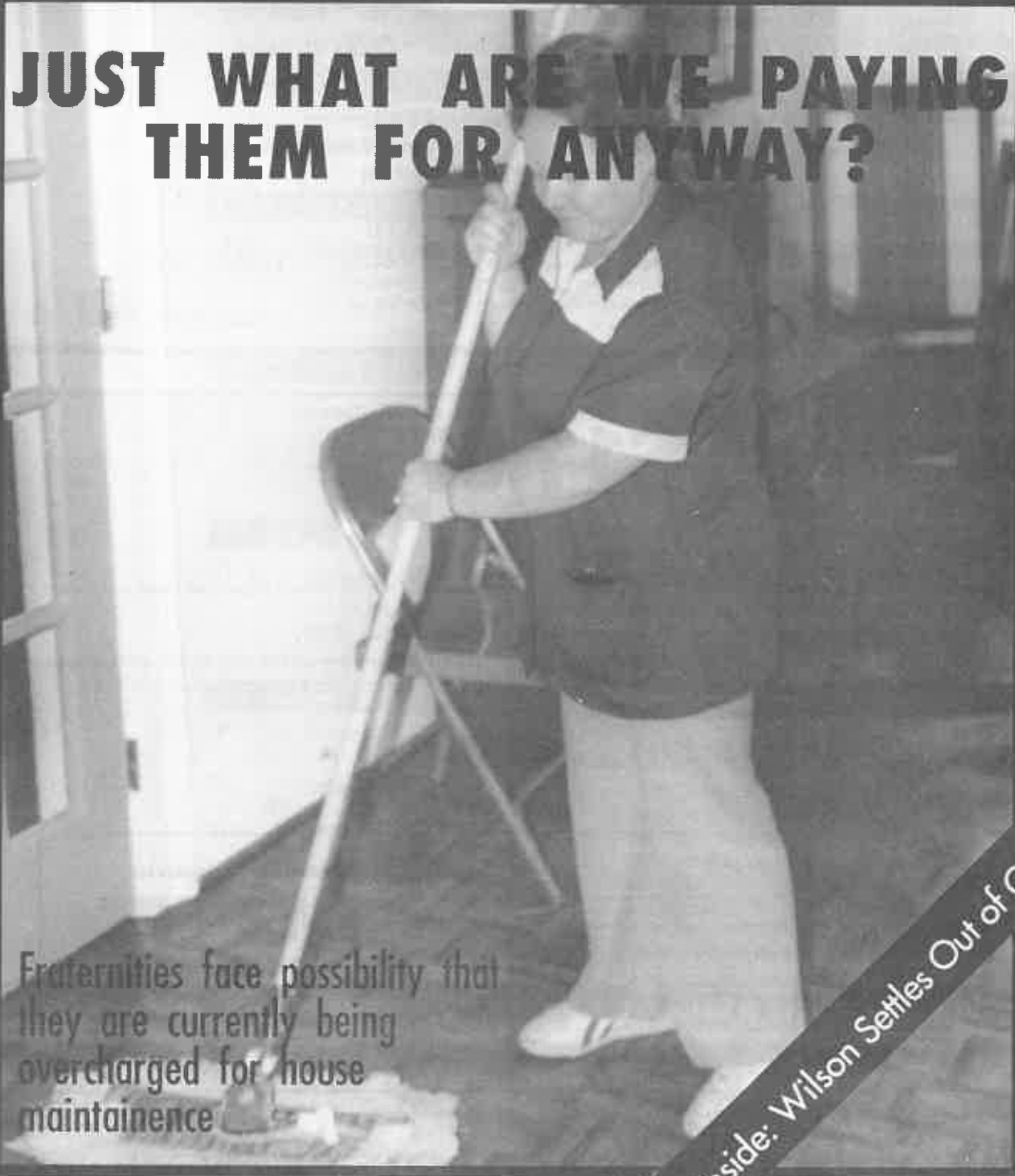


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W&LSpectator

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2, NOVEMBER 1991

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Inside: Wilson Settles Out of Court

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W&LSpectator

CAMPUS PERSPECTIVE

10 Sororities: Looking backward, looking forward by Elise Bryant and Nancy Mitchell
The three existing sororities' national chapters have hindered the women's Greek system from their colonization at W&L. Learning from the Delta Gamma fiasco, Panhellenic is moving forward to make the sororities an accessible aspect of life for all Washington and Lee women.

FRATERNITY MAINTENANCE

12 Are houses paying too much?by Richard Houston and Marc Kreppel
After meeting with University officials to discuss fraternity maintenance, the authors shed light on the much confused and misunderstood system.

INTERVIEW

17 Dinesh D'Souzaedited by Jamie Tucker
In this exclusive Spectator interview, the author of the best-selling Illiberal Education discusses his views on the politics of race and sex on America's campuses.

ESSAY

21 Stonewall Jackson: General of the Shenandoah by John McNeer
Leading an army of W&L students and VMI cadets, Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson defied great odds to become one of the most significant military leaders of our history.

DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Editor's Forum
- 5 Letters
- 6 General Opinion

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Who's Better, Who's Best

For the fifth consecutive year, *U.S. News and World Report* selected Washington and Lee as its best buy among elite liberal-arts institutions. Considering that our nation's finest institutions are currently under federal scrutiny for a wide array of financial misdoings, ranging from fixing prices of tuition to misuse and mismanagement of federal grant money, receiving the *U.S. News* Best Buy designation is no small accomplishment. While the many parents visiting their children this weekend can readily attest that attending W&L is no bargain, that it remains the best buy when compared to other similar institutions provides some assurance that Washington and Lee is at least a good deal.

But in the resulting euphoria from maintaining this designation, the administration and others have confused garnering the Best Buy designation with making W&L an even better buy. Invariably, President Wilson will state that W&L needs to hire new professors and to provide more endowed professorships in his annual Parents' Weekend justification for tuition increases. Agreed. But has his administration spent current tuition increases (which have for the last several years considerably exceeded inflation) to achieve this? Not really.

In the past ten years, the size of the student body has grown by 19.4%. While the increase in full time professors only slightly outpaces that of the students at 21.5%, the number of non-teaching employees has increased by over 90%. Are we really to believe that hiring new professors or creating new endowment chairs requires increasing tuition?

Many of the parents visiting this weekend will have the opportunity to tour any one of the many recently renovated fraternity houses. The general consensus is that the Fraternity Renaissance is good for all. One such advantage surrounds the reduction in maintenance costs to the fraternities once the University assumes responsibility for maintaining the houses. Have the houses seen any such reduction? Not really.

Not only do fraternity members pay a \$400 Greek Tax to the University in addition to normal house dues, the cleaning service responsible for upkeep routinely charges the houses hundreds of dollars a month more for services which are not detailed in the University's contract. The University neither covers these expenses nor has it demonstrated any interest in reducing these surcharges.

As these parents visit the new houses, perhaps they should ask why it is that their students are required to pay the same rent as students living in other University housing, in addition to paying for the house's construction via the Greek Tax. Gaines residents pay no Gaines Tax.

That W&L has been designated Best Buy should by no means indicate that is a better buy than it has been in years past. In fact, W&L may have been a better buy when it was not the best one.

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Editor-in-Chief

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To the editor

PHILLIPS AGENDA FOR CONSERVATIVES IS SKEWED

I write to the *Spectator* to comment on what I perceive as a fine example of shoddy and shallow political thinking, courtesy of the "intellectual" Howard Phillips.

