WC Appoints Elizabeth Herman to Head Development and Alumni Relations

BY JUSTINE HENDRICKS

Washington College recently filled an important position that had vacant since last July, appointing Elizabeth Herman as Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations.

According to Herman in a personal interview, her role will be to "build bridges between graduates, parents, family and friends of the college to the College community."

By hosting reunions, managing the annual phone-a-thon and working closely with the Board of Trustees and President Tipson, Herman and her staff look forward to continuing to move WC forward.

"What we try to do is find ways to welcome the outside community into the college and find ways for those who love the college to support it," said Herman, who considers herself a "friendraiser and fundraiser."

Herman expressed her hope to build on the success of the Campaign for Washington's College, adding, "It's a tough act to follow but I know there's more to come."

Herman would also like to grow and strengthen both the development staff and the level of financial support and to work with the Board and volunteers in spreading the word about WC.

Herman was born in Bethesda, Maryland and raised in Bethesda and Clifton, VA. At age 15, her family moved to West Coast so her father, a Navy doctor, could take a position at the University of Washington.

Herman, who attended the University of Washington, said, "It was utterly different from what you experience here, and that's why I'm here."

Herman explained that her undergraduates experience at a large public university was filled with 500 person lecture classes and that she had to fight for the liberal arts experience she craved.

"I don't want students to have to wrestle for it," she said. "The reason I work for colleges is because I value the educational process and want to support the students.

Although a fundraising position might seem like a job for a business major, Herman draws from her strong background in English and journaling.

"Relationship building requires writing skills, from personal notes to proposals," explained Herman. "Part of what I'm doing is helping to discover and tell the stories of WC."

Herman said those who support the college all have stories, and like a journalist, she finds those stories, then helps them "add a new chapter."

Herman is excited to be at WC and is looking forward to gaining "deeper and richer experience" of her work as well as developing wonderful friendships.

She wants to gain the endowment and expand the volunteer base to get the satisfaction of helping a wonderful place become even stronger.

Happiest when making "a measurable difference," Herman hopes to really enjoy Chestertown, which she regards as "a lovely community where a person can take a breath."

A published author, Herman was drawn to WC in part because the Lit House and community of writers made her feel at home.

Eager to take the job because of the college's size, location and the "stellar" reputation of President Tipson, with whom she works closely, Herman urges people to share their stories and help her learn what makes WC a special place for them.

English Majors Ask Department to Reconsider Senior Obligation Change

BY KELLY BRESINGER

The English Department is currently making changes to its senior obligation requirement as well as examining its Creative Writing program and the role of the Literary House.

Dr. Richard Gillin, head of the English and Humanities departments recently announced a proposal to change the concept of the senior obligation for English majors.

The proposal states that as of next fall, students will not have the option of the creative portfolio as a means of satisfying the requirements of the English major.

A meeting between English majors, Gillin and Joachim J. Scholz, Provost and Dean of WC, was called last week in order to discuss these changes.

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A meeting between English majors, Gillin and Joachim J. Scholz, Provost and Dean of WC, was called last week in order to discuss these changes.

The first topic was the future state of the Rose O'Neill Literary House, while the second item on the agenda concerned the future of the Creative Writing program and senior obligation.

The uncertainty of the future of the Lit House comes with the resignation of its director, Dr. Robert Mooney.

"The director is an administrative position appointed by the administration," Scholz explained to a group of about twenty-five students. It will be his to fill Dr. Mooney's position; he called but for the students to contribute their thoughts on what they'd like to see in terms of the future role of the Lit House within the English department.

"There will always be Advanced Fiction classes. We only have one full-time writing professor," said Scholz, who also commented that the college should know about the new director by next March.

When asked if the candidates would visit campus beforehand and meet with students, like the new English professors Dr. Alisha Knight and Dr. Corey Olsen, this year did last year, Scholz answered positively.

"There will always be time for the candidate to meet in the Literary House (with students). Your input is taken very seriously."

The second item on the agenda was the future of the Creative Writing program and what should be done about the overwhelming increase in Creative Writing students.

The Creative Writing portfolio was recently reformed as an option for English major's choices to fulfill their senior obligation due to a strain on Creative Writing professors.

"We've had to cut back and increase workload on faculty. We only have one full-time professor (Dr. Mooney)." Gillin explained. "We feel very bad turning people down for the Creative Writing thesis."

The changes in the department came with the realization that what was once feasible when the college was much smaller is no longer possible with the increase in enrollment.

The Creative Writing thesis came about in the 1990s, Gillin explained, as a result of the professor dislike for standardized testing as a senior obligation (for example, the GREs).

See "English Majors" on page 3
**Students Have Mixed Feelings About TurnItIn.com**

**BY TANYA BORUKHOVA**

Ever start a paper that you don’t have the time to write? Then copying and pasting random articles from the Internet into your paper without proper attribution is definitely the way to go, right? Apparently quite a few students are guilty of this, even at Washington College, but Turnitin, a new "online plagiarism deterrent," as the Miller Library website puts it, might make you think twice before plagiarizing your next assignment.

Turnitin compares a submitted paper to documents on the Internet, as well as to documents stored in the Turnitin database, which is comprised of previously submitted student work, as well as federal government documents. The color-coded report, which comes out approximately 24 hours after the submission of a paper, identifies similarities between submitted papers to other papers found on the Internet and in the database.

It is at the discretion of the instructor to determine if a given paper is plagiarized or not, or whether the similarities between the paper and other works are significant or enough to be representative of changes.

Turnitin is not omni-present, however. It does not cover books or documents that are not accessible online, but professors are certainly entitled to checking books and journals and comparing students’ papers.

Since WC has just started using this program, professors have not really had an objective opinion on its success, but the idea is that the more papers are added to the database, the more reliable the assessment will be.

"I think it is important to realize that the primary goal of financial aid is to get need-based aid to the correct recipients using the most current information available. The change to the formula could overall save a great deal of funding spent on grants for the Federal Government. As for the use of the saved money, Zimmerman said, "I can only hope that any ‘avings’ or excess would be used to increase the level of funding for Pell grants, and increase the amount of the grants to those high need students who do qualify for Pell grants."

**Changes to National Pell Grant Program May Reduce Needed-Based Aid**

**BY KELLY HEIBINGER**

Recent changes to the National Pell Grant program could affect the eligibility of students who receive Pell grants.

The changes that have been made are on the rates used in the need-based aid formula, which uses income reported on the FAFSA to calculate the amount of tax paid by a family.

"This the first time in ten years that the Department has made changes to the tax tables," Zimmerman said. "Currently, Washington College has 107 students that receive Pell Grants, ranging in amounts from $400 to $4050 for the academic year." said Zimmerman.

