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# THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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2008 Collegiate Network Paper of the Year

www.VAInformer.com



Alec McKinley

**Democrats duke it out:** On Sunday, April 19, the three candidates for VA Governor debated taxes, marriage, campaign contributions, and qualifications.

## Virginia Democratic gubernatorial candidates debate in Sadler Center

**Eric Ames**  
Assistant Opinion Editor

On Sunday, April 19, the three democratic candidates for Governor of Virginia debated each other in the Sadler Center. The candidates explained their positions and traded criticisms during the debate. NBC journalist Andrea Mitchell served as moderator.

The three candidates competing in the June 9<sup>th</sup> Democratic primary are State Senator R. Creigh Deeds, Former Delegate Brian Moran, and former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee Terry McAuliffe.

Mr. Deeds, currently a State Senator from Bath County, has served in elected office 1991, first as a member of the House of Delegates. In 2007 he ran for state Attorney General against Bob McDonnell, and lost. Mr. McDonnell is the Republican nominee for Governor.

Mr. Deeds made clear from the beginning his opposition to Mr. McDonnell's positions. "It's clear that Bob McDonnell has the wrong agenda for Virginia" said Mr. Deeds. The state senator also stressed the importance of the current state of the economy to Virginia, citing Williamsburg's 19.3 percent unemployment rate. "We've got to take dramatic steps to restore hope to people" Mr. Deeds said.

He also pledged to invest into energy research. However, Mr. Deeds left it unclear as to whether he would support an increase in the gas tax. The senator also made the commitment to close the gun show loophole as governor, and stated his belief that the issue of marriage should not be in the realm

of public policy. He criticized Delegate Brian Moran for taking campaign contributions from companies that have had relations with his brother.

Delegate Brian Moran served for seven years as prosecutor in Arlington County, and was elected by his Alexandria district to the House of Delegates in 1995. He resigned his seat in late 2008 to focus on his run for governor. He is the younger brother of Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA 8).

Mr. Moran also stressed the current economy and his aspirations to serve the people of Virginia. "We need a governor who cares more about the family dinner table than the corporate boardroom" said Delegate Moran. He also noted his role in the fight to reform Virginia transportation policy.

Delegate Moran spoke out in favor of tighter gun control laws, including a reinstatement of the assault weapon ban and closing the gun show loophole. "I support the Second Amendment, but assault weapons you do not use to go hunting," said Delegate Moran. He also spoke out strongly in favor of repealing the 2006 amendment to the Virginia Constitution outlawing same-sex marriages and civil unions, and criticized Senator Deeds for not taking the same stand.

Terry McAuliffe served as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 2001 to 2005. He also served as an advisor to then-Senator Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign in 2008. He has done substantial work in the private sector.

**VA GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE**  
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## Board of Visitors votes to raise tuition, appoints new Rector

**Michael Watson**  
News Editor

The College of William and Mary's Board of Visitors voted to raise tuition and fees for both in-state and out-of-state students last week at its April meeting, at which it also chose Henry C. Wolf ('64 J.D. '66) as Rector. In-state undergraduate students will see tuition, fees, room, and board rise by 5.6% to \$19,302, while out-of-state undergraduate students will see total costs reach \$39,466, a 5.6% increase. Graduate school tuition and fees also rose for all College programs.

Stimulus money will be used to offset diminished state funding for the College. In fiscal year 2010, state funding is projected to fall by \$4.3 million; the \$3.8 million in federal funds will reduce

the public funding gap to \$0.5 million less than initially projected. In a statement, President Reveley said, "Thanks to federal stimulus funds, we are able to keep the undergraduate tuition increase below five percent." Vice President for Finance Sam Jones said in a statement that "this [FY 2010] budget recognizes the one-time nature of the federal stimulus funds and the permanent reduction in state support that we'll be addressing in each budget going forward."

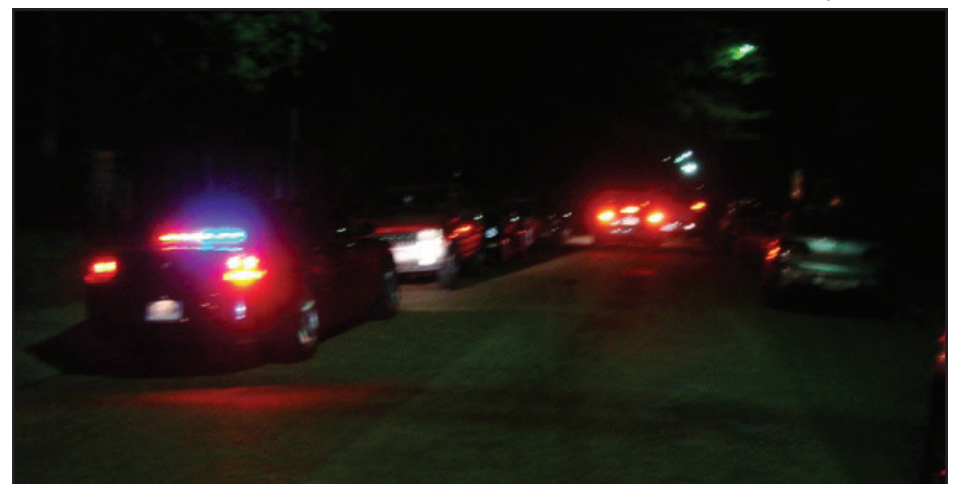
The tuition and fee increases will fund increased need-based financial aid, expenses incurred by the opening of new facilities, increased utilities rates, and general maintenance costs. State-authorized student aid will rise by \$2.4 mil-

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## Steer Clear van crashes on Griffin Street over weekend



Photos by Will Clemens



**Friday night lights:** On April 17 Steer Clear's van crashed into a parked car on Griffin street near campus. According Steer Clear's Assistant Director for Administration Katherine Eklund, there was no damage to the van and slight damage to the other vehicle. Ms. Eklund also said that the driver was operating within Steer Clear protocol at the time of the incident. A tow truck was called to extract the van without causing further damage and police were called in accordance with Steer Clear protocol.

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"Tea Party" attracts massive crowd  
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# Delta Phi, Delta Chi dominate Greek Awards

**Phil Thompson**  
Contributor

Emotions ran high at the 2009 Greek Awards Ceremony, hosted by the Order of Omega. Sororities and fraternities from on and off campus came together to recognize outstanding service to the community, to the Greek system, and to each other. The Great Hall of Wren was overflowing with Greeks, filling the air with excitement, laughter, and anticipation.

Order of Omega chapter president Dan Gormally ('09) opened the ceremony

with a speech on the William and Mary "community of success," extending praise beyond the bounds of the Greek system to the entire student and alumni population. The first award of the afternoon, Excellence in Membership Education, was taken home by Gamma Phi Beta sorority for the fourth year in a row. Mike Coulter ('11) accepted the award for Outstanding New Member of a Fraternity for his service to Delta Phi and to the community. His acceptance was accompanied by an emphatic "Yeah!" and a punch into the air, both of which were well received by the audience.

An Order of Omega representative awarded a scholarship to member Thomas Milteer ('09). The award for Service and Support of Others went to Delta Sigma Theta for their 22 Days of Service, symbolizing the sorority's 22 founding members.

The award for Outstanding Greek Man went to Milteer for his dedicated involvement in making the William and Mary Bone Marrow Drive the largest collegiate bone marrow drive in the country and for bringing the President's Cup to Theta Delta Chi. Tom was excited about winning the Outstanding Greek Man

award but more emphatically expressed his pleasure at being able to represent his fraternity. Tom will be heading to Arizona with Teach for America after graduation.

The award for Outstanding Greek Woman went to Kate Olsen, former president of Gamma Phi Beta and current Order of Omega Vice President, for her scholastic excellence and her research work abroad.

A list of the Greek Awards and their various winners can be found at <http://web.wm.edu/so/greeks/docs/GreekAwardWinners09.pdf>

## Greek Individual and Chapter Awards

**Outstanding New Members:**

Mike Coulter – Delta Phi  
Caroline Grady – Kappa Alpha Theta

**Order of Omega Outstanding Service Award:**

Ricky Trotman – Kappa Sigma  
Whitley Aamodt – Kappa Kappa Gamma

**Excellence in Risk Management:**

Delta Chi, Pi Beta Phi

**Outstanding Greek Scholars:**

Ryan Forster – Beta Theta Pi  
Lauren Williams – Kappa Kappa Gamma

**Outstanding Chapter Advisors:**

Joyce Woodham – Delta Sigma Theta

**Outstanding Greek Woman:**

Kate Olsen – Gamma Phi Beta

**Highest Cumulative Chapter GPA:**

Beta Theta Pi – 3.2948  
Gamma Phi Beta 3.4134

**Excellence in Service and Support of Others:**

Delta Chi, Delta Sigma Theta

**Excellence in Scholarship:**

Delta Phi, Gamma Phi Beta

**Excellence in Member Education:**

Beta Theta Pi, Gamma Phi Beta

**Excellence in Public Relations:**

Kappa Delta

**Outstanding Greek Man:**

Tom Milteer – Theta Delta Chi

**Excellence in Membership Recruitment:**

Delta Phi, Kappa Delta

**Excellence in Alumni Relations:**

Pi Beta Phi, Pi Kappa Alpha

**Inter-Fraternalism Award:**

Delta Chi and Kappa Alpha

**Chapter Achievement Award for Progress**

Fraternity – Delta Chi

Sorority – Pi Beta Phi

**Outstanding Fraternity –** Delta Phi

**Outstanding Sorority –** Gamma Phi Beta

## Briefly...

Compiled by Michael Watson, News Editor

### Second round of Green Fee projects approved

The Committee on Sustainability approved 14 new projects to study improved energy efficiency and environmental education. The total cost of the projects will be \$92,000, and funding will come from the Green Fee approved before last semester. Projects funded include replacement of the Swem Library paper towel dispensers, refits of the HVAC systems in Tyler and Washington Halls, fluorescent lighting upgrades at the VIMS Hargis Library, energy monitoring systems for the Eco-House, trash cans for students in residence halls, and promotional materials to encourage reduced energy use in residence halls.

