

WASHINGTON AND LEE

SPECTATOR

LIBERAL HYPOCRISY

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Washington & Lee University

RQ 39

10

LIBERAL HYPOCRISY

Threatening tactics of a left-wing group to prohibit freedom of speech should shock the W&L community.

BY PAUL E. WRIGHT AND TED ELLIOTT

14

LOVED I NOT HONOR MORE?

Recent concern surrounding the Honor System has focused the community's attention to its longstanding tradition.

Three campus leaders present their reflections on this integral facet of Lee's university.

BY PRESIDENT JOHN D. WILSON, DR. PAMELA SIMPSON, AND JOSH MACFARLAND

20

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE

The American public gets more than it bargained for with the new "Presidential-Partner," Hillary Rodham Clinton.

BY ALISON KRENTEL

22

STAY IN THE CLOSET

The Alumni Magazine's publication of Alan Weber's "coming out" letter provokes one alumnus' embarrassment for Mr. Weber.

BY ROBERT B. RAMIREZ '79

26

THE RING-TIM PHI

Unfortunately, this joke is on the students. *The Ring-tum Phi's* slogan—"like you could do better..." prompts a humorous effort to do just that in honor of April Fool's.

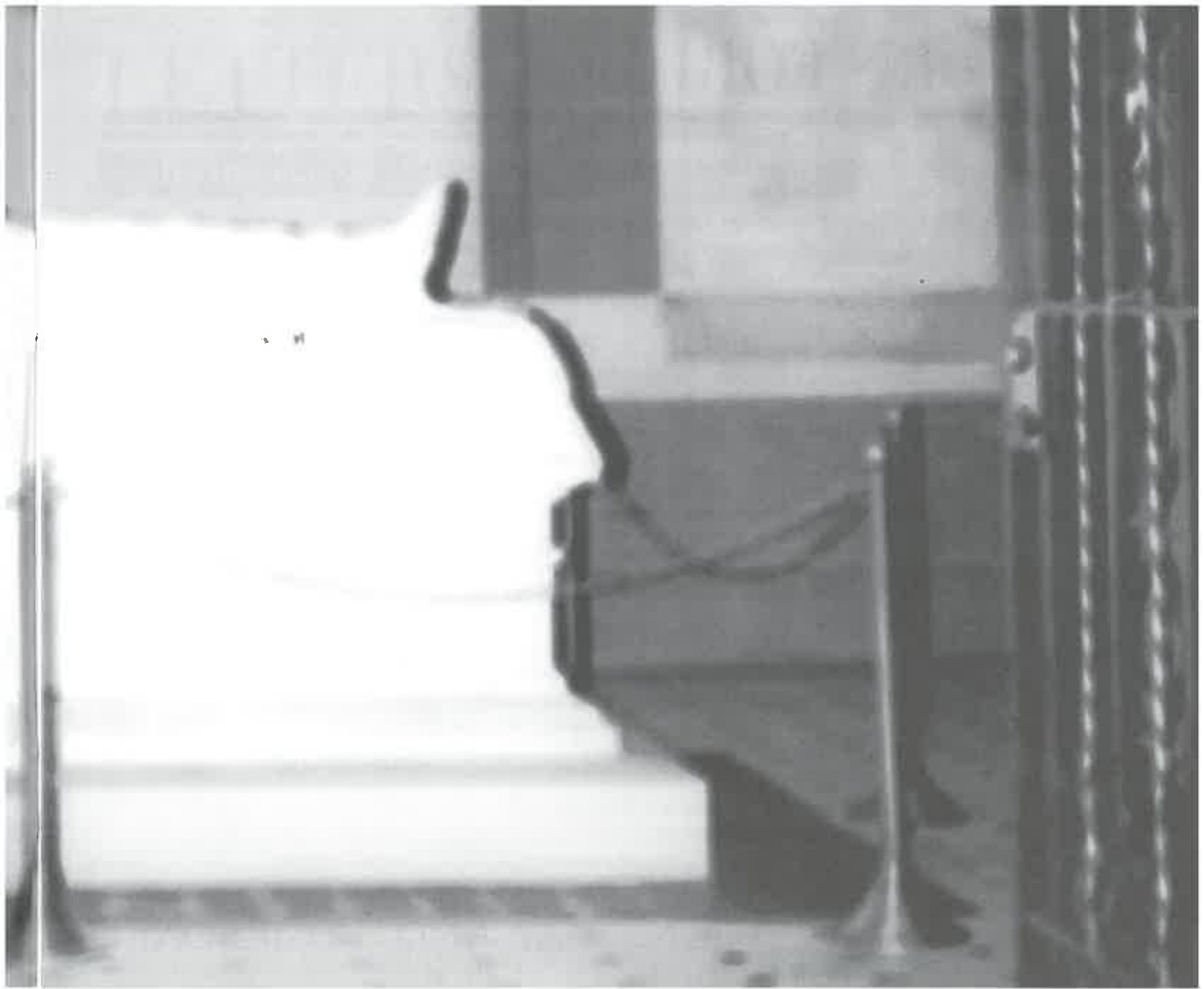
BY STAFF

28

HERITAGE NOT HATE

Kappa Alpha's traditional Old South Ball elicits liberal complaints that certain groups should be prohibited from celebrating their heritage.

BY WRIGHT MARSHALL



30

GENERALS OF THE ATHLETIC FIELD

The leaders of W&L's spring sports teams are featured in this month's pages. Of course, the April sports section could not be complete without predictions of the NCAA Final Four.

BY ROBBY MACNAUGHTON

DEPARTMENTS

4
EDITOR'S FORUM

5
LETTERS

27
PROFILE

6
GENERAL OPINION

10
TOP TEN LIST

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EDITOR'S FORUM

WHILE THERE ARE SO MANY WORKERS BARRICADING the corral with the 3 foot, red brick wall could someone please hand them a can of paint to mark off parking places? Driving around campus and downtown searching for parking is a ritual surely that not only annoys students, but faculty and staff as well. In the words of one admired faculty member, "There are three responsibilities of a university: football for the alumni, sex for the students, and parking for the faculty." We don't need to discuss the other two functions, but too many commuters to the Hill are disappointed with the parking problem.

Until the City of Lexington builds a three story parking garage hidden between Main Street and Jefferson, the least W&L could do is spare some paint for a few lines in the corral. Maybe one alum could designate a donation to the Capital Campaign for this small addition to the campus that would be the most celebrated capital improvement of President Wilson's tenure...Well, you get the picture.

As the *Spectator* approaches its fourth anniversary issue, we again re-developed our look to remain trendy and on the cutting edge—after all, we have enough traditions at W&L, right?

But on the subject of tradition, recently many questions have been raised regarding the success and failures of the

Honor System. The dialogue is worthwhile, as EC President Josh MacFarland observes in his essay. This is why we approached three campus leaders to express their opinions and reflections of Lee's legacy. We appreciate the contributions by President Wilson, Dr. Simpson, and Josh MacFarland to this debate.

Another example of civility in W&L's community—that of respecting other's right to their ideas—was seriously threatened by the hate letter received by junior Paul Wright of the College Republicans. After the death of W&L's CRC/speech-code there was hope that the intimidation of others' thoughts and ideas would end. Not so. The irresponsible and unlawful act of F.L.I.N.T. and their letter should scare each one of us and deserves the community's attention and concern.

Finally, to quote the work of Kathekon and combat the extinction of a long-lived facet of our campus, "SPEAK"—the tradition should not die. During a period when our campus is receiving a major "face-lift", we need to hold onto the customs that truly shape our institution's success.



Marc Kreppel
Editor-in-Chief



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LETTERS

ALUMNUS ACTS UP

WHILE READING A RECENT ARTICLE in the *Spectator* (Acting-Up in the Dean's Office") I was surprised to find that the writer(s) actually found out what ACT UP (*sic*) is an acronym for. It's unfortunate no attempt was made to comprehend what the name of the organization means.

We exist to bring an end to the AIDS crisis. Because of persistent public perception of AIDS as a "gay disease" this means fighting homophobia. However, we also fight any erroneous public fears that pose barriers to effective AIDS education and prevention. This includes unfounded and dangerous moralizing against needle exchange programs (perhaps the most effective way of stopping transmission of HIV among intravenous drug users) and public indifference to the urban homeless and minorities (who constitute the fastest-growing rates of HIV infection).

As a direct action group, we are committed to action to produce results. ACT UP's (*sic*) accomplishments, among many, have been to force the Food and Drug Administration to "fast track" promising new AIDS drugs and the ACT UP (*sic*) Presidential Project, which last year focused attention on the presidential candidates' plans to end the AIDS crisis.

ACT UP (*sic*) has not supplied Washington and Lee with any information for distribution, as your publication concocted. I do encourage W&L students to obtain information on HIV and AIDS from any available sources, including ACT UP (*sic*). Deliberate ignorance, such as that displayed in the *Spectator* article only leads to disaster.

It doesn't seem to be the *Spectator's* style but perhaps in the future your writers will make some

phone calls and do some basic research before going to press. I don't believe that's too much to ask in the interest of accuracy, integrity and honesty.

