

Will There Be Another Birthday Ball?

BY BRIDGET ROMANO

The Birthday Ball has got to change – or there may not be another one. That's the word from senior college administrators who cite numerous incidents of dangerous behavior at this year's gala.

Members of the administration hope to begin a dialogue to discuss possible changes to the event with students and members of the SGA.

Some of the reasoning behind the possible changes deals with what is being cited as dangerous behavior of students attending the dance.

As Bryan Matthews, Dean of Students, said during a recent interview, "Personally, I'm not sure that we can continue to have the event. I am very worried that serious harm could come to students at this event, if dangerous behavior continues. Such concerns warrant a serious discussion on the future of [Birthday Ball], and if we can make the event safe."

As President Baird Tipson said, "We have a responsibility to keep students safe and right now we are not living up to that responsibility."

Tipson added that while he is aware that the majority of students acted responsibly, the number of cases of students being found passed out or suffering from alcohol poisoning is alarming. Tipson hopes to find

a better way to, "encourage responsible behavior."

While noting that at least four students were found passed out, Tipson said, "A lot of the problems [at Birthday Ball] seem to occur because some students are drinking more than they may normally. One of the major problems is that people come to the dance after they have already been drinking."

Tipson noted that while it appears that a relatively small number of students are putting themselves in danger, the administration is concerned with the possibility of any student getting hurt. Not only is Birthday Ball a safety concern, but the event is also becoming a source of liability for the college.

When asked if she enjoyed the ball and if she noticed any disruptive behavior, sophomore Val Larson said, "I had fun. There are drunk people there every year. I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary. The group I was with was sober for the most part, and the ones who weren't were under control."

Larson also noted that she felt it was a student's responsibility to avoid the dangers of excessive alcohol use.

Junior Gizmo Yeldon said of the event, "I wasn't there the whole time, but I think there were some things that happened that were completely out

of character for WC students. I've never seen PS run after someone."

According to Walt Beaupre, Associate Director of Public Safety, at this year's Birthday Ball there were a total of three physical assaults, involving WC students or alumni, where people were struck or otherwise harmed. Beaupre said, "In my six years [of patrolling the Birthday Ball], this is the first time we have ever had to deal with this sort of behavior."

Beaupre also said that PS officers had to remove at least three people from the Dining Hall for being disruptive or throwing food. Said Beaupre, "I don't recall the last time we had to do that."

Beaupre added, "One student was transported by ambulance from Birthday Ball to the hospital for alcohol poisoning." Later that evening, another student was transported. Public Safety could not confirm whether this student had attended Birthday Ball. There have also been reports of students found unconscious, not by PS patrolmen, and were taken to the local hospital.

An official for the Chester River Health System commented in regards to the allegations that many WC students were brought to the hospital due to alcohol abuse. "Without the names of the students, that information can not be accessed. It would also not be

legal for the hospital to release that information" said Kate Rattie.

Beaupre also commented on Public Safety's role in handling the behavior of students, "Public Safety compiles reports, which we forward to the Student Affairs office. They determine where to go from there."

When asked if he could think of any way PS could patrol the event differently Beaupre said, "We will do whatever is asked of us to protect the Washington College community."

Many students and administrators may not be aware of the unsafe behavior occurring at the dance until after the fact.

According to Matthews, "We need to get people's attention [about what is going on]. Most of us that attend Birthday Ball are not aware of the more serious problems that occur during the event. I did not see most of the negative behavior myself. Come Monday when you find out what occurred at the event, that is when you realize how scary it could have been."

When asked how he enjoyed the Birthday Ball, Tipson said, "Sarah and I both had a good time. My sense is that the vast majority of people there had fun and, overall, Birthday Ball worked as an event, which is what you hope for, especially when there are nearly 2,000 people in attendance."

Tipson noted that the task at hand is to make the event acceptable and safe, "Because of the kind of event Birthday Ball is, a lot of things happen without people knowing. There are a couple of people who are ruining the event for everyone. What we want to do is minimize the dangers and maximize the number of people behaving correctly. Parents have a right to expect Washington College to take care of the sons and daughters they send here. It's very hard to say this is the case here."

"As an institution, as a whole campus, we need to have a conversation. This conversation must happen before a tragedy occurs," said Matthews.

As SGA President Michael Shaffer said, "I think it's important to have ongoing discussions between students and the administration to determine the best way to prevent these incidents. There is no quick fix."

Shaffer added, "The SGA is always open to suggestions as to how to improve Birthday Ball; we do that every year. I'm just glad that both Dr. Tipson and Dr. Matthews realize the importance of student input on one of the biggest and most important events of the year, especially considering that [the students] pay for this event via

See *Birthday Ball* on page two

LATEST COMMUNITY NEWS

No Injuries in Peebles Fire

BY LAURA GREENBACK

There were no injuries in a fire at Peebles Department Store on Tuesday, that caused about 10 employees and customers to evacuate the building.

The fire was reported about 8 p.m., near closing time at the 27,000-square-foot store which is located at Kent Plaza, on Route 213.

"The employees heard a loud boom in the building, and lost main power. They immediately shut the store down, notified 911, and evacuated the building," said Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company Information Officer Mark Mumford.

The fire was caused when an electric panel in a storage room combusted, according to Mumford.

He said firefighters found heavy smoke at the rear of the

building and light smoke in the main storeroom. They forced open the storage room, and discovered that an electric power box was on fire.

Firefighters from Chestertown, Galena, Church Hill, Kennedyville, Rock Hall, Crumpton, and Sudlersville fire companies responded to the two-alarm fire.

They applied chemical extinguishers and ventilated the building, and the fire was brought under control in about one hour, according to Mumford.

"We were lucky it happened just about closing time. If the place had been closed, it probably would have been a bigger fire. It would have been a major problem," Mumford said.

The store was closed as of Wednesday afternoon, as elec-

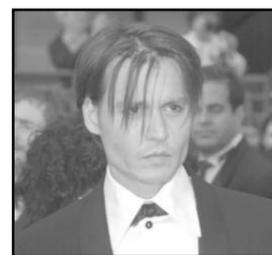
tricians and roofers made repairs. There was no damage to merchandise, and the store may reopen by the weekend, said Vice President District Manager Roger Blanchard.

"We aren't open because we don't have power. It's my understanding that the main feed that comes into the store melted down. We need to restore that main panel back there to restore power," Blanchard said.

Peebles is a department store specializing in men's, women's and children's fashions, as well as gifts, tableware and home decorations. The Peebles building at Kent Plaza was built in 1967.

Editor's Note: This article by Greenback also appeared in this week's Kent County News

INSIDE



Who was wearing what at the Oscars?
Entertainment, page 7

Student reviews
The Cherry Orchard Features, page 10



Men's Lacrosse falls to Washington & Lee
Sports, page 11



Birthday Ball

(Continued from Front Page)

the student services fee. And I'm sure there are plenty of compromises to be made," said Shaffer.

"Students have created this event, and so we need students to become involved in fixing the event. We don't

want to take the event away from students. [The administration] definitely plans to involve students so that we can all stop these dangers," said Tipson.

On-Campus Jobs Still Popular Among WC Students

BY KELLY BIRINGER

Officials at WC campus report that the number of on-campus jobs have remained stable, despite a recent study done by Oklahoma State University that reports students are working more jobs.

"I haven't seen a huge increase in the numbers." Nancy Toy, Assistant Director in the Student Financial Aid Office, as well as the official in charge of Federal Work Study, states. "There's always a very small increase... we expect students to get jobs this time of year." She points out that the holiday season causes an influx of spending, summer savings have often exhausted itself by now, and Birthday Ball is also an expensive time of year.

Work Study has remained stable, according to Toy. There are just about 200 students that participate in Federal Work Study. "We have more that have been awarded Work Study but don't take it," Toy says, "and perhaps 12-13% [of those students] are working two jobs, but none over 20 hours. Most are working two [jobs] to make ten hours."

Doris Oakley, the Student Employment Coordinator in Human Resources, agrees with Toy. "I haven't seen a significant change. The only change I've seen was the shift from the College paying \$5.15 an hour to \$6.00 an hour. What we're putting out for student payroll has changed substantially."

Oakley explains that about 450-500 student paychecks are issued from the Human Resources Office per pay period, including Federal Work Study students.

Oakley says, "We have always had a lot of student employees at WC, and that's why we haven't had a large increase - because it's always been there."

Oakley is also in charge of monitoring student hours, making sure they do not go over the 20 hour mark. "Off the wall hours would be called to a student's attention - it's really not fair taking jobs when some students need a job."

Toy also emphasizes the importance of monitoring hours. "A few state institutions have students working full time to pay for college," she says, and explains that is not what is wanted out of students here.

The opportunities for students on campus can be valuable. "A lot of students have been very lucky in pursuing a career in that area [that they worked in]." Oakley says. As well as on campus positions, there are off campus paid community service positions that provide exciting opportunities.

See *Campus Jobs* on page three

Are Students Aware of Birthday Ball Problems?

BY BRIDGET ROMANO

With recent allegations of dangerous behavior and alcohol abuse at recent Birthday Balls, many students appear unaware that such dangers occurred at the event.

Such allegations bring to light the possibility of major changes to the Ball's format and management. Many students say they did not witness the incidents of alcohol poisoning, black outs or violent behavior that are being cited as occurring at the event.

As Sophomore Becky Holtzer said of the dance, "I think the behavior at Birthday Ball was pretty tame compared to last year."

While students did have concerns on how the dance was run, most did not cite an awareness of any cases of dangerous alcohol abuse. As Junior Ashley Crisler, said, "The biggest annoyance at the Birthday Ball this year was the fact that drinks were allowed on the dance floor."

Many students were upset by the stickiness and wetness of the dance area due to the spilling of beverages.

Currently, this does not appear to be the main concern of the Administration, which hopes to improve the event to insure the safety of the college's students.

As Dean of Students Bryan Matthews said, "I think [Birthday Ball] offers a lot of good things to the student community. But I have real concerns about the dangerous behavior that occurs."

"I want changes. I do not want another event like this;

it's just too dangerous," said Matthews.

Sophomore Jen Koch commented on the excessive drinking of some students, noting, "People need to stop before they go overboard, they need to know what their limits are."

Koch also said, "My collective group was under control. It seems that a lot of freshman, or people who just aren't aware of their limits and may never have experienced a Birthday Ball before, are usually the ones that get sent to the hospital."

Not all students noticed any excessive behavior at the dance, and were not aware of the reported three physical assaults, possible two hospital visits by students due to alcohol poisoning, and the four or more students found passed out on and off campus.

Said Senior Ryan Humphries of the event, "I didn't see anything out of the ordinary. Everything I came across was pretty civil."

Chris Smith, chair of the Honor Board, and member of the SGA said, "I felt that behavior at Birthday Ball was not that bad this year. Although I did miss Dr. Toll's speeches."

Michael Shaffer, SGA President said, "Unfortunately, you are always going to have those few individuals that do not know how to behave."

Shaffer said that the college tries to keep problems to a minimum by, "not allowing any alcohol into the event from the outside."

