

Sbar's final hurrah --- see page 2

The Ring-tum Phi

VOLUME 90, NO. 27

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

May 2, 1991

Low voter turnout kills amendments

From Staff Reports

Revisions to the student body constitution failed in referendum Wednesday, because less than half the student body voted.

Only 160 students voted on the proposals. The Voting Regulations Board did not tally the votes, since at least half the student body must vote in order for a revision to pass.

Thomas Spurgeon, member of the committee that prepared the revisions, said, "It's very difficult to get students at W&L to vote, especially for something that complicated."

On the ballot were 10 proposals dealing with Executive Committee quorum, succession, relations with the Publications Board, and executive session. Measures on the latter issue clarified when the EC could close its door, as the current restrictions are ambiguous.

Senior EC Rep. Willard Dumas said that since the revisions failed, "It will be left up to each EC to interpret the constitution as we did two years ago on succession."

Dumas said confusion over when the vote would take place contributed to the low turnout.

The referendum was originally scheduled for March 26-28, but was moved to April 6. On April 6, VRB Chairman Andrew Gaffney forgot to set up polling places, EC President Tom Hatcher said.

The referendum was rescheduled for a third time and set for Wednesday.

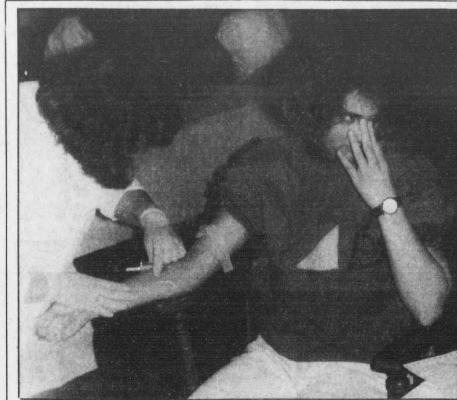
EC President-elect Giles Perkins said he does not think the failure of the referendum will have much effect on the EC.

"The changes that were proposed were good ones," Perkins said, "but [their failure] will not change how the EC operates."

The current EC handles committee appointment interviews and deliberations in closed session, but posts voting records. Dumas speculated on future ECs adopting a different policy.

"When people are appointed to committees in the dark, and the EC doesn't publish voting records, you will have to ask your rep why and how they voted," Dumas said.

Staff Reporter Greg Patterson contributed to this story.



Sophomore Karen Bosl can't watch as a blood sample is taken last week to test her cholesterol level. Phi photo by Leigh Allen.

Students work for health

By Maureen Levy
Staff Reporter

Students and faculty raised over \$1,500 Friday in "Jump Rope for Heart," a marathon event to benefit the American Heart Association.

The university Health Education Committee and Kappa Kappa Gamma co-sponsored the second annual fund raiser on the final day of Washington and Lee's Heart Healthy Week, April 22-26, a focus on good exercise and nutrition.

"This culmination of our Heart Healthy Week was definitely a positive experience as it brought students and faculty together for a charitable cause," HEC member Christine

Gorman said.

All fraternities, sororities and student organizations, as well as faculty and staff entered teams of three people to jump rope from 2-4 p.m. in front of Dornum Gymnasium.

Junior Raphael Pridem emerged as the top individual jumper Friday, as he lasted for one hour and 58 seconds. Sigma Chi's team won first place for the longest jumping time. All of the winners received trophies.

Sigma Nu donated the most money, and Sigma Phi Epsilon, Chi Psi, Delta Tau Delta, Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma each raised over \$100 for the event. Mock Convention donated \$200.

Staff reporter Jennifer Gibson contributed to this story.

EC denies second ACLU request

By Greg Patterson
Staff Reporter

The Executive Committee Monday rejected a request by the Washington and Lee chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union for \$160 saying the group should be able to support its activities through member, not EC, support.

The move came after the EC last week gave the ACLU chapter \$30 of the \$500 requested. The money was allotted to pay for publicity for an "open mike" Speak-Out on the topic of the Law School recruitment policy.

EC members who voted in favor of the \$30 donation last week said they did so because the Speak-Out's purpose was not to support the goals of the national ACLU organizations and would benefit the entire student body.