To those readers who are considering abandoning this letter because they expect it to be meaningless spiel from one the ludicrously leftist professors currently running around W&L, have no fear. I am a Republican, and generally quite a conservative one, but Mr. Phillips' game plan for the future deserves comment from one of his Republican bedfellows.

1) Mr. Phillips appears to be in the same mental vein as the "true believer" anti-abortion group Operation Rescue, who most recently in Kansas lofted death threats at a Federal judge who issued an injunction against anti-abortion activists who were blocking women from entering abortion clinics. Mr. Phillips' advocacy of the death penalty for doctors performing abortions and his designation of them as "hired killers" warn the reader that he is dealing with another of the author Eric Hooper's "true believers," even if this one is on the political right.

People constantly invoke political rhetoric when dealing with the issue of abortion. Pro-choicers tend to focus on the right of a woman to make a decision for herself; pro-lifers tend to invoke God when making their views known. One solution to this is to come up with ways for women to avoid pregnancy altogether. Why not have

the state governments help women out by offering Norplant, the five-year sustained-release birth control drug, to them—free of charge? The state would begin to avoid the burden of creating more welfare mothers in inner cities, while at the same time avoiding the divisive abortion issue.

2) Mr. Phillips also espouses a flat income tax rate for everyone, embarrassing himself and the reader because of his senseless proposition, which gives new meaning to the word "futile." After all, Mr. Phillips is head of the American Tax Payers Party—he's supposed to be some sort of expert on taxes. If the tax rate is set at an amount which everyone will be able to pay, then that amount will no doubt be no more than perhaps a few thousand dollars, if that. Poor inner city dwellers will find themselves devoting most, if not all, of their income to new missile development, repairs to the U.S. embassy in Samoa, etc. Rich folks wouldn't be giving enough money to the government to fund even a fraction of its proper activities—road building, sewer maintenance, and so forth. Put a thousand-dollar tax on the purchase of a firearm if you want to raise money. Even if this is wishful thinking (I'll save my indignation with the N.R.A. for another time), it represents a more fair approach than that of Mr. Phillips. He might also keep in mind that if his tax plan were to be implemented in any form, his conservative heroes would be toppled from power in the blinking of an eye. Margaret Thatcher's insistence on the implementation of

the flat-rate "poll tax" on each British household caused unprecedented anger to be directed at her.

Look who's Prime Minister now.

3) Mr. Phillips, the reader realizes at the halfway point of his article, is so laughably impractical in his suggestions for better government that he could (TEE-HEE!) probably begin a comedy career for himself on Letterman. Mr. Phillips' crusades against the NEA, the departments of Education, and Health and Human Services don't offer any solutions to the problems that these agencies deal with. Dr. Louis Sullivan, who runs Health and Human services, is charged with guiding government policy with respect to disease epidemics, drug use, etc. These issues must be dealt with by government and private citizens—they don't solve themselves. Bringing in the best minds in the private sector to advise officials such as Dr. Sullivan is the best way for government to approach health issues, as well as many other ones.

I could go on, but "the hour is late", I am sure that Mr. Phillips means well, as he acknowledges but why issue an oversimplified blueprint of convoluted morality as the path for government to take when it does not specifically address problems society faces? It is my hope that policy makers are deeper thinkers than the head of the American Tax Payers Party, and that the *Spectator* can find political writers who will address policy problems with something better than useless evangelical tripe.

Paul M. Mazyck

General Opinion

WILSON SETTLES SUSPENSION SUIT OUT OF COURT

The faculty overwhelmingly supported President Wilson's suspension of three students after a window breaking incident last year outside the newly renovated ΣAE house, and the Board of Trustees upheld that decision. But an out of court agreement reached between the University and the family of one of the suspended students indicates a recognition by Washington Hall that the suspension was not only unwarranted, but without legal foundation. Could it be that the only voice of reason within the W&L community comes from outside?

In seeking legal action against the University, the family had two primary concerns. Firstly, to insure that the student's record would not contain reference to an expulsion. Secondly, to recover the cost of the lost semester. Although the family's attorney did not reveal the terms of the settlement, he did indicate that the University accepted the demands without negotiation. The University's immediate acceptance constituted, according to this attorney, "a tacit admission that [the President's] action was excessive."

Not only was the suspension excessive, its

administration completely violated the rights of the individual students. According to the Student Handbook, which constitutes a legal contract between the University and every individual student, Washington and Lee may neither suspend nor expel a student for disciplinary actions without a full hearing before the Student Conduct Committee. Period.

President Wilson and Dean Howison deliberately concealed the incident from the SCC on three different and specific occasions in the six days between the window breaking and suspension when the Chairman of the SCC was erroneously informed that there were no incidents of which he should be aware. This clearly indicates that the President and the Dean of Students acutely understood the students' rights as detailed in the Handbook and sought some grounds to circumvent them.

Last year, the only grounds on which the President could suspend or expel any student from the University was "wherein a student represent[ed] a severe and immediate threat to the well-being of the University community." This clause had been invoked by President Wilson only once previously—when he used it to expel students implicated in an FBI drug ring. To have maintained that breaking a window is paramount with coordinating a drug ring would have made Wilson the laughing stock of the court system.

This clause had been invoked by President Wilson only once previously in his tenure with the University—when he used it to expel students implicated in an FBI drug ring. To have maintained that breaking a window is paramount with coordinating a drug ring would have made

Wilson and the University the laughing stock of the court system, and it should have had the same effect with the faculty and the trustees.

One of the reasons that the family's attorney accepted the case surrounded his desire as a W&L alumnus to insure that student self-government was more than "farcical." He personally feared that if Wilson could classify those student's actions as a "severe and immediate threat to the well-being of the University community," then he could classify any action that he wished as such—effectively empowering the President with *carte blanche* over students' right to due process. If so, then "no student has any rights."

Well, as of this year President Wilson no longer has the stumbling block to overruling student self-government that the Immediate Threat clause provided. The University removed it from the catalogue. Should another such suspension occur, neither the courts nor the Constitution will have any power to overturn it.

This year's catalogue states that "students may be required to sever their connection with the University for a specific period of time for non-academic reasons by the President." In other words, you may be suspended whenever the President pleases.

In once sense, this revision is heartening. At least the next time Wilson and Howison suspend one or more students (should they ever do so again), they will do so without the deceit, lies, and hypocrisy which pervaded their last suspension.

But unfortunately, their revision leaves the remainder of the University without legal recourse. The family and the attorney who sought legal action against the

NOTABLY

“Last year, the only grounds on which the President could suspend or expel any student from the University was wherein a student represent[ed] a severe and immediate threat to the well-being of the University community. This clause had been invoked by President Wilson only once previously—when he used it to expel students implicated in an FBI drug ring. To have maintained that breaking a window is paramount with coordinating a drug ring would have made Wilson the laughing stock of the court system.”

University did so to preserve student autonomy and self-government at Washington and Lee. President Wilson and Dean Howison "learned their lesson" so to speak, from this potential legal embarrassment. While on one hand, Howison strengthened the autonomy of the SCC, by extending the President's power of the suspension without check, he legally rendered student organizations virtually impotent in dealing with matters of student conduct.

IS THERE AN ACCOUNTANT IN THE HOUSE?