### VIMS inaugurates research complex

In an April 16 ceremony, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science dedicated its two newest research buildings, Andrews Hall and the Seawater Research Laboratory. Andrews Hall contains laboratories, conference rooms, space for students, faculty, lab technicians, and visiting scientists, and a distance-learning facility. The Hall supports programs that research improved aquaculture, assess Chesapeake Bay blue crab stock management, track contaminants, model global climate effects, and develop automated underwater vehicles. The Seawater Research Laboratory is a 45000 square foot roofed complex that will conduct state-mandated research on finfish and shellfish. It also has equipment to test aquatic pathogens for possible adverse health effects on humans and livestock. Both buildings were financed by a 2002 state higher education bond initiative. Prominent speakers at the dedication included President Revely, Rector Michael Powell, former Virginia Governor A. Linwood Holton, state Sen. Tommy Norment, and Congressman Rob Wittman.

### WM students find lost documents in Richmond attic

William and Mary students found documents from businesses owned by the Independent Order of St. Luke, a society that sought to improve the lives of African Americans during the segregation era. The students were exploring the St. Luke building which housed the organization and is currently owned by the Stallings family, who permitted the investigation. The building's attic had never been thoroughly investigated. The students were involved through the Sharpe Community Scholars Program, which has used trips to the building in its freshman seminar before. Among the documents found were four copies of the St. Luke Herald from the 1930's, life insurance payout cards, letters from Maggie L. Walker to the organization, and assorted business documents from the period. Thirty-one boxes of documents were found in the attic, and are currently undergoing preservation work at the Swem Special Collections Resource Center. After conservation and research work are complete, the documents will be donated to the National Park Service, which operates the Maggie L. Walker National Historic Site.

## THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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*The Virginia Informer* is an independent, non-partisan, student run publication devoted to reporting the news to the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to school sponsored news sources. We do not, and never will, receive any financial support from the College of William and Mary. We will not shy away from controversy or be afraid to challenge the norm. We strive to inform and engage our readers via responsible journalism and in-depth reporting, while fostering and giving voice to opinions that are often shut out by the campus establishment.

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# College Republicans hold protest over increased federal spending

Andrew Blasi  
Executive Editor

On April 11, the College Republicans held a rally on campus against high government spending. The gathering, which took place in the Crim Dell Meadow with an estimated 500 students and nearby residents in attendance, was just one of many "Tea Party" protests taking place around the nation in response to recent federal bailouts and stimulus legislation.

College Republicans Chair Thomas Chappell ('11) opened the event's speaker list that included State Delegates Brenda Pogge and Bill Janis, Vice Chair of the James City County Board of Supervisors Mary K. Jones, State Senate Minority Leader Tommy Norment, and Congressman Rob Wittman. Individuals representing the Fair Tax movement were also in attendance and spoke before the crowd.

In reflecting on the event, Mr. Chappell told *The Informer*, "It was so inspiring to see so many people of all ages and every walk of life endure the cold and the rain come out to this rally... The fact that nearly every attendee brought their own homemade sign and came dressed to this event shows how passionate each person at that rally was about [less government spending]." Following the rally, over one thousand tea bag postcards were sent by those in attendance to elected leaders in Wash-

ington.

Michael Young ('11), President of the College Libertarians, and Stephen Murray, a first year student at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law who served in the Navy, also gave passionate speeches before the crowd against high government spending.

Following the event, Mr. Young told *The Informer* "I believe that it is important for students to get involved in the tea party movement because we are the future and we will have to deal with the ramifications of these careless policies years down the road. [The event] was meant to show the politicians that there is no consensus, like they believe, on what the duty and the role of government is, and that there are still those of us who believe in small government."

According to Mr. Chappell, "College students should understand that it is important for us to take action to ensure that the America we inherit will be as prosperous as the one that we were so blessed to grow up in. This movement is about defending the American Dream by protecting our capitalist economy where hard work and success is rewarded and encouraged, not penalized by big government."

Editor's Note: Michael Young is a staff writer for *The Virginia Informer*.



Alec McKinley

**Republican rally:** Congressmen Wittman spoke to members of the community at the tea party assembled to protest government spending.

## Williamsburg Area Transport adds buses to existing routes, readies Town trolley

Aimee Forsythe  
Staff Writer

In an attempt to improve the bus system, Williamsburg Area Transport has added an extra bus to each of the grey, tan, blue and orange lines according to Mark Rickards, the executive director of Williamsburg Area Transport. Students may be familiar with these lines especially the blue line which stops at the outlets, and the tan line which goes to Wal-Mart.

With the extra bus added to each line, people will now only have to wait a half hour in between buses instead of an hour. Rickards notes that the green line already has two buses running on it, making it a more efficient line. He says the extra buses will be around for at least the next three years, as this will give them a "good understanding of the need for the services," and they have the funding for three years. Rickards says that these buses were added based on rider feedback and because it is "an industry standard."

Williamsburg Area Transport has a website with a complete list of their routes and times and also now has a Facebook page. Also noteworthy is that WAT is now on Google Transit. Students can simply type in their present address and their desired destination and Google will find a route instructing students on how to

use the bus system to get to the end location. Google Transit includes alternative routes with detailed instructions, estimated times, and prices.

WAT currently is in the process of implementing a new trolley-bus.

Rickards says the route is not finalized, but it will include stops at Merchant Square, High street, and New Town. The line will begin this summer and will be available to students when they return in the fall.



Shep Walker

**Less of this:** More frequent bus routes are expected to reduce wait times. As well, a completed website allows students to easily find bus routes from A to B.

## Former DNC Chair Terry McAuliffe to speak at the College

Kristin Coyner  
Staff Writer

Gubernatorial hopeful Terry McAuliffe will speak on campus today in an event sponsored by Students for A Better Williamsburg (SBW). The appearance is question-and-answer style and will be held from 12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Tidewater B room of the Sadler Center.

Terry McAuliffe served most prominently as chairman for the Democratic National Committee (DNC) from 2001 to 2005. More recently, Mr. McAuliffe was chairman of Hilary Rodham Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign. Mr. McAuliffe kicked off his campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor in January 2009.

SBW is a student-run political action committee which seeks to increase students' voices beyond campus.

Founder and current director Michael Douglas ('11) stated, "SBW has always aimed to make public officials and candidates more accessible to the student body. Bringing Terry McAuliffe to campus is just an extension of that intent. We also believe that our public officials and candidates should be brought on the record in support of statewide student issues, including better funding for higher education, no-fault absentee voting, and student rights to choose to domicile either at their original home or on their campus. We hope to hear pledges from Mr. McAuliffe along those lines."

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# Meet the candidates for VP of Student Affairs



## Dean L. Bresciani

- Currently professor at Texas A&M
- Vice president for student affairs at Texas A&M (2004-2008)
- Interim vice chancellor for student affairs at the UNC- Chapel Hill (2002-2004)
- Associate vice chancellor for student services at UNC-Chapel Hill (1998-2002)
- Ph.D. in higher education finance from the University of Arizona.

**Andrew Blasi**  
Executive Editor

**VAI:** To what extent do you believe the Student Assembly should make important event decisions verses the Office of Student Affairs.

**Bresciani:** Without knowing more about what is being referenced by “event decisions” it would be difficult for me to offer an informed response. In general I consider student input and involvement in university policies to be a critical aspect of a campus environment. I’ve always encouraged that type of involvement and relationship with student leaders, and I think that better decisions result when students are part of a “shared governance” college environment.

**VAI:** Is there anything that Sam Sadler did or did not do that you will now halt or start to carry out?

**Bresciani:** From what I’ve heard and observed, Sam Sadler established a strong and long-standing reputation for his commitment to and relationship with students. Both figuratively and literally he defined the position of Vice President for Student Affairs at

the College of William and Mary, and it would be an honor to step in to such a role. I would certainly want to continue and extend that commitment, and would look forward to learning more about the College and how best to serve the campus community.

**VAI:** Do you believe the honor council election process at the College needs reform?

**Bresciani:** To be honest I don’t know enough about the honor system election process to offer any opinion.

**VAI:** What will be your highest priority as the next VPSA?

**Bresciani:** As suggested with my previous responses, I’d want to as fully as possible learn, understand and extend the commitment and impact that Sam Sadler exhibiting in defining the role of the vice president for student affairs. My first priority would be to learn everything I could about the College of William and Mary and the members of its campus community. I’d also want to demonstrate the visibility and accessibility that I believe is critical to being a successful Vice President for Student Affairs.



## Ángel Martínez Loredó

- Associate Dean of students at Maine (1999 to present)
- Director of the Office of Multicultural Services at the University of Houston Clear Lake (1995-1999)
- Coordinator for support programs and Hispanic student affairs of the Department of Intercultural Education and Minority Student Affairs at Southern Methodist University (1990-1995)
- Master’s degree in liberal arts from Southern Methodist.

**VAI:** To what extent do you believe the Student Assembly should make important event decisions verses the Office of Student Affairs?

**Loredó:** A strong relationship should exist between the Student Assembly and Student Affairs. Having a healthy relationship is important to have honest communication, because listening to the issues concerning students is vital, and collaborating to resolve them is essential.

**VAI:** Is there anything that Sam Sadler did or did not do that you will now halt or start to carry out?

**Loredó:** It is always fortunate to build new programs on a strong foundation. Developing new programs that meet the needs of students is paramount, and being present and available for students will be one of my priorities that engage students to campus.

**VAI:** Do you believe the honor council election process at the College needs reform?

**Loredó:** I believe it is important to have policies in place that take into consideration the current students experiences and needs with ample

impute from all stakeholders. The election process is one of its kinds; the question to consider is if the process allows excess to the students seeking to be elected.

**VAI:** What will be your highest priority as the next VPSA?

**Loredó:** The highest priority is to develop an environment for students that offer excellent services and programs that complement the College mission and that provides opportunities for students to become engaged in civic engagement projects. What is one specific thing you hope to accomplish? I hope to develop opportunities for students to become active on campus. Whether that opportunity is serving on Student Affairs committees, taking a leadership role in campus issues, or participating in social service initiatives I hope to develop a strong relationships with students by being available to listen and work together with students.



## Margaret A. Jablonski

- Vice Chancellor for student affairs at UNC-Chapel Hill (2004-present)
- Dean for campus life at Brown University (2001-2004)
- Associate vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Connecticut (1999-2001).
- Ed.D. in administration, training and policy studies from Boston University

*Ms Jablonski did not respond to requests for comment.*



## Virginia Ambler

- William & Mary’s interim vice president for student affairs (since June 2008)
- W&M assistant vice president for student affairs (2001-2008)
- W&M assistant to the vice president for student affairs (1991-2001)
- Ph.D. in educational policy, planning and leadership from William & Mary.

