

*and the winner is...*

*the flat hat seventh annual*

*Best of Williamsburg*





FILE PHOTO + THE FLAT HAT

Located near a green line bus stop, Nawab provides delicious Indian cuisine. Luckily for vegetarians, they also serve up several meatless dishes.

## Best Vegetarian

It's true, the vegetarian options in Williamsburg aren't plentiful. But we've found a cure for all of your vegetarian cravings: **Nawab**. Located on Monticello Avenue, Nawab is home to a delightful array of traditional Indian vegetarian dishes sure to tickle every veggie lover's taste buds. The vegetarian specialties are all priced around \$10. Try the Kofta Lajwab, a tasty meal of mixed vegetables and paneer balls served in a spiced tomato and cream sauce, or a vegan option of Mushroom and Broccoli Krahi consisting of fresh mushrooms and broccoli sautéed in a wok with tomatoes, ginger, garlic and herbs. —vp

## Best Cheap Eats

If anyone out there doesn't know about Top's lunch meal deal, they are living a sad, sad existence. Located at Williamsburg Crossing near Dominos and Food Lion (where that sketchy Carmike Crossing theater used to be), **Top's China** serves delicious individual meals for \$3.95. No, that's not a typo. The meals (which easily satisfy even the hungriest of students) come with an entree and a choice of soup, egg roll or soda. You may love Wawa, you may love Taco Bell, but when it comes to cheap eats, you can't do better than the lunch deal at Top's. —sc

## Worst Breakfast

At the UC, it might look like scrambled eggs. It might even smell like scrambled eggs. The staff personnel (probably noticing your expression of disgust) will reassure you that, yes, indeed that gooey blob prostrated on your (plastic) plate is in fact nothing other than scrambled eggs. But what those brave/dumb enough to taste the blob will soon come to realize is that it sure as hell doesn't taste like eggs. Not real ones, anyway. Skip the eggs? Sure, have some of the wonderfully insipid pancakes with the driest hash browns east of the Appalachians. And while you're at it, try some of the cupcakes. I hear that if you're lucky enough, you might find a fossil in them. —as

## Best Breakfast

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, so why not have the best. **IHOP**, without a doubt, is the best breakfast in town. Who wouldn't love a place you can have breakfast any time of the day. They specialize in it, and they have gotten rather good at it. The portions are large enough that you will probably have enough to take home with you as well. Students without a lot of cash in their pocket will especially like the half price deal on Tuesdays with your student ID. With options like omelets, stuffed French toast and the old favorite, pancakes, you will certainly leave happy. —dp



FILE PHOTO + THE FLAT HAT

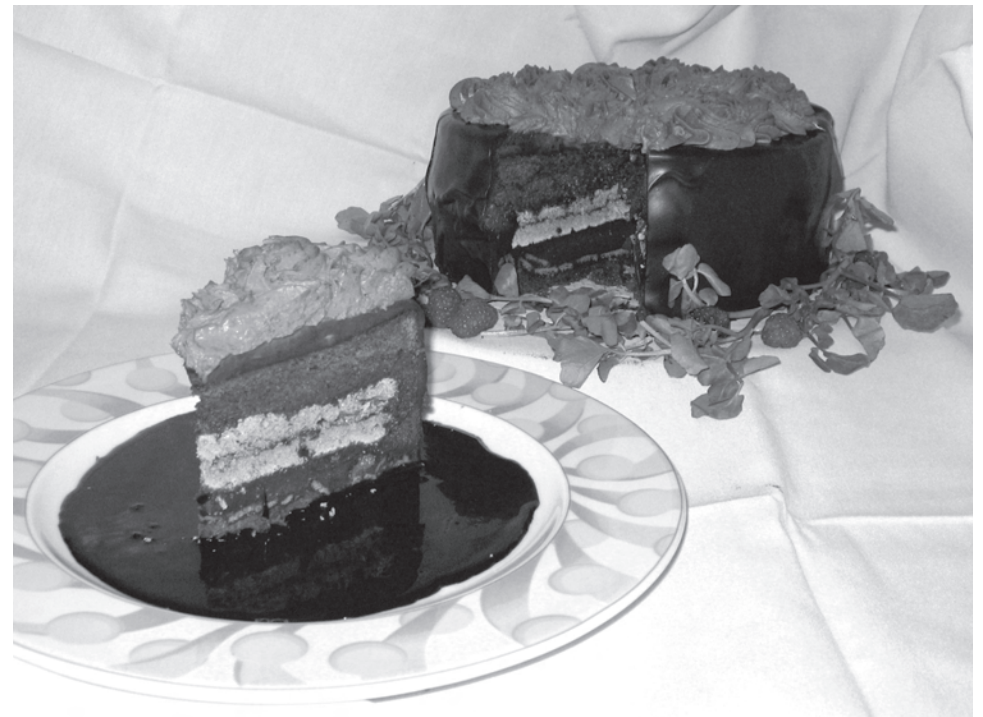
Breakfasts at the UC leave a lot to be desired — the eggs barely resemble eggs and the hash browns are extra-dry.

