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Romulus T. Weatherman _____ *Editor*
A. Michael Philipps '64 _____ *Associate Editor
and Photographer*
Mrs. Joyce Carter _____ *Editorial Assistant*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Tumultuous Beginnings _____ 1
Athletics at W&L Today _____ 6
He Seeks Pride, Alumni Help, and
Winning Teams _____ 9
Something New is Going to be Added to
Old Doremus _____ 13
Doremus: Monument of Another Era _____ 16
The Light Fantastic _____ 20
The Ever-Spry Cy _____ 23
The Men Who Give the Generals Their Go _____ 24
As the Student-Athletes See It _____ 28
So Where Does This Leave the Alumni? _____ 35

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Last winter the *Ring-tum Phi* published a historical sketch of athletics at Washington and Lee. It began: "It was nearly 15 years ago that Washington and Lee surprised sports enthusiasts all over the nation by completely desubsidizing a fairly successful athletic program. That decision was probably the most important the Board of Trustees had made since it elected Robert E. Lee as President of Washington College in 1865. . . . It was to affect the very character and standards of the University which we now attend."

Allowing for a bit of exaggeration, the statement is a fair assessment of what the passage of time has proved to be a salutary athletic policy. This issue of *W&L* is devoted to an examination of the origin, evolution, and effectiveness of that policy and provides a glimpse of the teacher-coaches and student-athletes who make the athletic program a vital part of the University's overall educational mission.

On the cover: The montage on the cover symbolizes the breadth and depth of athletics at Washington and Lee—12 intercollegiate sports in which nearly one-third of the student body participate and 13 intramural sports in which two-thirds of the students compete. Few colleges the size of Washington and Lee match this record—a fact of which the University is justly proud.

1954-year of dilemma
debate and decision

the tumultuous beginnings



by Frank A. Parsons
Assistant to the President

From "Gator" to "gone" in four years.

It was incredible, infuriating, heartening, puzzling, sad, and necessary, all depending upon one's point of view and his understanding of the events and circumstances that caused it to happen.

When the Trustees of Washington and Lee University canceled the 1954 football schedule, discontinued further athletic grants-in-aid, and set the University on a new, "simon pure" athletic policy, the action touched off a storm of controversy that raged for months, then rumbled ominously for several years, and now has become only an infrequent and faint flash on the horizon as the tempest fades into the past.

The purpose of this article is not to reopen old wounds, nor to aggravate grievances that may continue to smolder among those who still believe the University was wrong in its decisions of July, 1954. Time has salved much of the hurt. Certainly no one at Washington and Lee today bears any grudge against those who were such outspoken critics in the mid-50's. And, just as certainly, those critics, while perhaps still preferring a different athletic program for Washington and Lee, have come to respect the integrity and purposes that give direction now to the University's athletic program.

Indeed, the objective of this issue of *W&L* is to present all alumni and other friends an opportunity to share a clearer understanding and appreciation of the athletic program that has evolved from those tumultuous beginnings more than a decade ago. No review of the merits and strengths, the problems and challenges of this program would be adequate without some recounting of the change itself, its causes and effects.

Perhaps the change in policy and direction would have been easier to accept had it not followed so closely what will always remain one of the grandest moments in W&L

Glittering Gil Bocetti led the Generals to the Gator Bowl in 1951. It really didn't matter that Washington and Lee lost — it was a great moment, one to be remembered for years to come. Suddenly the tide reversed, marking that occasion as the last "big time" event in Washington and Lee football history.

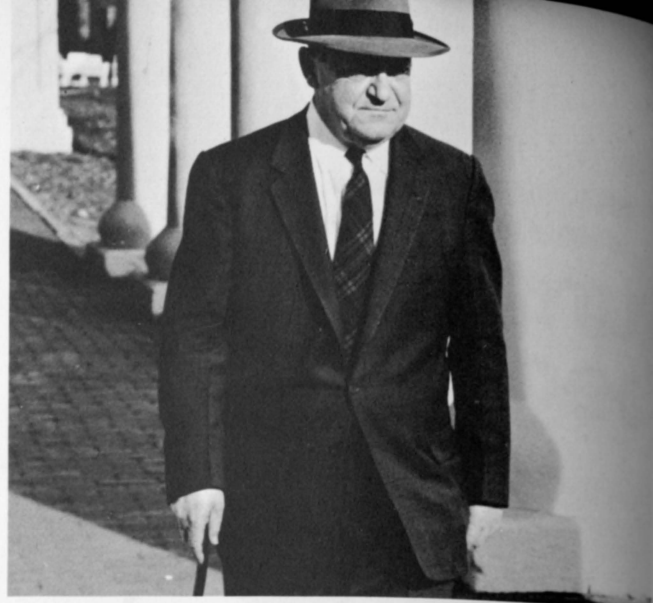
athletic history—that splendid 1950 season when the Generals won eight, lost only two in regular play, and then represented the University in the Gator Bowl at Jacksonville on January 1, 1951. No matter that Wyoming had prevailed, 20-7, alumni everywhere gloried in the Generals' presence there, and the future was never brighter.

Hopes and expectations remained high in 1951 when the wins again outnumbered the losses, 6-4, and among the defeated was otherwise unbeaten Virginia, a Wilson Field victim, 42-14. But hard times fell in 1952 with the departure of Glittering Gil Bocetti and his talented mates, and the record plummeted to 3-7. In 1953, after an opening victory over Shepherd College, the Generals dropped six straight before regrouping to win the last three contests over Virginia, Davidson, and William & Mary. The advance publicity the University provided the pre-season football publications proclaimed that W&L was "undefeated in November" and would be tough in 1954 if a serious player shortage could be overcome with talented freshmen.

This lack of sufficient personnel to wage a major football campaign was one of several critical factors in the developments of 1954. During the spring, Washington and Lee had led a successful effort in the Southern Conference to have freshmen declared eligible for varsity competition. Academic depletions and losses due to other factors had reduced the player pool to 17 lettermen and a handful of rising sophomores, so the necessity to use freshmen was urgent.

In May, the problem worsened with further academic losses and the withdrawal of other players involved in the Honor System "scandal" of May, 1954. Even with freshmen, Coach Carl Wise could now look for only 32 players at most to cope with a schedule that opened with West Virginia, and included Pennsylvania (then an Eastern power), Vanderbilt, and Virginia in addition to traditional Southern Conference opponents, Richmond, William & Mary, Virginia Tech, George Washington, and Davidson.

The player shortage was only one of several concerns that weighed upon the participants in a special meeting of an athletic committee of the Board of Trustees, members of the athletic department, and representatives of the University Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics called by President Gaines on July 7. There was the matter of finances, important but not critically so, and there was the



Dr. Francis Pendleton Gaines, president of Washington and Lee during the 1954 decision, called a special meeting on July 7 to discuss the football program.

larger, vital question of whether the ambitions of the football program were consistent with the educational aspirations of the University.

After arguments were heard out, the Trustee committee conferred privately before announcing three recommendations it would take to the full board:

- The athletic department would continue its regular program for the fall (that is, meet the nine-game schedule) with "some modifications if that is possible."
- Varsity football should be continued as a part of the University's intercollegiate program.
- A program of gradual de-emphasis should be introduced, looking forward to complete "amateur" status as soon as possible.

In their sports page reports, writers and editors expressed bafflement as to what the recommendations actually meant. Some stories suggested that Washington and Lee's coaches were confused by the statements as well. What modifications to the existing schedule were possible at that late date? Did W&L expect to play major schedules without athletic scholarships? How gradual could "as soon as possible" be?

These were some of the questions debated in the sports columns, at the counter in McCrum's Drug Store in Lexington, and wherever football friends of the Generals gathered. At any rate, it seemed, the rumors that football would be dropped altogether were apparently unfounded. Alumni and other fans looked to a long, hard season—perhaps winless—but Washington and Lee's men would fall in line, nevertheless.

Adverse reactions the July 7 recommendations may have generated had scarcely had time to crystalize before the morning newspapers of July 24 dropped the bomb. Meeting in Washington, D.C., on July 23, the Board of Trustees had resolved:



When the late Lee M. McLaughlin came to Washington and Lee in 1957, he took over a faltering program and made it work, turning many critics into admirers.

1. That with regret Washington and Lee University suspends intercollegiate football for the time being and cancels all scheduled games; that the President of Washington and Lee inform the presidents of the institutions with which football games have been scheduled of the reasons which have impelled this decision.

2. That all obligations other than the playing of football games heretofore incurred in connection with the prior program of Washington and Lee be faithfully and fully carried out.

3. That intramural football be further encouraged.

4. That consideration be given to the possibility of re-establishing intercollegiate football upon an amateur basis by, among other things, endeavoring to find other educational institutions to which modern-day subsidization is unacceptable, which will join in an effort to re-establish intercollegiate football as an unsubsidized college sport.

5. That no other athletic scholarships be awarded beyond those already committed.

6. That the University endeavor to expand its athletic program, both intercollegiate and intramural, in such a way as to interest and enlist participation of the largest number of students.

What had happened between July 7 and July 23 to accelerate de-emphasis into complete and immediate non-subsidization? Why did a schedule difficult on July 7 become impossible on July 23?

Although accounts differ on this, the coaching staff apparently had had second thoughts about tackling the nine-game schedule with its limited squad and had asked the Trustees to authorize additional grants-in-aid for any

recruits still obtainable at that late hour. Whether presented as such or not, the effect of the request was that of an ultimatum. As one unidentified Trustee explained to a sportswriter, "The coaches told us they could not play this year's schedule with what they had. We could not undertake any more."

To many who read the news reports of the incredible decisions, they appeared hasty, perhaps even irresponsible. There were contracts with nine opponents voided, and apparently no thought had been given to alumni sentiment. Many alumni were on record in a poll conducted in 1946 as favoring the kind of athletic program that existed until July 23, 1954.

There followed outcries of anguish from some alumni quarters. Some organized chapters passed formal resolutions censuring the Trustees for their action and calling for prompt restoration of a subsidized athletic program with continuing emphasis on football. Other chapters were more restrained in their resolutions, asking only for full review and full information concerning the reasons for the decisions. Later, still other chapters passed resolutions affirming confidence in the University's leadership and their fidelity to Washington and Lee as an educational institution.

Alumni in Lexington, although not organized in a formal chapter, listed 50 signatures on a petition that called for restoration of the former program, abolition of the College Entrance Examination Board tests for admissions purposes, and the establishment of a physical education major, ostensibly as a means of reducing academic demands on athletes and thus reducing squad depletions.

Among those alumni who wrote personal letters to President Gaines and Trustees, those endorsing the Board's action outnumbered the dissenters, 245 to 61.

The most acrimonious views found expression on the sports pages, in the sports columns, and in letters to the editors. Only a few sports editors accepted Washington and Lee's new athletic posture with any grace. One of these was the *Richmond Times-Dispatch's* Chauncey Durden, who wrote perceptively on July 25, "Friday's action will not affect Washington and Lee as a university. Even its football-minded alumni will come to know there was no alternative as college football is operated today." Mr. Durden prophetically saw Washington and Lee

renewing its football wars with Centre College and Sewanee, other small colleges with heroic football histories who had preceded the Generals into programs of successful non-subsidization.

On the editorial pages of newspapers across the nation, Washington and Lee's bold action was praised almost unanimously. Said the *Roanoke Times*: "It is a challenge for institutions to find the right perspective and to assign football to its proper place. Washington and Lee, an ancient and distinguished place of learning, is bigger than football by far, and we do not believe it will suffer. We applaud the university for the example it has set." The *Richmond Times-Dispatch's* comment: "Washington and Lee's action heartens all who believe the function of a college is to turn out educated men and women, rather than to produce fabulous and overpublicized football juggernauts." The *Louisville Courier-Journal* remarked that "Football needs Washington and Lee far more than Washington and Lee needs football. W&L will continue in its proud tradition as a place of culture and learning."

In the retrospection that the passing of 15 years makes possible, two valid questions emerge as the dominant themes of the debate and concern voiced in the late summer and early fall of 1954. One dealt with the game of football itself, the other with the academic aspirations and educational objectives of the University.

Much of the criticism directed toward the University and the Trustees did not involve the removal of subsidized football as much as it did the demise of the sport itself from the Washington and Lee scene. One alumnus, given to poetic expression, concluded a three-stanza contribution to a sports column with "Not only is football dead at W&L, they buried a way of life in Lexington today." So great was the concern of many over the future of football in terms of the 1954 season, that they tended to overlook the Trustees' resolution to bring back varsity competition at a more acceptable level if at all possible. On September 15, President Gaines announced to the opening University assembly that W&L would indeed return to varsity play in 1955, and that a limited "interim jayvee" schedule would be pursued in late October and November of 1954 "to keep the spark of football alive here."

Later, with the appointment of Bill Chipley, a former General and professional star of established respect, as

head coach, alumni disappointment and disquiet subsided, and everyone sat back to see if there was, after all, some middle ground between the so-called "big time" and no football at all. Some had predicted it would be far more difficult to resume than it was to quit, and for five long years this forecast haunted those who wished only well for Washington and Lee.

