parties, and nobody would come in the first place as these parties would have to be dry.

Freshmen as well as fraternity members would find somewhere else to go and something else to do. Secondly, you state that you "do not think the fraternities can rush for an entire twelve weeks because of the time and energy it will take." You have brought up an interesting point here, but you have discarded it too quickly which indicates to me your lack of understanding toward the problem at hand. Fraternities will rush for twelve weeks regardless of expense and time. Your little plan for pushing deferred rush on the students and thereby saving us academically will only ruin some fraternities financially and ruin many individuals first term grades. I do not know if you have ever participated in a fraternity rush, Mr. Sessions, but it is a very important and intense process, especially at W&L with the declining male population. Rush is the most important thing to a fraternity, and the members will rush for twelve weeks regardless of rules.

I will admit, Mr. Sessions, that deferred rush is a good idea in theory. However, my point is that it will not work practically. Deferred rush will hurt students' academics and the fraternities more than it will help them. Finally, how is the question of rush any of your business anyway? This is a student matter, and if anyone draws up any proposals it should be students. I understand that the Student Affairs Committee should review any proposals, but it is still the students' rush calendar. I will predict right now that if the faculty shoves deferred rush down the throats of

the students we will have a rush bonanza of rule-breaking and problems next year. You thought this past Fall was bad, Mr. Sessions? Oh Boy!!

Pat Schaefer '88

Check priorities

To the Editor:

A serious flaw in priorities has come to my attention which deems further examination. The flaw is that, in my view, the Administration of Washington & Lee has placed greater priority in the wants of themselves and the Board of Trustees than in the needs of the students.

When I made the decision four years ago to attend W&L, I did so in the belief that I would receive one of the best educations available. I find that for those interested in Computer Science, this is not the case. This semester, the supply of professors available to teach an entry level computer course, Computer Science 110, did not meet the demand. In fact, one professor was left responsible for over 70 students in a course which demands personal attention, with programs due weekly. The task was obviously too great for one man so he sought help in the form of teaching assistants. But alas, this is W&L and there have never been teaching assistants here. So the Administration ruled that teaching assistants are not to be, in any way, substitutes for professors. Thus, this one professor is again met with the task of instructing over 70 students in a fashion conducive to each of their personal understanding.

Meanwhile, plans for an Arts Center costing millions of dollars are steaming full ahead. Doesn't it strike you as odd that while we do not have enough professors to handle the load of students in Computer Science, a quickly rising major, we do have enough funds to build a center for the world renowned artistic performers of Washington and Lee?

Now do not misunderstand me, I'm not arguing in favor of teaching assistants. I am arguing for the proper attention to be given to students whose families pay a great deal of money each year in expectation that their son or daughter is getting one of the best educations available. I address the Administration: Are the needs of the

students being placed behind the wants of yourselves and the Board of Trustees? I invite a reply.

Sincerely,
Etienne D. Cambon

What about AIDS?

To the Editor:

When will the President wake up to reality? He continues to purchase another unneeded nuclear weapon system of mass destruction, the B1 bomber at a final cost of more than \$280 billion dollars per plane. Meanwhile across the nation and the world people are dying in a raging AIDS epidemic.

Surely by canceling the B1, S.D.I. and other unneeded nuclear weapon systems enough money would be freed to find cures for AIDS, most cancer, and probably feed and shelter the homeless and still go a long way toward balancing the budget. The F.D.A. must wake up to reality also. While people die of AIDS here in America, other AIDS sufferers are being saved with AIDS drugs which the F.D.A. stubbornly delays testing and approval of, not to mention making it illegal to manufacture, prescribe and possess them. The F.D.A. must wake up and cease its anti-humane AIDS policy immediately.

The Supreme Court must wake up to reality also and recognize that the true marriage bond is the strong love and mutual sharing relationship bond and not a piece of paper. It must recognize this and the need to grant nothing less than full human, civil and economic rights and privileges regardless of sexual preferences in such relationships. I urge everyone to wake up the President, Supreme Court, F.D.A. and Congress by sending them copies of this letter or part of a chain letter to everyone's friends and relatives so that they may do the same.

Let's all do our part also and make a donation to an AIDS charity also.