Sean Bugg '89

RESPONDING TO ACT-UP

IN THE INTEREST OF ACCURACY, integrity, and honesty, for the record the *Spectator* did attempt to contact Dean Schroer-Lamont before writing the article. Schroer-Lamont, as the February article indicated and consistently with her policy not to talk with the *Spectator*, refused an interview. According to Carol Caulkins, who arranges Schroer-Lamont's schedule, the dean had more important things to do.

Perhaps, to the best of your knowledge Mr. Bugg, ACT-UP has not supplied W&L with any of its material. The ACT-UP material in question was, however, present in the hallway outside the dean's office. How it got there is anybody's guess.

But while we're on the subject of moralizing, Mr. Bugg, why don't you explain why your conception of AIDS education (i.e. condom distribution and clean needles) isn't reducing AIDS infection among drug users and homosexuals, while the abstinence message, your so-called formula for disaster, is reducing infection rates among heterosexuals. In the effort to re-write traditional morality, Mr. Bugg, ACT-UP and other queer activists groups are jeopardizing not only the lives of drug addicts and sodomites, but the innocent majority as well.

The General Opinion section of the February issue included the following statement: "But now Schroer-Lamont has taken to passing onto the Washington and Lee community literature of an organization called ACT-UP in order to inform the students about the 'realities' of AIDS." The literature was not endorsed by Schroer-Lamont.

EDITOR
Marc Kreppel

PUBLISHER
Eliza Tobias

EDITORIAL

MANAGING EDITOR
Wright Marshall

SENIOR EDITORS
Jim Eddings, Cameron Humphries, Alison Krentel, Robby MacNaughton, John McNeer, Will Thomas, Chris Vinyard

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Richard Burke, Bill Chappell, Ted Elhott, Chuck Erdman, Scott McCoy, Lloyd Peeples, Scott Sina, Christine Will, Paul Wright

GRAPHICS AND
PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Blair Garrou

ADVERTISING DESIGN
Camp Ellis

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS
Kathy Boozer
Kelly Land

PHOTOGRAPHY
Jason Coccia

ADVERTISING AND
ADMINISTRATION

BUSINESS MANAGER
John Cuzzocrea

ADVERTISING EDITOR
Tim Moorhead 463-1157

ADVERTISING
Sarah Aschenbach

CONTRIBUTORS

Derick Belden, Ryan Boone, Tom Coates, Nondas Farmakis, Rob Gamble, Christine Hamlet, Rick Hill, Cameron Howell, Doug Lamb, Carter Lee, Brian O'Malley

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GENERAL

Now, if an alum is concerned about PC leanings at their alma mater before signing that big check, the new resident scholar can quell any fears.

Politically Correct Fundraising

The Capital Campaign hires a PC scholar to help with business.

CHALK UP ANOTHER POINT FOR THE PCERS. THE newest addition to the Washington and Lee Development Team, Tom Jennings, will be working on the "correct" side.

Mr. Jennings, a graduate of James Madison University, joined the Capital Campaign staff as Assistant Director of major gifts. But in his free time, Mr. Jennings will be working on his dissertation for his doctoral degree that coincidentally focuses on Political Correctness.

Fortunately for the development office, now, if an alum is concerned about PC leanings at their alma mater before signing that big check, the new resident scholar on the subject can

quickly quell any such fears.

Washington and Lee, according to Mr. Jennings, "has the potential to be recognized among the top five liberal arts schools in the country." What he needs to understand is that many students believe it already is.

A Double-Faced Flag

The Georgia governor's plan to avoid anticipated embarrassment may cause his political downfall.

Hats off!

Along the street there comes

A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums.

A flash of color beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by.



OPINION

THE IMAGES THAT H. H. BENNET EVOKES IN HIS poem are not those shared by members of the Atlanta City Council. The Board recently decided to remove the Georgia state flag from its council room. Not satisfied with this effrontery, the Council applauded as an all black color guard (political statement, anyone?) removed the flag. The City Council is not alone. The Atlanta Board of Education also voted to remove the state flag from local schools.

Could it be that Atlanta is merely following Lexington's City Council lead in distancing itself from the Confederate Battle Flag? Don't worry, Buddy Derrick or Brian Shaw. They're not.

All on his own, Gov. Miller determined last year that the Georgia flag was a symbol of racism, and consequently recommended that it be changed. Appealing to images of concentration camps and totalitarian terror, the good governor equated flying the Georgia flag in Atlanta during the 1996 Olympic Games with the Nazis flying their flag over Berlin in 1936.

If we're going to bridge analogies with past Olympic gatherings, perhaps the 1992 Games offer a more appropriate and less inflated example. As John Shelton Reed observes, in Barcelona the Catalans were encouraged to fly their flag as a symbol of their heritage. Doesn't the Georgia flag represent a much more modest, albeit less politically flammable, ideal than Nazi's and World War II—namely, Southern heritage?

Ah, but there's the rub. Gov. Miller argues that because the state flag was altered in 1956, amidst the beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement, the current state flag bears a constant and offensive reminders of some of the South's less sterling legacies.

What the governor has deliberately ignored is that there is no legislative record to substantiate this claim, though the record does

show that many legislators wanted the flag changed to commemorate the upcoming centennial of the Confederation. It was this same reasoning that led the Miller to reject replacing the current flag with the previous one—as, alas, that flag also bore a Confederate emblem, the "Bonnie Blue." What's a poor politically correct governor to do?

Design his own flag.

Miller supports the creation of a new flag, one that merely sports the Georgia state emblem on a blue background. And the ACLU, quick to debunk traditions or values that any mainstream segment of society values, has also embraced the crusade to change the flag.

Only popular public sentiment in Georgia does not want the flag changed. Despite efforts of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* who has called including the Confederate Battle Flag in the state flag a "disgrace," a Mason-Dixon poll taken last July reveals that 66 percent of white Georgians—even 61 percent of white Atlantans—wanted to keep the present flag. And to the dismay of the Northeast "do-gooder" liberal establishment, a full 59 percent of black Georgians also wish to retain the existing flag.

This is not to deny or ignore the efforts of some to pervert the true meaning of the flag. During his lecture to Washington and Lee, Shelby Foote observed that since the South had allowed its "trash" to subvert the meaning of the Stars and Bars, it must yield to the desire of those who now want it taken down.

But what Foote and other similarly-inclined, well-meaning Southerners ignore is that by extending credibility to critics of the flag, they contribute to the erosion of what it symbolizes. Remember, Robert E. Lee, for one, fought under that flag.

To the degree that any symbol is successfully debased or removed, or fundamentally altered, that which it symbolizes is equally diminished.

If we're going to bridge analogies with past Olympic gatherings, perhaps the 1992 Games offer a more appropriate and less inflated example. As John Shelton Reed observes, in Barcelona the Catalans were encouraged to fly their flag as a symbol of their heritage.

After returning from Christmas break, the SAB officers decided to buy a \$150, quarter-page advertisement in *The Ring-Tum-Phi*, welcoming students back to school. How many students got their [literally] 10 cents worth of welcome from the ad?

And to the credit of members of the Georgia state legislature, most of whom have no greater political ambitions than to represent the will of their constituents, they have rejected the governor's proposal. And likewise in the coming election, the people of Georgia very well may opt to keep their flag and replace their governor.

Students Are Bored

Who's to blame for the recent ineptitude of W&L's Student Activities Board...

BEFORE FANCY DRESS WEEKEND STUDENTS WERE asking "What band did *we* get?" Well, as Ronald Reagan observed, "Just what do they mean by *we*?"—not the Student Activities Board, a body of students representing each class whose job is to develop and plan school-wide activities. The SAB meets twice each month to discuss what, where, and when activities should take place. Activities and bands at W&L are chosen from proposals of the Board members and then approved by vote of the entire Board—officers and members-at-large.

Or this is how the SAB is designed to operate. But unfortunately, during the past year, member votes have been overturned by the SAB officers, especially when choosing school-wide bands. Also, money has been carelessly spent on more than one occasion. For example, during Parents' Weekend, the SAB as a whole voted not to have a cocktail party for parents in the University Center. The Board thought most students would not find out about it and, if they did, probably would not attend anyway. After pressure from the Hill, however, the SAB officers held the reception and only a handful of students and their parents showed up. And this is was not an isolated incident. After returning from Christmas break, the SAB officers decided to buy a \$150.00, quarter-page advertisement in *The Ring-tum Phi*, welcoming students back to school. How many students got their [literally] 10 cents worth of welcome from the ad?

Some argue the SAB did report a profit from last year to the Executive Committee, which administers the Student Activities Fee. But, truly, a student organization paid for by students should be in business primarily to

please the overall student population, not to make profits or throw parties for Board members. The EC should oversee more carefully how the money they budget to student groups is spent. After all, the SAB is dependent on student monies, paid above and beyond general tuition. Why then is this Student Activities Fee, paid by students, wasted on ads welcoming themselves back to school?

Finally to the question at hand: The list of possible SAB bands for Fancy Dress Thursday included The Temptations [who said "nope"], 38-Special [who were asked to come out of retirement], REO Speedwagon [who should be kept in retirement], and the BoDeans. SAB's inability to book a Thursday night became so critical that its booking agent contacted a W&L alumnus and former SAB entertainment director to alert him to the problem. The current SAB Entertainment Director resorted to allowing this alumnus to book the band. And though he did the best he could do under the circumstances, boy, did we get a deal: The Fabulous Thunderbirds...

