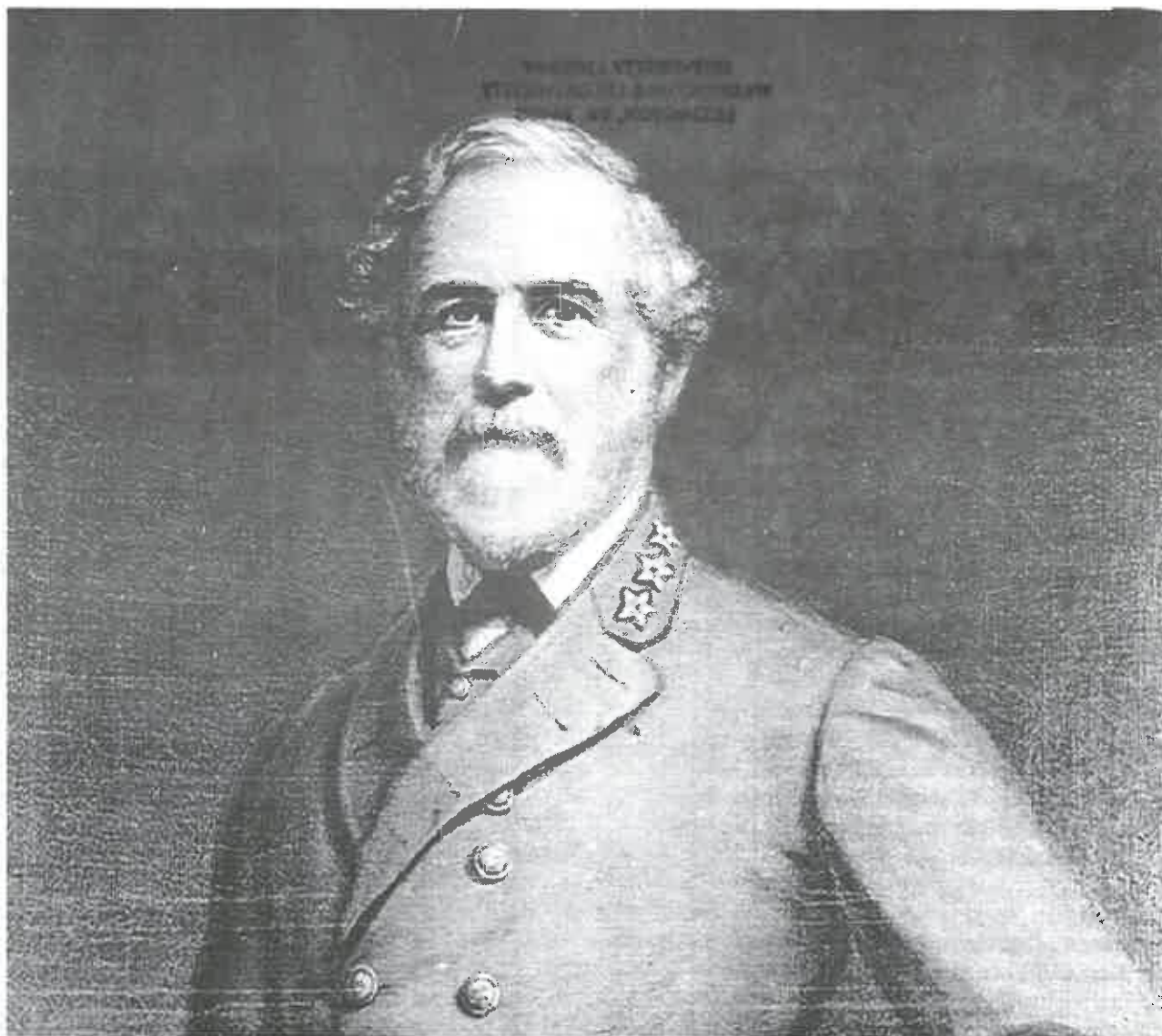


WASHINGTON AND LEE  
SPECTATOR

May 1996

Volume 7, Issue 2



IN DEFENSE OF THE HONOR SYSTEM

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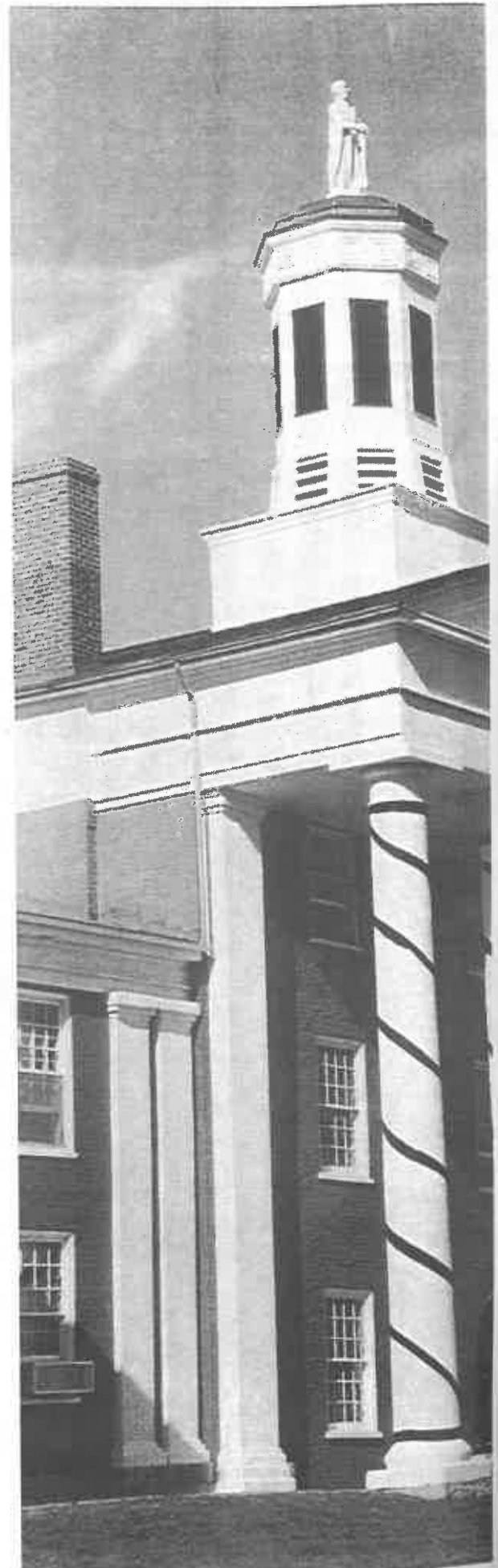
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*Washington and Lee*  
**SPECTATOR**

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## GENERAL OPINION

### A W&L Student Center?

In recent fortnights, evil rumors have circulated regarding the probably soon to exist student center. The building will provide "alternatives" like a merry game of Zaxxon, or all night Uno rather than those damned fraternity parties. How many students will enjoy this place? A dozen, maybe even a baker's dozen. The student center will be the next critically acclaimed flop of the administration, following the luxurious Gaines Hall. This center could not even rival the success of *Tatengers*, *Sirens*, or *Nash Bridges*.

To use a perfectly realistic example *Beverly Hills 90210*, we will see that the student center will be a terrible waste of money. I regard my-

self as a Dylan McKay/Nat type, and I, like them, would enjoy a beer or two with my friends at a party (like the other 99.44% of W&L kids). But for those Andrea Zuckerman types who think beer is evil (you know who you are-- whenever you fly back to school, you can be spotted within a few days sporting a "Roanoke" T-Shirt), you might go down screaming for the student center. Just remember, no one liked Andrea and no one listened to her either, but she always got her way.

The majority has been taken for a multimillion dollar ride to build the second most famous moselium in Washington and Lee history. When this platinum glider fails to