Shaffer also noted that the SGA tries to educate stu-

dents on what is acceptable behavior as well as what can be dangerous to students.

Shaffer noted that there should be tables at the dance to encourage safe practices when it comes to drinking.

"There should be a station for items that are not alcoholic. I'll be the first to admit that the lack of water available to students [at this year's event] was an oversight."

Shaffer also noted that it is hard to predicate the actions of all those attending the event each year, yet Shaffer said he feels that there are ways to keep the student body updated on student conduct while insuring the safety of students.

"I think the biggest precaution we can take as students is to realize our limits, and also realize that Birthday Ball is not just an excuse to drink, it's also a celebration of much of what we stand for as an institution."

"I know we like to work hard and play hard, but we all must realize our limits and Birthday Ball is hardly the time to test those limits--especially while among alumni, the administration, and honored guests," said Shaffer.

The Administration hopes to soon start a dialogue with students to make students aware of the dangerous behavior that occurs at Birthday Ball.

"I certainly want to be optimistic that as a campus we can work together to create an event everyone can feel good about," said Matthews.

Public Safety Report

NOISE VIOLATION: SC 05-0619

ON 2/23/05 AT 12:19 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR YELLING AND SCREAMING OUT OF A 3RD FLOOR WINDOW OF SOMERSET HALL.

NOISE VIOLATION: SC 05-0620

ON 2/23/05 AT 12:22 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR YELLING AND SCREAMING WHILE IN KENT LOOP AND KENT HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0621

ON 2/23/05 AT 12:22 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL WHILE INSIDE KENT HOUSE.

SMOKING VIOLATION: SC 05-0642

ON 2/24/05 AT 8:08 PM AN OFFICER OBSERVED A STUDENT SMOKING IN THEIR ROOM IN ST MARY'S HOUSE. THE STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION.

NOISE VIOLATION: SC 05-0644

ON 2/24/05 AT 11:22 PM A STUDENT RESIDING IN PRINCE GEORGE'S HOUSE WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR LOUD NOISE.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A COLLEGE OFFICIAL: SC 05-0645

ON 2/24/05 AT 11:30 PM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A COLLEGE OFFICIAL. HE HAD BEEN WARNED EARLIER IN THE EVENING TO KEEP THE NOISE DOWN.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0646

ON 2/24/05 AT 11:30 PM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE INSIDE DORCHESTER HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0647

ON 2/24/05 AT 11:32 PM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE INSIDE DORCHESTER HOUSE.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR: SC 05-0663

ON 2/25/05 AT 10:33 PM, A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR YELLING AND SCREAMING PROFANITIES WHILE WALKING BETWEEN THE MAIN CAMPUS LAWN AND KENT HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0665

ON 2/26/05 AT 1:38 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE IN THE LOBBY OF KENT HOUSE.

SMOKING VIOLATION: SC 05-0678

ON 2/27/05 AT 12:36 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR SMOKING A CIGAR INSIDE TALBOT HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0680

ON 2/27/05 AT 1:15 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE IN THE AREA OF FREDERICK HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0681

ON 2/27/05 AT 1:16 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE IN THE AREA OF FREDERICK HOUSE.

ALCOHOL VIOLATION: SC 05-0682

ON 2/27/05 AT 1:16 AM A STUDENT WAS ISSUED A CAMPUS CITATION FOR POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OF ALCOHOL WHILE IN THE AREA OF FREDERICK HOUSE.

ASSAULT: SC 05-0683

ON 2/27/05 AT 3:10 AM A STUDENT REPORTED BEING ASSAULTED BY ANOTHER STUDENT WHILE INSIDE DORCHESTER HOUSE. THE INCIDENT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO STUDENT AFFAIRS FOR REVIEW.

THE ELM of Washington College

Editor in Chief - Katie Hickman
News Editor - Kim Last
Features Editor - Katie Wais
Op/Ed Editor - Tom Murray
Entertainment Editor - Peter Knox
Sports Editor - Megan Block
Photography Editor - Dan Himmelberger
Online Editor - Derek Schatel
Copy Editor - Caitlin Onyx, Rachel Mauro
Distribution - Amy Bromwell, Jenn Burke
Business Manager - Tom Murray

The Elm of Washington College is published every Friday of the academic year when classes are in session. The opinions expressed in letters to the editor, columns, Campus Voices and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Elm staff. Submissions to The Elm become property of The Elm. Individuals wishing to contact The Elm by phone may call 410-778-8585. Mail to The Elm should be addressed to "The Elm" at 300 Washington Avenue, Chestertown MD 21620. E-mails are accepted at "elm_editor@washcoll.edu" Anonymous letters and/or columns will not be accepted for print. The Elm does not discriminate on any basis.

Campus Jobs

(continued from page 2)

Natalie Story, Assistant Director of Financial Aid (taking over for Nancy Toy when she retires at the end of this academic year), names Garnett Elementary School, Kent Family Center, Women in Need, Artworks, Chester River Association, Chestertown Chamber of Commerce, Chestertown Visitor's Center and United Way as some of the opportunities for employment for students through WC.

"I think those jobs that are in town are a lot more interesting. [Student workers] are very happy," Oakley explains.

On campus jobs may be more valuable than off campus jobs for different reasons. Casey Davis, a freshman at WC, currently works at the Welcome Desk on the 2nd floor of the CAC. "I like it because I can get my homework done," says Davis.

A work study student, Davis was not always happy in her job placement. In the beginning of the year, she was placed in the Cove, and she explains she had problems with the hours; Toy helped her to be reassigned. "They do what they can to accommodate what you want to do. They're really understanding about it," says Davis.

Junior Afton Woodward has three on campus jobs; Public Safety, the Writing Center, and as a research assistant for Professor Michael Harvey. "It's so much closer, and it really helps to get to know faculty and administration and you get a lot of good contacts. Plus, you really feel like part of the college community," says Woodward.

Senior Amanda Schmidt is a Residential Area Director and works in the Student Center.

"It's pretty easy – being a RAD, there's no time structure to it. It's a 24 hour job," says Schmidt. During sophomore year, Schmidt explains, she had five jobs.

"The RAD position paid better, but I needed extra cash to make up for the jobs I quit. It's kind of hard maintaining money while you're supporting yourself in college. I'm paying my own tuition – I have scholarships and everything, but I'm paying my own tuition.

"I have a great support system down there [at the Student Center]. If I need to miss a shift, I know someone will step up and I am covered."

Positions such as Residential Assistants and Residential Area Directors are salaried jobs, and therefore hours are not counted and included when being monitored by Oakley in Human Resources.

Sophomore Faith Paulick has six jobs. "The fact that students must work more than one job is not really cool. Academics sometimes come after work and that's not good, says Paulick.

Being an editor on campus can also be a strain. Paulick is the Pegasus Yearbook editor. "Specifically with being Editor, there's not nearly enough time or money to work as hard on yearbook as it should be. The Board of Publications does not give enough money for salaries."

Junior Sarah Fritz works on campus for the Alumni Phonathon, but also holds a job in Centreville where she is an activity coordinator for a youth program, a position she did not attain through WC. "I like working with children. The pay was an incentive, but it wasn't the reason," says Fritz.

However, on campus jobs have good perks that off campus jobs cannot offer, according to some students. Freshman Cynthia Grimes, a student worker at the Miller Library, explains that she likes working there because "it gives me an opportunity to do my homework, and you meet people. Not just the people you work with, but other students."

Rachel Calhoun, a sophomore and WC Switchboard operator, explains she attained the position when she got sick with mono and was unable to work her previous restaurant job. "They let me work hours in between classes. When there was a problem [last semester] we met with our supervisors and talked about it in a businesslike manner."

Freshman Deborah Miller, a student worker in WC Human Resources, explains that she was assigned to the job through work study. "I like it, not because of the actual work because it's really repetitive, but the people that work there are really nice and they make it a community.

"For underclassmen, at first, they're still getting used to campus and working on campus makes them part of the college community. Also, if you work off campus there's more of a chance of it getting in the way of your school work," says Miller.

When asked if she believes that the majority of students are happy working on campus, Oakley says, "I think so. I think sometimes some of us don't enjoy our jobs, but they [students] can change [jobs] if they choose."

"Little Known" Scholarship Offers Big Opportunities

BY JUSTINE HENDRICKS

A little known scholarship at Washington College gives a big boost to one illustrious business graduate each year.

The scholarship, currently in its sixth year, was established by Stanley A. Schottland, a retired CEO and chairman of American Packaging Corp. It is awarded annually to a senior who has demonstrated his or her leadership abilities and who plans to attend grad school to earn an M.B.A. The winner receives \$5000 cash and \$10,000 towards business school tuition, and is required to spend at least two years in the work force before returning to school. Two additional finalists receive \$1000 each.

Rebecca Corbin, the winner during the scholarship's inaugural year in 2000, currently works as director of a financial firm in New York. 2001 recipient Kristen Van Eron used the \$5000 to take graduate classes at George Washington University and Georgetown University while working for real estate and financial research companies. She is now an account manager with BigDough in Bethesda. Dean Zang, Jr., who won in 2003, used the cash to go abroad to learn about European business models and is now a real estate investment broker with Marcus & Millichap in Philadelphia.

Dr. Michael Harvey, chair of the Business Management department, stresses the scholarship's leadership component. According to Harvey, the Schottland Award "is to encourage people entering the business world to think beyond their personal career and think in terms of leading.

"One of the big things the department teaches is that

business is about more than making money," said Harvey.

Harvey says the award is "not about personal success but about what kind of leader you'll be."

Previous recipients have held offices in SGA, the Society of Junior Fellows, academic honor societies, sports teams and their fraternity or sorority. Van Eron had an internship with First Union (now Wachovia) before her senior year, and Zang had a landscaping business and sold residential and commercial real estate while at school. (He sold Suds 'n' Soda during his senior year.)

Unlike some awards, the Schottland scholarship comes with strings attached, most notably, the clause about holding a job before using the \$10,000 tuition credit. Van Eron, who admitted she was in "school mode" right after graduation, feels that the requirement is ultimately beneficial. "There's so much you can learn from being in a business environment," she said, adding, "I think it's a terrific thing."

Harvey estimates there are fewer than 20 applicants out of 40-50 majors each year, because the application process is so rigorous. Applicants must submit essays and references, and the finalists are interviewed by a panel of three distinguished businesspeople which chooses the winner.

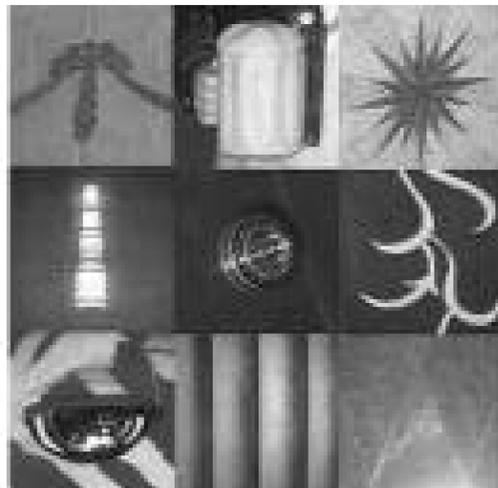
Past winners agree that the scholarship is worth the formidable application process. Van Eron said, "The \$5000 was helpful to get me on my feet and have a little bit

See *Scholarship* on page four

210 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620
Phone: 410-810-2000

<http://www.princetheatre.org/>

Prince Theatre



Friday, March 4 - Paul Reed Smith - The legendary guitar maker takes on the Prince Theatre in celebration of his Eastern Shore music community! With his new album recently released, his band Paul Reed Smith Music will be performing a variety of original, classic and modern rock tunes. Bassist Gary Gminger and mp artist Free will also be performing. Be here when we recognize him for his generous donation of entertainment and education. All ages welcome.