Leonard De Frazio, Jr.
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The Ring-tum Phi

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Letters to the Editor and submissions must be in The Ring-tum Phi office, Room 208 of the Student Center, by 5 p.m. Tuesday of the week they are to be run. Or send them to The Ring-tum Phi, Box 899, Lexington, VA 24450. This newspaper observes current court definitions of libel and obscenity.

Dorm life never leaves you lonely

MY VIEW
By Kathy Morrison

For the benefit of you who are wondering how to magnify the pleasure of your stay here at Washington and Lee, I wish to expound upon the superior standard of domestic existence here in beautiful downtown Lexington.

My roommate and I occupy a quaint little two bedroom flat right on Main Street. Life is fast-paced here, with carriage rides passing below the bedroom windows every morning at ten, the late-night weekend rituals of fraternity hoppers calling out exuberantly to each other en route to and from Red Square, and the heart-stopping, action-packed atmosphere—and delicious aroma—of Lloyd's right down the alley. Our

small neighborhood includes students as well as more established residents of Lexington, proof to the fact that the university and the community really do work and play together as one big, happy family.

But no matter how snug and comfortable I may be in my rustic little abode, I can't help but remember all the good times I had back in the dorms. Sometimes I really miss the closeness, the warmth, the zany shenanigans. Mostly, however, I feel this odd empty feeling as I pause to reflect upon all the sharing I'm missing out on, especially since I have only one roommate. I miss sharing things like the bathroom, the bedroom; sharing things like the girls in Graham-Lees did last year. I also sometimes envy those dorm occupants who are lucky enough to eat in Evans dining hall every day, sharing dinner, remnants of yesterday's

dinner, and those yummy tidbits destined to comprise tomorrows lunch.

In spite of all the crazy fun available to me in Lexington's Main Street night life, I must admit that I find myself looking back longingly upon all those exciting times back in the dormitories. I now find it difficult to truly enjoy a beer in my room without that familiar, exhilarating thrill of punitive danger posed by the Dorm Counselor. I even catch myself heaving long sighs for lack of the romantic adventure so abundant on the co-ed floors: that frightening, yet strangely exciting, possibility of running into a member of the opposite sex as I dash from the shower to my room, the thrill of being awakened at some amazingly ungodly hour by "dorm ragers" as they bump drunkenly down the halls, VMI Cadets leaving erotic messages

scrawled on all the doors—all these adventures and more are lost to me now that I've opted to live in town. But even through this melancholy for what-might-have-been, I chuckle to myself as I think back on fire alarms at three a.m., the neighbors whooping it up until the wee hours, the construction on Gaines beginning every weekday morning before the break of day—all those happy, human noises that make one feel so much at home...

City life may be nice, but you never have to feel alone when you live in the dorms!

In short, no matter how one may choose to spend time in this booming nest of activity, there is a place for everyone. Town or dorm, relaxation or adventure, private or public, Lexington has it/all—it's all in the way you look at it that counts.

General Notes

Xmas Tunes

The Music Division of the Department of Fine Arts will present its annual Christmas Concert Tuesday, December 8 at 8:00 p.m. in Lee Chapel. The public is invited.

New Tunes

The 36th annual BMI Awards to Student Composers competition will award \$15,000 to young composers. The deadline for entering the 1987-88 competition will be Friday, February 12, 1988.

Official rules and entry blanks for the 1987-88 competition are available from Barbara A. Petersen, Director, BMI Awards to Student Composers, 320 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019.

Mike's Son

John Dukakis, son of Gov. Michael Dukakis of Mass., will speak on his father's campaign on Tuesday, Nov. 8, in Room 109 of the University Center at 8:30 a.m. Coffee and danishes will be served. The event is sponsored by the Young Democrats.

Taylor Made

Renowned author Peter Taylor will present a reading on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 4:30 p.m. in Northern Auditorium.

Taylor, a recent winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, is the author of numerous short stories, several plays, and the novel *A Woman of Means*. In 1959, Taylor received first prize in the O. Henry Memorial Awards and a Guggenheim Fellowship in fiction. He was awarded the National Academy of Arts and Letters gold medal for literature in 1979.

The reading, which is open to the public, is sponsored by the Glasgow Endowment Program.