High Priority

Conflicts of interest for W&L's administration...

THE UNIVERSITY'S DIRECTOR OF Communications, Mr. Brian Shaw, is also a member of Lexington's City Council—lucky for W&L, right? This situation should be great for W&L, as Shaw can represent W&L in city government.

Recently, the University was working to acquire the lot adjacent to Red Square at the entrance to downtown. City Council was concerned about the losing revenue from this "prime" location for a Lexington business. (Of course, in the past three years, two restaurants located there, EL CAFE and EL RODEO, have gone out of business.) W&L's administration wished to purchase this land in order to protect its investment in Fraternity Renaissance and to relocate the University Print Center from Reid Hall to free classroom space on the Hill. (Maybe they will rename it EL PRINTE.)

And luckily for W&L, Mr. Shaw could work to persuade the City Council to allow the University acquisition. But he didn't. Instead,

Mr. Shaw voiced City Council concerns in Washington Hall where, to Shaw's surprise, the academic politicians of W&L politely told Shaw to mind his own business.

Mr. Shaw should, indeed, mind his own business, that of W&L. But, if Mr. Shaw continues to place City or any other concerns over the University's, then perhaps President Wilson should allow him to pursue those concerns full-time. We wouldn't want Mr. Shaw to have nothing to do, now would we?

Rushin' Roulette

IFC may be pointing a gun to its head with the newly proposed Rush format.

RECENT DISCUSSION IN IFC MEETINGS HAS centered around the Rush proposal and, specifically, about the idea of capping pledge class sizes. Proponents of the cap, which is absent in the present proposal, argue that the Greek system at W&L cannot survive when one third of the houses pledge one half of the freshmen. Large houses are getting larger and small houses are getting smaller—such is the prevailing sentiment among the proponents. “What you will end up with is nine or ten houses with about one hundred members each,” said Dean Atkins during the March 16 meeting. Atkins added, “this type of fraternity system is not what the W&L experience is about.” Maintaining a Greek system with houses that are small enough for personal relationships among members and at the same time having enough houses on campus to offer a diverse fraternity system is a goal that all Greeks accept. No one wants to see W&L's fraternity system resemble that of a large state school or see the non-Greek population grow. The means of achieving this goal, however, remains the center of recent controversy.

Opponents of the cap system contend that such a system is unfair to individual freshmen, promotes houses' conducting a bad rush, and neglects the reality that from year to year not every freshman class is the same. First, it is not an equitable system when a house has to turn away an interested freshman just to meet a cap requirement. Second, Rush exists as a means of propagating individual fraternities and should not guarantee that houses with bad

rushes survive. Last, in some years the freshman class is stronger than others and the cap system fails to compensate for this fact. For these reasons alone, the cap system has failed to gain favor in IFC meetings.

Is there an appropriate means to solve this problem? Is there an inherent problem with a pledge class of thirty? Is there an appropriate means to solve this problem?

Greeks need to agree that a medium-size pledge class is good for the fraternity system. Small houses are, in truth, on the verge of dying out, and the loss of these houses will certainly lead to a larger non-Greek population. Gaining two or three more pledges is not worth losing strength of W&L's fraternity system as a whole.

TOP TEN NICKNAMES FOR “THE WALL”

- 10.) The “Don't walk on the grass” wall
- 9.) The “Almost Ivy League” wall
- 8.) The “Lexington Economic Stimulus Package” wall
- 7.) The “Let's give Frank Parsons something to do” wall
- 6.) The “Wailing Wall”
- 5.) “The Capital Campaign's a success, really it is” wall
- 4.) America's longest, free-standing, brick, non-suspension wall
- 3.) The “Chalkup one more for Wilson memorial” wall
- 2.) The “Davidson Park Brick Surplus” wall
- 1.) The “It's a friendly wall—a wall you can sit on” wall

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Ch A P T E R No. 19

LIBERAL HYPOCRISY

ON JANUARY 12, 1993, A black conservative wrote a letter to the campus newspaper, *The Ring-tum Phi*, on behalf of Washington and Lee College Republicans'. He addressed his concern about the continual destruction of the College Republicans posters by the closed-minded individuals who lack regard for the group's activity on campus. The letter requested tolerance of all opinions and views at Washington and Lee. The author, Paul Wright, in hopes that an educational environment would welcome all opinions, called for an end to the "juvenile tactics" of the liberal hypocrisy.¶

Paul, in seeking the stop the suppression of different opinions by W&L radical liberals, was more than justified in writing this letter after College Republicans made a number of requests for the University to correct the problem. He then wrote the letter after promises to stop the vandalism did not change the destructive

waste their time for such a pathetic project of liberal hypocrisy. Paul reacted, "I felt ashamed for Washington and Lee, that there was a student so devoid of honor, intellect, and the attributes of our college society. Most importantly, I felt repulsed by the fact that my thoughts and opinions were dismissed as con-

liberals view the conservative element as anti-progressive and narrow-minded. This is not the case, but the left is entitled to their opinion. These liberal activists in F.L.I.N.T., however, have not learned to effectively form any opinion or construct any challenge. In essence, we are witnessing a growth in the lack of intel-

The Ring-tum Phi judged that the situation was not newsworthy.



pattern of intolerance by the left.

College Republicans wanted to publicly voice contempt for the vandalism because of the inherent violation of trust and the suppression of

servative drivel by F.L.I.N.T. I do not mind the challenge of my words, for I welcome the liberal arguments, but I resent the limited focus of the group's intelligence. F.L.I.N.T.

lectual diversity or at least an increase in the lack of tolerance of such diversity."

This problem can be attributed to the administration's decision that appearance differences are sufficient enough to define a diverse campus. Ideas and opinions are the essential elements of a diverse society but the absence of these qualities is evident

Ideas and opinions are the essential

freedom of ideas in these acts. The act of destroying the signs was cowardly, but the events that followed the letter extended the hostile environment that W&L College Republicans have endured during the past months.

should learn about honor and respect as they seem to be lacking these qual-

elements of a diverse society, but

ities. I hope that someone eventually has the gumption to admit to this

in the F.L.I.N.T. group. Political correctness has become the new fetish for many citizens of Washington and Lee's community.

the absence of these qualities is

Four days after the publication of the letter, Paul received a threatening letter from F.L.I.N.T. — A.L.B. Chapter #19, a liberal group or person at Washington and Lee. The threat itself was a surprise. But the manner in which it was received and the form in which it was written constitute a violation of common decency and Federal law. The letter was not handwritten or typed, but pasted together with letters from newspapers and magazines to elicit some sort of fearful response (as if produced by a Lexington branch of the Red Brigade?)

heinous act of liberal ignorance and lack of intellectual diversity.

evident in the F.L.I.N.T group.

In my opinion, "ignorance" is the key word in analyzing an atrocity such as the F.L.I.N.T. organization. This group represents the growing misunderstanding of conservative ideals in the wake of liberal trends on university grounds. As an outspoken conservative citizen, I have listened to many liberal slants, including those of my parents, but have welcomed the input for it gives me an insight into the left side of the spectrum. In the various conversations and arguments, I have learned that

Last year someone wrote a derogatory racial word on the desk of a black student in the Law School

causing an explosion of anger on the campus. When a black conservative is attacked, however, this is an accepted consequence of right-wing thought and expression. The administration roared and howled at the horrific attack on the law student immediately after it occurred. Students (both law and undergraduate) professors, and officials wasted no time in writing letters of protest to the terrible insult.

When Paul reported the F.L.I.N.T. hate-letter to *The Ring-tum*

Phi, the paper judged that the situation was not newsworthy. There was

Political Correctness has become

no motion by the ACLU, the administration, or the student newspaper to voice concern. No reaction came from any member of the PC community when the liberal vandals sent the threatening letter. Apparently, a Federal offense is unimportant to Rick Peltz, editor of *The Ring-tum Phi*, and should be disregarded by the

of W&L's community

W&L community. If the victim of this threat were a member of the Women's Forum, Minority Students Association, or ACLU, this issue would be on the front page of the *Phi*.

Furthermore, the administration made a concerted effort to stay away from the entire episode until the almighty *Phi* complained about the actions of College Republicans in regard to the "F.L.I.N.T. thing." *Phi* editor Peltz unjustly and unsuccessfully accused the College Republicans of harassing his paper to publish an editorial regarding the incident. Fortunately, the administration saw the real issue and disregarded the harassment complaint of the *Phi*.

ed publication that ignores the desires of large groups of students.

The fact that the *Phi* did not publish the editorial at the time they had promised is not the point; the point

the new fetish for many citizens

is that the majority of the student body was denied the story because the victim was a black conservative.

This type of behavior runs rampant throughout the country's best universities and colleges as the PC bandwagon on faster each month.

After consulting the deans of Washington and Lee, there is a wide agreement that this letter, a federal violation, is a very serious issue. Dean of Students David Howison supported the complaint about the letter and feels that it deserves the attention of a disciplinary investigation. Wright was pleasantly surprised by the ultimate response of the members of the administration but remains "disturbed by the initial lack of interest especially in comparison to the strong responses to last year's incident at the Law School."