"If we were to assume that there are no other changes in the students situation, that every thing reported on their 2004-05 FAFSA would be identical to their 2005-06 application, approximately ninety out of 107 students would see some change.

"However, twenty-six of these Pell recipients are current seniors, and therefore they will not be affected by the change. The sixty-four remaining students would see some effect from the changes in the formula.

"These sixty-four would probably see an average drop of approximately $250," said Zimmerman. This change could affect students greatly, as Pell Grant recipients are students with a high need for aid.

"The Financial Aid office is concerned about the modification, and plans to help affected students. "If we see that any students have their Pell Grants reduced solely due to the changes in the federal formula, our office will work with the financial aid associates to help make up this loss. "No matter how small a change is, no student or Financial Aid administrator looks at a decrease in aid as a good thing," Zimmerman said.

He emphasized how important it is that financial information be kept up to date, as "The change in the formula that will affect Pell Grant eligibility is the first update to the formula in ten years. It’s important to realize that the primary goal of financial aid is to get need-based aid to the correct recipients using the most current information available."

**THE ELM of Washington College**

**THE COVE- WEEKLY SPECIALS**

The Birthday Ball Committee has been working hard to plan a successful, safe, and —above all—fun event this year. Since there have been some changes from previous years, we have put together the following guidelines to help you better plan for the 2005 Ball.

- Student tickets must be picked up at the Student Affairs Office in the Casey Academic Center by Friday, February 11.
- Tickets sales to the Washington College community and college guests will be limited. Tickets can be purchased online via the Washington College website at http://www.birthdayball.washcoll.edu/
- Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to plan early. Unfortunately, given the high demand for tickets, we cannot ensure that there will be any for sale at the door this year.
- The "Will Call" station will be located in the lobby of Cain Gym this year.
- This year the entrance to the Birthday Ball will be through the front doors of the LFC.
- The Birthday Ball hours are 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight. Doors will close for admission at 10:30 p.m. Please plan to be there before doors close.
- Dress code for the Ball is formal evening attire.
- No smoking will be permitted in the building. However, there will be a designated smoking area outside.
- Patrons will not be permitted to carry alcohol into the LFC.

The Birthday Ball Committee looks forward to an exciting event and encourages everyone to have a great time and be responsible. And remember to look out for your friends, too. We want this to be the most memorable Birthday Ball ever.
Frederick Douglass Fellowships: Not Just for Humanities Majors

BY FAITH POLICK

What better time of the year than February, in the midst of celebrating diversity and African American history, to begin a new extensive program for African American Studies. The C.V. Starr Center is hosting a brand new research-based scholarship program named The Frederick Douglass Fellowships, sponsored by Maurice Meslans and Margaret Helyfield from St. Louis, both friends of C.V. Starr Scholar Adam Goodheart.

Faculty members C.V. Starr Director Ted Widmer, Goodheart, and English professor Alicia Knight all joined to create the fellowships. Together, they created the scholarship program with a $1500 grant for sophomores and juniors to allow students of any major to engage in a thorough semester-long research program.

Widmer says, “we liked the idea of naming [the Fellowships] after the great black leader Frederick Douglass, who was born relatively close to Chestertown, although there is nothing named after him to my knowledge in Kent County.”

Applications are available for those wishing to research any branch of African American studies, including politics, sociology, art, literature, music, science, and beyond. Why did the Frederick Douglass Fellowships come about?

“...” said Widmer.

“...” said Goodheart.

Knight says “build the Fellowships to allow students to take research trips, purchase books, and work on their projects in lieu of part-time jobs.”

Knight further describes the Fellowships. “They are designed to have students set off from the normal classroom routine, students who want to go to graduate school can benefit from the experience.” The Fellowships can provide work experience for a resume or even “I personally hope that the fellowship stimulates student interest both in black history and in the Starr Center.”

—C.V. Starr Director Ted Widmer

English Majors

Continued from front page

We feel we have a moral obligation to keep as much as we can going,” Gillin said.

In replacement of the portfolio as a senior obligation, a $1500 grant would be offered to a class for seniors in which they would develop a portfolio and work one-on-one with their professor, but would receive class credit for it.”

“From our point of view it offers more positives than negatives,” Gillin explained.

Students were upset with the removal of the portfolio, as many stated that it had been a factor in choosing to attend Washington College.

Senior Molly Weeks said, “It’s nice for us as creative writers to have that opportunity.”

After much brainstorming about possibilities, the unanimous final decision by students was that the portfolio as an obligation choice should not be done away with, but reformed.

In the past, it had a 3.5 GPA requirement which was removed because, as Gillin explained, it was cutting out a lot of gifted writers.

The consensus among students was that a GPA requirement and other caps could be put into place to prevent too many people from choosing the Creative Writing portfolio as fulfilling their senior obligation.

In an interview the day after the meeting occurred, Dr. Gillin seemed satisfied with the meeting.

“I appreciated the number of students who came out. It was an honest exchange... there was a good give and take on issues. I was surprised there was unanimity to make the fellowship a reality.”

Gillin is to present the students’ request to the board.

“I can request, but it doesn’t mean we’re going to get it.”

In a way, Dr. Mooney did us a favor [by resigning],” Gillin explained, stating that now not only could Mooney give himself to the department full-time, but there would also be a search for a new director, who would be a part-time faculty member as well.

Friday, February 11 - The Annapolis Blue Grass Coalition and Chester River Runoff - Showtime 7pm, Tickets $10

Saturday, February 12 - HomeTones (Acoustic Music) Showtime 8pm, Tickets $3

Monday, February 14 - The Second Annual Erotic Poetry Festival Showtime 8pm, Free
As an "emotionally luke-
somewhat misunderstand the real
Lincoln. He claims they "es-
didn't get the total
largest section not coinci-
dous works of history, the
his extensive personal li-
release by the acclaimed
Lincoln the Moral
lighted in his new book en-
knowledge has been high-
gion and its traditional
proach to preserving the
rather than reactive ap-
communities, marine life
(ACES) for a project to assist
Maryland to receive the
Washington College was
Washington as the second
Lincoln, according to
Striner, he "learned about the art of
After gaining the sup-
port of James McPherson of Princeton University, the
leading Lincoln scholar of the
day, he declared that it
was time to un-
veil the man be-
hind the socially
accepted concept of
Lincoln. Sometimes it is
necessary to save people
from themselves," says
Striner, which is what
Lincoln accomplished in
terms of slavery.
According to Striner, he
utilized his uncanny abil-
ty to coordinate "tricky"
politics with ethics that
seem "racists to racists,"
while keeping his aboli-
tionist principles alive.
Had it not been for his
assassination, the Civil
Rights movement of the
nineteenth century might
have occurred 100 years
earlier.
Lincoln's ambiguity and
malingering actions while in
office lead to the
controversy of today's historians, a
real-
y Striner aims to correct.