*Ms Ambler declined to comment for this story.*

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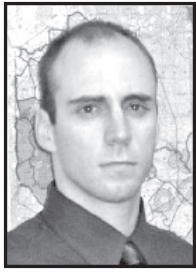
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# W&M student fought pirates while in Marine Corps

**Julia Riesenberg**  
Arts and Culture Editor

When Sergeant Lance Zaal ('09) graduated in 2002 from University High School in Orange County, California, he'd already decided he wasn't going to college immediately. "I didn't want to do what I thought was the same boring thing that everybody else was doing after high school," Zaal said. "I wanted to do something more. I wanted to serve my country and be a part of history. 9/11 was the perfect opportunity." Zaal enlisted in the Marine Corps infantry, where he served on active duty until 2006.



Lance Zaal

Noticeably older and more mature than most college students, Zaal spends much of his time in the library, working to fulfill the nineteen credits he needs this semester to complete his three-year academic track. Four years of military service have armed Zaal not only with a tenacious work ethic, but also with a certain level of gravitas that gives one the impression that his mind is not completely back from overseas.

"My first deployment was to Baghdad," Zaal said. In March 2004 Zaal served as a member of Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team (FAST), which provided security for the Coalition for Provisional Authority, Iraq's interim government after Saddam Hussein fell from power. His squad "did limited patrolling in the Baghdad area." At one point, his section prevented three members of the Mahdi Army from infiltrating the compound they were protecting, an accomplishment that merited a personal congratulations from

General David Howell Patraeus and Ambassador L. Paul Bremer. Between deployments to Iraq, Zaal worked in Cuba, leading a team that manned the border between the island nation and Guantanamo Bay. He also helped train forces in South America. Zaal was called back to Iraq in 2005, where he served as Squad leader in Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, attached to a Marine Expeditionary Unit, Special Operations Capable, or MEU (SOC). On their first day on patrol, "my squad saw the first combat action of the MEU." Shortly after leaving their forward operating base, insurgents fired a rocket at the company, and Zaal and his squad "got into an engagement with them." Zaal declined to disclose the identity of the attackers, simply referring to them as "the bad guys."

After their combat tour, Zaal's company boarded the USS Nassau to head back to the United States. It was while the ship was off the coast of the horn of Africa, near Somalia, that pirates began firing at one of the ships in his fleet.

"When we were in Iraq, there were some issues with pirates in the area," Zaal said. "In fall of 2005 they attacked a cruise ship...So anyway, the ship [being fired at] fired back, wounding many of the pirates. We brought the wounded pirates onto our ship and treated their wounds in our medical facility."

The pirates rode on "dinky little boats, no more than 20 feet long and 8 feet wide," Zaal said. "They were not physically intimidating at all—they were so skinny."

Still, when Zaal was called into a



Courtesy of Lance Zaal

**Defending the ship:** William and Mary student Lance Zaal fought Somali pirates while on active duty in the Marine Corps. He also served in Iraq protecting the new government.

meeting with the other squad leaders shortly after the incident, they were informed that "the pirates had demanded we release the wounded guys on our ship, or they would kill other hostages they had." Apparently the pirates had just hijacked another ship and were holding hostages on land. The Marines knew of a couple of pirate bases in the area, and the squad leaders "were told to make sure our Marines were ready to go in case we got a call to assault the pirates."

"We were all pumped up," Zaal said. "As you can imagine, pirate jokes were never ending."

The Marines did not raid the pirate bases. Intelligence officials, however, moved in swiftly. They interrogated the wounded pirates, transferred

them off the ship, and handled the situation from there. "We certainly didn't expect to see combat in two different areas of the world," Zaal reflected. "We had just gotten back from Iraq, and now we were dealing with pirates?"

After returning to the United States in the summer of 2006, Zaal immediately enrolled in classes at William and Mary, which he dryly referred to as his "vacation" from the Marines. He has been in the inactive reserve of the Marine Corps ever since.

In the midst of the end-of-semester work crunch at William and Mary, the events of Zaal's action-packed term of military service seem like stories from another world, though they are clearly a very real, ever-present force for him. Did he impact history? Zaal did not hesitate in offering his reply. "I think I did," he said. "I think I definitely made a difference."

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**As you can imagine,  
pirate jokes were  
never ending.**

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# Skiffy, Sci-Fi Club both wacky and welcoming

**Alexander Powell**  
Opinion Editor

Don't think science fiction and fantasy are cool? Think again. You might not see popped collars or Dave Mathew's Band hats at William and Mary's Science Fiction and Fantasy Club, better known as "Skiffy" but this club is not for people who don't like a good time. Instead of beer pong and convivial palm-slapping, table top gaming and Nerf fights rule the day.

Skiffy, which has been an institution on campus for over 35 years, can be seen as a breath of fresh air for some students, acting a friendly retreat for like-minded people from the strongly Greek W&M campus. I recently had the privilege to sit in on a Skiffy meeting on Monday, April 13th.

The meeting started with reports from officers, nearly all of whom had very outrageous titles. The session seemed to be less of actual club reporting and more about friends

sharing funny stories and happenings around campus. One member told of how he Rick-Rolled his entire high school over the P.A. system.

After a while, the club moved on to "business," which was a discussion about a planned "Raven-con." Some club members mistook this as "Reagan-Con," a satire of Raven-Con, a fantasy. Reagan-con is a sci-fi and horror convention in Richmond. In the last meeting, Club officer Mark Hrisho ('11) read club response to the question "what would Reagan-Con be like?" Proposed ideas were dinners where the dessert would "trickle-down" to customers and Russian martial arts masters breaking down walls to allow patrons into the convention.

Following this discussion, the club had nominations for next year's club officers. The majority of offices i.e. president, treasurer, secretary, were treated with respect but the title of Vice President was somewhat irreverent. Nominated candidates had unique titles: A bottle of Sweet Tea, Willy the Wombat and the contents of a few club members stomachs. In this jocular manner, the club, which filled the entire large classroom, continued for some time

until it was time to select the movie for next week.

After a long but highly organized nomination process, the club voted on the final two, Battle Royale and Twilight, which seemed to be proposed only as a joke that went a bit far. In the end Battle Royale won by a large margin and club members rejoiced. When the movie of the night, The Brotherhood of the Wolf started, I left.

Later I interviewed the president of Skiffy Ben Fontana ('09). "It's a hang out spot," he said. "We welcome everyone." As we continued to talk, he also told me that the club organizes weekly Nerf gun battles, video game tournaments and social dances with the anime club.

I will admit that I was apprehensive when I went to the Skiffy meeting and I felt that some of the antics, such as the evil laugh competition, were a bit strange. However, by the end of the night my fellow reporters and I, Fiona Heuch and Seema Mahanian, were won over by the group's welcoming demeanor and wacky personality. Don't be surprised if you see this reporter attending Battle Royale this Monday. Skiffy meets on Mondays 9pm in Blair 223.



Alec McKinley

**Fantastic fun:** The Sci-Fi club enjoys nerf gun battles and film screenings in academic buildings.

Humor Column:

# College headlines in 2025

Jon San and Alex Mayer  
Staff Writers

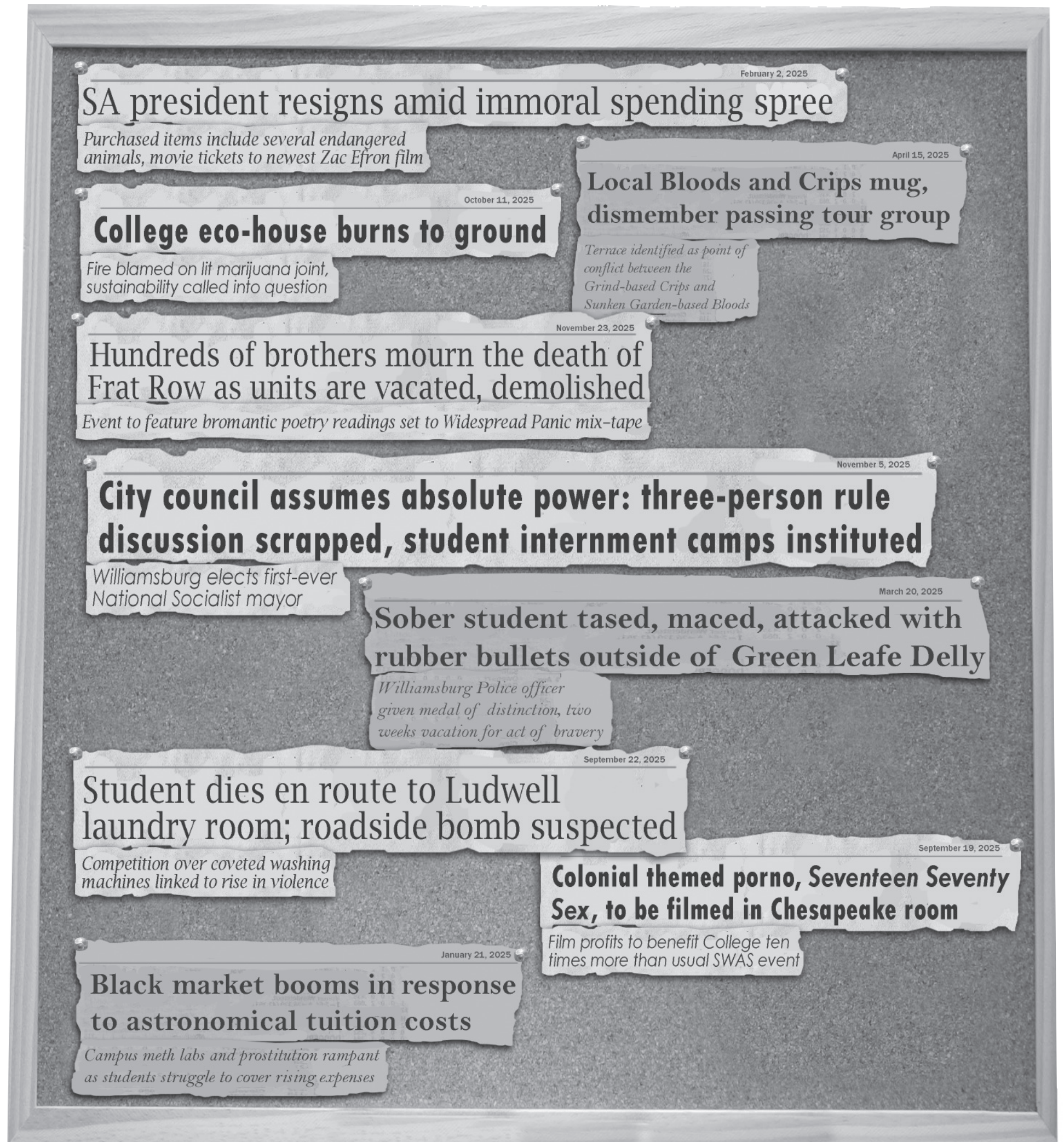
For the seniors at the College, these last few weeks of school are undoubtedly a mix of bittersweet nostalgia and much-deserved relief; or perhaps more truthfully, a whirlwind of binge drinking and senioritis. In any case, it is certainly a time

of reflection. News-wise, this semester's headlines have been dominated by a weird breadth of subjects: the Wawagate scandal of former SA President Zach Pilchen ('09), the sexual tag team of SWAS and the Century Project, the long-running argument over the three-person rule, the hiring freeze and tuition raise, and most recently, the tasing and as-

sault of various students.