Showtime 8pm - General Public: \$20, Washington College Students: FREE

Saturday, March 12 - Broke But Awake - These simplistic native Marylanders got together with the hope of discovering tiny musical sparks in their souls. Bassist Pincer donated wine cellars and tool sheds as practice spaces, and shoddy analog equipment to capture the visions. The first batch of songs was compressed down from hours of ritual chanting, during which drummer C. O'Higgins became the dictator of elfin guitarists Myrrhlyn and Sheperdi. The idea of arranging an album was thusly born, and the dream took shape Thursdays over steaming vats of cabbage.

Showtime 8pm - \$7

Students Pleased With Science Center Despite Pending Lawsuit

BY JUSTINE HENDRICKS

Many students and professors are excited about the new science center, but one town resident is so unhappy he has filed suit against the school.

Robert G. Fordi, who lives across the street from the John S. Toll Science Center, is seeking an injunction to keep the college from occupying the building until the noise from the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system is reduced.

According to the court papers, "The HVAC system emits noise at a level which is unreasonable, causes physical discomfort, and is an annoyance to persons of ordinary sensibilities." Additionally, Fordi says he has had to instruct his children to stay away from the street, because the noise from the Science Center prevents them from hearing oncoming traffic.

Fordi also alleges that the College has "illegally occupied the Science Center without having received a certificate of occupancy" from the town, constituting "blatant and knowing disregard" for zoning ordinances.

Both Chestertown and the college assert in the court papers that Fordi lacks the standing to file that claim, and the college contends that there is nothing about noise in the zoning codes.

Scholarship (Con't from page three)

of leverage in looking for jobs." Zang agreed, acknowledging that "It couldn't come at a better time" during the transition from college to the working world.

Van Eron also feels the award helped by standing out on her resume. She said, "Employers are always impressed by what it entails." Corbin expressed the same sentiment in a email statement, writing: "After graduating, I felt more confident during the interview process, as the award and what it stands for differentiated me from other candidates."

Because it funds work the recipient will do after graduation, Harvey said the award is "a bet on the future."

Seniors of any major can apply, but the money must be used to pursue a career in business. "The award is meant to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit...people who take risks, people who start something, people who build something," said Harvey.

The application deadline is March 28. Application forms are available from Christy Rowan, the Business Management Dept. faculty secretary, in Daly 204.

WC has filed a motion to dismiss the suit, countering, "The Center is the only habitable College building capable of holding laboratory courses."

The HVAC system needs to be "fully operational" in order for the laboratory fume hoods to work. If the injunction is issued, students enrolled in lab courses may not be able to get the credits they need in order to graduate in May.

Silencers were installed on the HVAC system's exhaust stacks on February 20. Chemistry professor Dr. Anne Marteel-Parrish believes the mufflers "improved a lot," adding, "We're really trying to fix [the noise problem.]"

Fordi's suit was filed on January 28, just two days after he met with the administration about his complaint.

On February 1, the Queen Anne's County Circuit Court Judge denied Fordi's request for a restraining order to have the HVAC system turned off. Kent County Circuit Court Judge, J. Frederick Price, recused himself from the case because Fordi is his next-door neighbor.

Although Fordi's suit claims that the Science Center is a "nuisance," many science department students and professors are happy with their new home.

"Inside, we have much more sunlight and that's really neat," said Sayaka Hakuta, an Environmental Studies major who works in the Biology department. She acknowledges there are still little things to fix but "other than that, it's pretty cool."

Dr. Donald Munson, Chair of the Environmental Studies department, agrees that "It's a much better facility than we had." Although he feels it has too few men's bathrooms, Munson is pleased that the building has a designated environmental science classroom.

"There is recognized space, a classroom, for environmental studies," he says, adding he's glad it finally has recognition as part of the science department.

Senior Kristin Koenig, a Chemistry and Environmental Studies major, says "It's been

so anticipated." Though she is glad she is able to use the building during her senior year, she confesses "I really thought we'd be working in it all this school year, and we were a little disappointed."

There have been some problems with the building, most notably that the fume hoods, used to break down volatile compounds to prevent people from inhaling chemicals in the air, are not fully operational.

Marteel-Parrish explains they are not working because of a design problem, adding that the General Chemistry labs have not been affected because they have not used harsh chemicals.

The biggest complications in the new science center, the lack of operational hoods, the extreme temperature fluctuations, and the excessive noise, are related to the HVAC system, which should soon be fixed.

Earlier in the winter, some of the pipes in the building froze and burst, but the damage was not extensive.

Even after dealing with the center's problems, science students and professors feel the new building is far superior to the old facilities in Dunning and Decker Halls. "The laboratories have many, many functions we didn't have in the others," said Munson.

Marteel-Parrish commented that the Toll Center is a better environment in which to teach and to learn. "Technology-wise, it's really top of the line," she said. The teaching labs are equipped with computers and overhead projectors, and they also have both instrumentation and prep rooms. "People have chairs now," she said, emphasizing the enormous improvement.

"It'll be great when it's up and running," said Koenig. She added that some of the local residents went on a tour of the building just before the start of this semester. "Most of them seemed impressed," she said.

Marteel-Parrish stated, "If people haven't taken a tour yet, they should...It's all there. Come and have a look."

SGA Minutes

March 2, 2005

BY FAITH PAULICK

The election results for next year's officers, as well as budget requests, were the hot topics at this week's SGA meeting.

Sophomore Greg Schaefer has been elected 2005-2006 SGA President. Schaefer currently serves as the SGA spokesperson. Senator James Vorhies was elected Vice President of Academic Affairs. Senator Steve Sweet was elected Vice President of Financial Affairs. Junior George Best was elected Vice President of Student Services.

The elections for President and Vice President positions of the SGA showed that "this year we had one of the highest SGA turnouts in recent memory" says SGA Parliamentarian and Review Board Chair Tammi Porter.

During the Senate meeting the elections for Speaker were voted. The four nominated individuals were President Chris Tinsman, Senator Kevin McGarry, Senator Tomeka Scales, and Senator Leslie Meredith. Meredith was the only of the four who declined her nomination.

After much debate, Senator Scales was elected Speaker of the Senate for 2005-2006. Scales says, "I would like to thank the Senate for their votes, I am pleased and honored. I will be sure to support the efforts of senators and be available to any suggestions from SGA members and students regarding life at WC."

The SGA budget total has been dramatically decreased after this week's meeting. Both the International Relations Club and The Kappa Alpha Order requested money from the discretionary fund. Before the meeting started, the fund amounted to \$9331.86. This amount was reduced in

less than two hours to \$5306.86.

The International Relations Club (IRC), which chose not request any funding from the SGA at the beginning of the spring semester, decided to request \$4020.00 for two club trips and to sponsor the Cultural Night dinner.

The club originally wanted to take three trips but decided to only take two to save money. In estimation, each person going on the trip would be receiving about \$13.00 for the two trips.

The money toward Culture Night would go to food cost, as well as the cost of decorations. The senate voted against granting the full amount and instead granted the IRC \$3750.00, making the cut specifically for the amount asked for decorations.

Vice President of Financial Affairs Laura Parr says, "The IRC is a very powerful group on campus. The turnout for events is tremendous including not only students but also faculty, staff, and townspeople. The IRC is a group that embraces many cultures for international students, exchange students, and American students. Activities usually include baseball games in Baltimore, trips to New York City, and other events that give example of the American culture."

The Kappa Alpha Order requested \$275.00 for their newsletter, which is sent to current brothers, alumni and families of brothers. Kappa Alpha received \$75.00 from the SGA for the newsletter through the requested budget. It costs \$350 to print the newsletter, due to high cost of printing color. These funds were allocated with a unanimous vote and little questioning.

Cove Specials

All of the specials below come with a choice of fries, onion rings or a cup of soup and a 20 oz fountain soda or a 20 oz vintage water.

The Cove offers Student Employment. Apply within.

Monday--Chicken Wings--\$6.25
Grilled Shomen--\$6.50
Grilled Cheese--\$4.00

Tuesday--8" Cheesesteak--\$6.25
Mozzarella Sticks--\$4.50
Turkey Sandwich--\$5.25

Wednesday--Casey Chicken Sandwich--\$6.75
Double Cheeseburger--\$5.25
Popcorn Chicken--\$5.75

Thursday--8" Chicken Salad Sub--\$6.75
Coveburger--\$6.25
Buffalo Tenders--\$5.75

Friday--Chicken Sandwich (grilled or fried)--\$4.50
Any 12" Hot or Cold Sub --\$7.75

Vermont: Isolated from Reality

BY DAN HOLLER

Nestled deep in America's northeast corner is the State of Vermont. Most northeastern stereotypes are applicable to the rugged, independent little state.

It does, however, have the propensity to bring issues onto the national stage in rather creative ways; perhaps it's jealous that neighboring New Hampshire is the center of the northeast political world once every four years.

On Tuesday, during regular town hall meetings across the extremely liberal state, 52 towns debated a non-binding resolution calling on the United States to pull troops out of Iraq; more specifically, those in the Vermont National Guard. Not surprisingly, 48 townships passed some version of the resolution.

Vermont has a vested interest in their sons and daughters, just as any State does; however, they argue they are bearing a disproportional share of the costs. The State's National

Guard has the second highest mobilization rate in the country (perhaps because of their remarkable history) and they have lost more soldiers per capita than any other state (perhaps because they have a tremendous number of soldiers in comparison to a small population).

It appears the citizens of Vermont are missing a crucial point about the Vermont National Guard, in that it is part of America's armed services.

Citizens of Vermont take a great deal of pride in what their National Guard units have accomplished in the past, but they have made the mistake of believing those soldiers comprise a the Vermont Military, which they do not.

What the town hall votes suggested was that States should shape foreign policy, not the federal government, which has the constitutional authority to raise and deploy armies.

Imagine a situation in which states voted on whether or not to send troops stationed

within their political borders overseas? Devolving military power to the states is a logistical nightmare that would make the world's strongest military impotent.

Yet, that is precisely what those 48 towns proposed with their affirmative vote this past Tuesday. Everyone is well aware that the federal government will not abide by their non-binding resolution, yet it made a political statement – on which news outlets were quick to pick up on.

States' rights are very important, but the attempt by those in Vermont to control the deployment of American troops is far beyond the realm of rationality. Those who voted for bring the Guard home are divorced from reality – towns and states do not directly control American foreign policy, which is something we should all be thankful for.

Groundhog's Day: The New Six O'clock News

BY ALBIN KOWALESKI

Somebody send me the address for Punxsutawney Phil so that I can go make a gumbo out of that little groundhog.