WC Only Institution in the State to Receive Maryland Sea Grant

An amount of $100,000 is going to Washington College's Center for Environment and Society (CES) for a project to assist rural communities along the Eastern Shore in pres-
serving their environments and to protect them from overdevelopment.

The project is a result of the $3 million that the state has received from the Maryland Sea Grant, which supports research re-
grating Chesapeake Bay communities, marine life and coastal regions.

The grant, which will pay for a two-year project, will develop leadership skills and user friendly technology to anticipate the pressure of development threatening many local communities.

The project also deals with developing a policy of looking ahead, or "vision-
ing" a method of affordably serving rural communities in the attempt to strengthen their abilities in planning the future of their areas.

The program will also be used to assess various po-
sibilities for community development over a two decade period.

As Dr. Wayne Bell, CES Director, commented in a recent college press release, "this project is a proactive rather than reactive ap-
proach to preserving the rural character of our
region and its traditional
economy based on farming, fisheries and forestry."

The goal of the program is to create a mentorship be-
tween the college, commu-
nity leaders and residents, in the hope of developing a clearer and more sustain-
able future for the communi-
ties of the Eastern Shore. Bell said, WC students will also benefit from the
time spent with the students who will gain from their
exposure to the project, as the
grant will work to give com-
munities a chance to ad-
dress what kind of future they
want.

CES will act as a bridge between students for the study of coastal societies, while bringing resources to the
community.

The project will use computer programs to work with planning committees and to assist leadership
growth.

WC will match the grant by fifty percent, as the
project funds are the next phase of an initiative known as the
Rural Communities Leadership Program.

According to Bell, "the
process of applying for the Sea Grant is quite rigorous. It is a prestigious award for the college, I am really
proud of the college for sup-
porting this project."

Washington College was the only institution in Maryland to receive the grant.

Want to Talk Politics?

By Dan Holler

Editor’s Note: Dan Holler was a participant in last fall’s Student Conference on United States Affairs.

Every fall, for the past 56 years, the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY hosts the Student Conference on United States

This year, over 250 students from nearly 130 col-
ges from across the country joined together to
discuss the goals and conse-
quencies of American action at
home and abroad.

Students and cadets gathered into pre-selected topical groups to discuss per-
tinent and interesting topics. Throughout the course of the
four-day conference, the groups met regularly to form
comprehensive policy recom-
endations for their topic, in
addition to hearing various speakers and other social ac-
tivities.

As a member of the Homeland Security Roundtable, I spent my days focusing on how to protect our country from terrorist threats while protecting civil liberties.

Our discussions were supplemented with knowl-
edge from our co-chairmen, both of whom have had distin-
guishing and varied careers in the
army homeland secu-
rity.

Kate Frucher worked on the local level with New York’s fire department and has since started her
own company, while Michael Ritchie has served in the
U.S. government for decades and is now the
Director of the DoD Defense Coordination Office.

Our experience and differ-
fers perspectives were im-
volved, as did the tremendous diversity amongst the students and cadets. Coming off a bitterly
divided election, people of all political persuasions includ-
ing the diversity amongst the
cadets themselves, gathered to
debate and discuss with complete civility.

During my four days at West Point, I was able to talk
with various students, cadets and profes-
sional who all had a
similar interest in politics and world affairs, yet almost every person I had a different per-
spective.

The opportunity to meet extremely influential indi-
viduals, mingle with my
colleagues and experience the
cadet way of life was an ex-
novation worth the effort.

If you have any interest in attending the conference
next fall, I would urge you to
talk to Dr. Taylor because it is a chance in a lifetime oppor-
tunity.

Editor’s Note: Dr. John Taylor is chairman of the
Political Science Department.

FROM THE EDITOR

The Public Safety Report for this week was
unavailable at the time of publication.

Check out next week's issue for an updated
Public Safety Report.
Music’s Championship Showdown Weekend

By Charles A. Homan

On February 13, the notoriously inept Grammys will be dished out for the 47th time. Supposedly instituted to honor the past year’s greatest musical achievements, the Grammys have been rightfully ridiculed for presenting such honors to Celine Dion, Christopher Cross and Aretha Franklin. In the last ten years, though, they’ve indeed crept closer to accuracy. With 107 categories to cover every conceivable genre, it’s virtually impossible to do any sort of comprehensive predictions. But for what it’s worth, here’s my two cents (which come to think of it is just about what it’s worth) on five key categories.

Best Alternative Music Album

Odd how in a category covering “alternative” music, all five nominated albums logged time in Billboard’s Top 40. Even odder is that this one of the hardest races to handicap. That said, it’s a safe bet that the winner won’t be a woman.

Few are arguing that Björk’s Medulla or PJ Harvey’s Uh Huh Her even approach those ladies’ best work, mainly because they don’t. Wilco’s disjointed A Ghost Is Born could be a spoiler, since it plays well with the literal coffin-crusher covers that make up a disheartening percentage of Grammy voters, and it certainly seems alternative if by alternative one means self-consciously weird.

While Franz Ferdinand had more ink netted than the Dubliners’ wrinkly hands and prevent them from racking up their millionth or so Grammy will be an uphill battle, despite the irony that Green Day’s politically charged Wake-Up! is rife with suitably smarmy self-righteousness of classic U2, only disguised by a spitting slicker pose.

Song of the Year

Last year, this award went to Richard Marx. Yes, that Richard Marx. Think about that for a moment and when you come cringing, take a deep breath because this year’s pool doesn’t possess much better music. I mean no disrespect to the exact kind of travesty that the Grammys have worked so hard to avoid of late.

The deserving winner, the only deserving winner of this songwriter’s award is Kanye West & associates for “Jesus Walks.” Forget that West’s All Falls Down and We Don’t Care have far more perceptive lyrics (which is pretty much what this category was created to honor); the half-tongue-in-cheek ode to his messiah is still ons aces of its competition.

After all, the next best choice is Alicia Keys, whose deceptively simple If I Ain’t Got You actually looks edgy by comparison to its other challengers. But as Marx’s win for Luther Vandross’s likely epic Bath Dance With My Father proved, this battle more than any other is susceptible to goosey sentiment.