So for sleepy Williamsburg, a bedrock of slow news, it has been a relatively successful year for juicy stories even with the sudden demise of JuicyCampus. With this in mind, we are confident that next year's stories could increase in violent and sexual content by at least 1000%. And by 2025 (provided that the world does

not end in 2012 as the Mayans, Mel Gibson and Lil' Wayne believe), it is most likely that Colonial Williamsburg could become a true bloodbath/orgy of great news stories. Our following predictions, based off consultations with the former Monica's Palm Readers of Richmond Road, are as follows:



# 2008-2009: The Year in Review

**Tazewell Shepherd**

Contributor

*Students return to Williamsburg for a new year...*

**08/16/08:** and little is different around town. Road construction around Swem rages, geriatric numbers swell, locals call police on students. And freshmen slowly catch on to local customs. They learn that admittance to the College Delly requires not a good ID, but any ID.

They learn that student organizations in college do as just little as student organizations in high school. And that Williamsburg's colonial re-enactors have their own quirks. General Washington smokes "authentic" Marlboro Lights in character and sexually assaults tourists. Homeless Patrick Henry sleeps in the maze at the Governor's Place at night. Thomas Jefferson needs a little Virginia Bourbon to cool his nerves in front of tour groups. Most importantly, they learn being freshman becomes a de-facto excuse for anything stupid.

*Meanwhile, upperclassmen discover that this campus...*

**08/28/08:** is now a Juicy Campus. The bawdy gossip site adds a William and Mary page. Computer screens across school become Juicy country. William and Mary is consistently ranked among the website's most popular schools. For tour guides, desperate for evidence of a campus social life, Juicy Campus becomes a go-to selling point.

*Also desperate to market the College in a non-academic way, our less-than-Juicy Student Assembly...*

**09/13/08:** launches a debate on the city's three person housing rule to challenge the abysmal housing status quo. They promise to write non-binding resolutions encouraging the city to change the policy. City officials acknowledge student efforts and promise to disregard everything they say.

*The only slightly more effective local chamber of commerce attracts...*

**09/24/08:** The Today Show broadcast to live from Colonial Williamsburg. The show highlights "Battle-ground States in this Year's Election." The situation changes however when three tourists holding a "Hello Akron, Ohio!" sign get stuck in the muddy on the Duke of Gloucester Street. Two horse and buggies and seven longshoremen are needed to pull him out.

*As the camera crews leave...*

**11/04/08:** election hysteria hits the college. Students wait to see if Obama can become the first elected Black President of America, outside of disaster movies and 24. Fred Thompson supporters still think he is running for President.

*And the next day...*

**11/05/08:** Obama wins the presidency after crushing John McCain in a HORSE/slam dunk contest. Democrats celebrate, Oprah cries, and AMP rains on everyone's parade by refusing to add Hustler Video's "Nailin' Paylin" to the month's movie lineup.

*Things return to normal until...*

**11/21/08:** professors discover Juicy Campus and use the site as an opportunity to promote their classes. Some label themselves, "Hottest Prof. Eval" while others carry out departmental rivalries with postings like, "Sociology majors become class-conscious baristas."

*And, despite social networking analyst predictions...*

**12/12/08:** Twitter fails to become the new Facebook. With regards to W&M, sources within the Twitter camp acknowledge the difficulty for TWAMPs to create a suave/party boi/intellectual persona within the confines of Twitter's 140-character posts. Instead, de-tagging unflattering photos continues to monopolize the average Tribe student's social networking schedule.

*And, with change in mind...*

**01/20/09:** students travel to Obama's Inauguration. Participants describe waiting standing around in a packed and muddy field in sub-zero weather at four in the morning as a life changing experience. The Flat Hat is impressed. The Virginia Informer is not.

*Speaking of Obama....*

**02/09/09:** when it comes to hot walk-of-shame attire, "Yes We Did" t-shirts replace t "Yes We Can" sweatshirts from the fall season. Velour sweatpants and an embarrassed demeanor remain popular accessories.

*But, walks-of-shames suddenly go unreported as...*

**02/27/09:** the tumbling economy forces a Juicy shutdown. To college community's dismay, Juicy Campus does not receive a government bailout. Obama did not like Juicy comments about Michelle's butt.

*Disappearing local jobs...*

**03/04/09:** force many student-entrepreneurs to look elsewhere for tuition money. College IT blames slowed Internet connections on students' "interactive cam-girl" activities tying up bandwidth. College IT offers student-entrepreneurs better service for a cut of their action. IT technicians began to dress in cheetah print suits and red felt hats.

*Bored and broke students learn that...*

**03/15/09:** despite Jamie Foxx's advise, police do not accept "blame it on the ah-ah ah-ah-alcohol" as an acceptable excuse for a drunk in public charge. Police prefer old classics like Jimmy Rodgers, "In The Jailhouse Now."

*While singing "Blame It," one Student is tasered...*

**03/27/09:** by Williamsburg police during a late night altercation. The Student was wearing a "Don't tase me bro!" t-shirt. The irony goes unnoticed. Protesters wear "Don't tase me bro!" t-shirts as an act of solidarity. Casual observes just think they are being trendy.

*As questions arise about the Williamsburg Police Department...*

**03/29/09:** students demand answers about recent brutality and organize a student sit-in in the Williamsburg Police station. Police respond by brandishing tasers at students. Students immediately retract questions, end the sit-it, and buy "2009 Virginia Police Booster" stickers for their cars.

*As an act of April Fools Day terrorism...*

**04/01/09:** a group of angry students plan to unleash Godzilla in Swem to ravage the third floor. Due to factors outside their control, however, Godzilla became a 4'10 collaborator in a Tree Frog costume and ravaging Swem becomes a half-hearted pandemonium from ten or so students.

*Other students act out their frustration...*

**04/13/09:** by organizing a "Tea Party" to protest government spending. Organizers promise to teabag Congress and "Shove it down their throats."

*Protesters wear bats with teabags dangling in their faces and...*

**05/01/09:** the year comes to a close. The weather is nice, but pasty girls sunbathing in the Sunken Gardens are not. The library on a weeknight looks like the fall of Saigon. Blowout approaches and its almost time to go home. See you later, William and Mary.

## CafMan's Mailbox

HELLO  
my name is

Larry  
"CafMan"  
Smith



"Paper towels in the ladies room never work. We drip dry, spread germs."

- Student

Thanks for the comment. We will get someone to fix this.

Thanks, LS  
Wed, April 15<sup>th</sup>

"To the person who shoved a hot dog into the mustard bottle: Dude, what?"

- Student

Thanks for the comment. Um, not too cool.

Thanks, LS  
Sat, April 18<sup>th</sup>

# THE HISTORY

**Bert Mueller**  
Managing Editor

**Blowout** – n. - a sudden rupture or malfunction of a part or apparatus due to pressure, in particular. (Oxford American Dictionary)

Classes are almost over. Students are busily trying to accomplish all that they have left until the last minute. Then, the final Friday of classes arrives. And it begins. Students who would not touch alcohol on any other day of the year suddenly drink as if their lives depend on it. Classes usually populated by earnest and thoughtful students descend into mayhem. For 24 hours, all of the pressure that has built up over the course of the semester is released.

According to the website, College Prowler, "The last day of classes, especially spring semester, culminates in a humongous, campus-wide alcohol fest. Students go to class drunk, go to par-

ties drunk, and go to sleep drunk. In the spring, seniors go to their freshman dorms for a toast and then head to the Wren Building to ring the bell. It's the last chance to have fun before finals begin." For many students who partake, however, the origins of this event remain a mystery.

## How it all started

Thomas Jefferson never attended Blowout. Glenn Close never attended a Blowout. Even Bill Lawrence never attended a Blowout. Why? Because, despite widespread misconceptions about this event, it is a relatively new phenomenon. In the mid-nineties, a fraternity that is no longer on campus, Sigma Nu, held an event that evolved into what W&M students now call Blowout. On the last day of classes of the spring semester, the Sigma Nu Brothers held a "liquid lunch" at their house. Brothers and their friends would drink before

classes and show up to class with liquid containers.

At first, it was just Sigma Nu brothers and their friends who engaged in the event as a serious tradition. After several consecutive years of hosting the event, however, the idea started catching on as imitators took notice. Sigma Nu did not last much longer on campus but the idea of a "liquid lunch" did.

As the 1990s progressed, the event picked up support from students and it acquired a name: Blowout. For the most part, only graduating seniors participated. It was also only held during the spring semester. Part of the Blowout day tradition was "toasting" to various academic buildings and freshman dorms as a way of saying goodbye to institutions part of a college career. This tradition of toasting to buildings continued, but by 1997 and 1998, Blowout had gone from being a senior-centric event to becoming a campus wide event.

Beyond merely becoming a campus-wide event, some students extended Blowout to the fall semester as well. Since some seniors graduate in the fall, why not celebrate twice per year? This pretext of fall graduation helped expand the event and allowed Blowout to gain legitimacy as a "hallowed" tradition on campus.