Much to the chagrin of the organization itself and the University community in general, the Student Activities Board recently announced that it was \$9000 in debt from last year. This came after the SAB incurred a record debt the year before, when they went \$23,000 in the hole. This begs two questions. First, where is all this money going? Each year the officers of the SAB come in front of the Executive Committee and ask for more money, stating that they will plan more events that the whole school will attend. These events, they say, will include magicians, comedians, more bands, and, of course, the traditional SAB Bingo nights. They argue that since there is an admission charge to the events, most will pay for themselves.

Yet there is a problem with this logic. As the events increase, they are viewed not as special happenings but as a weekly or a bi-weekly occurrence. Since they happen so often, less and less people attend, because there will always be another one coming soon. The result is that less people attend than the SAB expected, and it ends up eating the

cost for the event.

Moreover, a majority of students will not pay an entrance fee for a different event each week, especially when there are other (free) parties or shows which they will enjoy. There is always something going on around W&L, and even on a "dead" weekend the draw for a rousing game of Bingo isn't high. Leave the games to Freshman Orientation and save us all some money.

The second question is even more obvious. Why isn't there anyone on the SAB who has enough financial training to keep the books straight? It is hard to believe that with the large number of accounting and/or finance majors in the C-School, there is not one of them who would be glad to help the SAB balance its checkbook. Obviously it is difficult to keep tabs on large events like Fancy Dress and the mammoth amount of money that is spent on it. But where is the supervision of the funds? How come the SAB never figures out how far in debt it is until September of the next school year? If late bills are the issue, why isn't someone informed of the purchase *before* the invoice comes in so it can be jotted down as an expense?

There is no doubt the Student Activities Board serves a vital role at W&L. Without it we would have no Fancy Dress, no centralized Homecoming, and other great activities would fall by the wayside. However, the SAB needs to impose some guidelines upon itself. The SAB should limit itself to a certain number of events, learn from past events what kind of attractions will break even, and get a committee of qualified people to run the bank accounts. Other student organizations operate in the black. The SAB, with the entire student body to choose from, should be able to find a few intelligent students who can keep them on track. \$32,000 is a lot of money.

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WE'RE SORRY TOO, TEDDY

Edward M. Kennedy, the senior Senator from Massachusetts, recently told the nation that he realized some of his past conduct had been questionably ethical. Oh really, Teddy? Senator Kennedy, who has for years provided the consummate argument for term limitation, epitomized the hypocrisy inherent in limousine liberalism and embarrassed his party and the nation alike, now wants us to believe he is repentant. Is this a joke? Does he really feel this should provide some comfort to the Kopechne family, who lost their daughter to the Chappaquidick murder?

Had the Senator committed only a single moral misjudgment, we might be more willing to accept his apology. But the Senator's serious moral shortcomings have been

blatantly evident for decades. Where should we start? Expulsion from law school for cheating? Leaving Mary Jo Kopechne to drown while saving his own hide and then not reporting the accident until the next morning because he had been drinking? Or the numerous times he has been caught in compromising positions with women? Or more recently, allegations that he deliberately lied about his knowledge of his nephew's sexual assault charge in Palm Beach?

During the recent Thomas Confirmation Hearings, Kennedy sat noticeably quiet. He was astute enough to realize that he would make a laughing stock of himself before the entire nation if he were to open his mouth. Most Americans waited suspensefully for him to stick his foot in his mouth and reveal the ultimate hypocrisy. They were not disappointed. On the day of the vote on the floor Teddy tried to slide

in his two-cents worth calling Thomas' treatment of women shameful. Americans, after they stopped laughing, heard Senator Orin Hatch of Utah respond that if anyone believed such a remark by Kennedy, they should also contact him about a bridge in Massachusetts he would sell them.

What has brought about this discovery of morality, Senator Kennedy? Did one of your aides tell you about that one of the recent polls showing Massachusetts voters overwhelmingly favor not returning you to Washington for another six years? Or is it perhaps a humble realization, as one Washington columnist remarked, that even if Clarence Thomas had dropped his pants before Anita Hill, read to her large sections of *Penthouse* magazine, and solicited similar sexual favors, he would in fact remain the paragon of moral virtue when compared to you? Sorry, Teddy.



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Sororities: Looking backward, looking forward

by Elise Bryant and Nancy Mitchell

In efforts to provide Washington and Lee women with a social outlet comparable to that of the men, Washington and Lee invited various national sororities to colonize on its campus during its fourth year of coeducation. This process has extended many benefits to the women of Washington and Lee, but not without unanticipated disappointments. In January 1989, Washington and Lee conducted its colonization rush in which three national sororities, Chi Omega, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Kappa Kappa Gamma, established chapters on campus. That only three sororities participated in the initial colonization has plagued Panhellenic from the start. The three sororities' National offices insisted upon a minimum of thirty pledges per chapter, and after conducting surveys in the fall of that school year, W&L estimated that only one hundred women were strongly interested in pledging a sorority. In May 1989, however, the initiation of 261 women into the newly formed Greek system created three sororities with almost three times as many members as W&L desired. Although they enjoyed great success as indicated by the large percentage of women who joined the Greek system (62.5%, not including this year's freshman class), the sororities have been burdened with the unmanageable number of sorority members (roughly 90-100 members per sorority). As a result, Panhellenic has struggled to lower the number of members per sorority in a reasonable fashion.

In order to remain an inclusive system for all Washington and Lee women, Panhellenic has rigorously pursued bringing another sorority to campus. Marking the first year of sororities' establishment, the 1990 winter rush included the three active sororities as well as Delta Gamma, a national sorority invited by W&L to join its Greek system. Unfortunately, it was a dark winter for

DG. Following national guidelines, the established sororities elected to have Delta Gamma conduct its colonization rush a week after their own formal rush. Falling very short of the necessary numbers for a successful colonization rush, DG was able to garner roughly a dozen interested women, who soon thereafter formed the Delta Gamma Interest Group. The hope of this interest group was to encourage Delta Gamma Nationals to remain on campus and participate in the following year's rush. The interest group conducted regular meetings and took part in W&L's Panhellenic Council, having voice but no vote. Indeed Panhellenic made the successful colonization of Delta Gamma the top priority for the upcoming 1990-1991 school year.

Preparation for the rush of 1991 included various changes to facilitate DG's membership drive. Yet in spite of Panhellenic's efforts, including a quota system more favorable to Delta Gamma, Nationals were unsuccessful in recruiting women to join the Delta Gamma Interest Group members. DG Nationals permanently withdrew its efforts to join the W&L Panhellenic system.

In spite of Delta Gamma's failure and with valuable lessons learned, Panhellenic forged ahead its invitation to Pi Beta Phi to join in 1992 Winter Rush. The W&L women have come to appreciate that the atmosphere of their small, liberal arts University is unique, and in order to bring an additional group to campus, they must disregard Nationals' guidelines. In their own "best" interests, the Nationals of the presently established chapters have repetitively insisted that the Greek women should elect to have the colonization rush of a fourth sorority the week after formal rush. As clearly seen in 1991, this method leaves a number of interested women far short of the desired 60 for a successful colonization.

NOTABLY

“That only three sororities participated in the initial colonization has plagued Panhellenic from the start. As a result, Panhellenic has struggled to lower the number of members per sorority in a reasonable fashion.”

Elise Bryant is a senior from Richardson, Texas. Nancy Mitchell is a senior from Atlanta, Georgia. They are both members of Kappa Kappa Gamma women's fraternity.

