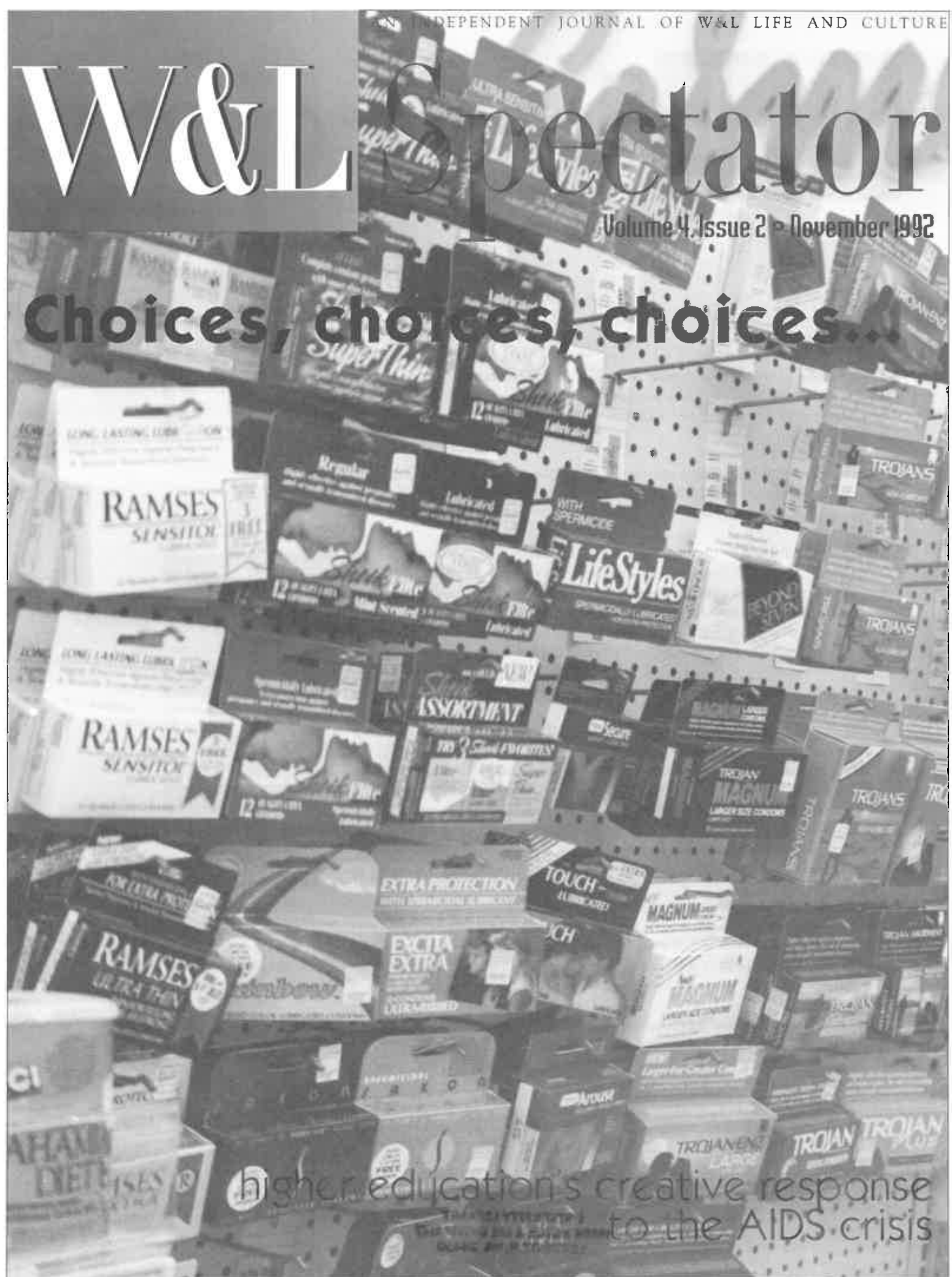


# W&L Spectator

Volume 4, Issue 2 • November 1992

## Choices, choices, choices...



higher education's creative response to the AIDS crisis

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# W&L Spectator

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Dear Parent:

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Washington and Lee's 1992 Parents' Weekend. As you visit Lee Chapel or walk along the Colonnade, one quickly senses the history and tradition that characterizes this University. And one also observes how unique and very special this college is.

American higher education is currently embroiled in a struggle between those who wish to convert her hallowed annals into centers of indoctrination and those who wish to preserve her traditional mission.

And yet I should not imply that these threats are new--for they are not new. They are the same heresies of collectivism over individualism, of "correct" thought over free thought, of trend over canon, and subjectivity over truth, that Western thought as squarely addressed and successfully combated for more than two millennia. The moral and intellectual guideposts carefully established by our ancestors have been thoughtlessly discarded by a new generation of college faculty and administrators.

Fortunately, W&L has experienced few of the campus horror stories that have filled the pages of The Wall Street Journal, Time, Atlantic, Harpers, Newsweek, U.S. News and World Report, and the list goes on. Years ago, the founders of this magazine remarked, "on the surface, all appears in order." This weekend is certainly no exception. The Honor System is strong and viable among faculty, students, and administrators alike. Fraternities still constitute the backbone of W&L's social life. The environment of gentility and respect, one of General Lee's primary contributions to the University, still pervades most aspects of student life, and accordingly, Washington and Lee remains the purveyor of Southern gentlemen, and now, ladies. And yes, Fancy Dress remains the focal point of the institution's social calendar.

That the efforts of the Politically Correct have not adversely affected the character of Washington and Lee testifies to its resiliency to trend and fashion. While this steadfastness in the wake of change has preserved her thus far, it cannot be confused for immunity. It means that there is still time to preserve W&L for the next generation--a generation, unlike our own, who may never know this special and beloved place.

This is why the magazine was founded, and why I know you will enjoy it. And if that is not enough, it's also about the best read on campus.

Enjoy your visit to Washington and Lee.

Sincerely,



Cameron Humphries  
*Editor-in-Chief*

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# November

Volume 4, Issue 2

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# The Best and Brightest...

## EDITOR'S FORUM

I AM A UNIVERSITY Scholar. And so it is with no mean or selfish motive that I hope the faculty decides to kill the program. In its current state, the best that can be said of the University Scholars program is that it has outlived its purpose.

More often than not, participants in the University Scholars program are described as "the best and the brightest" among the Washington and Lee student body. I can say with complete sincerity that I rank myself among neither the best nor the brightest at W&L, and without detracting from the intelligence and achievements of my colleagues in the program, I can safely offer that at the very least there are as many better and brighter outside of the program as inside it. As for myself, I hope for nothing more than to join the ranks of W&L's mediocrity: running this nation's businesses, practicing law in her courts, and governing in her legislatures. Perhaps in Washington and Lee's less glorious academic days (if any such period existed) there was a need to bring the campus "intellectuals" together. Currently, the distinction "best and brightest" is artificial at best, and likelier yet, is altogether inflated.

But this is not the main reason why the program should be disbanded. After all, not everyone can be included in every aspect of University life, regardless of merit or otherwise. The University Scholars should be terminated because, in spite of the best efforts of its current advisor, Dr. John Evans, to reverse the previous trend, the program remains indelibly tainted with the political agenda of its former advisor.

In addition to completing honors work within the Scholar's major, the Univer-

sity Scholar must also complete three honors classes in the humanities, social sciences, and pure sciences. Many of these courses in recent years would have been more appropriately required of the worst and dullest than of the best minds in the University. These courses include "American Art of the 1960s" and "Women and the Creative Arts," where students ponder whether or not a "male feminist is a contradiction in terms" and consider the merits of "Feminist criticism in the wilderness." The Scholars enterprise has deservedly lost most of its credibility as a serious, intellectual program, and not too surprisingly, those who have soiled it are the same who clamour for its continued existence. Maybe they'll win, but personally I doubt it. With all the legitimate studies currently negelected at W&L, there just isn't room for a course on "critical cross-dressing."

The real tragedy of the University Scholars program is not its impending and well deserved oblivion, but that the academic focus of the best and brightest has for years been funneled into hollow political pep-rallies and away from where the real learning still occurs at W&L--in the average, ordinary classroom with average, ordinary students.

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# HEARD OVERHEARD

The debate over the future of the University Scholars Program at last month's faculty meeting must have indeed reached a high point when Professor Demaree Peck was given the floor. After producing October's *W&L Spectator*, she claimed that the existence of such an "anti-intellectual" publication is certainly grounds for continuing the program. For another source of anti-intellectualism, we suggest that Prof. Peck reread the article she submitted two years ago to the (now defunct) *Traveller*.

The Executive Committee gave Amnesty International \$800 of the \$5000 it requested. That sure buys a lot of postage stamps! What does Amnesty plan to do with the money? For \$800 they could fly some third world oppressee back to Lexington—first class. Or do they plan to host some speaker justifying Amnesty's claim following the L.A. riots that the United States' government is as barbaric as those of South Africa and Red China. Sound like a political agenda in there?