## Best Quick Eats

It's quarter to midnight and you're starving but you've got a long night of studying for that big test tomorrow ahead of you; what do you do? Don't sweat it, Williamsburg is host to two premier Mexican restaurants — the **Taco Bells** on Richmond Road and Route 199. While maybe not as authentic as Tequila Rose, Taco Bell serves up tasty Tex-Mex until the late night. Plus, its convenient locations make it a quick and easy drive from just about anywhere in Williamsburg. And for the extra jolt of energy you'll need to keep on going, Taco Bell offers a range of caffeine-loaded Mountain Dew products. —ms

## Best Dessert

Everyone knows the golden rule of dessert: chocolate is always good. The **Death by Chocolate Cake at the Trellis Restaurant** obeys — and then exceeds — this rule. When this \$6.75 slice of cake makes its appearance, it is instantly engraved in the heart of every true chocolate connoisseur. This fantasy of sugary sinfulness consists of seven layers — yes, seven — of chocolate mousse, chocolate cake and chocolate meringue. Chocolate, chocolate and more chocolate. Large enough to satisfy a few people, and rich enough to assuage the most demanding sweet tooth, Death by Chocolate Cake is undoubtedly the best dessert in Williamsburg. —ab



JAKE REEDER + THE FLAT HAT

The Trellis' famous Death by Chocolate dessert really is to die for. With seven luscious layers of rich chocolate, going out for this treat makes for a fun evening.





ALEX HAGLUND ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*Open 24 hours a day, Wawa is the place to be to fill up on comfort food and socialize at any time.*

## Best Comfort Food

**Wawa** is the quintessence of undergrad-ification: whether you're drunk or stoned, avoiding a paper or celebrating the completion of one, there's nary (nay, never) a moment when you'll find the Wa's garish mustard-and-maroon sign dimmed. It's the only convenience store within staggering distance that offers sandwiches, Sparks and a veritable post-midnight-life long after the Sexchange and Marketplace are closed. Forget Chanello's — make the extra trip for the campus's best comfort food (and work off those 13 Wiser Kaiser carbs while you're at it). —*km*

## Best After 10 p.m. Spot

When night falls in Williamsburg and the city sleeps, there's only one place for underage College students to go. Arguably superior to the delis, it's Club **Wawa**. Where else can you get a custom-made sandwich in a matter of minutes, add a variety of flavor shots to your soda for free, make your own milkshake and run into at least one person you know during your 3 a.m. study break? Friday and Saturday nights are notoriously the busiest, so expect to wait in line for up to 15 minutes watching the antics of your drunk classmates. —*nr*

## Best Deli

From Pint Night to Mug Night, the **Green Leaf Cafe** provides the perfect excuse to drink any night of the week. But the Leafe offers more than just your run of the mill drink specials. The establishment's central theme is surpassing expectations and this it does on all fronts. From the extensive collection of 30 draft beers and over 150 Belgian and microbrews to the great menu to the personable staff, the Leafe is the finest place to get a drink in Williamsburg. This is no secret to the College community, which packs the Leafe every night of the week with a lively crowd. If only the lines were shorter. —*ms*

## Best Coffeehouse

Every college campus has that perfect chill spot; the décor is relaxed, the atmosphere is friendly, the music is always good and, of course, the coffee is top notch. Here at the College, **Aroma's** is just such a place. Situated a few shops down on Prince George Street, Aroma's greets the local, the tourist and the College student with its cheery yellow walls, worn black furniture and the smell of great coffee. Whether you're stopping in for a delicious sandwich with some friends, settling in for a study session or grabbing a pre-class latte, Aroma's always makes for a fantastic visit. —*ab*

Mmm ... **The Cheese Shop**. Fresh ingredients, great taste and low prices make sandwiches at the Cheese Shop worth waiting in line for with a sea of