fly, and when the administration basks in their mediocrity, I am sure they will make the juniors live there.

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7. Administrator "Buddy" Atkins feels that because of shortened pledgeship, fraternity males might start hazing women instead of pledges.
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1. So women can prove to all those sexist bastards that they actually CAN read and count! ! !

## A Timeless Trust: The E.C. Secretary Defends the Honor Code

The recent attacks on Washington and Lee's honor system and her student body by several self-righteous students have demonstrated an ignorance of the system on the part of the authors. Unfortunately, these attacks have attracted undeserved attention from students. While discussion about the honor system is always appropriate, it is not useful if that dialogue antagonistically challenges W&L's fundamental traditions and principles, including the honor system.

Washington and Lee's honor

system exists to promote a virtuous community where students of integrity can compete equally in their search for truth. It does not exist to perpetuate a particular social ideal advanced by one fragment of that community. To insist that the system be used to enforce a particular social standard (that is what several critics have asked) shows an ignorance of our system's most important aspect: freedom. The freedom that our system allows because of its prescriptive nature creates the loyalty that sustains it. It operates

on the presumption that students are honorable, not on the premise that they are untrustworthy. It liberates rather than confines those it intends to govern. To begin proscriptive rule-making, whether written or otherwise, would destroy that freedom and the loyalty the honor system engenders.