Everyone knows that the nation seems to depend on this ball of fur every year to determine whether or not they will need to keep their winter boots out for another six weeks.

It all comes down to a shadow, that dark anomaly that follows you everywhere and used to scare you as a kid. The fate of a frigid nation parallels that of an animal that doesn't know his shadow from his finger, yet can tell when he sees it.

In the past, I have been skeptical of this superstition but this year the great and wise people of Punxsutawney, PA with their brown fuzzy mascot have hit the nail on the head. "Six more weeks of winter" they say. HA! Yeah right how does he know?

Well, apparently he knows more than me, possibly more than most weathermen, and he lives in a fake tree stump.

Weathermen are a unique breed. They are our twenty first century fortune tellers, predicting the future on which many plan their daily activities around.

Utilizing high tech equipment such as the "Doppler Nine Billion," weathermen can track ominous clouds over large plots of land with GPS (Global Positioning System), and let the viewing public know what the forecast is.

Not only do we allow weathermen to determine our plans, we allow them to interrupt them too. Countless times I have seen a weatherman's mug cut into "CSI" or the "Simpsons," or a scrolling message across the top of the screen with that ear splitting "BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!" Finally after a five minute interruption, in which you are told everything you can see by looking out of the window, at last, "The Bachelorette" comes back on, except we have no idea if Trista chose Ryan or Greg to be her fiancé.

The recent snowstorm has afforded me an epiphany. Weathermen are nothing but college students. They don't know the answer to what the weather is going to do, so they guess and pray that they are correct.

Good weathermen can make something up but keep their innocence by some kind of sleaze-ball charm and a crooked smile. If you watch different news stations you'll see that a different forecast is predicted on each channel. Because of so many possibilities the weather turns into one ambiguous cloud of different colors as shown by the dopplers all over the viewing area.

To tell you the truth, Coco the monkey could do just as good a job as the next weatherman, and would actually make for better television. And yet everyday we put our trust in these men; it is a gamble and that can be addicting.

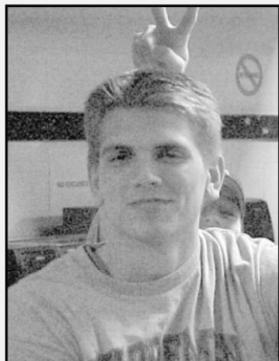
campus voices

What do you think about hazing?

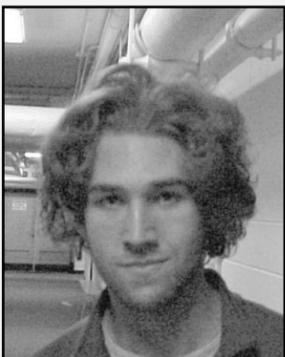
COMPILED BY BILL MURPHY



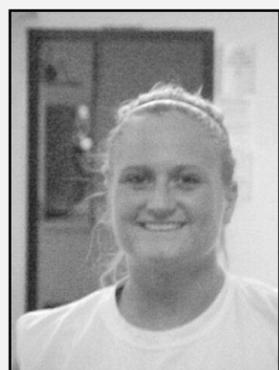
"It is demeaning and cruel, in a fun sort of way."
Sean Ferri



"What else are pledges good for?"
Eric Guettermann



"There should be a check box on college applications to see if students accept hazing practices."
Paul Franklin



"I think it is bad for all parties involved."
Diane Green

Nourishment for the Soul...

Catholic Mass is held every Sunday at 5:30pm in the Norman James Theatre in Smith Hall.

Be Nourished by Word and Sacrament.

Nourishment for the body...

Soda and Pizza are served immediately after Mass- stay and socialize with fellow students.

Can't attend the 5:30pm Sunday on-campus Mass? Mass is also held at Sacred Heart Parish Saturday evening at 5:30pm and Sunday morning 8:30 and 11:30am.

STUDENTS

BUY AN

ELM AD

ONLY \$1.00

SEND AN EMAIL TO:
tmurray2@washcoll.edu

Letter from the Editor

WC Speaks Out: "What is Good Journalism?"

BY KATIE HICKMAN
ELM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's not an easy task directing the operation of a weekly newspaper on a small college campus.

Some may think being the Editor of The Elm isn't emotionally challenging and demanding; but in reality, it is.

Running a school paper isn't just about checking grammar and designing layouts. Ninety percent of my job is making hard decisions about what should be printed, how it should be printed, and why it should be printed.

To be honest, being in charge of The Elm has been the most grueling task I've ever taken on.

And that's the way it should be.

Deciding what to cover and report is a challenging choice, especially when Washington College is such a small institution.

The idea of personally offending my peers, my professors, the staff or the administration terrifies me, sometimes to the point where I wonder whether facts that may question their character should be published at all.

But the key to journalism is fact. Without it, true journalism doesn't even exist.

In the words of the *Aspen Daily News* motto, "If you don't want it printed, don't let it happen."

So what is journalism? What makes it work?

There isn't just one standard definition of journalism, but last semester, I set out to see what the WC community thinks journalism is.

I sent out a campus-wide e-mail asking students for their opinion on "what journalism really is," explaining that "The Elm is working hard to be a solid campus newspaper by representing the entire WC community and listening to what students feel constitutes a good paper."

Why did I do this? Because The Elm is for us. It's a student-run newspaper on a college campus. It's for us, and it's what we, as a whole, make of it.

I got an overwhelming response from students. Some took my request seriously; some didn't.

Some students sent me fervent song lyrics about journalism and truth, others voiced their obvious apathy towards journalism, such as Sophomore David Amos, who replied with "I can sum up what journalism is in one word; Bullshit!" or Sophomore Brian Foy, who wrote "Good journalism is doody and pee pee."

Over half of the responses listed being unbiased as the number one quality of a good publication and/or reporter. According to Senior Laura Stouffer, "Good journalism should offer unbiased facts with little attempt at analysis or interpretation."

Sophomore Tonie Domino responded to my e-mail with "Good journalism involves doing careful research in order to present as unbiased a story as possible...when a story is presented from only one point of view, it offends the opposite point of view."

Journalism.org is a resource for the journalistic

In the words of the Aspen Daily News motto, "If you don't want it printed, don't let it happen."

world, offering professional resources pertaining to the field.

Their Statement of Shared Purpose reads "The central purpose of journalism is to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information they need to function in a free society."

Furthermore, it states journalism's first obligation as being for truth, or "citizens having reliable, accurate facts put in a meaningful context", the second obligation being for its loyalty to the citizens. According to the website, journalism "must provide a forum for public criticism and compromise" and "serve as an independent monitor of power."

And that's where my job gets difficult.

In order to serve as an "independent monitor of power," a publication must practice some sort of detachment from its surrounding community to some degree.

How, as a student, do I fully detach from my fellow peers and the activities and events on campus?

It's simple; I can't.

There's always a degree of emotion involved. I know many of the people we report on - how could there not be emotion involved?

But that doesn't mean that the facts should be altered or thrown out the window when producing a full story.

That would be watered-down journalism. And our campus does not deserve that.

According to Junior Emmy Hyde, "The difference between a good reporter and a bad one is the way in which the story is conveyed to the public, without emotion in the news, people are becoming desensitized to the tragedies happening all around us and watching the news is like watching Kill Bill; there's crazy shit going on but it doesn't feel real."

But I, along with the entire Elm staff, can do our best in providing the WC community with unbiased, meaningful, and accurate articles and information.

Whenever we work on a story, we attempt to interview all parties that have a part in the story. However, sadly, we don't always get a response from all parties.

So that's where you come in. Like I said before, this is a publication for us. Contribute to it. Use it to your full advantage. Use it as a true open forum.

Senior Sam Hastler's response blew me away. She wrote, "Good journalists seek the truth, without bias and without over-dramatizing specific attention-grabbing details."

"Finally, good journalism admits when a mistake has been made and does not hesitate to report the truth which presents itself after a situation has been covered, even if the truth is apt to strike less fear in the hearts of the general population than the previously over-dramatized and highly speculative media coverage."

Many of the students actually thanked me for wanting to know their feelings on true journalism when they responded. But, in truth, I should be thanking all of you.

Thank you for reading the paper that we, as a whole staff, work so hard to produce for you. Thank you for voicing your opinion on what true journalism is.

Thank you, in advance, for using The Elm as what it is; a vehicle of communication for all of us.

Letter to the Editor

Writer's Response to Reporting of Alleged Phi Delta Theta Hazing Incident

CONTRIBUTED BY TANYA
BORUKHOVA

Editor's Note: Borukhova's Letter to the Editor is in response to last week's article "Did the Phi Deltas Revamp Their Pledge Process?"

Although I realize that The Elm reserves the right to run an article if it has been submitted, I am still rather upset by the fact that it was published against my wishes (contact was made with me asking for permission to reprint the article with some modifications and I clearly declined).

I understand that the author of the article about the Phi Deltas' hazing investigation (*Editor's Note: Last week's article "Phi Delta Theta Under Investigation for Hazing"*) could have used some extra information, but it would have been much better if pieces of my article were used in hers and if my article was not printed by itself.

I do not think it was necessary to state that I am a "Phi Delta girlfriend;" it would have

probably been enough to say that I am a friend of the Fraternity, so as to explain the apparent conflict of interest.

Another concern is that although I realize that it is under the section editor's jurisdiction to create a headline, normally

"...there are various ways to obtain information for a well-informed article; some ways can be more tactful and less offensive than others."

when I submit articles with my own headlines, they are all printed without modification.

"Did the Phi Deltas Revamp their Pledge Process?," the headline that was put on my article, gave the whole piece a pejorative connotation; my original headline was "Brothers With a Conscience: Phi Deltas Revamp Pledge Process."

As for a separate concern about the hazing investigation article, creative reporting has led to the inference that the Phi

Deltas do not participate in any risk management program, which is not true.

The Fraternity's stance on risk management could have been found on the website, www.phideltatheta.org: Phi Deltas choose to have an internal training program within the Fraternity, and representatives from each chapter are mandated to attend seminars to learn the policies and procedures that pertain to risk management.

In conclusion, I would like to say that there are various ways to obtain information for a well-informed article; some ways can be more tactful and less offensive than others.

Editor's Note: Please check out the next issue of The Elm for a follow-up article on the alleged Phi Delta Theta hazing incident.

**HAVE SOMETHING
TO SAY?**

Letters to the Editor, Editorials
Always Welcome

email elm_editor@washcoll.edu

Correction

1) The final paragraph of last week's article "Could A Camera Be Watching You?" was cut off due to publishing problems. The concluding sentence reads as follows: *Roderick says, "This is where we want students to be walking at night, so this is where we should monitor activity."*

2) In last week's article "Men's Tennis Ranked Fifth in Preseason Polls," Coach Constantine Ananiadis was quoted as saying, "We feel

we will intimidate our opponents off and on the court, thanks to the strength, speed, and confidence we have gained in the off season. Even though we only have five home matches, we hope to see you all out there supporting the squad." However, the quote was stated by Junior Tim Riskie of the men's tennis team. The Elm apologizes for the mix-up.

