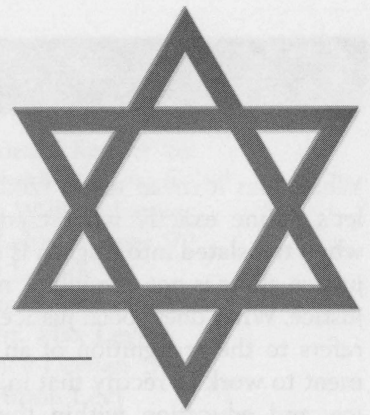




The Star



WASHINGTON AND LEE HILLEL NEWSLETTER
Elrod University Commons, Lexington, VA 24450-0303
Intenet: <http://hillel.wlu.edu>/E-mail: robinsj@wlu.edu
(540) 458-8443 Fax: (540) 458-8498

MAY, 2004

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW STUDENT PRESIDENTS

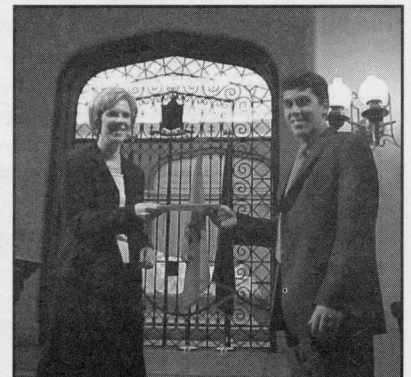
Greetings from the new Hillel presidents! Let us first introduce ourselves. We are Kara Lehman, junior Accounting major from Princeton, New Jersey, and Leah Greenberg, junior Politics and Philosophy major from Roanoke, Virginia. We are thrilled about our new dual position.

The year thus far has been very successful for Hillel. Our monthly Shabbat services have continued. We even had as a guest of honor, Mrs. Francis Lewis, whose support of the University made the Lewis Law Center possible. On the second night of Passover, Hillel provided a Seder from the Jewish Community in Evans Dinning Hall. Hillel was also very involved with campus activities, such as our recent co-sponsorship with the General's Christian Fellowship of the film, *Keeping the Faith*. We also co-

sponsored Jonah Goldberg, editor of the National Review Online, with Contact. Finally, Hillel has been involved with General Awareness Program, a diversity awareness program.

We have recently elected a new student executive board. At the same time we have created a new recruitment chair position in our attempts to attract more Jewish students to campus. Students participated in a recruitment phone-a-thon and some students have even traveled to college fairs. In March, Hillel hosted several prospective Jewish students on campus. We are excited to continue recruitment into next year.

As you can see we have had a tremendous year thus far, thanks to our former president Seth Martin, and we look forward to making next year even greater.



MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

By Seth Martin '04

As my time with Hillel comes to a close and I prepare for my graduation from W&L, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincerest gratitude to everyone who has supported and continues to support Hillel. Through the combined energies of W&L students, alumni, faculty, and staff, as well as the Lexington Jewish community, Hillel has undergone a continual process of strengthening over my four years at W&L. While I cannot say enough about the efforts of each of these groups, there is no doubt in my mind that the primary reason Hillel is growing and thriving today is the presence of the Director of Hillel, Joan Robins, on campus. Joan is the center of Hillel and things would break down without her. Thank you Joan and thank you everyone for giving me the opportunity to be a part of such a fantastic Hillel. I truly enjoyed my time and I look forward to coming back as an alumnus to find an even more vibrant W&L Hillel.

John W. Elrod Unsung Hero General of the Year Award, April, 2004. Mimi Elrod presents the award to Seth Martin '04. Each month during the year the Celebrating Student Success Initiative honored several students for their contributions to the University life. Winners were chosen by a joint student-staff committee. The committee sought to recognize students whose valuable contributions are not always visible to the University community. In February, Seth was recognized for his contribution to Religious life. In April Seth was chosen by the entire campus community to be the Unsung Hero out of 44 candidates. This award carried a prize of \$1000-\$500 for the winner, and \$500 for his organization. *Mazel tov Seth!*

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

By Joan Robins

What does it mean to do tzedek work on campus? First, let's define exactly what tzedek is. This Hebrew work, when translated into English is often defined as justice. But justice alone is not enough. A more accurate term is social justice. What does social justice mean for us? Social justice refers to the recognition of an injustice and the commitment to work to rectify that injustice through action, service, and education within the community and beyond. One of our primary Jewish values is the idea of tikkun olam, repairing the world. As Jews committed to the values of social justice, it is our moral responsibility to ensure that we come to the aid of all people in need.