One "student group" impressed the Executive Committee as being so

extremist to not receive funding—the ACLU. Last year this group "celebrated" the Bill of Rights by displaying pictures of naked children and other Mapplethorpe treasures in the library. And that was without student money. If they were to get money, what would they buy? In their own words, "a microphone." Could you imagine some ACLU nut preaching on the colonnade? And anyway, since when do national, non-student organizations, qualify for student money...

Last month we asked why Frank Parsons refuses to paint parking lines in the Corral. Well Frank?

As parents attempting to visit Phi Delta Theta can attest, the house is closed. Why? Maybe it is because Dean "Buddy" Atkins threatened to suspend Phi Delt for five years if their housing corporation didn't take judicial action against them. How sincere was Buddy in his threat? Your guess...

Another round in the VMI case has been decided. The next case might go to the United States Supreme Court. No big deal, right? Well it is for Clarence Thomas, whose son is currently a "rat" at VMI. Will he

remove himself from the case? Could add another twist to an already twisted affair...

Been to the Commerce School computer lab recently? It's more exciting than the lottery: "how many computers will be out of service today?" One C-School professor has a brilliant solution. He's assigning his statistics class more computer homework than they can possibly complete since so many computers are out of service. If the students complain of the backlog long enough, someone might do something about the problem. Or the University could just buy some more computers...

R.D. Clarke is expanding his job responsibilities. In addition to serving as parttime dog catcher and parttime meter maid, he is also a one man bicycle patrol. One student failed to come to a full and complete stop before crossing an intersection. She received a ticket. But instead of paying the ticket, she appealed in court. R.D. Clarke told the judge that when the young student received the ticket, she asked, "don't you have anything else better to do?" The judge laughed; he also agreed and dismissed the ticket...

# General *opinion*

Watson Gallery • Berkeley • GALA • Black Racism • Science

## Watson Gallery Update

*What exactly is growing out of the crater at the end of the colonnade?*

As even those not involved in last year's debate on the Watson Gallery addition to the Reeves Center have noticed, construction on the site just off the Colonnade next to Tucker Hall has begun. Progress at the site is a bit behind schedule, however, owing to the number of acute angles required in the Gallery plans. Both friend and foe of the project may be surprised by its actual size now that it can be better estimated that the steel skeleton and supporting columns are in place. Once complete, the Watson Gallery should be roughly as high as the eaves of Tucker Hall and will face the rear of the Reeves Center.

The entrance to the building will not be via a subterranean passage from the existing Reeves Center as many rumors now have it, but rather an above ground doorway along the sidewalk between Tucker Hall and the Admissions Office/Du Pont Hall driveway. Because the Gallery is being built on a slight hill, the rear of the

building will not be flush with the ground as will be the front side, but rather elevated a number of feet from the ground by a brick supporting wall.

The interior of the Watson Gallery will be in the basic form of three rather small rooms (which form the building's wings), a central atrium, and the main foyer. The atrium area will be left open for varied uses and the rooms which form the wings will be the primary display areas for the majority of Mrs. William Watson's recent gift to Washington and Lee—a number of important early Chinese and other Oriental ceramics and furniture, some of which is already on display at the Reeves Center. The collection of Mrs. Watson, the wife of W&L alumnus William Watson '29 and a long-time supporter of the Reeves Center, will serve as an addition to Washington & Lee's internationally known Reeves Collection of ceramics, furniture, and the notable works of the wife of another W&L alumnus, Louise Herreshoff. The Reeves Center, a repository of many substantial gifts from W&L alumni and others since that of Euchlin D. Reeves, '27L, is now unable to display much of its significant collection properly, and the Watson

Gallery will allow the Center to display some of its current collection in the new addition.

As the Watson Gallery is behind schedule, the University may have to wait until June of 1993 to move the collection into the new building, after what may be an agonizing process of construction and complication.

## Reverse Discrimination

*Admissions practices at Berkeley's Law School form strict quotas against whites.*

The Department of Education recently ruled that the minority preference admissions policy practiced at the law school of the University of California at Berkeley constitutes a violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Despite the claim in the university's catalog that it "does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in any of its policies," university officials openly admitted to separating candidates by race through an admissions policy that required minority applicants to compete only within their respective racial group. The university used

this skewed admissions procedure to help achieve desired racial percentage goals (i.e., quotas) in the interest of racial diversity.

However, Berkeley's vision of politically correct minority representation and "equal" opportunity applies only to certain groups. The primary victims of this selective discrimination were whites and Asians, whom the university considers "over-represented." In fact, using the same racial policy in its undergraduate program, Berkeley decreased Asian admissions by twenty percent in 1984 and decreased its admission of whites to one-third of the freshman class in 1989. As a result, the university rejected highly qualified white and Asian applicants in favor of less qualified blacks and Hispanics, solely on the basis of skin color.

The dean of the law school, Herma Hill Kay, insists however, that the university has not violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which forbids federally funded institutions from engaging in racial discrimination. Nevertheless, Berkeley has agreed to comply with the Education Department's mandate that it no longer consider applicants separately according to race, although it refuses to



admit to any wrongdoing. Proud indeed. Kay has stated that "we are proud of this policy."

Because Berkeley refuses to recognize the fundamental immorality of a public institution's basing its admissions decisions primarily on the race of its applicants, there is no reason to assume that the university will not simply resume its minority-preference policy as soon as the Department of Education drops its watchful eye or becomes staffed by more politically correct officials. A change must occur, and soon, in the thinking of the academic elite; they must realize that merit, not race, ought to be the determining factor in accepting prospective students.

## GALA Insults Not Excites Gays

*W&L's new homosexual organization...locking closet doors.*

Washington and Lee has always been hospitable to various sanctioned and non-sanctioned societies, ranging from the maniacal ACLU to the Graham-Lee-Washington literary society.

Well, there is a brand new society at W&L now known as the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA), a society established specifically for homosexual students and alumni. The society is ostensibly designed to relay homosexual and AIDS-related events to students and bring together homosexual alumni that "shared a common experience at W&L" behind closed closet doors.

The existence of such a society undoubtedly raises

many questions. Does there really need to be such an organization affiliated with this prestigious university? How weak are homosexuals? They say they are just like anybody else—well, almost like anybody else give or take a few sexual preferences—yet they sometimes go to extremes to act so differently. The crux of the matter is this: can these homosexual students not survive on their own, like heterosexual students?

Heteros do not have a

special support society concerning their sexuality because they do not need one and because they are normal and feel at ease with themselves. With this organization, gays are openly admitting that they are not normal because they cannot function socially by themselves and that they are not at ease with themselves. They might argue that they do not know who the other homosexuals on campus are, which means that this society would be no more than a dating service similar to



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# General *opinion*

Chuck Woolery's Love Connection.

If this has offended any "in-closet" gays, then good; that is exactly what it was intended to do. Your reaction should not be one of anger towards this article: rather, you should be angry with Sean Bugg, the director of GALA, for suggesting that gays are not capable of going through college, or life for that matter, without an intangible security blanket under the guise of an alliance named GALA.

## Is a "rat" male or female?

*What may develop after the ruling on VMI's all male tradition?*

The Fourth District Circuit Court issued a controversial and unclear decision this past Wednesday regarding the Virginia Military Institute's admission policy. While the court found that the 153 year old policy barring the entrance of women unconsti-

tutional, it did not force the Institute to admit women immediately. Instead, the court ordered both the state of Virginia and VMI to alter the admissions policy so as to offer women equal opportunities of education. In a strange turn, Justice Paul V. Niemeyer offered three alternatives in his opinion for compliance with the Constitution: VMI could 1) offer a separate program for women or "parallel institutions or parallel programs" 2) relinquish state support, turning into a private

institution 3) admit women and adjust school programs in a like manner. Niemeyer praised both the Institute and its graduates stating: "the school's success and reputation are uncontroverted in this case. Indeed, it is apparently that very success in producing leaders that has made admission to VMI desirable to some women." Niemeyer went on to say: "We accept the district court's factual determinations that VMI's unique methodology justifies a single-gender policy and material aspects of its essentially holistic system would be substantially changed by coeducation." Despite endorsing VMI's mission and complementing VMI's record, Niemeyer found fault with a policy that he claimed: "afford[ed] VMI's unique type of program to men and not women." The Justice Department, arguing for coeducation, contended that there is an adequate number of women able to meet the rigid physical requirements at VMI. In addition the department stated: "offering single sex education...is not a legitimate state objective and that Virginia and VMI have not established justification for the male only policy." VMI's attorney and VMI alumnus Robert H. Patterson defended the policy, arguing allowing women in the

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Institute will change the mission and ruin the uniqueness of the school.

Both sides claimed victory in the wake of Wednesday's ruling. Patterson called the decision: "a ringing endorsement of VMI's education program and [an affirmation] of single sex education at VMI." On the other hand, Steve Pershing of the ACLU disagreed: "If [the state] is going to continue to offer the kind of program VMI offers through the state, it has to be available to women." The outcome is not as clear each side has stated.