Robert E. Lee suggested that one should "make no unnecessary rules," and he followed his own recommendation as president of Washington College. Lee understood that proscriptive rules frequently trespass on freedom, and that any organization or government that threatens freedom unnecessarily will be held in low regard. That understanding explains why he abolished mandatory chapel attendance and declared that "we have but one rule here - that every student must be a gentleman." Today Lee's wisdom lives on in our honor system. Our only rule is that every student be honorable, and what that statement lacks in detail it compensates for in freedom.

Honor is a difficult thing to articulate. At its simplest level it means trustworthiness. If you can trust a person and take him at his word, then he is an honorable person. If he does not cheat or attempt to deceive you, he is honorable. All Washington and Lee students ought to agree that an honorable person does not lie, cheat, or steal. These tenets are fairly comprehensive, and are fundamental to the honor system's goal: a virtuous community in which students of integrity compete equally, free from property loss and





the corruption of truth. Beyond that, it falls upon the system's institutions to determine honorable behavior. The understanding that honor cannot be codified, but is a matter of trust and reputation, is the system's genius. Each alleged honor violation is evaluated on its merit, not on precedence or statute.

The Executive Committee is charged with the responsibility of determining whether or not the accused student is guilty of violating the trust of his fellow students. If the answer is yes, the E.C. asks the student to leave the university. If the answer is no, the student is absolved of guilt but may be punished by other student government organizations if the act is deemed to violate university policy. Yes, a student can break the rules and still be an honorable member of the W&L community. There is a difference between university regulations, civic law, and honor. To paraphrase an editorial from the *Trident*, "honor is universal, law is not."

Washington and Lee's notions of honor, it can be argued, truly are universal. Not all people follow them, but most understand that they are right. Laws and regulations, however, are necessarily not universal, so as to distinguish between communities. One state's laws differ from those of another, and while an untrustworthy person remains so as he crosses state lines, an underage drinker does not. Can you call a person who drinks underage unworthy of trust? If he did not deceive to attain alcohol, at what point did he breach another's trust? Our community has every right to establish rules of behavior for our students, but the honor sys-

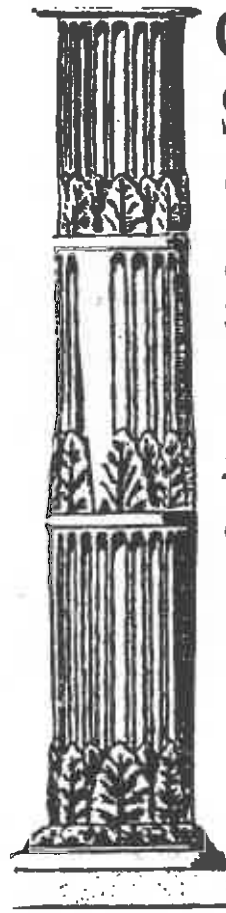
tem must be more sacred. It must be, if it is to continue to receive the loyalty of students who revere the freedom that it provides and adopt its precepts as their own. Laws change as readily as social norms, but honor does not.

The critics of our system observe honor-bound students drink-

*The understanding that honor cannot be codified, but is a matter of trust and reputation, is the system's genius.*

ing underage and behaving like typical college students out of class. The assertion of social hypocrisy in this assumes an agreement on honor which does not exist but in

the minds of the self-righteous malcontents who dislike our university so much. If they believe that certain conduct held to be within the bounds of propriety by most is inappropriate, then they have every right to assert that opinion. I invite them to look at other, less social schools. To condemn the action as dishonorable is altogether different. It is, to be blunt, intolerant and close-minded. The minute that we begin proscriptive rule-making in order to satisfy a few people's ideas of social etiquette we will not only rob the system of its greatest virtues, we will ensure its demise for want of loyalty--an allegiance created by the system's unobtrusive nature.



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## Honor and the Law: An Inconsistent Relationship

Looking back at the past year, no other critical issue overshadows the ever increasing debate on our honor system. The vocal few, who would like to radically change the nature of our beloved institution, have inundated the op-ed pages of our campus newspapers with letters on the Honor Code and what should or should not be considered an honor violation. Normally, one letter to the editor would not spark much debate on campus. When one letter is followed by another and yet another, however, it creates a false atmosphere on campus, particularly to readers who are not Washington and Lee students. When we as a community are bombarded with letters by people whose opinions, if implemented, would transform Washington and Lee into an Amherst, Williams, or even a Berkeley, a response is absolutely necessary in order to maintain the university's hallowed traditions and institutions. Mr. Paul Saboe, Mr. Nathaniel Hager, and Mr. Bill Overbaugh all share one common goal: to alter the university's traditions, principles, and ideals to fit their politically correct agenda.