The Greek women, now approaching their third formal rush without the help of Nationals, have come to realize what will work best for their own campus. According to Panhellenic President, Dale Wyatt, "We have to explore all of our options with this colonization. The administration has been extremely helpful as they realize our need for a new sorority, and they haven't limited us at all. They've been there to help."

Dean Atkins, Dean of Greek Affairs, stated that "Panhellenic is depending upon this year's freshman class and their enthusiasm in starting a new chapter. That chapter's success is very important in expanding the sorority system. It is going to create a better experience for everyone, including the existing chapters."

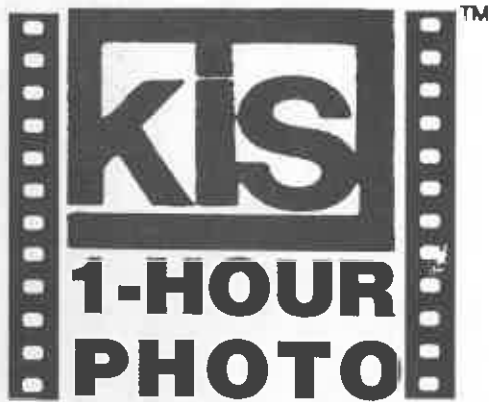
Yet, in addition to Pi Beta Phi, a second sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, a national black sorority that is not a member of National Panhellenic, has considered coming to Washington and Lee. Dean McCloud, Dean of Minority Students, announced the possible colonization of Delta Sigma Theta. But according to Dean Atkins, there aren't enough interested women to warrant Delta Sigma Theta's attempt at colonization. This is fortunate, for the existing sororities seek a diverse and encompassing system, a system that would be compromised by the very existence of Delta Sigma Theta at Washington and Lee. In attempting to include a national sorority that is not a member of National Panhellenic, W&L would face the dilemma of

either establishing a revised committee to oversee both Panhellenic and non-Panhellenic sororities or allowing the non-Panhellenic sororities to operate without the present overseeing body.

Another sorority disappointment surrounds the construction of sorority housing. Washington and Lee and the National offices of the established chapters have agreed that housing construction for all chapters will occur at the same time. Initially, Washington and Lee had estimated that housing construction could begin as early as 1993. Yet with unexpected setbacks in the Fraternity Renaissance program, there have been no plans for either building sites or construction, and the Greek women do not realistically foresee completed sorority housing for at least another six or seven years. The sorority women look forward to alternative living arrangements, meal plans, meeting rooms, and a location for rush. Presently, the women meet and conduct their rush in the University Center which is not large enough to hold comfortably the present number of women in each chapter.

Overall, the sororities at Washington and Lee have enjoyed great success, and the women are pleased with their experiences. Kappa Kappa Gamma senior, Ashley Hurt stated "we didn't know what to expect out of a new sorority system. I was a little skeptical initially, but now I'm very happy that I had the opportunity to join one of the chapters."

Thomas C. Bradshaw III



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FRATERNITY MAINTENANCE:

*Are houses
paying
too much?*

by Richard Houston and Marc Kreppel

This weekend is many parents' first opportunity to see their sons' newly renovated fraternity houses. The renovations mark a culmination of years of planning to restructure and redesign not only the houses themselves, but the entire fraternity system. Expected advantages of the system not only include the improved appearance of the houses, but the ways in which they are administered and maintained. In addition to the old houses' unsightly and structurally unsound condition, their dilapidated state resulted in high maintenance and utility costs.

While the renovated houses are aesthetically pleasing and perhaps energy efficient, hundreds of dollars in fines for cleanup and maintenance of the houses have surprised many fraternities that expected lower upkeep costs. Although many of these rumors are not necessarily true, the Dean of Greek Life, "Buddy" Atkins, acknowledges that "there are areas that need improvement."

Before any fraternity renovation was complete, the University needed to develop the maintenance system for those renovated houses. The administration decided that it would be more expensive to expand the University's Buildings and Grounds Department than to contract the work with someone outside the University. Dean Atkins commented, "There's no need to have fraternities paying

Richard Houston is a sophomore from Memphis, Tennessee. Marc Kreppel is a sophomore from Cincinnati, Ohio.

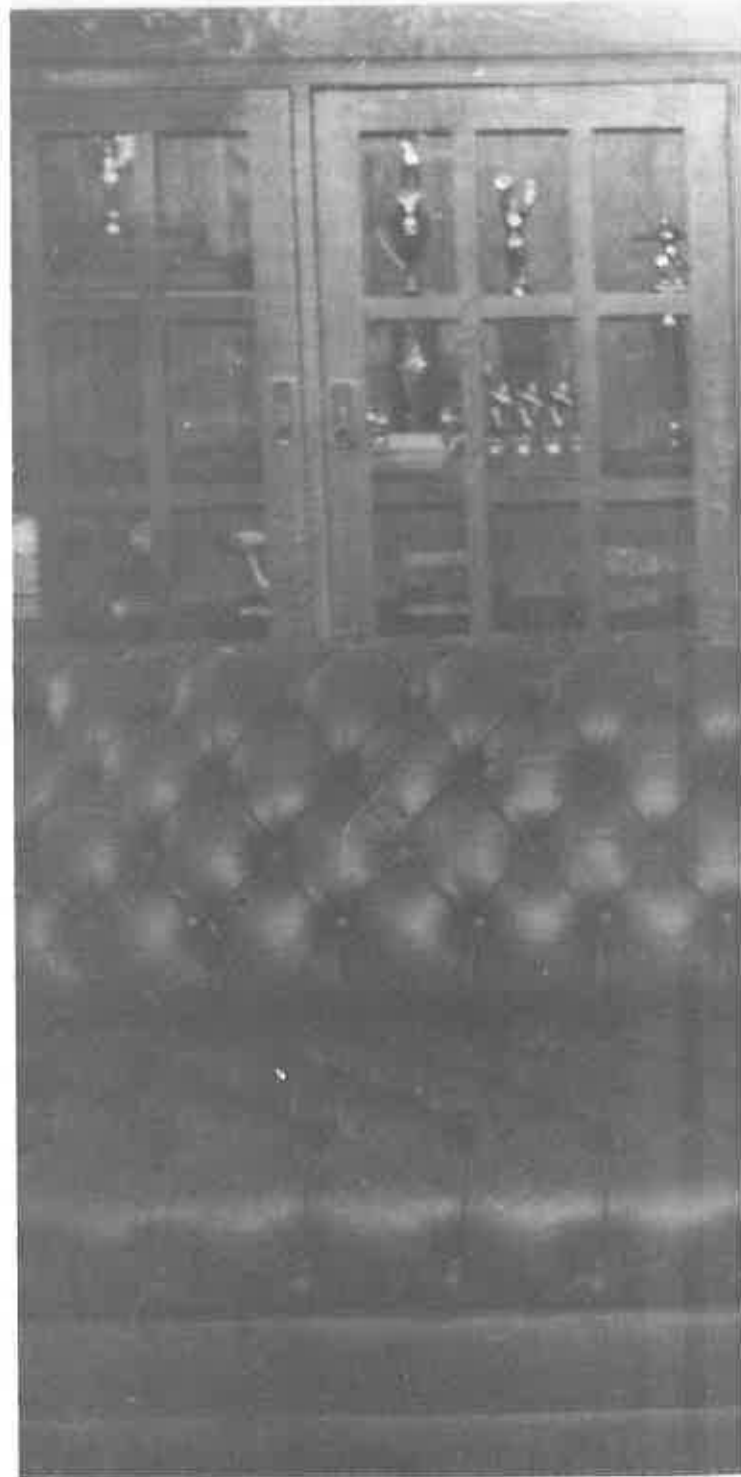




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for all that bureaucracy if we can get an outside contractor to take it on." Now fraternities deal not just with the University for maintenance but also with an outside organization—one far less accountable to the Greek System, and one that has proven itself not necessarily cheaper..