At Hillel, we do not only serve ourselves, we try to assist worthy causes here and around the world. During "First Fridays at Five" Shabbat services, we collect spare change in our Tzedakah Box. Every time we sell a t-shirt or go on a trip, a portion of the money goes to Mazon—A Jewish Response to Hunger. We've adopted a first grade classroom at Effinger Elementary School, in Rockbridge County. Hillel students are reading and interacting with these children, then donating the book to the class library. It was wonderful to hear from the classroom teacher that our students are "naturals". I appreciate the commitment and energy of Yana Komornik '04, Rachael Levine '07, Kara Lehman '05, Sheryl Silvers '07, and Zack Bausch '05.

Finally I want to thank Seth Martin '04 for the last two years. Seth is a Hillel Director's dream for President. He led with clear vision and gentle understanding. He always saw the big picture, yet attended to the small issues. Seth is one

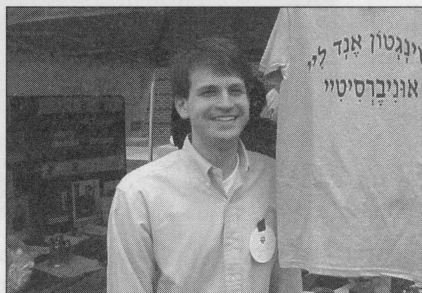


Sheryl Silvers '07 reads to Mrs. Fontenot's first grade classroom during Hillel's new Adopt-a-Classroom Program

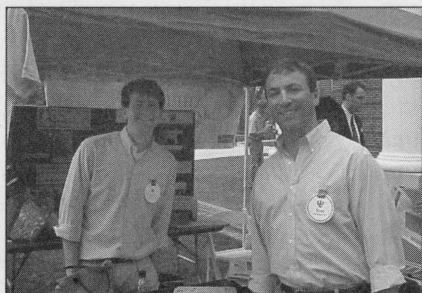
of those truly rare people who is a friend to all. I'm going to miss him! Best wishes, Seth, next year at University of Penn Medical School—I know you are going to be a wonderful physician.

Joan Robins

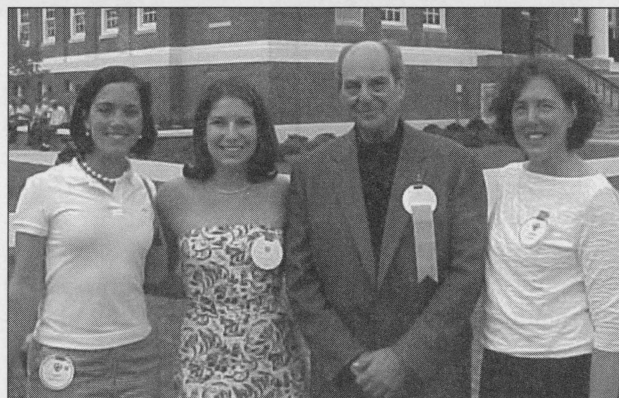
PICTURES FROM REUNION WEEKEND 2004



Jon Philipson '06 won the Rupert Latture Award during Reunion Weekend. This award is given to a sophomore with leadership skills.



Jon Philipson '06 greets Dr. Bradley Gottsegen '89 at the Reunion lunch.



Leah Greenberg '05, Kara Lehman '05, Paul Maslansky '54, and Joan Robins, Hillel Director visit at the Reunion lunch. Paul was the keynote speaker for the weekend, celebrating his 50th reunion. Paul and his brother, Dr. Robert Maslansky were both inducted into ODK.