## Slow Downs

At the end of the 1990s, Blowout coincided with a school holiday in Virginia. Throngs of potential and admitted students descended onto the campus. What they discovered on campus that day left a number of administrators reeling. Blowout was possibly the worst day for prospective students to be investigating the College. Besides, it lured these visitors into a false sense of hope about campus partying. According to Government Professor Clay Clemens, "The next year there was quite a bit of restraint exercised by students" as the school cracked down on Blowout related activities.



**Raucous celebration:** The Gentlemen's final Blowout. Besides the Gentlemen, AMP hosts an annual...

An event that many look back on as part of a very "hardcore" Blowout was a party thrown by a retiring professor. During the spring of 2002, between 500 to 600 people crammed into Millington 150 as this very popular professor enjoyed his final class with his students. The retirement party did not last long: police broke up the jovial gathering and students were sent on their way. But the consequences didn't end there and the outgoing professor suffered personnel consequences.

## FBI attend Blowout

The Blowout of Spring 2006 was a tense one. A few days before the last day of classes, threats of violence against students had been sent via email and the FBI was having trouble tracing the emails. It was found, however, that the threats originated from a Williamsburg email address. State Troopers, Bomb Squads and FBI agents descended onto the W&M campus as the final day of classes began to



Courtesy Photo

**Head of State:** President Nichol escorts Queen Elizabeth during her visit to the College for the 400th anniversary of the landing at Jamestown. She arrived just in time for the Blowout of 2006.

# Professors favorite Blowout memories...



**President Taylor Reveley**

What I remember from my first blowout last spring was coming back from a meeting, hungry, getting my hands on a really good hot dog, and eating it among a lot of happy students, including a couple from the Law School who'd come over to see what all the noise was about. Blowout is a good idea -- a time to release some steam and relax between the end of classes and the beginning of exams. Blowout is best, of course, when consciously experienced -- when not dead drunk. To ensure body and brain survive for exams, and to avoid spoiling other people's fun, let's keep the booze in the bottle.

- President Taylor Reveley

My favorite blowout stories happened in the late nineties when blowout was in full force. Some students in my class told me they were going to bring blenders on the last day of classes to produce their concoctions. Instead of saying, "don't do that", I told them that "they wouldn't dare do that," really never the right choice of words. At that point [in my career], I actually tried to hold a regular class on the last day of classes. I started my lecture and about 30 seconds into my first words, there was a revving up of appliances that sounded like the Texas Chainsaw Massacre going on in the back of the room. They hadn't actually brought drinks to class but at that point, I realized that I was not going to be able to get through a full class lecture.

- Professor Clay Clemens



**Professor Jennifer Taylor**

I have always liked the energy and joyousness of Blowout at William and Mary. The students here work extremely hard during the year, and Blowout is one of the few moments where (almost) everyone on campus takes a few hours to just have fun and enjoy the beautiful spring weather. Blowout is a real community event; everyone comes together to celebrate the end of their undergraduate days. I like, too, that seniors drop by my office or classroom to chat and to remember that they had seminars with me. I have never had a bad experience during blowout and look forward to the sounds of bells, music and maniacal laughter every year.

- Professor Jennifer Taylor

About ten years ago, a new assistant professor in my department was sitting in her office at around 8:15 am on Blowout, her first, talking on the phone to a close friend, telling her how beautiful the W&M campus was that spring morning and what a delight the students were to deal with. The sun was out and the birdies were singing. As she spoke to her friend, my colleague was looking out her office window, which was next to her desk and right at ground level, behind some shrubs by a door into the building. Just as she was waxing on about how idyllic things were that spring morning in the Burg, a guy walking down the path to class after a night of pre-Blowout revelry became ill, dashed behind the shrubs I just mentioned, and proceeded to upchuck a night's worth of liquid consumption all over my colleague's office window, with her looking out, still on the phone, but now completely appalled. I guess she needed to qualify the comments she was making about the quality of life at W&M.

- "An anonymous senior faculty member who fears for his job"



**Professor Clay Clemens**



**Anonymous**



# OF BLOWOUT



Courtesy Photo

on hold. On Friday, at least. The last day of classes was held on a rainy Thursday instead. On Friday, most students refrained from drinking to excess and instead turned out to welcome the queen. Government Professor, Clay Clemens, jokingly lamented that, instead of celebrating blowout, “all of us independent Americans who celebrated our revolution and break with monarchy trooped off for hours in the hot sun to get a glimpse of [the queen]. It makes you wonder why Mel Gibson won our independence for us.”

University Relations estimated that nearly 7,000 students turned out to get a glimpse of the queen that day. In accordance with college tradition, the queen rang the Wren bell.

## Administration Blowback

The college administration has always shunned the use of the word “blowout” and has tried to create an alternate tradition: LDOC – or Last Day Of Classes. In an interview with *The Virginia Informer* regarding Blowout, Assistant Vice-President for Student Affairs, Mark Constantine, stated, “We just want to make sure that people enjoy the day. We want to put on activities that people can enjoy and have fun. We have the inflatables, the picnic and the food... It’s how you enjoy yourself in a safe fashion that follows the policies of the college and the laws of the state.” He also noted that he preferred the use of the term, Last Day Of Classes.

“Blowout is best, of course, when consciously experienced - when not dead drunk. To ensure body and brain survive for exams, and to avoid spoiling other people’s fun, let’s keep the booze in the bottle,” recommended President Reveley. He also encouraged seniors to ring the Wren Bell and described it as “a very good idea, indeed, a cherished College tradition. Hearing the bell ring (and ring and ring) reminds us that another academic year at



Courtesy Photo

**Most romantic spot?** In the spring of 2008 on Blowout, an anonymous student emptied 6 fire extinguishers into the pond that resulted in a foamy, white surface.

this marvelous school is drawing a close.”

## Alternatives and additions

Indeed, the year is drawing to a close. This year on Blowout, AMP will be providing alternatives to drinking to engage students. At 3pm, the Sunken Gardens will have a huge slide, an obstacle course, laser tag, a moon bounce, gladiator jousting, a dodge ball arena, spin art Frisbees and a stand set up for custom photo can koozies. If you’re hungry, dinner will be served along with Ben and Jerry’s ice cream. A Coke Truck will be giving out free cokes. Later in the day, a band will perform. According to AMP Music Productions Chair, Sean O’Mealia, “This year, Sister Hazel will be performing for our annual LDOC concert. They are the band that sing ‘All For You.’ The concert is for W&M students only. It will be free and in the Sunken Gardens.”

In addition to ringing the Wren Bell, the

final Gentlemen’s concert is a tradition that predates blowout but has remained very well attended.

## Tradition?

“Around here it’s so important to get something labeled a tradition because once you do you think it becomes absolutely inviolable,” said Clay Clemens, regarding why so many students have pushed for Blowout to become a campus tradition. Whether or not Blowout will become a tradition as cherished as bell-ringing remains to be seen. Mark Constantine reiterated, “We want it to be a safe day. If people choose to drink, do it responsibly, if of age.”

- Thanks to Clay Clemens, Ronald Rappoport, Mark Constantine, Peter Hatfield and Liza Parrish for their help with this article.

al concert is a popular and well attended event on annual concert. This year, Sister Hazel will perform.

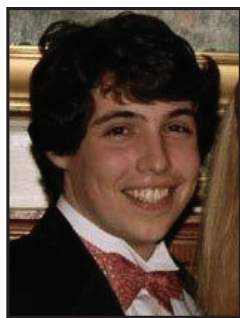
unfurl. To attend activities sponsored by the school, bag checks were required. The sunken gardens had police stationed at each entrance. Helicopters flew overhead.

Off-campus, officers interrupted a sorority keg race after the officers mistook cheers of celebrations for the pandemonium of violence. According to Liza Parrish (09), “People scampered up trees and ducked out of site as officers swarmed the party.” However, these officials were far more interested in bombs possibly hidden on campus than underage drinking. No violence occurred but the administration and law enforcement were unable to catch the perpetrator of the threats.

## Queen attends Blowout

When the Queen and her entourage arrived on campus in the spring of 2007 for the 400th anniversary of the landing at Jamestown, Blowout was effectively put

# Students favorite Blowout memories...



Gunnar Gregory

“My Freshman spring Blowout was stolen from me. I woke up at 7 to start having fun, and much to my dismay, I had an email waiting for me from the Dean of the History Department. My history professor had somehow lost all my grades for the entire semester, and I was expected to meet with the Dean at 7 pm that night. There would be no Blowout for me. Wearing my button down seer-sucker shirt didn’t even cheer me up. I watched my friends destroy a giant inflatable blow up fortress, then I drove them around for 2 hours. I did manage to make friends with some Seniors who were toasting their freshman year Dupont rooms”.

- Gunnar Gregory, ‘11



Kirk Vernegaard

“My inebriated friend, upon deciding that the Sunken Garden food line was too long, began eating grass while on all fours. We didn’t really get it until she started mooing. I’d say she grazed for about thirty minutes. We thought it was really funny until she started throwing it up everywhere.”

- Danny Michel, ‘11

“We had heard that a professor’s (who will remain unnamed) 101 class was THE Blowout class to attend, so we tagged along with some of our friends to see what shenanigans were in place. The class amounted to seniors drinking forties in the back, raising their hands and telling the professor how much they liked him. Some guy had a case of Keystone on his desk, and pulled a beer can out. I couldn’t imagine what he was going to do with it, until he ran down to the front, cracked it open, and placed it in front of the professor. The guy seemed pretty amused with himself, and just stood there for a while until some of his friends led him back to his seat.”

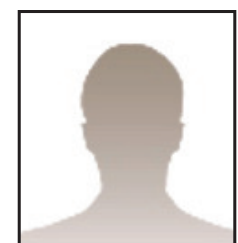
- Kirk Vernegaard, ‘10

“In the wee morning hours of blowout I stole 6 fire extinguishers from Chandler, sprayed them all over the Crim Dell, and then woke up 4 hours later to drink. I stumbled upon the ecological disaster I had created on my way to class, and fumbled some words as a fire marshal ordered me to step away from the ‘crime scene’. I then proceeded to my econ class in Millington 101, where I tripped in the aisle and fell down the theatre style lecture hall onto four angry AXO’s. They were not happy. After attending a twenty person lecture class that I didn’t belong to, I relapsed into drinking again, this time on the benches in front of Swem. I woke up ten hours later, all alone on the benches. Blowout was a success.”

