

# THE RING-TUM PHI

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## Black experience explored

By JOE FITZGERALD

Speakers, a concert, and a "soul food" banquet highlighted the events of Black Awareness Week at W&L this week. In addition, Black Awareness Week Ball will be held Saturday night in the Evans Dining Hall. The purpose of the events, according to the director of the affair, John X. Miller, was to "make the white student more aware" of the black presence and experience in society.

The speakers have included Dr. Samuel Proctor, Dean of Gradu-

ate Education at Rutgers University, Rev. Wyatt T. Walker of the Canaan Baptist Church in New York City, and Edward Robinson, head football coach at Grambling College. The concert was performed by the Virginia Union University Concert Choir.

Dr. Proctor spoke Monday night in Lee Chapel on the subject of the "Black Educational Experience." He spoke of his time at Yale in 1945 when he was one of four blacks in the graduate school there. He said the racism he encountered there "toughened me" and suggested

that today's black students could learn from his experience there.

Tuesday night featured the Virginia Union University Concert Choir performing in the chapel. The presentation, entitled "Music: A Door to International Understanding," featured mainly gospel music and a selection from Giuseppe Verdi's opera, "Rigoletto." In keeping with the theme, the singers wore colorful costumes from various parts of the world during the first half of the program.

The Annual Leslie D. Smith Memorial Lecture was presented

Wednesday night by Rev. Walker. The theme of the lecture was "Contributions of the Black Man to American Society." The lecture is dedicated to the first black graduate of the W&L law school, who was murdered in 1970 in Washington, D.C. while working with the Justice Department.

Eddie Robinson, the winningest black coach in college football, was scheduled to speak Thursday night on "The Black Man in Athletics."

All of the events except the concert were followed by a reception in the Alumni House.

Monday's speech was attended by a small mostly black crowd. The concert was seen by a larger group, composed of both black and white students, as well as faculty and persons from town. Wednesday the audience was again fairly small, but contained more white students than Monday's crowd.

The week concludes Saturday with the B.A.W. Ball. The Ball will be a formal affair sponsored by S.A.B.U. and the Student Activities Board.



Dr. Samuel Proctor spoke on "Black Educational Experience" last Monday as the first speaker of Black Awareness Week. Photo by Sally M. Mann

## Mock Convention group prepares for May of '76

By STEVE YEVICH

With the organizational meeting last Thursday night, the W&L Mock Convention Committee visibly began moving toward its goal of developing a working imitation of the Democratic National Convention by May, 1976.

Much of the hardest work, however, has already been accomplished behind the scenes. The budget has been drawn up, all committee functions have been delineated, committee chairmen picked, and most of the basic planning completed.

According to Ken Ruscio, co-

chairman of the Steering Committee, most of his group's efforts to date have been spent in preliminary planning and development of specific goals for each committee. Most of September, for example, was spent in organizing a working budget for the \$20,000 allocated for the convention. (Of this, \$6000 is from a Texas foundation and \$8000 will be raised by a special \$5 activities assessment on every student's tuition next year.)

The Steering Committee has been trying hard to secure a speaker for the winter term, as

well as one for spring term, but so far efforts have been unsuccessful. At various times Senators Jackson, Kennedy, Mondale, Muskie and Ribicoff have been contacted for possible speaking engagements, but all have declined. It is possible a speaker of note may yet be procured for February, but no firm commitments have been received.

Enough interest has already been stirred within the state that Virginia notified W&L over the weekend that the 1976 Mock Convention has been designated an official Virginia Bicentennial Event. This is quite a compliment for a student-run affair that has been correct ten out of fifteen times, including a string of correct choices running from the 1940's up to 1972.

Of all the subordinate committees, the Credentials Committee will by far be the most important in the whole process. It will serve as a check on the political research of each state delegation, and has the task of analyzing the complex election rules which vary in each state. Already the Credentials Committee has written to every state for detailed information concerning such items as a primary election laws and dates, vote-counting procedures, and methods of choosing delegates for the national convention.

Next month the Credentials Committee will spend the bulk of its time evaluating the results of the Democratic mini-convention held late last fall and its impact on next year's convention.

This Committee will be subdivided into four geographic regions to provide better coordination. (Continued on page 4)

## Debate team captures trophies, Takes 6 awards in tournament

Still early in the debate season, debaters representing Washington and Lee University have brought to ten the number of trophies won so far this year by sweeping six awards at the recent regional tournament of Delta Sigma Rho/Tau Kappa Alpha, the principal debate fraternity.