DONORS 2003-2004

Mr. Marc J. Ackerman '91
 Mr. and Mrs. Darrick H. Alford '00
 Mr. Harry Jay Altman '72
 Mr. Arnold M. Applefeld '56
 Mrs. Sylvia Armentraut
 Mrs. Annette Barrash
 Mr. and Mrs. Randall Bart
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl P. Bausch
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benjamin '86
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel H. Bernstein '71
 Mr. John M. Blume '54, '56L
 Prof. Laura Brodie
 Dr. Edward A. Brown '62
 Prof. David and Beverly Bruck
 Mr. Charles C. Cahn '70
 Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Caplan '58
 Mr. Jay M. Caplan '64
 Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Cohen '64
 Mr. Percy Cohen '28
 Mr. Craig H. Coller '76
 Mr. Joel B. Cooper '52
 Mr. Richard Coplan '64
 Mr. and Mrs. Alan Corwin '62
 Dr. Malcolm Cothran and Joan Robins
 Mr. and Mrs. Ardavan Dargahi
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael Dubin '56
 Mr. Daniel M. Einstein '83
 Mr. Noah M. Egorin '98
 Dr. Mimi Elrod
 Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Evans '59
 Dr. and Mrs. Alan Fink
 Mr. James W. Fishel '39
 Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Fleming
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Friedlander '59
 Mr. and Mrs. James Freund '62
 Mr. and Mrs. S.H. Galperin '53
 Mr. Julian H. Good, Jr. '78
 Mr. Brian R. Greene '94L
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Greene '74
 Mr. Louis C. Greentree '42
 The Hon. Hugh S. Glickstein '53, '55L
 Prof. and Mrs. Joseph Goldsten
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew B. Greenman '56
 Prof. Mark and Sally Grunewald
 Prof. Louise Halper
 Mr. Charles M. Helzberg '58
 Mr. Donald S. Hillman '46
 Mr. and Mrs. John A. Isaacs '53
 Mr. Warner A. Isaacs '57
 Dr. Sidney Isenberg '42
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jacobs '58
 Dr. and Mrs. Bill Jacobs '71
 Mr. Murray R. Jacobson '66
 Jewish Community Federation of Richmond
 Dr. Rachel Zloczover Jones '94 and Dr. Robert B. Jones
 Dr. M.Z. Kaplan '36
 Prof. Art Goldsmith and Jan Kaufman
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Kahn
 Mr. David A. Kantor '73
 Mr. and Mrs. David Kesselman

The Hon. Ronald Kessler '69
 Prof. John Lambeth and Lisa Solod
 Dr. and Mrs. William Landes
 Mr. Scot E. Lebensburger '72
 Mr. Jay Legum '62
 Ms. Barbara Lehman
 Dr. and Mrs. Max Levine
 Mr. Laurence Levitan '55
 Prof. Simon Levy
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen F. Lichtenstein '53
 Mr. Burton L. Litwin '51
 Mr. Mervin H. Luria '40
 Lynchburg Jewish Community Council
 Mr. Earl J. Magdovitz '65
 Prof. Harvey Markowitz
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Stephen Marks, III '59
 Dr. and Mrs. Jack Martin
 Mr. Arnold P. Masinter '62
 Mr. Paul Maslansky '54
 Dr. Robert Maslansky '52
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McCutcheon '48
 Mr. and Mrs. Oliver M. Mendell '50
 Dr. Robert Mendelsohn '50
 Mr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Meyers '70
 The Hon. Alvin Yale Milberg '54L
 Ms. Cornelia Miller
 Mrs. Joyce Moore
 Dr. and Mrs. Jack A. Morgenstern '56
 Prof. and Mrs. David Novack
 Mr. and Mrs. Neil November '48
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary S. Okin '74
 Dr. and Mrs. Michael Okin '76
 Mr. Jonathan H. Pakula '82
 Mr. James N. Paradies '51
 Drs. Dawn and Tom Peck
 Mr. Donald C. Poppke '71
 Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Przybyla
 Mr. Marc Randolph '96L
 Dr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Reibach '87
 Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Reynolds '62
 Roanoke Jewish Community Council
 Mr. Mort Robins
 Mr. Bennett L. Ross '83
 Mr. Herb Rubenstein '74
 Mr. Gregory D. Russell '88
 Mr. Harvey B. Savitt '68L
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark H. Schaul '53
 The Hon. and Mrs. Elliot Schewel '45
 Mr. Jonathan B. Schewel '80
 Mr. Marc A. Schewel '69
 Mr. Ellis B. Schulist '53
 Mr. Max Shapira '65
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sharlin '61
 Mr. and Mrs. Jules Shaivitz '50
 Dr. Arthur B. Sher '65
 Mr. and Mrs. Irving M. Shlessinger '51
 Mr. and Mrs. Dane A. Shrallow '68
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert A. Silverman '73
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven D. Silvers

