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THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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An independent publication at the College of William and Mary.

2008 Collegiate Network Paper of the Year



Courtesy of Caitlin Clements

The Tribe wins 26-14 over the University of Virginia

Go Tribe!: On September 5th William and Mary's football team won a shocking victory on the Cavaliers' home territory at the Smith arena in Charlottesville. Virginia's anemic offense was unable to overcome a determined Tribe, who took advantage of numerous Cavalier mistakes; Virginia suffered seven turnovers, the most in a single game since 1994.

Administration extends 'amnesty' policy to drugs

Steven Nelson
Editor in Chief

Students facing a medical emergency due to illegal or prescription drug abuse will no longer be punished by the College's administration, provided they seek medical attention. This major policy change extends the initial program of "alcohol amnesty" to include all drugs.

Last year students representing Students for a Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) began a petition drive in support of the proposed "drug amnesty." What began with 200 student signatures developed into a series of proposals and meetings with administrators.

The Alcohol and Substance Abuse Committee, formerly referred to as a task force, considered the



attorneygeneral.gov

Actionable Amnesty: The new drug amnesty policy only covers first offenses and further abuse is subject to "serious punishment."

NEW DRUG AMNESTY POLICY
continued on page ten

New recycling program to save school thousands

Bert Mueller
Executive Editor

Over the summer, two interns for the Committee on Sustainability uncovered serious inefficiencies in the school's recycling program. Interns Tyler Koontz ('09) and

Judi Sclafani ('11) investigated the manner in which the school dealt with recycling and their findings will save the school an estimated \$40,000 annually.

The main source of the savings was a change in the type of recycling program that the Col-

lege uses. The previous recycling program involved the College contacting on the recycling company when waste needed to be picked up. By changing the program from

PILOT RECYCLING PROGRAM
continued on page ten

Misdirection of senior gifts causes alarm

Michael Young
Assistant Features Editor

Seniors exhibited their generosity in giving back to William and Mary with a resounding 76% participation by the class of 2009, despite a severe recession. Many recent graduates, however, have become frustrated with the apparent misallocation of their gifts.

The Informer has been contacted by several recent graduates who have encountered trouble in donating to their student organization of choice.

One young alumna, who has asked not to be named, intended to donate \$1,000 to Circle K International, a student group that she felt most influenced her time at the College. She was contacted by a member of the Fund for William and Mary and asked to verify that she was giving \$1000 to the football team and the Gateway program.

"I corrected the girl on the phone that night and specified I wanted my pledge to go towards Circle K International," said the alumna who had previously specified that her pledge was to be distributed over two years to that organization.

Following making the correction, the alumna received a packet in the mail with a copy of *The Flat Hat* and 3 reminder cards. "This time they specified I was giving a total of \$1500 to William and Mary to athletics, Gateway, and Student Organizations. Nowhere in the paperwork did Circle K International show up."

The alumna has withdrawn her pledge and is now personally seeing that Circle K receives the money she intended. "It's important when donating any amount of money, you as a donor see where your money goes, and people reap the benefits from your generosity. I did not make a pledge for the recognition, or the free wine and cheese night." She hopes that the College recognizes the intent of donating to specific organization and that "they do not take advantage of our generosity and use our money to pay for their shortcomings in fundraising."

In another instance a student intended to donate his graduation pledge to *The Virginia Informer*, but when he inquired at the office about this he discovered that his pledge had been donate to the fund coded 2255, which is the general student activities fund. He was assured that the money would be passed on to *The Informer*.

During the course of the investigation an *Informer* reporter called the office charged with administering the gifts, did not identify his name or affiliation, and was provided with personal information including one students' contributions, the organizations intended, the status of the pledge fulfillment, and information of past parental donations to the College.

Editor's note: please contact The Informer at editor@vainformer.com if you have encountered issues with your senior gift.

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Housing woes continue to plague Fraternity Row

Kirk Vernegaard
News Editor

New changes to Fraternity Row have left some wondering about the future of Greek life at the College. Last year, four fraternities – Sigma Pi, Phi Kappa Tau, Pi Kappa Alpha, and Theta Delta Chi – left the Row because they all could not fill their Units. Under a newly implemented policy by Residence Life, a fraternity must have 36 people to be granted a Special Interest Housing contract in the Units, and 29 of these must be brothers.

Until recently, Residence Life allowed the Units to be filled by 33 people provided that individuals with doubles without roommates “buy out” the other half of the room for half price. The College implemented this procedure to make it easier for students to go abroad. However, a school review showed that this outcome was not being satisfied and that revenue was down due to empty beds.