After accepting bids from two or three other cleaning services, the University chose to contract Shenendoah Industrial Services because "they happened to be low." Since the original contract was set up, Shenendoah Industrial Services changed its name to Stonewall Management Services. But not only did the organization adopt a new name, but according to Atkins, "this is pretty much a new venture for them, as they were doing [such maintenance] on a much smaller scale than what the fraternities are."

Cleaning is not the only service which Stonewall Management provides for the fraternities. They also oversee the general maintenance of the houses, such as upkeep of the furnace, mechanical room, and electrical system of each of those houses. Currently, the only employee of the Buildings and Grounds Department who enters fraternity facilities is Mr. Jim Boyd.

Mr. Boyd's official title of Assistant Construction Manager does not necessarily illustrate his importance to the maintenance system. He is the University's check on the system to make sure that Stonewall Services does their job. In the well known process of party room cleanup, Mr. Boyd is instrumental. "I look to make sure the floor has been mopped, no stains on the floor and sticky also any trash—cups, bottles, cans, or whatever behind radiators. I look for liquid stains on the walls or any trash laying on the floor. At that point I write down x amount of things that are wrong. I make a report." Once Mr. Boyd's report is complete, he then informs the House Mother that such problems with the party room must be corrected within twenty-four hours.

"The next morning I come through [the house] to see [if the problems were corrected]. If those items aren't done, I immediately tell Billy Hall to have his people do the cleanup."

Mr. Hall, employed by Stonewall Management oversees his company's work done at W&L's fraternities. Normally each fraternity pays to have one cleaning person at the house four to six hours per day, five days a week. By contract, this person's work includes general daily housekeeping in the common areas of the house—sweeping, mopping, dusting etc.—and weekly housekeeping in the basement. Other work, however, such as that requested by Jim Boyd, can require extra personnel. These jobs termed "project work" are billed \$8.50 per hour plus materials at cost plus 10%. Mr. Boyd says that usually for party room cleanup Mr. Hall will bring in extra personnel.

Extra party cleanup that requires extra personnel results in an extra bill for the fraternities. According to Jim Boyd, "Billy Hall gives me a breakdown of X amount of dollars for the party



Jim Boyd with contractors examine brickwork in Red Square

Photo Credit: Jason Coccia

room cleanup. He bills it to me, we approve the bill and then send it to the Business Office." The University Business Office oversees the collection of the bills from the fraternities.

When asked if there is a typical amount billed for party room cleanup, Jim Boyd responded, "I don't know that there's any typical bill; I've seen them anywhere from fifty to one hundred fifty dollars."

The importance of Jim Boyd's position in the management of the fraternities is obviously great.

"After accepting bids from two or three other cleaning services, the University chose to contract Shenendoah Industrial Services because they happened to be low."

His review of all bills sent to fraternities can affect each house's budget significantly over the period of a school year.

Dean Atkins describes Boyd's role "to review the bills to make sure they jive with what would be reasonable [cost] for what [work] needs to be done. With all of these jobs, it's the time that you're paying for that is most expensive, not the materials."

For this reason, Jim Boyd's knowledge and review of the work and its cost at each fraternity must be thorough. Boyd says, "I make a reasonable adjustment as I know what's been worked on, then

I make a reasonable determination of whether it's a fair cost or not."

The fact that Mr. Boyd must "adjust" a bill to make it a fair cost should compel questions as to the integrity and origin of such costs. Referring to a stack of bills from September maintenance yet unadjusted, Mr. Boyd said, "a lot of these bills don't go [to the fraternities] as they are."

Some unadjusted bills are sent on to fraternities, however, such as a \$95 after party cleanup cost from September 19, according to Boyd. And the

"The importance of Jim Boyd's position in the management of the fraternities is obviously great. His review of all bills sent to fraternities can affect each house's budget significantly over the period of a school year."

house receiving the bill will only know just that, "September 19: AFTER PARTY CLEANUP; \$0 materials, \$95 labor."

Last January, one fraternity received a bill for party cleanup that amounted to \$153.00. The bill was not divided into material and labor. Mr. Boyd stressed that now, fortunately, the bill is broken up into such categories.

But what about that \$95 party cleanup labor charge. No one—the fraternity, Dean Atkins, or

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even Jim Boyd—knows how many workers or how many hours were required for the job. Only Stonewall Management Services is aware of such numbers. Although Dean Atkins said, "I would think that he [Jim Boyd] would want to know that information," Boyd said it was unnecessary.

More questions can be raised as to the extensive labor costs of fraternity maintenance. One house will be charged \$100 labor for patching two holes in their party room ceiling over their stage. When Jim Boyd was asked if the job took almost twelve hours of labor (based on the "project work" rate of \$8.50 per hour) he responded, "It could have...I don't know how many hours he spent on it."

With similar question, a house was billed \$55 labor to replace the glass of a door in their basement during September. Dean Atkins responded to such a bill, "that's the case where you need to look at it and say, 'Was this a six hour job?' It may have been. It may not have been." When Jim Boyd was asked if he thought that same bill was "unreasonable or might take only 2 or 3 hours for the

"These houses mark the culmination of years of planning, to restructure and redesign not just the houses themselves, but the entire fraternity system. Expected advantages of the system not only include improved appearance of the houses, but the ways in which they are administered and maintained."

job," he responded, "Well, you may be right. I don't know." Jim Boyd should know.

Dean Atkins was asked about possible overcharging and said, "part of the protection is built in, such that the bill isn't going directly to the fraternity." Bills must be evaluated by Jim Boyd, who, unfortunately, reacts quite differently. When Mr. Boyd was asked how the fraternities can protect themselves from being overcharged for hours that aren't being served, he answered: "not break out windows, that's the best answer I can give you."

The University, has no financial interest in keeping Stonewall Management Services' bills of fraternities minimal. Near the end of October, the bills for September were sitting on Jim Boyd's desk, still not fully "adjusted."

Dean Atkins said he is worried about the amount of time between the completion of the maintenance and when the bills are received by the fraternity. It seems difficult for the fraternities to question a bill for work already two months old. The organization of the system must be developed.

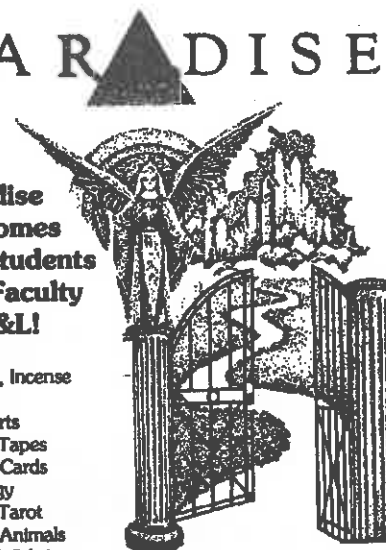
Dean Atkins believes "all the elements are there to have a very responsive system." Fine, but how much will the fraternities have to pay before such a system will exist?