The question of educational purpose was a more disturbing theme. One outspoken alumnus who commanded the attention of sportswriters put it bluntly. He cited a faculty clique of "pseudo-intellectuals" who were determined to "replace the well-rounded Washington and Lee man of the past with a breed of Phi Beta Kappas." He said the "abolition of football at Washington and Lee, tragic in itself, is an indication of an even greater loss, the loss of proper perspective and balance." Although he charged that 80 per cent of the faculty at Washington and Lee were against football, one man emerged as the scapegoat in these and other comments on the educational direction of the University. The term "Leyburnism" was heard often, frequently with little understanding on the part of those who used it.

Soon after Dr. James G. Leyburn came to Washington and Lee as Dean of the University in 1947, he presented to the faculty a comprehensive commentary on his evaluation of the goals that the University should seek as a center of learning. This so-called "Leyburn Plan" became a guiding philosophy in the development of Washington and Lee's academic programs over the years that followed. In his remarks to the faculty, Dean Leyburn suggested several topics that should be debated within the faculty in the months ahead. The first of those was "The means of inculcating in our students the feeling that the primary goal of college life is intellectual stimulation and achievement, that all extracurricular activities are secondary to this goal, and that Washington and Lee's reputation should not in any sense rest upon the achievement of its football team, the success of its Fancy Dress balls, or the luxury of its fraternity houses."

Dean Leyburn was not, and is not, against football at Washington and Lee, but he could not reconcile the subsidization of athletics, some of whom were indeed "calculated academic risks," with his desire to bring to Washington and Lee good students with good minds, capable of challenging and inspiring the excellent faculty

and capable of being challenged and inspired in return.

Two years after the football policy was changed, Dean Leyburn resigned as Dean of the University to devote full time to teaching at Washington and Lee, a role he continues to fill as one of the University's most effective and respected professors. If the criticism he drew as a result of the football policy change affected this decision to resign, it was regrettable, for the goals he sought for Washington and Lee in respect to the quality of its students are those shared by everyone at the University today and by the majority of alumni and other good friends of the University. Today, to an extent far greater than was dreamed possible in 1947 or 1954, the University has grown in academic stature and football has remained an integral part of a broad program of intercollegiate athletics that, above all else, seeks to serve the students themselves.

A word should be said about the role of finances in the factors which influenced the decisions of 1954. Although President Gaines' letter to alumni and students on August 5, 1954, explained certain deficits occurring in the athletic budgets of 1952-53 and 1953-54, and cited the difficulty of budgeting to anticipate troubles foreseen in the future, finances were never really as much a concern as some believed. Although tuition grants for athletes were no longer needed under the new policy, it was not effected to save money *per se*. Indeed, it can be argued and demonstrated that the University's financial commitment to athletics is far greater now than ever before. Nearly twice as many players take part in football now than under the subsidized program; so equipment needs are double. It costs just as much to fly a football player to Memphis or St. Louis whether he is on scholarship or not. Good coaches command appropriately good salaries, and it is a fact that Washington and Lee's compensation for its fine faculty-coaches surpasses that of many schools whose athletic programs aspire to different goals of achievement and standards of success. It is perhaps ironic that Washington and Lee's athletic program today is, in fact, totally subsidized, despite the general understanding and use of this term. No attempt is made to have the program pay its own way on gate receipts or from special alumni fund-raising clubs. Other sports are not dependent upon football to provide income to support the entire intercollegiate program, as was the case under the former approach.

There are no "minor" sports, and each is supported adequately in terms of coaching equipment, travel and other accommodations, and the best schedules possible.

The aftermath to the events of 1954 is a story of achievement and satisfaction, laced with a good measure of frustration and disappointment, but nevertheless a story in which all friends of Washington and Lee can find fulfillment and pride. There were difficult years that followed, primarily in football, for this popular sport remains a key to the general success of the overall program. Perhaps the whole story of this memorable chapter in Washington and Lee's 220 years of history can be told in detail when Dr. Crenshaw's *General Lee's College* is augmented by a later history.

One footnote is appropriate here in acknowledgement of the contribution the members of the football squads of 1959 through 1962 and their head coach, the late Lee M. McLaughlin, made to the quieting of those who disassociated amateur football with good football. Throughout those seasons, this dedicated group of young men—all playing only for the love of the game—compiled a record of 28 victories, five losses, and two ties. They sang the *Swing* in their dressing room before the game and at halftime, and there were some Phi Beta Kappas among them. In 1961 they were unbeaten in nine games. *Sports Illustrated* featured them in a mid-season lead story, and at season's end the Washington Touchdown Club selected them as the outstanding small college team in the nation. They demonstrated emphatically that football did not die at W&L, nor did they bury a way of life in Lexington on July 23, 1954.

Note: Frank A. Parsons has been in the thick (and sometimes the thin) of the University's athletic situation for more than 15 years. He was an undergraduate at W&L during the last years of the subsidized program and became the University's director of publicity shortly after graduation in 1954. To him fell the job of interpreting to the public the new athletic policy during the tension-filled years that followed the decision to end athletic grants-in-aid. He has been successively Director of Information Services, Assistant to the President for Institutional Research, Director of Development, and now Assistant to President Huntley.

athletics at W&L today

by John Hughes, *Director of Sports Information*

Washington and Lee's athletic department really has three functions. It administers 12 intercollegiate sports, the University's physical education program, and the popular student intramural program.

When a man is appointed to the University's athletic department, he is both a coach and a physical education instructor and has faculty rank. Intramurals are administered by students under faculty supervision. All three phases share equally in importance at Washington and Lee.

The University is proud of the fact

that nearly one-third of its students take part in the intercollegiate sports program. The actual figure for the current year is 28 per cent.

There is even greater participation in the intramurals program. Two-thirds of Washington and Lee's student body play in at least one of the 13 intramural sports. And one-third of them play in more than one sport.

If you are looking for a positive argument for a desubsidized program over a subsidized one, the above participation figures certainly provide a very good one.

As Gene Corrigan, the University's new Athletic Director, points out elsewhere in this issue, many of the bigger schools with subsidized intercollegiate programs have the participation of only 5 per cent or less of their student bodies. And many of these schools field teams in as few as eight sports compared to W&L's 12. That kind of program would seem to be no longer for the students as a whole, but only for those who are paid to play them. Gene also points out how a fully-subsidized program at Washington and Lee—if done right—would be financially impossible.

There are those who suggest a compromise program, with subsidization of one sport, such as basketball, while leaving other sports unsubsidized. They point to Davidson's success as a prime example.

But, runs the counter argument, this creates a "super sport." It sets one group of athletes apart from others. It implies they are something special; they receive benefits and equipment that other athletes do not. You will hear it said a lot around the W&L gym, "We have no 'minor' sports here. They are all equal in importance."

How do you measure the success of W&L's athletic program? There are several ways, of course. The broad participation mentioned above is certainly one; another is the obvious benefit a person derives from playing sports. There's also the fact that the W&L athlete *can* participate on a varsity team for as long as four years whereas he might simply warm the bench for a shorter period at a bigger school.

But the best way to measure success—and certainly the one the general

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS AT W&L / 1968-69

<i>Sports</i>	<i>No. of Participants*</i>
Baseball	32
Basketball	29
Cross-Country	17
Football	88
Golf	15
Lacrosse	35
Rifle	13
Soccer	44
Swimming	34
Tennis	15
Track	44
Wrestling	30
<i>Total</i>	<u>396</u>
Less half of no. participating in more than one sport (82)	41
Total no. of <i>individuals</i> participating	<u>355</u>
Percentage of student body participating	28%

*Includes managers

Student body is 1,284 undergraduates; Law School enrollment is excluded.

INTRAMURAL ATHLETICS AT W&L / 1968-69

<i>Sports</i>	<i>No. of Participants</i>
Basketball	354
Bowling	125
Cross-Country	187
Football	452
Golf	107
Handball	150
Softball	307
Swimming	196
Table Tennis	162
Tennis	165
Track	155
Volleyball	150
Wrestling	216
<i>Total</i>	<u>2,728</u>
Less those participating in more than one sport	1,743
Total no. of <i>individuals</i> participating	<u>985</u>
*Percentage of student body participating	67%

*Student body is 1,473; Law School is included since they are eligible and do participate in intramurals.

public uses—is the won-lost record.

Football coach Lee McLaughlin proved W&L could field representative teams on an "amateur" basis—and be a winner. More recently, basketball and tennis coach Verne Canfield's teams have won five conference championships in three years.

The swimming teams of Cy Twombly and his successors have made winning a habit—the last time they had a losing season was in 1948. His golf squads have won more than they lost every year since 1954.

Other teams and coaches have had up-and-down years. A quick glance at the following charts shows the athletic program has been as successful in its 15 years on an "amateur" basis as it was in the previous eight years when subsidized. And when you look at the number of overall winning records (seven sports compared with three), it has been more successful.

Ironically, the so-called "minor" sports have been the biggest winners. In the last 15 years, soccer, tennis, swimming, wrestling, track, golf, and

cross-country have all been on the plus side.

The last three big winning seasons in basketball (20-5, 19-6, and 19-5) have brought that sport's overall record close to the .500 mark, and one or two more big years will put it on the winning side. The same is true in football.

Compare that record with the one compiled immediately after World War II, when subsidized athletics at W&L were at their peak; only three of the 12 sports posted a winning record

VARSITY INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

1946-1954 / Eight Years
(Winning Sports in Bold Face)

Year	46-47	47-48	48-49	49-50	50-51	51-52	52-53	53-54	Totals	Win	Loss	Tie
Baseball	8-6	12-9	8-10	10-11-1	9-9	11-9	4-13	4-15	66	82	1	
Basketball	16-7	7-16	10-12	8-12	8-17	6-21	2-20	6-17	63	122	0	
Football	2-6	5-5	4-6	3-5-1	8-2	6-4	3-7	4-6	35	41	1	
Soccer	—	3-1	5-5	2-7	6-2-1	4-3-1	2-7	0-8	22	33	2	
Lacrosse	5-2	4-4	3-8	5-6	3-5	5-8	2-6	4-7	31	44	0	
Tennis	7-6	8-3	0-7-1	2-6	5-5	6-7	3-7	8-3	39	44	1	
Swimming	—	1-1	0-6	5-1	4-1	3-1	5-2	5-2	23	14	0	
Wrestling	—	6-3	11-1	13-2	4-8-1	5-2	3-3	3-4	45	23	1	
Track	1-3	1-4	1-3	3-2	—	0-4	4-4	1-6	11	26	0	
Golf	10-3-1	9-2-1	6-4-1	7-2-1	6-3	5-5-1	8-3	3-3-1	54	25	6	
Cross-Country	—	2-4	2-2	2-3	1-2	2-2	3-2	4-4	16	19	0	
Totals	49-33-1	57-50-1	50-64-2	60-57-3	54-54-2	53-66-2	39-74	42-75-1	405	473	12	
Overall Percentage										.461		

(Three seasons of crew with an overall record of 13-11 are not included in this figure. Crew was discontinued in 1952.)

1954-1969 / 15 years
(Winning Sports in Bold Face)

Year	54-55	55-56	56-57	57-58	58-59	59-60	60-61	61-62	62-63	63-64	64-65	65-66	66-67	67-68	68-69	Totals	Win	Loss	Tie
Baseball	4-17	6-13-1	8-12	5-10	2-13	3-17	7-4	1-11-1	5-8	2-9-1	2-11	3-7	3-15	8-10	11-9	70	166	3	
Basketball	16-13	12-16	20-7	9-16	1-15	7-10	7-11	6-11	5-14	4-13	1-16	9-14	20-5	19-6	19-5	155	172	0	
Football	2-1-1	0-7	1-7	0-8	1-7	3-4-1	8-0-1	9-0	8-1	5-3	4-5	3-6	2-5-2	5-4	3-5-1	54	63	6	
Soccer	5-3-2	3-6-1	8-4	5-4-1	6-3-1	5-3-1	4-4	2-7	6-3-2	6-3	8-3	7-3-2	8-3-1	9-3	3-5-1	85	57	12	
Lacrosse	5-2-1	4-7	7-6	5-6	4-6	2-6	3-9	1-11	3-7	5-4	4-7	2-8	4-5	2-7	1-8	52	99	1	
Tennis	5-5	8-4	6-4	6-3	9-3	8-3	6-5	5-3	5-3	11-2	3-3	7-2	8-3	7-3	8-5	102	51	0	
Swimming	5-4	6-3	8-1	7-1	6-3	9-0	6-4	8-2-1	7-5	5-5	5-1	8-3	6-3	6-2	7-2	99	39	1	
Wrestling	5-2-1	4-5	3-6-1	2-8	5-5	7-2	7-3	7-3	8-2	6-5-1	4-4-1	4-5	4-4	4-5	0-9	70	68	4	
Track	1-7	2-7	2-6	4-3	6-2	7-0	8-0	4-1	4-2	3-1	5-2	3-5	5-3	3-5	2-4	59	48	0	
Golf	0-6	7-3	4-1	7-3	9-2	4-2-2	7-2	5-3	4-3-1	5-1	2-1-1	4-3	5-2-1	5-2-1	6-3	74	37	6	
Cross-Country	5-4-1	2-6-1	2-7	2-4	2-3	5-4	5-2	6-2	6-2	6-1	6-1	6-1	4-3	4-3	6-5	67	48	2	
Totals	53-64-6	54-77-3	69-61-1	52-66-1	51-62-1	60-51-4	68-44-1	54-54-2	61-50-3	58-47-2	44-54-2	56-57-2	69-51-4	72-50-1	66-60-2	887	848	35	
Overall Percentage																.511			

(Rifle, which had a 48-48-2 record during this period, is not included in this figure.)

in the period of 1946 through 1954—swimming, wrestling, and golf. Football was 35-41-1, despite the fine 8-2 record of the 1950 Gator Bowl team.

