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 worry 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 who were not under control 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 continue 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 everywhere. I don’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, “It 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 altercations, involving WC students or alumni, where people were struck or otherwise harmed.

“Imagine my shock,” said Beaupre, “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 Room 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, “We are not aware of 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 the after the fact. According to Matthews, “We need to get people’s attention about what is going on.”

Most of 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 running 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 around 8 p.m., near closing time at the 27,000-square-foot store, which is located at Kent Plaza, on Route 213.

Employees heard a loud boom in the building, and lost main power. They immediately shut the store down, notified 911, and evacuated the building.

Student reviews

The Cherry Orchard Features, page 10

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

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

The Cherry Orchard features the oscars. who was wearing what. who was wearing what at the oscars? entertainment, page 7. 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 a huge increase in the numbers.” Nancy Toy, Assistant Director in the Sognoous of Student Affairs, as well as the official in charge of Federal Work Study, stated. “There’s always a very small increase…we expect students to get jobs this time of year. She points out that the holiday sea-

College pays $5.15 an hour. What we’re seeing was the shift from the two jobs, but none over 20 hour mark. “Off the wall student’s attention – it’s really not necessary behavior that occurs. As Junior Ashley Crisler, said, “The biggest annoyance at the Birthday Ball was the fact that drinks were allowed on the dance floor.” Many students were upset by the stickiness and wellness of the dance area due to the spilling of beverages.

Currently, this does not appear to be the concern of the administration, who hopes to improve the event. As Dean of Students Bryan Matthews, said “I think [Birthday Ball] offers a lot of good things to the student community. I have real concerns about the dangerous behavior that occurs.” 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. “As an event everyone can feel caution we can take as stu-
dents. I think the biggest pre-
caution we can take as stu-
dents is to realize our limits, Ball is not just an excuse to drink, it’s also a celebration of the students that 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—es-

Oakley explains that about 450-500 student paychecks are issued from the Human Resources Office per pay pe-

period, including Federal Work Study students. Oakley says, “We have al-

ways had a lot of student em-

ployees at WSC, 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, mak-

ing sure they do not go over the 20 hour mark. “Off the wall hours would be called to a stu-

dent’s attention – it’s really not fair taking jobs when some stu-

dents 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, “while the rules state that the job must be at least 20 hours a week.”

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.”

On-Campus Jobs Still Popular Among WC Students

BY KELLY BRINGER

Officials at WC campus re-
port that the number of on-cam-

pus jobs have remained stable, despite a recent study done by Oklahome State University that reports students are working more jobs.

Although I did miss Dr. Toll’s spe-

cer, I’m sure there are plenty of

I certainly want to be op-
timistic that as a campus we can learn to create an event everyone can feel good about,” said Matthews.
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 Garrett 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.

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 because I can get my homework done,” says Davis.

A work study student, Davis lived in a residence hall in her freshman year. In the beginning of the year, she was resistant to the job, and she explains she had problems with the hours. “Some students and I were on the phone all hours of the day. I think that was the hardest part of the job,” Oakley explains.

“When you go out and look for something, they can’t always accommodate the way you want to work. They do what they can to accommodate what you want to do. They’re really understanding about it,” says Davis.

Junior Alton 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 part of the college community,” says Woodward.

Junior Rachel Paulick is a Residential Area Director and works in the Student Center.

“It’s pretty easy – being a RAD, there’s no time structure to this job, 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 lack of hours when I quit. It’s kind of hard maintaining money when 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 work is demanding, but it’s not more than one job is not really cool. Academics sometimes come after work and that’s not good, says Paulick. Making an editor on campus can also be a strain. Paulick is the Pegasus editor.

“Specifically with being an editor, students must have 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 attractive, but it wasn’t the reason,” says Fritz.

However, on campus jobs have good perks that off campus jobs do not 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 study with other people. Not just the people you work with, but other students.”

Rachel Calhoun, sophomore and WC Switchboard operator, agrees. “Specifically 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 worker in WC Human Resources, explains she was assigned to the job through switchboard. "It's more real work 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. I'm used to campus and working with our supervisors and talked about it in a businesslike manner."

Freshman Deborah Miller, a student worker in WC Human Resources, explains she was assigned to the job through switchboard. "It's more real work 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. I'm used to campus and working with our supervisors and talked about it in a businesslike manner."

When asked if she believes 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 [students] can change [jobs] if they choose."

Past winners agree that the most rewarding part of the college community, “You really feel part of the college community,” says Woodward.

“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.”

By JUSTINE HENRIKSON

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

The scholarship, currently in its second 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 attending graduate 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 for the SmithGroup, 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 and the Schottland scholarship’s leadership component, says, “I think it’s a terrific thing.”

Washington College gives a little known scholarship awards, as do the lsle of books, music, and other organizations. But what is the process? Van Eron said, “It is a rigorous process. Applicants must submit essays and references, and the finalists are interviewed by a panel of three distinguished businesspeople, who chooses the winner.”