- Anonymous, ‘XX



Danny Michel



Anonymous

# VA GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE:

The College hosted the debate in the Sadler Center

continued from page one

Mr. McAuliffe cited this business experience as a qualification for helping shape Virginia's current economy. Mr. McAuliffe said, "I've created houses and jobs. I'm a self-made guy." He also supported closing the gun show loophole. While he did state his support for legalizing same-sex marriage, he said it would not likely happen, and strongly implied that it would not be a priority.

Mr. McAuliffe asserted that Virginia voters' priorities were simple: "They [voters] need jobs."

The Democratic nominee for Governor of Virginia will be chosen in a primary election on June 9. The winner will run in the general election against Republican Bob McDonnell. The election will be held on November 3.

# BOV MEETS:

The BOV recently met and voted upon a tuition increase and a new Rector

continued from page one

lion, and College sources say that this increase will be principally funded by internal College sources. According to Vice President Jones's statement, approximately one-third of current student aid is supported by "student funds" and two-thirds from College sources. Regarding the increase in aid money, Jones said in his statement that "increasing our amount of student aid was a must."

Henry C. Wolf previously served as Vice Rector, a position he has held since 2006, and has served on the Board of Visitors since 2003. Wolf has served as Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer of Norfolk Southern Corporation, a company he joined in 1973, from 1998 until 2007, and he currently serves

on the boards of AGL Resources and Hertz Global Holdings and as a trustee of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He served in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps for four years.

According to campaign finance data, Wolf has donated \$30,412 to state political candidates and committees, with \$21,162 going to Democratic Party-affiliated recipients, \$5750 going to non-partisan groups, and \$3500 going to Republicans. The Board of Visitors also appointed John W. Gerdelman ('75) Vice Rector and Janet Brashear ('82) as the Secretary of the Board. Outgoing Rector Michael K. Powell ('85) will step down from the Board after Wolf takes office July 1.

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## Restaurant Review:

**Jamestown Pie Company offers unusual, tasty desserts and much more**

**Kristin Coyner and Aimee Forsythe**  
Staff Writers



Warm weather making you feel adventurous? We recommend going down to 1804 Jamestown Road, no more than a ten-minute joyride away. At the intersection of Jamestown and Ironbound roads is the Jamestown Pie Company, a takeout restaurant worth the short trip from campus. Dry-erase boards flanking inside the store list drinks, specialty pies, and pie-by-the-slice offerings of the day. On our visit, a friendly employee quickly appeared, providing helpful assistance in making our food and pie choices.

Although primarily known for its pies, Jamestown Pie Company offers many other selections, including gourmet pizzas, pot pies, salads, and sandwiches. The prices are reasonable for the quality of the food, with 12-inch gourmet pizzas averaging from \$13-\$15 for selections with non-seafood toppings. A variety of sandwiches can be ordered before 5:00 pm, each costing \$7.95. Pot pies range in price from \$6-\$7.50 for 4-inch wedges, while \$14-\$22 gets you a full 9-inch pie. Dessert pies range from \$13-\$17, or you can get a substantial single slice of the daily pies for \$2.50. The Company offers a wide variety of flavors, as well as specialty and seasonal pies.

We decided to sample the pizzas in addition to ordering dessert. A little overwhelmed with the variety of the gourmet selections, we were advised by the

staff member to try the Arno pizza, which we ordered in the 12-inch size. This pizza was topped with white sauce, chicken, mushrooms, spinach, garlic, and parmesan cheese. We also ordered a chicken pot pie slice and chose to finish off our meal with the “world famous” pecan pie and coconut custard pie, the pie-by-the-slice offerings that day. We waited on the benches in the outside hallway for about fifteen minutes for our food to arrive.

When our order was ready, we were greeted with a delightful aroma coming from the pizza box. We began our feast with the chicken pot pie, which at first glance may catch one off-guard, having no top crust. Although the bottom crust was a bit burnt, that did not deter from its overall hearty and satisfying taste. Assumedly enough food for the average eater, one might want to go with an appetite in order to ensure room for the acclaimed desserts. We next sampled the Arno Pizza, which was delicious and reminiscent of some of the selections we’ve had at California Pizza Kitchen. Both the pecan pie and the coconut custard were quickly devoured, and good examples of the quality of pie offered. Our one complaint is that they did not have a wider selection of pie-by-the-slice.

Overall, we enjoyed our take-out dinner from the Jamestown Pie Company and definitely recommend it to others looking for an easy meal, picnic food, or just a good pie. You can place your order when you arrive and wait, or call ahead of time at 757-229-7775 and simply pick it up on arrival. They are open Monday-Saturday from 10:00 am-10:00 pm and 12:00-8:00 pm on Sundays. You can also check out their website at [www.buyapie.com](http://www.buyapie.com) for a complete list of their pies.

## Music Review:

**Promising Indie band releases first album**

**Jack Evans**  
Music Critic



I had to wait a while to review this one. Ever since I first heard The La's “There She Goes” -surely the most euphoric pop song ever written about heroin addiction, and more recently covered by Christian band Sixpence None the Richer- I’ve had an unwavering bias in favor of any song with jangly guitars and an even halfway decent chorus. I distinctly remember sitting on the school bus in sixth grade and being completely captivated when that song came on the radio. Of course, at the time my relationship with popular music mostly involved “Pretty Fly for a White Guy” and the first NOW! compilation, so it’s easy to see why it made such an impression on me. Aside from a terribly lengthy name, however, the hip new band The Pains of Being Pure at Heart (henceforth, TPOBPAH) probably has less in common with Sixpence None the Richer than I would have you believe.

On their self-titled album debut, the guitar’s folksy clamor is reminiscent of the guitar in The Byrds’ cover of “Mr. Tambourine Man.” But to classify TPOBPAH as just your garden variety jangly guitar-pop would be, I think, doing them a disservice.

For one thing, there are the lyrics, which detail all kinds of sexual indiscretions. There’s sex with siblings, sex with teachers, sex in public—well, to be fair, that last one does occur “between the stacks in the library.” I mean, who hasn’t done that? This is William and Mary, after all. Luckily for you repressed types out there, the vocals are usually blended in with the general instrumental, mainly guitar, fuzz.

Which brings me to my next point, the guitars. Front man Kip Berman appears to have internalized the best guitar sounds of 80s indie rock and condensed them into one unified aesthetic. Lots of the guitar riffs rip off William Reid (“Gentle Sons”) or Johnny Marr (“Young Adult Friction”), but not many do it on the same album—let alone the same song (“Everything with You”).

I could go on, but seriously, screw influence. TPOBPAH’s best song, “Stay Alive,” transcends time and space. The fact that you feel like you might have heard it before doesn’t make it a derivative song so much as an instantly memorable one, with a great hook and the most inevitable of melodies - the very same qualities that made me smitten with “There She Goes” not so long ago.



## Nooks &amp; Crannies:

**Unraveling Tucker Hall**

**Bryan Callaway**  
Staff Writer

Old Campus is a collection of College gems. It is a collection of some of the most beautiful buildings and sites on campus. From the grand hotel that is Barrett to the stately Blair Hall, Old Campus is something of a throwback to a time in which grandeur was the status quo. Then there is Tucker Hall. From its infamous ghosts to its infamous smell, Tucker Hall’s juxtaposition on Old Campus bears a striking similarity to Beauty and the Beast, for reasons that are all too apparent. However, there is much to be said for “inner beauty”, and having just recently celebrated its centennial, it is this “inner beauty” that makes Tucker Hall exquisite.

Originally conceived to be the Library of the College, Tucker Hall was the brainchild of Lyon Tyler, the seventeenth President of the College. It is suspected that Tyler initially conceived the idea for the building in 1905, when he approached the Carnegie Foundation with a grant proposal. The Foundation accepted the proposal, on the condition that the College match the Foundation’s \$20,000 grant with an endowment fund to cover the building’s maintenance costs. Construction of the original building, which was a simple 80 by 30 foot rectangular space, began on April 13, 1908, in commemoration of Thomas Jefferson’s birthday, with the laying of the cornerstone by the principal donor of the College’s matching grant, George Clinton Batchellor. This original library, which consisted of a mere 12,000 volumes was completed in November that same year. However, for reasons that are still not clear, the Library would not officially open to the public until May 14, 1909. Although the building would be put to use by early March 1909, correspondence sent from According to correspondence sent between Robert Hughes, a College alumnus and member of the Board of Visitors, a likely cause of this delay may have been due to the College delaying its official “acceptance” of the building from the

contractors.

Over the course of the next two decades, the Library, as it was called, would take the shape of the Tucker Hall that we know today. In the 1920’s alone, the building would undergo two separate additions, with the final one being completed in 1929. These renovations were significant in not only did they greatly increase the library’s holdings, from 12,000 to 350,000 titles, but also helped to lay the groundwork for the library’s role as the College’s archive, which would begin to take shape in the early 1940’s.

Until Swem would replace Tucker Hall as the campus library in 1966, Tucker was very much a social hangout the way Swem is today. According to a 1941 issue of The Flat Hat, this level of socialization and even “dating” at the library was so problematic that “social studying” was forbidden. Following the library’s relocation, and facing a loss of accreditation without its own building, the Law School would eventually take up residence in Tucker Hall, but not before renaming it Marshall-Wythe Hall in 1968.

Tucker Hall, or ‘Marshall-Wythe Hall’, would play host to the Law School until 1980 when it relocated to its own separate campus. With ‘Marshall-Wythe Hall’ vacant, and with the English department without a central location, the decision was made to relocate the English department to Marshall-Wythe Hall, but not before renaming it for the final time to Tucker Hall, in honor of former law professor St. George Tucker. Today, Tucker plays home to not only the Department of English, but also the Department of Linguistics, the Writing Resource Center, and the Charles Center.

Despite its less than stellar aesthetics, Tucker Hall’s exceedingly long and assorted history is a spectacle in and of itself. While it is all too often discounted as the ‘black sheep’ of Old Campus, there are few other buildings which can aptly embody the continually evolving nature of the College, and it is this that makes Tucker Hall a gem of Old Campus.