Washington and Lee believes physical education is as important to a person's overall education as the broadening of his mind. Therefore, the University has a compulsory physical education program.

All undergraduates, unless physically disqualified, must complete the two-year course satisfactorily to qualify for a degree. This includes passing two tests—a swimming test and the mile run. Every student must learn to swim

and must run the mile in less than seven minutes.

As retired athletic director and long-time swimming coach Cy Twombly has noted, "A man could have four Ph.D.'s, but if he's out in a boat that turns over, they aren't going to do him much good."

A community recreational program has become an integral part of Washington and Lee's overall athletic emphasis. At President Huntley's suggestion, the University last summer opened its gymnasium pool and tennis courts for community use.

Before the two-month program was over, more than 4,000 area residents

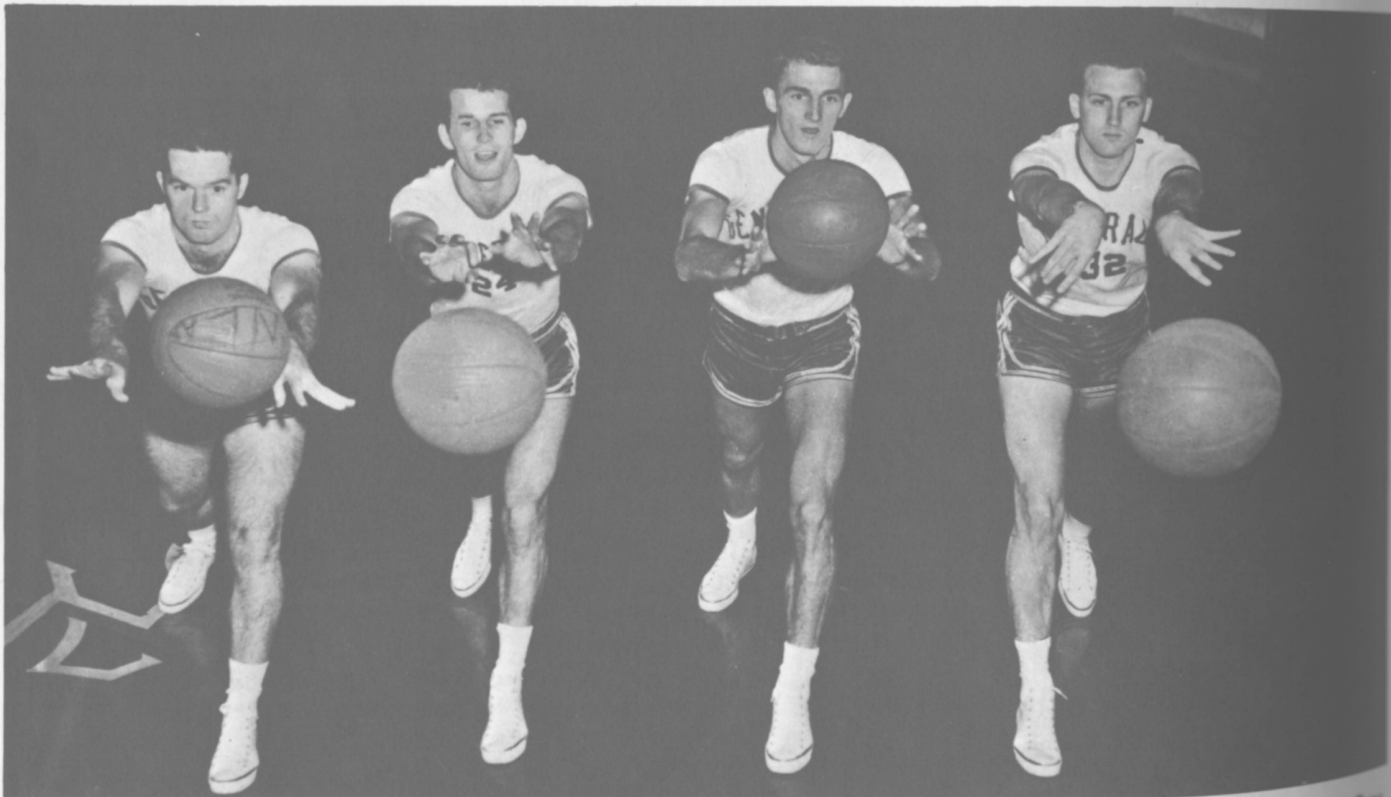
used the facilities. The program was especially popular with the youngsters.

The University and the city of Lexington split much of the cost, including \$480 for lifeguards. Washington and Lee furnished the program's director (Coach Buck Leslie) and also paid an instructor for a beginner's swimming clinic.

"After we began the program we found that so many of these kids couldn't swim," Leslie said. "They had never had any instruction."

Adults made good use of the University's tennis courts.

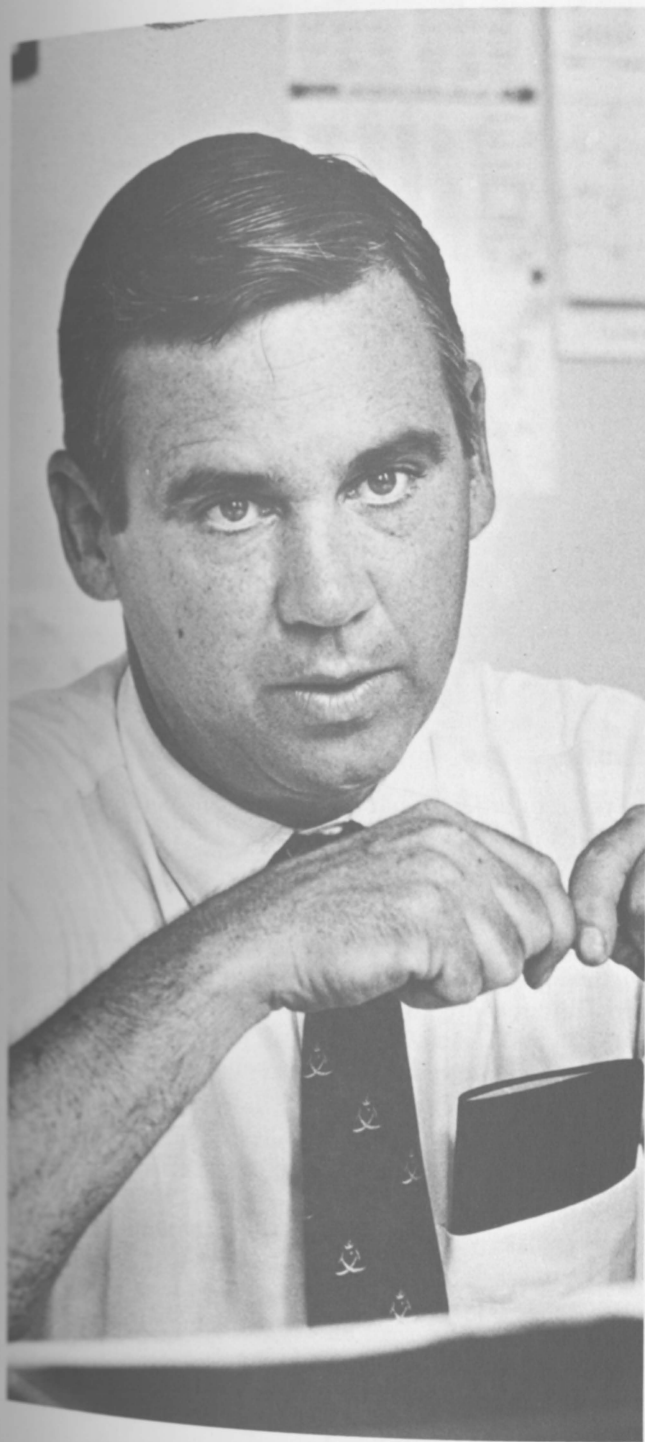
Programs such as this certainly don't hurt "town-and-gown" relations.



The last subsidized athletes to appear at Washington and Lee were basketball players Gary McPherson, Dom Flora, Frank Hoss, and Don Nichols, thus ending in the late 1950's what many thought to be the correct way of big-time athletic glory.

he seeks pride, alumni help, and winning teams

an interview with
Gene Corrigan



Eugene F. Corrigan was expected to be the next Commissioner of the Atlantic Coast Conference. He chose instead to become Athletic Director at Washington and Lee.

Why?

"This is what I like," he said in a tape-recorded interview soon after he took over the job. "I'm not a guy who likes to sit in an office and interpret and enforce rules. I like to be on the campus. It is a personal preference."

His main goal at this point?

"I think the message is that we will be asking for participation down the line. We have been getting it from the students involved. We hope that everyone else will join in. I want to have a sound program that everyone will take pride in. I think if you boiled it down, that would be it. I don't say we will have a model program, but I think that, with a lot of work with alumni and contact with the press, we can sell the good points of what we have and do a good job with what we want to accomplish."

(Gene Corrigan has been from here to there and back, so to speak, in terms of philosophical approaches to intercollegiate athletics. He is a 1952 graduate of Duke University, where he was a star lacrosse player. From 1955 to 1958 he coached lacrosse, soccer, and basketball at Washington and Lee under its desubsidized program. He then coached the same sports for nearly 10 years at the University of Virginia under its subsidized program, and also served part of that time as sports information director. He became administrative assistant to the Commissioner of the Atlantic Coast Conference in 1967, and from that vantage point observed for nearly two years the inner workings of intercollegiate athletics.

(In the light of his experience, he said, he can agree with either the non-subsidized or the subsidized approach. Each school, he said, has to do what it thinks best, and he thinks Washington and Lee is doing what is best for it.)

What, in his view, is Washington and Lee's philosophy?

"Well, No. 1, the athletic program is premised on its being the major out-of-class activity for the student body. No. 2, admissions and financial aid are premised on a boy's ability to perform as a student—first, last, and really everything. That's part of the philosophy. Then there is the philosophy that Lee McLaughlin had when he came

here, and that Verne Canfield and the other coaches have—and that is to have good teams, to instill pride in the players, and to make them feel that playing is not only meaningful to them as an activity in school but something special in their own lives. There are other things, but I think these may be the important things.”

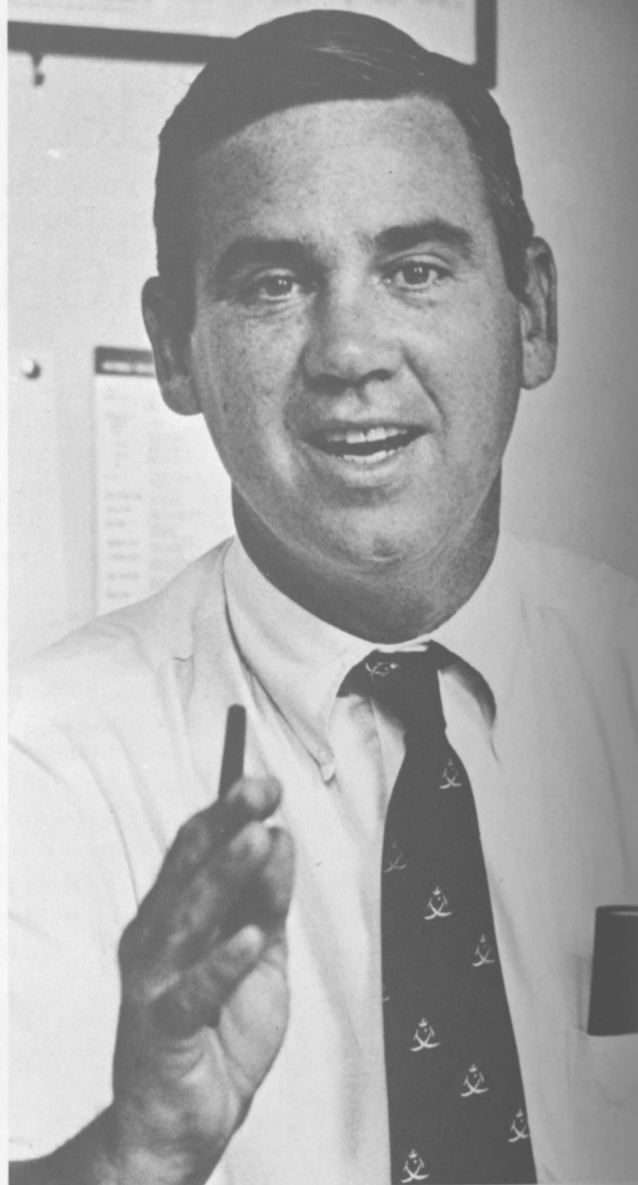
Why is this philosophy good for Washington and Lee?