While the court found the admission policy unconstitutional, it did not order the school to begin admitting women. VMI spokesman Mike Strickler epitomized the confusion surrounding the case saying: "We had all the statements ready for a win or a loss, but we didn't have anything ready for this." At this time, none of the three options is particularly attractive to VMI-planners. Least popular is amending the policy of the school to allow admission women. Many alumni prefer the second option of privatization. U.S. Air Force Colonel Jim Pauls summarizes this position: "I would like to see it [VMI] go private, or I would like to see

it closed down." Privatizing the school might appear to be the obvious solution at first until one considers that the state provides over \$10 million to an annual \$30 million budget. This kind of added financial burden creates nearly insurmountable costs for alumni giving and tuition increases.

Finally, creating a separate program leads to several problems. First, this "separate but equal" program presents further legal problems in the wake

of the *Brown v. Board of Education* precedent. Second, VMI would have difficulty finding adequate numbers of women interested in enrolling in VMI. VMI will wait until "the dust settles" and review its options before making a decision, but Assistant to the Superintendent Ed Dooley mentioned the possibility of creating a parallel program based on the coed system of Virginia Tech' ROTC program.

This decision reflects the controversy in today's

political battlefield over the role of women in the military—which is exactly the problem. Discerning who is and is not capable of fighting should not be a political question. Simply that women are not allowed on the battlefield or within the four walls of VMI does not reflect unequal treatment, but a recognition of the inherent physical differences between the sexes. The federal government allows for this difference by not forcing women to register with the Selective Service and unofficial

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# General *opinion*

policies of affirmative action which give preference to women in government contracting. The list of examples goes on and on. For example if arrested, a woman may not be frisked by a man, but if a man is arrested, a woman may frisk her suspect. No one often hears men complain about the advantages that women receive under the law.

Feminists in this nation argue that women should be allowed to take on combat roles and insist on separate

and less demanding physical requirements at the same time. The purpose of a military force is not to be politically correct or even equality minded. The purpose is to defend this nation by inflicting massive damage to the enemy, or embodying the threat to do so, in the very least. Nothing else. Since women on the front lines compromise this mission, they must be excluded. Period.

## Afro-Racism

*Black radicals reveal their true colors while demonstrating at the University of North Carolina.*

The Wall Street Journal, on September 29, 1992, reported an incident that is becoming a frightening reality on university campuses around this country: radical multiculturalism. At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the

Black Student Movement issued a list of non-negotiable demands that among them included the construction of a free-standing cultural center for black students. The rally held in support of this cultural center was attended by civil rights activists Spike Lee and Khalib Muhammed—a representative of Muslim Minister, Louis Farrakhan. Spike Lee suggested that black athletes boycott games until the demands were met, concluding that "there wouldn't be no Final Four, no Rose Bowl..." etc. One wonders how Spike Lee would respond to a request that he refrain from directing movies. Mr. Muhammed told the same audience of 5,000 students that Socrates "was a faggot" and continued after applause to say that, "we are tired of blond-haired, pale-skinned blue-eyed buttermilk complexioned cracker Christ or peckerwood Jesus." The threats were also extended to some member of the black University faculty who failed to support these radicals. The Chancellor of UNC has failed to question Mr. Muhammed's homophobia. Or should we merely assume that blacks can't be homophobic either?

These attacks on Western thought and

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tradition are alarming, but the fact that the UNC's Chancellor has granted the demands is even more disturbing. (President Wilson, are you listening?) Other students, including other minority students, are afraid to stand up and voice their opinion on the new black cultural center, in fear that they will be deemed "racist." But what can one say to the "separate but equal" philosophy that is behind the cultural center as well as the civil rights policies in our universities?

## Building Science

*Howe & Parmly Halls might finally see a needed facelift equivalent to the new arts building*

Many current W&L students now know (whether they be pre-med or general education students) why the campus tour from their senior year in high school all but ignored Howe and Parmly Halls in favor of Commerce School—the most newly renovated academic building. At W&L, the science facilities themselves are not something the University can honestly take pride in. Realizing their current, thoroughly decrepit state, one wonders how long it's been since a campus tour

made its way through these halls.

Recently the administration has contained the frustration with kindness toward the science departments' requests for equipment and other such laboratory support, trying to keep them happy as the rest of campus receives a face lift.

Finally, though, in this time of mass development and construction at W&L, the science facilities made their way to the top of President Wilson's priority list—none too soon.

After paying almost \$60,000 for men in space suits to dispose of the "unwanted" chemicals

generated by the science department over the past fifty or so years, after finding bottles of opium and containers of uranium in various hiding places throughout the buildings during a mass cleanup of the facilities' supplies, the administration decided that the science buildings are outdated and must be renovated. (Luckily for W&L, the Department of Health or the EPA didn't make that decision for the University first.)

One could easily argue that such a facility was badly needed before millions were spent on the Lenfest Center for the Arts or the Watson

Oriental Art Gallery, but because of the current building frenzy that discussion is now moot.

What must be currently addressed is the proposed costs of such a project and its effects on the University. Faculty in the sciences admit that the ten million budgeted in the Capital Campaign isn't nearly enough for the necessary construction of the facility. And with state-of-the-art facilities supporting the sciences in the (hopefully) near future, W&L must not forget its vital role as one of the last true "teaching" schools for the lucrative opportunity to become a "research" school.





DR. ANNE C.P. SCHROER LAMONT'S responsibilities as Associate Dean of Students and Psychological Counseling include overseeing Washington and Lee's AIDS education programs as well as its policy regarding date/acquaintance rape. Over the past several years, her office has conducted multiple surveys among women to determine the level of sexual assault on campus. And she once served as a referring dean in the now defunct Confidential Review Committee (a student-faculty sexual judicial board). Dorm counselors, administrators, staff, faculty all point to Dean Schroer-Lamont as the pivotal figure in overseeing Washington and Lee's policy on AIDS, Sex Education and sexual assault. With this in mind, Dean Schroer-Lamont would be the appropriate starting point in discussing these issues, right? Wrong. Dean Schroer-Lamont declined an interview regarding this matter. Something to hide? Well...

#### HEALTH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Ms. Jan Kaufman, the Health Center's educator, arrived from Duke University two years ago. She states the mission of AIDS education directly: "to provide information and to provide accurate information. Without accurate information it is difficult to make informed decisions." Last winter, on the week of Valentine's Day, she and the department launched "Safer Sex Week." This program included massive distribution of information on

AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases and condom use. As a kind of preview to "Safer Sex Week," Kaufmann directed "Frisky Business"--a program she described, "designed to show what kind of outreach could be provided."

The outreach displayed during the program focused on condom use. Following the formal slide presentation, Ms. Kaufmann called from two members of the audience to role-play two lovers discussing condom use. After discussing trust and sexual pleasure, this couple concludes that putting on a condom can become a part of foreplay. Not to ignore the rest of the audience, she distributed condoms to the few remaining members (most left during the role-play) and explained the procedure for properly wearing a condom. Just to make sure that the participants learned how, participants were asked to practice the procedure on each other's fingers.

This, in a nutshell, defines collegiate Sex Education today: assume the sexual promiscuity of the campus, play to their baser instincts, and insure an unending supply of condoms.

Currently such demonstrations at Washington and Lee are rare. Attendance, except when required, consists almost exclusively of campus journalists looking for a headline. Students have their own values regarding sexuality and are at the very least skeptical of "Frisky Business" seminars and "Safer Sex Weeks."

But it is not that way on all campuses, especially Duke.

"I worked at Duke for four years," says Ms. Kaufmann. "There, programs were very much in demand. On average I conducted 20 programs a semester. The students were very interested in those programs. At W&L, that precedent has not been established yet."

That precedent, to which Ms. Kaufmann refers, as often as not involves Planned Parenthood's assault on college campuses. At Rice University last year, a representative from Planned Parenthood explained to a confused audience that legitimate forms of sexuality include bestiality, man-boy love, and of course, "straight" homosexuality. According to Planned Parenthood, this current generation needs to expand the limits of sexuality. Two books on their recommended reading list for junior high school students define Parenthood's agenda.

In *Changing Bodies, Changing Lives*, Ruth Bell writes "The most common type of incest is between brother and sister, while they are growing up. This may not be harmful or upsetting to children, especially if they don't continue as they get older. It is more like experimenting with sex with your brother or sister before you begin to have sexual relations with other people. What is harmful, however, is to have sexual conduct with an older family member." In *Boys and Sex*, targeted for boys between 10-14, Wardell B. Pomeroy

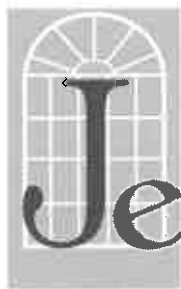


the sexual politics of W&L

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explains, "There are many possible positions. One is for the female to lie on top of the male, with her legs together between his or vice versa. In this position it will help if the male puts his hands on her buttocks, pushing her pelvic area towards his." This isn't a book about shaping a belief concerning sexuality; this is a how-to book on sex. And this is exactly the type of "educational" material that Planned Parenthood is pushing not for college students, but for junior high and high school students.

Beneath the seemingly benign message of "safer sex" lies an intentional effort to encourage sexual activity. The AIDS crisis has given this movement a pulpit from which to preach.