## Best Sandwiches

tourists on a balmy, Williamsburg August day. We recommend the Virginia ham with provolone and house dressing. If you're aiming for something cheaper than

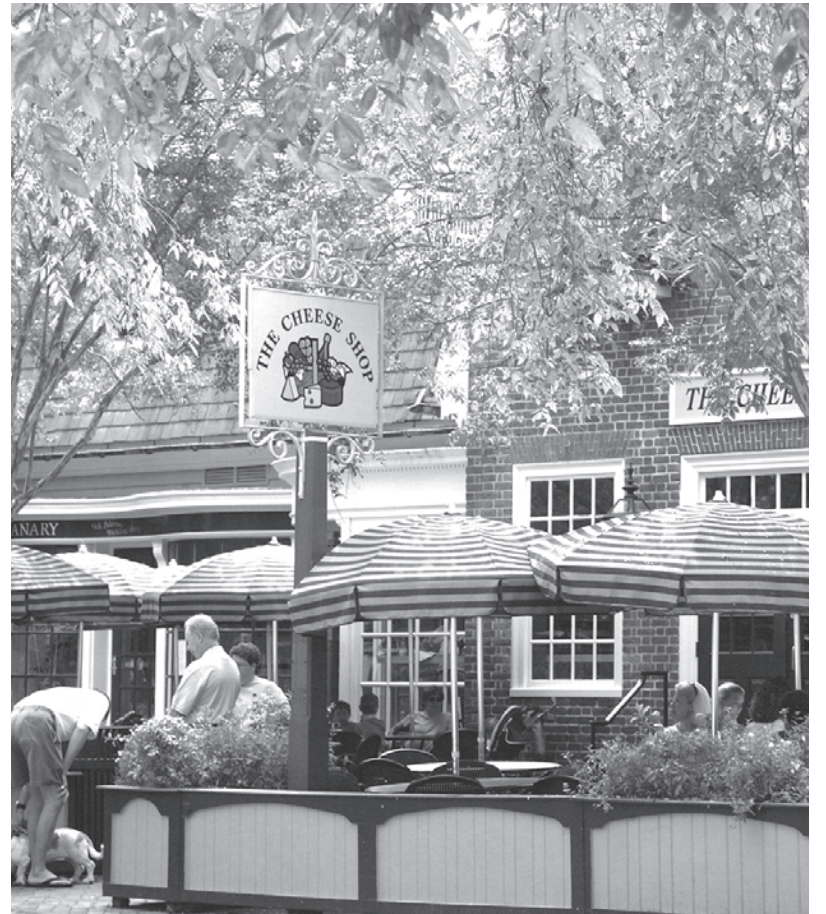
even a sandwich, try the bread ends with the house dressing. They're amazing. A wide variety of specialty beverages, both alcoholic and non, are available. —*vp*

## Best Pizza

Looking for pizza, but tired of the same old Chanello's, Domino's, Pizza Hut and Papa John's routine? Try **Sal's by Victor**. Pizzas come in 13", 15" and 17" sizes, and the ingredients are known for their freshness. Try Victor's Combination "The Works." Its toppings include pepperoni, sausage, mushrooms, onions, green peppers and olives. Meat lovers' and veggie topping pizzas are also available. Prices range from \$7 to \$16, depending on size and toppings. —*vp*

## Worst Pizza

At just \$7.99, the Campus Special is a steal ... if you like soggy crust, odd cheese and a taste that has often been described as reminiscent of wet cardboard. If you don't have the extra \$5 to splurge on something edible (cough, Dominos), at the very least, eat your **Chanello's** while it's hot. And use the signature dipping sauce (it's far tastier than the pizza itself). But for the love of all things holy, don't even think about eating your pizza after it has cooled. If the congealed toppings aren't enough of a warning, take a hint from the rank smell. —*nr*



FILE PHOTO ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*Williamsburg landmark The Cheese Shop continues to serve up the best sandwiches in town, mostly due to their fabulous house dressing.*



ALLISON VEINOTE ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*Aroma's coffeehouse on Prince George Street blends ambience and great treats for a perfect chill session.*





ALEX HAGLUND + THE FLAT HAT

*Peking Grill, better known as Mongolian, serves up everything from wontons to beef teriyaki on its long buffet counters.*