“Look at it strictly from an economic standpoint. It costs about \$3,200 a year to attend Washington and Lee. Now to be competitive in the two sports that the Atlantic Coast Conference schools subsidize, football and basketball, it would take 120 football and 20 basketball grants-in-aid. If you multiply these figures times \$3,200, you would have almost a half-million-dollar budget to subsidize before you ever buy a T-shirt, pay a coach, or play a game. Add to this the money spent in the recruitment of student-athletes—\$20,000 to \$50,000, depending on the intensity of the program.

“Now Washington and Lee has about 12,000 living alumni, but they are distributed all over the country. We are situated in a town of about 6,000 people. Where would we get the crowds to justify a program of a half million dollars? In order to make money, you have to play 10 games, and you would have to play seven or eight away. Then you are taking the game away from the student body, which some schools are unhappily forced to do. Plenty of schools can do it. But they have large student bodies; or they have a large concentration of alumni to draw crowds from; or they are in a metropolitan area and get the support of those people. But I don't think Washington and Lee can do it at this time—or at any time in the future. Major college football schedules are now made up 10 years in advance, and that would create a problem of at least one decade before old rivals could be met again.

“So what Washington and Lee has done from a practical standpoint has worked out well. And, the program is built and maintained for the student body. Everyone takes pride in the fact that nearly one-third of the student body participates in the intercollegiate program. We would hope that this percentage would increase. We will work to increase it.

“There are some schools with 16,000 or 18,000 students that have eight varsity sports. It is a program for maybe



five per cent or less. That is a far cry from Washington and Lee's participation.”

How do you recruit athletes for a program like Washington and Lee's?

“I don't believe that you can have good teams—winning teams—with just the students who decide to come here without trying to urge them. I think Coach McLaughlin and Coach Canfield have proved that. This is an area where alumni can be very helpful, and we hope that many of them will want to help us recruit. It is not a bad word; it is a part of the American way of life.”

But how do you woo athletes away from the larger schools?

“We can attract good athletes. In trying to interest these boys, I think the alumni can play a significant role. The coaches can do just so much. They have other duties. They can't be on the road for five or six months a year, recruiting as coaches do at some schools. We want to encourage the interest of alumni in our program as much as we can, particularly their participation in letting the

coaches know where a boy is and if he is available so we can talk to him and get him to come here for a visit."

Are visits to the campus important?

"Yes, because high school students now are more aware of what they want. They do not want to make the choice of a school from a brochure. They want to see it. Because of the close relationship between the faculty and the student body here, it's important for a boy who visits W&L to go to class where he can see that this rapport has been established between teachers and students. I think the faculty is behind this program the way it is now. There is no favoritism, no super group that is set aside and gets more than other students. This lends itself to having a very fine background for a sound athletic program—but only if we can get the participation of the alumni to help us find these student-athletes—and I am talking about the total 12-sports program.

Are there risks in alumni help in recruiting?

"Well, alumni have to accept the fact that Washington and Lee's entrance requirements now may be higher than they were when many of them were here. Many times an alumnus will go out and work for a boy who is minimal, talk him into coming, and he is not accepted. Then the alumnus will get upset. So in using alumni help, we would have to set standards at the average—not at the minimum—so that the boy would be accepted in most cases. It is important that the thing work for you—not in reverse. The Ivy League works this system well. Their alumni are involved. This makes them involved in the old school, which is great. It brings them into the athletic situation, which certainly helps your recruiting and your enthusiasm."

What does the program do for the Washington and Lee athlete?

"There are many boys sitting right now at larger schools who could play football here and who are missing something because they are at places where football players all come in on grants-in-aid. I am not saying that these boys would be All-Americans at those schools—or even play—but in our league, given the right kind of program, they would enjoy it. Why should those boys go to those schools when they could come here and participate in something that, for an athlete, is a very important part of his life, provided that the athlete is interested in a small liberal arts college?"

Should a special case be made in our Admissions Office for good high school athletes applying to Washington and Lee?

"That's a many-sided question. High school counselors won't even let students apply unless they feel they have a chance. The counselors know what the standards are here. I know the prevailing rule is that there is never going to be any attempt made to justify acceptance of a boy because of his athletic ability. But I would like to see a study made of how well the average student who participates in athletics does in school as opposed to the average boy who does not participate. I would think that the athlete, because of his involvement, would be strongly motivated because he knows he has to remain eligible in order to play, and this participation is important to him.

"I don't think academic standards scare off many boys, though. I think that the boy who comes here has to be the type who knows that he is going to have to work because you can't hide a poor student at Washington and Lee.

"The worst mistake is to try to help a young man who is not going to make it, because then where does he go? It is hard for him to get into another school. Nobody wants to fail. I am sure that they feel in the Admissions Office—and in the administration, too—that the boys who come in should have a better than a 50-50 chance of graduating. A plain 50-50 chance is not enough."

What other factors are important in recruiting?

"You can't stress the new buildings too much. Plans have been announced to build an addition to Doremus Gymnasium and to construct a separate field house. Both are really needed from the standpoint of morale. Just a few years ago nearly everybody had an old gym. But in the last five or six years, everybody has something new and shiny. I think it could help the morale of the entire community. These buildings are not going to be show-places. They are going to be functional buildings that will be more than adequate for our needs for many years to come.

"A pep band would be helpful. It's not bad to show a little spirit. I think all these things help when you are trying to recruit a boy. Davidson, for instance, a school much like Washington and Lee, has this kind of spirit. The Ivies have pep bands. These things mean something to the high school student-athlete and are just another part of the image that the school presents."

How important is winning?

"Well, I just don't think you can have any kind of a program unless you plan on winning. I have talked to several students here, not just basketball players, for whom basketball is tremendous, and their feeling is that it is really great that this team could be a consistent winner. I don't think you are going to have many undefeated teams in anything any more. I think if we have good teams on the field in any sport, people are going to come out and watch. They are going to want to be a part of it."

How do we overcome scheduling problems?

This is a long-term problem. I've talked with our coaches about schools of our size and similarity in the Mason-Dixon Conference, the Middle Atlantic Conference, and the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference. We have to attend their meetings; we have to be there with them at the right time. We cannot get a schedule sitting here writing letters. You can't get anything much that way any more. Friendships help scheduling as much as anything. I think there are enough schools that we can play, and that we can have meaningful schedules. I think building up any kind of rivalry is very important. The big thing is to find opponents we can compete with effectively and also have a reason for competing with them—a rivalry that the students and alumni, if possible, can identify with."

What about the College Athletic Conference?

"I haven't met yet with CAC athletic directors, but I think we should keep an open mind about this association."

Could there be a resumption of a game between W&L and Virginia, say, in basketball?

"I don't know whether it could be done or not. Not if there is disgrace involved for the boys. It is hard for me to say. I haven't seen Washington and Lee play in basketball. I know they are tops on their level, but I think if you try to reach too high, too soon, sometimes you are defeating your own purpose."

How can enthusiasm be built up on campus for the athletic program?

"I don't think you can have a winning team and then build it. I think you really have to start before that. I don't know exactly what the way is. But there is nothing I can think of that I am not willing to try—if it means talking to all the fraternities at dinner meetings or

anything else. We want student involvement, and we are going to try to get it. We have to go out and make ourselves available to the student body and to everyone else in the community—sell our program and the idea that we want their participation. I think the orientation program here is one of the strongest points of this school. Freshman Camp is helpful. I think it is all a matter of selling the boys themselves—the boys on the teams. Now, if they have pride, you would be surprised what a selling job they do. They live with other students, belong to the same organizations. They don't live apart as the athletes do at some schools. They're very much a part of the student body. So they are probably our best ambassadors among the students. But they must be sold on the program in order to sell others."

How exceptional is Washington and Lee's program? Are there comparable programs?

"Oh, sure. There are plenty of schools that have been on a similar program for a long time. Williams, Amherst, Wesleyan—schools like that—have had similar programs for years, and it has been healthy for them. I think that sometimes because Washington and Lee made a change, you tend to look back on it and say maybe the program is better than it is. It is really not better than a whole lot of others. It is more comprehensive than any in this area because wisely, I think, Washington and Lee chose to have a total program to involve as many students as possible. A boy who was an athlete in high school has pretty much a full range right here if he wants to compete, and I think this is probably one of the program's greatest strengths—the breadth of it. If depth is a weakness, we will work on that.

"The athlete is the key to the whole thing. He takes pride in what he does. I don't think he wants songs written about him, or anything like that, but I do think he would like to think that his extracurricular contribution is as important as anyone's. When the students come out as spectators, when the faculty members come out—and many of them do—this is meaningful, very meaningful, to the boys.

"If I have one great hope for the athletic program it would be that all segments of the Washington and Lee family—students, faculty, and alumni—take pride in the program. This implies that we would have not only their cooperation but also winning teams."

something new is going to be added to old **doremus**

This spring, the Class of 1919 held its 50th reunion on the Washington and Lee campus. If the old grads looked for something that hasn't changed in 50 years, they found it in Doremus Gymnasium.

The sight of the old building may have evoked a wave of pleasurable nostalgia in the breasts of these men. But unless they knew about the University's plans for improving its athletic facilities, they were probably a bit puzzled to see the old gym still standing and still in use. Anyone can tell that Doremus is the proud monument of another era.

Doremus Gymnasium was a showpiece when it was completed in 1915 at a cost (handsome in those days) of \$100,000. It was one of the best athletic facilities of its kind in the country. Time has proved its ruggedness and serviceability. But 54 years have passed, and Doremus Gym has become a blemish on the otherwise fair complexion of W&L's athletic program.

New coliseums and field houses are commonplace on today's college campuses. But W&L's students and athletic teams, for the moment, are "making do" with Doremus. Most adversely affected is the basketball team which,

while enjoying the home-court advantage of the gym's cozy confines, has seen several natural rival teams refuse to take the floor against the Generals in "that place." By cramming spectators on top of each other—as is often the case—the most who can witness a basketball game is approximately 500. After all, the old gym was designed to accommodate a student body one-third the size of the present enrollment.

Doremus Gymnasium, despite its charming patina, has a way of turning people off. Eugene Corrigan, the University's new athletic director, recounted the typical reaction of a person accustomed to the many-splendored gyms at other colleges and universities.

"The first time I came up to visit in December," he said, "I looked at Doremus Gymnasium and said, 'What am I doing here?'"

He went on to say that, in his opinion, basketball Coach Verne Canfield is one of the best recruiters of athletes in the country: "He's a hell of a salesman. How can you get a guy to come here and play basketball in this place!"

All of this is going to change soon, and Washington and Lee's entire athletic program will benefit.

Architect's rendering of \$2.2-million addition to Doremus Gymnasium.



In March, the University announced plans for a \$2.2-million addition to Doremus and for construction of a separate \$500,000 field house in the vicinity of Wilson Field. Together these buildings will take care of the University's immediate and long-range needs in providing students with modern athletic facilities.

"This new building is vital," said Mr. Corrigan. "There is no question about it."

"We are really looking forward to the day when our team will have the first-class facilities it deserves," said Coach Canfield.

"We believe we have here an athletic program second to none in the way in which it serves the needs of our students, whether at the intercollegiate, intramural, or physical education level," said President Robert E. R. Huntley. "We are deficient in only one respect—the need for more modern and adequate physical facilities, and we intend to provide these as rapidly as possible."

A date for start or completion of the gymnasium addition or field house has not been set, but planning and fund-raising for the projects are well under way. Full specifications and working drawings are being prepared by the architects.

The University expects to finance the athletic projects through gifts from alumni and other friends of the University. The University already has \$650,000 in gifts and commitments toward the athletic facilities, and President Huntley said he is confident that "by the time we are ready to start construction, all of the necessary funds will be in hand or in sight."

When the addition is completed, Doremus Gymnasium will have more than twice its existing floor space. The five-level addition to the rear of the present three-level building will have a new basketball arena with a seating capacity of 3,400 at intercollegiate events. Two basketball courts will be provided for physical education instruction and practice. This space will convert to one court with seating for intercollegiate games.

The addition will also have a six-lane, 75-foot swimming pool, 10 handball and squash courts, instruction and practice areas for wrestling and gymnastics, special training and exercise rooms, dressing rooms, laundry and locker facilities, and faculty offices.

The present gym will be remodeled to provide more adequate faculty offices and physical education classrooms. The existing basketball court and swimming pool will be retained for physical education and recreational use.

The separate field house will permit indoor practice of outdoor sports during inclement weather. This facility is expected to be a relatively inexpensive shell-type structure with facilities for limited instruction in such sports as baseball, track and field, lacrosse, soccer, golf, and tennis. It will also house locker and dressing facilities for physical education classes and athletic teams participating in outdoor sports.

President Huntley emphasized that the decision to move swiftly on the gymnasium and field house does not mean that lesser priorities have been assigned to other areas of urgent physical need at the University, principally the School of Commerce and Administration, the School of Law, and the University library.