The consistent message contained in the literature in W&L's Student Health Center reflects this attitude. "About Protecting Yourself from AIDS," published by the Virginia State Health Department, states that sex is safest when both partners "are not infected, have sex only with each other, or don't share needles or syringes to inject drugs." "What if there's a chance

one partner is infected," the brochure asks. "Then you'll have to make a choice. You can abstain from sex, restrict your sexual activity, or use a latex condom."

This absence of abstinence from the AIDS literature prompted the Health Center to publish its own pamphlet, "The Choice to Abstain: a viable option for sex in the 90's."

Though Kaufmann is pleased with the Abstinence pamphlet, she denies that other literature insufficiently addresses it. "I think that if you look at the literature you see that it says 'if you are sexually active, use a condom.'" But a dorm counselor who has participated in the freshman sex orientation program disagrees. "Abstinence is not mentioned, except in passing. The orientation process is almost like 'You're having sex; let's talk about it.' There is an assumption of sexual activity."

### LEVELS OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY

The studies the Health Center provided tend to reinforce this view. Ms. Kaufmann observed that she has not talked to enough W&L students to form any

opinion about the levels of sexual activity here at W&L, but she did refer to national statistics. "I can look at [sexual activity] nationally. (reading from "College Students' Perceptions") Two-thirds to four-fifths of students surveyed indicated that they had engaged in sexual intercourse. The numbers say that 50% percent of students coming into college are sexually active."

But these numbers are misleading. First, by their definition, "sexually active" means that a person has had sexual intercourse once in the last five years. Second, the study does not, because it cannot, compensate for young people's (especially men's) tendency to exaggerate sexual experience. Third, the study does not take into account whether or not a person is seeking sexual activity. Fourth, the study does not address the nature of the sexual activity. Long-term, monogamous relationships certainly do not justify the attention or alarm that a *menage a trois* does.

And even if the numbers are accurate, they reflect that sexual activity among students increases dramatically (by over 50%) while in college. Students are not simply acting on principles grounded in their family and religious beliefs, they are developing new values while in college; values colored by the tenor of college Sex Education programs.

A recent study, "What is the Impact of a Campus AIDS Education Course," ties sex education to sexual activity. A group of self-described sexually active students were studied before and after attending AIDS education seminars. Following these seminars, condom use declined (albeit statistically insignificantly), while their number of sexual partners increased or remained static. Other studies confirm that condom education bears a slightly inverse relationship to condom use. Few studies have addressed the psychological impact of condom distribution, but the effects of steady exposure to condom machines and propaganda are somewhat obvious—"just do it, with a condom."

What the AIDS literature and seminars reluctantly report is that condoms don't provide 100% protection against the virus. Ms. Kaufmann explains "condoms are 90% effective in preventing

pregnancy. Combined with the use of spermicide, they are 95-98% effective. The Pill is the most effective means; it is 99%." But the figures on pregnancy obviously don't equate to AIDS protection. Kaufmann admits, "determining the effectiveness for disease prevention is more difficult... In lab studies, spermicide is shown to kill off the AIDS virus. Also the AIDS virus cannot pass through a latex condom." The latter observation is a highly controversial assertion.

The actual virus is 50 times smaller than the tiniest pores of a latex condom. One scientist equated using a condom to prevent AIDS with using a tennis racquet to return a b-b pellet. A condom's primary contribution in preventing the AIDS virus is that the fluids that carry the virus cannot pass through the condom lining. Sure, a condom's better than nothing, but is it safe?

#### AIDS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Center for Disease Control reported that 1 in 500 college students is currently HIV positive. This figure sent shock waves through campuses across the nation, with student health directors wondering if their campus would experience an AIDS case. So far, no Washington and Lee student has tested positive. And there is little indication that the report accurately reflects the level of HIV infection on college campuses at all.

Nineteen major universities randomly sampled the blood of students visiting their student health centers using an ELISA test. The problems with this method are three fold. The ELISA test is inaccurate--prone to exaggerate, not underestimate--the number of AIDS cases. The American College Health Center's brochure "The HIV Antibody Test" acknowledges, "because of the risk of false positives, a single positive ELISA test is insufficient to accurately determine whether an individual is infected with HIV." Second, students coming to a university health center believe that they may be at risk of having some STD or illness. This is hardly a random sample of the student population. And finally, as applied to Washington and Lee, the student population of a large state institution

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## STUDENT ACCOUNTS - BILL HOME WELCOME

hardly mirrors that of W&L. The test does not apply.

"When comparing large, state universities and smaller schools," Ms. Kaufmann explains, "you need to ask, 'Are the schools similar in their statistic makeup?' I don't know that you can extrapolate that."

"But I would not want students to feel that we don't have to worry, or give a false sense of security. College students already have a feeling of invincibility. I don't want to promote a feeling in invincibility."

Yet average college students are not at risk of contracting AIDS. Transmission of AIDS through "normal" heterosexual contact is very rare. In the case of Magic Johnson, the exception proves the rule. W&L students are infinitely more likely to die of cancer, accident, or alcohol poisoning than AIDS.

But this has not prevented the creation of a new campus group, the W&L AIDS Education Project, headed by junior Pat McDermott. This group received \$1200 of student funds to contribute to the AIDS Education effort. In addition to promot-

ing AIDS prevention, according to EC President Josh MacFarland, the group intends to address treating AIDS patients. Their budget proposal notes, "we will be hosting many other events which will serve to educate and inform students, not just about how the disease is transmitted but also about having compassion for those who have been affected." One wonders if the Executive Committee would fund a Heart Disease Education Project, or one for cancer, for suicide.

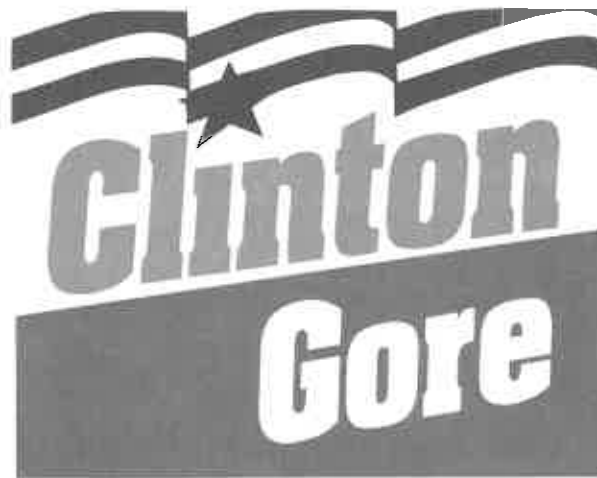
#### I WANNA SEX YOU UP?

Is the University's increasing emphasis on AIDS education appropriate? Some administrators wonder. Dennis Manning, Dean of Freshman Life, notes "I guess I'm of the old school. I wish we could just focus on the intellectual mission of the school. I don't consider AIDS education as part of the mission of the University."

Ms. Kaufmann and others deny that they are anything more than brokers of information--that their seminars and programs do not transmit values, but realities.

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And yet, in speaking with some administrators, they fear that if they were to question the sexual behaviors of the student body, they would be dismissed.

Students are dismissing them now. No one attends the lectures who does not have to. No one reads the literature, or seeks sexual counseling from the education department. But the implied message is clear: "use a condom and we'll stay out of your way." Administrators and faculty who deny the implicit message of condom machines, safer sex poems, and "Frisky Business" seminars are only fooling themselves.

Colleges and universities have not hesitated to stamp out "moral" inequities where ever they find it: racism, homophobia, sexism, etc. What about sex? And this is not a question of individual sexuality, but rather of community values. If the most intimate act shared between two people is reduced to an animal activity in which the two participants are separated by a thin, latex lining, what does that say about our respect for sex, rape, and each other? And what does that say about the moral integrity of college administrators who seem content to stand back and say nothing.

"I find [Sex Education] somewhat lamentable nationwide, not just at W&L" Dean Manning observes. "I just think it's unfortunate that we have to essentially assume the role of the parent or some adult figure addressing issues that probably should have been addressed years ago or earlier in their upbringing."

At least he is honest about what is involved in the sexual politics of higher education. Perhaps parents and students should approach Dean Schroer-Lamont with their own questions.

She would not answer ours. Will she answer yours?



# A Question of Character

ESSAY

**A** YEAR AGO NO ONE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT George Bush would be trailing in the polls with three weeks to go until the election.

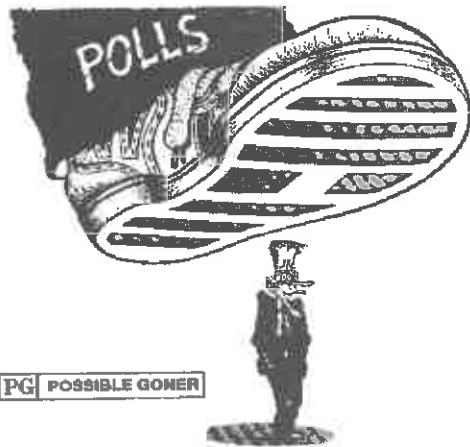
The President was riding a wave of popularity from the Gulf War.