Edgy Awards Show for Entertainment Industry: 77th Annual Oscars

BY KELSEY VAN DYKE

First-time host Chris Rock added edginess to a bland awards show normally targeted to an older audience.

The 77th Annual Academy Awards proved to be slightly more entertaining than in years past. Unlike last year, in which *Lord of the Rings* won in almost every category worth mentioning, the winners were a bit more varied.

The opening of the Oscars was less theatrical than usual - it simply consisted of a stand-up routine.

This was much more suited for Chris Rock than a song and dance routine, like Billy Crystal or Whoopi Goldberg have performed in the past.

In his joke about "movies nobody wanted to make," Rock's tendency to bring up racial issues was not neglected. He compared "Soul Plane" with "Passion of the Christ" as movies offensive to

African-Americans and Jews, respectively.

Rock also made fun of the Academy in a segment in which he interviewed moviegoers at the Magic Johnson Theater in L.A.

He interviewed several people, asking them if they had seen any of the movies nominated for Best Picture.

Most had not seen any of the nominees.

However, when asked if they had seen last year's Wayans brothers movie *White Chicks*, most people interviewed had seen it and liked it.

By poking fun at the Academy's difference in taste from the average person, Rock made the Oscars, typically aimed at an older audience, more entertaining to a younger audience.

The beautiful, extravagant world of Howard Hughes, set in "The Golden Age of Hollywood" during the 1930s and 1940s, was dramatically illustrated

through Martin Scorsese's biopic *The Aviator*.

With eleven nominations, the film took on a few of the "artsy" awards for the evening, winning in both Art Direction and Costume Design.

Later on, Cate Blanchett, the favored winner by critics, defeated Annette Bening (*Being Julia*), Catalina Sandino Moreno (*Maria Full of Grace*), Imelda Staunton (*Vera Drake*), and Kate Winslet ("Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind") for the Best Supporting Actress award.

She was given the award for her amazing portrayal of the late actress Katharine Hepburn.

Jamie Foxx won the Best Actor award for playing the legendary Ray Charles in last year's *Ray*.

As the predicted winner by many critics, it was no surprise that Foxx won.

In his heartfelt acceptance speech, he noted his late

grandmother for being his "first acting teacher." She told him as he grew up to "act like you got some sense."

Among other Oscars awarded during the evening, Best Foreign Film was awarded to the Spanish film *The Sea Inside*.

The Incredibles won in the Best Animated Feature category.

Charlie Kaufman received the Best Original Screenplay award for *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, earning its only Oscar of the night.

Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor won the Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for *Sideways*.

Composer Jan A.P. Kaczmarek received the Best Original Score award for *Finding Neverland*.

Best Original Song was awarded to *Al Otro Lado Del Rio*, performed by Jorge Drexler, from the Spanish-lan-

guage movie *The Motorcycle Diaries*.

Clint Eastwood's *Million Dollar Baby* won big throughout the evening. Morgan Freeman took one of the first awards of the night as Best Supporting Actor.

In the Best Director category, Martin Scorsese, five-time nominee and director of *The Aviator*, was defeated by Clint Eastwood.

Hilary Swank took her second Best Actress trophy (her first was for *Boys Don't Cry* in 2000) for her starring role in *Million Dollar Baby*.

Her long, dramatic acceptance speech began with a thank-you to her husband, Chad Lowe, who she forgot to mention in her 2000 Oscar acceptance speech.

For the final award of the evening, *Million Dollar Baby* scored again, beating out *The Aviator*, *Finding Neverland*, *Ray*, and *Sideways* for Best Picture.

Fashion in Full: The Red Carpet Rundown

BY JUSTINE HENDRICKS

On Oscar night, the big question often is not what the stars won, but what they wore.

The big trend in 2005 was a fitted strapless dress with a long train.

Newcomer Emmy Rossum, who starred in *A Phantom of the Opera*, was a star on the red carpet in a wine-colored strapless gown by Ralph Lauren.

With glamorous updo and her matching necklace and earrings by Harry Winston, the 18 year old looked more silver screen queen than prom queen.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OSCAR.COM

Hilary Swank

Two exceptions to the strapless dress brigade were Academy Award winners Hilary Swank and Cate Blanchett.

Anyone who thinks long sleeves aren't sexy must not have seen Swank.

Her blue gown, clinging to every curve, left little to the imagination and made one of the night's biggest fashion statements. The one of a kind dress had a high neckline, but when Swank turned around everyone was wondering just how low it could go.

Cate Blanchett, whose portrayal of Katharine Hepburn earned her the Best Supporting Actress award, stood out in a yellow, one-shouldered Valentino with a maroon sash.

It was an awkward color combination, but Blanchett pulled it off to land on nearly every best-dressed list.

Halle Berry also went the one shoulder route in a pewter Versace gown that hugged her toned figure. The combination of crepe, sequins and satin was so flattering even the gown's drab color couldn't detract from her look.

Scarlett Johansson, however, didn't live up to her stellar style reputation.

She told E!'s Star Jones Reynolds she could hardly breathe in her gown, but it's hard to understand why she put herself through that misery for a plain black dress that was so far from fabulous.

And while she's been known to hit the peroxide bottle a little too hard, Johansson's frizzy updo was a cry for a deep conditioning treatment ASAP.

Another beauty whose look didn't measure up was Charlize Theron.

When she won her Oscar for Best Actress last year, she dazzled in a slinky gold number.

This time she looked less than stunning with a brunette updo similar to those seen on Drew Barrymore and Renee Zellweger. The flounce on the front of her dress resembled a Chanel worn by Nicole Kidman last year, and all the tiers on her enormous skirt and train made her look like a peacock dragging her tail feathers in the dust.

The men usually have an easier time (it's hard to go

black shirt and tie, looked amazing except for the Air Jordans and tasseled fez that were out of place at the Oscars.

Lee wasn't the only man accessorizing this year.

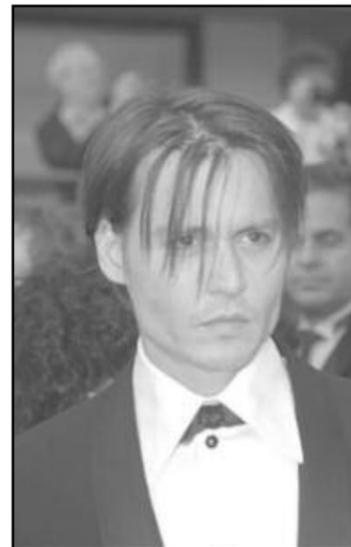


PHOTO COURTESY OF SALON.COM

Johnny Depp

Morgan Freeman showed up with a beige scarf draped around his neck, and the small silver peace sign on Tim Robbins' tie was a better statement, fashion or political, than is usually seen from him.

Johnny Depp lived up to his kooky fashion rep, dressed in a blue smoking jacket with black lapels.

Last year he arrived looking more polished than ever, but his shaggy hair and goatee were, unfortunately, back on the red carpet this time.

Leonardo DiCaprio, on the other hand, ditched his usually scruffy look for a classic Prada suit and styled hair, fitting for the actor who so skillfully portrayed the young Howard Hughes.

Jamie Foxx, who beat out DiCaprio for Best Actor, strayed only slightly from the norm, pairing a black tie with a blue tux.

Prince, as usual, was nowhere close to the norm,

wearing a royal blue velvet jacket with a pale pink wing tip shirt and pink tuxedo pants.

Comedian Chris Rock looked like he belonged on stage at the Oscars, hosting in a black velvet tux designed by P. Diddy, while Usher stood out in a white tux and more bling than anyone but Beyoncé.

The songstress is beautiful, but the earrings she wore on the red carpet would've taken someone's eye out had she turned her head too quickly. And the jewelry she wore during her second performance was more like a collar than a necklace, looking like it weighed almost as much as her sparkly eye makeup.

Beyoncé's eye shadow aside, this year's Oscar fash-



PHOTO COUTESY OF OSCAR.COM

Beyoncé

ions weren't very adventurous.

With J.Lo home with her hubby instead of sporting red fox eyelashes, and Gwyneth out of her goth stage and into mommy mode, there were no big fashion surprises or mishaps.

The strapless gowns and long trains on the red carpet were a throwback to old-school Hollywood glamour.

Too bad all that class didn't help the ratings.



PHOTO COURESTY OF OSCAR.COM

Renee Zellweger

Renee Zellweger also donned a ruby-hued strapless dress, hers by Carolina Herrera. It was nice to see Zellweger wearing color for once, even though her fishtail skirt and long train weighed more than she did.

Gwyneth Paltrow made her best Oscar appearance to date in a pale pink strapless Stella McCartney creation. The fair-skinned actress looked radiant rather than washed out, with understated makeup and long flowing blond hair.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OSCAR.COM

Charlize Theron

wrong with a simple tux) but there were some standouts.

Spike Lee, in a white Dolce & Gabbana suit with a

Drinking On A Gas Card

BY MICHAEL McGRATH

Around once a week or so, more often if things are particularly tight, I make a 26 mile round trip to Galena's Mobil Mini-Mart. It is not the closest place that sells alcohol but it is the only place that accepts my Mobil Gas Card.

Two words really sum up my Mobil experience: "General Merch." This is what comes up on my father's Mobil bill statement whenever I but anything besides gas on it. And there is so much to choose from! The Galena Mobil Mini Mart has a small selection of wines, mostly red and unfortunately not boxed, a decent selection of domestic beer and two rows of snack food.

My most recent trip was last Tuesday and I bought a case of High Life, a bag of Smartfood, a pack of Parliament Lights and a copy of the new magazine "Sly," which was started by Sylvester Stallone and seeks to attract men who wish to live the "Sly lifestyle." While I don't think Sly buys booze at a gas station I like to think that we have some things in common, and so I thought I would support his venture into the printed word. After all, I did buy the first issue of Gene Simmon's "Tongue" magazine and not even that was a total loss.

The best part of the gas card trick (a variation of which was featured in the early '90s film "Reality Bites," although I try to

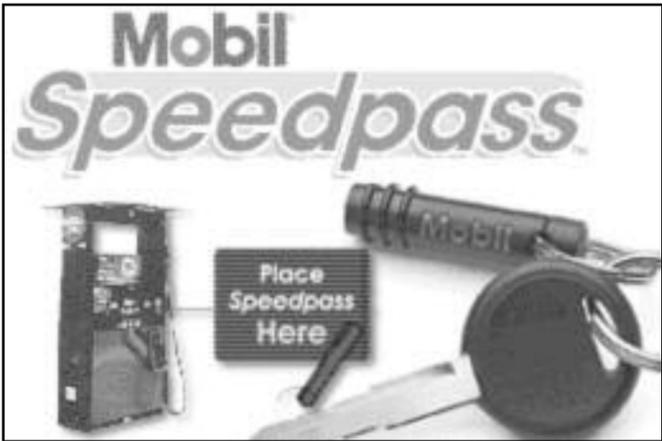


PHOTO COUTESY OF CARDWEB.COM

The Mobil Card has given me so much over the years...It also puts gas in my tank from time to time.

play down those comparisons) is that, if used wisely, it is almost impossible to get caught.