These individuals desire to impose their definitions of honor on the rest of the student body. I find no fault with their wanting to discuss the honor system: they have their right to do so. I do, however, find serious flaws in their motives and logic which



warrant explanation.

First, let us discuss the issue of underage drinking, which Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh would treat as "dishonorable conduct," constituting an honor violation. The problem with this line of thinking is that it applies

criminal law to the honor system. Honor is universal; the law is not. If a nineteen year-old W&L student were to drink on a cruise to the Bahamas, on a trip to see a Blue Jays game, or while studying abroad in England, France, Ireland, or a host of other countries, it would not be against the law. When he or she returns to forty-nine of the fifty states, though, it would be a breach of the law. According to the logic of Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh, it would be all right to drink at nineteen years old in those aforementioned countries, but dishonorable to do so in almost every state in the U.S. I say most states because Louisiana has been in the midst of a debate over the drinking age for the past year. One year ago, Louisiana still had a law that made it illegal for anyone under twenty-one to purchase alcohol, but legal for

retailers to sell it; the drinking age was, in effect, eighteen. The state legislature then voted to raise the age to twenty-one, the law going into effect on August 15, 1995. The Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana



ruled on March 8, 1996, however, that the new drinking age violated the state constitution's equal protection clause prohibiting age discrimination. Thus the

**Honor is universal;  
the law is not.**

law was struck down. The state legislature voted on April 9, 1996, to keep the age at twenty-one and to secure the twenty-one year old drinking age in the state constitution, a bill that was eventually signed by Governor Mike Foster. As of now, the legal age temporarily remains at twenty-one, pending further decisions by the proper authorities. The state Supreme Court will review and make a decision on the sale of alcohol to persons under twenty-one on May 22, 1996. The complicated history of the Louisiana drinking law demonstrates perfectly the changing nature of the law itself, a nature inconsistent with the concept of honor. Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh's logic tells us that drinking at nineteen before August 15, 1995, in Louisiana would not be considered an honor violation. One day after the law went into effect, however, drinking would suddenly become dishonorable conduct. In opposition, the ideal of honor is universal. How can something be honorable one moment and then dishonorable the next, simply because of geography or because the law changed? Is not the use of a radar detector in the state of

Virginia illegal? Thus, it would be honorable conduct if I were to use a radar detector driving through Tennessee, but as soon as I hit Bristol, Virginia, it would suddenly become an honor violation. Do we not break the law when we go 30 m.p.h. in a 25 m.p.h. zone? This borders on the absurd. Lying in a criminal or civil proceeding is one thing--a definite honor violation. But one cannot apply the law to the honor system as Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh would do, since the law can change and is held to different standards than the notion of fixed and universal honor.

Some might suggest that one can apply the law to the honor system, as is the case with stealing. True, if a student steals a stereo from the freshmen dormitories, he or she would most likely be brought before the EC. A huge difference exists, however, between stealing and un-

derage drinking that finds its origins in General Robert E. Lee's proscription on lying, cheating, stealing, or acting in ways unbecoming of a gentlemen. When someone steals something, he or she takes away what rightfully belongs to someone else. When an individual drinks, that person is not "stealing" or violating anyone else. Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh might argue that drinking can lead someone to take advantage of somebody else, or perhaps incline someone to cheat or steal. Is it not also possible that these acts could be committed by someone who is 100 percent sober? I most certainly think so. For argument's sake, let us assume that underage drinking constitutes an honor violation. What would we then designate as honorable conduct for people of the drinking age? Would it be worse, under Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh's system, for a minor to have one beer as opposed to a twenty-two year-old who drinks twelve beers and then goes about smashing bottles all over the street? When dealing with an issue like drinking, it is not so cut and dry as cheating on an exam or lying to a professor--

**... one cannot apply the law to the honor system as Saboe, Hager, and Overbaugh would do, since the law can change and is held to different standards than the notion of fixed and universal honor.**

derage drinking that finds its origins in General Robert E. Lee's proscription on lying, cheating, stealing, or acting in ways unbecoming of a gentlemen. When someone steals something, he or she takes away what rightfully belongs to someone else. When

things become highly subjective.

Washington and Lee already has in place an effective mechanism for dealing with student behavior and other more subjective issues: both the Student Conduct Committee and the Faculty Student Hearing

Board. I have faith in these groups as regards dispensing punishments for improper student conduct. We cannot allow, however, any one individual's dislike of another's behavior to translate into an honor violation simply because person X does not like it when person Y drinks.