Past winners agree that the most rewarding part of the college is the formidable application process. Van Eron said, “The $5000 is helpful to get me on my feet and have a little bit of 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” much of the time before returning to school. (He sold Suds ‘n Soda during his senior year.)

“Little Known” Scholarship Offers Big Opportunities

See Scholarship on page four
of leverage in looking for jobs." Zang "The longer you don't work, the more difficult it becomes to find a job, because employers think you aren't serious about working."
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 stationed out of Iraq; more specifically, 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.

Vermont has a vested interest in their sons and daughters, just as any State interest in their sons and daughters, just as any State

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.

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

BY ALBIN KOWALESKI

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 Bachlorette” 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 sleeve-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 area.

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, HAI! 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.

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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 content of a weekly newspaper on a small college campus. Someone 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 choosing a font, layout, and design. 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 keep and report on is my responsibility as editor, but it's especially critical to make this decision carefully when reporting onPhi Delta Theta Under Investigation (Editor's Note: Last week's article was not printed by itself). The purpose of the article about the Phi Delts' hazing investigation clearly declined).

I've been in contact with me against my wishes (considerations that pertain to risk management, the Fraternity's stance on speculative media coverage). Over half of the responses listed being unabashed as the number one concern 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.” The Elm.org is a resource for the journalistic world, offering professional resources pertaining to the field, such as the Elm's, The Southern, the Daily Argus, the Raspberry, and the Alpha Delta. These publications all offer unbiased facts with little attempt at analysis or interpretation.

In conclusion, I would like the 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 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 do 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 not a whole lot going down but it doesn't feel real.”

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

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 not the only paper that has to be a solid campus newspaper by representing the others voiced their obvious apathy towards journalism such as the number one concern 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.”

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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.

In the words of the Aspen Daily News motto, “If you don’t want it printed, don’t let it happen.”

**Letter to the Editor**

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

**CONTRIBUTED BY TANYA SOROKOVICH**

Editor’s Note: Borukhova’s Letter to the Editor is in response to last week’s article “Did the Phi Delts 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 stated that I would not allow it). I understand that the author of the article about the Phi Delta Theta’s Pledge Process is a student of the Elm’s.(Editor’s Note: Last week’s article “Did the Phi Delts Revamp Their Pledge Process?” was written by a Elm staff student of the Elm’s. The article was put on hold, gave the whole piece a pejorative connotation; my original headline was “Brothers With A Conscience: Phi Delts Revamp Pledge Process.”)

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**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 read 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 this off-season. Even though we only have five home matches, we hope to see you out there supporting the squad.”

However, the quote was stated incorrectly. It was a mistake 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 DUYK

First-time host Chris Rock added an edge 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 with boring winning, 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, some of whom 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 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 the few of the "arty" 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 Sunlight 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 how 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. Charlotte Kaufman received the Best Original Screenplay award for "Finding Neverland."

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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 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 things, 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 gummy bears, a pack of Parrot with Appetite 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 style.” I bought it because I think Sly buys for every age is a small price to pay for convenience. And you can’t beat the price.

“I was lost and the sun was really bright and my stomach hurt SO I went to the Mobil Card. It is not the closest place that sells alcohol but it is the only one around.”

“Thurman.” This is what comes up on my father’s Mobil bill statement every once a week or so, more often if things are particularly tight. It does include some psychological strangeness though, so be prepared to pay attention. It’s a story for something to satisfy your animation urge? Then look no further than Sony’s new portable console, the PlayStation. With PlayStation 2 you can make your games more interactive, multi-dimensional, and immersive. And it’s铺 full of games!

The Lawrence Arms – Another Chicago scene prod- uct, the Lawrence Arms has been around for years trading pop-punk the way it was meant to be played: loud, fast, and best. Lead singer Matt Skiba and guitarist Chris McCaughan trade off vocals, and sing about anything. The band is one of the few bands out there worth execu ting melodies. The band’s members are some of punk’s truly great characters: Kelly Jones, who writes a daily column for the Daily Show earlier this year, and his last album came complete with footnotes. Their best work is Apathy and Exhaustion and, if the footnotes don’t put you off, their third album, the greatest Story Ever Told a try to do.

So listen to these bands. Especially if you currently listen to pop music. Do your 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 ex- tent, the Halo 2 for PS2.

Although there was no special edition in the US, a special edition was, and still is, available in Japan, with a White PS2, Memory Card, Japanese GT4, and con- trollers, all emblazoned with the GT4 logo and major label. It re-tails for about 6000, and is available from various im- port sites such as Playasia, www.playasia.com, for those who are into buying their games from inter- national sources.

The lackluster sound- track 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 wel- come 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 for GT4.

Like most, however, I had not, but found the game fun to overcome. The learning curve. The licensing system is still intact, with a few changes. The rally li- cense is strangely absent, though. With closer inspection, I found that they had in- stead split it into the other licenses.