There are so many things that can be deemed "essential" that are sold at gas stations other than gas. Motor oil, for one. Maps, plastic gas cans, condoms, beef jerky, Immodium AD, sunglasses, the list goes on.

When confronted with a questionable charge, one could say, "I was lost and the sun was really bright and my stomach hurt SO BAD! Thank GOD for that gas card. Really a life-saver." This has happened three times since I have had my Mobil Card and I have had it for six years. One close call for every two years is a small price to pay for convenience. And you can't beat the price.

The Mobil Card has given me so much over the years- mixers, bags of ice, lottery tickets, scratch tickets, Wet N' Wilds, novelty sandals, pornography, Skoal, Mobil Team Racing hats and some killer Ray Ban aviator knock-offs.

It also puts gas in my tank from time to time. It will be a sad day when I have to let it go, but hopefully that won't be anytime soon- I recently received a Mobil "Speedpass" in the mail.

New Entertainment This Week

BY PENNY MAUSE

DVD's - This week of March 6-13 includes some great new releases of DVD's. These include "Friends- The Complete Ninth Season", "Ladder 49" and "Felicity: Season Four". Also out this week is "Spongebob Squarepants: The Movie", for all the fans of a sponge who lives under the sea.

CD's - There are some amazing releases this week, including Jennifer Lopez's album "Rebirth", The Mars Volta's "Frances the Mute", and Chris Rock's "Never Scared" comedy CD. Other wonderful albums this week are 50 Cent's "Massacre", Deana Carter's "Story of My Life" and Super Furry Animals "Under the Influence".

Movies - New in movies this week are Be Cool, The Jacket, The Pacifier, and Robots. Be sure to check out Vin Diesel in The Pacifier, as this is one role not many people expected him to play: an undercover nanny protecting a family. The Jacket, with Adrien Brody, may remind some people of Brody's psychotic performance in The Village, but this movie is nothing like that.

It does include some psychological strangeness though, so be prepared to pay attention.

Looking for something to satisfy your animation urge? Then look no further than Robots. Last but not least, "Be Cool," as strange a title as it is for a John Travolta movie, seems to be promising in the multiple dance sequences between Travolta and Uma Thurman.

Beyond Green Day: Other Worthy Punk Bands

BY BRIAN TAYLOR

Amidst all the much-deserved praise recently heaped on punk veterans Green Day and their Bush-bashing rock opera American Idiot, punk rock has once again gained some significant national attention.

It would be wrong, however, to think that Green Day is the only current punk band worthy of such accolades. True, punk is not what it once was, but there are still a number of bands out there worth listening to, and there names are not Good Charlotte or Simple Plan.

There are always good bands like Rancid, NOFX, or the Dropkick Murphys to fall back on, but if you're looking to get into some newer, less well-known, good punk rock, here are a few excellent bands to start with:

Rise Against - The best band in punk today. Rise Against's appeal begins with lead singer Tim McIlraith, who writes some of the most meaningful and poetic lyrics you'll hear anywhere, then sings every note with all of his heart. Veterans of the Chicago scene, Rise Against put on an unbelievable live show, fostering the degree of unity among crowd members that should be the goal of every good punk band.

Start with either *Revolutions Per Minute* or *The Siren Song of the Counterculture*, both are excellent albums. Rise Against recently signed to a major label and may be getting big soon, so now's the time to give them a listen.

Strike Anywhere - Strike Anywhere is one of the most principled and idealistic bands in the scene today; one

bio describes them as having a "cynics advisory warning". Hailing from Richmond, their songs deal mainly with inequality, injustice, and ways to thwart these forces.

Their most well-known song to date, "Sunset on 32nd", describes an incident in which lead singer Tomas Barnett watched an African-American neighbor coming home with groceries for his family beaten by white Richmond cops. Barnett subsequently used money from Strike Anywhere's first record deal to help pay the man's hospital bills. Strike Anywhere is hardcore, and its members practice what they preach. Try their album *Change is a Sound*; it's a classic.

Alkaline Trio - If Chicago's Alk3 are slightly disturbing, their tales of girls, drinking, and death make them one of the funniest and most entertaining bands around. The Trio relies on dark imagery and clever lyrics, a style that works as their tongue-in-cheek presentation keep the listener from taking their tales of macabre too seriously. Guitarist Matt Skiba and bass player Dan Andriano trade off vocal duties over fast-paced, catchy pop-punk. Check out *From Here to Infirmary*, their most consistent album, first.

Against Me! - The best pseudo-acoustic anarchist band ever to come out of the state of Florida. Against Me! blend folk and punk and inspire some of the best sing-alongs in the scene. The band has a gift for songwriting as well as song titles: "Pints of Guinness Makes You Strong", "Baby, I'm an Anarchist", "Cliché Guevara", and "You Look Like I Need a Drink", are unforgettable.

Against Me!'s first album, *Reinventing Axl Rose*, consists of acoustic fast-paced arrangements, as do a number of their E.P.s. It's probably best to start with their second album, *As the Eternal Cowboy*, which has more of a familiar punk sound.

Ted Leo/ Pharmacists - The smartest punk band around. Leo has long been an integral part of the D.C. scene, fronting bands like Chisel, Animal Crackers, and the Sin Eaters. His musical heroes are Billy Bragg and the Jam, and their influences shine through in his mix of mod, folk, and punk. Leo's songs tackle both social and relationship issues while his voice hits notes previously unimaginable. All of his albums are good; the best one to start with is probably *Shake the Sheets*, his latest effort.

The Lawrence Arms - Another Chicago scene product, the Lawrence Arms play pop-punk the way it was meant to be played: loud, fast, and drunk. Bassist Brendan Kelly and guitarist Chris McCaughan trade off vocals, and sing about typical Chicagoan twentysomething problems over well-executed, catchy melodies. The band's members are some of punk's truly great characters: Kelly was interviewed by The Daily Show earlier this year, and their last album came complete with footnotes. Their best work is *Apathy and Exhaustion* and, if the footnotes don't put you off, give *The Greatest Story Ever Told* a try too.

So listen to these bands. Especially if you currently listen to country, for if you listen to country, you need these bands more than you know.

Gran Turismo Four: In Review

BY JESSE WOLCOTT

Gran Turismo 4 (GT4) came out last Tuesday, and for Playstation 2 (PS2) enthusiasts, it was the much awaited Holy Grail. In other words, this was, to some extent, the Halo 2 for PS2.

Although there was no limited edition in the US, a special edition was, and still is, available in Japan, with a White PS2, Memory Card, Japanese GT4, and controllers, all emblazoned with the GT4 logo and namesake. It retails for about 600\$, and is available from various import sites such as Playasia, www.playasia.com, for those that take the Gran Turismo series seriously. ||

While much of the graphics engine remains intact for Gran Turismo 3: A-spec (GT3), with sweeping scenery, marvelously rendered tracks, and detailed cars, there are some upgrades. Shadow and reflective rendering has been coded differently, resulting in a speedy graphics engine with real-time shadows and reflections.

The lackluster soundtrack that we have come to expect from the GT series also got a tune-up, with tracks from the likes of Van Halen, and other big names. Needless to say, it was a welcome change from GT's of yore.

Game play has remained as difficult as ever, but that's also good news. If you've mastered GT3, you're good to go in GT4.

Like most, however, I had not, but found the game to have a non-insurmountable learning curve. The licensing system is still intact, with a few changes. The rally license is strangely absent, though upon further inspection, I found that they had instead split it into the other licenses.

The best part of the game has always been the cars.

While a bit disappointed in GT3, the selection of 650 cars in GT4 excited me quite a bit. Concept cars, such as 2005 Ford Mustangs, and a great addition of used cars complete the selection quite a bit.

Also, the upgrades section has vastly improved.

The track selection is amazing, as usual. Even the "Sunday Cup" races that don't require a license are far more interesting than GT3. There are a lot of rally courses, with the new inclusion of snow.

All in all, this highly anticipated follow up delivers everything it promises, and more. Online play is not available, however, LAN play works very well. The game is only available for PS2, and can be purchased at any major game retailer for \$49.99. Final conclusion: Gold star. Thumbs Up.

Upcoming Game news:
- Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas Scheduled for Xbox Release in May

- All three next generation consoles will be playable at E3 in May, probably out for Christmas

- Sony's new portable console, PSP, is sold out for initial release on March 24. Shortages are expected to plague the system.

Local Playwright Mary Wood Visits WC Campus

By KELLY BIRINGER

A recent visit by WC alum Mary Wood brought about discussion of environment tensions on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Wood, a local playwright, as well as a 1968 WC graduate and former Trustee of Washington College, was a recent guest of the Washington College's Rose O'Neill Tea & Talk Series.

"I really want to thank you for the invitation... reminds me of the good old days." Wood said as she opened up her talk.

Wood spoke about her play, *Hunting Rights*, which is based on a true occurrence that happened to herself and her family in the 1980s.

A hunter came to her and her husband and offered a large sum of money in return for the hunting rights to their farm. As Wood emphasized, farming is not a profitable business and they were tempted to take the offer. However, after thought and consideration, they realized it would be a nuisance, and wondered, "Would the children get shot?"

"None of us were really interested in hunting," Wood explains, and went on to relate this to her play, in which an instance like this led to conflict and pressure being put on a character.

"I don't want to tell you the whole plot," Wood said, stopping herself a few times.

The characters of *Hunting Rights*, Wood says, are "a dotty old lady," a hustling hunting god," and "a faithful retainer," i.e. an African American man that works for them.

Wood spoke in detail about the writing process. "There's nothing more beautiful than your

ask an African American man to read for the "faithful retainer" role, since the only reason she would be asking him was because he was African American (and that would not be considered socially acceptable). Wood, as a result, ended up with a Caucasian "faithful retainer."

The recent performance at WC of *The Cherry Orchard* was a topic of discussion for Wood as well.

She attended the performance, and attributed "a great connection with *The Cherry Orchard*" and her own *Hunting Rights*. "I feel very conceited to say that, and put my play in the same category," Wood says, and gave her approval to the WC Drama Department's production of *The Cherry Orchard*: "What a set! It was a wonderful performance."

During a question and answer session, it was revealed that she stopped years ago trying to get things published

("I just couldn't be bothered anymore; life's too short") and that Wood often draws her work from her own life. Her first play was a drama in one act called *Crossing the Gulf*, which was based on her own experience sailing across the Gulf Stream.

On her most recent work, *Hunting Rights*, Wood seems excited. "I think it's quite a nice play, myself."

Hunting Rights will be performed on Sunday, March 6, at the Churchill Theater. Admission is free and refreshments will be served after.

"There's nothing more beautiful than your own words. We don't admit that, but it's true."

--Mary Wood

own words. We don't admit that, but it's true," she said, and many audience members, writers themselves, chuckled.

She explained how the transition from poet to playwright was difficult at times. "The charms of writing are being alone with your thoughts, a pen or a computer, and if you're lucky, a reader... it's different with theater." Wood uses directors, actors, and factors such as budget and stage directions as examples of things that can impede on a writer.