Career Advice

Career Development and Placement Office presents "Career Advice from an alumnus in Washington, D.C." Topics: 1. Getting into government service. 2. Information about Environmental Protection Agency. 3. Application and interview do's and don't's. By Dr. Stanley Cook, '61 and '64L, Environmental Protection Specialist, Government Public Relations Officer. Friday,

December 4, 1987—all day, University Center, room 108. Students interested in any of the topics above should sign up in advance in the Career Development and Placement Office.

Money Advice

All underclassmen are invited to a discussion of "Banking and Related Financial Industries." Given by Harald Hansen, President, First Union Corporation of Georgia, Wednesday, December 9, 1987, 2:30 p.m., Commerce School, Room 327.

Peer Advice

Need to talk? Call the W&L Counselor Hotline. Staffed Sunday-Thursday, 7-11 p.m. and Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.-12 midnight. Confidential, Supportive, Informative.

Dancing Info

Students who are planning to participate in the 1988 Superdance may pick up pledge packets and information in Carol Caulkins' office in the University Center. For further information, contact Fontanne Bostic, University Services.

Flick a la Emir

The Washington and Lee Film Society is very pleased to announce that its next presentation will be *When Father Was Away on Business* (Yugoslavia, 1985), directed by Emir Kusturica. Showings will be at 8:00 on Friday 4 December and Saturday 5 December in Classroom "A" in Lewis Hall. There is no charge for admission. The film is in Serbo-Croatian, with English subtitles.

Flick a la Peter

"Billy Budd" (UK, 1962, dir. Peter Ustinov, stars Peter Ustinov/Terence Stamp/Robert Ryan/from Herman Melville's novel *Billy Budd, Foretopman*) will run at 7 p.m., Wed., 12/9 and 4 & 7 p.m., Thur., 12/10, 327 Commerce, sponsored by Politics Dept. Oscar-nominee Terence Stamp, highly a typical casting of Ustinov and Ryan, and one of literary history's most controversial plots make this a must-see film—especially for Christmas-time. This will change your concept of justice forever.

Students take tests to help choose careers

By Alice Harrell
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 10 and Nov. 11, two workshops were held by Dean Schroer to assist students in interpreting the results of their vocational and personality tests.

The first test, the Strong Vocational Interest Inventory, was composed of approximately 175 questions, partly true-false and partly like-dislike, which help the person taking the test figure out which type of career best suits him/her.

The Myer-Briggs Personality Type Indicator, a 50-multiple-choice question test, does exactly what the name says: it gives the taker a general idea of what sort of personality he/she has.

While the Vocational Interest test has been around for sometime, the Myers-Briggs test wasn't introduced to W&L until this year.

Schroer's workshops are also new to the school. She felt that such group interpretations would be helpful to those students taking the tests. Eight

students participated in the career test workshop, and six of those eight returned the following afternoon for the personality test workshop. In the second one, Schroer related the results of each test to each other.

The personality test is helpful for students making career decisions because, as Schroer said, "(they) show students how they make decisions...show them when they are and aren't creative...they show how logical or intuitive they may be." She added that the tests also helped show

students how they would work with others by making them aware of other personality types.

Schroer especially recommends the personality test for sophomores who are trying to decide on a major. She says many seniors have shown interest in the vocational test to help them decide which company to go with, or what kind of job to start with at that company.

The tests will be available all year. Anyone interested should first contact either Schroer or Dean Heatley in the Career Development Office.

Dead trees removed from behind Pavilion

From Staff Reports

Walkers and joggers using the cross country trail behind the Pavilion this fall have noticed some wide open spaces in what was formerly a dense pine forest.

The removal of approximately 30 acres of white pine trees was brought about through an unfortunate combination of natural circumstances, according to Scott Beebe, assistant superintendent of buildings and grounds and director of projects at W&L.

The pineforest, planted approximately 25 years ago on what was once a grassy knoll had grown too dense, Beebe said. The problem was exacerbated by an infestation of aphids—insects that suck sap from trees—and the recent drought.

"What we had was a huge stand of dead trees," said Beebe, who is a registered Christmas tree grower and manages W&L's Christmas tree farm at Skylark. "It created a tremendous fire hazard and the insect infestation had reached the point where it was threatening the entire forest."