Today, many conservatives are sitting nervously as they watch the President trailing a dodge-drafting, good-old boy from a small failed state. People who approved of Bush's leadership a year ago shrug and say he has no chance.

accused of being a rampant womanizer. A year ago he was the same man who during the 60's was a draft dodger who used educational deferment, and ROTC status to deceive his draft board. A year ago Bill Clinton was the same Rhodes Scholar had who toured Russia and then led anti-American Vietnam War protests in England. A year ago Bill Clinton was the governor who let chicken producers pollute the rivers of Arkansas for campaign contributions. A year ago he was the governor of a state without a Civil Rights law. A year ago he was still married to a woman who has stated, "marriage is bondage" and "children should have the right to sue their parents." A year ago Democratic Party leaders were begging others to seek the nomination.

Bill Clinton is the same candidate he was a year ago, except that now he has the endorsement of the major unions and the nomination of the same old liberal Democrats, and he has proposed an economic plan that taxes the middle class and increases the deficit. It is amazing that such an incapable leader from a small failed state is leading in the polls.

There are four primary reasons why Slick Willy been able to lead in the polls into this final three week period in which the election will be decided. The first reason is that Governor Clinton has had the most organized Democratic party political machine in recent memory. The second is that the American people are unhappy about the world recession. The



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The American people have let a media blitz temporarily convince them that George Bush is down for the count. George Bush may be trailing by a couple of runs in the bottom of 7th inning, but he is not out of the game. He will win if he can define the differences between himself and Slick Willy. He will win if traditional Republicans follow Tammy Wynette's advice and "stand by their man."

### WHO IS BILL CLINTON?

A year ago Bill Clinton was a second rate candidate for the Democratic nomination. A year ago he was a candidate

Ted Elliot is a junior from San Francisco, California.

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third is that Bush has let Clinton define the agenda. The fourth and most disturbing reason is the overwhelming bias against Bush by the majority of the Press and the teflon treatment of Clinton.

## A WINNING BUSH STRATEGY

Bush is responsible for some of his problems. George Bush has been acting like the President of the United States, rather than a Presidential candidate in an election year. He has failed to confront Clinton. President Bush has been counting on being a nice guy, while Clinton has been teaching him that nice guys finish last in Mudville.

Unfortunately President Bush's campaign has resembled that of Attorney General Thornburgh in Pennsylvania. In refusing to confront the opposition face to face, Thornburgh counted on his record as a leader to send him to the Senate, instead it sent him to the showers. President Bush will repeat this fate unless he takes the reigns of this election and defines the differences between himself and Clinton.

Bush must define how his leadership

differs from that of Governor Clinton. Bush needs to focus his campaign on a proven record as a world statesman and as a stable leader with a sound economic policy. To further define his leadership he must stress Clinton's failure as governor of Arkansas and his non-experience in foreign policy. Bush must seize the agenda on these two fronts.

Clinton's foreign policy copies that of the President on the surface, yet when it comes to committing troops everyone knows where Bill was hiding during Vietnam. Bush has a traditional Republican economic strategy, while Bill has a domestic policy of spending out of hard times by taxing the middle class.

Bush must redefine the agenda of this campaign during the next two debates. He must focus on the trust issue which could make or break the election. While the democrats focus on the economy, their stewardship of it will prove to be a disaster because they cannot be trusted.

## THE HIGH STAKES OF THE 1992 ELECTION

What is at stake in this election? The biggest stake is losing control of the growth of government. Bill Clinton and Al Gore are the Karyoake kids, who have been singing any tune they think will buy votes. When the election is over, these two men will take off their masks and show themselves to be tax and spend liberals. They don't understand that government is part of the problem and not part of the solution. Their supporters don't realize that when they disrobe from their conservative costumes after the election that they will have successfully hoodwinked the American people.

Sixteen years ago there was another governor from a southern state who had promised change. This governor had no Foreign policy experience. This Governor delivered change in terms of the lowest morale the country had faced in the post-war era. He delivered the worst post-depression economy and the worst directed foreign policy our nation has experienced. He left America hostage to the Third World. Jimmy Carter's credentials and Bill Clinton's appear to mirror each other. Clinton's advisors and the people he would appoint to run government will be largely made up of those who served Jimmy Carter. America cannot afford to put another Jimmy Carter in the White House.

## WHOM DO YOU TRUST

America must avoid a negative relapse by answering a final question, can we trust Bill Clinton to lead the nation. The answer is no. Bill Clinton has been Governor of Arkansas for over a decade and has made little progress. Bill Clinton cannot logically demand the respect of the men who he might someday order to defend the country. Bill Clinton's infidelities again call his character into question (even W&L

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is rumored to have played host to Clinton's indiscretions during the 1988 Mock Convention). Bill Clinton is inconsistent; he gives lip service to minorities and, at the same time, promises suburban whites that he will protect them from minorities. Bill Clinton is a man who's economic plan is headed for disaster because he demands more government involvement. You cannot trust his record of abuse to turn around when he is given the power of the presidency.

George Bush has a consistent record as a world leader. George Bush has a record of public service that spans over four de-

acades. George Bush has consistently stood for values that are important to our nation. George Bush is a leader, not a politician. That is why his campaign has not been as slick as the Democrats. He has a plan for a slow, but sure economic recovery. He has a long-term plan for education through vouchers, changing the dynamics of education. The economy is already starting to recover. America's growth rate is faster than that of the Japanese and Germans. The nineties will be the decade of turmoil in the world. So, do you trust an unproven record or the consistency of a proven statesman.

The American people will go into the voting booth and discern these factors on November third, and George Bush will win by two points in the final election. When the results come in the Democrats will choke on their smugness. The legion of leftist journalists will jump from the highest buildings because their media coup has failed. The American people will sift through Clinton's past and see a consistent record of inconsistencies. This is why George Bush will be reelected to steward our nation for four more years.

# Maturity 101

## FRESHMAN PERSPECTIVE

**T**HE FIRST COUPLE OF WEEKS OF THE FRESHMEN Year (orientation, classes, rush) are somewhat like a Greek tragedy—a person walks in somewhat unsure what to expect, feels the full range of emotions, and leaves still somewhat unsure

about the meaning of it all.

I am no exception to this rule. Like nearly every other freshman, I piled into a minivan with my parents and all of my worldly belongings, and made the two-day, 16-hour journey to Lexington. After arriving

I was assaulted by what seemed like hundreds of movers who kindly threw my stuff into my room and left. From there I went to get piles of papers, information, an I.D. card. And I shook hands with lots of deans (I'm really not sure who was whom). After several trips to K-Mart and Walmart, my parents left me

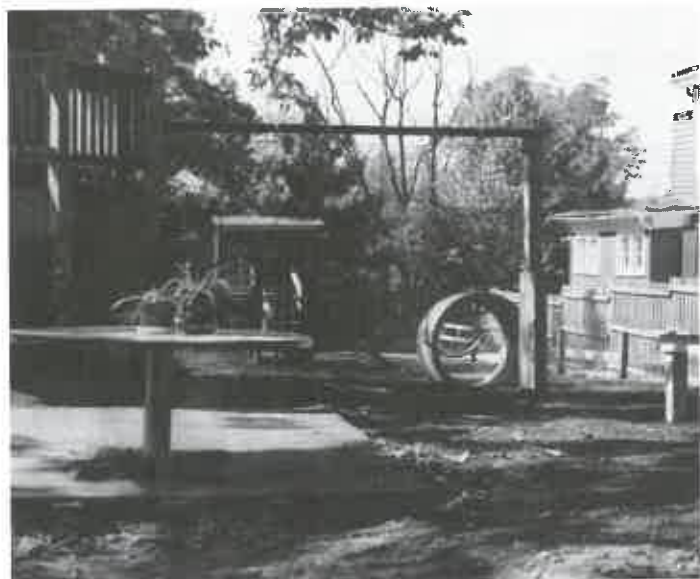
alone to face the world.

Orientation week is really un-fun. I felt as though I was one of a cattle herd being led from place to place (and maybe to slaughter), but people were very easy to meet, and after all, orientation is only one week. But some of the things we did were, to say the least, "interesting."

One such memorable and interesting event was something called Playfair. I have been told that the University paid a great deal of money to hire a gentleman who resembles Richard Simmons in both

appearance and character to, well, play with us. He had us run around, give each other standing ovations and "energy ovations" (which are kind of like silent standing ovations), and, of course, play duck-duck-goose. The whole process lasted nearly two hours, and towards the end I was starting to think it was fun -- until I realized it was "important" too. Like everything else, I guess, nothing is really mindless or silly. To the true liberal, everything is political. So, to my dismay, was Playfair, according to Mr. Simmons. If people, according to him, would just spend their lives playing, there would be no hunger, despair, war, racism and, well, you get the picture. Immediately I imagined Reagan and Gorbachev playing duck-duck-goose in Geneva with Khadafi, Ortega, Thatcher, and Mitterrand (that's probably what he would want to do anyway). Nothing would get done, but that's okay, it would be kind-of, you know, fun. He spoke of some collective utopia with playing at its foundation. "We get paid to play" could be our slogan, and I guess our welfare system could be our model. It's definitely an ideology to look out for in the future.

Another "event" was the Honor Code Assembly. Unlike past years, we didn't do the wave in the Lee Chapel, so I hope we didn't disappoint any upperclassmen. But we were told that if we didn't like the Honor System we could "Leave, RIGHT NOW!" Talk about pressure! Nobody left, and we broke into smaller groups. The



Future site of freshman orientation?