While some view the College’s new policies as increasingly harsh or “anti-Greek”, other fraternity members have enjoyed living outside of the units. Ben Rosen (‘10), a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, says that “it’s great to just be able to throw on some turfdogs and relax

in my backyard. Plus, we don’t get nickled-and-dimed by the College anymore.” Rosen says that Pi Kappa Alpha intends to return for the 2010-2011 school year.

Others whose fraternities moved off campus blame the school explicitly. Harry Jostrom (‘10), social chairman of Phi Kappa Tau, fumed that “people have always said that The University of Chicago is where fun goes to die, but I think it’s this place with its Stalinistic housing policies.”

Eight fraternities now exist off campus. The president of the Council for Fraternity Affairs, David Cooper (‘10), lamented that “as a resident of Fraternity Row for the past three years, I have felt a loss in the sense of community that comes with living next to other Greek organizations that have similar values and interests.”

Cooper is optimistic, however, that the CFA will find a long term solution to the fraternity housing situation. “The Units were originally designed for fraternities and the College administration would like to see them used by fraternities.”

As fraternity rush begins this fall, some Greeks are concerned about the fate of their own organizations. With many fraternities now off campus, there is an overall fear that the fraternity system at William and Mary is oversaturated. Even now, Delta Chi and Kappa Alpha share a unit. Many fraternity members explained that this fall’s crop of rushees will be a determinant of their status as an off-campus or on-campus organization.



Alec McKinley

Fraternity move-out: This year relatively few fraternities are housed in the units. Following an alteration in residence housing policy many fraternities decided not to remain in the units.

“People have always said that The University of Chicago is where fun goes to die, but I think it’s this place with its Stalinistic housing policies.”

Briefly...

Compiled by Eric Ames, Assistant Opinion Editor

College ranked eight nationally

Washington Monthly, a publication that rates schools based on community service, research, and social mobility, has ranked the College 8th in the nation, and the best in Virginia. This is a substantial improvement from the College’s previous ranking of 23rd in 2007. The College was also recently ranked as the best non-military public school in the country by *Forbes*, and was tied with Brown for sixth by *US News*. According to *Princeton Review*, the College is ranked 7th in Best College Library, and 14th in Happiest Students. The College’s Green score has also improved from 84 to 90.

Law Professor earns prestigious Fulbright recognition

William and Mary Law Professor Linda Malone was recently announced to be one of only forty people

worldwide to be made a Fulbright Distinguished Chair. Malone, a specialist in international environmental law, will spend March through June 2010 at the Polytechnic Institute of Turin. Her office will be located in the historic Castello del Valentino, which houses the only inter-university research center in Italy. While in Turin, she will conduct research on environmental sustainability and public policy. This is Malone’s second Fulbright honor. In 1998, she was given the Fulbright/OSCE Regional Research Award for her work on human rights in Eastern Europe.

Swine flu fear hits the College

Vice President Anna Martin released an official statement earlier this month regarding the spread of a new strain of H1N1 flu. The College now has a flu response link on its website, which will provide new information on the virus as it comes in. Students are being advised to receive three flu vaccinations, two against the new strain, and a third against the regular, seasonal strain. It is also being recommended that students take simple precautions such as washing their hands, and avoiding sharing of eating utensils and drinking cups. Students

are advised to isolate themselves from others if they begin to feel flu-like symptoms.

Laycock featured in the Washington Post

Tribe football coach Jimmye Laycock was featured on the front page of sports section in *The Washington Post* earlier this month. Coach Laycock began his 30th season at the College with an upset victory over the University of Virginia. He has been coaching at William and Mary since 1980, when the locker rooms had no air conditioning, and the team had to practice on the grounds of nearby mental facility. Since he began coaching at the College, Laycock has turned down opportunities to work for Boston College, Duke, Southern Methodist, Maryland, and the San Diego Chargers. Among those who have played under Laycock are Steelers Coach Mike Tomlin, and Eagles defensive coordinator Sean McDermott. Laycock has lived in the same house in Williamsburg since 1991, and the football program at the College has grown substantially since his arrival in 1980.

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Established 2005

Founders

Joe Luppino-Esposito & Amanda J. Yasnchak

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Mission Statement

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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Exotic plant tour offered on campus

Hart Moore

Assistant News Editor

Though not widely known, an interesting historical tour exists all throughout William and Mary's campus. Recently a website has been established to guide interested members of the community.

The "Baldwin Memorial Collection of Woody Species", which has been built up since 1947, is comprised of approximately 325 different species of woody plants including bushes and trees.

