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# The Ring-tum Phi

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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

APRIL 28, 1988



The Zeta Beta Tau house on Nelson Street.

By Hank Mayer/The Ring-tum Phi

## ZBT closes W&L chapter, will reorganize next fall

By Michael Tuggle  
Staff Reporter

The Zeta Beta Tau national headquarters confirmed plans this week to close the fraternity's W&L chapter at the end of the 1987-88 academic year. While rumors concerning the solvency of W&L's Alpha Epsilon chapter of ZBT have circulated throughout the year, all were unfounded until last Tuesday when ZBT national expansion consultant Scott Sherman informed the W&L brotherhood that the chapter would be closing this June.

According to Sherman, the Alpha Epsilon chapter will close due to concern from ZBT national over the diminishing number of brothers in the house.

What the closing means to the current brothers is that as of June 1 they

will conclude their active brotherhood and will become ZBT alumni. While they will no longer hold office or Rush with the house, they will share all privileges of ZBT alumni.

Concern for increasing the size of the brotherhood has existed for the last five years according to ZBT President Ross Crichton, but ultimately it was this year that turned out to be the most critical. According to ZBT Treasurer Jeffrey Norris, representatives from national visited the chapter in the fall and "encouraged" them to get 20 pledges from fall Rush. Of the 17 men who attended ZBT open houses during Rush this past fall, only two pledged the house.

"National would have settled for 15," said Crichton in retrospect, "but anything less and they were going to shut us down."

Chapter Vice-President Sean Reyn-

olds agreed that what originally came across as an encouragement to get pledges was in reality an ultimatum.

"At the beginning of the year they [national] gave us an ultimatum. We didn't get a certain number of pledges they would close and recolonize," he said.

Though plans concerning Rush have not yet been finalized, representatives from ZBT national will be at W&L in September looking for a group of students to colonize and reestablish a ZBT chapter at W&L. If successful, ZBT will be the first fraternity to colonize at W&L since Sigma Nu regrouped in 1982.

While the brothers of ZBT understand the position of the national office, they still question why the house has to close. According to Norris, the

See ZBT, page 4

## Survey finds varying degrees of support for coeducation

By Jim Lake  
Staff Reporter

Only 58 percent of nearly 1,000 W&L students who participated in a recent survey said they personally support coeducation at their school, but more than 82 percent said the 1984 decision to admit women was in the school's best interest academically.

The study was conducted by sociology Professor David Novack's research methods class during the last week of February, and the results were summarized in a 65-page report released last week.

According to the report, nearly 65 percent of the freshmen surveyed said W&L should have become coed, compared to only 40 percent of the seniors. About 60 percent of the sophomores and the same percentage of juniors also said they personally support coeducation.

More than half the seniors surveyed—55.1 percent—said they believe W&L should not have admitted women, and about 26 percent of the freshmen, 28 percent of the sopho-

mores and 32 percent of the juniors also said they oppose coeducation.

The report said many seniors opposed coeducation because theirs was the last all-male class to be admitted and because "the Administration succeeded in alienating the senior class by making reference to it as inferior...to the Class of 1989."

There was little difference between classes on whether coeducation was in the best interest of the school with regard to academic standards. About 88 percent of the juniors, 86 percent of the sophomores, 81 percent of the freshmen and 74 percent of the seniors said coeducation was in W&L's best interest academically.

Among the women surveyed, 10 percent said W&L should not have gone coed, 86 percent supported coeducation, and 4 percent expressed no opinion. Support was above 80 percent in all three classes of women surveyed, but 14 percent of the sophomore women who responded said W&L should not have admitted females, compared to 8 percent of the freshman women and 5 percent of the juniors.

The men were split almost evenly on the personal opinion question, with 47 percent supporting coeducation, 10 percent undecided and 43 percent opposed. About 55 percent of the senior men surveyed said they believe W&L should have remained all-male, compared to only 38 percent of the freshman men, 35 percent of the sophomores and 43 percent of the juniors.

The report said these numbers show "there is still latent animosity regarding coeducation among the males."

On the question of whether coeducation is academically in W&L's best interest, women were all but unanimous in their support. Of the 274 female respondents, only one—a freshman—said the admission of women was not good for the school academically. Less than 2 percent of the women said they had no opinion.

Although the men were not as supportive of coeducation as the women, about 76 percent of the male respondents said coeducation was in W&L's academic best interest. Approximately 14 percent said coeducation was not good for the school academically, while 10 percent had no opinion.