On Monday, ACLU Chapter Founder and President Andrew Schneider asked for \$160: \$60 to

publicize a second Speak-Out and a speaker, and \$100 to take the speaker, Ken Willis of the Virginia ACLU, four professors, and four students to dinner.

Schneider said he requested money for the dinner because Willis will not be paid for his speech.

When asked whether he had requested money from chapter members in order to support its activities, a recommendation made by EC members last week, Schneider said he had collected about \$125, but wished to save it to be used for "more political" activities the chapter could sponsor.

Senior EC Rep. Willard Dumas made a motion to give the group \$160, but the motion was not seconded.

Then a motion was made by senior Rep. John Fialcowitz to grant \$30 to support another Speak-Out.

EC President Tom Hatcher, before he called for a vote, said he considered last week's \$30 allotment a "re-

1991-92 EC Appointments

- SAB Chairman - Will Jones
- VRB Chairman - Ward Maedgen
- Cold Check Chairman - Lee Rorrer
- Emergency Loan Chairman - Jeff Rogers
- Contact Chairman - Tim Gallagher

view so you could collect dues from your members" and to grant money again would open the way for a "never ending battle with the ACLU continually requesting funds for events."

The motion was rejected, 8-2, with Dumas and Fialcowitz voting in favor, according to Dumas.

Schneider later said Hatcher "apparently changed his story" about for what the original \$30 was. Schneider said the money was not a "reprieve" because the ACLU chapter had al-

IFC yanks \$10,000 in Contact aid

By Jennifer Mayo
Staff Reporter

The Interfraternity Council announced Tuesday night that it intends to withdraw its \$10,000 annual support of the Contact Committee.

IFC President Greg Hicks told Executive Committee President Tom Hatcher during Tuesday's IFC meeting that the council voted before spring term to stop funding the committee for two reasons, inadequate representation on the Contact selection committee and, as a result, a lack of fraternity involvement and interest with the Contact program.

EC President Tom Hatcher feels that the decision was abrupt.

"I feel like they were little kids who decide that they don't want to play anymore, so they just pick up their toys and leave," he said.

Hatcher said that the withdrawal is not in the university's best interest and that the disagreement could have been more constructively resolved, but Hicks argues that the IFC's role in the Contact selection has become increasingly inadequate, and it is time that something be done.

When the IFC founded Contact in the late sixties, the school was all male and primarily Greek and the IFC appointed all Contact members. Over the past several years, despite the fact that there is a smaller percentage of fraternity men in W&L's student population, the IFC has still been giving \$10,000 a year, nearly one-third of Contact's \$32,000 budget.

Hicks feels that such a sizable donation deserves at least one-third of the seats on the selection committee, but the Executive Committee disagrees and rejected the proposal.

"We didn't want any members on it, and we didn't want to change it at all," Hicks said. "With each house paying \$12 per member to Contact every year, we just want to be part

of the selection process."

Hicks explained that Greek interest in the Contact Committee is decreasing and will continue to decrease over the years if the fraternities do not become more active in the organization. People do not want to give money when they don't know where it is going and have nothing to show for it, Hicks said.

Hatcher said he understands the IFC's concern, but he would have liked to have been able to discuss the problem before such drastic action was taken.

"The EC appoints the board and has always made sure that there is adequate Greek representation," Hatcher said. "I feel like this is a misunderstanding we all could have avoided with some discussion."

Contact Coordinator Charles Kranich said that he has seen this problem coming for several years.

"It might be different if Panhellenic and all other student organizations had to pay equal amounts," Kranich said, "but the fraternities seem to be carrying the load for the entire student body, and they don't feel that they get enough recognition for that."

Another member of the IFC commented that the fraternities already make contributions above other students in areas such as the university's social life. They seem to be carrying a disproportionate load, he said.

Kranich said that the IFC's intentions are not to cut the funding of Contact, but rather to see it funded totally by student activities money. Hicks agreed, saying that the \$10,000 could be used for the fraternities more productively elsewhere.

"We want something to give fraternities a good name and to raise interest," Hicks said. "The EC was not willing to give us that, so we're still considering, but I don't know if we will change our minds or not."

Howison names administrators

By Tom Eisenhauer
Staff Reporter

Washington and Lee University hired two new administrators last week.