As the name suggests, Dr. John T. Baldwin Jr., a biology professor at the College since 1947, is largely responsible for this impressive collection of woody species. While traversing a number of exotic foreign environments, Dr. Baldwin sent back numerous rare and beautiful species to be included in the collection, including a rare Asian species that was previously thought to be extinct for over 1000 years.

Many of the collection's specimens truly are worthwhile to see. Thomas Cross ('11) recently discovered this tour while speaking with his biology professor.

"I was very impressed when I actually took the time to check these trees out, the area around Washington Hall was by far my favorite part."

He goes on to say, "This collection makes a significant contribution to our campus' beauty and image."

Though the tour is largely self guided, retired biology professor Martin Mathes continues to lead regular tours of the collection.



Alec McKenley

Back to nature: Professor John Baldwin, of the biology department, has been studying hundreds of different species of trees around the world since 1947.

Documentation of many of the collection's species was lost, and Professor Mathes led has been effort in the late 1970's to re-examine and

identify those exotic species.

The tour begins in old campus and stretches down towards Blair Hall, eventually wrapping around Milling-

ton, and coming back up the other side of the sunken gardens.

For more information visit www.wm.edu/as/biology/planttour.

Student Assembly gets off to slow start

Ian Kirkpatrick

Assistant News Editor - Student Assembly

Unlike last year, this fall's first Student Assembly meeting of the year was rather uneventful. Senators only passed one piece of legislation; an allocation of 1000 dollars for a Tribe Fever trip to accompany the William and Mary football team. The rest of the meeting focused on some new business and a recap of past legislation.

Vice President Ryan Ruzic JD '11 said that the SA had over 40 conference calls over the course of the summer commenting that they were "really productive, I'm glad we have them."

There was also discussion of the "Free Planners for Students to Help Keep Them Organized" act, which -- with the \$9000 allocated -- did just that. Senator Jeane Manning reported that students approved of the planners, she "saw like 5 people take them out in class."

Over the summer, Senate Chairman

Ben Brown '11 also edited the entire Code of the Student Assembly, all 19,000 words of it.

Mr. Brown introduced the "The 2009 Omnibus Code Update Act," which intends to clean up some of the Code's language and contained many changes he thought were appropriate. Mr. Brown commented "these are some big changes, I would recommend that everyone read them thoroughly."

Among the changes, Mr. Brown's proposal eliminated the blind switch period, replacing it with a provision allowing students to withdraw from elections. Previously if a student wanted to withdraw, the only reasonable way was to break campaign finance rules and be removed from the contest by the Election Chairman.

Vice President Ryan Ruzic also commented that the secretary must now approve absences, instead of the vice president, "which makes us look a little less ridiculous as an organization."

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Courtesy of Caitlin Clements

Tribal Fever brings 100 students to University of Virginia for big win

Michael Young
Assistant Features Editor

Early on in the day hours before the now-famous game the group Tribal fever sponsored a bus, subsidized with \$1000 in SA funds to take 100 students at a total cost of \$5,000 to root for the Tribe in Charlottesville. The bus left Williamsburg at 1:30 from William and Mary Hall.

The group was founded this year to give students a better ability to see the Tribe on the road, and the 100 students that went with would likely agree that it was a success. Many larger schools, and even some our size,

have similar programs to ferry students to relatively nearby sporting events, and Tribal Fever is attempting to do the same so even on the road there is some support.

The Tribe's upset UVA, whether by sheer luck, training, or willpower accomplished one of the team's biggest upsets in the last 20 years.

Later that evening it was the group Tribal Fever also organized a 1am rally in the Sunken Gardens as a show of support. The organization was done through mass text messages and telephone calls to get as many fans, old and new, out there as could be found.

Hundreds of students gathered to celebrate the victory by singing the Alma Mater, and chanting along to all of the favorites.

During the course of the rally the football team had players arrive on the scene to witness the crowd that came out in their support, several were even able to crowd surf. Many of the starters opted to speak to the crowd, and thank them for coming out in support, but at the same time expressed hope that they continue the support as the season rolls on. Perhaps next time Tribal Fever will need a bigger bus.