Many of the things that the honor code applies to have nothing to do with the law. If a person cheats on an exam, it is definitely and rightfully an honor violation. But that person will not be charged by the Commonwealth's Attorney for a breach of criminal law. Likewise, if someone lies to a professor about attending an unprocured, mandatory lecture in Northern Auditorium, he or she would be guilty of an honor violation, but not of any state or federal statute.

These scenarios demonstrate my central point on the difference between honor and the law. Honor possesses a strong element of universality that the law simply does not have. The notion of honor transcends the law. I encourage everyone to look up the definition of honor and law in any dictionary: the definition of honor encompasses the intangible connotations of nobility, chivalry, loyalty, and dignity,

that the definition of law does not.

Unfortunately, the debate comes down to more than a simple round table discussion on the honor code; it is a debate over the heart and soul of this university: our core character as a community. It comes down to a debate on why the vast majority of us came to W&L. Veiled behind these recent letters to the campus newspapers lies an attack on the traditions and principles that make W&L unique, a paralleled character that most of us opted for over state-supported

*Honor possesses a strong element of universality that the law simply does not have. The notion of honor transcends the law.*

or Ivy League schools. When students such as Mr. Hager say that our campus culture is superficial because students join fraternities to buy friends--as a result of being too insecure to build "true friendships," and suggests that people are insincere when they say "hello" on the Colonnade, it is an outright attack on the traditions that distinguish our school from the rest. This school offers the best

combination of academic excellence and social opportunities in the country. One need only to speak with the many successful alumni who graduated from here. It is guaranteed that many of them will mention the great times, both social and academic, that characterized their W&L experience. As the White Book so gracefully articulates, "the honor system of W&L is based on the fundamental principle that a spirit of trust pervades all aspects of student life." Indeed, the *Insider's Guide to Colleges* calls us the "university of trust."

We should look at any potential honor violation as an infraction of this principle, and the student body, guided by the Executive Committee, has done a fine job over the years in defining what truly constitutes our sacred notion of honor. In closing, I would like to add that I welcome Mr. Saboe's suggestion for a student panel discussion in Lee Chapel. At such an event, I believe the silent majority will truly come out and reject the arguments of those whom Spiro T. Agnew would call the "nattering nabobs of negativism."

The Disgrace of our Heritage: Would George Washington and Robert E. Lee allow "G&L"?

In the *Ring Tum Phi's* Mock Convention issue I noticed a shocking advertisement. I have always considered W&L a tightly knit community that represents certain traditions and beliefs uncommon in today's collegiate society. Never would I have believed that a school recognized as a bastion of conservatism, honor, and other Southern attitudes--as represented in its namesakes--would produce an advertisement in which those individuals are somehow linked to the modern gay, lesbian and bisexual movement.

The advertisement to which I refer is the Gay and Lesbian Association article, in which George Washington and Robert E. Lee, two of the finest men this country has ever had the privilege to call Americans, face an enlarged "G&L." As a W&L student, my initial reaction was a kind of shock. I was standing in the Mock Convention office the night before the parade when a *New York Times* reporter pointed to the advertisement and asked a group of students about it. The students dismissed the article as a fringe group at W&L that sought attention in a *Ring Tum Phi* that would be widely circulated, both within and out-

side the W&L community. My criticism of the article, however, does not end with the obvious implication of George Washington and Robert E. Lee as somehow supportive of such a club and the behavior it espouses. Rather, I believe the advertisement represents the changing nature of W&L. Frequently, seniors grumble that the school they came to four years ago is simply not the same; I agree. W&L, as an institution and a community, is changing, and I believe that it is a change for the worse. As W&L seeks to diversify, the homogeneous community that so many of its students desire will disappear and W&L will become simply another

motes, consenting adults have a right to do whatever they please amongst themselves, but I ask that they neither represent the University, its students, nor myself in any way, including the use of Robert E. Lee and George Washington's portraits on their logo. I am both morally and physically repulsed by such behavior, and I believe that most W&L students would agree that the image such a club represents is unacceptable. But that is my opinion, however, and it should not be construed as some kind of morally righteous, religious condemnation of individuals that practice such a lifestyle.

Back to the point of this article. The gay, lesbian, and bisexual students of W&L should not implicate George Washington or Robert E. Lee in the interests of their club. Neither Washington nor Lee would condone or approve of the use of their portraits, names, or character in a club such as G&L. My exposure to their principles and values would lead me to reject any claims to the contrary. Both would reject homosexuality on moral and religious grounds. Yet it could be argued that neither would outright condemn

*...the use of Washington and Lee's portraits intends to mock W&L's conservative traditions...*

U.S. News top twenty-five liberal arts school with little or no defining character to attract students.