Dean of Students Dennis D. Howison named Dennis G. Manning assistant dean of students and Michael L. Young director of university security.

Manning, associate headmaster of the Woodberry Forest School, will replace Kenneth P. Ruscio in July as dean of freshmen and residential life, Howison said.

"We're very delighted to have him [Manning] come here," Howison said. "He'll be a great addition."

Ruscio will serve as associate dean of the commerce school, a new-

□ Please see STAFF page 3

Callers seek cash

By Brian Root
Staff Reporter

It's that time of year again. For the fifteenth straight year, Washington and Lee students are on the phone to alumni in the Annual Fund Phonathon, asking for contributions.

"Calling alumni is a lot more effective than direct mail notices," said Alumni Fund Director Timothy McMahon. "It's a lot harder to say no to a fellow W&L student than it is to throw away junk mail."

As of Tuesday, McMahon said, the Phonathon has been surprisingly successful.

"Through the first three days, we have gotten 258 pledges totalling almost \$21,000," he said. "I wasn't expecting that kind of success."

The university has set June 30 as the Annual Fund deadline with a goal of \$2,165,000. That translates to about 8.5 percent of the university's annual operating budget.

According to McMahon, the phonathon is mostly directed toward recent alumni classes, which make up over 20 percent of the entire alumni body.

This group, however, also has the lowest percentage of contributors, he said.

The school has also attempted in

recent years to solicit pledges from each senior class.

"We want the seniors to learn to contribute before they leave campus. The amount of the contribution is not as important as that they get in the habit of giving to the school," he said.

"We understand that it's often difficult for people just out of college to contribute, but even small contributions add up to a lot of money," he said.

W&L ranks last among the top 25 national liberal arts colleges in the percentage of alumni that contribute, and the school has made a "considerable effort" to raise the percentage, McMahon said.

McMahon said he hopes to hold even more such events, because of their success rate.

"Many other schools do much more calling than W&L does. I hope to begin having another phonathon each fall as well," he said.

"Part of the reason that we hold this during the spring is because it is a much more relaxed time, and it's easier to find volunteers," he said.

Yankee twin joins Old South tradition

By Jennifer Gibson
Staff Reporter

Three fraternities will sponsor a Sherman's March to the Sea party Saturday night at Chi Psi while Kappa Alpha hosts its Old South formal.

The Sherman's March to the Sea party, a venture by Chi Psi, Phi Gamma Delta and Delta Tau Delta, is a new concept, while the Old South formal is an annual, national KA tradition.

Chi Psi Social Chairman Kevin Fliess said the party is intended to celebrate the Union victory in the Civil War.

The Sherman's March to the Sea theme refers to the Union general's march through the South, a campaign that included the burning of Atlanta. However, Fliess said the theme is not intended as hostile.

"There won't be any belittling ruckus or northern hell raising," he said.

KA isn't taking the new theme as an offense, according to KA senior Fraser Bowen.



T-shirt designs for this year's Old South and Sherman's March to the Sea parties.

"I'm just taking it in good humor," Bowen said. "They mean it in the spirit of fun."

KA junior Trey Cox agreed.

"If we're going to have our party, we don't have a right to criticize theirs," Cox said. "I think you can find merit on both sides."

Students at Auburn University

last week dealt with the KA Old South party there differently.

According to Auburn Director of Student Affairs Grant Davis, flowers around campus and an announcement in the student newspaper brought a number of students out to protest the KA Old South parade along the school's College Street.

University officials were notified of the protest, and the event occurred without incident, Davis said.

At W&L, conflicts seem confined within fraternities planning the Sherman's March to the Sea party.

"The fact that the party is on the same weekend as Old South just happens to be a coincidence," Fliess said.

But Fiji sophomore Darren Johnson said the party was intentionally planned for the same weekend as Old South.

"I don't believe it's in good taste to support Sherman's march when it was just a pillaging raid on the South," Johnson said. "I don't support the party and I won't be there."

Richard Hughes, Fiji's new social chairman, refused to comment on the party, saying he didn't believe in everything it represented.

"Some people are going simply because it's a social event," Johnson said. "They aren't taking the Sherman's March theme too seriously."