Courtesy of Caitlin Clements



Courtesy of Caitlin Clements

The Tribe's Upcoming Games

Sat 09/12/09
vs. Central Connecticut State
at William and Mary
7:00PM

Sat 09/19/09
vs. Norfolk State
at Norfolk State, Norfolk, Va.
6:00PM

Sat 09/26/09
vs Delaware
at William and Mary
7:00PM

Sat 10/03/09
vs. Villanova
at Villanova, Villanova, Pa.
7:00PM

Sat 10/10/09
vs. Northeastern
at Northeastern, Brookline, Mass.
1:00PM

Sat 10/24/09
vs. James Madison
at William and Mary
12:00PM

Sat 10/31/09
vs. Rhode Island
at Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I.
1:00PM

Sat 11/07/09
vs. Towson
at William and Mary
1:30PM

Sat 11/14/09
vs. New Hampshire
at William and Mary
1:30PM

Sat 11/21/09
vs. Richmond
at Richmond, Richmond, Va.
12:00PM



Alec McKinley

VSO Struts Pops, Classics at Matoaka

Jordan Bloom
Arts and Culture Editor

Last Thursday the Virginia Symphony Orchestra graced our very own Matoaka Amphitheater with a greatest-hits program that ran the musical gamut from Beethoven to Billy Joel to Benny Goodman. The concert was jointly sponsored by the City of Williamsburg and the College and is one of four free outdoor performances by the Symphony, put on in preparation for their regular concert season. The VSO has established itself as a premiere regional orchestra with a rigorous touring schedule, five nationally-released recordings at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall.

The first half of the concert was more traditional orchestral repertoire, highlights were Copland's "Hoedown" and Beethoven's "Pastorale," the second half was devoted to more contemporary and popular tunes from the likes of Ray Charles and The Beatles. The VSO has a long-standing tradition of playing both pops and traditional repertoire, going back to 1979 with the merger of the Norfolk Symphony -- the VSO's most direct antecedent, founded in 1920 -- the Peninsula Symphony Orchestra, and the Virginia Beach Pops Symphony. That tradition continued Thursday night under the baton of Matthew Kraemer and the broader musical direction of JoAnn Falletta.

ID tags cause concern for off-campus housing

Myles Busching
Contributor

The Post Office of Williamsburg distributes mail to students choosing to live in houses off campus. Recently a change in the delivery mechanism has resulted in identification cards inside mailboxes, ostensibly to aide new mail carriers in determining which mail goes to the address.

These cards note the names of people receiving mail. Removing the cards may result in the residents of a home needing to pick up mail at the Post Office, according to a note added to one ID tag. The Post Office apparently is not inclined to

enforce this, however.

Inquiring as to the purpose and motives behind the new policy, *The Informer* ventured to the Williamsburg Post Office, hoping to find some answers. Speaking with a supervisor, we asked for an interview in regards to the new policy. The supervisor, upon consulting with her superiors, simply replied, "We cannot do that."

The origins and rationale behind this new postal policy still remain somewhat of a mystery. Attempts to determine the reasons behind this have gone unanswered, including a request for an appointment with the City Manager to discuss the matter.

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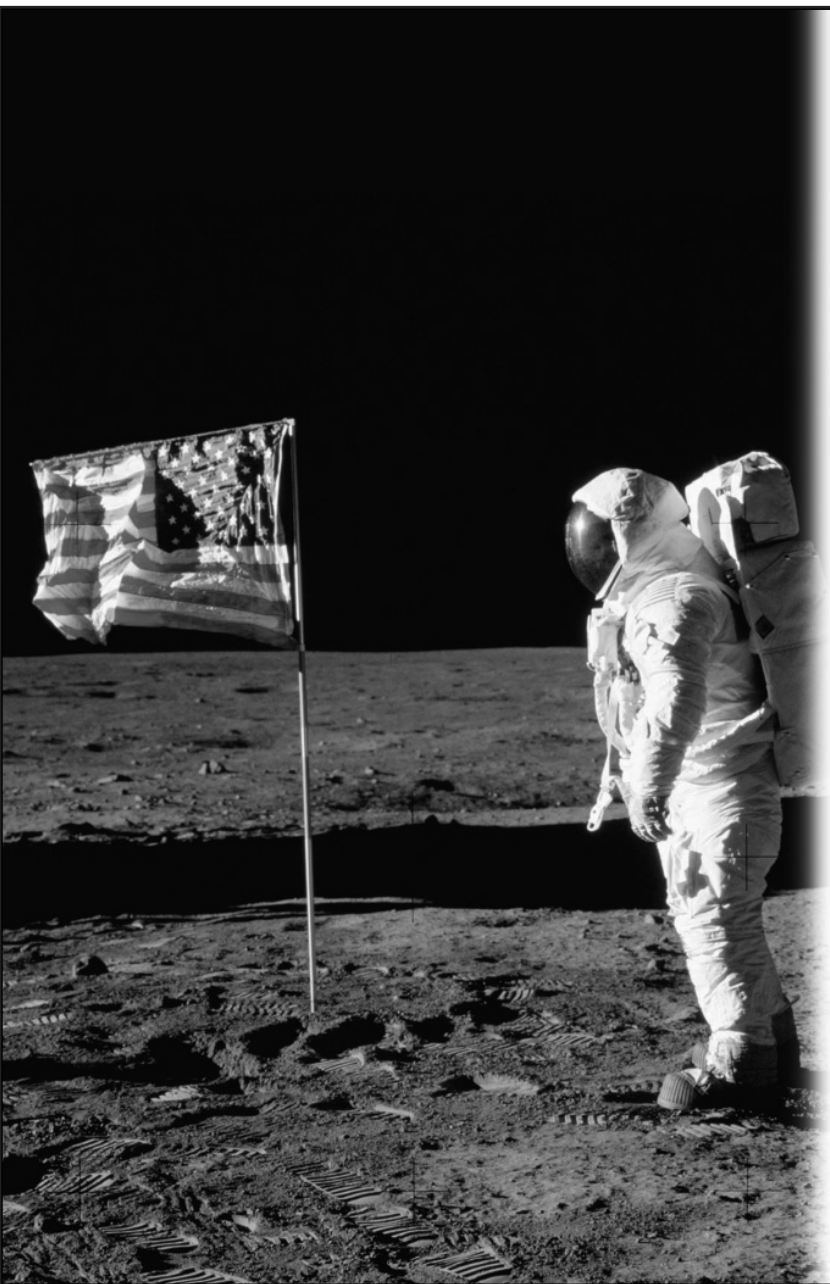
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A. Carroll's offers upscale wining and dining