Of those men who said coeducation was not academically good for W&L, more than a third were seniors, nearly 30 percent were freshmen, about one-fifth were juniors and the rest were sophomores.

The report compared this year's study to the results of surveys conduc-

ted two, four and eight years ago and concluded that, "while the numbers may not indicate a change in opinion from 1986 to 1988, there is unmistakably [a] trend toward approval of coeducation."

According to a report on the 1980 study, more than 50 percent of the

students surveyed said W&L should become coed, and 43 percent said no.

Four years later, another study found that only 42 percent of the respondents said women should be admitted, and 52 percent said no. But

See Survey, page 5

## Sororities not supported, says survey

By Jim Lake  
Staff Reporter

The student survey found little support for the creation of sororities and concluded that W&L students, men and women, are satisfied with the present Greek system.

Only about 20 percent of those students participating in the study said W&L should have sororities, while more than 43 percent of those surveyed said it should not. About 36 percent said maybe.

Half the women surveyed—136

out of 271—said W&L should not have sororities, while only 15 percent of the females supported the idea. Among the men, 22 percent said yes, 37 percent said maybe and 41 percent said no.

The level of support for sororities is much smaller than what was found two years ago. According to a 1986 survey, 48 percent of the students surveyed said they favored sororities, 34 percent were undecided and 18 percent were opposed.

The 1986 study found only slight differences of opinion between

men and women on the sorority question, with females more likely to say maybe but somewhat less likely to say yes.

The report concludes that W&L students are satisfied with the present Greek system. "The women definitely do not feel the need for sororities, and the men also reflect this sentiment, though to a lesser degree," said the report. "It is thus not a question of fairness but rather a measurement in the level of student satisfaction, and the students do not want what they do not need."

## French author, '58, to give book signing

By Marie Dunne  
Co-editor

Philippe Labro, French journalist, filmmaker and author of *L'Étudiant étranger*, or *The Foreign Student*, will be on campus Thursday, May 5 to help kick off Alumni Weekend with a lecture and book signing session.

*L'Étudiant étranger* is based on Labro's experiences as a Fulbright scholar at W&L during the 1950s.

Labro, who will be celebrating his 30-year reunion with the rest of the Class of '58, will give an address at the opening assembly of alumni weekend in Lee Chapel at 8:15 p.m.

Earlier Thursday, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., he will be signing copies of the soon-to-be-released English translation of *L'Étudiant étranger* in the bookstore.

The University Bookstore has made arrangements to receive 500 copies of *The Foreign Student* from Ballantine Books, which is publishing the English translation in America, according to Sue LaRue, general books buyer. *The Foreign Student* will not go into general release until June 1.

Although the shipment of books has not yet arrived, "We are waiting for the book to be delivered and are anxiously optimistic," said Tidge Roller, manager of the bookstore.

The book sells for \$5.95. *L'Étudiant étranger* spent 30 weeks in the top ten of the French Best Seller list, 16 weeks in the number one position.

Labro said that while the book is based on his experiences at W&L and that his feelings for W&L are genuine, the work is still fiction, according to Dick Sessoms, director of alumni programs, who has spoken with Labro frequently in the past month.

*L'Étudiant étranger* never names W&L as its setting, but it is quite specific in its references to the lives of W&L students.

*Whiffs of green grass and Pabst Blue Ribbon beer bubbles; with the metallic taste of the ice-cold can and the effluvia of Caribbean spices that the boys sprinkled all over themselves on Saturday evenings when an entire male community got dolled up and powdered itself for the great rush toward the nearby girls' schools with a 50 to a 100-mile radius...*

*the red clay on the cement footbridge connecting the football field to the gym...the hustle and bustle along the Colonnade on a dazzling fall morning, with the sun peaking over Lee Chapel and glinting off the blades of grass...*

*The dean, Old Zack, and his professors in liberal arts and in journalism had chided us through a program full of challenges and experimentation. Tolerance was the key word: we did what we wanted to do. We created our own radio shows and broadcast them during off-peak hours at the local station. We adapted short stories into scenarios. The "Ring-tum Phi," a little four-page news sheet that we*

See Labro, page 5



W&L Photo

Philippe Labro

## Lee-Jackson Classic is more than just a game

By Jim Lake  
Staff Reporter

The W&L and VMI varsity lacrosse teams will meet for only the third time ever Saturday at 3 p.m., but this contest between the two schools will be much more than just another lacrosse game.

