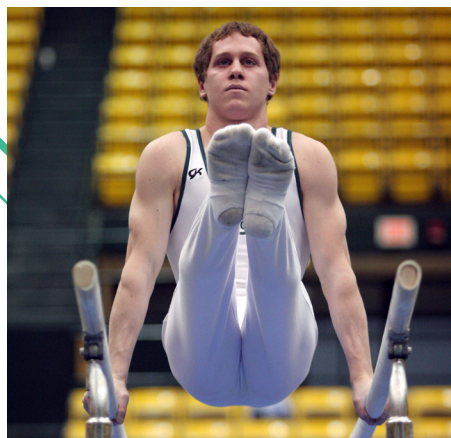




One of the three captains, senior David Locke, pulls his weight to one side in order to complete the rotation in his tumbling combination. The floor exercise and vault were some of Locke's high-scoring events, even earning him USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championship honors in past seasons. >

Keeping his toes pointed, junior Derek Gygax, a leading team scorer, focuses on completing his parallel bar routine during the meet against the Military Academy. Not only did Gygax maintain his position as lead scorer in the meet against Army, but he also received first-place in the all-around category in the same meet. >



During the Army meet, sophomore Andy Hunter concentrates in order to complete his release combination on the high bar. Hunter ranked fourth this past season on both the high bar and ring events out of the College's all-time records. >



conference champions

# EXCEL for the 13th time

A 13th USA Gymnastics Collegiate Championship in 15 years? A third-place finish at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships, with six gymnasts earning all-ECAC honors? Eight gymnasts competing in the qualifying round of the NCAA Championship? For the College's Men's Gymnastics team, their highly-awarded season was just a continuation of excellence.

"One of the goals of this year's team was to match what we did last year, which was going to be tough to do," Head Coach Cliff Gauthier said. "But I thought we did really well this year. We pulled it together by the end of the year and really worked well as a team." Coach Gauthier's experience included over 600 William & Mary career victories and four NCAA Top-12 finishes.

Crowning an impressive season was the Tribe's 13th USA Gymnastics Championship since 1994, with senior Derek Gygax winning his first USAG Collegiate National Title by claiming the first-place spot in all-around competition with a score of 84.15.

Gygax stood out all year for the Tribe, winning the ECAC Most Improved Athlete Award and qualifying for the qualifying round of the NCAA Championships in the all-around category and claiming All-East honors on the high bar and the parallel bars events.

Seniors Richard Pearson and James Prim both earned USAG Collegiate All-American honors on the high bar.

Junior Josh Fried earned USAG honors in the floor exercise. Head Coach Gauthier also received USAG Varsity Coach of the Year for a record 11th time.

Hunter and Prim also garnered multiple all-ECAC honors, as Hunter finished second on the pommel horse and sixth in the parallel bars and Prim finished second on the rings and fourth on the horse. Seniors Jay Hillburn and Sloan Crawford also earned All-East honors as the Tribe finished third at the ECAC meet and provided leadership from a strong senior class.

Head Coach Gauthier expressed his feeling over the loss of such influential members to graduation. "It's always tough when the guys graduate because you develop a relationship with them over the four years, and these four seniors are pretty well set on what they're going to do[after graduation]," Gauthier said.

Eight Tribe gymnasts qualified for the qualifying round of the NCAA Championships, with six athletes finishing in the top ten of their events. But it's not the many awards Gauthier hopes his athletes will remember most. "I want them to look back and go 'I've really learned a lot and improved a lot in those four years at William and Mary,'" Gauthier said. "That's what an undergraduate education is all about."

>Jack Lambert

## team



Front Row: James Prim, Stephen Deutsch, Dan Melzar, Derek Gygax, Jonathan Prohov. Second Row: Alex Egerter, Kyle Sneeden, Chris Valeska, Andy Hunter, Chris Lynch. Third Row: Josh Fried, Jay Hilburn, Matthew Holmes, Richard Pearson, Matt Olesiak. Back Row: Sloan Crawford, Assistant Coach Pete Walker, Head Coach Cliff Gauthier, President Taylor Reveley, Dr. Fred Ward, Max Sabert. Not Pictured: David Locke.

### <SCOREBOARD>

W&M 2ND OF 6 > NAVY OPEN W&M 335.650 > 285.55 JMU W&M 325.55 < 332.55 TEMPLE W&M 2ND OF 3 > NAVY & SPRINGFIELD  
W&M 1ST OF 8 > USA GYMNASTICS COLLEGIATE TEAM FINALS W&M 3RD OF 7 > ECAC TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

W&M 2ND OF 3 > PENN STATE & NAVY W&M 335.70 > 314.40 MIT W&M 3RD OF 4 > ARMY QUAD-MEET W&M 337.30 > 285.550 JMU