



PEP IN YOUR STEP

OCTOBER 26, 2008

The rumble of drum cadences signaled the arrival of alumni from far and near to celebrate years past. What they discovered was an atmosphere charged with the energy of a new generation eager to connect with the broader legacy of William and Mary students.

For the first time in three years, Homecoming weekend began with a pep rally on Friday evening. The program, organized by the Undergraduate Student Assembly, welcomed a host of campus notables including a cappella groups, athletes, and members of Homecoming court. Even President Taylor Reveley joined the celebration to lead the crowd in a chorus of the Alma Mater.

Reflecting on the alumni's impressions, Senior Class President Kevin Dua believed the pep rally to be a success. "They were astonished to see the College community together,

engaging and interacting as a Tribe," Dua said. "It definitely livened up the meaning of 'Homecoming' for every generation of classes."

Saturday morning, alumni and students came together for the Homecoming Parade. Former Vice-President of Student Affairs Sam Sadler ('64, M.Ed '71) lead the throng of student organization floats and alumni supporters. For graduate student Sarah McCartney, the parade was an exceptionally moving experience. As students and alumni came together she realized that even though she was no longer an undergraduate student, she was still enmeshed in the campus community. "I have friends from 2009, 2010, and 2011," McCartney said. "That fact alone says a lot about the community spirit here at the College."

Saturday's parade was only the beginning of the day's excitement. Despite scattered rain showers, the William & Mary Tribe defeated

the Rhode Island Rams 34-24. For sophomore Margaret Summers, the victory was not the only source of jubilation. "I ran into my 6th grade English teacher at the Homecoming football game!" Summer said. "We laughed about how he graduated from the College the same year that I was born. It was bizarre to see him, but at the same time he didn't really seem out of place. I guess all the Homecoming festivities helped me realize that there is so much more to the Tribe's culture than just the current students, faculty and staff. It is exciting to be part of something so big," Summers said.

Homecoming weekend was a product of the collective effort of current students and alumni. The connections among students transcended generations. All students, old and new, contributed to the lasting legacy of the community.

>Jillian Walton

Freshman class president Kobie Gordon and freshman Molly Hahn wave their tomahawks as the William and Mary Tribe enters Zable Stadium. Students displaying their "Tribe Pride" formed a green and gold sea of cheers and applause.



Photos courtesy of Stephen Salukus.

Sam Sadler ('64, M.Ed '71) waves to the crowd as he and his wife Mary Liz Smith Sadler ('65) accept an award of recognition for serving as parade marshals for Saturday morning's festivities.

Graduate student Alexandria Martin marches along dressed as the historic Wren Building. Martin's costume reflected her interest in the fields of archaeology and anthropology.



Cheerleaders and members of the "Tribal Dancers" make their way along the parade route. Youngsters from the Williamsburg community also joined in the celebration. The parade began near the corner of Duke of Gloucester street and Botetourt street at 9:30 a.m. and proceeded down Richmond Road to Brooke Street, where it ended at William and Mary Hall.