After consulting with the University's landscape architect firm, the Virginia Division of Forestry, and Westvaco, one of the nation's largest

manufacturers of paper and pulpwood, the administration decided to engage in a process of forest management.

"The areas we cut out were mostly dead trees," Beebe said. "We were very careful about where we cut. A 50 to 100-foot buffer was left around the edge of the trees from the pavilion to the VMI property, and we left some islands of healthy trees standing. President [John D.] Wilson said he did not want to be able to see the cuts from the front campus."

Once the trees were cut, they were sold for pulpwood. The debris that was left behind will be pushed to the center of the cut area. If conditions permit, Beebe said, the debris will be burned. If, because of dry conditions, burning is not possible, the debris will be left as a wildlife refuge for birds and small game.

The area will then be replanted with loblolly pine seedlings that Beebe said will mature quickly.

"What it all comes down to is good forest management," Beebe said. "The trees we cut down were planted with the idea that they would be harvested in the future. If we do not routinely cut down and thin out the small and diseased trees, the whole forest could suffer. The steps we have taken will ensure the vitality of the forest for generations to come."



By Mathew Horridge/The Ring-tum Phi

Scott Beebe examines insect-damaged trees.

TALKBACK

Photos by
Perry Hayes

Interviews by
Cathy Boardman

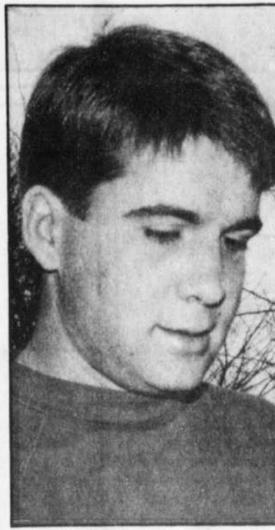
If you could choose any band to play here this weekend, who would it be?



Kelly Shifflett — sophomore "The Boneshakers. I just heard them last weekend and they were great."



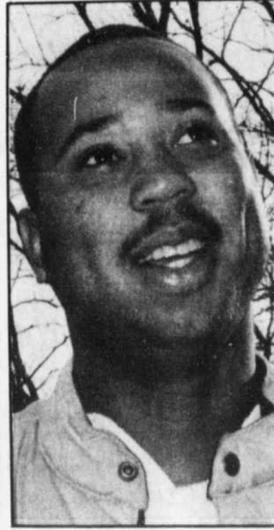
John Farmer — sophomore "Liquid Pleasure. They're an incredible party band. They say the more you drink, the better they sound."



Tommy Donahoo — senior "The Osmond Brothers".



Fritz Lake — junior "REM. They've a good band—and maybe if SAB got a good band, people would show up for the concert."



Dana Bolden — junior "Steel Pulse. It's about time we got a decent reggae band here."



Tony Matta — senior "Menudo. They'd be as humorous as any other band."