Some people may view the actions

much time on their hands. At first I thought that he may be right, but I soon changed my mind once I considered the underlying message behind the F.L.I.N.T. letter. Whether or not the letter was a literal threat is rather unimportant as the message to me remains; my

views and opinions do not warrant attention because they are conservative. I think these liberals have drained their thinking abilities in an attempt to figure out new ways to drain others' wallets. In the process they have sacrificed any intellectual capacity they may have had. I feel pity for this group and truly hope that they come to their senses and learn to accept the challenges of diverse opinions."

The environment at Washington and Lee has decayed to a state in which a student would be cowardly enough to send an anonymous threat through the U.S. postal service. Furthermore, the school paper and administration would not take action until forced. More importantly, this issue has illustrated that W&L has declined to a point where the rights of conservatives are ignored in a "politically correct" environment. In this environment, the free flow of ideas is threatened



"Ignorance" is the key word word in analyzing F.L.I.N.T.

While the *Phi* thought this threat was "not newsworthy", it felt that students asking for an investigation was harassment. Never mind that the paper disregarded the editorial letter for two weeks and decided to publish an unnecessary two-page layout "Getting to know your *Phi*". Consider the consequences of a student-fund-

in regard to the F.L.I.N.T. letter unnecessary because the threat may have been only a joke directed at Wright. But Paul responded with concern: "One of my fraternity brothers chided me a bit about taking this F.L.I.N.T. episode seriously because the messengers were merely a bunch of liberal know-nothings with too

and, therefore, so is the University's future.

Ted Elliott is a Junior from San Francisco, California. Paul Wright is a Junior from Lancaster, Pennsylvania.


Loved Honor More?

As Washington and Lee enters the 21st century, the role of honor in the University. Is it still relevant? We asked leading campus figures to re-

ONCE THE QUESTIONED LEGACY OF Robert E. Lee, Washington and Lee's Honor System faces a plethora of challenges from within and abroad, that it is elitist, unfair, unrealistic, inadequate, and unreasonable—just to name a few. Nationwide, schools are abandoning their single-sanction Honor Systems in favor of Honor judicial boards where violations are measured by degrees, instead of the all or nothing tenor of our existing System.

Should W&L consider such a change? Do students abide by the Honor System? Do professors? Has cheating become such an integral aspect of the contemporary American college experience that professors and administrators must assume that it occurs in our classrooms. And, likewise, should professors take matters into their own hands?

The *W&L Spectator* has long propounded



For see! where on the Bier before ye lies
The pale, the fall'n, th' untimely Sacrifice
To your mistaken Shrine, to your false Idol Honour.
—Anne Finch, *Lady Winchilsea*
All Is Vanity, iii

I Not

In the 21st century, some question the honor system as a dated concept? We've responded.

that honor still pervades most aspects of the W&L experience. We have rejected any notion that professors and administrators are entitled to question any student's honor, at any time, or under any circumstance, unless that professor or administrator is willing to bring the matter before the Executive Committee.

And the *Spectator* has, on occasion, criticized the EC for not adequately preparing freshmen for their involvement within the Honor System.

But in this feature the *Spectator* will say nothing. Instead, the following three essays, written by an administrator, a faculty member and a student leader express their view of the existing Honor System, and whether they want it changed.

We thank their authors for their efforts and present their complete, unedited responses.



Tell me not, sweet, I am unkind
That from the nunnery
Of thy chaste breast and quiet mind,
To war and arms I fly.

True, a new mistress now I chase,
The first foe in the field;
And with a stronger faith embrace
A sword, a horse, a shield.

Yet this inconstancy is such
As you too shall adore;
I could not love thee, dear, so much,
Loved I not honor more.

-Richard Lovelace (1649)
To Lucasta Going to the Wars

PRESIDENT JOHN D. WILSON

NO ONE CAN LIVE AND WORK in the Washington and Lee community for very long without encountering the Honor System. It started for me in small ways . . . a pen lying untouched all day on the Newcomb Hall steps, the books and jackets left on desks in the library, the formal references made by E.C. members and members of the Faculty at orientation. Then, in my early days here, there were several public hearings, perhaps as many as four or five. I attended one or two and stayed until the end, impressed by the air of high seriousness and the careful preparation on both sides. And nothing struck so deep a chord as the dignified exit from Lee Chapel of some 500 students and faculty when a guilty verdict had been reached.

We thus measure the system by its occasional public manifestations. But

that is only the smallest part, the least consequential. It is what we do not see and cannot see that makes all the difference. I refer to the student late at night, frazzled and devoid of useful ideas, staring at a blank sheet of paper which must, somehow, be filled with reasoned argument by morning. The temptation to take a short-cut is very real . . . surely one can 'get by,' just this once, by copying this obscure article and representing it as one's own work. When that temptation is resisted and the struggle to find one's own way is taken up anew, something fine happens. The community grows stronger in its confidence and mutual trust and the solitary student achieves a new level of self-respect. The character of everyone here is silently strengthened by that one, unobserved moral act.

And so the honor system continues to work its magic, creating an

ambience that supports the unique inter-personal relationships we so easily form here. We come quickly to a sharpened sense of what is expected of us, and our pride in being able to meet those high expectations puts a little more steel in our souls. When we leave here, playing false with others is simply beyond our imagining: that isn't the way human beings are supposed to be.

Of course, there are failures . . . four or five a year on average, maybe more. Ours wouldn't be a human community if we had no experience of failure. Still, most of us meet the tests that circumstance puts in our way. We do so at first because others expect us to and we do so at the end because we expect no less of ourselves.

A few years ago I learned how lasting the effects of living under this system can be. My lesson came in the form of a letter from a graduate and it was a confession of failure. In his senior year, broke on the edge of a big weekend, he stole someone's books and sold them to the bookstore. He was never found out. He wrote in tones of abject remorse, inviting the University to do whatever was necessary to help him atone for his failure to live here in trust. He suggested a willingness to return for a hearing or to return his diploma . . . anything to erase from his conscience this singular failure of character.

This letter, I later discovered, was not unique. There have been, over the years, a few others similar in tone and intention. They clearly testify to the shaping influence of a century-old system built upon the highest expectations. We bequeath nothing of greater value to the generations yet to come to Washington and Lee than the honor system our students have received from the past and strengthened for our present purposes.

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DR. PAMELA H. SIMPSON

ANY READER WHO HAS NOTED the Spectator's tendency to label my views as "extremist" and "totalitarian" will note that there is some irony in their asking my opinion on anything. Nevertheless, they did, and I agreed to write this because I feel very strongly that the Honor System is one of the great strengths of the Washington and Lee community.

I taught in a large, state-system school before I came here, so the contrast was immediately apparent. Here there is trust. And it is a trust that is earned. Early in my tenure here I had the embarrassing circumstance of leaving a test I had prepared on top of a slide case in the slide study room. I had put it and a group of other things on top of the case while I put the slides in order, and then when I picked it all up, the test sheet, which was on the bottom, got left. I first knew what I had done only when a group of students came to talk to me. They had been studying, and one student had put his books on top of the case. When he picked them up to go, the test sheet came floating down. Another student picked it up, glanced at it, immediately recognized what it was, but asked a student from one of the other classes to look at it to see if it really was the test they were studying for. When they found it was, they decided to come to me as a group to swear on their honor that they had not read the questions, but thought, perhaps, I still might want to make up another test. I was amazed. I know what would have happened at most other schools if students had been presented with a temptation like that.

The quality of trust that the Honor System creates is such that professors

have great leeway in giving assignments. I can with confidence leave exams at the circulation desk in the library and have students check them out and pledge they have only taken the designated time. We can give take-home exams. We can give assignments and know that our instructions will be carried out—we know because we say "pledge it."

As well as the system works in the academic life of our campus, I am not always sure that it does in other areas. "Stealing" as well as "lying" and "cheating" are defined by each student generation. The current generation seems too often to be content to confine the honor system to academics alone.

It has troubled me that "stealing" didn't seem to apply to a fraternity scavenger hunt where flags from McDonald's were taken, or the bamboo behind the Stonewall Jackson House was cut for a Bahamas party, or "souvenirs" were taken from Fancy Dress that had to be replaced at some expense since they were rented. It was very troubling when one student successfully defended himself by saying he was too drunk to know what he was doing. This is part of what I heard one student recently refer to as a "weekend honor system" that seems to have different principles than those that prevail in the classroom.

It's not a perfect system. It depends on the people who participate in it, on their fairness, sensitivity, maturity and judgement. I wish that the sense of academic integrity that seems so strong also extended in equal strength to social integrity. But still, overall, it's a system that works pretty well, and it certainly helps to create the sort of community of trust that I enjoy living and working in.

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EC PRESIDENT JOSH MACFARLAND

IN MY FOUR YEARS AT Washington and Lee I have lived under an honor system that endures, as one of the strongest in this country. For three of those years I have been fortunate and unfortunate enough to sit on the Executive Committee and judge my peers accused of breaking the honor code, never an easy task. In these four years the honor system has changed very little. In fact while there have been many procedural and technical changes over the long history of the honor system the spirit of the system remains virtually unchanged.