Wood also spoke of interesting aspects involved as a playwright, such as not being able to

Careers in Art Editing Discussed in Recent Lecture

By Caitlin Patton

It was an enthusiastic group of students and faculty who gathered (despite the snowstorm outside) in the Casey Academic Center Forum at 4:30 on Monday afternoon, to hear John Harris talk about editing art history. His talk was titled, "Confessions of an Art Book Editor."

Harris, who was introduced by the Art History and English student Jeanette Kelleher, is a Senior Editor at the J. Paul Getty Museum.

His talk was of particular interest to WC students, as he built his successful career from the foundation of a liberal arts education.

He was an English major with an unofficial Art History minor at Middlebury College. "I didn't set out to be an editor," Harris said. "In fact, I've never met anyone who set

out to be an editor. Being an editor is something you fall or slide into." He humorously described editors as people who have "a nearly infinite capacity to fret and stew."

Harris talked about the job he had as a young man, just starting out: he worked as a typist at the Smithsonian Institution, pounding out reports on Korean sewage systems.

A year later, he began working at the Smithsonian Press, doing production work. That was his introduction to the world of book publishing.

He got a job at the Getty Museum nearly twenty years ago, and since then has worked his way up to the position of Senior Editor.

His advice to students was to "go talk to people, introduce yourself," because career opportunities

may present themselves through these connections. "It worked for me," he said. "You can get through to people, just call them."

Harris went on to address the question, "what does editing mean?"

He has a modest perception of his job, saying that much of editing is "cleaning up after careless authors" who often "loathe the experience of being edited." However, he also said that many authors are not careless at all and being an editor is wonderful despite the difficulties.

He cited the satisfaction of having something to show for all of his hard work, and showed many slides of the books he has edited during his years at the Getty.

"Writing is a deeply private activity, almost furtive," he said, showing that he empathizes with writers who are touchy about having their work edited.

People skills, he told his audience, are important for an editor. "Among other things, the editor must be a cheerleader, high school English teacher,

graphologist, disciplinarian, computer tech, mind reader, and clinical psychologist." He also talked about the importance of clarity in writing, and said that it is part of the editor's job to "help authors get their point across."

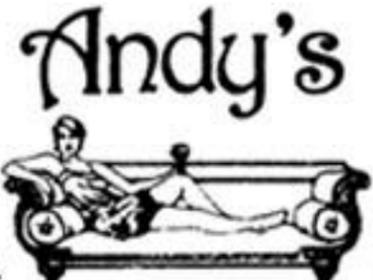
There are a lot of people involved in making a book, and Harris likes the group aspect of his job.

He said he has edited around fifty or sixty books for the Getty. These range from the scholarly to children's books such as *Marguerite Makes a Book*, which was recognized in *The Los Angeles Times* as one of the best-selling children's books in Southern California.

Harris talked about the fun of working on children's books, and how liberating it was for him (and his colleagues) to work on something that was not the usual serious, scholarly writing about the Getty collection.

It was a new idea to present the Getty's collection in a silly rather than serious light, but one that has paid off.

"You never know what you'll be working on," Harris said.



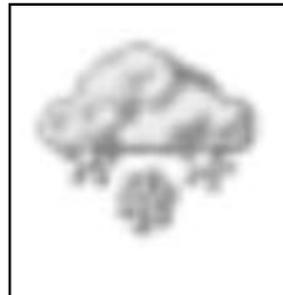
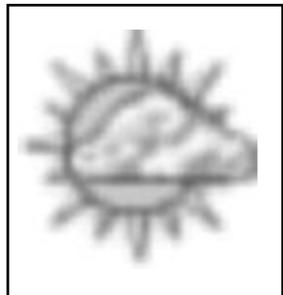
337 1/2 High St. **410-778-6779**

Kitchen open until 11pm weeknights,
midnight Friday & Saturday

Wednesday, March 2 Jeff Lang <i>aussie guitar/songwriter</i>	Saturday, March 5 Radio Mosaic <i>jam band</i>
Thursday, March 10 Shaking Tree <i>innovative pop/rock</i>	Friday, March 11 June Star <i>alt country/rockers</i>

*** Must be 21 ***

Weekend Weather

Saturday	Sunday
	
Rain/Snow Showers; highs in the mid 40s	Partly cloudy; highs in the low 40s

The Cherry Orchard: One Student's Frustrated Review

BY RENEE FARRAH

Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* opened Friday night in Tawes Theater after the intense snow storm that caused the show to cancel its original opening night on Thursday. Directed by Professor Timothy Maloney, the script he used was a new translation by Kirstin Johnsen-Neshati.

The plot of *The Cherry Orchard* is as follows: it begins with the return of the lady of the house, Lyubóv Andréevna (Polly Sommerfeld) and her daughter Anya (Rachel Loose). They had taken refuge in France for the previous five years after the drowning of Lyubóv's son and death of her husband.

We meet the servants and discover that Dunyásha (Michelle Disney) has been proposed to by Yepikhóvov (Peter Knox) nicknamed "22 Disasters" due to his clumsiness and general simplicity, but her heart belongs to Yásha (Andrew Yanek). Firs (Liam Daley) is a faithful serf who, despite the freedom brought to his profession, remains in the household to watch over Leoníd Andréevich Gaev (John Hefner).

Várya (Sarah Curnoles) wrestles with her feelings towards the ambitious Yermolái Lopákhn (Matt Biringner) while keeping her eye on the blossoming relationship between Anya and her tutor Trofímov (Michael Moore). Sineonóv-Píshchik (Greg Shaefer) and Charlóttá Ivánova (Amanda Barnes) provide entertainment with his optimistic belief in obtaining money and her proud display of magic tricks.

The connecting event is that the beloved cherry orchard on the land of the mansion which has been owned by Lyubóv's and worked as serfs by Yermolái Lopákhn's family for generations must be sold with the house and chopped down to make room for summer cottages due to Lyubóv's debt. She has the uncanny ability to throw away money, and being swindled by a lover in France made



PHOTO BY PAUL W. GILLESPIE

Peter Knox, Michelle Disney, Andrew Yanek

matters worse. Lopákhn buys the house and orchard to the horror of everyone presently living in the house and the play ends with everyone leaving and Firs being forgotten and left to die alone in the house he gave his freedom up for.

I deduced that this play was not for me. I didn't care at all about the characters and this was not the fault of the actors on stage. The acting, the set, the costumes, all were excellent, I just wish Chekhov would have written book called *My Thoughts on Life* instead of slapping the category of a play on his writings and throwing some characters in there. The BBC online had a review of a performance of *The Cherry Orchard* at the Oxford Stage and had this to say about Chekhov's writing, "did the great writer really write so much bad exposition, to be delivered at such great speed, at such great length - to fill the audience in with the backstory?" Jordon Reed from *Boxoffice Magazine* referred to a film version of the play as a "confusing drudgery."

There just simply wasn't room for the actors to do anything. I have seen what these actors and the Drama department are capable of and this play did not do them justice. The focus on the play was not visual entertainment, but intellectual entertainment. That is to say that the play is really about what you hear not what you see. Call me old fashioned, but I think a good play should make me care about what I'm watching, keep my attention and have those quirky real life declarations as well. The costumes were amazing, the set intriguing as its simplicity could be altered in so many different ways to bring across a completely different feeling. The comic relief in the play was just that - a relief.

The speed in the play seemed to perk up as well as the other non-comical characters when snippets of comedy surfaced. But the moment the comedy was over my attention was over and the bland characters reverted back to being boring. I was disappointed that I had to actually spend precious cash on this

production. There was a question and answer session afterwards but I couldn't stand to be in there any longer.

Sorry Chekhov, you're not for me. I thought that perhaps I was missing some sort of deeper meaning to the show. But my friend, who is an avid philosophy enthusiast, did not care for the show either.

Perhaps my disappointment is brought on by the fact that I love going to the theater to laugh, to come out of the auditorium moved and improved in some way. Philosophical musings just are not my cup of tea, I'm a product of the 90s and I crave action, movement on the stage, loud noises and commotion to keep me interested.

I adored WC productions such as *She Loves Me*, *House of Yes*, *Boy Gets Girl* and especially *I Hate Hamlet*. There was no character to strongly dislike or like in this play; the mind could find reasons to be angry with and forgive each character presented.

This review really pains me as I so desperately wanted to write a piece that would entice usual non-theater goers to give it shot next time...but alas I can only hope that *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot* can once again reignite the love I have of theater.

I know everyone worked very hard, and it shows, the cast and crew did their best to breathe life into a philosophy textbook. I understand that this is making me sound incredibly ignorant. But I know this is not the type of play I like to see; however the audience was receptive and enthusiastic. I come to that conclusion by interpreting the fervent applause at the end of the performance as a gauge to how liked the overall show was - not a loud prayer thanking the heavens for the conclusion.

So if you saw the play and liked it, I salute you and give you a pat on the back. If you saw it and didn't care for it, I know where you're coming from.

NEXT WEEK ON CAMPUS

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Mid-term Grades Due

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

MONDAY, MARCH 7

Spring Break

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Spring Break

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Spring Break

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Spring Break

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Spring Break

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

A View of the Stand:NHL? Washington & Lee Slides Past Shoremen, 7-6

BY WILL GROFIC

167 Days, 111 hours and 18 minutes at the time of this writing is the exact age of the NHL lockout.

The NHL. Who cares. I'm sorry. I meant that as a question, not a statement. But who does? Where did our four big sports go?

Is this a homage to the divine trinity? Or more about the emergence of other things, namely global warming and NASCAR?

The more reports that sports writers write about this lockout, the more I began to realize how insignificant the details are. The running joke is, there is still an NHL? Its not that funny, but still they're sports writers, not Larry David.

But then the die hard NHL fans aren't laughing. I don't know any either.

This could possibly be the worst/ most ignorant look at the lockout, but as I'm reading for details, I keep coming across journalists who only write about how dooming, not shocking, that no one cares about the NHL lockout.

Die hard fans do, but that was never the problem. The problem was regular sports fans stopped watching or taking an interest in hockey from a spectator.

From what I've grown to understand, the NHL overpaid their stars and players in general. The players are refusing to take the pay cut which the owners have put on the table, and the owners won't profit because of lack of attendance.

Granted, this is not for the big market teams like everywhere where it snows (i.e. Colarado, New York, Detroit), but for the expansion teams in such wonderfully sunny cities as Carolina, Phoenix, Anaheim, and Nashville.

Yes, the Country Music Capital has a hockey team. No, I don't know why Toby Keith hasn't shouted out the Nashville Predators in a song.

But I will blindly attempt to answer from a regular sports fan perspective why the NHL came to this.

In 1995, I could have told you the starting five of Pittsburgh Penguins because my dad was from Pittsburgh: Mario Lemieux,

Jaromir Jagr, Kevin Stevens, Ulf Samuelson, and Larry Murphy.

Being able to do that may be partly attributed to NHL 95 on SEGA, but still we watched NHL playoffs as a family in the early and middle 90's.

In the early 90's, oh so long ago it seems, Wayne Gretzky was named with Michael Jordan, Stan Humphries, or Cal Ripken as the greats. Since the early 90's with Lemieux and Gretzky hockey hasn't had a poster child of the game. Die hard hockey fans may say their won't be another Gretzky, but the NBA survived without Jordan. 8 years later, Lebron has taken over.