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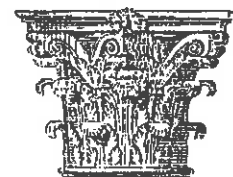
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Dinesh D'Souza

Last year Dinesh D'souza emerged at the forefront of the debate over Political Correctness on the campuses of American colleges and universities after publishing his insightful and controversial book *Illiberal Education*. D'Souza



Jamie Tucker is a senior from Macon, Georgia.

argues that college administrations and faculties have disregarded individual liberty and have subjugated individual rights to the interest of minorities, women, and homosexuals by seeking to advance policies and courses that are sensitive to such groups. Illiberal Education cites examples from the campuses of some of America's

Edited by Jamie Tucker

leading universities, demonstrating that though these policies are well intended, the end result is often not met or is even counter-productive. Speech codes enacted to protect minority sensitivities at the University of Michigan have resulted in a university community that is no longer a bastion of free thought and speech, but where students' words are subject to censorship.

D'Souza argues that the university does not seek policies of true diversity and inclusiveness but subscribes to a extremely narrow political outlook of preferences and segregation. For instance, admissions policies at Berkeley and other schools seek more minority representation lowering the academic standards for minorities admitted, and they have caused a quite noticeable gap in academic preparedness between the minorities and other students. As a result, many minority students feel uncomfortable at the university is not their place, and eventually drop out. Colleges, however, remain committed to such Affirmative Action policies despite such detrimental results. The PC agenda of American colleges has become a barrier to all students, even those who are supposed to be its beneficiaries. D'Souza argues that the university has become intolerant of anyone who does not subscribe to their views, let alone anyone who dares to speak out against them. The university is not tolerant of anyone who does not subscribe to the same views let alone anyone who dares to speak out against them.

Mr. D'Souza visited the campus of Washington and Lee last month and spoke on topics related to these. The *Spectator* was able to secure an exclusive interview with him during his stay.

SPECTATOR: How would you classify yourself on the ideological spectrum?

D'SOUZA: I would classify myself as a conservative in politics but a liberal when it comes to education. There are more arguments made in my book that one has to be a proverbial conservative to agree with. My basic argument is that liberal education

should be about equal opportunity, but the reality of life on virtually every American campus is racial preferences both in student admissions and faculty hiring. Secondly, liberal education should be about integration: creating a common community. On many campuses there is an all too pervasive racial separatism, what I call the new segregation on campus. Finally, liberal education should be about high academic standards and free, open debate as means of approximating the ideal of truth. Once again high academic standards are often denounced as being nothing but the cultural property of white males. Free and open debate is then subordinated or sacrificed to other social values such as diversity. So, the point is that we are seeing a betrayal of liberal principles, and that is why my book is called *Illiberal Education*. A number of critics and commentators across the political spectrum, including mainstream liberal historians...and one conspicuous Marxist, have risen to the defense of my book because they have argued the real target is intolerance and closed-mindedness. There is a new debate about where the center is in American politics. Within the national spectrum the center has shifted quite dramatically to the right. When Barry Goldwater ran in 1964 he was regarded as a radical and an extremist bomb. Today, we have a very different political situation in which Michael Dukakis can't identify himself with a straight face as a liberal and has to scamper away from that label. Conservatism is more respectable in the national framework. Now, the universities are a bit of an enclave from society at large. A different set of values tends to prevail and predominate so that someone

who is regarded as within the mainstream of the national debate can be classified as eagerly right wing within the university context.

SPECTATOR: Along those same lines, there is a large number of professors and even most administrators are quick to speak out against the PC movement, surprisingly even on this campus. Yet,

"It's not simply a question of free speech and being able to speak your mind. There are deeper questions of equal access to admission, of fair rules governing life on campus, of equal treatment to students of different political perspectives. These problems are rarely escaped in higher institutions."

those same people respond that your book is offensive. Are you surprised at the way the book has been received?

D'SOUZA: I tried to write the book in an even-handed and restrained tone because there is no doubt that the facts contained within the book are disturbing. The issues that I am touching on: the issues of race, of gender, and sexual orientation, have been virtually taboo subjects in American politics. So even to talk about them in an honest and candid way is to make some people uncomfortable. Ultimately, what can not be evaded is simply the reality to which the book points. There has been a typhooning attack on Political Correctness, and it is no longer PC to be PC. It's surprising that the most ardent supporters of activist policies are now putting some distance between themselves and Political Correctness. It was the policies to which Political Correctness points that want defense or justification, policies such as the essential justice or injustice of racial preferences or policies such as the attempt to transform the curriculum along lines of race or gender.

SPECTATOR: Last year, a professor secretly wrote letters to advertisers of *Spectator* urging them to discontinue support of *Spectator* on ideological grounds or face a boycott by her and her PC associates. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees during this controversy, there was some concern over the PC impact on cam-



pus. The Dean of the College [Dean Elrod] stood up with a copy of your book and said for them not to worry because there was no PC at Washington and Lee. How would you respond to your book being used in this manner when obviously there was some element of Political Correctness however small?


D'SOUZA: It may well be the case that Washington and Lee suffers in a lesser degree from some of the problems than a campus like the University of Michigan or Berkeley, but that's no occasion for celebration. The policies that I describe in my book are quite pervasive in American higher education. It's not simply a question of free speech and being able to speak your mind. There are deeper questions of equal access to admission, of fair rules governing life on campus, of equal treatment to students of different political perspectives. These problems are rarely escaped in higher institutions. I hope what we are witnessing is a desire to accept my book as a constructive

"The curriculum on American campuses has always changed, but is has always changed in reference to an ongoing debate over what is good—an argument about merit."

engagement with university policies, rather than deny problems that may exist.

SPECTATOR: Some of those problems which exist at Washington and Lee exist in two areas: curriculum and what may be termed social engineering. Criticism has mainly been levied against a segregated orientation week for minority freshmen, that ironically does not consider Hispanics minorities, and against an attempt to bring all-black fraternities and sororities on campus which would also produce a social segregation. Is it beneficial for universities to have organizations such as these?

D'SOUZA: I would assume that it would be quite an outrage on campus if a fraternity said that we are a white fraternity limiting its membership only to whites. The university, I think, would probably do what it could to dismantle such an organization and punish the students involved. But at the same time it is quite routine now for universities not only to recognize but subsidize distinctively ethnic sororities and fraternities. This creates an obvious perception of a double standard and rarely if there is a justification to be given is it ever given. Second, nobody objects to a voluntary association of a group kids who want to hang out together. But, racial separatism could reach a point where it defeats the purpose, not only of creating a common community, but it



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defeats the entire purpose of Affirmative Action. One of the arguments in favor of Affirmative Action policies is that in bringing kids of different backgrounds to a campus like W&L you have a rich mingling and interaction of kids with different perspectives. Obviously that goal is defeated if once students of diverse backgrounds come to campus they essentially segregate in to racially separatist enclaves. So, I think that recognizing the natural tendency of people to hang out together, the university should concretely encourage more interaction among different groups and discourage de jure separatism.

SPECTATOR: The other area of criticism at W&L is that of curriculum. One English course in particular stands out: Black American Female Writers of the Twentieth Century. What do you see as the role of that type of course?