The best part of the game is for the use of the software. The game has extended memory for the track selection is vastly improved. The game is amazing, as usual. Even the “Sunny Cup” races that don’t require a license are far more interesting than GT3. There are a lot of rally courses, with the new inclu- sion of snow. All in all, this highly antic- ipated follow up delivers everything it promises, and Sony’s PS2 play is not available, however, LAN play works very well. The game is only for PS2, so the software can be purchased at any major online 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 genera- tion games 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 BRINGER

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 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 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 concreted 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.

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 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 WScellent students, as he built his successful career from the foundation of a liberal arts education.

He was an English major with an emphasis in art history. His talk was of particular interest to art history students, as he built his successful career from the foundation of a liberal arts education...

Steve Smith, a college history professor, was a Senior Editor at the J. Paul Getty Museum nearly twenty years ago, and since then has worked his way up to the position of Senior Editor. He has a modest perception of the Getty’s collection in a silly rather light manner. “Makes a Book” is a book that 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.

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Friday, March 11
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Weekend Weather

Saturday
Rain/Snow Showers; highs in the mid 40s

Sunday
Partly cloudy; highs in the low 40s
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, Lyubov Andreevna (Polly Sommerfeld) and her daughter Anya (Rachel Loose). They had taken refuge in France for the previous five years after the drowning of Lyubov’s son and death of her husband.

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

Varya (Sarah Curnoles) wrestles with her feelings towards the ambitious Yermolai Lopakhin (Matt Biringer) while keeping her eye on the blossoming relationship between Anya and her tutor Trofimov (Michael Moore). Sineonóv-Píshchik (Greg Shaefer) and Charlótta 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 Lyubov’s and worked as serfs by Yermolai Lopakhin’s family for generations must be sold with the house and chopped down to make room for summer cottages due to Lyubov’s debt. She has the uncanny ability to throw away money, and being swindled by a lover in France made matters worse. Lopakhin 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 a book called My Thoughts on Life instead of slapping the category of a play on its 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 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.
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 de-feated St. Mary’s (MD)in the morning, 8-1, and lost to Meredith in the evening, 5-2. Freshman Samantha Halpin swept doubles and won at five 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 Leeser posted an 8-0 win at No. 2, and Junior Lyndsey Beidel 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 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 1. Leeser was a 6-1, 6-1 winner at No. 2, while Foster posted a 6-0, 6-1 win at No. 3. Halpin added a 6-0, 6-1 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 winning at No. 1 doubles, 8-3. Daciek also lost in singles by 6-1, 6-0 count.

Leeser was a 7-5, 6-1 winner at No. 2 singles against Meredith, while Sawada added a 6-4, 6-1 victory at No. 3.

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

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A View of the Stand: NHL?

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, but that is a question, not a statement. But who does? Where did the sport 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 begin to realize how insignificant the details are. If attendance is down, is there still an NHL? Its not that funny, but still, 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 lookout, but as I’m reading for details, I keep coming across journalists who only write about how doomed the league is.

Granted, this is not for the worst/most ignorant fans, but I’m reading for details, I look at the lockout, but as I’m reading, I’m realizing how in- significant the details are.

I’m sorry. I meant that as a joke, not that I don’t care. Unfortunately, the writing is the exact age of 18 minutes at the time of this writing.

Washington & Lee Slides Past Shoremen, 7-6

BY ASHLEY SMITH

The WC Men’s Lacrosse team fell to the Washington & Lee Generals in a disappointing season opener.

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

The Generals’ Red 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 the second quarter 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 a point from senior captain Kyle Mitten added another point for the Generals as he scored off of a feed from teammate Adam Chesbrough.

It seemed that the Shoremen got defense broken 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 Humphries, giving W &L a 6-2 lead at the half.

In spite of the tough 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 its 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.

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

But then the die hard Shoremen fans feel the same way about their team. Can they be any better?

Unfortunately, Spivey scored one goal and contributed three assists in the first game of his career. Additionally, sophomore mid-fielder Mike Hughes won 11 of 15 face-offs for the Shoremen, and junior goalie Kevin Thibodeau made 10 saves in the WC defeat.

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

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Women’s Tennis Downs St. Mary’s

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The Shorewomen return to action next Saturday, March 5 at 1:30 p.m. at Hollins.
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 with the conference play-making our priority.”

The bottom four teams in the Centennial Conference make up the playoffs, and to make the conference playoffs, the top four teams in the conference must win a majority of their games.

Streelman noted 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 work hard so far this semester to improve has been practiced very hard in these past two weeks, and it paid off this weekend.

Most everyone 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 a good experience for them and a building block we can use for the rest of the season.”

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

One full round 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.

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.

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 the 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

Sailing hosts MAISA Team Race

BY MELANIE RUPPERT

For the first time in school history, Washington College sailing team won a team race regatta this past weekend. 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.”

“We with our team being so young, only two seniors and one junior in the 16 person roster, we were able to field a competitive team for the next couple of years at the very least.”

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Maryland and Georgetown followed, each with a record of 5-2.

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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.”

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NEXT WEEK IN SPORTS

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

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Men’s Lacrosse vs. Ohio Wesleyan, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

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 at Hampden-Sydney, 1:30 p.m.