The history of the W&L honor system is not as easily traced as one might think. Most students as well as

other members of the Washington and Lee community attribute the honor system to Robert E. Lee and his tenure of then Washington College in the late 1860's. This assumption is probably quite correct. The code of gentlemanly conduct was certainly brought about by General Lee. However there is evidence of at least some form of academic code prior to his tenure. Professor John Gunn of the economics department in an essay on the honor system notes the existence of a paper in the W&L archives with an honor pledge ascribed to it dated 1858. Clearly, however, the all encompassing code we enjoy today is the product of General Lee. His code of gentlemanly conduct, though unprinted,

was expected of all who attended Washington College.

Student control of the honor system is also difficult to trace. It appears that the faculty administered the honor system, handling cheating cases especially, up until the early 20th century. Student control officially came about with the creation of the Executive Committee at the end of the school year in 1905. one of the duties of this committee was to enforce the honor system.

The White Book itself from what I have found came into being in the late 1960's. The oldest one I could find was dated 1968-69. Prior to this the honor system was briefly described in the catalog with the statement, "it is needless to explain this system." The first explanation of actual procedures that I could find was the 1967-68 catalog, the year before this first White Book. Interestingly in the early years there was no process for appeal of an Executive Committee decision.

Today, the procedures involving the enforcement of the honor system are very specifically outlined in the White Book and there is a process for appeal, but the basic fundamental principles are the same. These principles must never change. This year the Executive Committee decided that it was necessary to establish a periodic review of the honor system that would occur every three years. Previously, reviews were held irregularly and often after a controversial open hearing. A regular system of review is important for several reasons. It is absolutely crucial that every student generation has a chance to offer input into the system under which they are essentially forced to live. If the honor system is to survive it is imperative that it is support-

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ed, accepted, and believed in by 100% of the student body. Students must never feel that the honor system is an extra burden placed upon them by the university. The system is a benefit not a burden.

It must never be looked upon as something that is static or unchangeable. The system must be malleable to each student generation. I have sensed this year a growing dissatisfaction with the system. Hopefully, allowing students to take part in a review will alleviate this feeling.

That being said there are three fundamental aspects of the honor system which must never change if the system is to exist with the same vigor it does today, as the bedrock principle that underlies the spirit of this university:

1. Student Control. Students live up to the high ideals of the system because they are the ones who administer it. The system is defined by each student body generation and the leaders elected to enforce it. The faculty and administration do not and should not play any role in enforcing the honor system. The students believe in the system and thus we have something at stake in perpetuating its effective enforcement. Also, student governance of the honor system is at the core of student self government in which we take a great deal of pride at this university. It's a student code and must never be directly influenced by the faculty or the administration or we would lose the spirit of the system that every student pledges to uphold.

2. Single Sanction. Our honor system, any honor system does not have the appropriate affect, nor the power to build honorable character if it is not strict. There can be no second chances. One should not be allowed a "free one" that would be indicative of a multiple sanction system, before being asked to leave our fragile community of trust.

3. Broad Scope. As it exists now our honor system covers every aspect of student life, it is not simply an aca-

Honor
cannot be
left on the
Colonnade
at the final
bell every
day.

demic code. It is cliched but honor is not something one can turn on and off. Honor can not be left on the

Colonnade at the final bell every day. A code that truly instills a sense of honor into the students must be all encompassing. There are those who say that the honor system is not being applied to "fraternities" or the "social life" of this institution. This accusation is groundless. Violations outside the classroom are certainly harder to ascertain and distinguish, but they are definitely being caught. I can think of at least to two instances where students have been asked to leave because of non-academic violations. The honor system does today and must always apply to all aspects of student life.

Finally, I have enjoyed and benefited tremendously from the honor system as I am sure most students have. It is tough, but necessarily so. The honor system at W&L is truly unique and sets apart all who pass through it. Of all the things a Washington and Lee student learns over his career, honor is indeed the most valuable.

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INSIDE THE WASHINGTON BELTWAY, word is that Chelsea Clinton recently developed a rash at school and went to the nurse's office. Upon Chelsea's arrival, the nurse discovered Chelsea's parents' request to be informed before any medication be prescribed to their daughter. When the nurse asked how she could contact one of the Clintons, Chelsea responded, "Oh, don't call my mom, she's been very busy lately—why don't you try my dad?"

Hillary Rodham Clinton has certainly been busy the past two months maintaining her numerous roles: mother, First Lady, hostess, "Health Care Czar," doting wife, and so on. The wife and mother are not unusual roles for past First Ladies, but her recent appointment as health care reform commissar made her an extremely important player in Clinton's administration. The President gave Hillary responsibility for one of our nation's most pressing concerns, and her success or failure will greatly influence the outcome of her husband's presidential term.

Hillary raised eyebrows both in Washington and across the country with her unprecedented use of the role of First Lady. Throughout the last two months, she set records for "firsts for the First Lady," all heralded with mixed fear and admiration from members of the press. Among them, she is the first First Lady to open the baseball season, throwing the symbolic first pitch at Wrigley Field for the Chicago Cubs and the Atlanta Braves. She is also the first First Lady to take an office in the West Wing and to be given a "real" job, reforming the health care system. She is, believe it or not, the first First Lady to refuse using only her

husband's last name, changing hers to include her maiden name. (Note: She was Rodham Clinton before the presidential race, Clinton during the campaign, and then Rodham Clinton after the election.) These firsts may shock the American public, but what is perhaps more frightening is that there was never a First Lady with so much political power in the White House and no one knows for sure how far she is capable of going.

Hillary's power in the White House, as reported in the *Wall Street Journal*, extends to checking the everyday appointments of her husband, the President. She sometimes changes this daily schedule and Personnel Chief Bruce Lindsey routinely checks appointments with her. Beyond appointments and the daily goings-on of the White House, she has been involved in the choosing of important members of Clinton's advisory team. In the appointment of Attorney General, Hillary herself introduced U.S. District Judge Kimba Wood, and the First Lady spent more time personally interviewing Wood than the President. After the interview, it was common knowledge in the White House that Wood would get the job, until the President became aware of her questionable employment of an illegal alien. Whether the employment was substantial or not, Clinton refused Wood the position, while Hillary was out of the room. (*Newsweek*, Feb. 15, 1993)

Her influence is obvious and advisors in the White House take her very seriously; after all, she was the one who put many of them in office. For instance, Webster Hubbell, formerly one of Hillary's law partners received a top Justice Department position. Susan Thomases, informal

advisor, has been a longtime friend of Hillary's and was considered by many to be too abrasive and radical during the election, yet the Clintons name her one of the reasons for their success. Many consider Domestic Policy Advisor Carol Rasco more the First Lady's advisor than the President's...and the list goes on. These are among the "Friends of Hillary's," commonly shortened to FOH. (Bill's friends therefore are FOB.) Hillary's influence reaches deep into Washington politics and far across the nation. Her suggestions on appointments can be commended—Why shouldn't she give her husband names of capable friends? It is her support among the ranks of advisors that concerns some Americans.

The clout the First Lady has captured causes substantial wariness in the minds of many, primarily because no one knows exactly where she stands on issues. No one thought of asking about her earlier political involvement. After all, she was going to be the First Lady, not the President. But now, her increasing influence has people wondering what exactly she stands for.

The American Spectator likens her to Lady Macbeth and calls her "the Winnie Mandela of American politics." By that association alone, frightening thoughts arise in one's mind as to her political beliefs. She stands far to the left of her husband and their ideological agendas differ. Since the American public knows his, maybe they should become acquainted with the ideas of the President's top advisor, Hillary.

Hillary has championed children's issues for years, calling for "a children's rights movement." Her proposals follow three major points: "(1) the immediate abolition of the legal status of minority and the reversal of the legal presumption of the incompetence of minors in favor of a presumption of competence; (2) the extension to children all of the procedural rights guaranteed to adults; (3) the rejection of the legal presump-

tion of the identity of interests between parents and their children, and permission for competent children to assert those independent interests in the courts." (from a 1974 essay reprinted by *The Harvard Educational Review* in 1982). This platform will allow a child the right to take his or her parents to court over an issue that appears to be an infringement on the child's rights. (What about chores or grounding as punishments; are these considered infringements?) Hillary does not imagine common problems to enter the courts, just issues that involve "decisions about motherhood, abortion, schooling, cosmetic surgery, treatment of venereal diseases, employment, and others where the decision or lack of one will significantly affect the child's future." (*The American Spectator*, August 1992) So what is left for the American family to decide? These radical views on children's rights bring into our court system more piles of paperwork, an even more over-burdened court calendar, and the possible elimination of juvenile prisons (thereby forcing a 15 year old to share a cell with a 30 year old criminal). By enforcing these laws into our system, Hillary promulgates increased government intervention into personal affairs—something that many pro-choice (pro-Clinton) voters fight against. Moreover Hillary shows an extraordinary distrust of the family unit.

The First Lady's extreme views do not exist only within the realm of the family. Hillary has taken a liberal stance on foreign affairs as well. She served as the director and chair of the board of directors of the New World Foundation from 1987-88, a group dedicated to supporting "progressive activist organizations." (*The American Spectator*, August 1992) The group is renowned for its backing of liberal organizations and under Hillary's direction, this support increased. In 1988, the New World gave \$5,000 to the Committee in Support for the People of El

Salvador, the major Communist guerrilla faction in El Salvador. It also gave \$2,500 to Fairness and Accuracy in the Media, a group that exposes supposedly conservative bias in the media. In 1987, Hillary gave \$15,000 to the National Lawyers Guild, which was founded in the 1930's as an auxiliary to the American Communist Party and currently retains the relationship.