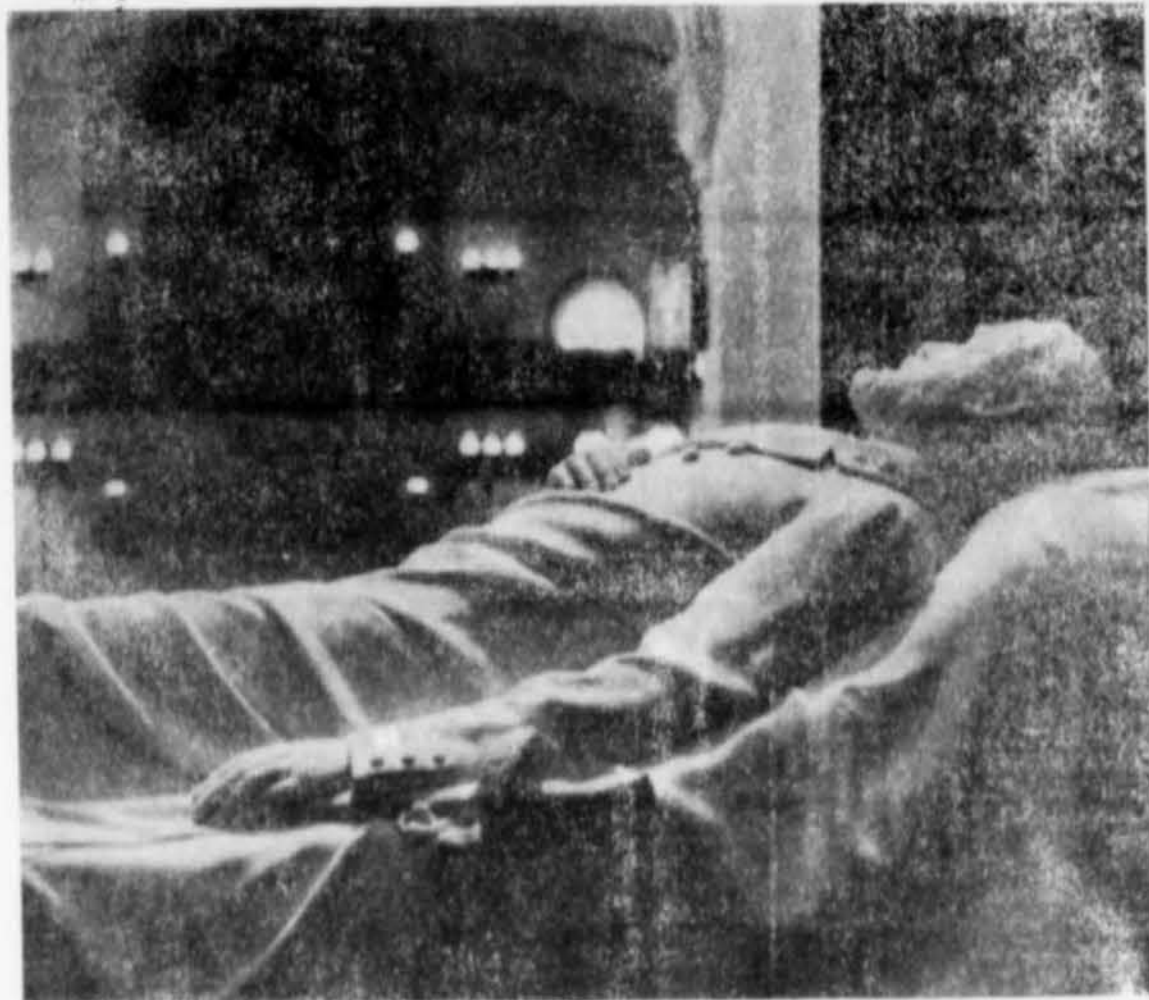
Four W&L debaters — Bill Gonch, Rodney Petersen, Eddie Fisher and Marc Levin—again captured the William Wells Chaffin memorial trophy, the regional organization's most prestigious award. The Chaffin trophy is named for Washington and Lee's late debate coach, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1970 while returning from a debate meet in New England.

Competing in the debate meet were teams from colleges in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. In addition to the Chaffin award, W&L debaters

won first-place and fifth-place team trophies (Gonch and Petersen, first; Fisher and Levin, fifth). Individual trophies were awarded to Levin, named third-best overall speaker in the tournament; Petersen, fifth-best, and Gonch, second place in impromptu speaking.

The 10 trophies earned so far place the W&L team substantially ahead of its standing at this point a year ago, when the team was on its way to its best record in recent years with a year end total of 17 trophies.

Halford R. Ryan, W&L's debate coach and this year's president of the Virginia Forensic Association, was elected assistant regional governor of the Maryland-Virginia-D.C. district of Delta Sigma Rho/Tau Kappa Alpha at a business meeting held to coincide with the regional tournament.



Edward Valentine's statue of General Lee, completed in 1875, rests in a vacant Lee Chapel which will be the site of Founder's Day ceremonies next Monday, beginning at 11:05 a.m. The sculpture representing Lee asleep on the field of battle was placed in the apse when the addition to the building was finished in June, 1883. Monday's event in the Chapel will not only fail to rouse the General but could put a number of students and professors to sleep as well. —University Photo

## SABU president emphasizes Black Awareness Week goal

By STEVE YEVICH

Black Awareness Week, which has been going on for several days, is the culmination of nearly a year's planning by the Student Association for Black Unity.