Rick Hill is a freshman from Florida.

guys on my hall and I spent most of our time arguing with our EC Representative over whether we could splice cable on our hall (we're in Gilliam, so we can't even GET cable). We also watched a well-produced video on the honor code, from an honor violation through a conviction and dismissal. The Honor System is really an essential part of the "W&L Experience" and it makes me feel good, as a freshmen, to know that my peers live by a code of honesty and trust. The night after learning about how to trust all of my peers I went to the Date Rape session.

At the Date Rape meeting, we watched a video hosted by Susan Dey and Corbin Benson (or whatever his name is) from the extremely fair and non-liberal *L.A. Law*. Rape is a very ugly subject, and "acquaintance rape" is a very complex one, so I will refrain from discussing them. But I do find it interesting that on one night we are told that Washington and Lee is a happy, trusting place (which I feel it is), the next night, women are told not to trust anybody, and men are told that we are all potential rapists whether we know it or not.

At that point, Orientation ended and classes, I mean Rush, began. Rush is a topic which is probably more complex than Date Rape. Rush is like one giant Dog and Pony show, in which the contestants get to meet and carouse with the judges acting as fake as possible for hours at a time. Rush is fun; Rush is political; Rush is fulfilling; Rush is fair; Rush is unfair; and Rush is time-consuming. I haven't been here long enough to complain about it, but it is definitely a difficult process for all involved, and I'm glad it's over.

Finally, there was class. Classes have been extremely challenging in my opinion thus far. The teachers here expect work, and I've been doing a lot of it.

"Work hard, play hard," is the motto here, and I have definitely done my share of work. Rush and class often have overlapped, and was hard to keep up with work during Rush.

Being a conservative (politically) has also been different for me. In high school, having any definite beliefs was rare, and it was even more rare to be a conservative. Here, I have found many conservatives and Republicans, and I'm not quite sure what to do. I certainly don't stand out. In high school, I was like a conservative missionary winning converts to the cause. Here, I'm not sure if there are enough (non-faculty and non-administration) liberals left to warrant the effort. Oh well. I'll find them.

Washington and Lee has been extremely different than high school. In high school, most W&L freshmen had it all. They were making great grades, being captain of a team, and stood out as the people who were "going places." It's not quite as easy to win that distinction here, and it will be a challenge for us all. I guess we are much like the upperclassmen here as a whole, and I hope that you give us as much of a chance as you would have wanted. And if we do something that you think might be very uncouth, just remember that we should just put aside our differences, and play a little duck-duck-goose, and we'll all feel much better.

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# GREEN

## Tear Night

### Another Great Tradition of the Past

Early on Sunday morning September twenty-sixth, this year's formal Rush came to an end. The football players' late arrival seemed to just add to the disappointments of the weekend.. This year's tamed Tear Night left many longing for the past and fearing that another one of W&L's greatest traditions has been lost.

In a very close vote last year, the IFC made drastic changes in the Tear Night celebration. The IFC was motivated to do so because of the large numbers of injuries and arrests in the past. The IFC argued that a change was inevitable and that most fraternities with renovated houses could no longer have their traditional Tear Night festivities. They wanted to separate the act of tearing

from that of alcohol consumption and, in doing so, curb the unruly behavior of the past. The actual act of tearing was to be done during a sober, coat and tie dinner, and the presence of a band each night was intended to shift the focus of attention on the music instead of the traditional beer sliding.

According to IFC Vice-President, Tom Washmon, this year's Tear

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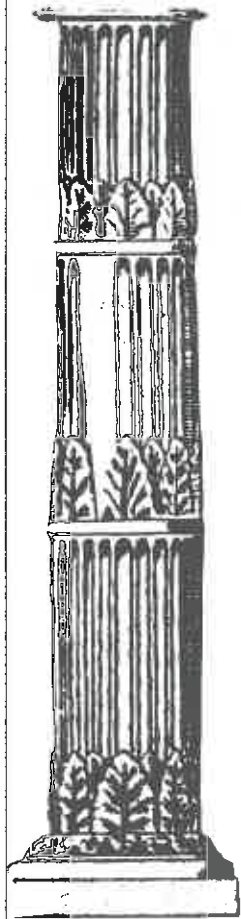
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# KLIFE

Night exceeded the IFC's goals. Additionally, the Dean of Students reported that only one injury and two arrests occurred. Washmon said that the IFC officers were amazed at how well the fraternities abided by the new rules.

Although the people who were involved in last year's rule changes were pleased with the results, the majority of greek men were very disappointed with Tear Night. All fraternity men welcomed the end of Rush and were excited over their new pledges, and most freshmen who had not known the past Tear Nights still had one of the best times of their life. However, students who had participated in preceding years felt that the night did indeed lack the energy and excitement of previous years, the same excitement that had made the night so memorable. Most fraternities did not know how to deal with the act of tearing during a dinner because they were unaccustomed to these new rules; consequently, many houses did not know what to do during the five to eight sober period. Additionally many actives felt awkward making their new initiates leave immediately after they had just been invited to become part of their fraternity. Most fraternity actives felt sorry that the freshman could not experience the excitement that had made their tearing so memorable.

Later that night at the actual party, most fraternities attempted to recreate the past. However, the presence of a band and its equipment eliminated much of the beer throwing and beer sliding. This caused the Tear Night parties to be little more than typical

band parties. Tear Night is one of the best nights of a man's college career, marking both a very important lifelong decision and the beginning of lifelong friendships, and it should be an extraordinary party honoring this momentous event.

Although there were many valid reasons for the IFC's new rules, it is disappointing to see another one of Washington and Lee's great traditions fall by the wayside. For those who knew previous Tear Nights, they remembered it as one of the most unforgettable nights of their

lives. Never before had a college freshman seen such a party and never again will a W&L freshman see one. Tear Night inevitably would have been forced to change because of the ever growing threat of liability in our litigious society. The reformed Tear Night makes one wonder how many of our traditions will be taken from us and what, if anything, we can do to keep our school the way we like it. What will be left of this school when our children come here?

## SORORITIES:

Since sororities came to Washington and Lee in 1989, there has been a question of whether or not the women should have sorority houses. After numerous surveys have been taken among the sororities, it seems as though the women are still having a difficult time deciding what they want. A majority of women like the idea of having lodges which would include a chapter meeting room, a room for travelling consultants, and possibly a lounge. However, the idea of lodges is still a long way down the road for a number of reasons.

First of all, the University's House Corporation wants to complete the entire Renaissance Program for the fraternities before considering work on houses for sororities. The Uni-

versity also wants to expand the sorority system to at least five and possibly six sororities before making any plans for lodges. If, for example, rush goes smoothly for Pi Beta Phi this year, there is a chance that Panhellenic might try to add another sorority within the next few years. Location of any "lodge" is yet another question. The lodges should be somewhere together, perhaps in the area near Liberty Hall ruins. So the bottom line is that it will be at least six years, maybe even ten years before any plans are made. The women have been offered space for a meeting room in the new student center, but it looks as though they will hold out for a while for the lodges.

by Caroline Clark and Jim Eddings

# Celebrating Columbus

**T**HE CURRENT TREND AMONG MANY AMERICANS is to reevaluate past events by judging them according to their contemporary consequences. Guilt over various dark chapters in American history now prompts the most ardent

cowboy to throw away his John Wayne and Steve McQueen tapes after watching *Dances With Wolves*. Although a nation should remember its faults to ensure that they are never repeated, modern liberals, aglow in their passion to revise historic judgements of Western Civilization, are smearing the names of innocent victims in their frantic quest for a villain. With the Quincentenary of the Discovery of the New World, will Columbus be the next witch burned at the stake?

Columbus left Spain a sailor, gambling on the discovery of what we now call the Far East. He never made it. What he found, though we do not know if he ever realized it, was a land never seen by European eyes. Beholding people he thought were Indians, Columbus sought to establish contact with them.

Columbus' arrival on the shores of San Salvador usually marks the starting point of the revisionists' tirade. They argue that Columbus stole the natives' gold, enslaved them, and killed them in a genocidal frenzy. The anti-Columbus/anti-Western factions are successfully promoting their agenda through demonstrations and boycotts, while the national media delight in discrediting the Quincentenary Jubilee as the current fad. And as the Washington Redskins and Atlanta Braves can attest, no alleged legacy of Columbus' conquests is above reproach.

As for the charges levied against him, they range from disinformation to fabrication. Stealing gold was clearly forbidden

by Columbus, though the layman could hardly be expected to know it. Columbus forbade exploitation of the natives, consequently the many injustices he encountered on his subsequent voyages troubled him. Writing to the King and Queen of Spain, Columbus requested more careful selection of Conquistadors. Those adventurers who were arriving, he claimed, failed to serve the Crown, not only in their selfish quest for gold and glory, but for their failure to contribute to the development of the New World.

Columbus' concern for the condition of the Indians led to his hanging several Spaniards for their abuse of the indigenous peoples. Shocked that a sailor would execute his own people for the sake of the Indians, Francisco de Bobadilla, a Spanish official sent to oversee operations on the third voyage, had Columbus sent back to Spain in chains.