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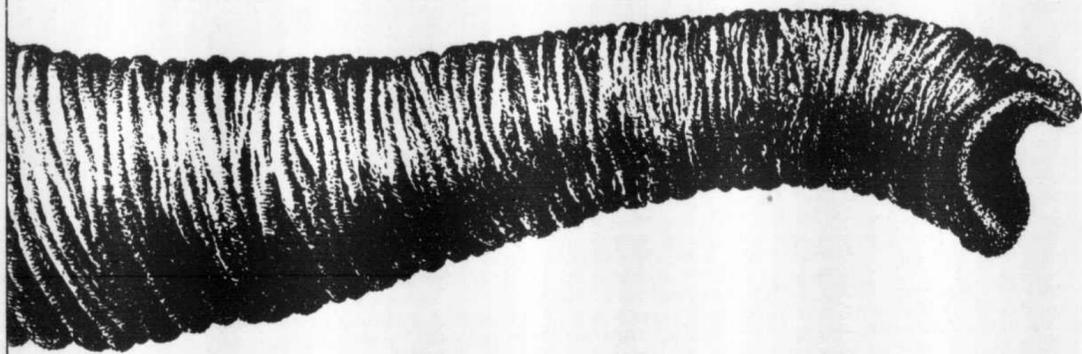
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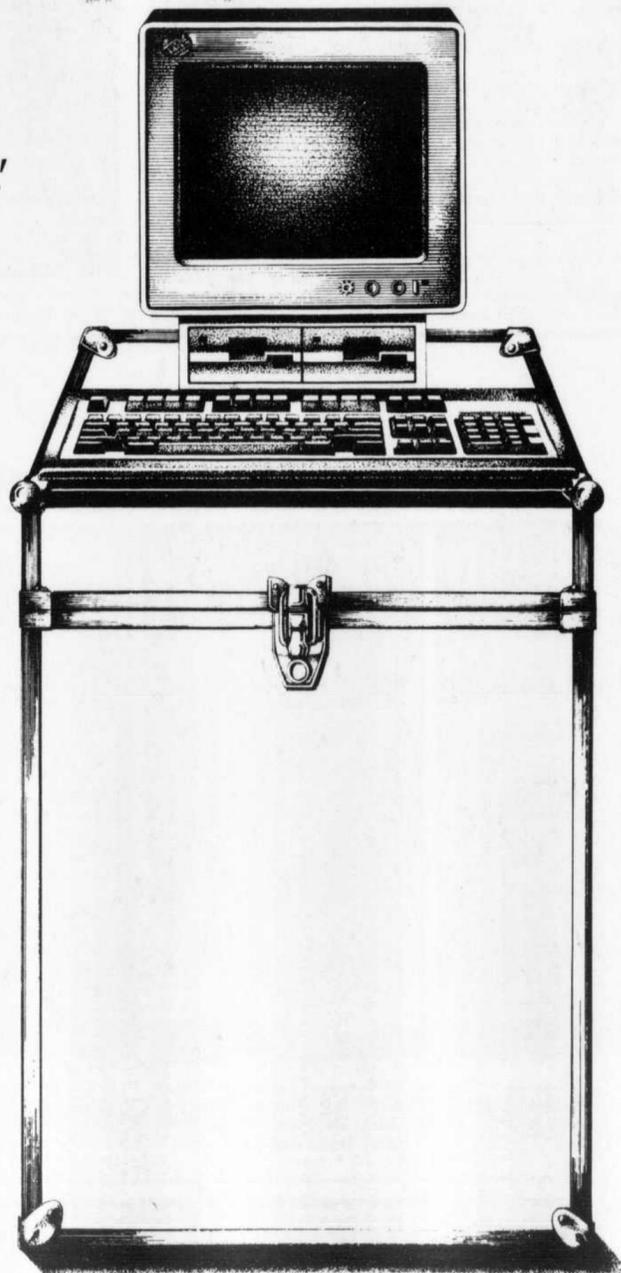
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Hoops tames Sydney Tigers

By Mike Shady
Sports Editor

The Washington and Lee basketball team appeared to do everything right when it won its Old Dominion Athletic Conference home opener Tuesday night, and 87-85 victory over Hampden-Sydney in the Warner Center. The Generals upped their early-season record to 4-0, one of the fastest starts for the team in recent years, and the team played well down the stretch in pressure situations. Appearances, however, can still be deceiving.

The Generals played a very uneven game, with the bright spots being excellent shooting and bench play. Turnovers were a problem, though, as W&L had trouble establishing its half-court offense.

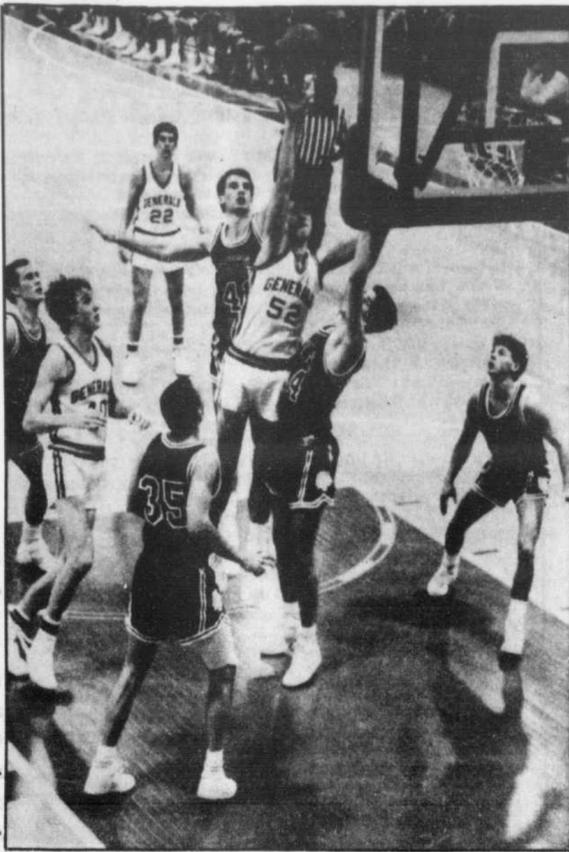
"We're trying to get an up-tempo game. We're trying to get a transition game," said senior guard Steve Hancock, "but we're turning our transition game into a fast-paced one and not setting up our offense. We're mentally tough as far as keeping the lead. We didn't lose our cool, but we have to learn to settle things down and work the ball under pressure."

