

# OUTLOOK

TRIBE PRIDE IS COMMITTING  
YOURSELF 100% TO SOMETHING THAT IS BIGGER  
THAN JUST INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS.

**OBLINGER**

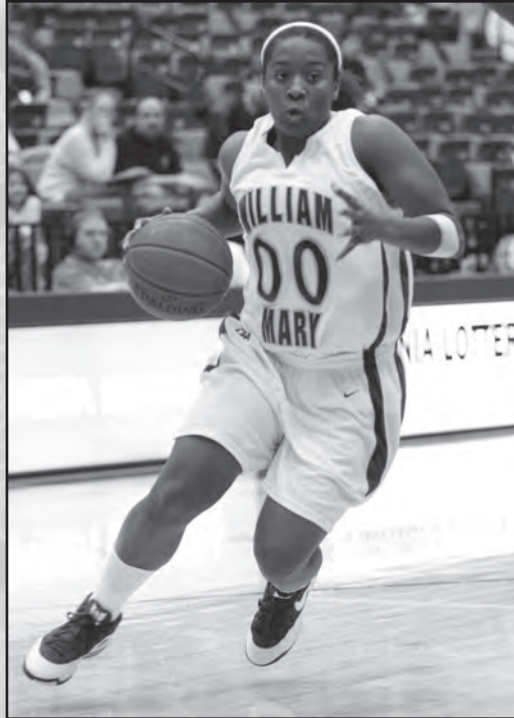
There is a tremendous amount of excitement surrounding the Tribe women's basketball program this season. With two returning all-conference players, an abundance of seasoned veterans, and a highly touted freshman class, this year's team has all the makings of a championship contender.

Last year the Tribe learned tough lessons on adversity early in the season after losing its top two point guards and one of the team's most tenacious defenders to serious injuries. These circumstances allowed new faces to step into leadership roles and prove themselves as competitors. Rising from the challenges of last season has made this year's squad more experienced, more focused, and tougher than ever before. With added depth and experience, this team is hungry for the title.

Coach **Debbie Taylor** understands the benefit of facing obstacles and sees the transformation her team has undergone.

"Last season provided a tremendous foundation for this season," Taylor said. "Our young kids got better and our team matured. We were playing our best basketball at the end of the season. It's exciting this year to see what we're going to be able to do with all the experience we have returning, and all the lessons we learned."

The Tribe begins this season with a dynamic roster that features four of the squad's top six players from last campaign, and yet another crop of talented newcomers adding depth and size to the group. Leading the charge on the court will be two of the most exciting players to watch in the conference, including CAA Defensive Player of the Year **Tiffany**



**Benson** and Rookie of the Year finalist **Taysha Pye**. Benson has proven to be a force inside, averaging 11.5 boards and 2.7 blocks last season, and is only 27 blocks shy of becoming the CAA's all-time shot-blocker. Pye was the league's most dominant athlete over the final month of play, averaging 19.1 points per game in an 11-game stretch.

Joining the fierce inside-outside combination of Benson and Pye are nine talented returnees who have played significant minutes, along with three standout freshmen, including the Western Pennsylvania Player of the Year, the Washington D.C. Gatorade Player of the Year, and the New York State Foul Shooting Champion.

"A number of kids played substantial minutes last year, so we have more depth than we've ever had," said Taylor. "We have more players we can go to, players who are mature in their game and ready to step in and contribute right away."

#### GUARDS

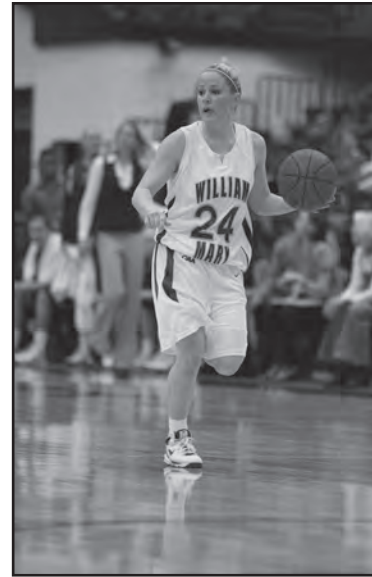
With so many young players earning time last year, plus two point guards returning from injury rehab programs stronger and tougher than ever before, the backcourt boasts experience and a developed mental toughness that will enable it to outrun the competition and to push the up-tempo game for which the Tribe is known. Returning guards include three proven 20-point scorers and two of the most tenacious defenders in Tribe history.