ALEX HAGLUND + THE FLAT HAT

*Pierce's Pitt Bar-B-Que, though a bit off the beaten path for College students, is worth the drive for its top-of-the-line barbecue.*

## Best Grocery Store

Quality food is the name of the game at this grocery store on Monticello Ave. Everything one could ever want out of a grocery store is available here with the highest possible standards. Whether one is looking for a freshly-baked cake, a couple of plump lobsters or the best cold-cuts in town, **Ukrop's** employees are ready and waiting in their bright blue uniforms to help you however they can. Ukrop's also offers a wide variety of pre-made meals, including sushi, fried chicken, pizza, panini sandwiches and entire cooked dinners. Best of all, with their consistently low prices you may never go back to the Caf again. —mf

## Best Dinner with the Parents

Don't show up wearing jeans to this most modern of restaurants. The upscale, if minimal, design of **The Fat Canary** borrows from New York City's best dining rooms. The service follows suit, however, so bring your best manners and make reservations early, or be prepared for a long wait. Executive Chef Thomas Power, Jr.'s menu features innovative contemporary American cuisine with French-driven flavors and east Asian influences. The wine list is the best for 100 miles in every direction, boasting many of the finest American and French bottles as well as some selections from more exotic locales. The sommelier is happier to help less knowledgeable wine drinkers but beware being pushed into ordering something too expensive. This is the perfect opportunity to get treated by mom and dad or, if you've got the extra cash laying around, treat that special someone you've had your eye on. —mf

## Best Ice Cream

When life is getting you down and you need a break, treat yourself to ice cream at **Cold Stone Creamery**. You have the option of choosing any number of pre-made combinations. However, you also have the ability to mix up whatever concoction tickles your fancy. Sure, the sizes have odd names, but when you are getting exactly what you want, you will definitely "gotta have it" or at the very least "like it." Plus, seeing the entire staff sing whenever they get a tip never gets old. Cold Stone is more than just ice cream. It is an experience. —dp

## Best Mexican Food

Of the 'burg's surprising number of Mexican restaurants, **Casa Maya** stands out. This venerable establishment recently made the move from the bottom floor of a run-of-the-mill motel on the bypass to a stand-alone location on Richmond Road. Its new venue provides more seating and better ambience. The food, however, remains deliciously the same. Besides the obligatory chips and salsa, each table also receives a cheese-filled taquito and bean dip appetizer (oh, it's good). With almost all entrees coming in under \$10, eating here won't break the bank. Bonus: they are one of the few off campus eateries that take W&M Express. —ww

## Best Wine Selection

This was a tough one. With several shops around (Farm Fresh, the Wine Cellar under the Cheese Shop) as contenders, there is no far-and-away winner. However, with weekend wine tasting from 4 to 7 p.m. every Friday and Saturday, and reasonable prices and discounts virtually every day, the **Wine Seller** has a wide range within students' budgets, not to mention a courteous staff willing to educate their customers in the ways of the vino. Located at Monticello Marketplace, it isn't in the most convenient of places. However, if you need a specific type, the Wine Seller is almost certain to have the region and the varietal you're looking for. They also have a small selection of beer to make up for the alcohol-deprived Ukrop's down the road. —sc



FILE PHOTO + THE FLAT HAT

*At Cold Stone, customers can choose from pre-made ice cream creations or concoct their own.*

## Best Asian Food

No offense to Top's, whose tasty dishes could make the "best of" list in any other college town, but Peking Grill (better known as simply "**Mongolian**") has by far the widest and most satisfying selection of Asian food in Williamsburg. Besides the obligatory Chinese buffet, Mongolian has a Japanese grill, a sushi bar and a Mongolian grill, a large circular heating surface for food that is as much fun to watch cook as it is to eat. The price for an individual meal, at \$11, is a little steep, but trust us, it's well worth it. Just remember to tip your server well. —sc

## Best BBQ

Situated out in the boonies behind Waller Mill Park, **Pierce's Pitt Bar-B-Que** is the place to go for an authentic and affordable southern feast. The friendly staff serves up all the traditional southern fixin's, from fried catfish to the jumbo pulled pork sandwich. And don't forget the collard greens and cole slaw, Pierce's offers a whole slew of sides. Finally, top it off with a slice of Pierce's homemade carrot cake. When the weather warms up, patrons can take their food out to the picnic tables and sit under the trees. —ms




ALEX HAGLUND + THE FLAT HAT

*Ukrop's on Monticello Road is the premier grocery destination in town with low-priced, fresh food options.*