Continued

Donor List continued

Mr. and Mrs. Philip J. Silverstein '46
Mr. Sam Silverstein '49L
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sklar '70
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Smith
Mr. Jared D. '95 and Francie '95 Spahn
Rabbi and Mrs. Lane B. Steinger '68
Mr. and Mrs. Barry J. Stein
Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Sugar '70
Mr. J. Frank Surface, Jr. '60
Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Sussman '63
Ms. Betty Taylor
VMI
The Hon. Sol Wachtler '51
Mr. Leon J. Warms '42
The Hon. and Mrs Paul H Weinstein '55
Mr. Peter A. Weissman '96
Mr. Samuel White '50L
Prof. Eric and Sarah Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Wise '32
Mr. J.E. Wise '53
Mr. Jeremy Wise
Mr. Christopher Wolf '80L
Mr. Dave Wolf '51
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Wolf '69A, '72L
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Zamoisky '74

Endowment Fund to Sustain W&L Hillel (\$1000 or more)

Mr. Stephen H. Friedlander '59
Mr. David Lehman '99
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Levin '64
The Hon. Laurence Levitan '55
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Sandler '70
Mr. Marc A. Schewel '69
Mr. Richard S. Sharlin '61
The Hon. and Mrs. Paul A. Weinstein '55

RECRUITMENT OF JEWISH STUDENTS TO W&L

By Joan Robins

In an effort to increase enrollment of Jewish students, Hillel, Admissions, and the Administration participated in several initiatives this year. We attended Jewish College Fairs, brought prospectives to campus during a "Special Recruitment Weekend", served on diversity panels, conducted a phon-a-thon, and followed up with accepted students by phone. Hillel invited the three Jewish Honors Scholars to a Very Interesting Professors dinner in March. The Director of Hillel and Marc Ackerman '91 met with high school guidance counselors in New Jersey. Marc also represented W&L and Hillel at other College Fairs this Spring. We can feel the momentum—we received twice as many applications as last year from Jewish students. At the time of this writing, the yield is about the same as last year, by far the largest class since 1979.

ADVISORY BOARD

Joan Robins, Director
Law Prof. Mark Grunewald, Chair

Alan Corwin '62
Maryann Fleming
Prof. Marcia France
Prof. Sascha Goluboff
Law Prof. Louise Halper
Bill Jacobs, MD '71
Prof. Barry Kolman
Jan Kaufman, Director of Health Education
Prof. Richard Marks
Arnold Masinter '62
Prof. David Novack
Michael Okin, MD '76
Tom Peck, MD
Steve Sandler '70
Leah Greenberg '05
Kara Lehman '05
Todd Martin '06
Jon Philipson '06
Joel Katz '07

HILLEL OFFICERS: "THE JEW CREW"

Co-Presidents: Leah Greenberg '05 and Kara Lehman '05
Co-Exec VPs: Todd Martin '06 and Jon Philipson '06
Secretary: Joel Katz '07

VP Chair, Shabbat: Carly Cowley '07
VP Chair, Holidays: Louisa Feve '06
VP Chair, Speakers: Xak Bausch '05
VP Chair, Social: Matt Bart '06
VP Chair, Community Service: Justine Dargahi '07
VP Chair, New Students: Polina Berlin '07
VP Chair, Publicity: Rachael Levine '07
VP Chair, Diversity: Steven Przybyla '07
VP Chair, Recruitment: Victoria Kesselman '07



Newly Elected Officers - The Jew Crew standing, L-R: Victoria Kesselman '07, Justine Dargahi '07, Carly Cowley '07, Louisa Feve '06, Leah Greenberg '05, Kara Lehman '05, Rachael Levine '07; kneeling L-R: Todd Martin '06, Steven Przybyla '07, Jon Philipson '06, Matt Bart '06. Missing: Polina Berlin '07, Xak Bausch '05.