The claim that Columbus is responsible for enslaving an entire race is ridiculous in foundation. As a faithful subject of the Spanish crown, whose generosity paid for the expeditions, he made sure that all his men followed the abolition of slavery decree issued by Ferdinand and Isabella. But Columbus did encounter an existing system of slavery as the tribes had a caste system that included a slave class of people born "less worthy." It was the so-called European invaders who actually introduced the idea of eliminating slavery. Although Columbus did use natives to transport, they were neither slaves nor treated



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as such. His treatment of the natives explains why on more than one occasion natives asked to leave their home and accompany Columbus back to Spain.

Yet there are still those who demand that the nation view Christopher Columbus as nothing more than a violent conquistador. These individuals are swimming against the tide of the facts, seeking simply to ignite compassion rather than appeal to reason. The Taíos Indians, involved in a violent war with the Carib Indians, sought to exploit Columbus. They wished to use Spanish military knowledge to give them an advantage over their enemies. Drawn into these tribal wars, Columbus later wrote that he was perplexed by his predicament. He desired to help his friends, but he did not wish to become involved in what he considered small disputes. His duty was far more important than the local conflicts; it was the Christianization of those who had not yet been exposed to the Word of the Bible..

Taking his cue from the writings of Marco Polo in which he read that the Great Khan in China asked for Christian missionaries, Columbus resolved that his own purpose was to "go out and preach the Good News to all nations." Columbus did this with great zeal because he believed that the second coming of Christ would occur only after the Gospel had been spread to "the four corners of the Earth." Therefore we can see that a man who wanted to teach the word of the Bible would certainly not go about his divine mission by murdering prospective converts. Furthermore, if we compare the labors of Columbus to the genocide attempted by Hitler and Stalin, we cheapen the atrocities of the true murderers because in the New World disease was the chief cause of death. Surprisingly, there are those who will suggest that Columbus, a sailor by occupation and training, under-

stood that smallpox would sweep the New World. These people are simply grabbing at straws.

So then, if it is not Columbus whom the attackers want to judge, what is it? The people who are attacking Columbus are using this as a perfect time for securing reparation for the abuses that the Indians and other minorities have received at the hands of the White Man. It is true that not all of the colonists were as benevolent to the indigenous people as Christopher Columbus, yet it appears that he is standing trial for their actions.

We can't attribute all of the evils of our past to Columbus unless we give him equal credit for all of our achievements. He deserves neither. The only way to make up for the crimes of the past is to learn from them and see that they never happen again. Not by changing the Columbus Day holiday to Indigenous Peoples Day as has been done at Berkeley or parading around San Francisco (not exactly a hotbed of intelligent folk, in any event) with signs saying "Columbus = Genocide."

It's time to move forward. Finding the

culprit is about as important as finding the first person to liberate his slaves; neither makes a difference. Columbus lived in 1492, in an age very different from what we know today. All things considered, he treated the natives genuinely better than most of his contemporaries. That alone is cause enough to celebrate and honor the 500th Anniversary of his voyage.

On this anniversary we should celebrate the spirit of the voyage, not the results that followed the death of the discoverer. It is the ambition of Columbus that should be remembered and celebrated. All Americans who are happy to be here -- and there is an option for those who aren't -- should remember Columbus as the one who made it possible. How would things be different today if the Chinese had landed first and developed the 13 colonies? Let us think about what Columbus did for us, not what his successors did to others.

Some of the material in this article was provided by The Young America's Foundation publication *Columbus on Trial* 1492 v. 1992.

BOOK  
REVIEW

WITH REAGAN, by Edwin Meese III  
(Regency Gateway, 1992)

# Two Decades With Reagan

**M**OST COLLEGE STUDENTS TODAY KNOW OF the Reagan Presidency only through their teachers. This is unfortunate, since most of their teachers distort Reagan's record to make it look as bad as possible. Ronald Reagan stood

firmly for everything the PC professoriate abhor: God, country, traditional family values, and yes, the free market. Furthermore, he conclusively showed that adherence to these values can produce political and economic success: victory in the Cold War (the downfall of communism), the longest peacetime economic expansion in American history, and a rebirth of confidence among Americans in the goodness and the effectiveness of their nation.

The Reagan years seem far away now, in no small part because we have strayed so far from the path he laid out for us. But the Reagan years also seem so distant to us because the forces he constantly fought while in office—the liberal media, the intellectuals in the university, liberal interest groups, and liberal congressmen—have single-mindedly trashed and distorted his record. In *With Reagan*, Edwin Meese, Reagan's closest political advisor from his early days as California governor to his last days as president, has gone far to dispel the numerous hostile myths that have been spread in an attempt to undermine the Reagan legacy. His book, which should be required reading for all college students (and better yet for their teachers) is, in fact, the first full and fair history of the Reagan presidency. In it he details the policies and politicking that went into the successes, and the failures, of the Reagan years.

The most prevalent myth about Reagan, which is forcefully and convincingly dispelled by Meese, is that Reagan

was the passive instrument of his political advisers, disengaged from policy making and serving only as a mindless but technically proficient "great communicator." Meese shows that the Reagan tax cuts, the centerpiece of Reagan's domestic policy, first appeared as a proposal in 1976—in Reagan's own syndicated column. Reagan's determination to win the Cold War by rebuilding America's defenses at a rate sufficient to bankrupt the backward Soviet economy also was an early Reagan idea. In addition to conceiving and thinking through these ideas, policies, and programs, Reagan instituted and followed through on them, often over the objections of his so called political handlers. Indeed, the one time he listened to his political operatives, rather than to himself and his conservative policy advisers, disaster struck—I mean the 1982 "budget summit" that produced a tax hike and broken Congressional promises to cut spending (a tragic compromise that foreshadowed the Bush tax hike of 1990).

Meese also manages to explode the myth that Reagan instituted massive spending cuts in social programs, by amassing figures which show that the Reagan "cuts" merely constituted decreases in the level of increase in social spending. Meese also shows that the so called "massive" Reagan defense budgets only brought defense spending up to the levels of the early post-Vietnam era—about half the level of spending under President Kennedy. In addition, he provides the real story of

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America's liberation of Grenada from communists intent on taking Americans hostage, and of the Iran-Contra affair, which Lawrence Walsh's \$30 million and years of fanatical pursuit still have not rendered illegal.

Meese also tells the inside story of political maneuvering in the Reagan White House that produced, among other problems, the disastrous budget summit. Leaks intended to, for example, trap the president by making it look as if he had already endorsed a tax hike and to discredit loyal Reaganites were consistently used, but generally without great effect on Reagan's policies. However, it was these political machinations that the press fostered, in pursuit of "scoops" and anything that would change administration policy to fit their own prejudices. As the budget summit showed, Reagan's instincts were much better than those of either his operatives or the rest of the Washington establishment.

Meese does not defend the Reagan vision, rather, he assumes it and seeks to show that it worked in practice. It is a sign of how successful the press has been in smearing Meese and the president he advised that vision still needs to be defended. But Meese himself remains confident that the Reagan legacy will survive. His own book is one powerful and permanent statement of truth that cannot be easily destroyed by those who tried to destroy Reagan. It is an attempt to speak the truth to history, but also to those who will make history in the future. As Meese commented recently, "The Reagan legacy will survive because it lives on in the youth of America. Reagan's vision had a great impact which is still felt, particularly on our college campuses, where there are more young conservatives than ever, willing and able to carry on his work." Let us hope we do not prove him wrong.

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# Looking Forward, Not Inward

by President George Bush

As you prepare for your futures, many of you are worried about whether there will be jobs for you when you graduate — jobs in which you can apply all you've learned, and through which you can realize the American dream.

I know the feeling. Shortly after I was graduated from college, Barbara and I moved to Texas with our young family to begin a life of our own. I started a business, raised a family, and eventually began my career in politics. I want all of you to have the opportunity to graduate from college, repay your student loans, begin your careers, and start families of your own.

My Agenda for American Renewal will do just that by reinvigorating America's economy and creating jobs and opportunities for all Americans while protecting our environment.

Revitalizing America's economy starts with individuals, families and communities. It requires lower taxes on individuals and businesses, enhancing competition, and cutting regulation. It includes health care for all Americans, child care, job training, housing opportunities, a competitive school system based on community involvement, and choice for American families.

My Agenda prepares America's youth for the 21st century by promoting national academic standards so schools like W&L have a strong student population from which to draw.

For you college students, my administration calls for the largest-ever one-year increase in student Pell Grants, and a 50 percent increase in the amounts of individual Pell Grant awards. In addition, I want to raise the loan limit on guaranteed student loans and make the interest on student loans deductible for federal income tax purposes.

My Agenda calls for continued substantial funding for responsible environmental protection. The United States has the toughest environmental laws on earth, and it was the Bush Administration that proposed and negotiated the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, which I signed as the most protective and market-oriented clean air laws in the world.

My administration also established a moratorium on offshore oil and natural gas drilling; accelerated the phaseout of ozone harming substances; added more than 1.5 million acres to America's national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands; tripled the rate of toxic waste site cleanups since 1989; and collected more fines and penalties and secured more prison sentences for environmental crimes in the last three years than in the previous 20 years combined.