Events leading up to the first annual Lee-Jackson Classic began Monday and will continue until Saturday night, according to W&L Athletic Director William McHenry.

"We think this event will be a great way to promote sportsmanship and friendship between the two schools," said McHenry.

The festivities began with a dinner Monday night in Evans Dining Hall for players, coaches and officials from both schools.

Instead of the teams sitting at separate tables, the players ate together with the seating alternating between W&L and VMI players. The school's coaches and athletic officials sat together as well.

The dinner was sponsored by the city of Lexington, and City Manager Joseph King said the Lee-Jackson Classic is designed to benefit the city as well as W&L and VMI.

"It's an opportunity for the city and the two schools to join together in an event that's enjoyable to the community," said King. "we're trying to de-

velop the role that the two schools play in the quality of life in this area."

The event is also an opportunity to promote the sport of lacrosse, and players from the two schools are conducting clinics at the schools throughout the week, said King.

The pre-game festivities continued today with a luncheon on the W&L front campus. Head coaches Dennis Daly of W&L and Doug Bartley of VMI were the main speakers at the event, sponsored by the Rockbridge Area Sports Club.

Today's luncheon was designed to promote "town-gown relations" as well as sportsmanship and was open to the public, said McHenry. Civic leaders, area sports fans and school

officials were expected to attend.

W&L President John Wilson will host a cocktail party tonight in Lee House for coaches, athletic officials and Lexington city officials, again hoping to promote good relations between the two schools and the community.

Lexington Mayor Charles Phillips, Jr., unveiled the Lee-Jackson Trophy at the banquet Monday night and will present it to the winning team after Saturday's game.

The week ends with a reception after the game in the Warner Center for players from both teams and their parents and coaches, hosted by Daly and the W&L Athletic Department.

## U.K. Embassy official will kick off Brit Fest

By Marie Dunne  
Co-Editor

The British are coming! And so are British films, foods, and music.

This modern-day "British invasion" is part of Brit Fest at W&L, organized by Oxford exchange student, Kate Peppiatt.

Brit Fest will take place Sunday, May 1 through Monday, May 9.

The first event of the week will be a lecture by R. F. Cornish, the Counselor for Information from the British Embassy in Washington D.C. Cornish's lecture, "Britain and NATO," will be in Northern Auditorium at 8 p.m. on Sunday, May 1. A reception will follow in the Gaines Hall Gatehouse.

On Tuesday, May 3, members of the faculty and student body will put their dramatic talents to use in an evening of British entertainment. Professors Ed Craun, George Ray and Elizabeth Morgan will give "mock-serious" comic readings and several groups of students will put on skits, including some from, of course, Monty Python. The new women's singing group will sing British selections. Registrar Scott Dittman will do an encore performance of his "modern Major General." The enter-

tainment begins at 8 p.m. in the Gaines Hall Gatehouse.

On Wednesday, May 4, the G.H.Q. will offer fish and chips for dinner and will offer British beer at a reduced price. There will also be British music playing during dinner.

"Go UK: Visit the United Kingdom" is the theme of the presentation on Thursday, May 5 in the Gaines Hall lounges. The evening will feature pictures, brochures, a travelogue and a slide show. Veteran tourists will be on hand to give tips on travel in Britain, including what to see and what to avoid. Following the presentation, British films (comedies) will be shown. Toasted English muffins and flapjacks will jam will be served during the movies.

On Friday and Saturday nights, May 6 and 7, the British film "A Private Function" will be shown in Classroom A of Lewis Hall. The film is sponsored in conjunction with the W&L Film Society. Both showings will begin at 8 p.m.

Brit Fest will culminate with a British Dinner in Evans Dining Hall. The traditional English dinner will include Welsh Leek Soup, Roasted Stuffed Chicken with Bread Sauce, Fish and Chips, Shepherd's Pie, broccoli

See Brit, page 5

## 39 members of Class of '87 will return as 5-year seniors

By Alice Harrell  
Staff Reporter

Thirty-nine seniors will not be graduating with their class. According to University Registrar Scott Dittman, the students will be returning for many reasons—not just because they failed classes.

Of the 341 seniors registered for fall term at the beginning of the 1987-88 school year, said Dittman, there are only 302 today who are still active seniors. That means some 39 seniors during the course of the year "have either disappeared and won't graduate, or decided to graduate next year."