All-Rookie selection Taysha Pye is one of the most gifted athletes in the league and caught fire over the final month of the season to score 20 points or more five times in the last eight games, including a career-high 30 against James Madison and 26 at Old Dominion. Able to play any position on the perimeter, she also has a powerful drive to the basket and was the Tribe's third-leading rebounder as a freshman. Pye has focused diligently in the off-season to take her game to new heights, and the Tribe will look for her leadership on the court this season.

"Taysha is just fun to watch," said Taylor. "She has such a strong, powerful body that makes her very hard to guard. She has a quick first step, can get to the rim with power, and can score one-on-one. We're especially excited about the hard work she put in over the summer developing her jump shot and perimeter game."

Also on the wing are two deadly shooters, senior **Kelly Heath** and sophomore **Janine Aldridge**, who can take over a game at a moment's notice. Heath's astonishing athletic ability has enabled her to put up high scores of 26, 22, and 19 points last season. She's exciting to watch because she can drive the lane, pull up inside the arc, and spot up along the full 180 degrees of the three-point arc. In 2008-09, Heath was second on the team with a .409 overall shooting percentage, and first in three-point success at .412.

"Kelly has the most experience of our returning guards," Taylor said. "If you ever watch her play, you'll see the light



going in her eyes. Once that light goes on, she doesn't miss. She's incredibly skilled and a great scorer from everywhere on the court. This year should be her best yet with the Tribe."

Aldridge is cut from much the same cloth as Heath, and can light up the court at any given time. One of the best 3-point shooters in the league, she shot .400 from the floor while starting each of the Tribe's last 19 games as a freshman. Her talent was on display in the conference opener at Towson, where she shot 6-9 from behind the arc, finishing the game with 22 points, and was named the CAA Rookie of the Week. Aldridge's year also saw her break the College's freshman records for most three-pointers made (55) and attempted (155), and she ranked second in the conference with a .355 percentage.

"Janine learned a lot her freshman year about playing both sides of the ball. She's a money three-point shooter, and she has worked hard on other parts of her game. She's going to be someone that

teams have to guard, which will create more opportunities for our posts, because everyone knows you can't leave her open."

Running the point for William and Mary will be classmates **Katherine DeHenzel** and **Katy Oblinger**; both returning from season-ending injuries and surgeries last year.

"These two athletes are true leaders both on and off the court," noted Taylor, "and the toughness both have demonstrated throughout the rehabilitation process is inspirational for everyone. Having their mental toughness and competitive drive running the point will prove invaluable this year."

DeHenzel grew into the starting point guard over the course of her freshman season in 2007-08, starting the final 18 games of the year. She averaged 2.4 assists and 2.3 steals per game that season, and was slated to run the offense last year before facing a season-ending injury last August. After a full year of rehab, lifting, and conditioning, the coaching staff expects DeHenzel to rebound stronger, faster, and hungrier than ever before.

"Katherine is a great passer and the toughest kid we have. She is really fired up to get back on the court. She is the mental toughness of the team."

Oblinger, who stepped into the point last year as a sophomore and started the first 24 games before suffering her own season-ending injury, averaged 3.7 assists per game including 10 against Norfolk State, one of the top-four performances in the CAA all season. While a quick and sure point guard, Oblinger is also a skilled shooter that can bombard a defense from the wings.

"Katy grew a lot last year as a player and now has a strong grasp of our system. She does a really good job running the show with a great work ethic and passion for the game."

Providing depth through the guard position will be two of the team's toughest perimeter defenders in senior **Robyn Barton** and redshirt-junior **Lindsey Moller**. As one of the



team's hardest workers, Barton will provide senior leadership for the Tribe. She is fiercely competitive and always pushes herself and her team.

"Robyn is very athletic and probably our hardest worker," said Taylor. "She's an explosive scorer and runs the floor like a gazelle. She has really grown into being a great teammate over the past three years."

Moller earned a spot in the starting rotation early last season with her ability to shut down her opponents. She plays with pure intensity and fires up the entire Tribe. She shot .375 in her eight games and averaged 3.4 points per game before facing a season-ending injury.

"Lindsey is one of our best athletes, and the best defender hands down. She brings energy and excitement to the game, is hard-nosed and tenacious, and her passion diffuses through the entire team. As a coach or a teammate, you love having that kind of player on the floor."



**SWING**

With William and Mary's versatile offense, there is great potential for three young Tribe players to make a significant impact at the swing position. Junior **Aleia Gland**, redshirt-freshman **Chanel Murchison**, and freshman **Taylor Hilton** are all multitalented players that can score from the post or perimeter, and will work in nicely with the Tribe system.