Given such recent commitments to far left organizations, one should question Hillary's political views and wonder exactly how much free reign she should be allowed. She needs to be kept under a watchful eye, and people must remember that Bill Clinton was the person elected to fulfill the 42nd Presidency. Her involvement can be commended as the first influential First Lady in politics. Bill Clinton was prepared for this situation upon entering the White House with his self proclaimed campaign slogan "Buy one get one free." The American public, the press, and

Congress had better get used to the "Billary" administration, where the First Lady has a co-equal partnership in all major decisions and a staff greater in number than the Vice President's.

Hillary has brought to American politics the involvement of the First Lady in policy making that may be a precedent for future years as women make their way further up the political ladder. If this continues, we must insist on close scrutiny of First Ladies-to-be in the campaign days as we have seen for their husbands in the past.

NOTE: It has been reported by the Wall Street Journal that during the move of Hillary's Little Rock law office, a copy of "How to Impeach the President" was found on her desk...hmmm.

Alison Krentel is a Junior from Chicago, Illinois.

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STAY IN THE CLOSET

An Open Letter to Alan Weber

I BLUSH FOR ALAN WEBER AND HIS "coming out" letter in the Winter issue of the *Alumni Magazine*.

It is a curious fact that most people are incapable of getting simple pleasure from honest vice: the middle-class hankering for respectability causes people to utter the most embarrassing sentiments. In another place or time, Mr. Weber might value his privacy enough to keep his affairs to himself, or else he would relish his bad eminence without soliciting our approval. But much is the inability of vestigially puritan Americans to come to grips with guilt, and so insecure are the middle class in their tastes, that they insist on having the rest of us ratify their choices.

Someone should explain to Mr. Weber that mawkish hedonism is not a credential that qualifies him to kiss off ancient traditions of moral philosophy and social custom. The old notion that homosexual impulses are entitled to be gratified has always been a sterile ethic in the service of a sterile biology. Apart from this comment, I have no desire to debate homosexuality. I must, however, correct him on a point of scholarship.

One of the finest things to happen to me at W&L was my introduction to Dante. Ed Craun, teaching a course on the English Renaissance, responded to my interest in Sir Philip Sidney's treatment of courtly love by lending me a copy of the *Vita Nuova*. Though my interest in Dante has developed considerably since then, it is that of an amateur, not that of a scholar. Perhaps this is why I am

unable to locate the source (if source there be) for the passage Weber cites, in which Dante says: "the sins of the cold-blooded and the sins of the warm-hearted are measured on a different scale."

What I do know is that in Dante's scheme of Hell every sinner is condemned to one of three progressively worse classes: the Intemperate, the Violent, and the Fraudulent. Unwilling to control their appetites, the Lustful are to be found not, as Mr. Weber implies, in some air-conditioned antechamber such as that afforded the Virtuous heathen, but in the second circle of Hell, a dark and storm-beaten place filled with lamenting souls blown eternally to and fro, driven by winds of irresistible force.

It must be understood that these Lustful are all heterosexual. In Dante's Hell, Sodomites are punished far lower, in the seventh circle. They are numbered not with the Intemperate, but with the Violent, among whom they occupy the lowest circle. In punishment for their rebellion against nature, which amounts to an animal-like violence against human reason, they trudge endlessly through burning sands, tormented by flakes of falling fire.

In Purgatory, though sexual sinners occupy the highest circle of penitents, here too there's no ambiguity about their separation from grace; nor are they commingled, each group proclaims its particular sin. They hide themselves in a refining fire augmented by their sense of burning shame.

Unlike Mr. Weber, Dante brooks no blurring of distinctions between love and lust. Beatrice embodies the greatest expression of two medieval ideas, courtly love and mystical love. In his synthesis of these ideas Dante does more than display his intellectual and artistic confidence; he opens his heart to us. Humanism, a Renaissance value, also is honored in the *Inferno* and *Purgatorio*: for Dante, carnality is culpable because, by allowing appetite to overwhelm the dignity inherent in the human condition, the sinner degrades and ultimately condemns himself. *Pace* Mr. Weber, Dante is no Romantic: he places the courtly poets Guinicelli and Arnaut among the "hermaphrodites" in Purgatory, and though he confesses his artistic debt to them and grieves at their punishment, by placing them among repenting sinners, Dante explicitly rejects the justification that "le coeur a ses raisons."

Faithfully yours,
Robert B. Ramirez, '79

P.S. I am grateful to the Alumni Magazine for bringing to our attention the Gay and Lesbian Alliance, under the leadership of the metonymous Sean Bugg. (Waugh, thou shouldst be living at this hour!) It occurs to me that, as an organization separate from the main body of W&L alumni, G.A.L.A. may be reluctant to adopt the University motto "Non In Cautus Futuri", officially mistranslated as "Not Unmindful of the Future." I suggest either "Non in Cunno Futendae", or "Nonne in Colo Futendi." A scholar of Mr. Weber's experience should be able to explain the meaning of either phrase.

P.P.S. Although to speak of "gathering outside a parameter" is a common enough location, it is no less illiterate for that. The word you seek is perimeter, something altogether different.

Robert B. Ramirez is a member of the Class of '79 from New Orleans, Louisiana.

Survived

from Page One

had been pouring surplus Pub Board funds into a secret passage from the upstairs restrooms down to the Women's Center.

Editor Tweedle-dee later explained that he had built the passage himself. "Yeah, people thought that all I was good at was destroying fireplaces. Well, I can build one hell of an escape passage."

We escaped the efforts of the EC and established camp in a secret location outside of Buena Vista.

There's only one question: does the fact that we've been kicked off campus mean that we are no longer the official student newspaper?

Surely not. Our tireless editor's insist that we will always be the student's choice.

God Bless Tweedle-dee and Tweedle-dum, and God Bless The Ring-tim Phi!

The Associated Press, The United Press Syndicate, The Rockbridge Advocate, The News-Gazette, The Rockbridge Daily Press, and Cable Nine all contributed to this report

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We reported that the Executive Committee was attempting to dictate our editorial policy. You looked the other way. We told you that we were *your* paper. We detailed to you how we were produced. We even invited you to watch. You went to the Palms.

Now we are holed up in a camp outside Buena Vista, pursued by the evil Josh MacFarland who wants to destroy us. Don't worry. We'll still be here.

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Work for the Phi

Please.

World Peace and more...

Yeah, we called for the end of the CRC and we alone are the reason that Dean Howison initiated a student-faculty review of the Committee. Well if you believe that one, then you'll certainly believe that our sexual assault campaign led to an increased awareness of the problem and to a campus-wide decline of sexual assault. (Hell, we put all that sexual assault stuff right on the front page for everyone on campus to discuss.)

Well, if you believe that, then you'll certainly believe that we have (until now) kept the EC from destroying the Honor System. Yeah, we did all that...that's the ticket.

And, of course, we alone covered President Wilson's tenure at W&L. What else can we take credit for... Hmm, we alone criticized the car tax, and, of course, we told Gorbachev to "tear that Wall down," and we inspired our troops to victory in Desert Storm, and just you wait, we'll be taking credit for world peace and universal harmony, right here at the *Phi*.

—T-Dee, T-Dum

OPINION

A Conservative Column No One Reads....

FROM TODAY'S POST—*Si meliora dies, ut vina, poemata reddit, scire velim, chartis pretium quotus arroget annus.*

scriptor abhinc annos centum qui decidit, inter perfectos veteresque referri debet an inter vilis atque novos? Excludat iurgia

finis, "Est vetus atque probus, centum qui perficit annos." Quid, qui deperit minor uno mense vel anno, inter quos referendus erit? Veteresne poetas, an quos et praesens et postera respuat aetas?

"Iste quidem veteres inter ponetur honeste, qui vel mense brevi vel toto est iunior anno." Utor permissio, caudaeque pilos ut equinae paulatim vello unum, demo etiam unum, dum cadat elusus ratione ruentis acervi, qui redit in fastos et virtutem aestimat annis miraturque nihil nisi quod Libitina sacravit.

Ennius et sapines et fortis et alter Homerus, ut critici dicunt, leviter curare videtur, quo promissa cadant et somnia Pythagorea. Naevius in manibus non est et mentibus haeret paene recens? Adeo

sanctum est vetus omne poema. ambigitur quotiens, uter utro sit prior, aufert Pacuvius docti famam senis Accius alti, dicitur Afrani toga convenisse Menandro, Plautus ad exemplar Siculi properare Epicharmi, vincere Caecilius gravitate,

GEORGE

"A CONSERVATIVE"

Terentius arte.

Hos ediscit et hos arto stipata theatro spectat Roma potens; habet hos numeratque poetas ad nostrum tempus Livi scriptoris ab aevo.

Interdum volgus rectum videt, est ubi peccat. Si veteres ita miratur laudatque poetas, ut nihil anteferat, nihil illis comparet, errat. Si quaedam nimis antique, si peraque dure dicere credit eos, ignave multa fatetur, et sapit et mecum facit et Iova iudicat aequo.