The influx of European players has also caused a certain blasé. Does the city of Nashville care about their team when Marek Zidlicky from Most, Czechoslovakia or Vladimir Orszagh from Banska Bystrica, Czechoslovakia start for them?

The general consensus is over expansion ruined the viewer ship. It wasn't so long ago we had the highlighted puck on Fox, was it? That was kind of cool, mildly annoying.

The NHL needs to take itself seriously with the growing emergence of NASCAR, especially in the southern states where their expansion headed in the 90's and early 21st century.

NASCAR's domination will last in those states, and the NHL playoffs are during NASCAR's time between the end and beginning of the season.

But can you really see regular sports fans caring for guys on skates after 218 mile hunks of metal go left for 200 laps? I've probably said nothing new here, nothing inspiring.

I'll try, right here: Move to Canada.

Instead of having a few teams in Canada and most in the U.S., invert the teams. More Canadian teams and few U.S. teams. I don't know if that will work, but it'll make Canada happy.

Shouldn't they be? Don't answer that.

BY ASHLEY SMITH

The WC Men's Lacrosse team fell to the Washington & Lee Generals in Chestertown last Saturday, February 26, 2005 in a disappointing season opener.

Unfortunately, the Shoremen got off to a slow start in the first half.

The Generals' Ned Rider opened the scoring with a goal off of an assist from teammate Pat Collins with 12:37 to play in the first quarter. Despite the early lead, however, the Shoremen were able to retaliate quickly when sophomore attackman Kevin Nolan put a goal in just nine seconds later off of an assist from senior captain Jon Spivey.

Later in the first quarter Washington and Lee was able to extend its lead when Alex Platia scored an unassisted extra-man goal with 10:06 remaining, and Rider put up another point for the Generals as he scored off of a feed from teammate Adam Chesbrough. Fortunately, the Shoremen were able to close the lead with just 22 seconds remaining, as Spivey found the net and brought the score to 3-2, in favor of the Generals.

It seemed that the Shoremen's defense broke down in the second quarter, as the Generals dominated on offense and extended their lead with two goals from Gavin Molinelli and one from Grant Martin, giving W&L a 6-2 lead at the half.

In spite of the rough start, the Shoremen came onto the field looking regrouped and in-

tense at the start of the second half.

The team appeared to have regained their focus as they dominated on both ends of the field. The Shoremen's Andrew Ostrusky was the first to score in the third quarter off of an assist from sophomore midfielder Jason Hull. Senior captain Kyle Mitten added another quick unassisted goal to trim the lead to 6-4 at the end of the quarter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WC WEBSITE
Captain Jon Spivey

W&L was able to slip past the tough Shoremen defense at the beginning of the fourth quarter with an unassisted goal by Pat Collins at 11:51 on the clock, extending the Generals lead 7-4. The Shoremen were

not giving up without a fight, however. Spivey found Ostrusky for his second goal of the game, and then contributed an assist to freshman attackman Chris Read, who scored his first collegiate goal and brought the score to 7-6.

Despite their intense comeback, the Shoremen were unable to catch the early W&L lead, and the final score was then 7-6 in favor of the Generals.

"We didn't execute like we should have on both ends of the field," captain Jon Spivey said of Saturday's game. "It was a wake up call for us."

"We have a positive outlook on the season after this tough loss," he continued, "now we have to put this behind us and move forward to reach the goals that we as a team set at the beginning of the season."

The Shoremen held a 37-21 advantage in shots, while W&L held a 30-27 edge in picked up ground balls in the game.

Notably, Spivey scored one goal and contributed three assists in the first game of his last collegiate season. Additionally, sophomore midfielder Mike Hughes won 11 of 15 face-offs for the Shoremen, and junior goalie Kevin Thibadeau contributed 10 saves in the WC defeat.

The Shoremen will return to action next Saturday, March 5 at 1:30 on Kibler Field when they meet Cabrini College.

Women's Tennis Downs St.Mary's

BY JOHN MARSHALL

The Washington College women's tennis team split a pair of matches to open its spring 2005 season on Saturday.

The Shore women defeated St. Mary's (MD) in the morning, 8-1, and lost to Meredith in the evening, 5-4. The Shorewomen swept doubles and won at five spots in singles against St. Mary's.

In doubles, Freshman Allison Daciek and Senior

Samantha Halpin were 8-3 winners at No. 1, Junior Beth Foster and Freshman Blake Leaser posted an 8-0 win at No. 2, and Junior Lyndsey Beidle and Freshman Ryoko Sawada won at No. 3, 8-1.

In singles play against the Seahawks, Daciek did not drop a game en route to a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 1. Leaser was a 6-1, 6-1 winner at No. 2, while Foster posted a 6-0, 6-1 wins at No. 3. Halpin added a 6-0, 6-1

win at No. 4, while Sawada won at No. 6, 6-3, 6-3.

Daciek and Halpin picked up the Shorewomen's first point against Meredith by winning at No. 1 doubles, 8-3. Daciek also won at No. 1 singles by a 6-1, 6-0 count. Leaser was a 7-5, 6-1 winner at No. 2 singles against Meredith, while Sawada added a 6-4, 6-1 victory at No. 6.

The Shorewomen return to action Friday with a 3:30 p.m. match at Hollins.



PLAY IT AGAIN SAM

Great place to study!

Enjoy our fresh selection of bagels, muffins, sandwiches, scones, homemade biscotti, and specialty desserts, available throughout the day to complement your beverage selection.

108 South Cross Street, Chestertown, MD 21620 ~ 410.778.2688

Baseball Season Preview

BY ANDY ABBOTT

Returning to the diamond after a disappointing 9-24 2004 season, the Washington College baseball team hopes to better their record in the 2005 season.

The team began their regular season with a home contest against Salisbury on Thursday, March 3 after the doubleheader against Wesley was postponed due to winter weather.

Head coach Al Streelman, expects the team "to have a winning season and to make the conference play-offs." The top four teams in the Centennial Conference make the playoffs, and Streelman says, "We have the team to make it there."

In order to rebound from a losing season, the team must return to the fundamentals of the game: hitting, pitching, and fielding. Performing your best in these categories requires many hours of practice, so the coach places "heavy emphasis" on these parts of the game.

In response to which games would be must-sees, the coach responded impressively by explaining that every

game holds equal importance. In order to win, the players must step on the field with the expectation to win, and they should push all thoughts of opponent's record out of their minds. Every opponent must be played tough, or a winnable game will end with celebration in the opposition's dugout.

Streelman notes that nine seniors return to the team, and he stated that this year's team appears "to be well-balanced across the board."

"We got some pretty good freshmen in this year," Streelman said, "who will help us considerably during the course of the season both in the field and on the mound."

In regards to the team attitude, he continues, "There seems to be a much greater urgency to win with this year's team as opposed to last year. The guys are working hard to improve and seem to have that winning attitude." A focused mentality to win lays the foundation for a good season.

The team's next home game is Monday, March 14 against Villa Julie.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WC WEBSITE

Senior Jay McEvoy

BY MELANIE RUPPERT

For the first time in school history, the Washington College sailing team won a team race regatta this past weekend on the Chester River by grasping first place in the MAISA Team Race.

WC out-sailed seven other colleges including Maryland, Georgetown, St. Mary's College, Hampton University, SUNY Maritime, Kings Point and Old Dominion University.

Freshman skipper Parker Mitchell commended his team's efforts, "This weekend went very well for our team. We have been practicing very hard in these past two weeks, and it paid off this weekend. Most everything went very smooth this weekend, it was an awesome way to start out the season."

Likewise, Head Coach Geoff Becker demonstrated his confidence in his team.

"All the sailors on our team, not only those sailing, are working hard so far this semester to get our team up to speed quickly. Even though this regatta, the 'MAISA Team Race', wasn't a major event in our schedule, it was good for our team to sail and place well."

"With our team being so young, only two seniors and one junior in the 16 person roster, we look to be able to field a competitive team for the next couple of years at the very least."

On Saturday, the first day of the race, teams sailed in 6-12 knot winds from the west shifting northwest.

One full round robin was sailed, and 11 races of the second round robin were completed. With a 9-1 record, WC was in first place at the end of the day.

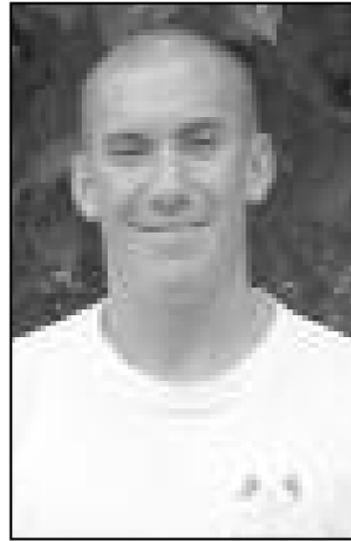


PHOTO COURTESY OF WC WEBSITE

Captain Colin Robertson

The races resumed on Sunday in 4-10 knot northeast breezes.

By 11:30am, however, the winds died out completely after just seven races had been sailed.

All other races were delayed and eventually canceled for the day.

As a result, the team standings were based upon the first round of the races held the previous day. WC achieved first place with their 6-1 record. Maryland and Georgetown followed, each with a record of 5-2.

Sailing for Washington College was senior skipper Colin Robertson, freshman crew Nicole Lockett, junior skipper Carl Horrocks, freshman crew Alexandria Starks, senior skipper Chad Hillyer, sophomore crew Vanessa Anderson, freshman skipper Parker Mitchell and freshman crew Hanna Lee.

Becker was pleased with the performance, "Our captain, Colin Roberson did an excellent job leading our team and keeping the team's focus aimed in the right direction. The other sailors certainly rose to the occasion."

"Of the 8 sailors who competed for us in the regatta 4 were freshmen. This win was definitely a great learning experience for them and a building block we can use for the rest of this season."

Up next for Shoremen sailing is the Old Dominion Spring Open and the John Jackson Memorial Team Race this weekend, hosted by Georgetown.

Kristen's Story:

A Story of Acquaintance Rape and Depression

The presentation, given by Andrea Cooper, is a proactive, co-educational rape education program sponsored by Alpha Chi Omega and Delta Delta Delta.

March 22, 2005 7:30pm Cain Gym
All students are welcome

N E X T W E E K I N S P O R T S

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Men's Tennis at James Madison, 2:30 p.m.
Women's Tennis at Hollins, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Sailing at Old Dominion Spring Opening and John Jackson Memorial Team Race, 9 a.m.
Men's Lacrosse vs. Cabrini, 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Sailing at Old Dominion Spring Opening and John Jackson Memorial Team Race, 9 a.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Men's and Women's Tennis at Piedmont, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Men's Lacrosse vs. Ohio Wesleyan, 3 p.m.
Women's Tennis at Emory, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Women's Lacrosse vs. Shenandoah, 8 a.m.
Softball at Pitt-Bradford, 10 a.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Men's Tennis at Emory, 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Men's Lacrosse vs. Hampden-Sydney, 1:30