"We are still extremely hopeful that we shall be able to solve all these problems at approximately the same time," President Huntley said. "We are analyzing our program and space requirements in all these areas to determine the kind and size of physical accommodations that will serve us best. Because the question of better athletic facilities has been under study for several years, we have been able to reach a decision sooner there than in other areas."

Another planned improvement in W&L's athletic facilities involves the tennis courts.

The six composition courts under the footbridge to Wilson Field are potentially the finest playing surfaces available. But to become so, they require constant maintenance and care. The present sprinkling system and methods of rolling the surface are inadequate, and measures will be undertaken to correct this.

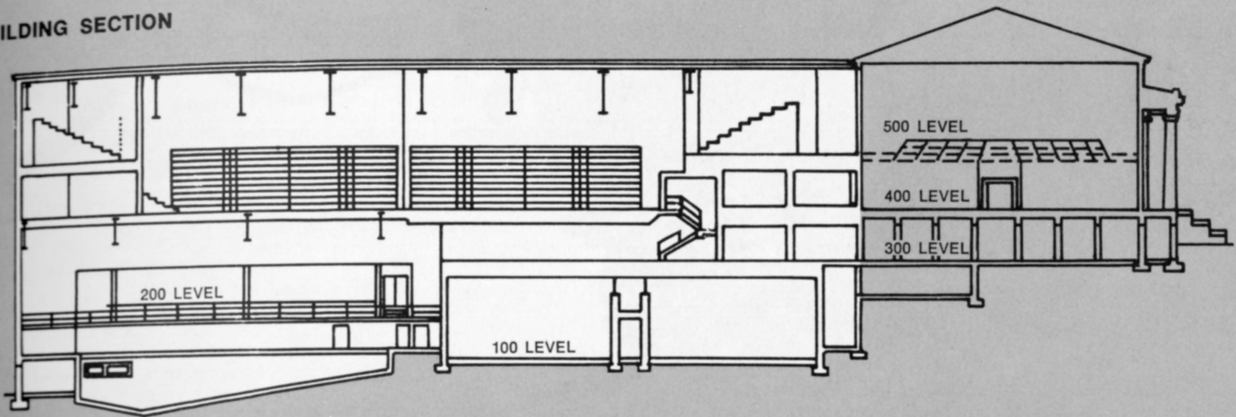
The University's other athletic facilities are deemed adequate to meet present and future needs of the students. These include:

Wilson Field, with a stadium seating 7,500 for football and lacrosse games, and surrounded by a quarter-mile-long cinder track.

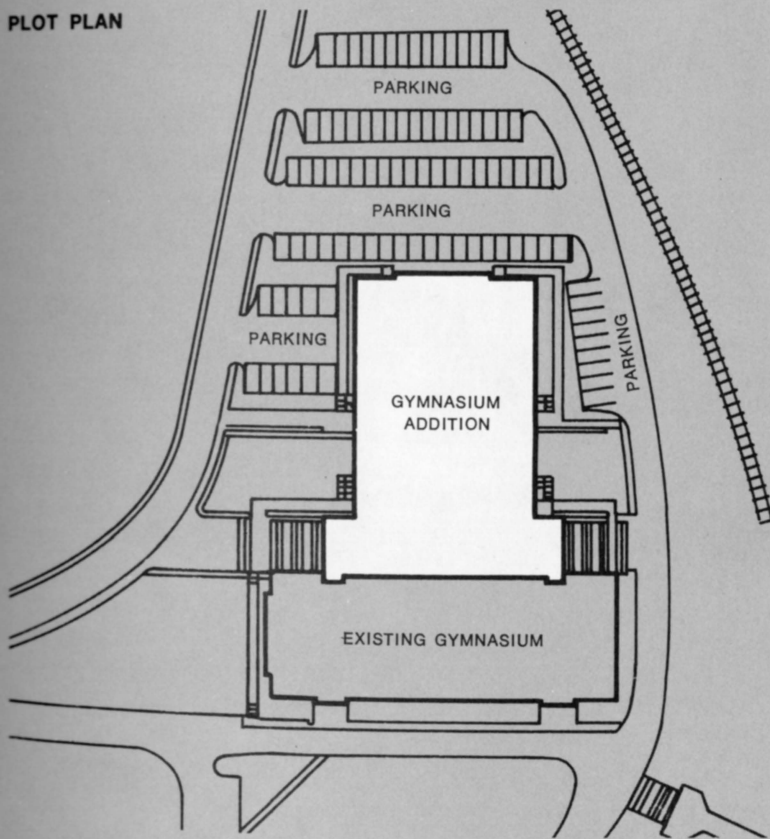
Smith Field, where intercollegiate baseball and soccer are played.

Alumni Field, used for intramural sports and as a practice field.

BUILDING SECTION



PLOT PLAN



The plot plan and the side elevation of the addition to Doremus Gymnasium give some concept of the size of this undertaking. The addition will more than double the floor space of the building, transforming it into as complete an athletic facility as can be found at any institution of W&L's size.



monument of another era doremus

It stands huge, like a mighty fortress that defies any hint of time and element. It stands proud, a memory of almost a forgotten era of athletic glory. And it stands criticized, a target of verbal punishment at its defiance to yield to the progress of concrete and glass.

At once, the Doremus Memorial Gymnasium is the symbolic gesture of the Washington and Lee ideal. It was built, so they say, because a student extended a simple courtesy of greeting to Robert Parker Doremus as he was visiting the Washington and Lee campus. When Doremus died, his widow left a then enormous sum of money to the University as a memorial to her husband who had become so impressed with the school.

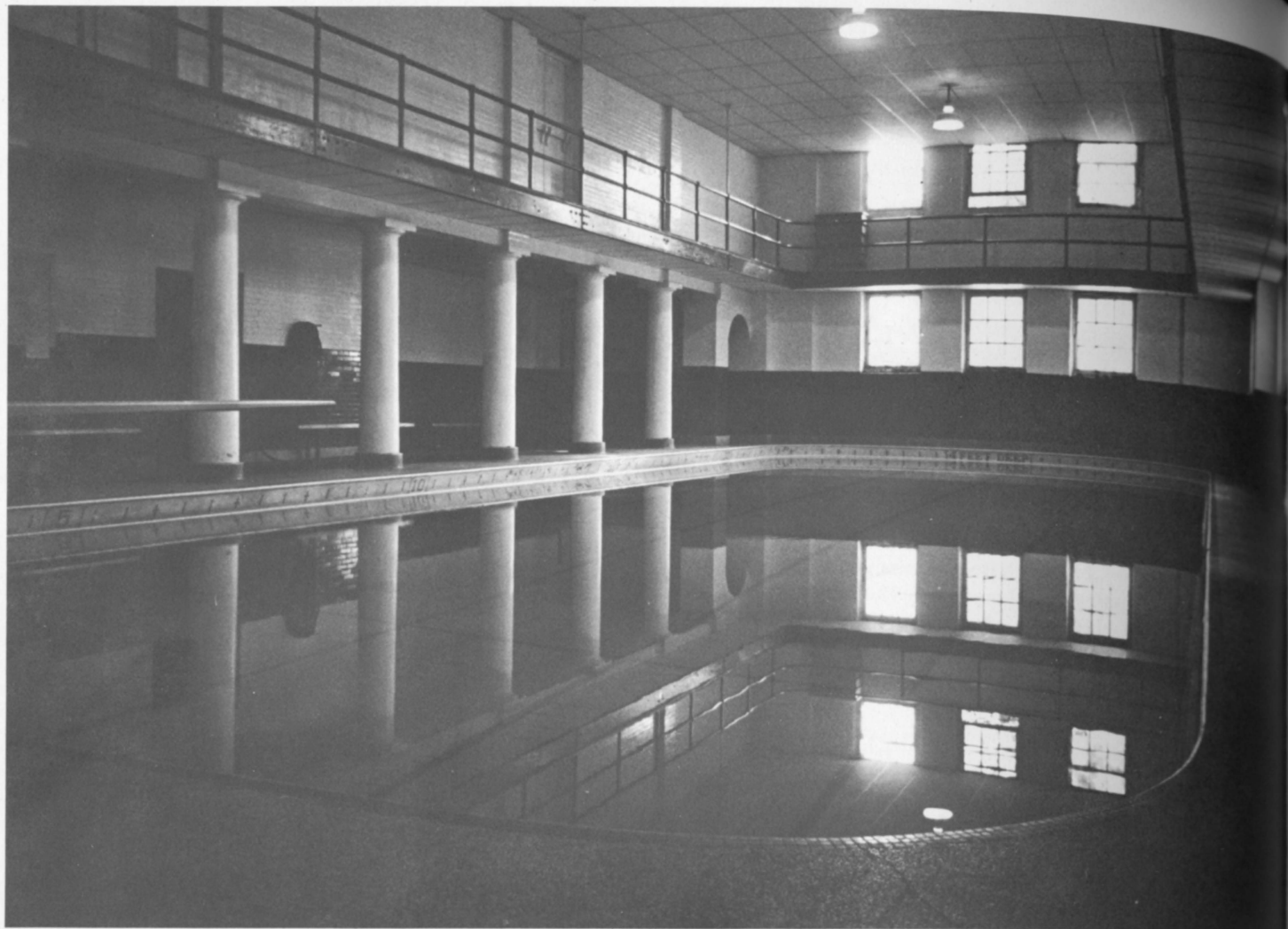
Perhaps it is fitting that Doremus Gymnasium is changing along with the speaking tradition that was responsible for its construction. The old must give way to the new, and there is always hope that it will take us in the right direction. Time is the only critic.

The floors that once supported Williams, Fuller, Spessard, Iler, Fox, Lewis, Michaels, Flora, Fitzgerald, Handlan, Webster, Brown, Fohs, and many, many others will now be made new to support the future generations of Washington and Lee athletes.

W&L associate editor Mickey Philipps recorded the following series of photographs.

Doremus gym, where many a great team has played, was a showplace in its day.





1. *The galleried pool will continue to be used — for instruction and recreation only.*
2. *Through these doors passed W&L athletes — the greats and the mediocre, the subsidized and the unsubsidized.*
3. *When it was first constructed, the indoor track was the envy of other colleges; today it is an anachronism.*
4. *The empty benches in the locker room are splintery reminders for every student who ever took Phys Ed.*
5. *Here winning teams showered, their shouts drowning the sound of running water, or losers bathed in silent dejection.*
6. *For 54 years W&L athletes have grunted and strained as they hoisted weights in this training room.*



2



3



the light fantastic

on gridiron and mound

The long athletic history at Washington and Lee includes a number of zany incidents. In fact it might be said the University has had more than its share.

Some of the wildest happenings have brought national attention to the school. During one four-year period (1946-49) W&L figured prominently three times in the AP's "Sports Oddities of the Year," and the last time won all the marbles as having the oddest of them all.

In 1946, All-Southern Conference football end Bill Chipley brought a different measure of renown to W&L when he erroneously entered the opponents' huddle. It happened this way:

W&L met West Virginia in Charleston on Columbus Day under horrendous playing conditions. It rained steadily for three quarters, and the field soon became a quagmire. A "fifth" official was employed on the field merely to wipe the ball off after every play.

Uniforms—and the players in them—quickly became unrecognizable. Several times W&L blockers took out their own men by mistake.

On the last play of the first quarter, W&L fumbled (one of nine for the day) and West Virginia recovered as the period ended. The teams exchanged sides, but apparently Chipley hadn't noticed either the change in ball possession or in field position.

Lining up in the West Virginia huddle, Chipley heard the quarterback call play 95-X. "We've got no such play," Chipley said to himself, and asked for a re-check.

It was then he was recognized and not too politely asked to leave.



The next year there was another crazy incident—or at least alleged to be—on the gridiron. The General's Brian Bell ran a kickoff back 94 yards for a touchdown and the winning margin over Richmond in a night game. Later, some press accounts said a Richmond photographer shot a flashbulb off, temporarily blinding two Richmond tacklers and causing them both to tackle Mike Boyda, who was leading the interference for Bell. Bell thus was left with clear sailing for a TD.



However, a photograph of the run in a Richmond paper (perhaps taken with the flash in question) clearly shows Boyda taking out a Richmond tackler with a clean block.

(This oddity received national mention along with another one—when some guy named Y. A. Tittle of LSU intercepted a pass by Mississippi's Charlie Conerly. Tittle snagged the ball, but somehow lost his belt, and had to run downfield with one hand on the football and the other holding up his pants.)

There was nothing "tainted" about an incident two years later when W&L was involved in the top "Sports Oddity of 1949." This one again occurred on a foreign playing field, at Charlottesville's Scott Stadium.

It happened on the last play of the game. Virginia had W&L beaten; so reserve tackle Bob Smith of the Generals had already started toward the dressing room. He was walking along the sideline when Virginia end Ed Bessell caught a pass deep in W&L territory and headed for one final touchdown.

You can guess the rest. Smith dashed out on the field and tackled Bessell on the two-yard line. Bessell was so startled he fumbled, and the ball rolled

into the end zone, where another Wahoo recovered for the touchdown.