CONTACT AND HILLEL PRESENT JONAH GOLDBERG

By Kara Lehman '05

On Tuesday, March 16, Contact, Hillel, and Young America's Foundation brought Jonah Goldberg, the Editor at-Large for the National Review Online and a regular guest on CNN, to Washington and Lee's campus to speak on "Diversity, Pacifism, and Other Controversial Ideas." Goldberg provided an entertaining, conservative point of view on a variety of issues facing America. Goldberg expressed his views on many enlightening topics such as diversity. He advocated embracing diversity only when based on merit and discredited the popular saying, "Difference makes us stronger" by citing that "Midgets would make the NBA more diverse, but not better." In regard to pacifism, Goldberg debunked another saying, "Violence never solves anything" by pointing out that violence freed the slaves and ended the Holocaust. Goldberg also touched on the recent controversy of gay marriage. He prefers the issue be left up to the states. From there Goldberg proceeded to discuss support of a stronger federalist system of government in America. Goldberg was an exciting, engaging, and irreverent speaker, who was very well received by those in attendance.



Hillel and CONTACT students enjoy dinner with speaker Jonah Goldberg before the talk.

PASSOVER

By Leah Greenberg '05

What does Evans Dining Hall make you think of? Mashed potatoes, frozen yogurt, and maybe a slice of pizza or two. Well after Hillel's Seder this year, held in Evans, you just might add matzah and Manischewitz to that list.

On April 6, Hillel organized a Seder for both Jewish students and the Jewish community. The turnout was excellent; we had about 70 people in attendance. Our wonderful faculty members led the service and several students helped lead as well. Several other members from the community read parts and led prayers.

Each table was equipped with its very own Seder plate and our very own Haggadah. Our catered meal was delicious and no one left hungry. Who thought you could find good matzah ball soup in Lexington, VA?

The Seder was going along beautifully when suddenly it was time to search for the Afikomen. I could see the disappointed looks in the college students' eyes when they thought they might be too old to search this year. But, alas, we had two searches for the afikomen, one for students and one for children.

One of my favorite aspects of W&L's Hillel is its community feeling. Our Evans Dining Hall Seder is a perfect example of how wonderful our little community is.

JEWISH FILM SERIES

By Jon Philipson '06

This past winter term, Hillel co-sponsored the showing of two films with Jewish themes. Grants from the Student Activity Board were awarded to Hillel for assistance.

"Keeping the Faith" starring Ben Stiller, Jenna Elfman, and Ed Norton was co-sponsored with GCF in the Elrod Commons Theater. It was great event enjoyed by all. We had one of the largest attendances for a Wednesday night movie in the Commons with well over 45 people attending. Hillel and GCF look forward to co-sponsoring more social and educational events in the near future. As well, a special thanks to Beta and Pi Kappa Phi fraternities for sponsoring a campus-wide pizza dinner in conjunction with the movie.

The second film of the term was "The Pianist", co-sponsored with the W&L Film Society. The Commons Theater was full both nights of the weekend showing, with students and community members as well. Holocaust survivor Roman Polanski directed this powerful biography of renowned Polish musician Wladyslaw Szpilman, who was playing Chopin on a Warsaw radio station when the first German bombs fell in 1939. The film follows Szpilman's experiences as Jews move from measured optimism, to the building of the Warsaw ghetto, to the death camp trains. Oscars were given to Polanski (best director), Adrian Brody (as Szpilman), and screenwriter Ronald Harwood.

VERY INTERESTING PROFESSORS

By Todd Martin '06

Every few weeks Hillel sponsors a "Very Interesting Professor" (VIP) meal at some of Lexington's finest dining establishments. At these meals, W&L professors and alumni are invited to join Hillel and talk about any Jewish aspect of their lives. We had four VIP lunches/dinners during Winter term and one VIP lunch Spring term.



Very Interesting Professors dinner with Professor Goldsmith at the Southern Inn

In January, Dr. Bob Maslansky '52 joined Hillel for dinner at the Southern Inn and talked about his position as the director of the Addiction Rehab Program at the Bellevue Hospital in New York City as well as his Jewish heritage. Professor Wasserman of the Journalism department had lunch at the Sheridan Livery Inn with Hillel in February while discussing the "swastika" incident on campus. There were two VIPs in March. The first was professor Goldsmith of the Economics department who, along with three visiting Honors Scholars, joined us for dinner at the Southern Inn. The second VIP of March, Herb Rubenstein '74, talked to us about his book entitled Growth Strategies, Inc. and Jewish life on other campuses around the country. Our last VIPs of the year were Scott Dittman, University Registrar and Director of Institutional Research, and his wife Susan Dittman. While having lunch at the Sheridan Livery Inn in April, they shared their stories and pictures from their recent visit to Berlin, Germany. Highlights included the Jewish Museum and the Sachsen-Hausen concentration camp.