Hancock's assessment echoed the feelings of his head coach. "The only thing that was pleasing tonight was that we had contributions from the bench, like a guy like [senior center] Lou Trosch," said head coach Verne Canfield, "and we showed a mental toughness we haven't showed the last couple of years. But I am totally—underline totally—dissatisfied with our execution at either end of the floor."

Hancock and Trosch, this season's co-captains, were both key performers for W&L. Hancock led all General scorers with 22 points and Trosch came off the bench to grab 11 rebounds, one of which was an important offensive board that he put back in for two points. Trosch was thrust into action after senior center Harmon Harden (16 points), the starting center for the Generals, fouled out with over five minutes remaining.

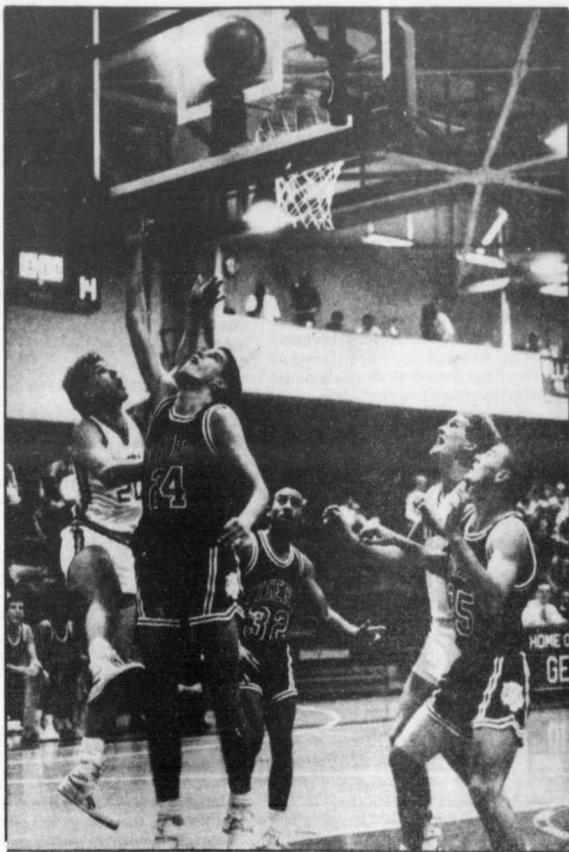
The Generals led 36-32 at halftime. Scoring wise, Hancock received support from freshman forward Ed Hart (13 points) and freshman guard Michael Holton (11 points, three 3-pointers).

The Generals take on Greensboro College tonight at 7:30 at the Warner Center. W&L travels on Saturday for a game against Lynchburg before returning home to play Bridgewater on Wed., Dec. 9.



By Mathew Horridge/The Ring-tum Phi

Senior center Harmon Harden powers his way to the basket.



By Perry S. Hayes/The Ring-tum Phi

Senior guard Steve Hancock spins in a reverse layup.

Fields; fixed and near ready

By Amy Packard
Staff Reporter

Ever since their faulty initial completion, the future of the new \$400,000 athletic fields had been uncertain. But over the summer, the construction problems were remedied, and the fields should be ready for use in September 1988. Concerning their purpose, Associate Athletic Director Dick Miller says the Athletic Department does not have a specific plan.

"They are actually practice fields," he said, "but we'll probably use one of them for men and women's soccer games, provided there's no conflict of schedules. They are really not any particular sport's fields."