When writing an article about the G&L advertisement, I need to make a few disclaimers. Gay, lesbian, and bisexual students have the right to promote their interests on campus through a student club. Although I disagree with the "lifestyle" that such a club pro-

homosexuality. This may very well be true, for both were gentlemen and would avoid such a public judgment. I do, however, believe that neither would support such activity, and neither would allow their likeness to be disgraced by the advertisement of any club that would claim to represent such interests.

Further, I contend that the use of Washington and Lee's portraits intends to mock W&L's conservative traditions-- a slap in the face to the overwhelming majority its students who came to this school to experience those traditions. G&L's use of Washington and Lee's likeness fundamentally chal-

lenges W&L's defining characteristics. Their logo, which readily appears on the W&L world wide web site, is not representative of the institution, its students, or its values. As such, it should not be allowed. This article does not aim at ridiculing a group of students with whom I do not agree. Rather, I simply ask that they respect the school which they attend.

I would like to thank G&L for identifying the ongoing changes at W&L. Without such a graphical representation, I probably would never have done more than grumble about the changes that are transforming our school. Hopefully,

other students will take notice and finally realize that the threat that faces our school, its traditions, and its character is very real. It may be wishful thinking to believe that the students' opinions can change the course of the school, but I honestly think that if the student body wants to stop the change, the Executive Committee and the administration will take note and try to preserve the atmosphere that makes W&L unique. It seems that the defining features of our school, specifically the honor system, are under siege. Outside of a community such as the one W&L has provided for so many years, I doubt that they would survive.

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## Buchanan-Perot in 1996: A Creative Conservative's Dream Team Presidential Ticket

At first glance, the mere suggestion of an alliance between right-wing leader Patrick Buchanan and political maverick H. Ross Perot may seem fantastic, even stupid, and I am entirely willing to concede at the outset that this initial impression may even be right! Still, I believe that such a political combination might be the only chance Amer-

ica has to rebuild its national strength, both economically and culturally. Even if Perot and Buchanan *do not* combine in 1996 to defeat Dole and Clinton (as they almost certainly won't), mulling over even the potential of such a partnership is a very useful exercise in getting to the heart of where America has gone wrong -- and how she might possibly get back on track.

Let us start with the obvious: both Perot and Buchanan are outsiders, scorned by their mainstream rivals. Even though both men unfortunately bow all too often to political convention, and even though the possibility exists that either could become seduced by the undeniable benefits which accrue to any well-behaved servant of the status quo, I believe it can confidently be predicted that both Buchanan and Perot are in essence upright, stubborn fellows who will pur-

sue the dictates of their respective consciences regardless of how our political elite react.

Buchanan and Perot are men who are determined to shake up the system, and this is

*Pat Buchanan and Ross Perot . . . are prepared to mount against this faceless, power-hungry internationalist class an attack of unprecedented proportions.*

precisely what the system needs. But this is insufficient in itself. Let us add in, therefore, another assumption, the reader's acceptance of which will be crucial to our argument. The great crisis which now faces America and indeed the entire world--a crisis which has already produced alienation and lawlessness in startling degrees--is one of *nationality*. The nation-state, that bastion of modern political life, that indispensable support on which the health of contemporary society depends, is under attack. This attack is not merely political, but also economic, cultural, ideological, and in some cases even militaristic. The current war in Bosnia is the most extreme case in point. The Serbs, who have committed terrible atrocities in the meantime, were initially right: there was no good reason for them to lie down and accept arbitrary Mus-

lim rule simply because such a situation was deemed convenient by the world's leadership. As we speak, U.S. soldiers are enforcing in Bosnia the will of the

internationalist, "humanitarian" world elite, even if those soldiers' real interests as Americans lie elsewhere.

In some ways, the current ideological

malaise we find ourselves in is really the bastard child of the French Revolution, or, more accurately, of the combination of socialism and liberal democracy that has been the result of Twentieth Century politics. This can be seen in the rhetoric of our political class: against a reality of plutocratic trans-nationalism is set a mock creed of egalitarian, democratic principles based around, for convenience's sake, the nation-state. Nevertheless, increasingly all important economic and political decisions are taken at an international level. Whether we know it or not, most of the crucial choices that effect our lives are made by corporate and political authorities that have not the American national interest at heart, but the interests of the world's ruling class of overleveraged, acultural, bureaucracy-prone elitists. The primary aim of our plutocratic

political class is not our security as a people, but *their own* wealth and aggrandizement in power. This is why the politicians in Washington seem "out of touch:" they have more in common with a banker in Jakarta than they do with a farmer in Iowa.