How else to explain the presence of Hoobastank’s The Reason, which isn’t even a well-written power ballad and accomplished the rather difficult task of making me briefly miss Poision? Luckily, they won’t win. Unluckily, Tim McGraw’s tribute to his late father, Live Like You Were Dying (penned by Tim Nicholas & Craig Wiseman) or John Mayer’s vapidum Daughters probably will. Picking the lesser of two evils, at least Dying is sincere in its emotion whereas Mayer’s condescending commentary on a subject he knows nothing of comes off more as a cheap ploy to get less than an actual song.

Mayer’s got a sense of humor that’s actually more treasured medium than forty minutes of pseudo-commentaries on modern society.

But almost invariably, this award goes to the album that sold the most copies. Both Franz Ferdinand and Modest Mouse’s Good News For People Who Love Bad News netted half the million mark, with the latter surprising the million mark. While Franz Ferdinand had more ink spilled about them and made a more compact, “fun” album, the Modest Mouse record is more interesting, more soulful, more powerful and laid out more believably.

Since “Here We Go Again” would’ve been relegated to the pop collaboration category and maybe not even a contender, an upset is entirely possible and West made the better album: Drop-Out...already seems anachronistic because it challenges conventions without straining to force them (a la last year’s winner, Speakerboxx/The Love Below). West is a show-in-to-the-Village Voice Pazz & Jop critics’ poll in a couple weeks and could become only the sixth album to win both that and Album of the Year.

But I fear, as has so often been the case in Grammys past, sentiment will trump quality. The rushed and often forced duets of Ray Charles’s

Best Rock Performance By A Duo or Group with Vocal

This is a rare occurrence. Five nominees deserve to serve their duty in this category. These are five of the greatest (if not the five greatest) rock tracks of 2004. It would be nice to see Elvis Costello win a Grammy he didn’t have to share with Burt Bacharach but his excellent Monkey to Man (with back-up band the Imposters) is the weakest link in a tough race. Sorry Declan, there’s always the lifetime achievement award.

Franz Ferdinand’s Take Me Out and the Killers’ Somebody Told Me will suffer from being lumped together as 80s revivalist tracks and thereby eject each other from the competition. That leaves three likely choices: Lenny Kravitz chooses to honor her here as a consolation for the bigger categories the ambitious Berkeley boys (men now, I guess) will inevitably lose. Or voters would award them here if it weren’t for U2.

Franz Ferdinand have about as much resistance to U2 as Bono has to self-aggrandizement. Plus, the rock track despite the obstacle of being over forty, and the older-skewing Grammy voters will advocate that accomplishment, too, because it makes them feel young.

For Green Day to purge the golden victoria from the Dublirrums’ wrinkly hands and prevent them from from racking up their millionth or so Grammy will be an uphill battle, despite the irony that Green Day’s politically charged Wake-Up! is rife with suitably smarmy self-righteousness of classic U2, only disguised by a spitting slicker pose.

Warning: Grammy voters adore: a recently deceased legend plus a recently deceased legend plus a recently deceased legend and a young person who sounds generic. Hence how the drab duet of Ray Charles & Norah Jones on Here We Go Again provides a forlorn acceptance speech from one of Genius’s producers. Since Here We Go Again would’ve been relegated to the pop collaboration category and maybe not even a contender, a recent best selling album, U2’s How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb, is a testament to the drab duet of Ray Charles & Norah Jones on Here We Go Again provides a forlorn acceptance speech from one of Genius’s producers.

Record of the Year

This one tries to pin down the year’s single best track. Which cannot possibly be Let’s Get It Started. The Black Eyed Peas’ whole positive rap trip is a noble cause but I’ll take whatever hardcore hood yarn 50 Cent is spitting for the hundredth time over their limp beats and ridiculous rhymes any day. Plus, Started is a hallmark of their remarkable cowardice, having been modified from Let’s Get Retarded in order to get on the radio and VH1 without offending, you know, retards. There were plenty of worse songs on the radio than Los Lonely Boys’ How Did I Get Here but too many better ones for it to have a prayer.

Green Day’s American Idiot is probably one of the most politically correct songs ever to be nominated here, which combined with the fact that it’s loud enough to rattles suburban eardrums exactly why it won’t win. In fact, there seems to be little debate that 2004’s Record of the Year was Yeah!, the magical collaboration between Usher, Lil’ Jon & Ludacris that stands as the best thing all three have ever lent their names to. It would be unwise not to put competing against a record boasting two things

Grammy voters adore: a recently deceased legend and a young person who sounds generic.

For this reason, Usher’s Confessions and The Diary of Alicia Keys probably won’t triumph. While both contain a handful of superb singles, not many people have argued for their relevance as albums. By contrast, Green Day’s American Idiot and Kanye West’s College Dropout are albums in the truest sense: thematically consistent, musically entertaining song cycles brimming with jocular yet incisive commentaries on modern society.

Given how Green Day’s Bush-bashing, no small part of Idiot, already seems anachronistic, and seeing how they’re still widely seen as the juvenile miscreants they never were in the first place, the nomination itself is notable. Asking to win would be asking too much. (And in my book, while I love Idiot, I still say it’s a notch below Green Day’s Double Nickels and heartbreakingly neglected Warning: as an overall album.) Especially when fighting against one of the year’s most promising newcomers who has more nominations and did release the better album: Drop-Out...already seems anachronistic because it challenges conventions without straining to force them (a la last year’s winner, Speakerboxx/The Love Below). West is a show in to the Village Voice Pazz & Jop critics’ poll in a couple weeks and could become only the sixth album to win both that and Album of the Year.

But I fear, as has so often been the case in Grammys past, sentiment will trump quality. The rushed and often forced duets of Ray Charles’s

Sentiment is a safe bet

Genius Loves Company proved a weak note for such a deftly written debut to go on. Charles won his share of Grammys during his lifetime, and while hardly anybody is going to or will want to remember him for his final album, people will still feel obligated to vote for a man whose death and importance are not just a fact of Grammy night, it will more likely than not culminate in an emotional standing ovation and tearful acceptance speech from one of Genius’s producers.

DISCLAIMER: I am not a Vegas oddsmaker or a psychic or a skilled professional at Grammy predictions or anything really. What stands above are educated guesses that are fairly arbitrary and if you use them as grounds for betting, you do so at your own risk. However, should you wish to keep that money close to you and your ears to the ground, use this guide for insights into the likely Grammy winners and losers.
Writer Responds to Last Issue’s “Textbook Assistant Shares Buying Tips”

BY KELLY BIRINGER

Although it would be easy to reply with anger to a reader’s biting letter that attacked my “Is the WC Bookstore Overpriced?” article (which, I would like to point out, was not a headline I wrote; it is rare a reporter writes their own headline, it is usually the editor’s task) I will simply correct the mistakes the reader made.