As for the fields in use now, Miller plans to move men's soccer from the baseball outfield, and then make that area restricted to baseball alone.

Although there appear to be no more difficulties with the fields, the

story behind their delayed usage was never fully announced. Beyond the request for the fields, the Athletic Department had virtually no involvement in the contracting and construction of the fields. Executive Assistant to the President, Frank A. Parsons, provided the information about the situation.

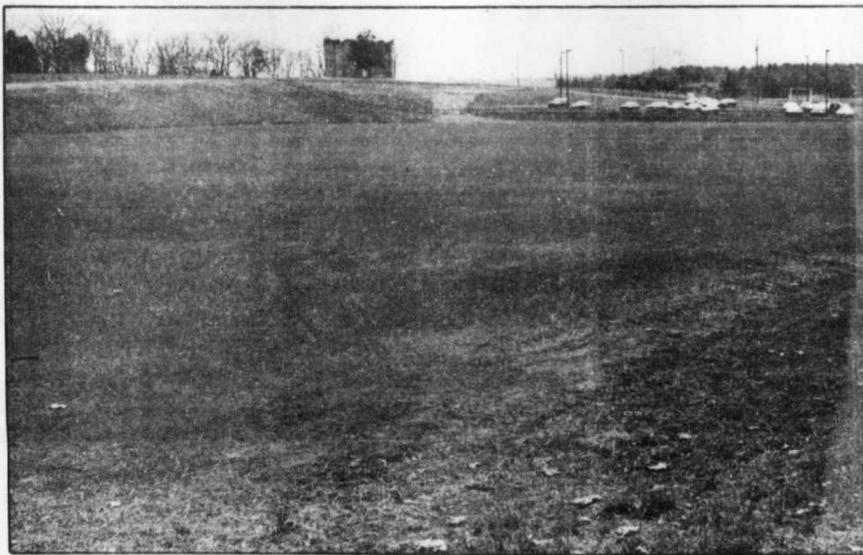
"The fields had been engineered to drain properly, and they simply did not," he said. "Basically, they had been designed to be flat, since the Athletic Department asked us to prepare for field hockey, which cannot be played on a crowned field. In order to supplement the drainage difficulty, the contractors were supposed to create a porous soil mixture, which would let water run down off the sides. However, the soil was mixed improperly."

Once the problem was identified, the terms of settlement had to be agreed upon. The contractors, the University representatives and the

Athletic Department decided to agree on an equally divided responsibility being unanimously averse to the idea of taking the matter to court, considering that no one would really win the case, said Parsons.

Meanwhile, the Athletic Department decided not to build a field hockey field, and instead requested another soccer field. Since soccer fields can be constructed with crowns, the contractors did not have to face the possibility of faulty soil mixture again. According to Parsons, another advantage to the reconstruction was the timing of the decision. The University was currently building more parking space for the Law School and could utilize the remaining soil dug from that project to expand an athletic field.

Parsons described the steps of correction: "We augmented the sand, went through several procedures of removing the soil compound, and redesigned the sprinkler system."



By Perry S. Hayes/The Ring-tum Phi

The new athletic fields will be ready in 1988.



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Feelies to play W&L Pavilion



By Gregory Ossi
Music Critic

Those crazy boys are at it again. No this album is not the latest new age music for yuppies from Japan, nor does it involve slow, twanging vibrations from (insert the name of your favorite Chinese instrument here.) Although you can be fooled by the album's cover of the two happiest kelp fishermen I've ever seen.

This is the new album from the Feelies, a highly nonconformist band from Hoboken, New Jersey. Despite the new name, Yung Wu, this is no sidelight album from the Feelies. It is a fully produced piece of the band at its best, consistent with the quality and originality of their last two works. There is the folksy Feelies sound of the dual and sometimes treble guitar playing of Glenn Mercer and Bill Million, the impassioned carefree voice of Dave Weckermen and the beating of drums by Stanley Demeski coming together to form some hot tracks.

The album starts out with the title song "Shore Leave." A catchy tune backed by a solid two-chord rhythm by the acoustic guitar filled in with a little keyboards and electric guitar riffs. The vocals are typical Feelies, barely intelligible yet pleasant. "Aspiration" the third song on the first side is a contemplative song that rocks. The lyrics to the chorus go something like this: Till they find/they can't describe/in great detail/the sight that fails/Aspiration, its coming from the air/Inspiration, it seeps from over. Alright, its not exactly on the same philosophical plane as U2 but this is a Feelies song and lyrics aren't that important. What is important are those jangling guitars

and folksy upbeat melodies that tend to stick in your head.