VIP meals offer Hillel students the chance to get to know professors around campus on a much more personal level. It is also "very interesting" to talk to alumni and see how things have changed at W&L over the years. Hillel looks forward to continuing the VIP tradition next year.

ALUMNI NEWS

We received a lovely note from **Percy Cohen '28**, of Nashville. He is in his 98th year, and his wife is 92. Thank you, Percy, for your support and "strong feelings" for W&L!

Mazel Tov to **Harvey Savitt '68L**, of Commack, NY, on the birth of his grandson, Samuel Aaron Savitt on 4/10/04, (W&L class of '26)

Mrs. Viola H. Zuckerman, wife of **Dr. Ellis Zuckerman '49**, writes that her husband has Alzheimer's, and is at home with her. They are hoping to move to Richmond, closer to his doctors. "I always give him all the mail from W&L to look at, and try to talk with him about it. For a few minutes I see his eyes light up." Hillel wishes the Zuckermans all the best.

The Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of Western Pennsylvania honored **Lester Zittrain '52** for his outstanding career as a sports agent at the Beth Shalom Synagogue in Pittsburg last November, 2003. A pioneer in the field of sports agency, Zittrain represented many of the Pittsburg area's most renowned athletes. His first client was the legendary "Pistol Pete" Maravich, a local native and a three-time All-American Basketball player at LSU. It was Zittrain who got Maravich what was then the largest contract in sports history, signing with the Atlanta Hawks of the NBA. Zittrain enjoyed an accomplished legal career, earning a law degree at UVA after graduating from W&L in 1952. Lester Zittrain passed away in January of 2003.

Samuel White '50L writes to acknowledge Hillel and our "most interesting" newsletter. "During my years at W&L we sort of looked to that other school's (Hillel) chapter. As I recall it wasn't that great....It was gratifying to learn of your activities. The recruitment program is a most welcomed pursuit. I look forward to May, 2005 when (God willing) I hope to once again visit the campus for my 55th reunion." We at Hillel look forward to meeting you, Sam!

It was wonderful for some of us to be there for the induction into ODK of **Dr. Robert Maslansky '52** and his brother, **Paul Maslansky '54**. Omicron Delta Kappa, the honorary leadership fraternity began at W&L in 1914.

FIRST FRIDAYS AT FIVE - ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE

By Cliff Kern '70

Friday night, April 2, 2004...5:00...I'd been in meetings since 7:30 that morning and was ready to take a breath. 5:15...the Shabbat candles were lit, the leader had opened the service. We were all, about thirty of us, singing and reading the service from "Gates of Prayer." No, I wasn't in the familiar surroundings of my synagogue in New Orleans. I was in Lexington, in the Washington and Lee Alumni House!

I'd heard of "First Fridays" for a couple of years. Students and families from the Lexington community had gathered for a Shabbat Service and dinner. I was sitting with Betty Kahn Taylor, a friend from my student days, whose late husband Professor Lee Kahn had taught Theatre and directed all of the productions at the Troub.

After the service, Hillel Director, Joan Robins invited me to lead the Kiddush, and after the Ha Motzi, I told the group that being with them on that Shabbat Eve was a dream ful-

filled. I remembered a sermon by Rabbi Edward Cohn of Temple Sinai, New Orleans. He spoke of "Holy Spaces", and not just those in a conventional House of Prayer. I told the group that I would never have envisioned the "living room" of the Alumni House as a Holy Space, but thanks to their efforts, energy, and dedication, that is what it had become.