Firstly, I disagree that students who sell their books for significantly less than what they bought them for get- are ‘suckers.’ I feel this is insulting to WC students who sell their textbooks online.

Secondly, my article was not an advertisement for Half.com or an attack on the bookstore. On the contrary, I made a point to include Susan Haines, the Director of the Bookstore, as my main source of quotes. I even ended the article with a quote from her stating, “If we don’t offer the lowest prices, it’s because we can’t.” I also went to Susan Haines because as the Director, I felt her interview would be the most insightful and interesting, and it was. If she had told me to instead go to a student worker for the interview, I would have, but it never came up and I felt her interview was a great contribution to my article despite this fact.

My article was not meant to insult bookstore workers; it was meant to provide WC students with other choices they have for textbook purchasing.

Considering the fact that most of the WC students are paying an enormous amount for their education, the story aimed at helping.

And now to correct the reader’s mistakes:

1. You can look up books by ISBN number on both Amazon.com (Advanced Search) and Half.com. I am not an Ebay.com user, nor did I make any mention of Ebay.com in the article.

However, just for curiosities sake, I went to Ebay.com and discovered that you can look up books by ISBN number: simply go to Advanced Search and put the ISBN number into the item number search box.

2. In the majority of cases, sellers indicate the edition and condition of the book. It is true that this does not always happen, but I never stated that sellers always do this. I simply said that the websites offers space for the sellers to do so. And this leads to my next point...

3. Sellers do offer refunds - often. I recently contacted a seller and received a refund within a day of when I had sent the email to the seller.

If there is a case where the seller will not reply to an email, Amazon.com, for example, offers a ‘safe buying guarantee’ where they will offer refunds if a. The buyer provided payment to the seller, but the seller failed to deliver the item.

b. The buyer received the item, but the item was materially different than as depicted in the seller’s description. (This information can be found at: [http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/browse/ /537866103-2896023-5581663])

4. Lastly, it is true that it is possible that sellers can exaggerate conditions of books.

Most sellers, however, are not out to do this because it hurts them. If a buyer gives a seller a bad review, it can affect their sales.

I hope that I have cleared up some misconceptions caused by last week’s “Textbook Assistant Shares Buying Tips” letter to the editor.

Heroes or Zeroes? A Look at Today’s “Role Models”

BY ALBIN KOWALEWSKI

Cal Ripken Jr., Rosa Parks, Michael Jordan, Mia Hamm, Joe Montana, Neil Armstrong: are these people your childhood heroes?

Fathers, mothers, grandparents, aunts and uncles have all been considered role models respectively at one time or another. The question here is, however, for entertainers, social activists, and family still carry the same leadership ability and hero status as they did in years past?

In a “who can drive the bigger SUV and flaunt their money” world, would we as rational citizens continue to encourage the actions of those stars that have replaced the ones we used to look up to?

As television becomes a desolate wasteland of tabloid snapshots and gossip columns, children are raised to worship the celebrities that have made a name for themselves through inane public behavior. Call me ‘old fashioned’ but I wouldn’t want my younger brother or sister following in the footsteps of Paris Hilton and Nicole Ritchie.

Though there are exceptions to every rule, heroes and idols in the twenty first century are far removed than those of even ten years ago.

Many of today’s “superstars” use their societal position to take advantage of the media, which is more often than not happy to oblige. Athletes and stars of yester-year did what they were paid to do; they said their piece and left it at that.

Today, however, there is too much talk and not enough listening done by the right people; the media mongers and those in the spotlight.

The concept of beauty has become institutionalized and is no longer found in the “eye of the beholder.”

What a person should look like is slowly becoming more and more a result of what a handful of celebrities look like, at least in the eyes of the youth. These unreachable standards lead to self esteem issues and diminish the concept of individuality.

I’m sure everyone is familiar with the Indiana Pacers/Detroit Piston brawl that has been seen more times than a mullet at a Meat Loaf tribute concert.

Getting into a fight during the heat of the game is one thing, but jumping into the stands to rumble, enough said. Both the fan who threw the cup and the players are in short goons.

2,131 is a record that had nothing to do with steroids. Cal Ripken Jr. loved the game of baseball and nicknamed the “Iron Man,” showed just how strong character can be. His strength did not come from steroid use, unlike many of today’s players. Jason Giambi and Barry Bonds have further stained the image of an increasingly distrust American public.

According to the US Census Bureau in 2003, the average household income in the nation was $43,927, in which most of that money is being spent on entertainment.

With that said, Randy Moss was fined $10,000 by the NFL for an end zone celebration that was perhaps the dumbest in league history.

His reaction to the league fine adds insult to injury for the American public. He brushed that fine off like it was mud on his shoes and he let the media know.

For any average American, a fine of that nature would be a quarter of their yearly income and a disaster to their economic stability.

To think, part of that income might be spent on a Randy Moss jersey or tickets to a Vikings game to cheer him on.

The only heroes I’ve seen on television lately are the ones found in sandwich shops. No, I’m not talking about subway spokesman Jared Fogle, but rather the ones that come complete with lettuce and tomato.

For the sake of America’s youth and future there needs to be a shift in mentality where characters carry on for more than a bank account.

STUDENTS BUY AN ELM AD ONLY $1.00

SEND AN EMAIL TO: tmurray2@washcoll.edu

What are you wearing to Birthday Ball?

Compiled by Bill Zwingi

“Whose birthday is it?”

Marco Muscella

“I think I’ll just wear this.”

Mike Gurdineer

“A black velvet dress and a nice pair of Uggs.”

Katie Miller

“A tiger suit, it’s pretty much my favorite animal.”

Alex Lewis

“A black velvet dress and a nice pair of Uggs.”

Katie Miller
Power to the People: Problems with the Current Social Security System

BY RICK NOCKS

You have a health insurance policy. You're a good customer who has rarely gotten sick, never had major surgery, and has always paid the bill on time.

Yet one day, the company informs you that in the next billing cycle, it's going to raise your premiums, maybe by fifty percent.

How would you feel? You'd probably be a little annoyed.

Now suppose that the company informed you that it's also going to reduce your coverage, maybe by thirty percent.

If you were like most people, you'd probably cancel that insurance policy very quickly. You'd opt to put your money elsewhere. Rightly so.

You're the customer. You're entitled to better.

Yet this is just what is happening to every one of us customers under the current system of Social Security.

Social Security's trustees have informed us that we, their beneficiaries, won't be getting what we paid for. The program is having some, shall we say, overhead problems.

To be specific, come 2042 or 2052, it will be "insolvent." It will only be able to pay 75 percent of promised benefits, and less still in the years following.