What made the incident even more odd was that virtually no one—the spectators, opposing players, or officials—realized what had happened. Smith quickly ran off the field without detection.

But it hadn't gone completely unnoticed. Two alert sportswriters (one of them W&L alumnus Andy McCutcheon) spotted what happened, but waited until their paper published on the following Monday to reveal it.



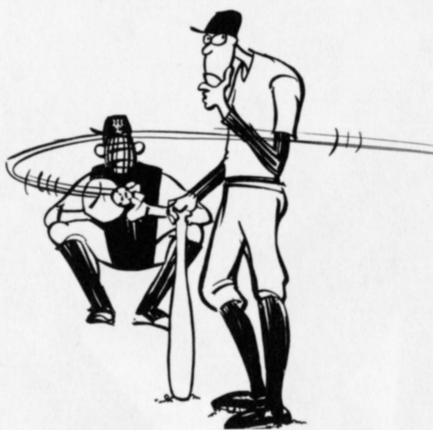
Smith himself confirmed it. "I don't know why I did it," he said. "I was walking down the sidelines and saw Bessell in the clear and just darted out to tackle him."

There was another oddity of a different sort in 1946. The Generals were playing the University of Miami in Miami, and a loyal W&L fan in Atlanta wanted to know how they were doing. He called the City of Miami switchboard, and had an accommodating police night dispatcher tune in the game on a local radio station and put the phone next to the speaker. The W&L fan listened to the last half, which cost him the price of an hour's long-distance call from Atlanta to Miami.



Football is not the only sport at W&L to have its crazy moments. The earliest such known incident involved baseball and history was made: a W&L pitcher of yore was the first person to throw a curve ball in a college game.

It happened on May 9, 1878, when W&L's George A. Sykes of Louisville uncorked a strange pitch which completely confounded the University of Virginia batters. The Wahoo hitters were "thrown into a state of paralyzing consternation." Why did the ball "gyrate with such abnormal curvings? Why did it persist in going crooked?"



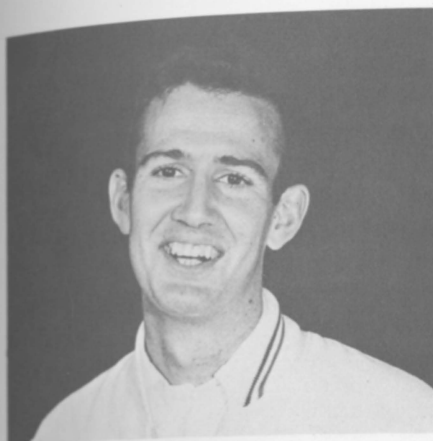
Sykes, who had learned how to throw the curve ball earlier from a touring professional player while a student at Louisville's Rugby Prep School, shackled the Wahoos with only three hits. He struck out 16 men. Perhaps he rattled them afield as well, for Virginia committed 14 errors and only one of W&L's 12 runs was earned.

The 12-0 setback so perplexed the Virginia team that it refused to play W&L the next year, but returned to the diamond in 1880 with a curve-baller of its own.

— John Hughes

Note: John Hughes, a '55 graduate of W&L, has worked for the Roanoke Times and the Charlotte Observer. He joined the University staff in 1965 as Assistant Director of Information Services and was named Director of Public Relations last August. He is now Director of Sports Information and Curator of Lee Chapel.



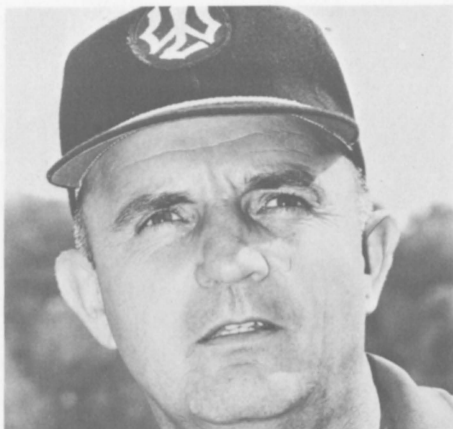


THOMAS J. DAVIES
Assistant Trainer, Assistant Coach of Basketball

Tom Davies is a graduate of Brigham Young University and is currently working on his master's from the same school. A former high school player under basketball coach Verne Canfield at Groveton High School in Fairfax County, Va., Davies now is an assistant basketball coach at Washington and Lee and serves as an assistant trainer.

He is responsible for much of the administration and organization of the Generals' successful basketball program, and he has even computerized much of the busy work to allow time for personal contacts during recruiting visits.

He is easygoing, has an affinity with most sports, and hopes to win a head coaching job at the collegiate level in the future.



EMMETT GRAHAM LESLIE, JR.
Coach of Football

Graham (Buck) Leslie is the kind of man you like to play football for. He is tough, determined, gritty, spirited, dedicated. He is also warm, fair, friendly, unobtrusive. He has proved he can get the most out of you without any backbreaking techniques. When he took over last August after the sudden death of Lee McLaughlin, Leslie installed a new offensive system only to see the team falter when a rash of injuries hit in the early going. But he doggedly came back with three wins and a tie in the last five games, and there is a general feeling on campus he will continue to be a winner.

A native of Rockbridge County, he has remained in the area all his life. He played football for Lexington High School, baseball for Washington and Lee, and coached both sports at nearby Natural Bridge High School before joining the Generals' athletic staff.

He is an avid golfer, and never mind about that cockeyed grip or baseball swing—he hits them a ton.

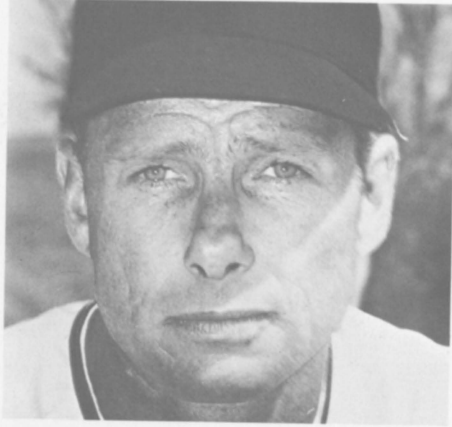


NORMAN F. LORD
Professor of Physical Education

Norm Lord is a big, burly man who can whip up enthusiasm for any kind of competitive game. He spends most of his time now teaching physical education and once directed the University's extensive intramural program. No sport is small in his eyes. He is apt to say: "Handball is ice cream," meaning that while football and the like may be meat and potatoes, so-called lesser sports are the dessert.

He is a graduate of the University of Delaware, where he played football and put the shot, and was later a member of the athletic staff. He holds the master's degree from Springfield College. He came to Washington and Lee in 1946 and has coached soccer, cross-country, and track and served as business manager of the intercollegiate athletic program.

He is a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve and has conducted several intramural sports clinics in Europe for the Army Special Services Agency. Last summer, *The Stars and Stripes* called him "one of the nation's leading authorities on intramural sports activities."



JOSEPH F. LYLES
Coach of Baseball, Soccer

Joe Lyles is a native of St. Louis and was a boyhood companion of Yogi Berra and Joe Garigiola. He attended St. Louis University when the Billikins won the NIT basketball title in 1949, and then went on to professional sports, hoping for a possible shot as a major league pitcher. A series of injuries cut short that hope and also a chance to make it as a pro basketball player. He did tour with the Harlem Globetrotters during a 1952 worldwide junket that covered 46 countries. He enrolled at Springfield College after the tour and graduated in 1959, when he was appointed to the Washington and Lee staff.

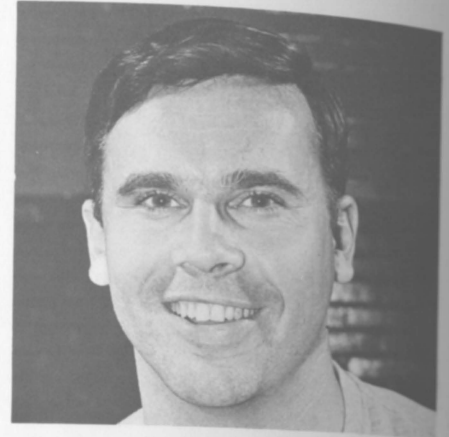
He is a colorful figure, indeed. He drives a cardinal red Porsche, is an armchair investor, and is generally regarded as the best handball player on campus. He is the Generals' coach of baseball and soccer.



RICHARD MILLER
Coach of Wrestling, Cross-Country

Dick Miller, the Generals' cross-country and wrestling coach, is a scrappy and energetic personality, probably known best for his provident caretaking of Washington and Lee athletic equipment. To say that Miller runs a tight ship is an understatement; he runs a tighter ship. He is the world's best tinkerer and fixer, and he becomes personally affronted should you lose a University towel or set of punching bag gloves. He is that judicious.

A graduate of Springfield College where he received his master's degree, Miller is a keeper of records and statistics, an inventor when something needs to be invented, a builder when something needs to be built, a calligrapher when a steady hand is required. As a coach, he has guided some of the best runners and wrestlers in the school's history.



WILLIAMS J. STEARNS
Coach of Swimming, Trainer

Bill Stearns, the Generals' swimming coach and trainer, is a native of Skaneateles, N.Y. He attended Springfield College and is now completing work toward his master's. He formerly coached and taught at Brighton High School in Rochester before accepting a Washington and Lee appointment in 1966.

A bachelor, Stearns is a free-wheeling sort who believes in a relaxed approach to coaching. He doesn't lean on his swimmers too much, but will give them the needle if they really need it. It must be a good philosophy because the Generals have yet to experience anything close to a losing season under him. And this year they came up with two All-Americans in Billy Ball and Billy Brumback.

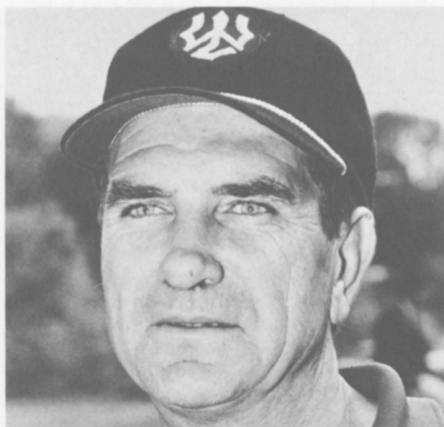
He rules his private life in the same manner. To get him "up" for a canoe trip down the Maury River is almost as easy as talking him into a weekend ski outing. He is interested in practically everything, from speed reading to politics.



RICHARD E. SZLASA
Coach of Lacrosse, Assistant Coach of Football

Lacrosse coach Dick Szlasa is fast becoming one of the most popular men on the Washington and Lee athletic staff. He is hard-working, personable, and seems to enjoy a distinctive rapport with his players. During his two years on campus, he has produced signs that his favorite sport is going to be big in Lexington. One of those signs is the annual North-South All-Star game that will be played on Wilson Field next year.

A native of New Jersey, Szlasa was an All-America midfielder at the University of Maryland before graduating in 1959. He holds the master's from Western Maryland College, and he was affiliated with the Baltimore public school system for seven years. He coached lacrosse at Towson State College in Maryland before accepting the Washington and Lee appointment. He also serves as an assistant football coach.



S. SYDNOR WALDEN
Coach of Track, Assistant Coach of Football

Syd Walden, who joined the Washington and Lee athletic staff in 1968, is a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College and holds a master's degree from the University of Richmond. He was athletic director at Episcopal High School in Alexandria before accepting positions at Washington and Lee as track coach and assistant football coach.

Walden has an extensive athletic background, having coached football, basketball, baseball, and track one time or another at Episcopal. He became athletic director when Lee McLaughlin moved from Episcopal to Washington and Lee in 1957.



BOYD WILLIAMS
Assistant Coach of Football

Boyd Williams eats, drinks, and sleeps football. Taking time off from his insurance business in the fall, he becomes a Washington and Lee defensive coach, and there are more than a few who say he's the best they've ever had. When the Generals win on Saturday, Williams is a cigar-smoking, back-slapping man on Monday; when the Generals lose, he becomes a terrible, angry man at the start of the week. You wait for him to say something first.

But he's really a very gentle human being. His football madness started when he played center for Syracuse University, which turned out to be a ticket to pro ball with the Philadelphia Eagles. He also put in time with the Richmond Rebels, then turned to college coaching at the University of Richmond, Randolph-Macon, VMI, and Washington and Lee. He settled in Lexington with an insurance firm, and took over the Generals' football team in 1954, keeping alive the sport at a time when it could have died.

the athletes have their say



NORWOOD MORRISON

"... I do not belong to an athletic clique."

Being a member of the Washington and Lee basketball team has been a very fulfilling experience for me in my three years at W&L. It is difficult to express the satisfaction I had in being part of a team which defeated Navy, Guilford, Quantico Marines, Old Dominion, and many other fully subsidized basketball teams. It seems ironic, to me, to hear coaches at other colleges complain about the limited amount of athletic scholarships they are allocated; W&L has none and continues to rank among the top teams in the state in many sports. The basketball team, which has compiled a 58-16 record in the past three years, was the top small college team in the state last year with a 9-1 state record.