Gland saw very limited action last year as a redshirt-freshman, but showed promise with six rebounds, two steals, and an assist in six games. As a senior at David and Mary Thomson in Toronto, she was rated as one of the city's top five players and averaged 21 points per game in her career.

"Aleia can play inside and out," Taylor said. "She's a great explosive rebounder. She's powerful and physical inside, and she can also play the perimeter effectively."

Chanel Murchison will suit up for the first time after redshirting her freshman year in 2008-09. An all-state player in Virginia as a junior at Colonial Forge high school, she averaged close to a double-double for her career but missed her senior season with a knee injury. Murchison has performed very well in practices over the past year, and will prove to be a tough defender during games with the size of a forward and speed of a guard.

"Chanel is another player that's really passionate. She has a strong body, can do a little bit of everything, and is really smart on defense. She has a lot of versatility in her game, and can defend everywhere. She's also the life of the team with huge personality; she's just hysterical."

New to the team this year is freshman Taylor Hilton, the 2009 Gatorade Player of the Year in Washington, D.C. Hilton played for Sidwell Friends School, totaling more than 1,600 career points and averaging 23 points and 18 rebounds per game as a senior. She was a three-time all-conference performer, and twice was named All-Met by the *Washington Post*. The coaching staff expects Hilton to contribute on the

court early in her playing career.

"Taylor plays both inside and out, but will probably play more on the perimeter this year," Taylor said. "She has a really good understanding of the game and is exceptionally strong for a freshman. Taylor will be able to play a variety of positions for us because she does so many things well. She's a very explosive rebounder, and she can finish under the basket."

**POSTS**

While the Tribe is loaded on the perimeter, this year the team will see greater depth and size in the post. Alongside all-conference performer Tiffany Benson, two freshmen and a sophomore have perhaps the greatest potential of any team in the CAA, and will look to step in right away and contribute.

Benson is the most complete defender in the Colonial Athletic Association, and enters her final campaign looking to lead W&M to the conference title. Already known as a strong defender after her first

two years, in 2008-09 she proved an offensive power as well averaging 12 points per game and scoring 16 double-doubles, second-best in the conference. Her 22 10+ rebound games were the best in the CAA by a wide margin, as was her average of 11.5 boards per contest, nearly two full rebounds more than anyone else. Beyond simply scoring on offense, which she did regularly with a .478 shooting percentage, Benson was also absolutely dominant on the offensive glass with a school-record 170 offensive rebounds, 57 more than the next player in the league.

"I'm really excited about Tiff's maturity as a player this year and her desire to want to step up and lead," commented Taylor. "I think making second-team all-conference and becoming Defensive Player of the Year shows the work that she has put into her game. She has worked hard on developing other areas of her game, and I look for her to be one of the premier players in the league this year."

Sophomore **Courtney Flynn** progressed very well last year as the season went along, appearing in 10 of the final 12 games including both CAA Tournament contests. Playing with tremendous energy, she pulled down 21 rebounds and hit 9-13 from the free throw line in 16 total appearances. In 2009-10 she will look to become a more regular part of the rotation, and draw some of the defense off Benson.

"Courtney will give us some depth in the post. She's gotten stronger and better over the summer, so she'll definitely help us inside."

Also playing in the post this season will be two highly-recruited freshmen, both standing 6-3 and ranking as top-10 recruits in the history of Tribe basketball. **Emily Correal** was a two-time All-State forward for Peter's Township in Pennsylvania, and was named Player of the Year in the WPIAL last winter. Rated by ESPN as the 12th-best forward (68th-best overall player) in the class of 2013, Correal earned honorable-mention All-American honors as a junior from *The*

*Sporting News*, and totaled more than 1,800 points and 1,200 rebounds in her career with 85 double-doubles.

"Emily can shoot the three, and has a beautiful, finesse game," said Taylor. "She's going to really give us depth in the post, but she can step out and shoot and handle the ball. She's a real versatile forward and will fit perfectly in our system."

**Jaclyn McKenna** is the first true center in the Tribe line-up in the past three years, and was a three-time all-state player for Elwood-John Glenn High in New York. A tremendous athlete, scoring over 1,400 career points and also earning four All-State honors in volleyball, McKenna was also noted for her leadership on the court. She led her basketball team to four consecutive league titles, and was a key player on two state title-winning volleyball teams. As a junior, she averaged 16 points and more than 10 rebounds per game, and also was the New York State Foul-Shooting Champion, averaging 91% from the line during her career.