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The Sunken Gardens' Profile



**Information**

**Account Info**  
Name: The Sunken Gardens [ad]  
Member Since: April 18, 2005  
Last Update: October 10, 2005

**Basic Info**  
School: William & Mary  
Status: Staff  
Home Town: Williamsburg, VA

**Contact Info**  
School Email: hhworr@mail.wm.edu

**Personal Info**  
Looking For: Random play  
Interested In: Men  
Relationship Status: Single  
Political Views: Other  
Interests: Walking, Running, Frisbee, Concerts, Blowout, Crapp, Picnics, Frolicking, Growl Garden

**Clubs and Jobs:** President's of the United Sister Hazel, and anything hear

**Favorite Music:** Old School, Meet the Fock

**Favorite Movies:** Textbooks.....mainly Bot

**Favorite Books:** Physiology

**Favorite Quote:** "Gardening requires lots the form of perspiration."

"The greatest gift of the g restoration of the five ser

View More Photos of The Sunken (6)  
Send The Sunken a Message  
Poke The Sunken!  
Add The Sunken as a Friend  
Report this Person

**Connection**

You :: Ben :: The Sunken  
You :: Maria :: The Sunken  
You :: Andy :: The Sunken  
You :: Megan :: The Sunken  
You :: Chase :: The Sunken

**Mutual Friends**

You have 20 friends in common with The Sunken.

**Friends at William & Mary**

The Sunken has 1367 William & Marv friends.

COURTESY PHOTO + FACEBOOK.COM

*The ubiquitous Facebook, which first became prominent last fall, has taken over the social life of students.*

## Best Time Waster

College hath no savior like time honored **sleep**, be it power nap, those precious hours between passing out and hanging over, or the inevitable big lecture doze. So why waste those 50 minutes between SOC203 and lab reading? You could be fighting the flu, catching up on the weekend and having sexy dreams instead. The campus is filled with great snoozing spots, from the plush purple couches in the University Center to the side lobby in PBK to Swem's nice 'n' cozy study rooms. School's out for slumber. *-km*

## Best Customer Service

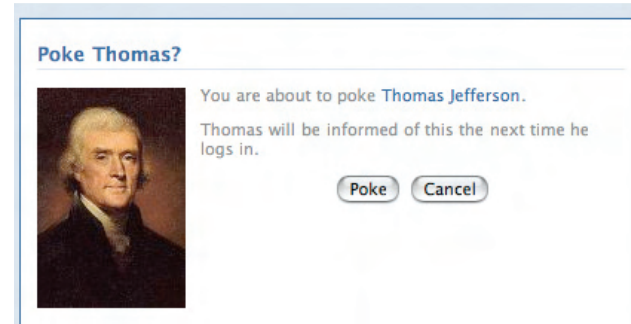
They had me at "Hey Boo." Sadly this affectionate gesture wasn't exactly directed at me, but it nevertheless proves a point: The Caf staff thinks of the students who frequent the dining facility as more than just, well, students. From the affectionate smiles and "Hello's" from Stacy, the ice cream lady, to Curtis's impromptu singing sessions, eating at the Caf (be it breakfast, lunch or dinner) has become quite an experience. This experience is made the more memorable thanks to expedient service, which has vastly improved since last semester. Even during rush hours, lines are kept minimal with service personnel working efficiently to ensure certain dishes don't run out. Both efficient and student-friendly, what more can you ask for from the Caf? Mango chunks on weekends, please. *-as*

## Worst Customer Service

Much-hyped by the press, the **Blue Talon** is still coasting on its novelty, as it has little to offer in support of its positive reputation. The food is unmemorable and overpriced, and the service leaves much to be desired. On at least two separate occasions of which The Flat Hat is aware, students and their families were treated condescendingly by the rather discourteous and avoidant wait staff, who seem to prefer chatting with each other to serving their patrons. One egregious example: While chatting and finishing up their after-dinner drinks, a family was asked to leave unless they wanted to order something else. For a \$150 dinner, I'd expect better service, wouldn't you? *-nr*

## Worst Time Waster

What started out as a fairly harmless Friendster rip-off has quickly grown into college's sickest joke: a vapid friend-counter that (with the advent of the "How do you know...?" feature) allows you to record every awkward interaction, every failed romance and every minor acquaintance — electronically! Whatever happened to, you know, just meeting people and actually being their friend? Oh, that's right: **Facebook**. From poking to de-friending to re-friending to all those stupid groups, time knows no greater waste. Can we move on to MySpace, already? *-km*