Why is it that Washington and Lee continues to excel in athletics? Being on the basketball team, I will limit my remarks to this sport. I realize that I

am at Washington and Lee primarily for academic purposes and secondarily for academic purposes and secondarily to play basketball. This means that working toward my European history major is my primary consideration. This means that I am not obligated to play basketball 12 months a year because an athletic scholarship demands it. This means that I do not belong to an athletic clique throughout the school year. In short, I play basketball because I want to, not because I have to.

It would be wrong to assume that the W&L basketball team was anything but a first-class team. On trips, we travel either by commercial bus or jet, according to the length of the trip. We stay at motels, not gymnasiums. We play as many major colleges as we can. It is noteworthy that many of the subsidized schools we play cannot boast of such practices.

Another reason for the continued success of W&L athletics is the excellent coaching staff. Coach Verne Canfield was a major reason for my decision to come to Washington and Lee, and I am certain that he has likewise affected many other members of the basketball team. When I was at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, Va., he was in constant contact with me and made me feel that I was really wanted. Being captain of the basketball team for the coming year, I have seen the many hours he puts into this part of his job—personal contact with high school seniors. He sells not only the basketball program, but even more so, the school. This is a definite asset of unsubsidized athletics.

Needless to say, the basketball program has had its disappointments. The fact that many major colleges

won't play us because they have "all to lose and nothing to win" cannot be forgotten. Even small colleges in Virginia have broken contracts or have found various excuses for refusing to play W&L in basketball. Why? They don't want to be beaten by a team that is totally unsubsidized.

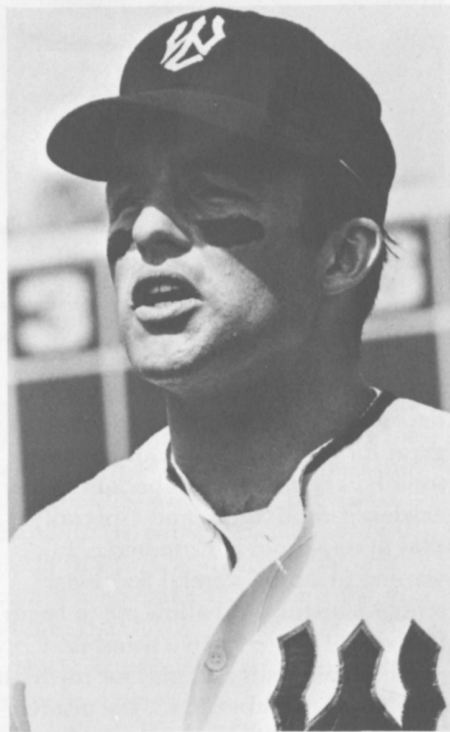
Another disappointing part of the athletic program is the feeling that along with the desubsidization, there is a psychological de-emphasis. I feel that the basketball team has done much for the school, but there has been relatively little done by the faculty and alumni to acknowledge this fact. It was not until this year that the plans for an addition to the gym and a new field house were announced—an announcement delayed too long, considering the antiquated nature of Dorremus Gymnasium and the financial status of this school and its alumni.

As in many other parts of college life, lack of student interest is always a disappointment. I sometimes wonder how many students would come to our games if we didn't have such a good record. Very few, I imagine. I feel I have to prove myself to the W&L fans every time we have a game. It would be a gross overgeneralization to call it "student apathy," for the primary reason for this rather blase attitude of students toward athletics is caused by the school itself.

Again, I believe unsubsidized athletics have been a success, for playing basketball at Washington and Lee for the past three years has been a most fulfilling experience for me. Next year, with almost the entire team returning (including first-team all-stars Mel Cartwright and Mike Neer) we expect to have the best basketball team this

school has seen in years. We hope we get the support we deserve.

Norwood Morrison, a rising senior from Lynchburg, majors in history. Although he is quiet and easygoing, he becomes "involved" on a basketball floor and charges up his teammates with his confident playmaking and outside shots as a guard. He scores in spurts, sometimes hitting five or six in a row to break open a game for W&L. He has been named captain of next year's team.



JOHN NOLAN

"No one can tell me that anyone . . . can outthit us in football."

When I graduated from Wantagh High School in New York in 1966, I was looking for a good, small school where I could get the best education

possible and, at the same time, be able to participate in football and baseball, sports I played in high school. I am now a junior majoring in history, and I've played two years of varsity football and three years of varsity baseball. While I didn't really know what to expect when I came to Washington and Lee, I have formed definite opinions about the sports program offered here. Since I play two sports, I'll talk about each separately—football first.

No one can tell me that anyone—even a scholarship-school team—can outthit us in football. There are some things you must expect to sacrifice when you decide not to give scholarships for athletics, but spirit, pride, and guts aren't among them. One thing I've noticed about all sports here at W&L is very true in football: you only play a sport here if you want to and because you want to play you give it everything you've got. We have a good football team. While we may lack depth, we don't lack the ability to give anyone a good game. And the feeling you get by winning games that people say you don't have a chance in—like last fall's Parents' Weekend game against Sewanee—cannot be expressed.

No sport has improved more at W&L from the standpoint of winning and attitude than the baseball team. My freshman year it seemed like a forgotten sport. But the team has come a long way, and it hasn't been easy since we play good, solid competition. What we lack in depth we seem to be increasingly able to make up for in hustle and pride. I've never played with a bunch of guys more eager to prove themselves and to show the

school that it has something to be proud of than the guys on this baseball team. This includes not only the players and coach, but also two guys who mean an awful lot to the club—our managers Frank Anderson and Joe Raine. It may seem unimportant to mention managers to anyone who doesn't know how hard these two have worked and how much they care about the team. Not only this year's good record but also the good attendance we've been getting has given the team a satisfaction that is hard to match.

In discussing football and baseball here at W&L, I think it's important to look to the coaches as one of the big reasons for the success we have had. There isn't a team of coaches anywhere who could work harder and care more for the team than do our football coaches and Coach Lyles in baseball. To them, having a desubsidized program has not meant having a second-rate program. They coach to win, and it's hard to give anything but your best when you play for them.

As you can see, I'm very prejudiced about our football and baseball programs. They've been very good to me. It would be hard for me to match the enjoyment and satisfaction these two sports at W&L have given me.

John Nolan, a rising senior from Wantagh, N.Y., is a history major. A tough and determined competitor, he plays football and baseball for the Generals and is excellent in each sport. A defensive back in the fall, he switches to shortstop or second base in the spring. He is a likely choice to be named captain or co-captain of the 1970 baseball team when that ballot is taken.



GARY SILVERFIELD

"... Washington and Lee is unique in its emphasis on student-athletes..."

The desubsidized athletic program here at Washington and Lee has been great for the school, and for me personally. I came to W&L because of its academic reputation, and especially that of its School of Commerce. I wanted to attend a small Southern school which would allow me to be an individual rather than a number. I played basketball and golf for my high school in Columbia, S. C., but academics were always most important for college. W&L's athletic program has allowed me to get a good education, while participating in many extracurricular activities which I never could have found time for if I had played golf for a large university. I've played golf all four years here at W&L, and I was captain this year. Even though

none of our athletes is on a grant-in-aid for sports, I consider our teams as good as, and sometimes better than, those of other colleges of similar size.

I feel, however, that W&L does not belong in the College Athletic Conference, and should investigate joining a conference nearer home. The students would be happier, costs would be less, and W&L would improve its image in this area if a switch could be effected.

One of the finest points of W&L's athletic program is the tremendous depth of student participation. I think that athletics are a necessity for a well-rounded college graduate. Athletics at W&L have been wonderful for me; so I tried to help improve them by adding my comments and criticisms as a student member of the University Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics for two years. I think that playing golf for W&L has allowed me to meet many new people and improve my personality. Playing golf helped me be lucky enough to be elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, and to Outstanding College Athletes of America. Finally, I think that Washington and Lee is unique in its emphasis on "student-athletes," and one of the few places I could have made Dean's List in commerce and played in a winning athletic program!

Gary Silverfield, a business administration major from Columbia, S. C., graduated in June. He was a Dean's List student, served on the Cold Check Committee, the Student War Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee, was a member of Circle K, and held office in his social fraternity. He played on the Generals' golf team for four years, and this past spring was its captain.



BILLY BRUMBACK

"With better facilities, better athletes will come to W&L..."

To participate in intercollegiate athletics at W&L, a student must have a desire to compete that is not thwarted by a lack of facilities and a basically apathetic student body. That statement is a harsh one, but it is true. The present facilities (the gym and pool) are not conducive to athletics. (I was glad to learn that a new gym and pool are on the way.) And although the student body does back the teams in many sports, noticeably basketball, many athletes feel that the lack of large student audiences hinders an athlete's performance.

Yet, students keep coming out for sports, and W&L's teams often beat teams that have as much as 50 per cent of their participants on athletic scholarships. This is a rewarding victory to an athlete at W&L. The desire on the part of W&L athletes to play under the conditions at the present time is a

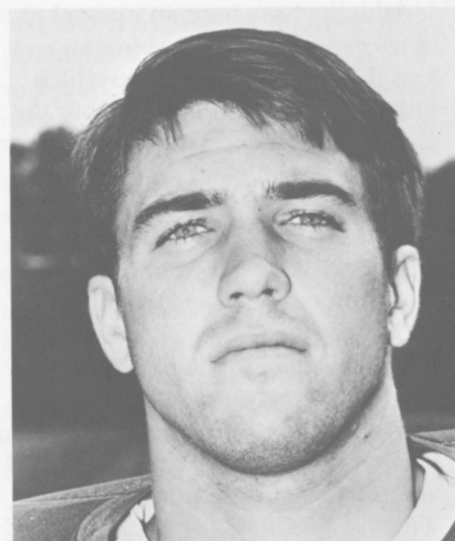
remarkable thing. Every team I am on works hard and takes pride in its achievements.

I do not feel that W&L should subsidize athletics. Subsidizing would hurt the academic side of the school that obviously must come before any extracurricular activity. Rather, better facilities should and will be built. With better facilities, better athletes will come to W&L without lowering any academic standards. In this manner, W&L will once again rise to a level of athletics that is equal to its academic standing.

I chose W&L over any other school because I saw that I could get a good education yet play on athletic teams that consisted of members who *wanted* to participate instead of being paid to participate. It is important for a student considering W&L to know that he can play on a team no matter what his capabilities. This is a great incentive to any athlete.

I have enjoyed participating in athletics at W&L. It gives me great pride to have a chance to do something for a school such as this, while at the same time making me a better person because I have participated. It is both pride in school and in self that will continue to make W&L the great university that it is.

Billy Brumback, a native of Baltimore, is a rising junior majoring in psychology. He is, naturally, a lacrosse player, specializing on defense. But he is best known for his speed in freestyle swimming events in the Doremus Gymnasium pool. He holds too many records to note, and this past winter he earned All-America honors at Springfield College during the NCAA college division championships.



SAM HINKLE

"...football and track have been joy and salvation."

It is not easy to participate in athletics at Washington and Lee. Away football trips at Openings, tough practices the day before a big test, and track meets on house party weekends soon winnow out those who do not enjoy the competition. As a member of W&L's football team and captain of the track team, I survived the hazards and inconveniences. Many have done so. To a man we can say we are glad and proud to have taken part.

My earliest memories of W&L revolve around football. I awaited the first day of practice with trepidation. The players I met in the locker room were good men, and we all survived that initial conditioning. Things looked brighter. We lost our opener, then won four of our last five. We knew we had done something good. Better yet, the friendships made during that season were to last a college career.

Athletics have been an integral part of my experience at Washington and Lee. There are still bloopers which burn when brought to mind, but the challenges met and victories (even personal ones) won more than tip the scales. A smooth exchange on a 440 relay or a strong race in the quarter are things of beauty which supplement the classroom and keep you in touch with reality.

I am valedictorian of my class. For me, that has involved a lot of work. Whenever I felt in danger of withering inside from too much theory, football and track were joy and salvation. There is a feeling of accomplishment on the field or track which can't be gotten elsewhere. Sports have kept my feet (and other parts as well) solidly on the ground. For that and the opportunity for self-realization which they offer, I will always be grateful to W&L athletics.

Washington and Lee represents an ideal—the well-rounded man. Our sports program provides a chance to approach that ideal. Pursued with this attitude, which means nothing if not a fierce determination to win while competing, our athletics are perhaps our most valuable asset. For it alone, I would not have missed my years here.

Sam Hinkle, a June graduate who majored in commerce, is from Shelbyville, Ky. He was class valedictorian with a straight-A average, was a Rhodes Scholarship candidate, won a Fulbright grant, and served in numerous extracurricular capacities. He played football and was a track co-captain. He was a legend in his own time, even to the point that some were wondering if his IBM number would be retired.



MIKE NEER

"... the students need and want a schedule full of rivals ..."

I feel that the strongest aspect of the athletic program at Washington and Lee is that it is a program for the students. Contrary to many schools, the program is not for the alumni or for money-making purposes. Athletics at Washington and Lee are designed for the student who wants to participate and compete despite the absence of material gains, scholastic help, and excessive fame. There are no studs, no hired hands; hence, all the players are in the same boat, and consequently, spirit on the teams is high.