The Finer Side:

# Staying classy on a student's budget

## 6 ways to save this summer

Summer is typically the time when students try to rake in money for the school year. This coming season, however, it will be harder to save with forecasts predicting a stormy economy along with the usual spike in humidity levels. So, it's time to get creative. Here are some useful tips to help you make a thin budget last until September!



**Jennifer Souers**  
The Finer Side

Search for farmers markets in your area. Farmers markets are a wonderful way to save money on fresh produce, dairy, and meat. Not only do you get the best foods at very reasonable prices, but you'll also be supporting local farmers and producers. Most of the time, produce is cheaper and fresher at farmers markets than in stores. If you're working in Washington, DC this summer, check out [www.freshfarmmarket.org](http://www.freshfarmmarket.org) for a list of events and markets in the area, and if you're someplace else, a simple Google search will tell you about potential local finds.

Watch the weekly sales. This will take a little pre-planning, but if you do it consistently, you'll save yourself a good deal of money. Keep a running list of things that

you need now, or that you know you will need later. Every Sunday go through local ads for stores you frequent (CVS, Staples, your local grocery store, Target, Macy's, etc.) Keep an eye on things that are on sale; if you know you will need shampoo soon, wait until you see it on sale. If it's not on sale yet, it will be soon! Retailers are having massive sales right now in order to make any margin of profit - take advantage of it.

Do your Christmas shopping in June. Most retailers have a semi-annual sale in June. Nordstrom, Bath and Body Works, and Express are only a few that have huge sales starting after Memorial Day. Every week they offer a new promotion, and prices are drastically slashed during their sales. Do your Back to School, birthday, and Christmas shopping in June so you get the best prices!

Ask for the student discount. At museums, theater events, concerts, movies, or other entertainment venues, ask for the student discount. A lot of box offices will not advertise the student price as frequently as other prices.

Make your own iced tea. Well, cook more in general. Eating out costs much more than eating in, and restaurants are having to raise prices in or-

der to cover costs. If you're in DC, you'll also have to pay a significant added tax on prepared foods. Use this summer to try some new recipes, and if you say you can't cook, then use the summer to learn!

Walk, don't drive. If you're in a new city for the summer, walk to work. This will save you money on gas, parking, cab fare, or metro cards (which add up). Not only will you get some good exercise, but you will also get to see so much more of the place where you are living and working!

### WAYS TO SAVE

1. Buy from farmers markets.
2. Exploit weekly sales.
3. Do your Christmas and other seasonal shopping in June.
4. Ask about student discounts.
5. Cook more.
6. Walk, instead of driving.

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### Movies

#### The Class (PG-13)

Wed., Apr. 22-Thurs., Apr. 23  
Apr. 22, Shows at 4 and 6:30 p.m.  
Apr. 23, Shows at 6:30 and 9 p.m.  
Screening Room (35 seats)

#### The Betrayal (Unrated)

Fri., Apr. 24-Thurs., Apr. 30  
Apr. 25-26, 30: Shows at 6:30 and 8:15 p.m.  
Apr. 27-29: Shows at 4, 5:45, and 7:30 p.m.  
Apr. 24-25, 27, 30  
Screening Room (35 seats).

Movie Tickets: \$7.00,  
\$6.00 seniors, students, and children

## April Schedule

### Live Performances

#### The W&M Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo in Concert

April 22 at 8 p.m.  
General Admission \$8, Seniors/Students \$5

#### Polly Honeycombe

April 23 at 8 p.m.  
Adults \$12, Children under six \$6

#### The Rat Pack: A Tribute to Frank, Dean, and Sammy with Special Guest Marilyn Monroe

April 24-25 at 8 p.m.; April 26 at 3 p.m.  
All Seats \$30

#### Dean Shostak's Crystal Concert

April 27 at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.  
Adults \$7, Students \$5

#### Conversation with a Founding Father

April 28 at 12:30 p.m.  
Free reservation required

Staff Editorial:

## Bravo President Reveley on a job well done

A little over a year ago W. Taylor Reveley III took over as President of the College on an interim basis. Since he assumed the full presidency last September, we believe that President Reveley has been successful in overseeing some much needed healing in the campus community and served as an effective leader for the College.

It is our opinion that President Reveley has shown a strong understanding and respect for both the College's heritage and the differing views of its diverse community. He has not attempted to make policy decisions based upon any ideological leanings, and for this reason we are grateful. Furthermore, his willingness to hear all sides and challenge many of the College's failed policies is most encouraging.

True leadership requires the ability to entertain multiple options when confronting a problem. That President Reveley has considered privatization of the College and enhanced alumni relations, we believe, demonstrates that he possesses

the capacity to think outside of the conventional institutional framework. William and Mary is undoubtedly "great and public" but it will not be for much longer if the state legislature continues to make such drastic financial cuts.

While we are quite satisfied with what has come of President Reveley's tenure so far, we feel it is our responsibility to offer some constructive criticism as the College moves forward. We are somewhat dismayed that less has been done to combat the College's oversized and cumbersome bureaucracy, particularly amidst such drastic financial difficulty. We believe that any feasible strategic plan aiming to improve the College's overall efficiency and effectiveness must include a serious framework for reducing the size of the administration. Such resources

**President Reveley has shown a strong understanding and respect for both the College's heritage and the differing views of its diverse community.**

are much better spent on our precious faculty or in alleviating drastic annual tuition increases for students. Additionally, we find the recruiting methods for the President's Aide positions somewhat perturbing. Good advice comes from those who are willing to challenge conventional think-

ing, not those assured of supporting the status quo.

In his short time as President of the College, Taylor Reveley has shown able faculties as leader. Having managed to remain in close touch with the most venerable of our traditions, President Reveley is also moving the College forward through what promises to be one of the more difficult chapters in our long history. Bravo President Reveley, we look forward to your continued leadership next year.

Make an impact on campus...

### JOIN THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

The Informer is the only paper at William and Mary that is entirely independent of the College, meaning we report the truth and go in-depth to publish what others dare not print!

COME TO A MEETING:  
**Mondays**  
**7:30pm**  
**Blair 223**



Sarah Deans

## Students must stop idolizing administrators

As seniors, we've seen a lot during our time here at William and Mary. The college has been through a number of storms and difficulties, but it still stands, posed to release yet another class of graduates in a few short weeks. The end of the academic year calls for a look back on these highs and lows, with the hope that our reflections might be imparted to rising undergraduates.

First, we must make it clear that we are not trying to be sore winners in this process. We have moved on from the college's last president, Gene Nichol. However, it is necessary to recall this disaster as a vivid example what the future cannot be like. Students falsely encouraged and sustained our failed former president. We hope that the next generation of students does not repeat such missteps. Yet, a culture continues to exist for rallying around affable administrations without reason. We hope to use lessons from the past few years to differentiate between when an administrator is truly acting in our college's best interests or is just crusading in a bad direction.

It is difficult to argue that the support for Mr. Nichol was due to much more than his ubiquitous presence on campus. Often appearing at football games

and other events, many students raved about how nice it was to have a president that seemingly cared for them. But kindness does not amount to administrative prowess. His tenure seriously jeopardized the future of the college, and to this day, our school's reputation remains tarnished. Public commentators, alumni, and other observers continue to view the school as a radical hotbed. Hurting our fund-holding capability is one negative

result of this outside perception. If members of the general assembly remain polarized about our school's perception, this will continue to decrease our ability to gain state funding. And if you think that doesn't matter, welcome to greater tuition hikes.

In recent years, the idolization of administrators has not stopped with just Gene Nichol. When Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler retired last summer, "William and Mary and Sam" shirts were created, Mr. Sadler received a \$100,000 check from the William and Mary Parents' Steering Committee to "support initiatives that help William and Mary students develop critical skills for life", and of course, the University Center was renamed the Sadler Center. However, there is much more to

the story of Sam Sadler then his present weather predictions in emails to students. During his tenure, Mr. Sadler "literally wrote the Student Handbook." This Handbook has such mandates as denying students the right to see a hard copy of evidence against them and contains a "failure to comply" clause used to trump a student's fifth amendment right to protection against self-incrimination. Mr. Sadler also reneged on a promise to fight to keep his old fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi, from being kicked off campus by actively working with Pi Lam alumni to tell on brothers. Mr. Sadler sat on the Alcohol Task Force which has forced alcohol consumption from supervised areas to dorm rooms where the safety is not always a priority. Although Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Constantine is often blamed for the school's alcohol policy, he is really under a mandate from his former boss, Sam Sadler.

With the imminent selection of the new Vice President of Student Affairs, it is crucial that students pay much more attention to the selection of the next permanent VPSA than they did during Mr. Sadler's rein. If you are actually interested in making the college a better place and not just

worshiping another bureaucrat, then take this opportunity to learn about the candidates for the new VPSA. Challenge them to explain their beliefs on important issues, such as student rights and the school's alcohol policy, rather than question how well their knees can predict the weather. When only eight students show up to a recent VPSA search session, this does not

bode well for student attention to the choice of the new VPSA. The college needs to find administrators who offer more to the student body than mere kindness.

Overall, the idolization of the administrators hurts the student body and sadly, the college. The herd mentality that has been on display must come to an end. To the next generation of students and rising students: don't follow the example set by those before you. It is in your hands to make a change to the culture here. You can stop the college from hemorrhaging public and private support. If some whine because new administrators aren't as superficially friendly as the former administrators were, tough. To quote the words of the last president of the college, "apathy has little to suggest itself."



Kristin Coyner  
Staff Writer



Nick Hoelker  
Staff Writer

# The most important word in student government is...

When the newly inaugurated Student Assembly officials stood to sing the Alma Mater to close their inauguration ceremony, it was the first time I had heard the chorus since the close of the Harvard National Model United Nations. Throughout the ceremony, the proceedings reminded me of such closing ceremonies: rich in mutual self-affirmation and pomp and circumstance. Newly inaugurated SA President Sarah Rojas told the Assembly that she wanted the SA to reach a position at which no more negative things would be said about it. Good luck to you. The SA inauguration taught me something, and it will make that goal impossible to achieve.