COURTESY PHOTO + FACEBOOK.COM

*The feature Facebook says "has no real purpose" is often used as flirting method.*

## Worst Pick-up Line

With Facebook consuming the social scene, it seems only natural that it would also serve as a flirtation device. Lucky for the perennially awkward students of the College, the creators of the 'book built in a feature just for this purpose — **poking**. You know how it goes: girl meets boy, girl thinks boy is cute, girl runs home and sends boy a "poke" (or vice versa). This passive-aggressive flirting technique helps neither party and usually leads to eye contact avoidance in the UC. Before we regress to chasing each other around the playground, perhaps students should try something a little more grown-up — talking to each other. *-ww*

## Worst Date Spot

**Going to a frat party** for a date might be the worst idea ever. Sure, they have their moments, and it is cheap. However, hanging around a bunch of drunken frat guys does not really set the mood. It is also rather hard to get to know anyone when you have to shout over the music to hear each other. Sure, you could show off your beer pong skills, but surely you have other things to impress that certain someone. Cheap beer, the same lame pop songs you've heard a thousand times before, losing your date in the crowd of the dance floor — you can do better. *-dp*



JONATHAN SEIDEN + THE FLAT HAT

*The rebirth of the Commons Dining Hall, better known as The Caf, features great food as well as friendly customer service.*



## Best Graduation Speaker

Not to take anything away from the erudite and eloquent musings of President Gene Nichol, but we can't think of a finer speaker for this year's commencement ceremonies. As a just-removed associate justice from the land's highest court, **Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor** is conversant in any number of topics germane to our new ventures in the (gasp) "real world." Furthermore, O'Connor isn't just any former Supreme Court justice; she was the first female justice and was the swing vote on the most contentious cases of the last decade. College presidents will be around to give remarks at other places; let's give the nod this year to O'Connor. —sc

## Best Campus Addition

**President Gene Nichol** dove headfirst into his responsibilities as the 26th president of the College from teaching a freshmen seminar to joking around with Governor Tim Kaine at Charter Day. He quickly has become a part of the campus community exuding Tribe Pride and filling the shoes of Timmy J (though the loafers might be a tad tight). He's one big hunk of man. —ms

## Best Tradition

Neither frat-tastic nor sororiffic, the **King and Queen's ball** thrives exactly because it's the kind of prom you never had — the one time of the year when Greeks and non-Greeks, geeks and non-geeks alike get dolled up and undo all those tragi-comic high school dance memories they've been trying to live down. Forget jumping into the Crim Dell (gross) or streaking through the Sunken Gardens (gross or, depending on who you are, grosser) — the College's best tradition is also one of its classiest. Who could possibly resist the lure of a fairy-lit Sunken Gardens? —km



ALLISON VEINOTE + THE FLAT HAT

*The Sunken Gardens becomes a hot spot on a warm spring day, from outdoor lectures to impromptu soccer games.*



JAKE REEDER + THE FLAT HAT

*Lake Matoaka, an overlooked site, offers many study break activities, such as canoeing, hiking and star gazing.*

## Best Campus Secret

It's for places like this that some of us chose to come to the College. There is not much that is more beautiful than **Lake Matoaka** (Matoaka being another name of Pocahontas) on a sunny afternoon — or any time of day, really. Quiet and secluded (why we don't want to let the secret out), it's great for a romantic date, whether you rent a canoe for the afternoon with your student ID when the boat house is open, or lie down on the amphitheater's stage to look at the stars. Just make sure you've got a flashlight at night, as it is not (much to its benefit) well-lit. —vp

## Best Renovation

Let's recap: In the beginning there was **the Caf** — a serviceable yet bland dining hall more known for "the Caf smell" than anything else. Then suddenly, starting last spring, the campus watched enviously as Yates residents literally walked out of their door and into a giant white tent affectionately known as the Un-Commons. Finally, upon returning from summer break, it was finished. When President Gene Nichol stepped in for the first time, he reportedly told Vice President Sam Sadler, "How 'bout harking on that gale?" Anyway, no one can deny that the transformation has been magnificent. You can sit in any number of chic booths or designer tables. Also, sometime during the renovation, the builders apparently discovered heaps of open space, giving the Caf a much roomier feel. And the Caf smell? Well, you'll have to check it out for yourself. —ca