To keep it solvent will require an extra $810.4 trillion - almost twice the combined wages and salaries of every working American in 2004.

How to pay this? Cut benefits or raise taxes. Neither is appealing.

Benefits cuts will have to come mostly on promised benefits, and less still in the years following.

Any worker under 40 will be able to put a portion of those payroll taxes into a personal investment account. These personal accounts will be in stocks and bonds, whose average rate of return is 6 to 7 percent a year - far higher than the average Social Security paycheck.

These personal accounts have several important perks. One is that they will make the switch to price indexing a lot more livable. As Ramesh Ponnuru of National Review writes, "Personal accounts are a way of softening the blow. People would be able to supplement their reduced Social Security checks with the wealth built up in their accounts."

Another is more long-term stability for Social Security.

Right now, Social Security is a "pay-as-you-go" system in which workers continually contribute in proportion to their income, while retirees continually draw them out. This means that each generation is paying a portion of the benefits of the generation that follows it.

With personal accounts, on the other hand, each generation pays for itself. This is important, as much of Social Security's financial woes stem from lower proportions of workers to retirees now than when the program began in the 1930s. If each generation pays its own way, then demographic ebbs and woes will be less troublesome.

A third perk is the realization of that goal sought by social reformers since the days of Samuel Gompers. That is, power to the people. This plan will give anybody the chance of owning stocks. And that means anybody.

A corporate CEO, a low-level computer technician, a school teacher, a coal miner or a poor farmer in the Appalachias - if you work, you will have a chance at investing.

There was a time when the stock market was the domain of the rich. Over the last twenty-five years, that changed, as more middle class people joined in the action.

Hence from 1989 to 2005, the percentage of households with stocks jumped from 31.7 percent to 55 percent, according to a 2005 ABC News poll. Now, it will change a little more.

The same ABC News poll found that only 26 percent of those making under $30,000 a year currently have them. Understandably so, when those people are struggling just to pay monthly bills.

And to pay their over-sized payroll taxes - 12 percent of their income - suppose they could keep some of that 12 percent.

Suppose that they could use it to start investing as their more affluent counter parts once started investing. Think how their lives could change.

The days of rich versus poor can come to an end. Wall Street can be everybody's street for big executive and simple day laborer alike.

That is, power to the people. This plan will give anybody the chance of owning stocks. And that means anybody.

THEOLOGY 101

WHEN THERE’S NOBODY TO CONFESSION TO

BY JACOB NOKS

There's a big problem right now in how to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

To start with, there's nobody at the parochial school who can help you out.

So, how do you continue to live your life without sinning? Do you just sit around all day and wonder what you should do? Or do you just go out and sin, knowing that you're doing a good thing because it's your freedom?

There's an easy solution to this. Just stop sinning. It's not that hard. You just have to learn to live your life without sinning.

If you don't, you'll have to go to confession and you'll have to pay the bills.

This is a tough situation, but it's not impossible. Just keep on trying. One day, you'll be able to live your life without sinning.
Paul Reed Smith Rocks Chestertown

From Classrooms to Concert Halls

Paul Reed Smith takes time to teach WC students a thing or two when it comes to music

BY EMILY DEBELIUS

Consistent with their easy-going stage presence, Paul Reed Smith, Gary Grainger and Derek St. Holmes walked casually into the Washington College classroom. Only, they weren’t on stage, and they weren’t welcomed by a screaming crowd. But that doesn’t mean their entrance into that room won’t be remembered for years to come by the students who waited in the classroom, eager to lay eyes on the legendary musicians and learn from what they had to say.

Paul Reed Smith, a craftsman and the head of PRS Guitars, is a world renowned electric guitar manufacturer based on the Eastern Shore. He was accompanied into the classroom by bassist Gary Grainger and vocalist and songwriter, Derek St. Holmes. Both Grainger and St. Holmes have had extremely successful music careers and have played with some of music’s biggest names including John Scofield, Ted Nugent, and Carlos Santana.

Smith opened the lesson by asking the group of students for the three parts of music. Although sex, drugs and rock and roll might come by the students who waited in the classroom, eager to lay eyes on the legendary musicians and learn from what they had to say.

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Smith opened the lesson by asking the group of students for the three parts of music. Although sex, drugs and rock and roll might have permeated the audience, and no one left the Prince that night without a smile. During the performance, Smith was presented with the Community First Award for his contributions to the Eastern Shore community, one of which is the contribution of his time and knowledge of music that he passes down the WC students.

To Smith, music education is invaluable. He likens it to football, in that, in his own words, “You can’t make it to the NFL without coaching.” When Smith gives what he knows to students, he is passing on his real life experience, which in his view is one of the most important things. And as far as the importance of music itself, that goes without saying. To use another metaphor, Smith calls music, “the food you can’t buy at the grocery store.” Everyone loves music, and music can have a powerful affect on our lives. In essence, Smith sums it up as “something simple that can be loved.”

Photo by Lara Simmons
Paul Reed Smith, Gary Grainger and Derek St. Holmes

Teaching, accepting a Community First Award, and playing the Prince Theatre - all in a day’s work for renowned guitar maker

BY BOBBY BANGERT

Paul Reed Smith, one of the world’s most famous and sought after guitar makers, came to WC last week to share his gift of music through educating students and giving a performance on Friday night at the Prince Theatre.

Smith made his first guitar in college, but his interest in music started long before. When he was younger, his mother used to play folk songs, which first sparked his interest. “I loved it,” Smith says, “and when I heard the Beatles, that was it.”

When he was younger, his musical idols were The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin, Carlos Santana, and The Yardbirds, among others. While he will always love The Beatles and the other music he grew up with, he is starting to listen to more Latin music and expanding his musical tastes. At this stage, though, he is mostly concentrating on writing his own music, rather than simply appreciating the music of others.

Smith proved his musical abilities on Friday night when he and his band gave a performance that literally had people dancing in the aisles. The performance was largely interactive, with a portion devoted to a game called “Stump the Band”, where the audience calls out the names of popular songs and the band tries to play them. Try as they might, the audience was unsuccessful.

Also, the band played a song that most of them had never heard, learning it as they went along, to show how musicians learn new music. Within minutes they were playing together beautifully. The show ended, that is, before the encore, with a rendition of Van Morrison’s Brown Eyed Girl, where audience members were brought up on stage, some of which took over playing for the band members. The fun the band was having permeated the audience, and no one left the Prince that night without a smile. During the performance, Smith was presented with the Community First Award for his contributions to the Eastern Shore community, one of which is the contribution of his time and knowledge of music that he passes down the WC students.