The most likely reason for most of these students to postpone graduating is that they have failed a number of courses that would have to be made up next year, said Dittman. Some seniors

didn't get in all the academic requirements to graduate, which they will take either here next year or in summer school, said Dittman.

Occasionally a student will decide to change his major at a time when it is way too late to fit in all the requirements for that major, said Dittman. To finish these requirements, or to fulfill general education or to retake courses as mentioned before, the student may not necessarily need to stay for another entire year. If all his requirements are fulfilled by the end of the fall term of his fifth year, he may graduate that December, said Dittman.

Usually, however, change of majors occurs early enough that the student can get all his major requirements in by graduation. With fifth-year seniors, said Dittman, "...it's usually a matter of 'I tried and didn't make it' rather than 'I changed my mind'."

## W&L theatre to present 'L'Histoire du Soldat'

### From Staff Reports

Igor Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat* will be presented May 6, 7, and 8 by the University Theatre. A combination dance/theatre, the play will feature guest choreographer Kathy Kroll and a small student orchestra conducted by Robert Stewart, professor of music.

Performances on Friday and Saturday (May 6 and 7) will be at 8 p.m., and Sunday's performance will be a 3 p.m. matinee. Tickets are \$3 for adults, \$2.50 for children, and \$2 for senior citizens. Members of the W&L

community are admitted free. For reservations, call the theatre office at (703) 463-8637.

Members of the cast include Albert C. Gordon, chairman of the W&L fine arts department, as narrator; Frank King as the Devil; Mike Dixon as the Soldier, and Nancy Hickam as the Princess. Members of the chorus are Courtney Payne, Mary Hipp, Richard Bayton, Bill O'Brien, and Bayard Lyons.

Members of the orchestra are W&L students Barry Kolman, Mathew Morris, Christopher Locke, Robert Wolf, Gerrick Slate, and Kathryn Kreutziger.



W&L Photo

Kathy Kroll rehearses for *L'Histoire du Soldat*.

## Women's singing group is still deliberating a name

### By Alice Harrell Staff Reporter

A new singing group has recently emerged on campus. The group's 11 female members include ten singers and a piano accompanist who give choreographed, light-entertainment performances using a variety of popular tunes, old and new.

Since around the middle of winter term, these women have been collecting music and choreographing for performances at various social events. Their first performance was for a faculty open house at Gaines Hall. They then went on to perform in the Pre-Tour Concert in Lee Chapel and again during the University Chorus's tour of England over spring break.

They will also be singing during several of the school's social events during the next few weeks, including Brit Fest, Alumni weekend and Con-fetti's.

Lucy Anderson, one of the group's

two alternates, said that the group consisted "mainly of junior [women] in the University Chorus and Women's Chorus." Anderson said auditions would be held next year for old and potentially new members. The group may increase its membership, said Anderson.

According to member Christine Davis, the idea for an all-female ensemble of this kind had been discussed by the women since their freshman year. It was only about a couple of months ago that music department members were asked to serve as judges, auditions were held, and the idea became a reality.

A name for the group is still being deliberated by the group's members: Liz Smith, Cathleen Tierman, Courtney Harpold, Margaret Pimblett, Kristen Barnes, Christine Davis (junior members); Amy Hatcher, Chamie Schildt (freshman members); Lucy Anderson, Michele Brockman (junior alternate members); and Julie Shephard (piano accompanist).

## duPont art exhibition will include seven W&L alumni

### By Jennifer Bandrowski Staff Reporter

An alumni art exhibition will take place in duPont Hall May 2-June 3. The exhibit will feature the works of seven W&L alumni—Mark Favermann ('69), Claude Fixler ('76), Michael Kopold ('73), Turner McGehee ('75), Steven K. Roberts ('76), Drayton Smith ('74), and Bill Wysor ('74).

The works featured will include "print making, painting, sculpture, and graphic and interior design," according to Kathleen Olson, Director of the duPont Gallery.

The exhibit will open with a panel discussion at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 6 in duPont Gallery. All of the

featured artists will participate. It will cover "how it was graduating from W&L and going on in art," Olson said.

Kopold, Roberts, Smith, and Wysor received their Bachelor of Arts degrees in Art from W&L. Kopold is a Chinese brush painter residing in Lexington. Roberts is a practicing artist in Washington, D.C. and Wysor is painting in Troutdale. Smith received a Masters degree in education from the University of South Carolina.