## Worst Study Spot

It would be easy never to leave the comfort of **your own room**. But there are just too many distractions. The proximity of your bed tempts you just to rest your eyes. The TV screen suddenly seems a little too dusty for your liking, and your finger slips across the on button. And don't forget about when the circumstances are out of your control. You can forget about getting anything done with the people down the hall put "Since U Been Gone" on repeat, or the people above you start playing Dance Dance Revolution. Just go to Swem or your nearest academic building. Your GPA will thank you. —dp

## Best Study Spot

The stark, fluorescent lighting of Swem really puts a strain on the eyes, so it's no wonder that students flock **outside to study** when there's merely a hint of warm weather. Even with Barksdale cut in two, there are plenty of open, grassy areas, benches and tables on which students can recline with their books. And the expanded wireless network allows one to drag the laptop along for a little paper-writing. With the sun shining and the birds chirping, studying can become an almost relaxing experience and a study break game of Frisbee is never too far away. —ww





JAKE REEDER ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*The Wren building is a well-known tourist attraction, as well as a popular location for alumni weddings.*

## Best Building

Despite its propensity for fires, the **Wren building** is perhaps the most revered and beloved building on campus. The Wren building is where we take our honor code oath, attend Yule Log and for some of us, even get married. Named after Sir Christopher Wren, the renowned architect who designed St. Paul's Cathedral in London, the Wren building is the oldest academic building in the United States still in use. The plaque on the western wall commemorates the many "firsts" of our College, while the hall upstairs hosts portraits of all of the College's president. Not much else can inspire more pride in the Tribe. *-vp*

## Worst Bathroom

Listed as a "cruise spot" on a Virginia "Gay Universe" website, the **men's bathroom in the Campus Center basement** is apparently known as a location for clandestine encounters. Don't believe it? Then talk to the former Flat Hat employee who began taking an X-acto knife with him to the bathroom after being eerily solicited one evening. Or chat with the student who recently entered the pitch-black bathroom, turned on the light, heard a cough and was then approached by a middle-aged man lurking in the next stall. Our best advice? Unless you want to be crudely approached by someone peering through a hole at you while you tinkle, it's probably best to pee somewhere else. *-nr*



JONATHAN SEIDEN ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*The coveted Lodges are located near the best and worst places to eat on campus.*

## Best Campus Housing

Looking for a cool place to live? Then the **Lodges** are your best bet. These miniature houses are located at the very heart of campus, so you'll be close to your classes and just about everything, including the UC for food and mail, and the Daily Grind. The Lodges are particularly good if you have a large group of great friends — depending on the lodge, one can house up to seven people. Cute porches and balconies are fabulous amenities, perfect for keeping a bike or relaxing. Each lodge has two bathrooms and a kitchen. *-vp*

## Best Off-Campus Housing

If you can score a room in one of the many **houses just off-campus**, consider yourself lucky. They trump most of the apartment complexes in the proximity to campus arena and come with some other perks as well. Not only do you and your housemates get a bedroom, you also get a full kitchen, living room, dining room, private yard, laundry facilities etc. Sure, you might have to deal with higher utilities' costs and housekeeping, but there's nothing like a little privacy and independence. And if you bear in mind noise violations, house parties are the place to be on the weekends. *-ww*

## Worst Building

The longtime source of many student woes, **Millington Hall**, built in 1968 and home to the biology and psychology departments, deserves all the hatred it receives. This building is one of the ugliest on campus, inside and out, and thwarts any student's attempt to appreciate it with an almost animalistic ferocity. With its huge, cold, dimly lit lecture hall, maze-like hallways filled with random, suspicious machinery and old desks, pervasive and choking smell of experimental rat cages and basement creepily reminiscent of a mental institution, too much exposure to Millington could have appalling effects on a student's psyche. *-ab*



SARAH GRAYCE ♦ THE FLAT HAT

*Millington Hall, which is home to creatures of all kinds, is a constant reminder of the College's budgetary shortfalls.*

## Best Bathroom

The best bathroom on campus is neatly tucked away in **Swem**. Located in the basement next to the microform machines, this single unit (yes, you have it all to yourself) has the great distinction of never being occupied. (Really now, when was the last time you looked at microfilm?). Always clean and well-stocked with toilet paper and towels, the restroom even has an Occupied/Vacant sign like airplane lavatories, so you can avoid the awkward door rattling of "Is it locked or not?" And, of course, as with all Swem restrooms, it features editions of *The Throne* for your reading pleasure. *-ca*