Pat Buchanan and Ross Perot, on the other hand, are prepared to mount against this faceless, power-hungry internationalist class an attack of unprecedented proportions. Buchanan wishes to restore America culturally, by insisting on a basic level of societal unity, and by safeguarding this unity through sensible limits on immigration. Buchanan rightly insists that, even in a democracy, the majority has a right to expect that special accommodations will be made to protect the integrity of its way of life. The current wave of moral relativism masquerading as "tolerance" must be ended, and Buchanan knows it. There is no nationhood, no true community, without shared cultural and ethnic traditions.

Perot is also prepared to defend the American Way, albeit in a different fashion. Perot has insisted that trade treaties like NAFTA and GATT be abolished, since they not only serve to export American jobs, but also shift the focus of economic decision-making out of the USA. Buchanan has agreed in this. Perot is eager to continue our trade with other countries, therefore, but with a difference: Perot recognizes the *superiority*

of national interests over economic interests, whereas with the political class national interests are only a foil by which exorbitant profits for a tiny minority can be achieved.

All this is not to suggest the existence of any formal, conscious world conspiracy to subvert American power. On the contrary, in the conventional sense the patriotism of Dole and even of Clinton is beyond question. Still, we cannot deny that we live in a world where the bonds of community, of national

solidarity, are being continually enfeebled and reduced, and at great cost to the human spirit. The internationalist myth of human sameness, the reduction of all men to the perverse status of acultural consumers of goods, is an insidious historical movement, even if its perpetrators do not recognize their own handiwork. My view is that, if it takes the sometimes loony and always controversial political dynamism of a Buchanan or a Perot to shake up the world system, then so be it.

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## MAJOR

The White Anglo-Saxon Protestant Male Studies major leading to a Bachelor of Arts Degree is designed for the traditional Washington and Lee student who is not afraid of being blatantly offensive and politically incorrect. An important feature of the major is that the student be made aware that he is a dying breed. A major in White Anglo-Saxon Protestant Male Studies leading to a Bachelor of the Arts requires the completion of 38 Credits as follows:

History 170 - The History of the Country Club

History 244 - White Trash in America: The Origins of the Mobile Home

History 262 - The History of Tobacco: Redman to Marlboro

History 352 - Robert E. Lee: The South's Favorite Son

History 362 - The History of Football, NASCAR, and Wrestling: The Great American Pastimes

Sociology 200 - Fraternities, Rotary Clubs, and other Racist, Sexist Groups in America

Sociology 202 - Contemporary Social Problems: White Flight Commute Getting You Down?

Sociology 280 - Male and Female Roles in Society: Keeping the Wife in the Kitchen in the 1990s

Sociology 305 - Power and Society: Forget Being Sensitive -- Be a Man

Management 340 - Advanced Business Law: Avoiding Discrimination Suits

Management 399 - Spring Term: Nepotism, Primogeniture, and the Good Ole Boy System

Accounting 315 - Depreciating the Condo, BMW, and Club Membership

English 140 - Western Literature: *The Scarlet Letter*, *Huckleberry Finn*, other offensive classics

English 209 - John Grisham: *The Firm*, *The Pelican Brief*, and other Great Beach Books

Literature in Translation 100 - Understanding Rap Music

Literature in Translation 101 - The Preppy Handbook

Two courses from the following group:

Music 100 - Rhythm Development for White People: Clapping and Other Basics

Music 101 - Intermediate Rhythm Development: The Wood Blocks and the Tambourine

Music 102 - Advanced Rhythm Development: Play that Funky Music White Boy

Music 135 - Appreciation of Country Music: Hank Williams, Jr., Garth Brooks, David Allen Coe

Physical Education 151 - Golf

Physical Education 158 - Tennis

Physical Education 166 - Squash

Physical Education 301 - Philosophy and Techniques of Coaching

Psychology 220 - Psychoactive Drugs and Behavior: Justifying Recreational Drug Use

Psychology 305 - Dealing with "The White Man's Burden"

Three courses from the following group:

Biology 122 - Nutritional Requirements of the Adult Redneck: Red Man, Pork Rinds, Beer

Chemistry 105 - The Art of Distilling and Brewing: From Moonshine to Budweiser

Engineering 105 - Basic Construction: Adding on to the Double Wide

Engineering 120 - Auto Repair: Getting the Camaro up on Blocks

Engineering 205 - Installation and Repair of the Satellite Dish

*HONORS: An Honors Program in White Anglo-Saxon Protestant Males Studies is not offered to qualified students: If you are pursuing this major you must be a dumb, drunk good ole boy anyway.*

## Victory in Lee-Jackson Classic Ends Men's Lax Season

Senior Tri-Captains led team throughout up and down year.