Yet, at times it is frustrating playing schools that do not share these values. With our provincial schedule, the alternatives in selecting opponents have been two-fold: to play schools that subsidize athletics greatly, or to play schools of relatively equivalent caliber but of dubious academic quality. With winning being of much importance,

the latter alternative becomes more prevalent. Yet many of these opponents become meaningless opponents, being just another team. To play schools of equivalent academic standards, sharing a similar philosophy on athletics, would be far more meaningful and ultimately rewarding.

Washington and Lee is not the only school that holds this attitude on athletics. The College Athletic Conference is based on this philosophy; yet distance prevents more active and meaningful competition. There are other schools such as Amherst, Davidson, Dickinson, Swarthmore, Trinity, Williams, and the Ivy League schools that support a student-athlete program. I feel that the addition of some of the above schools and their like would create more enthusiasm among the whole school and in turn make Washington and Lee more appealing to prospective students. This school and the students need and want a schedule full of rivals and "name" schools.

Regardless of the degree of emphasis and importance placed on it, a school's reputation is at times influenced by the success, or lack of it, in athletics. We may question our values, but realistically a school gets more daily exposure and publicity in the sports pages than elsewhere.

Many concerned with the growth and progress of Washington and Lee believe that the school should take steps to spread the good word on a national level. Scheduling of the above mentioned schools would aid this cause. It seems to me that a school of Washington and Lee's caliber should strive for similar ends in athletics. And I believe that this can be done without

misplacing our values or changing our philosophies.

Mike Neer, a rising senior majoring in sociology, is from Alexandria. He is a pure athlete, possibly the best all-around athlete the school has had in many years. He is an All-State and All-Conference basketball player, and, as a co-captain of the track team, he is a consistent 6-8 or better high jumper. He won the National Junior AAU title last summer in Buffalo with a jump of 6-8.



CHARLIE STEWART

"... I wanted a school at which I could play a lot and develop my ability."

Lacrosse did not take hold of me until late in my high school years. But once I caught the lacrosse bug, I knew that it would have to be part of my college years. Not excelling in the sport in high school, I wanted a school at which I could play a lot and develop my ability. The athletic program at

W&L at once seemed appealing, with its small student body, freshman eligibility, a rugged schedule of top teams, and a desubsidized athletic program. Little did I know what a valuable and rewarding experience playing lacrosse at W&L would be.

I was able to play varsity lacrosse my freshman year with a great group of individuals. Besides the thrill and fun of the game itself, participation in the athletic program had many other rewards. I was immediately assimilated into the student body, meeting many upperclassmen on an equal basis and finding my place in the University community. I felt that I was really a part of the University, giving and taking something in return. This was to be my small contribution to W&L, which was to be returned a hundred-fold. There was a certain personal pride in being a member of a varsity sport, a pride of accomplishment. This pride was fostered by esteem from the University community, students and teachers alike. Others looked up to me and respected me. Friendships were made outside of the sometimes rigid fraternity system. In a school as dominated by fraternities as W&L is, participation in sports is one way to help one identify with the school, rather than one's fraternity. The opportunity to travel, visiting other schools which one might never get to see, meeting athletes on other teams and establishing interschool friendships is afforded.

Sometimes collegiate sports are criticized as detracting from the educational experience of a university. I would say rather that they play an integral part. College is more than learning math, biology, or philosophy. The four years of college life are meant to

prepare an individual to meet the problems of everyday life and to deal with his fellow man. Athletics offer a scale model of life, with men competing and cooperating to achieve goals. One encounters responsibility, pressure to achieve, and most important, the necessity for getting along with others. Players learn to cope with frustrating circumstances, to deal with others with tact and patience.

There are some necessary drawbacks to such a system. An important one is the lack of the necessary competition to keep a player playing up to his potential. Once a boy secures a position on a team, there is often a tendency to lax off because there is no one fighting to take his spot from him.

With the desubsidization of its athletic program, W&L has sought to foster a program based on the scholar-athlete tradition. No one is admitted to W&L merely to play a sport. One's principal duty is to obtain an education. Both the coaches and the students realize this and put studies before athletics. The desubsidization of athletics, rather than hindering it, has helped to place athletics in its rightful place—a secondary but important facet of University life.

Charlie Stewart, before graduating in June, was a sociology and anthropology major. He is from Baltimore, which helps explain why he was a first-rate defenseman in lacrosse. He was a team co-captain this past spring. Stewart was a member of the Assimilation Committee, the Student War Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee, the Young Republicans, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Calyx staff. He was also a social fraternity officer.



so
where
does
this
leave
the
alumni



pure, but unmartyred, says one by Philip G. Grose, Jr. *Class of 1960*

It has been 15 years since Washington and Lee took the plunge into non-subsidized athletics, and time apparently has wrought some wondrous changes of attitude.

As an undergraduate during the years immediately following the "de-emphasis" decision, I can remember the division of student opinions over the policy. Although we did not seize the administration building or burn files, I do recall a few boos which rang out when the late President Francis Gaines announced a reaffirmation of the University's stand. I might add that boos, back in that distant age, were considered rather drastic, and most of us came away from the meeting concerned about the propriety of such a manner of expression.

There also loomed—ever present in the minds of all students—the prospect of "alumni disapproval" of the move. Those of us who had misgivings about the "simon-pure" athletic approach, harbored in our minds the belief that at some designated eleventh hour moment, the alumni would come dashing in like the cavalry to rescue our athletic program.

As it turned out, of course, the alumni never went to the barricades over the athletic issue, and those of us who had delighted in the late 1950's glory of Flora, Marshall, Storick, *et al*, gradually learned to accept something less in the way of big-time athletic recognition. There is a temptation for some of us now to look back and say that big-time athletics, particularly during the crisis period of the early 1950's, never really belonged at Washington and Lee. Such a statement, however, disregards the contribution made by these programs to both internal and external morale of the University community. If there are those of us who now accept the present program as best for the University, we do so out of a feeling that it is relevant and consistent with the overall aims and objectives of Washington and Lee. Relevance, of course, is a matter of time and place, and what is appropriate today need not have been the best approach yesterday, nor should it freeze the University into an inflexible position for tomorrow. To support today's program of non-subsidization, thus, does not involve a condemnation of athletic

Today, the "big game" is between Washington and Lee and Sewanee. This one was played in 1962 when the Generals prevailed 8-0 on a muddy Wilson Field. The victory led to a College Athletic Conference football championship, quite different from the bowl bids Washington and Lee players used to get years ago.

scholarship programs which the University supported during the post-war years. Similarly, what is right for Washington and Lee is not necessarily right for other colleges and universities in the nation, any more than the speaking tradition or the Honor System could be uniformly applied to campuses elsewhere.

It is perhaps this feeling of identity with the University, the "uniqueness" of the program that appeals to alumni who might otherwise be concerned with conference standings, bowl bids, scoring averages, and the latest hot recruit from Pennsylvania. The acceptance or rejection of the program among alumni depends largely on their support of the principle involved, rather than the tangible evidence of victories or defeats as they are recorded from season to season. While some may argue that this amounts to a reverse sort of athletic "snobbery," it could be more appropriately described as a sense of pride in (1) the principle itself as a basic part of University policy, and (2) the willingness of the University to undertake a program which was often an unpopular and difficult departure from previous practices. Unlike other colleges and universities, the athletic program does not become the particular province of alumni, business, or booster groups. Because the athletic program is an integral part of the University itself, it must be considered in the context of the total University, and not as an isolated entity which generates its own supporters and detractors.

These are fundamental, and perhaps overly simple, observations. The alumni miss the "big game" and the "big weekend," and no amount of intellectual exercise can make the W&L-Sewanee game fully replace the old UVA-W&L contests. But perhaps we are speculating about a by-gone day which is not really attainable, and time, as much as policy, has eroded the cherished old spectacles of Washington and Lee sallying forth to do battle with the likes of North Carolina, Tennessee, and the Wahoos. Today's demands of big-time athletics are far beyond what they were two decades ago when the Generals could hold their own with their "natural rivals" in the region. Dormitories, dining halls, and lounges built especially for athletes are now the order of things on the major campuses, and some of them are almost as large as the entire Washington and Lee campus. Tutorial staffs, special class arrangements, and other allied services are built into the major athletic programs to provide the

scholarship athlete with a more convenient approach to his academic pursuits. The cost of living in the big-time sports arena has risen, and alumni who follow the bigger colleges and universities know this.

Some colleges, notably Davidson and some of the smaller eastern and midwestern colleges, have taken a compromise route by maintaining a limited football program, but going big-time in basketball. As a result, they have been able to carve out their share of public acclaim and support within a far more workable framework. Because of the smaller number of athletes required, colleges can generally pursue any level of program without any serious dislocation of academic standards or student procedures.

Other colleges, particularly those serving primarily metropolitan areas, have found it necessary to curtail their athletic programs drastically, and drop some sports, including football, completely. George Washington, Fordham, Duquesne, and Detroit are among those who have followed this route. In each instance, the key to the college's approach has been reduced by one consideration: the relevance of athletics to the college itself in its own particular environment.

To accept Washington and Lee's athletic program as relevant to this particular time and place in the University's experience does not imply that it serves the same purpose which the big-time program once did. Admittedly, alumni lose interest in the week-to-week, or day-to-day progress of the Washington and Lee teams. In most areas distant from the immediate Virginia area, Washington and Lee athletics rank in importance on the sports pages somewhere between the lake levels and the English soccer results. Even when the results are published, it sometimes requires a large dose of resourcefulness to identify who or what the particular opposition was for that day. Eastern Mennonite, North Carolina Wesleyan, and Shepherd are hardly household words these days in the athletic world, and the College Athletic Conference has yet to send a team to the Orange Bowl.

But perhaps it is time we understand that not all alumni are red-faced back-slappers who visit the campus once every five years and criticize the football coach. Perhaps it is not necessary to tell the fellows around the barber shop about the shifty new halfback, or the seven-foot center. Perhaps it is not such a preposterous

notion that all students should have access to the athletic programs, and that participation is the prime purpose of a sport, not how much fun it is to watch or read about. It is interesting to speculate that perhaps Washington and Lee's policy emphasizes, and does not de-emphasize, athletics.

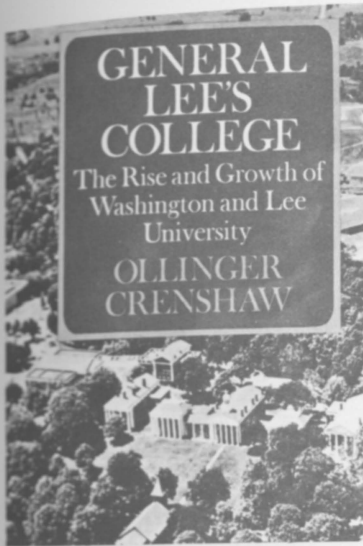
So where does that leave the alumni? Some of us must confess that we have been known to frequent the temples of the big-time sport and to transfer our loyalties, at least temporarily, to those who indulge in the ways of subsidization. Purists we may be; martyrs we are not. The essential male inclination toward the pursuit of the athletic spectacle cannot be sated by policy or principle. If we are athletic expatriates, however, perhaps we can be excused. Our hearts are pure, but we confess to enjoying a Joe Namath pass or a Lew Alcindor rebound. W&L's beating Navy in basketball this year wasn't bad either, was it?

Note: Philip G. Grose, Jr., has been a research assistant in the office of Gov. Robert E. McNair of South Carolina since 1968. He is a former business editor and governmental affairs editor of the Columbia State and has been a member of the staffs of the Charlotte Observer and Broadcasting magazine. While a student at W&L, he was editor of the Ring-tum Phi.



In 1961 the Generals posted a 9-0-0 record and were named the outstanding small college team in the nation. Center Terry Fohs (55) was selected to the second team in the Associated Press vote for Little All-America players.

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MR ROBERT G HOLLAND
WASHINGTON ANNEX 1

A NEW POLICY: *Class Reunions Every Five Years*



Attention! *Classes of 1924, 1934, 1939, 1949, and 1964.* Mark these dates on your calendar—*October 3 and 4.* That's Homecoming Weekend at Washington and Lee. The Generals will meet Centre College in football. And your class will have a reunion—the first in a new system of fall reunions that in combination with spring reunions will bring every class back to the campus every five years.

The Alumni Board of Directors decided that W&L alumni should have an opportunity to get together more often than the periods between reunions—in one case 15 years—provided by the system of spring reunions alone. So the Board devised a plan of reunions in both the fall and spring under which every class will meet every five years. Classes will hold their 45th, 35th, 30th, 20th, and fifth reunions in the fall, and their 50th, 40th, 25th, 15th, and 10th in the spring. The Old Guard will continue to have a reunion in the spring.

This fall—on October 3 and 4—it's reunion time for the Classes of '24, '34, '39, '49, and '64—a happy time for them and the University. Further information will be sent to you by mail. But save the dates for your return to W&L. You'll be glad you did; so will the University.

P.S.: Whether this is your reunion year or not, plan a weekend on campus, October 3-4!