D'SOUZA: I think it is better to focus courses and books on ideas, rather than simply on race or gender. The curriculum on American campuses has always changed, but it has always changed in reference to an ongoing debate over what is good—an argument about merit. When *Moby Dick* was published in the Nineteenth Century, it was a

"Cultures are not static; they act dynamically in their action with each other, and very often the richest homes, novels, philosophical works come out when cultures are in some traffic or even conflict with each other."

tremendous failure both critically and in terms of sales. One reviewer even said that it was a second-rate book about whaling in Boston. One book that was seen as an integral part of the Western canon was *Silas Marner*. Fifty years later *Moby Dick* was acclaimed as a classic and *Silas Marner* is thought to be a secondary work. *Silas Marner* is out; *Moby Dick* is in. So the canon changes, it always has. What's new is not that the canon changes, but the criteria that is used to decide these changes. The argument now is that books should be selected not necessarily because they are good, but because of the race or gender or sexual orientation of the author. Books are taught even though no good arguments are advanced, but that these books have a higher claim to the students' attention than other books that could be taught solely because these books reflect collective racial or gender perspectives, themselves highly dubious. Students then are subjected to books that are not very good but are selected based on ideological criteria that they reflect.

SPECTATOR: Would you argue then that curriculum should emphasize Western culture?

D'SOUZA: What you see in the curriculum is a weird cultural olympics in which each group approaches the reading list and in effect asks, What did my guys do? This is a stupid question. Cultures are not static; they act dynamically in their action with each other, and very often the richest homes, novels, philosophical works come out when cultures are in some traffic or even conflict with each other. In the middle ages, for example, there was very fertile philosophical debate between Catholic and Muslim scholars who argued over many of the fundamental questions of philosophy. Many of the best writers today come out of Eastern Europe and Latin America...are as much products of Western influence as Indian cultures. The West is more an idea and tradition...which should be studied, not uncritically. You should expect people to know something about their own culture, and it stands to reason that liberal arts graduates of American universities should know something about, for example, the American founding, and the civil war, as well as the civil rights movement. The question for Americans of diverse backgrounds is how they can maintain a sense of ethnic identity and at the same time participate in a distinctive American tradition, one on which they depend decisively for all their fundamental rights.

SPECTATOR: Thank you.

This interview was conducted by Cameron Humphries and Marc Short.



Stonewall Jackson: General of the Shenandoah

by John McNeer

The Shenandoah Valley was vital to the Southern cause for several reasons. It supplied Southern armies, especially the eastern one, with tremendous amounts of grain and large numbers of horses and mules. The lower valley linked the eastern and western southern armies with the Virginia-Tennessee railroad, and offered a natural passage to the North and to Washington itself. Finally, the valley shielded the western flank of Richmond,



and if held by the Union, any one of eleven gaps in the mountains could be used to launch an attack on the capital. Strategically, then, possession of the valley remained paramount; and the Confederate general entrusted with the Valley's defense, Stonewall Jackson described the situation best, "if this valley is lost, Virginia is lost."

Thomas Jonathan Jackson was born in western Virginia in 1824. Both his parents died early in Jackson's youth, leaving his strict uncle with the responsibility of raising the young Jackson. Perhaps his uncle contributed to Jackson's lack of a sense of humor, obsessive penchant for secrecy, and hypochondria. Furthermore, like the uncle who raised him, Stonewall himself was a

strict disciplinarian. As one soldier attested: "[Jackson would] shoot a man at the drop of a hat and drop it himself."

Jackson graduated from West Point in 1846 and served with distinction in the Mexican War. A few years following that war, he began teaching at V.M.I. where he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War. Jackson earned his nickname at First Manassas when Jackson stemmed the Union pursuit of a routed Confederate force. General Bernard Bee viewed Jackson's forces from across the battlefield, declaring "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall! Rally behind the Virginians!" This stand turned the tide of the battle, catapulting him and his new nickname to considerable fame throughout the South.

Jackson's force consisted of many teenage natives of the area, and a large number of V.M.I. graduates served as officers. Also under Jackson were the Liberty Hall Volunteers, a group of W&L students and alumni, and the venerated Rockbridge Artillery. W&L student and Liberty Hall Volunteer John Castler described it: "we were soldier boys, and the boy was sometimes more in evidence than the soldier." Yet as spring arrived and Federal forces began moving, these boys demonstrated their mettle, both on the battlefield and in their tireless marching, a devotion which earned their force the distinction "foot cavalry".

In March, 1862 an ominous situation developed. A force of 28,000 soldiers under Major General Nathaniel P. Banks was positioned at Harper's Ferry, located at the mouth of the Shenandoah. Major General James Shields had been deployed further west across the Alleghenies. In addition, the eastern Union army (The Army of the Potomac), under the command of Major General George McClellan began shifting to the lower tidewater of Virginia in an attempt to outflank Johnston and take Richmond. Johnston left for Yorktown with his forces; he commanded the Army of the Valley to divert as many soldiers as possible to the Shenandoah, the location of Washington's defensive positions. As Jackson re-

John McNeer is a junior from Richmond, Virginia.

ceived the news of McClellan's movement, two forces under Banks and Shields converged on Winchester to discover that Jackson had retreated. The combined force under Banks timidly advanced south. Jackson retreated, using Ashby's cavalry to keep him appraised of Banks' progress. Suddenly, the Union forces began retreating. Jackson used this opportunity to attack Banks' rear guard. He caught the Federals two miles below Winchester at Kernstown. The day wore on and as more and more blue streamed onto the field Jackson soon realized that he had fallen to a Union trap. Jackson suffered 718 casualties compared to only 568 Federal ones, and James Shields became the only commander to defeat Stonewall. Although Jackson lost the battle, he nevertheless achieved a much greater victory for the South. Shield's force consisted of 11,000 troops, because Banks had left the Valley with 29,000 men to join McClellan on the peninsula. Shields, however, estimated Stonewall's Confederate strength to number 11,000, describing them as "the flower of the Southern army." This news sent Banks shuffling back to the Valley, thus denying McClellan's already overwhelming force an additional 29,000 soldiers.

Banks recombined force advanced south again; Jackson resumed his retreat. Ashby slowed the Union movement by shelling them until Jackson received an additional 4,000 men. At the same time, Major General John C. Fremont was deployed west of the Alleghanies with the mission to

drive east, take Staunton and divide the Valley Army between himself and Banks. Shortly thereafter, Robert E. Lee, then military advisor to President Davis, deployed Major General Richard Ewell and his roughly 9,000 troops to Staunton to protect the Virginia-Tennessee railway. This move placed nearly 17,000 soldiers at Jackson's disposal. Banks pushed him to Harrisonburg where Stonewall feigned a counterattack before marching out of the valley, where he moved his men in Staunton by rail back into the Shenandoah valley. He marched west, leaving Ewell in Staunton to attack Fremont. Jackson learned that Fremont's force was divided, and that an inferior vanguard under Brigadier General R.H. Milroy was approaching McDowell, Virginia. Jackson met Milroy on the outskirts of McDowell, and despite the gallant fighting of the outnumbered Federals, defeated Milroy, driving him back into town. That night, the Federals burned their camp and retreated. This victory prevented Fremont from opening a second front on the Valley Army.