As the Men's Lacrosse season began this spring, the three senior captains, Adam Butterworth, Russell Croft, and Duncan Slidell, knew a great burden rested on their shoulders. Ranked ninth in the pre-season poll, the Generals realized they must have a solid season if they hoped to move into the top eight teams and qualify for the national tournament. They also knew that plenty of chances to show the lacrosse team's ability awaited them, as they were

scheduled to play nine preseason top twenty-five teams.

The season started successfully, with the Generals winning their first four games by an average margin of more than 10 goals. The team's winning ways continued through March as the Generals upset the number three ranked team in the country, Gettysburg, 12-5 under the lights at Rockbridge County High School.

Although the team held a strong 6-1 midseason record, the

Generals suffered their first heartbreaker of the year with a 9-10 overtime loss to Franklin & Marshall. Unfortunately, the team's bad luck continued, and they quickly found out overtime was not kind to them. They fell in triple OT 9-10 to Denison and then again in overtime 11-12 to conference rival Roanoke College.

Captain Adam Butterworth commented on the three overtime losses saying, "they were extremely tough to handle



in that we were so close against these top ranked teams to have lost all three. And to be excluded from the playoffs, it was just tough to rebound from."

These tough losses were not easy to swallow, but under the tri-captains' leadership the team regrouped and finished the season strong, winning three of their last four games. Head Coach Jim Stagnitta praised the senior captains for their leadership during the difficult stretches of the season. "The captains did a great job leading the team, coming in every day and getting the team focused to work hard and not letting them get down. They led by example each day in practice."

The team came out especially motivated for the season's final game, the Ninth Annual Lee-Jackson Classic against neighboring VMI. In front of a crowd of over 4,000 on the Saturday afternoon of Alumni Weekend, the Generals started fast and were able to hold on for an exciting 11-8 win over the Keydets.

Following junior midfielder Shane McLaughlin's lead, the Generals raced off to an 8-2 half-time advantage. The Keydets refused to quit, however, and stormed back in the third period with 6 straight goals to tie the game at eight goals apiece. But the fourth period belonged to the Blue and White, as Adam Butterworth, along with sophomores Ed Dougherty and Chip Thompson, found the net to end the game in a 11-8

W&L win. McLaughlin finished the game with three goals and received the Worrell Fallon Memorial Award as the game's most valuable player.

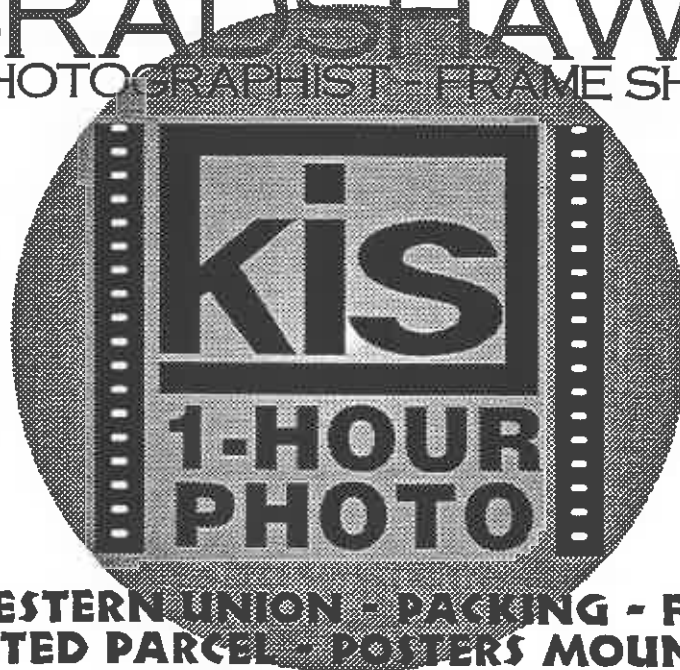
The Generals completed their season 10-5 as the twelfth ranked team in the country, becoming the first W&L team to win ten games since 1993. The future looks bright for the Men's Lacrosse team as a talented group of starters returns next year along with a solid recruiting class. Returning for the Generals will be the team's leading scorer and All-ODAC attackman Ande Jenkins, along with All-ODAC defenseman Jay

Johnson and starting goalie Scott Jackson.

Next year's team will have some large shoes to fill as this year's senior class will be hard to replace. The senior tri-captains round out their superb careers leading the team as the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th leading scorers. In addition, Butterworth and Croft were picked as All-ODAC selections. The tri-captains value to the team cannot be measured merely in statistics and awards, however, for it was their leadership and work ethic that kept the entire team going through a sometimes tumultuous year.

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