Eugene Perry, president of SABU, said that the purpose of this week was "to project the ideas and feelings of the black man toward America and to give examples of contributions blacks have made and continue to make to society."

More specifically, Perry expressed the hope that the week's activities would "make the student body and faculty more cognizant of all blacks and in particular of Washington and Lee's black students, and with a sincere effort on the part of the school, to bring out a community of black and white based on friendship and trust."

Last March the members of SABU compiled a list of possible

speakers, blacks prominent in their fields, and gave it to Lutrelle Rainey, then head of Student Minority Affairs. Rainey, who at one time or another had met most of the prospective speakers, contacted them, and narrowed the list to about a dozen men in various professions. Choices were made from the remaining speakers on the basis of their breadth of experience, achievement in their fields, and a similarity between their experiences and those of the black student on campus.

According to Perry, most of the lecturers, realizing the limited financial resources of SABU, agreed to present their talks for free, and in some cases they paid for their own expenses.

John X. Miller was appointed head of a committee to handle the necessary travel and lodging arrangements, as well as to organize the Black Awareness

Week Ball, a formal dance to be held Saturday night in Evans Dining Hall. The Ball is a joint effort on the part of SABU and the Student Activities Board. Perry said that SABU was able to keep costs of the ball down somewhat by arranging to pay the band, a Washington-based group named "98.6," at a price that was quoted in September, before final arrangements were made and before the band raised

## EC sets dates for public talks on honor system

By the Phi News Staff

On Monday night the student Executive Committee set Jan. 22-23 as the dates for public hearings on the future of the honor system, which will be held at 7:00 p.m. in Lee Chapel on both nights. In preparation, President Ben Bailey appointed each E.C. member to canvass a particular building on campus in search of faculty help in publicizing the upcoming hearing.

The members are to ask the instructors to inform students in classes about the E.C. honor survey and give students who had not heard about it a chance to fill out the forms. The forms, which have been distributed by the E.C. since December, ask for student opinion on the jurisdiction, penalties, and procedure for honor trials.

The members were also to ask faculty members for their views on the honor system, including the public hearings. In other business, the E.C. heard from David Graham of the Library Committee concerning the disappearance of books from libraries on campus. The E.C. agreed to fund the placement of more noticeable signs in the libraries stating that the honor system is in full force there.

Graham also reported that the sign on the door of the "honor silence" room of McCormick Library had been taken down. E.C. member Robert Pugh had complained that the sign implied that talking in that room was an honor violation. He cited the section of the White Book on the honor code which states that a man should not give his word on trivial matters.

## NOTICE

### BIG BROTHERS

Big Brothers are needed. Applications for Big Brothers may be picked up in the bookstore or the information window of the University Center.

## Brass quintet to play in Lee Chapel Tuesday

The New York Brass Quintet will present a concert on Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 8 p.m. in Lee Chapel, with two compositions by W&L music professor Robert Stewart featured in the program.

The two works of Stewart which will be performed, Brass Quintet No. 2 (1967) and Concerto for Brass Quintet with ripieno brass and percussion (1974), were written specifically for the New York Quintet.

Robert Nagel, whose Suite for Brass Quartet and Piano will also be on the program, is director and first trumpeter with the group.

The quintet, generally considered the nation's finest, will perform other works by J. S. Bach, Claude Debussy, Ludwig Maurer, Anthony Holborne and Eugene Bozza in the concert sponsored by the W&L Concert Guild.

In addition to its Jan. 21 concert, members of the quintet will read student compositions Monday evening, and will conduct a brass workshop in Lee Chapel the afternoon of its public concert. All brass players and other interested persons are invited to attend the free workshop at 3:30, Tuesday.

The New York Quintet, formed 17 years ago, has brought the brass music literature of the Renaissance and Baroque periods to 20th century audiences, and the group also explores contemporary music. The versatile group has commissioned works by such modern composers as Schuller, Morawetz and Persichetti, and it continues to display the virtuosity of its members through appearances with major symphony orchestras as well.

The New York Quintet has toured under State Department auspices and regularly performs in world capitals and at leading festivals.

## Huntley will speak at annual convocation

By the Phi News Staff

The Founders Day—Omicron Delta Kappa Convocation will be held Monday morning, Jan. 20, in Evans Dining Hall.

The Founders Day ceremonies, honoring Lee's birthday, are scheduled to begin at 11:05, with all classes that morning being shortened to 40 minutes. The speaker, President Huntley, will deliver a speech on the state of the university. Faculty members will also be in attendance, dressed in academic costume.

The ODK Convocation will be held to induct a new group of members into the society. Omicron Delta Kappa is a national leadership fraternity which selects its members from the college and the law school. After the convocation there will be a luncheon held for the newly initiated ODK members.