Fixler and McGehee, both Psychology majors while at W&L, went on to receive their Master of Fine Arts degrees in 1981. Favermann received a Masters degree in Urban Design and Planning from the Harvard Graduate School of Design in 1978.

## Fifth annual W&L triathlon features a team competition

### From Staff Reports

The Fifth Annual W&L Triathlon will be held Saturday, May 21. Athletes from Lexington and all surrounding communities are encouraged to enter the individual competition, which will begin at 9 a.m. in the Warner Center on the W&L campus. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The triathlon will feature ¼ mile swim in Twombly Pool, a 13-mile bike ride, and a 3.1 mile run.

A non-refundable registration fee of \$10 for students and \$15 for non-students is due on or before May 11. Registration forms may be picked up in the Warner Center. Although there is no limit on the number of individual contestants, pre-registration is en-

couraged. Late registrants will be admitted if space is available on the morning of the competition.

All triathlon participants will receive a Triathlon T-shirt and a certificate. Division awards will be presented to top finishers in each age group for men and women.

In addition to the individual competition, 18 teams from W&L will qualify to compete in a team competition, which will follow the individual competition. Awards for team competition will be given to the W&L team with the best time and to the fraternity with the highest total points, based on individual and team results.

The W&L Triathlon will be held, rain or shine. For more information, call the W&L athletic department (703/463-8694) or Tim Phelan (703/463-5429).

with finding housing for next year. In addition, the chapter paid off a past debt of \$2000 earlier in the year under the premise that they could take a loan out again in the spring to cover the costs of the chapter food program. As of Wednesday, they had been denied the loan and, unless funds can be collected, the chapter food services will be suspended tomorrow.

Norris said the house has sustained the tight brotherhood it has always had. He said once the house closes they will stick together.

"Just because the letters ZBT aren't hanging over the door, we will still consider ourselves a brotherhood," he said.

## Election

### Continued from page 3

obligation, should be reviewed.

Just as Pyle has seen several perspectives of Lexington life, Shaw knows of a number of city councils throughout the Shenandoah Valley which have dealt with issues similar to those faced in Lexington.

Shaw came here in 1981 as the Shenandoah Valley reporter for the *Roanoke Times & World News*. He became news director at W&L in 1985.

Shaw said his work in journalism motivated him to run. He says it helped him come to the "realization that

city councils and school boards are the bodies most responsive to constituents."

He emphasized that city council deals with issues that directly involve the lives of his friends and neighbors, in addition to his own family and his work place.

Imeson has been a member of the city council for 17 years.

In his years here he says he's seen the city, as well as W&L, grow slowly. He also says he's watched the streets, lined with the cars of W&L students. There, he sees yet another way to raise some revenue for the city.

Imeson says requiring local car stickers for student cars may become an issue for the next city council.



Tom Imeson



Brian Shaw

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## X-ray view of laser fusion is moved back one week

### From Staff Reports

Paul D. Rockett, a physicist with KMS Fusion, Inc., will be on campus Tuesday, May 10, to present a public lecture and a colloquium on laser fusion.

Rockett's public lecture, "Laser Fusion: Power for the 21st Century?" will be given at 8 p.m. in Room 327 of the Commerce School. At 3 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, "Through the Looking Glass—An X-Ray View of Laser Fusion" will be the topic of a physics colloquium, led by Rockett, in Room 201 of Parnly Hall.

KMS Fusion, Inc., is the premier private laboratory in the country involved in fusion research. Rockett joined the company in 1981 as a senior technical manager of the fusion and plasmas department. He is responsible

for developing X-ray diagnostic instrumentation and characterizing X-ray sources used for inferring laser-driven plasma conditions. His responsibilities also include the production of a product line of soft X-ray detectors and sources for sale to the commercial and scientific community.

Rockett was recently awarded a National Science Foundation grant for the construction of a soft X-ray transmission grating interferometer and is the author of numerous publications.

Rockett holds a B.S. in physics, M.S. in nuclear engineering, and Ph.D. in nuclear science from the University of Michigan. His visit to W&L is sponsored by the physics department and the American Institute of Physics.

Editors' note: This lecture was originally scheduled for May 3.

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## ZBT

### Continued from page 1

ouse was meeting all house needs, as not "snowballing any debts" and as not in any financial difficulties.

"As long as we can pay our bills and keep the house in a liveable condition why shouldn't we be able to stay open?" he asked.

The brothers also question the timing of the national office's announcement. With less than a week until lay, many of the brothers are faced