I call upon the youth of today to take up the entrepreneurial challenge and join me in making America the economic, export, education and environmental leader of the 21st century. Let's win the peace by looking forward, not inward.

My Agenda for American Renewal empowers all Americans to make their own choices and better their lives. No one will be left behind for want of opportunity.

Good luck to you, and may you achieve your goals in life.



# Sticks and Speedos

## SPORTS

### LACROSSE

The NCAA allows for only twelve formal lacrosse practices in the fall. It appears, though, that the Washington and Lee lacrosse program under the direction of head coach Jim Stagnitta has used these limited practices to completely rejuvenate a squad that was left unsatisfied following last year's 9-5 season. The best freshman class in recent history has significantly helped ease this revitalizing process.

Three freshman expected to see extended action are midfielders Duncan Slydell and Russell Croft, as well as attackman Jason Hurst. Not only does this freshman unit bring enthusiasm to the team, but also the Generals possess more depth now than they have in the last five years.

One of the keys to the Generals successes of the past has been senior leadership. Coming off a season in which there were only five seniors, this year's group of seniors will be called upon to be especially vocal. Senior attackman Dave Lefkowitz says, "We seniors are not happy about some of the results of last year [not making the play-offs.] In order to improve we need to pick it up in the area of leadership."

With the group of upper-classmen the Generals will be fielding this year, leadership should be no problem. The Generals will certainly miss brilliant attackman Jeff Roberts, but the 1992-3 team looks like it is filling in the gaps quite nicely.

Lefkowitz, along with other seniors Jay West and Wiemi Douighi will lead the attack. Andy Dutton, who is coming off a superb freshman year, should also be a major contributor. As has been the case in

*(Continued on page 30)*

### WATER POLO

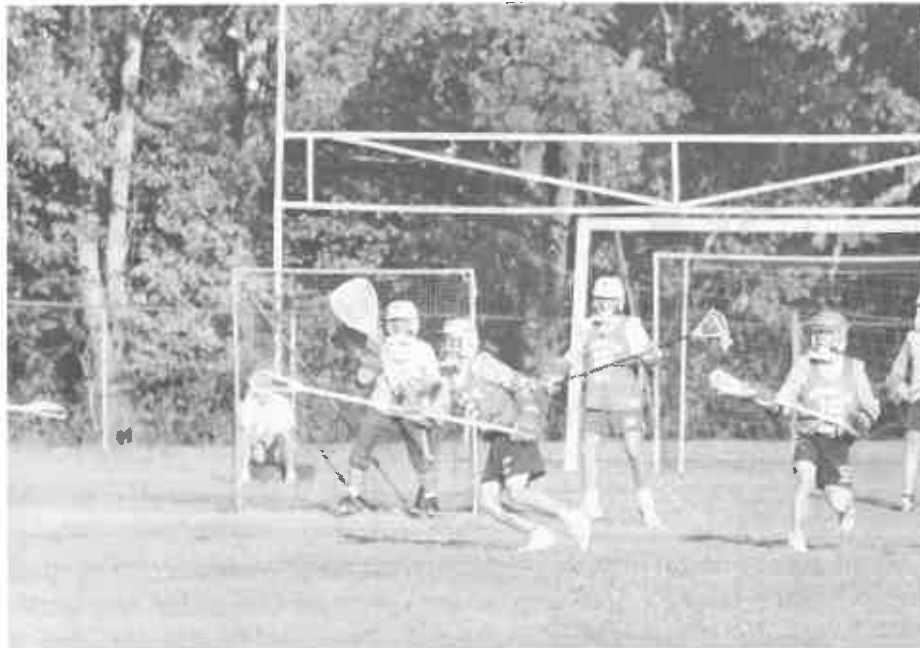
Washington and Lee water polo coach Page Remillard must concede that his 1992 squad is a very young one. Replicating the tremendous successes of last year's team will be quite a task, but one that is certainly feasible considering the extraordinary success of the returning players. Several standout returnees, along with a host of newcomers should certainly ease the transition phase, only a year after losing All-Americans Alan Herrick and Will Davis.

Last year's squad extended Washington and Lee's powerful water polo tradition by posting a 15-10 record against an exceptionally strong schedule. The Generals finished last season as the second highest ranked Division III team in the country, only behind mighty Cal-San Diego. The Generals also claimed the state water polo championship for the third straight year. This success is nothing new to coach Remillard, who has never had a losing season while at W&L.

In attempting to fill the voids left by Herrick, Davis, and John Kannapell, the Generals will have to make up for over 40% of the offense and an amazing 149 steals. The defensive burden will be placed on the broad shoulders of senior goalie and captain P.J. Waicus. The goal is one area where the Generals already appear to be solid. Waicus took advantage of his first starting role as goalie to amass 198 blocked shots and earn All-American honors. The go-to man on the offensive end of the pool this year appears to be another senior, Chris Hagge. Hagge is also a Division III All-American and he has the needed experience to play big in the important

*(Continued on page 31)*

Robby MacNaughton is a junior from Greenville, South Carolina.



past years, the real strength of the team should be in the midfield, where the Generals are unusually deep. Two of this year's co-captains, Johnny Hunter and Dave Schiminger grace the midfield. Hunter was virtually unstoppable one-on-one in last year's big games. Junior Colin Higgins is also coming off a good year and has even higher hopes for this spring. Veterans

Scott Mackley, Ty Tydings, and face-off man Derrick Hutton will also see extended action.

One of the big improvements in this year's team is on the defensive end of the field. Co-captain Josh Levinson, sophomore Shaun McKenzie, and senior Kirk Olsen will highlight this group. Olsen is coming off an injury plagued year, and the

Generals are already benefitting from his presence. David Hunter and Brian Murtagh are the two candidates most likely to see time in the goal. Both players are experienced in this all-important position.

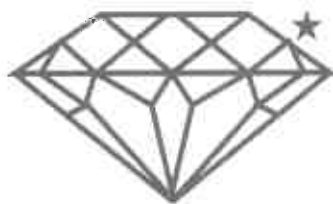
On the way to an eventual record of nine wins and five losses last year, there were several close games. Especially important were the games against Gettysburg and Franklin & Marshall. In both of these games, the Generals struggled down the stretch and wined up on the losing side. Johnny Hunter doesn't think this will be the case now, "Our whole attitude is different this year. We are in much better physical shape due to our work in the off-season. We are more confident in our abilities and this should enable us to pull out those close games."

For the past four years, the key to receiving a berth in the NCAA Division III playoffs for the Generals has been the matchup with Roanoke College. The Generals defeated Roanoke in 1991 and went on to the playoffs. Schiminger senses there was a small mental let down last year. Hunter agrees, "This year we really want to get back to the Nationals. We are working out as hard as we can to achieve this goal." Incidentally, this year's game versus Roanoke will be played on W&L's own Wilson Field.

All the ingredients for success this spring are in place for the Generals. The Generals have Coach Stagnitta as their leader, and he has guided W&L to lofty national rankings in each of his three years here. This year should be no exception. The fall season showed that the Generals are solid in all areas and, without any injuries, they will be a powerhouse in the spring.

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games.

Two other experienced returnees are Jake Berman and Greg Golub. Both juniors, the play of these two will be critical to the Generals success. Berman scored 13 goals last year and added 12 assists in extended action. Golub led the team in assists as a sophomore, with 38, and was also the teams' third leading scorer. Both Golub and Berman have started strong this season on both the offensive and defensive ends of the pool. Golub leads the team in scoring thus far.

Remillard knows these seasoned players will play well together as a group, but if the team is to improve upon the performance of last year several promising freshmen will also have to mesh. Many people, including Remillard, thought this could mean some rough going in the early part of the season against a very competitive schedule. Surprisingly enough, the Generals broke out of the blocks with a fantastic start. Included in the list of early season victories was a win over Division I stalwart Brown of the Ivy League. This was the first win ever for Washington and Lee over Brown. Dane Merkel, Rich Cober, and Pat McKenna--all freshmen hailing from California--have all shown streaks of greatness.

After the brilliant start to the 1992 season, which also included a thrilling overtime victory over archrival Richmond, the Generals fell into a minor slump. Jake Berman says of the early season, "We have so far been similar to Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. When we play as a unit on defense we can be great. On the other hand, last weekend we relaxed mentally and didn't play up to our potential." Greg Golub agrees, "We have a lot of talent, but we must be sure to always play as a team." The Southern Conference Invitational of this past weekend was a minor disappointment for the Generals who lost their last



three games by a total of four points. Berman claims, "If the younger guys on our team continue to improve, we will be winning those close games at the end of the year."

The rest of the schedule contains several interesting highlights. In mid-October the Generals will face the Richmond Spiders in a home-and-home series. A date with Johns Hopkins and the Southern Conference Tournament in Farmville,

Virginia are also key matchups. Finally the Generals will be hosting the Division III Eastern Championships on the weekend of November 7-8. W&L should be challenged by Johns Hopkins and MIT for the title.

Past successes have made the Generals confident. Berman sums up by saying, "If we come together and play as a unit on both ends of the pool, there is no doubt that we will win."

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