Non equidem insector delendave carmina Livi esse reor, memini quae plagosum mihi parvo Orbilium dictare; sed emendata videri pulchraque et exactis minimum distantia miror. Inter quae verbum emicuit si forte decorum, et si ver-

A Liberal Column No One Reads....

FROM YESTERDAY'S TRIBUNE—*Interdum volgus rectum videt, est ubi peccat. Si veteres ita miratur laudatque*

poetas, ut nihil anteferat, nihil illis comparet, errat. Si quaedam nimis antique, si peraque dure dicere credit eos, ignave multa fate-

tur, et sapit et mecum facit et Iova iudicat aequo.

Non equidem insector delendave carmina Livi esse reor, memini quae plagosum mihi parvo Orbilium dictare; sed emendata videri pulchraque et exactis minimum distantia miror. Inter quae verbum emicuit si forte decorum, et si versus paulo concinnior unus et alter, venditque poema. Indignor quicquam reprehendi, non quia crasse compositum illepedeve putetur, sed quia nuper, nec veni-

am antiquis, sed honorem et praemia posci. Recte necne crocum floresque perambulet Attae fabula si dubitem, clament

periisse pudorem cuncti paene patres, ea cum reprehendere coner, quae gravis Aesopus, quae doctus Roscius egit; vel quia

nil rectum, nisi quod placuit sibi, ducunt, vel quia turpe putant parere minoribus, et quae imberbes senes.

Quod si tam Graecis novitas invisita fuisset quam nobis, quid nunc esset vetus? Aut quid haberet quod legeret teretque viritim.

Ut primum positus nugari Graecia bellis coepit et in vitium fortuna labier aequa, nunc athletarum studiis, nunc arsit equorum, marmoris aut eboris fabros aut aeris amavit, tibicinibus, nunc est gavisia

CHRISTOPHER

"THE LIBERAL"

LETTERS

Student Challenges W&L's Lack of Diversity

Dear Ring-tin Phi Editor,

There is no diversity! I hate the fact that everyone wears the same thing. Must we all dress in khaki duckheads, navy lacrosse shorts, Texas, ripped jeans, and L.L. Bean fleece pullovers? Why is the Student Directory full of names like John Winthrop Vanderbilt, VIII? Does everyone have to be from that backward region of the country, the South?

Where are the classes on great topics like "Famous Lesbian Gladiators in Ancient Rome?" Is everyone in the C-School a materialistic, elitist, WASP, or is it just me? W&L sucks!

Who started all of those ridiculous

traditions anyway? Not that old guy Lee, I hope. I hate having everyone speak to me on the Hill. Why can't they just leave me alone? The Honor System pervades everything—I can't even take cereal out of the D-Hall. My hand is permently cramped from writing that stupid pledge—"On my honor, I pledge allegiance to the Confederate Flag..." Why can't we have some looking over our shoulder every once in a while. Why can't it be like the rest of the world?

This place is much to perfect not to ruin.

Peace,
Ivana Weinsommore

GENERALLY IGNORED

College Dems

Meeting this week. Bring your checkbook.

Honor

Anyone who has taken more than one *Phi* without paying a quarter for each additional copy is expected to report yourself to the Executive Committee.

Lost

Ring-tin Phi is looking for its readership. If found contact Tweedle-dum at the Branch Timphian complex in BV.

Who cares who compiles Generally Ignored?

SMACK TALK

Sorry, our photographer quit.
Sorry, our scanner is broken.

What do you do/say in the morning when you've shacked with a really unattractive member of the opposite sex?

If you could compare the Phi to a beer, what would it be?



W&L Administrator—"Not again."

"A keg of Miller Genuine Draft that was tapped two weeks ago."



Girl—"I'm going to get brought up on sorority standards for this one."

"A nice Schaeffer that's been sitting in your car all Spring Term."



Boy—"I'll let you know when it happens. It will happen, right?"

"Colder's: Good Chugging Beer."

The King-tim Phi

Mock Issue

April 1, 1993

EC SEIZES PHI

From Wire Reports

LEXINGTON, VA—Saying that

"enough is enough," last night

Washington and Lee Executive

Committee President, Josh

MacFarland, seized the offices of the

school newspaper, *The King-tim Phi*.

The raid on the offices, conducted by

the entire EC, occurred at approxi-

mately 7:45 p.m., during an address

to the student body given by Lt. Col.

Over North.

"We knew that everyone would be

attending the lecture," MacFarland

explained at a press conference, "so

the opportunity was really ideal."

MacFarland acknowledged that

the offices were almost empty when

they arrived. "It seemed like some-

one had tipped off the editors about

the raid. Though the equipment was

still there, only a barebones staff was

present. It was almost like we were

doing them a favor. They couldn't

have possibly produced an issue with

the few present."

King-tim Phi editors, Tweedle-dee

and Tweedle-dum, however escaped

apprehension. "Now we know what

they have been doing with all the stu-

dent subscriptions," EC vice-presi-

dent, Ames Hutton, explained. "The

editors and their staff escaped

through a secret passage."

W&L Buildings and Grounds

denied that any such passage exists,

though they did concede that a tunnel

underneath "The Wall" is being con-

structed.

Authorities informed MacFarland

at 10:30 p.m. that the *Phi* staff had

been sighted in an encampment just

outside Buena Vista.

Calling themselves the "Branch

Tim-phians," the former *Phi* staff

declared that the EC's violation of

freedom of the Press indicated that

armageddon was imminent.

Reading from *The Revelation to*

the Associated Press, the self-pro-

claimed Tim-phiian cult leader

declared, "when the editors of a

school newspaper can't issue its stu-

dent body trading cards of them-

selves, we have no liberties."

According to MacFarland, it was

the trading cards that prompted the

raid. "The Executive Committee has

a responsibility to ensure that stu-

BY DRACULA
Tim-phiian cult member

replied Tweedle-dee, still

crying continually.

"Quiet!" snapped

Senior EC rep, Susan

EC will escort you all

down to the EC Torture

Chambers for interroga-

tion.

"James," Josh pointed

to EC Law Rep James

Rambeau, "escort these

people downstairs."

"Josh?" Tweedle-dee

had almost stopped cry-

ing, "May I go to the

at men's room to clean

myself up?"

"Hm... Yes I think

you all should have one

room, and everyone else

remained absolutely quiet.

"We 'borrowed' all the

Live-Drive vans to take

you away," MacFarland

told us. "But since there

"The fire door is open,"

Law rep Bob Tompkins.

dum declared.

"What?" asked EC

"This is a violation of

the fire code!" Tweedle-

burst into tears.

arrest. Editor Tweedle-dee

were all under house

room and told us that we

The EC stormed in the

went black.

and my computer screen

the EC shut off our power

of the *Phi* editors when

feature article on the lives

I was just finishing my

Phi tonight.

the door of the *King-tim*

MacFarland busted down

I was when Josh

afraid in my whole life as

I've never been so

Senior EC rep, Susan

Moseley, "you just keep

that door shut to keep the

College Republicans from

bothering you."

Tweedle-dee shut his

mouth and kept crying.

"All of you, quiet!"

continued MacFarland.

"You sniveling reporters

have foiled our attempts to

crush you and student

ing, "May I go to the

at men's room to clean

myself up?"

"Hm... Yes I think

you all should have one

room, and everyone else

remained absolutely quiet.

"We 'borrowed' all the

Live-Drive vans to take

you away," MacFarland

told us. "But since there

Surviving the Raid the Phi editors escape

are so few of you here,

Ames, take all but one

back.

"Now the rest of the

BC will escort you all

down to the EC Torture

Chambers for interroga-

tion.

"James," Josh pointed

to EC Law Rep James

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"We 'borrowed' all the

Live-Drive vans to take

you away," MacFarland

told us. "But since there

denying allegations that "he had it

out for the *Phi*," MacFarland contin-

ued, "during funding hearings last

fall, we didn't know that calling our

grant to the Phi a block subscription

would give the Phi such a self-right-

eous kick."

"It's my fault. I should have real-

ized that the distinction between sub-

scription/subsidy was more than

more than a mere semantic question.

Well, enough is enough."

"The *Phi*, how its made and who

does it, is not news."

See SURVIVED, page 4

SPECTATOR PROFILE

Dr. J. D. Futch



Home: Lexburg-on-the-Rhine

Age: "I was born when Bismarck was Reich Chancellor."

Hobby: Postage stamp collecting. "Is anything on earth more interesting than the Vatican?"

Last Book Read: *The End of the Twentieth Century*, by John Lukacs

Why I Do What I Do: "For the sheer intellectual excitement of it. It just leaves one breathless."

Favorite Quotation: "Life is such a grand design--spring, summer, fall, winter, death. Whoever could have thought it up?" (Mart Crowley)

His Magazine: *Washington and Lee Spectator*

HERITAGE, NOT HATE

KAPPA ALPHA'S OLD SOUTH REVISITED

EVERY SPRING ON COLLEGE campuses in the South, there is renewed controversy over Kappa Alpha's celebration of Old South. The Old South Ball attempts to celebrate the heritage of the antebellum South, a period when a man's word was his honor and when the meaning of the word "gentleman," epitomized by Robert E. Lee, was not only known but lived. At the Ball, the fraternity members and their dates wear antebellum costumes and display the Confederate flags to add to the party's authenticity. However, this special event has become a growing source of tension, and some minority groups have pressured KA chapters to limit or terminate their festivities. Taking great offense at the KAs, some associate Old South with racism. These minority groups pressure the universities to force the Kappa Alpha chapters to stop having the Old South Ball and displaying the Confederate Battle Flag. These groups feel that these symbols are inappropriate in our new multicultural society. Those who oppose the celebrating of Old South have great misconceptions about the ideals of KA, the Old South, and multiculturalism; moreover, these same people are often very hypocritical in their views.