JONATHAN SEIDEN ♦ THE FLAT HAT





## Best Kept Community Secret

Want to learn more about wine, but clueless about where to begin? Intimidated by snobby sommeliers and want to take the fear factor out of that lengthy restaurant wine list? Head out to **the Cheese Shop**, located on DoG Street, to get a sip of their daily wine tastings. Wine tasting works great for killing time between classes, as a creative first date or a nice diversion after picking up your favorite sandwich just upstairs from the cellar. After you find something you like, buy it and use it at your next dinner party. The easy-going atmosphere of the Cheese Shop makes testing out and learning about different wines accessible and fun. Just make sure you are of legal drinking age. —vp

## Best Day Trip

Whether you are willing to spend 15 minutes or about an hour and 30 minutes in a car, **the beach** is the perfect destination for, well, everything — except studying. Ideal for afternoon picnics and sporadic late-night adventures, Jamestown Beach is best for those students looking to momentarily escape the College's often stressful atmosphere. A little further away, Virginia Beach works best for those well-organized weekend adventures with friends. Though often criticized for its large crowds, Va. Beach has remained a popular destination among students for a number of years. The numerous restaurants and stores along the beach front are hot spots for those looking for cheap goods and decent food. —as

## Best Community Addition

Bored with fife and drum brigades and retirement communities, students at the College have long lamented the lack of excitement offered in the colonial capital. But with the opening of the first businesses in **New Town** last fall, there are promising signs that things are beginning to change. An enormous 365-acre development project expected to take another 11 years to complete, New Town promises to change the way students have fun in Williamsburg. The site already hosts a much-needed 12-screen movie theater, a fifties-style hamburger joint and a pool hall, among other businesses. Coming soon are a Panera Bread Company and a gym. —ms



JONATHAN SEIDEN + THE FLAT HAT

*Quizno's: high on quality and low on price.*

## Best On-Campus Dining

Oh, Quizno's. Making its glorious appearance at the beginning of last semester, **Quizno's** excels as quality, affordable and (shockingly enough) edible on-campus dining: It's made and toasted right in front of you. Prices are reasonable (and if you pay with flex, who cares about the price, right?) — a little over \$7 for a regular sandwich, chips and a drink. The workers are friendly and keep the line moving. In addition to their sandwiches, check out their soups and bread bowls. —ca



JONATHAN SEIDEN + THE FLAT HAT

*The UC's central location does not make up for its lack of quality food and dubiously sanitary utensils.*

## Worst On-Campus Dining

The most central of all campus dining facilities is, sadly, also the worst. Whether they're serving you eggs and hash browns for lunch (I kid you not) or giving you the creeps with their we-swear-we-washed-them utensils, the UC has progressively declined into a state of culinary disrepair. What little variety the UC offers is often undermined by the lack of quality of the meals, leading many students with no other recourse but to turn to the safety of the salad bar, the waffle table and the cereal counter. Themed nights are a treat, but they hardly make up for a more than lackluster service. —as

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JAKE REEDER + THE FLAT HAT

*DoG Street proves the ideal spot for shopping, dining and colonial attractions.*

## Best Colonial Attraction

Where can flocks of tourists be found, even in the dead of winter or a summer monsoon? Where can every colonial curiosity be satisfied and every gift shopping list be completed? Colonial Williamsburg's **Duke of Gloucester Street** (known to students and locals as DoG St.) offers all of this and more. With its beautiful and quaint shops (including Wythe's Candy Shop, The Toymaker, the Precious Gem and many others), historical attractions (a veritable mile-long outdoor museum sporting, among others, an apothecary, several taverns and a candle shop) and great dining (think Berrets, Fat Canary, Trellis, Blue Talon and Seasons), DoG Street is bound to make for a great day out. —ab

## Best Coming Attraction

**Panera**, a great café chain, and home of great pastries, sandwiches, soups and coffee is coming to New Town. This place is great for pretty much any occasion that a student at the College might run into. On a lunch date? Try a bread bowl. Got the munchies? Try a sweet cheese croissant or choose from a wide variety of bagels. Study session? Try a latte as you write your senior honors thesis. Need to chill out and surf the internet or do research? Access the free wireless internet (our personal favorite part). —vp



ALEX HAGLUND + THE FLAT HAT