There are several excellent covers on this album. On side one there is a well-down cover of Brian Eno's "Big Day." They do justice to the Stones "Child of the Moon" on the flip side. By far the most impressive cover is that of Neil Young's "powerfinger," one he should be proud of.

I keep referring to this band as the Feelies which they are, but on the album they have called themselves Yung Wu. I hope no one is terribly confused. This is a takeoff from their live shows in which they seem to enjoy appearing under a different name.

The second side rocks as much as the first side. "Eternal Ice" sounds a little heavy with the electric sound more so than the rest of the songs but it is still a great tune. Both "Strange Little Man" and "Modern Farmer" have all the qualities of a good song and more. "Return to Zion," the third song on the B-side, encompasses and shows off the talent the band has for creating a song that has a sort of unforgettable lasting to it.

What are people saying about this album? CMJ, the college magazine of progressive music raves, "it seems that no matter what these boys lay down on wax, it has a timeless quality to it." WLUR has placed it high on their play list.

This review can't do the album or the group proper justice. You can, however, seem them live during Christmas Weekend on Friday, December 4 when they highlight a three band show sponsored by the SAB. The concert also features Dumptruck and Tommy Keene. Tickets are on sale at the bookstore.

Dumptruck will open for The Feelies Friday night. Publicity Photo

CALENDAR

Thursday, December 3

All Day — CAREER DEV. & PLACEMENT: Resume Critique (walk-in). Room 129, U.C.
5 p.m.— CHEMISTRY SEMINAR: "Color Changes in the Supermarket," Richard M. Strat, Brown University. Room 401, Howe Hall. Refreshments at 4:30 in Room 402. Public invited.
7:30 p.m.— BASKETBALL: Generals vs. Greensboro. Warner Center.

Friday, December 4

All Day — CAREER DEV. & PLACEMENT: Dr. Stanley Cook, W&L '61 and '64L, environmental protection specialist and government public relations officer, to offer career advice. Advance sign-up in CD&P office is necessary.
8 p.m. — FILM SOCIETY: "When Father Was Away on Business." Classroom "A," Lewis Hall.
8 p.m. — PLAY: "Mass Appeal." St. Patrick's Church. For reservations, call W&L theatre office, 463-8637.

Saturday, December 5

1:30 p.m. — OPERA BROADCAST: Tosca. WLUR-FM (91.5).
8 p.m. — FILM SOCIETY: "When Father Was Away on Business." Classroom "A," Lewis Hall.
8 p.m. — PLAY: "Mass Appeal." St. Patrick's Church. For reservations, call W&L theatre office, 463-8637.

Sunday, December 6

2:30 p.m. — ROCKBRIDGE CONCERT-THEATRE SERIES: "A Child's Christmas in Wales." Lexington High School.
8 p.m. — PLAY: "Mass Appeal." St. Patrick's Church. For reservations, call W&L theatre office, 463-8637.

Tuesday, December 8

4:30 p.m. — GLASGOW ENDOWMENT LECTURE SERIES: A Reading by Peter Taylor. Reception to follow. Northern Auditorium, University Library. Public invited.
7:30 p.m.— LECTURE: "Focusing on Bulimarexia," Dr. Marlene Boskind-White, St. Albans Psychiatric Hospital. Moot Courtroom, Lewis Hall. Public invited.
8 p.m.— CHRISTMAS CONCERT: University Chorus, Glee Club, and Instrumental Ensembles. Lee Chapel. Public invited.

Wednesday, December 9

7 p.m. — POLITICS FILMFEST: Billy Budd. Room 327, Commerce School.
7:30 p.m.— BASKETBALL: Generals vs. Bridgewater. Warner Center.

Thursday, December 10

— Reservation Deadline for University Women's Christmas Party
4 & 7 p.m. — POLITICS FILMFEST: Billy Budd. Room 327, Commerce School.
7:30 p.m. — W&L Christmas Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols. R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church. Public invited.

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