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Photo by Lara Simmons
Paul Reed Smith, Gary Grainger and Derek St. Holmes
One-Man Play Sheds Light on Civil Rights Activist in “Down From the Mountaintop”

By Rachel MacRae

Black History Month has started in a flurry of one-man play productions, first with Carl Ray’s comedy act “The Negroes in American History” on Monday, February 1st, and now with “Down From the Mountaintop,” a solo play written and performed by actor Calvin Sirota, about author and Civil Rights Activist, James Baldwin.

Sirota, who will perform at 4 p.m on Sunday, February 5 in Tawes Theatre, will play Baldwin, who lived from 1895 to 1963, created music that was much more harmonically adventurous than the music of the late 18th century, when Mozart was composing.

The second part of the program consisted of the Brahms Piano Quintet, with pianist Simone Dinnerstein. The five musicians did not disappoint.

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Is it Love or Just Desire?

By Kyle Sullivan

Does anyone truly know the meaning of the word "love"?

I am not talking about a regurgitation of the dictionary definition. I am talking about someone who has actually felt and knows what it is to love.

Many people seem to get the word love confused with desire.

Everyone desires what he or she can not have, whether it is sexual or not. And this longing grows stronger as the object stays out of reach.

Remember when you were young and begged your mother or father endlessly for some toy or game; maybe you saw it on television or a friend at school had it? You had to have it. This desire is what it would be the end of the world.

Then when you finally get it, you played with it for maybe a day and then put it aside, never to be touched again. You didn’t desire the actual object, but the feeling that desire brings, of wish-fulfillment and longing for something.

Another example, more suitable for the upcoming Valentine’s Day, is a sexual appetite and passion. Maybe there is a special girl or boy in your Math class that just sparks your fire and gets your tongue twisted, but wouldn’t give you the time of day. Or maybe it’s that special someone that you are romantically involved with.

If you were to take away your sexual appetite and passion, what would you find left? Would you still long for that special someone, or was your love actually desire in disguise?

This is not serving to label all couples on Valentine’s Day, exchanging roses and chocolates, frauds; or even to damper the Day itself. This is something to think about and be aware of when you find yourself in desire of something.

If you finally get that one thing you are desiring, is it what you set out for?

The Nerve To Question the Genuine of Same-Sex Love?

By Colet Ovca

Somewhere around third or fourth grade, we were assigned homework to create a family tree.

I spent quite a bit of time on it, writing the names of my family members on leaves next to their husbands, wives, children and parents. When it came time to present my family tree, I stood in front of the class and read out my family. And when I read out “My uncle Allen is married to my Uncle Paul...” my class burst out laughing. I was convinced, because I hadn’t made a mistake. My teacher laughed with me, nervously, and pushed me to continue.

I had grown up not realizing that Allen and Paul’s relationship was different from others. This is my aunt and uncle; this is my uncle and uncle.

After the family tree incident, I began to see how others looked at homosexuality. People and things were referred to as ‘gay’ when they weren’t accepted. A kid from my 6th grade class was terrorized when he came to school in his sister’s shorts, and again when he sat out from tag football. How did society decide that those were what made someone gay? And when was it chosen that homosexuality was a bad thing?

Last March, Multnomah County in Oregon began offering marriage licenses to same-sex couples. My Uncle Allen seized the opportunity, and flew immediately from their Hoboken home to Oregon. I found out the following week, when my mother told me via phone about the wedding. I was surprised; I thought that they were married, because they had been together for more than 19 years. I had never thought that such a diverse nation as America would be close-minded about the idea of gay marriage.

At their wedding party this past summer, my Uncle Allen stood before loving friends and family, and told us how, when finding out that my uncles were getting married, he and his antique proprietor in Portland said, “Actually, I’m against gays marrying. I mean, haven’t they already suffered enough?”

We all laughed, but the fact that many people did protest gay marriage still stands. When I told a friend of mine that my uncles had married, she asked why a civil union wasn’t enough for gays, and why they had to “soil the virtue of marriage.” As Allen put it, a civil union is a good start, but in our society, only marriage conveys full array of obligations and rights... marriage is how mature, loving adults commit themselves to supporting and nurturing that special other person. Marriage is the legal construct that government uses to encourage stable relationships.

My uncles wanted and deserved all of the same rights as a heterosexual couple, so that in all forms of sickness and health, they could care for each other.

Again, last semester, during a debate in my classes, another student had to say that gay love is not “real”, and that the idea was just disgusting. I cannot figure out the basis behind those statements. My uncles’ relationship is one of the most pure and beautiful loves I have ever seen. But the most honest way I can respond to this is to quote my Uncle Paul: “With absolutely nothing in our social, political, cultural or religious climate to support it and the deck so extremely stacked against it, I guess we would not survive at all if not for the one thing that the alchemy of human experience we all know so little about—love.”

The Materialism That is Valentine’s Day

By Matthew Biringer

Let’s do a little word association exercise. What immediately comes to mind when I say the word “Valentine’s Day”? I’m sure most of us Americans conjure up the same list of things; teddy bears, flowers, chocolates, dinner, and for some, the pain of unrequited love.

It’s true, for good or ill, Valentine’s Day has become one of the biggest holidays of the year.

What exactly are we celebrating, though? If I mean, if it’s a holiday, we have to be celebrating something, don’t we? I know, I know, we are celebrating the feelings that we have for another person.

However, V-Day seems less and less about feelings and more about stuff. The advertisements and general pomp and circumstance that accompany the holiday seem to grow greater every year.

Directly following New Year’s celebrations, Hallmark is busy creating a gift that will make people who receive it sick to the stomach. Thousands of boyfriends’ hearts begin to race and their parents start to sweat out the Zales television promos start around the Super Bowl.

So, our wonderful Valentine defied Claudius and performed marriages for love of young men. He did this because most people were his potential soldiers and he thought that they fought better without wives and children to care about.

Those jewelry companies are smartly slipping those subliminal diamond ads into men’s one weakness, football. There is an unbelievable amount of pressure to get the right flower, chocolate or bear that will immediately hug the romance and really “show that you care.”

Valentine’s Day has also sort of grown into an exclusive holiday. I say this because it only includes those people with a “special someone.”

What happened to the days of elementary school, where everyone gave out, and everyone received valentines? Nothing felt better than strolling home with a bag full of L o o n y T o o n s characters saying “Be Mine” or simply “Happy Valentine’s Day.”

But as you get older, you’re either in or you’re out. You’re either swooning all day from the plethora of gifts you’ve received, or you are wearing black and reading poems by Emily Dickinson.