"Jaclyn is a true center who is really good under the basket, but she also has a beautiful outside shot. She's going to give us some depth that we really need at the center position."

The Tribe enters this season with more experience, depth, and talent than ever before. The chemistry is right, the work ethic solid, and the talent in line. Everyone, from senior to freshman, is hungry for the title. With the hard-earned lessons of a year ago, this team figures to position the College for an unprecedented run of success this winter.



**NOV  
15**

**RADFORD UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**NOV  
19**

**HAMPTON UNIVERSITY**  
*Convocation Center, Hampton, Va.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 757-728-6886  
Web: www.hamptonpirates.com

**NOV  
22**

**DAVIDSON COLLEGE**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**NOV  
24**

**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**  
*Carver-Hawkeye Arena, Iowa City, Iowa*  
8 p.m. Eastern, 7 p.m. Central  
Press Row: 319-335-7284  
Web: www.hawkeyesports.com

**NOV  
27  
28**

SeattleU Thanksgiving Tournament  
**UNIV. of SOUTH ALABAMA**  
Nov. 27 at 8 p.m. Eastern, 5 p.m. Pacific  
**UNIV. of SEATTLE**  
Nov. 28 at 8 p.m. Eastern, 5 p.m. Pacific  
*Connolly Center, Seattle, Wash.*  
Press Row: 206-296-2080  
Web: www.goseattleu.com

**NOV**

**DEC  
03**

**UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
7 p.m.

**DEC  
18**

**NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Joseph Echols Hall, Norfolk, Va.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 757-823-8195  
Web: www.nsuspartans.com

**DEC  
20  
21**

Gator Invitational  
**HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY**  
Dec. 20 at 4:30 p.m.  
**SOUTHERN U. or U. of FLORIDA**  
Dec. 21 at 4:30 p.m. or 7 p.m.  
*O'Connell Center, Gainesville, Fla.*  
Press Row: 352-367-1801  
Web: www.gatorzone.com

**DEC  
30**

**DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Memorial Hall Gym, Dover, Del.*  
5:30 p.m.  
Press Row: 302-857-7112  
Web: www.dshornets.com

**JAN  
03**

**HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**JAN  
07**

**DREXEL UNIVERSITY**  
*Daskalakis Athletic Center, Philadelphia*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 215-895-2041  
Web: www.drexeldragons.com

**JAN  
10**

**UNC WILMINGTON**  
*Trask Coliseum, Wilmington, N.C.*  
2 p.m.  
Press Row: 910-962-3095  
Web: www.uncwsports.com

**JAN  
14**

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
7 p.m.

**JAN  
17**

**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**JAN  
21**

**HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY**  
*Mack Sports Complex, Hempstead, N.Y.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 516-463-7725  
Web: www.gohofstra.com

**JAN  
24**

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
*Patriot Center, Fairfax, Va.*  
2 p.m.  
Press Row: 703-993-3044  
Web: www.gomason.com

**JAN  
28**

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
7 p.m.

**JAN  
31**

**UNC WILMINGTON**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**FEB  
04**

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**  
*Bob Carpenter Center, Newark, Del.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 302-831-8715  
Web: www.bluehens.com

**FEB  
07**

**GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Georgia State Sports Arena, Atlanta, Ga.*  
2 p.m.  
Press Row: 404-413-4099  
Web: www.georgiastatesports.com

**FEB  
11**

**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
7 p.m.

**FEB  
14**

**TOWSON UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**FEB  
18**

**VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH**  
*Siegel Center, Richmond, Va.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 804-827-1010  
Web: www.vcuathletics.com

**FEB  
21**

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
2 p.m.

**FEB  
25**

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY**  
*Constant Convocation Center, Norfolk, Va.*  
7 p.m.  
Press Row: 757-683-5596  
Web: www.odusports.com

**FEB  
28**

**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY**  
*Convocation Center, Harrisonburg, Va.*  
2 p.m.  
Press Row: 540-568-6710  
Web: www.jmusports.com

**MARCH  
03**

**DREXEL UNIVERSITY**  
*Kaplan Arena, Williamsburg*  
7 p.m., Senior Night

**MARCH  
11  
14**

**CAA CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
*Convocation Center, Harrisonburg, Va.*  
First Round: March 11  
Quarterfinals: March 12  
Semifinals: March 13 at 12 or 2:30 p.m.  
Championship: March 14 at 3:30 p.m.

**MARCH**

Press Row: 540-568-6710  
Web: www.caasports.com

*Dates and Times Subject to Change*

*Check TribeAthletics.com for the most up-to-date schedule*