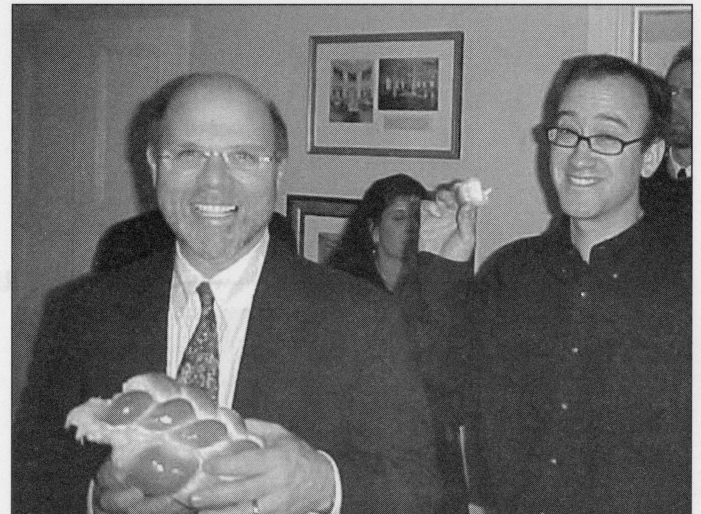
Hillel is alive and well at W&L. To share that moment with the mostly student group was a moving and wonderful experience.



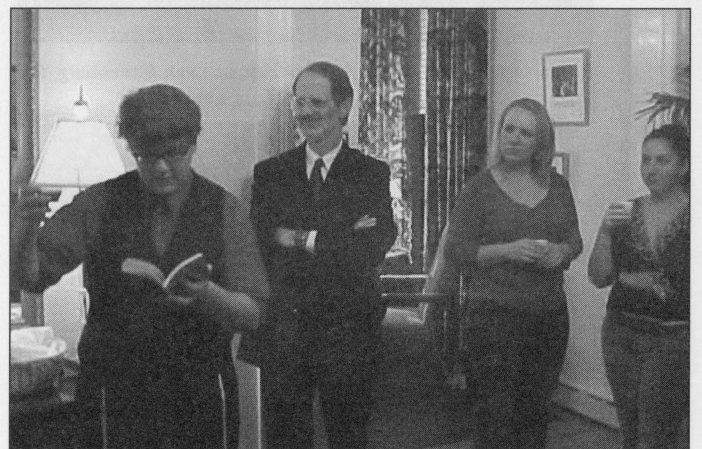
Dinner at First Fridays at Five. Students, faculty, families, and guest always enjoy traditional ethnic food after the service.



Mrs. Frances Lewis and her daughter, Susan Butler enjoy challah shared with Victoria Kesselman '07. Mrs. Lewis was honored after the Shabbat service at the 25th Anniversary Celebration Gala of the Frances Lewis Law Center. According to Blake Morant, Director, the Law Center stimulates the intellectual and scholarly life of the Law School community through sponsorship of faculty workshops led by national and international scholars, yearly symposia, jointly sponsored conferences and forums, and other programs which support the scholarly ambitions of the faculty.



Law Professor Mark Grunewald, Chair of the Hillel Advisory Board, and Professor Simon Levy, Acting Hillel Faculty Advisor, enjoy challah at First Fridays at Five.



First Fridays at Five Shabbat at the Alumni House: Lee Bulter, a student at Oberlin, leads the group in the Kiddush.



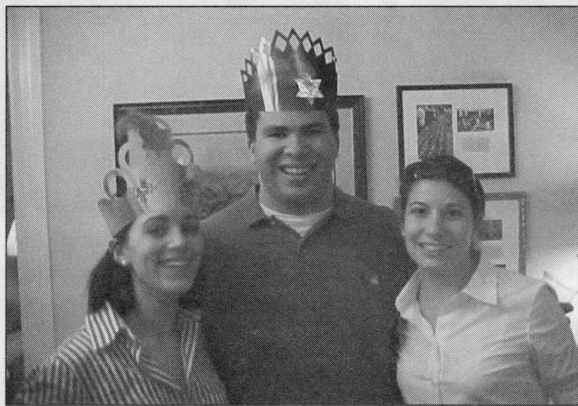
The Star



Washington and Lee Hillel
Elrod University Commons
Lexington, VA 24450-0303

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Washington and
Lee University

PURIM 2004



Purim Celebration at the Alumni House: Leah Greenberg '05, Jared Harrison '05 and Kara Lehman '05



Rachel Dubit lights the Shabbat candles during Hillel's Purim celebration



Professors having Purim fun: Prof Eric Wilson, Prof Art Goldsmith, Queen Esther, and Allison Goldsmith



The Whole Megillah: Carly Cowley '07, Leah Greenberg '05, Justine Dargahi '07, and Jared Harrison '05