Who was St. Valentine anyway? And what did he stand for? Let’s take a quick look at the history surrounding this martyred saint.

Way back when, during the third century in Rome, Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriages of young men. He did this because most people were his potential soldiers and he thought that they fought better without wives and children to care about.

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**A VIEW FROM THE STANDS: SUPERBOWL AWARDS**

**BY WILL GROFIC**

Well that’s a dynasty for the New England Patriots. Great Super Bowl, though. Philadelphia should have been up by 14 by halftime; still, they played a fearless game (even Todd Pinkston!). Good game, great halftime, good commercials. Real quality. Before I get depressed that Sundays won’t show 13 hours of football, I’ll make awards for this Super Bowl.

**Best Commercial:**

For my taste, it was the Burt Reynolds, the talking and dancing bear, and cute kid ad for FedEx. Great postmodern mockery of the whole formula of successful television ads. Kafka would be proud.

**The Lord’s Award:**

TO. He was surprisingly effective and physical. He came down from the moutain with 9 catches for 122 yards. He also set the bar for physicality in the first quarter by stiff arming half the Patriot’s secondary. While L.J. Smith caught the first touchdown of the game, a Patriots’ cornerback hit TO. 10 yards after the line of scrimmage. It was a horribly cheap hit on TO. Still he rose like Lazarus after the game, and he had left a giddy message on the dorm room phone first, describing it all.

**The ‘Cool story I kept telling until I realized it really wasn’t that cool’ Award:**

My friend was working at the Super Bowl for a catering company. They had the executive suites. He called me in the first quarter to tell me that he was cutting meat, then from behind him he heard Hansel’s voice: Owen Wilson.

Owen Wilson asked him to cut his sandwich so my friend did. For some reason, I told that to about five people before realizing how unnecessary it was.

That’s about it. Great game, though.

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**Shorewomen Fall to Mules**

**BY MELANIE RUPPERT**

The Shorewomen Basketball team suffered a tough loss of 60-54 against the visiting Muhlenberg Mules on the evening of February 3. The Shorewomen fell to 2-11 in conference play and 3-16 overall. The Mules’ record improved to 6-7 in conference, and 9-10 overall.

With 11:26 left in the first half, the Mules were already ahead 22-7. The Shorewomen fought to gain ground, and they tied the score at 29-29 on a three-pointer from freshman guard Irene Pastorino with 1:10 remaining. At the half, the score was 30-29 after Muhlenberg’s Lucie Smith hit one of her two free throws with 54 seconds to go.

The Shorewomen again evened up the score to 33-33 early in the second half, but failed to gain a lead as Stephanie Coluccini of Muhlenberg hit both of her free throw shots with 15:55 remaining. Sophomore LaTaya Turner scored on a jumper which helped Washington take their biggest lead of the game at 39-55 off a six point run.

Kristin Piccalo of Muhlenberg hit a three-pointer which topped off their 19-5 run and 64-44 lead with 6:56 on the clock. Sophomore guard Regina Barrett hit a three-pointer for the Shorewomen’s final points at the buzzer, but unfortunately the Mules had held off Washington long enough to make the final score 60-54.

Despite the loss, the Shorewomen put forth a valiant effort across the board. Senior guard/forward Jenny Campitelli handed out three assists, pulled down a team-and-career-high nine rebounds, and matched her career high of nine points. Senior guard Jeremy Cook recorded a game-high five assists while sophomore Pastorino hit four three-pointers and led the Shorewomen with 14 points. Turner notched 10 points and a team-high three steals while Barrett finished with 12 points.

Muhlenberg held the advantage in rebounds, leading 41 to 35, and shot 39% from the field to the Shorewomen’s 35%. However, the Mules only shot 15-of-29 from the free-throw line to the Shorewomen’s 7-of-10.

Washington women’s basketball will be facing conference opponent Gettysburg College on the Shorewomen’s home court on Saturday February 12 at 2:00pm.
Shoremen Roll Over Blue Jays

BY JOHN MARSHALL

The Washington College Men’s basketball team gained an enormous victory this past Saturday afternoon with a 57-53 win over visiting Johns Hopkins University.

The win was the first for the Shoremen (9-11, 6-7 Centennial) over the Blue Jays (12-7, 9-4) in over five years, snapping Washington’s six-game losing streak to Johns Hopkins. Hopkins led by as many as 10 points twice in the first half, but the Shoremen trimmed the margin to 28-24 by halftime.

The Shoremen used a 10-2 spurt to take their first lead of the game with 15:13 left in the second half when junior guard Dustin Abbate hit a three-pointer to put Washington up, 34-32. Washington’s lead grew to five points (40-35) on a jumper by senior guard Andrew Gentile with 10:50 remaining, but the Blue Jays stayed in the game and grabbed a four-point lead on three consecutive baskets by Danny Nawrocki. The third of those baskets came with 5:26 on the clock and gave Hopkins a 50-46 lead. The Shoremen moved back ahead, 51-50, on a pair of free throws by junior guard Travis Moore with 5:04 remaining and a three-pointer junior forward Jonathan Webb with 4:42 on the clock.

Nawrocki tied the game at 51-51 by making one of two free throws with 3:01 remaining, but a pair of free throws by Washington Senior guard John “China” Alexander and another pair by Junior guard Kyle Stem gave the Shoremen the lead for good at 55-51 with 1:22 to play.

A dunk by Matt Griffin cut the lead to 55-53 with 1:06 on the clock. Neither team scored for the next minute before Griffin went to the line with six seconds remaining for a one-and-one. Griffin’s first shot missed and bounced out of bounds off of Johns Hopkins. Moore made two free throws with three seconds left to seal the win for the Shoremen.

The Shoremen committed their sixth turnover of the game with 6:59 to play in the first half, but turned the ball over just once the rest of the way to finish with seven in the game. The Blue Jays committed 27 turnovers in the game. The turnover differential helped offset the Blue Jays’ 41% to 30% advantage in field-goal shooting and their 51-31 advantage on the glass. Washington was also more effective at the line, connecting on 18-of-24 attempts, while Hopkins went 4-of-11 at the stripe.

Webb shared game-high scoring honors by finishing with 15 points. He also pulled down a team-high seven rebounds. Abbate was the only other Shoreman in double figures, finishing with 11 points.

Nawrocki scored 15 points and grabbed a game-high 10 rebounds in 15 minutes of play for the Blue Jays. TJ Valerio added 11 points for Hopkins, while Eric Toback accounted for six of the Blue Jays’ 10 blocks on the afternoon.

The Shoremen’s last win over the Blue Jays came on January 12, 2000 when Washington posted a 90-82 overtime win over Hopkins.