As Jackson began the march back to Staunton, a messenger arrived from Ewell informing him that Shields had left the Valley for Manassas with his 20,000 soldiers. Worse news still, Shields' orders were to link up with Major General Irvin McDowell's force, also of 20,000, and to begin marching toward Richmond—effectively opening a second front, one sure to break Confederate resistance as there were less than 20,000 rebels available to stop them. Jackson realized that the Federal forces were divided four ways and, in particular, that Banks was isolated in Strasburg with only 15,000 men. As the desperate Confederates marched towards their objective, Shields rendezvoused with McDowell in Manassas. McDowell immediately began advancing his 40,000 against an outnumbered 18,000 to 20,000 Confederates. Opening a second front rendered Richmond defensible for only a few days, and an ensuing panic in the beleaguered capital heightened greatly for McClellan stood less than thirty miles from Richmond. Responding to what seemed an inevitable fall of the capital, the government began secretly moving its official documents to South Carolina.

At this critical juncture the Valley army arrived at Front Royal, a town garrisoned by 1,000 troops and located a few miles from the main body of Federals still at Strasburg. Ashby and his cavalry cut off the Union force in Front Royal, enabling Jackson's main body to quickly capture 900 out of their 1,000 forces. Despite this overwhelming success, some of the escapees managed to warn Banks, and he immediately moved to the more defensible position at Winchester. The Confederates, however, did not trail him directly, but took an alternate route and these advance units caught the immense and slow Union baggage train on the road. Using its limited remaining artillery, the Southerners destroyed and captured many of the wagons. Nevertheless, the bulk of the Union force managed to reach Winchester, where they hur-



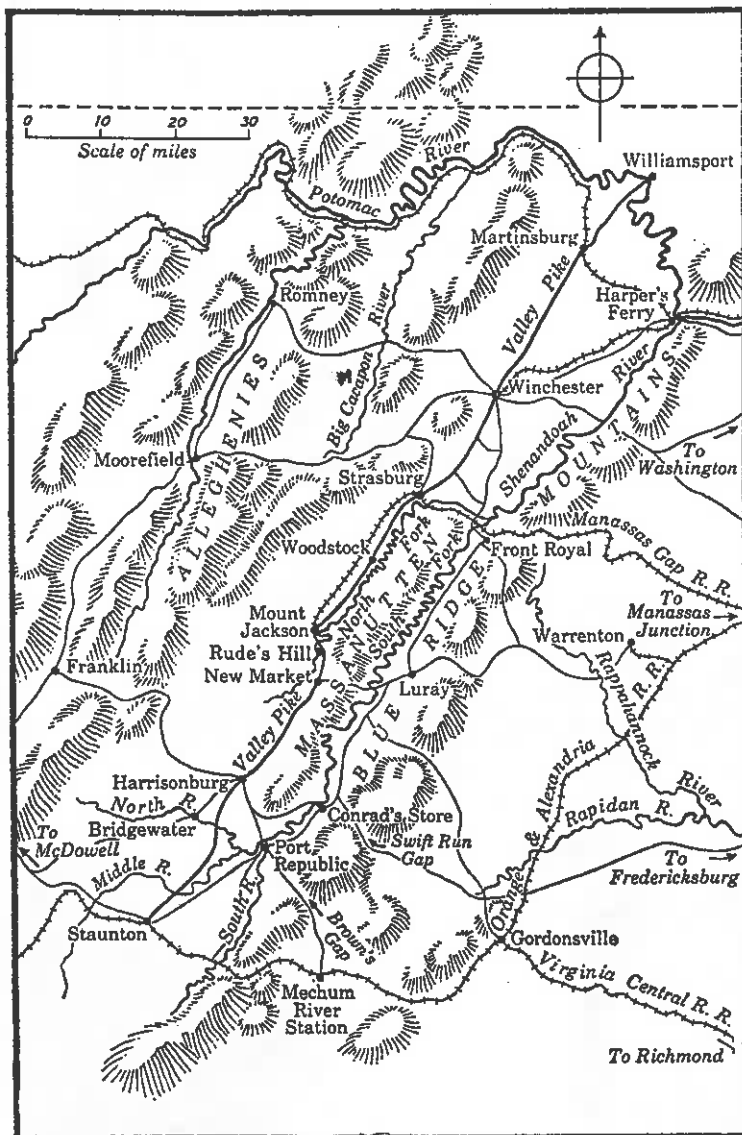
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Map of the Shenandoah Valley

riedly entrenched. Jackson reached these forces shortly thereafter and immediately attacked. Quickly placing his forces, Jackson sent the famous Stonewall Brigade, commanded by General Richard Taylor, to the far right of the battlefield. From there, Jackson executed a flanking maneuver and charged; a Confederate private later described it as "the grandest [charge] I saw during the war." At the same time, Ewell's Confederates flanked Banks to the left. The battle soon turned into a rout as Union soldiers broke ranks and ran north. One Federal officer, trying to rally his troops exclaimed, "men, don't you love your country?" A Federal private responded, "Yes, by God, and I am trying to get back to it as soon as I can!" Jackson pursued the chase until dark, inflicting over 3,500 casualties and destroying tons of much needed supplies, while sustaining only 400 Confederate casualties. This victory impacted both North and South. Southerners, jubilant following this small shred of light amidst a very trying situation,

watched Lincoln's increasing preoccupation with the safety of Washington, especially as he received reports of Jackson's strength exceed 26,000 infantry and 10,000 cavalry. A fear that was more illusion than reality, considering that Jackson actually only boasted 17,000 infantry and 1,000-1,500 cavalry. Most importantly, Lincoln called off McDowell's advance from Manassas, stationing that force permanently in Manassas and Washington. He also detailed an additional force in excess of 20,000 for permanent duty in Washington. At this point, Jackson had accomplished his primary goal of drawing as many soldiers away from the Peninsula as possible and keeping the Shenandoah in Southern hands.

Jackson's next important services were rendered on the Peninsula where he joined the newly promoted Southern commander-in-chief, Robert E. Lee, in the South's most illustrious military victory, Chancellorsville, where a Confederate force of 65,000 routed a Federal army of over 110,000. This famous field is also the location of Stonewall Jackson's ironic death, falling when one of his own men who accidentally shot him.

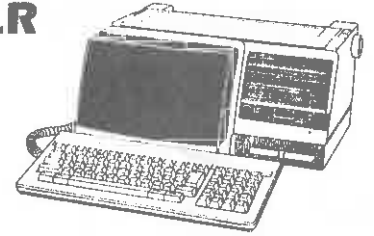
Federal General Irvin McDowell said, "If an enemy can succeed so readily in disconcerting all our plans by first alarming us at one point and then at another, he will paralyze a large force with a very small one." Stonewall succeeded in paralyzing over 60,000 soldiers with barely 17,000 of his own troops. By using

surprise and stealth, Stonewall successfully struck the enemy when they were most vulnerable. Often this required superhuman efforts of his troops. Jackson remarked, "I am obliged to sweat them tonight, that I may save their blood tomorrow." He marched his soldiers an incredible 400 miles in less than six months, some units marched 35 miles in one day, once also defeating three armies. Finally, in an military axiom still taught in American military strategy schools, Jackson stated his third necessity for victory: "Mystify, mislead, and surprise". Jackson used this strategy most successfully incorporating his other assets. At McDowell and more importantly, Winchester, Jackson employed his plans surprising and defeating inferior forces that exposed themselves in an optimum manner. Often equipped with inferior numbers and always asked to perform incredible tasks, Stonewall Jackson was the South's David, a soldier who repeatedly defeated a Union Goliath.

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