**Michael Watson**  
News Editor

The Student Assembly is, first and foremost, a club, no different than any other except in authority. Its members are, to use a term from the BBC's political comedy "Yes Minister," completely house-trained by the organizational culture of the Assembly. They are friends, not rivals. The Assembly is not a parliament or legislative house: It has no "loyal opposition" or "minority party." With one exception, Senators are wholehearted members of the club.

Matt Beato, in his closing state-

ment on his life in the SA, said that members should fully cooperate with one another and not bicker because the student body does not like its leaders bickering. That is only partially correct. The student body does not like its leaders stalling progress on the three-person rule by unilaterally leaking the results of negotiations, but it needs a student representative body that will ask hard questions of its members and discern the wisdom of the body's actions. When the SA becomes a common interest club for its members, a sort of "Model Government" without the pesky opposition frontbench, it no longer can be for the "Student."

But is this "Model Government" in our benevolent one-party state is not "model" like the quaint UN simulation I participated in at Harvard. The SA spends real money in the name of all; Model UN or Model Congress is in the end a style of debate tournament. With their oath calling for SA members to "preserve, protect, and defend" the organization's constitution, the members clearly do not see this little club as a "model" anything. It is a Government; a one-party government of (mostly) out-of-state Greeks.

Is it small wonder then that the SA starts all communication with "YOUR" in all-caps? The SA knows it has a problem with its all-corrupting institutional culture, but, as a certain Mr. Pilchen's exploits illustrate, even those who come to cleanse the temple set up their own

money-changing table. The SA will not cleanse itself until its members realize that the most important word in "Student Government" is not "model," "government," or "YOUR [sic]," but rather "Student," in all the student body's great variance of opinion and lifestyle.



Alec McKinley

**Taking the oath:** SA members gather in Wren Chapel for the historic swearing in ceremony of the 317th Student Assembly.

## Don't jump the gun on VPSA

Do you know what the position of VPSA *really* does?


Four seemingly qualified VPSA candidates have been offered as finalists for the position Sam Sadler essentially defined. Whoever is chosen, they will have a chance to redefine the position to match the needs of the campus.

Yes, Ginger Ambler has been at the college for quite some time. However, that does not necessarily mean she is the most qualified. Neither does it imply she should not get the job. However, it is impossible for students to know what actually happens behind the scenes. Each candidate should be given a chance to be heard and have their various accomplishments taken into consideration. We don't know enough to take sides yet. Information is being provided by the administration about these candidates but, it seems as if few students are listening.



**Bert Mueller**  
Managing Editor

Students have been given the opportunity to voice their concerns and questions. We've neglected to do so. Only eight students attended the first question and answer session but some students had already made up their minds. Part of the lack of enthusiasm might have to do with the fact that: 1. Most students don't know what the VPSA does and that 2. Students don't vote on the position. There is one more question and answer session on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Blow 201. Attend if you're interested. Just don't jump the gun and take sides before hearing all sides of the debate.



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# Time to get tea'd off

On Saturday April 11, the College of William and Mary hosted its first conservative rally since 2003. It has been a while since the College has welcomed conservatives or that conservatives have been angry enough to demonstrate. What has gotten them fired up? Well, taxes and government spending. The biggest complaint conservatives seem to have is, "If we as individual citizens and the private sector have to make cuts in this economy, why does the government keep expanding?"



**Alexander Powell**  
Opinion Editor

It seems like a fair question. The \$3.5 trillion budget proposed by Obama is by far the largest in history; for this year alone, Mr. Obama has raised the deficit to a whopping \$1.75 trillion. To put this into perspective, the total cost of the Iraq War has been \$660 billion. Of this new budget, some \$630 billion is being used toward health care; while this money might seem like a lot, according to White House Director of the Budget it is "just a down payment." Essentially what he is saying is that he has no clue how much these new health care projects are going to cost, but this new \$630 billion is just the tip of the iceberg.

The most infuriating part of this new budget is the intellectually dishonest way in which Mr. Obama has rammed it down our throats. Obama has used the warped logic that the economic collapse was due in part to our failure to address healthcare, public school, and energy concerns and that funding these now will make up for our past political sins and fix the economic crisis. This idea is a total fallacy, and this increase in taxes only slows economic recovery. Saying market crashes, lend-

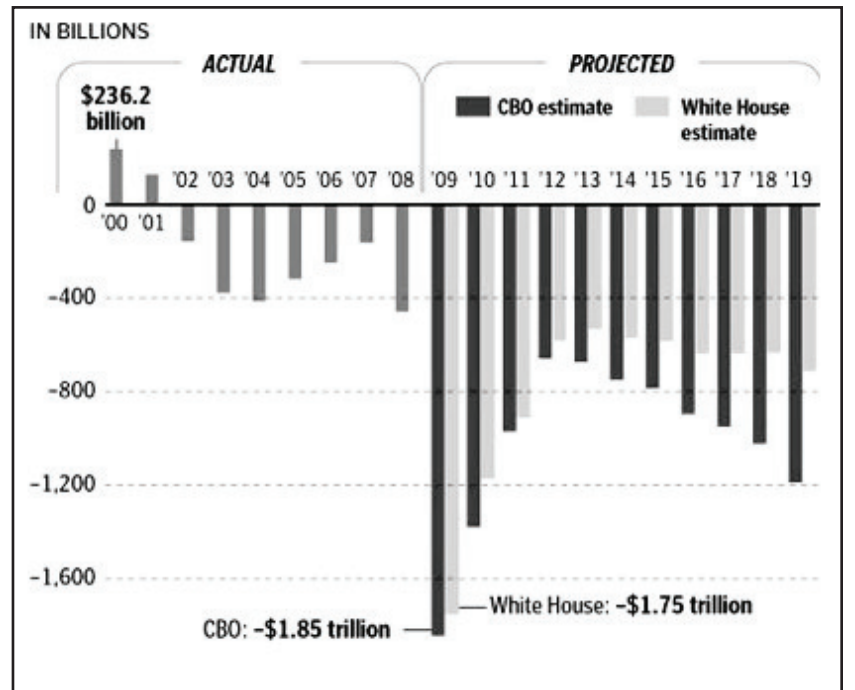
ing freezes, and increased unemployment can be fixed by universal health care and cap-and-trade must be one of the largest non sequitur committed by a president in the past century.

The new taxes, which will raise the capital gains tax and rates on couples earning more than \$250,000 a year, and the cap-and-trade system will only hurt the middle and lower classes that Obama seeks to help. Many of the joint filers earning \$250,000 a year are small business owners, which are our nation's greatest employer and have generated nearly 80% of the nation's new jobs annually in the past decade. Raising their taxes is essentially cutting into small companies' profits, which will force them to lay off workers or at the very least, hire fewer. It is simple economics; if you cut earnings, you cut expenses. Obama and the Democrats pushing this seem to forget this simple principle.

A cap-and-trade system would force energy companies to pay more to run their businesses, thus causing them to either increase prices or lay off workers to maintain financial solvency. If the former happened, which is the most likely situation, it would hurt the poor the most. People living under the poverty line use 50% of their income on average to pay for utilities; a raise in prices forced by Obama policies would essentially be a back door tax on people who can't afford it.

Add to these initiatives two \$700 billion bailout bills, and you can have a lot of angry people throwing tea parties. Now many will wonder why all of these people

were silent when spending was crazy during the Bush presidency. I know I wasn't silent, and I know many of my conservative friends in College Republicans weren't. I know that these people, even if they are late to the party, are still right. We cannot borrow, tax, and print our way to fiscal solvency. In tough times, tough choices have to be made. Things need to get cut, and some people will get less. Obama's plan dodges these choices and places an even heavier burden on future generations. We continue to spend like a nation who isn't broke. Well one day the jig will be up unless people stand up and say "no more." I say these tea parties came too late, but better late than never.



## Letter to the Editor:

# Tea time

Yes, folks, its time for a tea party! No, not the one with your little sister, but the Revolutionary kind, where American patriots board boats and throw British tea into the harbor to protest unfair taxes. Imagine my excitement when I heard that William and Mary was hosting its own Tea Party. On Saturday morning, I hurried down to the Crim Dell so I didn't miss out on any of the tea-heaving jollity. Alas, there was no tea in sight and no boats on the water, just a bunch of conservatives complaining about taxes. I'm sure many others experienced the same disappointment as hundreds of these Tea Parties sprung up across the United States. Saturday was the first round of these parties with the second wave held April 15<sup>th</sup>.



**Beau Wright**

What were these good folks protesting? Mostly "no taxation without representation" - because the government is not just taxing those alive now but burdening future, unborn generations with crushing national debt. A noble idea, and I'm glad to see conservatives shake their post-election lethargy and get fired up about something that's not about gay rights or abortion. But let's talk about Saturday's complaints. Most of it had to do with the \$700 billion bailout of America's struggling banks. Strangely, I don't recall seeing these Tea Parties when the Bush Administration authorized the bailout. But we'll forgive these hearty Americans for their belated expressions of anger.

Ok, so what else are they upset about? Government spending in general, really. Protesters believe that Obama will tax the bejesus out of middle class America. Spending will go through the roof, and for what? For an impractical, unworkable socialized health

care system? For a liberal agenda that will do nothing to stimulate the economy while simultaneously "threatening the fabric of this country"? Point is, the government is taxing too much and spending too much.

Do these arguments hold water? Somewhat. I agree the government is spending too much. But the anger seems a little contrived.

Where were these protests during the hard spending years of the Bush Administration? Sure, a lot of conservatives decry Bush now, but I can't recall a single conservative friend in 2006 complaining about Iraq War spending. To my Republican and conservative friends: y'all blew it. Complaining about Obama's spending now, after standing idly by during the past eight years, denies you any real credibility. And let's face it: most

economists are saying that the government needs to spend big right now to help get us out of this slump. The last thing we want is a government spending freeze. I too wish taxes were lower; I don't enjoy paying them. And yes, the government could get rid of some programs and dramatically scale back others. But Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. had a point when he remarked, "Taxes are the price we pay for civilization." I urge my conservative friends to think about that and their obligation to this country. Plus, as columnist and Nobel Prize winning economist Paul Krugman pointed out, Obama's planned tax increases on the highest earning would still be ten percentage points below those during the Reagan Administration.

Enough. You know, after Saturday's events, maybe I would have been better off at my little sister's tea party. She, at least, is still optimistic about America.

## Thank you from all of us at *The Virginia Informer*

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- Mr. Sanford Whitwell

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