The Kappa Alpha Order represents the most Southern of all Greek fraternal organizations. Four students of Washington College founded the Order on December 21, 1865 in order to emulate the college's president, Robert E. Lee, and the

Southern ideals of the chivalrous gentleman. To the four founders, Lee was the finest "example of a knight who loved God and country, honored and protected pure womanhood, and practiced courtesy and magnanimity of spirit. This concept of courage, honor, gentility, and reverence of God and woman for which Robert E. Lee exemplified all of his life, is the distinguishing characteristic of a Southern gentleman" (1985 Old South). Young men join Kappa Alpha because they enjoy the company of the active members and are proud of what KA represents. Nothing in the bylaws of KA intends to create racial tensions.

The festivities known as Old South are meant to celebrate the grandeur and splendor of the nineteenth century South. Among Americans, Southerners are exceptionally proud of their traditions. Traditions have many different meanings to different people. However, to Southerners, tradition means "a reverence for noble principles evolved in the past and worth preserving and practicing today" (Kappa Alpha Talisman). According to the Kappa Alpha Talisman, Kappa Alpha chapters who celebrate Old South "pay homage to the fact that KA was born in the South and has historically drawn much of its membership from the Southern states. By displaying symbols commonly associated with the South, they are honoring, not only KA's founders, but a time of congeniality, hospitality, and generosity exemplified by KA's spiritual founder

Robert E. Lee. To KAs, this celebration of the heritage and noble ideals of the South is a worthy pastime and a right of expression.

The history of the South is far from spotless, but no culture has a completely inoffensive history. Its past includes the evil institution of slavery, the Ku Klux Klan, the Lynch laws, the Jim Crow segregation system, and the widespread opposition to the civil rights movement. These low points in the South's history give great pain to Southerners, and it is also very disappointing that racism continues well into the 1990s. However, should these flaws in our region's past make us ashamed of being Southern? Should we be ashamed of our ancestors who fought bravely in defense of their homeland? There is much more to the South than these few painful issues. Moreover, no country, including the United States, has a flawless past. Should we be ashamed of being Americans and of the American flag because of the cruelties the country inflicted on the native American Indians? Should we not study and honor the accomplishments of the Greeks and Romans because they were slave holders also? We can not selectively rewrite history, nor can we make our culture so bland as to not offend anyone. Such a meaningless culture would be an offense in itself.

The same minority groups that criticize KA feel that they should have the right to express themselves and their heritage. This trend in celebrating a group's heritage can be seen in the movement by black

Americans to be called African-Americans. This is a deliberate attempt for one group to emphasize its heritage. Why then cannot Southern whites do the same thing? What is the difference from Afro-American groups that have recently been paying much tribute to the civil rights leader, Malcolm X. Many African-Americans are wearing shirts and baseball caps bearing the "X" symbol of Malcolm X? Malcolm X was a person who definitely did not have a spotless past; however, that is no reason not to respect him as a leader. Malcolm X was also a leader who advocated violence as a means to achieve his ends. Many of the shirts bearing his image also carry the slogan "By any means possible." Do blacks not realize how offensive this could be to some Americans? Should the African-Americans be allowed to offend and threaten others in this movement? Or is there a hypocritical double standard?

With the controversies over Old South, minority groups have tried to force KA chapters to celebrate their festivities in a certain way and use only certain symbols. Pressures from minority groups at Auburn University caused the KA chapter to stop displaying the Confederate Battle Flag and finally quit having their Old South parade. Such incidents are occurring all over the country. Why then cannot white groups choose the symbols and actions of Afro-American groups? Can white groups force minorities to use Martin Luther King, who preached non-violent protest, as the their symbol instead of Malcolm X? Each group's symbols and actions may be offensive to the other, but neither group feels that the other should be offended. Then should we get rid of all symbols, traditions, and remembrances of each other's heritage in order not to offend another? Must we change the name of Washington and Lee University because it offends some minorities? Where will this trend

stop? This is simply ridiculous and is a violation of the First Amendment.

All of this stems from misunderstanding and ignorance of one another's beliefs. Instead of eliminating the celebration of the histories of the different groups in the nation, all should be allowed to celebrate theirs in the their own ways. In a truly multicultural world, each culture is allowed to be exist and be free; however, many in America are trying to destroy the South's heritage because they find some of its past offensive. Is this narrow-minded, totalitarian point of view what our country needs? This ignorant hypocrisy must stop. This country was created as a melting pot of all the nations of the world. Now, the country has different groups forcing one another to shun their history and culture. This trend is against everything America represents.

As the English poet Richard Lovelace once said, "I could not love thee, dear, so much\ Loved I not

honor more." To many Kappa Alphas and Southerners, Robert E. Lee and the attributes of the South are the embodiment and the definitions of honor. Many Southern men have used Lee as their role model, and there are very few men who are more worthy of emulation. The symbols of the South and the festivities celebrating its past are very important to these men. To discredit and restrict the use of these symbols is to discredit the ideals and people they represent. KAs are not celebrating slavery or furthering racism when they celebrate Old South and fly the Confederate flags. These actions are not meant to offend anyone. By celebrating their heritage, KAs are simply exercising their rights as Americans, the same rights that every other group in America enjoys.

Wright Marshall, a member of the Alpha Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order, is a Sophomore from Griffin, Georgia.



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GENERALS ON THE FIELD



Mackley, a junior, returned to one of the General's starting midfield positions after sitting out last year because of knee trouble. He played in ten games as a freshman and his physical play earned him the men's lacrosse Outstanding Freshman Award in 1991. Scott already proved that his comeback is strong by scoring four goals in the season opening 20-4 victory over Randolph-Macon. Mackley added two goals in the Generals impressive 13-7 win against Franklin and Marshall. Mackley is often called upon for the critical faceoff position for W&L, and he will surely set the team's pace for a strong 1993 season.

W&L's women's lacrosse team opened its season with two impressive blowouts. In both victories, senior captain Dowling was the offensive catalyst. She had five goals and one assist in the 20-6 defeat of Guilford and six goals and three assists in an 18-3 win over Bridgewater. These nine points, a W&L single game record, gave Dowling 100 points for her career. If Dowling continues this pace, the Generals should be tough to beat, and Lisa should smash all career scoring records at W&L. She believes "this year we certainly have the ability to make the NCAA tournament."



Wes is the only senior on the 20th ranked men's tennis team. Ruggles' three years playing for Coach Gary Franke have all been ODAC Championship years for the Generals. Also, Ruggles was a member of the 1991 team that finished 8th in the country. This year Wes is playing #5 singles and #2 doubles (with David Schweppe). During 1992, Wes played #3 doubles leading the team to a 15-5 record. He's been impressive this season winning his last three matches against Nazareth, Kenyon and Wooster Colleges.

Kim is the captain and the #2 singles player on the 12th ranked women's tennis team. She also plays #1 doubles. Currently, the Generals are riding a winning streak, including an impressive 5-4 victory over Nazareth College. In her second consecutive year as captain, Kim commands a team with an excellent chance of repeating as ODAC champs and making it to the nationals in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Todd returns to the Generals baseball squad this year as starting captain. He was solid enough defensively last year to be named W&L's Top Freshman Male Athlete. Stanton's real prowess, however, was on offense as he led the team in hitting with a .328 average. His impressive work at the plate included fifteen walks and a five game hitting streak. About the upcoming season, Stanton remarks, "We are a very young team, but already I feel like we are making marked improvement on our performance last spring."

NCAA

THE ROAD TO NEW ORLEANS

Look for UNC to romp all over all competition in the East and meet second seeded Kansas from the Midwest in the Final Four. The Tarheels will reverse the outcome of their '91 Final Four appearance and will advance to the championship game.

Michigan should survive some scares (UCLA) in the easy Western division and find FSU from the Southeast waiting for them in New Orleans. In this battle between the two most talented teams in the country, Michigan will be victorious.

However, Michigan's one point victory over UNC early in the season should give the Heels enough incentive to bring home the National Championship and leave the careless Wolverines as bridesmaids for the second consecutive season.

Editor's Note: UNC will surely not romp on the Cincinnati Bearcats. Coach Huggins and UC's stong defense, led by one of the best backcourt's in the nation, will carry the Cats to a second consecutive Final Four appearance—my sympathies to the Tarheels and especially MacNaughton for his unfortunate expectations.

Sport's Editors Note: Often criticized at the beginning of the year by basketball "know it alls" for predicting North Carolina to be better than Duke, I am pleased to say that I have successfully predicted that Duke wouldn't win any championships while UNC and FSU would "bring home the gold." The *Spectator* is now looking good.

Photography Editor's Note: Forget it folks, it's Michigan. Period. What do you all know about basketball, anyway?

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