Laura Visochek
Staff Writer

"We stopped drinking blood, so we started drinking wine," jokes Felix Vlad. He and business partner Stefan Antal both hail from northern Romania—better known as Transylvania.

The friends bought the restaurant and bar, located near Doraldo's Pizza on Prince George Street, in 2006. After renovations, Alize Bistro opened in 2007.

Intending to step away from the traditional American bar-restaurant model, Alize Bistro offers a sleek, modern bar with an extensive wine selection. "I want to turn this into... a wine lounge," said Mr. Vlad. On certain nights, Bistro's bar turns into a dance club.

On Wednesdays there is a Latino-themed night with Spanish music played. Fridays alternate between Caribbean themed-nights and normal dance club nights, while Saturdays welcome international music and dance. Each event allows 18 year olds to enter the club, but IDs are checked rigorously. "I don't want to keep people from having fun, but I don't want people to get in trouble," said Mr. Vlad.

Mr. Vlad mentioned that of all the William and Mary students he meets, the majority are law students who often come for Happy Hour. Most undergraduates are not of age, but responded with great interest to the idea of a dance club already open in Williamsburg. "I've never heard of it, but that sounds awesome," said Olivia Houck, a junior at the College.

"We're doing great things for students," said Mr.



Shep Walker

The hidden bar: Though near campus, this bar does not attract the larger number of students that the nearby Dellites do.

Vlad. Students are offered a variety of discounts. Furthermore, "We do a lot of parties; for the sororities and fraternities," Mr. Vlad added. Alize Bistro caters a number of events, and will work within

nearly any budget.

With a dance floor within walking distance of campus, Alize Bistro will certainly attract those who need a break from the Units, but still want to enjoy nightlife.

Phi Sigma Pi combines academics with brotherhood

Meredith Wachs
Copy Chief

After two hours of assembling 1,900 invitations for eligible students' CSU's, the brothers of Phi Sigma Pi honor fraternity can't wait to begin the search for new members. Many, like Rush Advisor Megan Hermida ('11), recall their own invitation experiences. "I went with my friend to an info session because she coerced me, and I was overwhelmed by how much I liked the members of PSP. I was expecting it to be a minimal commitment, but it has become my favorite thing on campus," she says.

With around 50 members, the Gamma Psi chapter of Phi Sigma Pi may be less well known than other Greek organizations, but the co-ed fraternity is no less loved. Says Vice President Tyler Koontz ('09), "Joining Phi Sigma Pi was probably one the best decisions I could have made during my time at the College."

As an honor organization, brothers of Phi Sigma Pi participate in scholarship, service, and social events. According to the organization's website, "Phi Sigma Pi is a national co-ed honor fraternity that endeavors to foster and exemplify the principles of scholarship, leadership, and fellowship among its brothers." Favorite events of the brotherhood include attempting to paint landscapes with Bob Ross DVDs, attending honors thesis and study abroad presentations, meeting brothers from other chapters, making Easter baskets for children of military families, helping with Green and Gold Christmas, and publicizing their national philanthropy, Teach for America. In addition, Koontz says, the Gamma Psi chapter makes Relay

Joining Phi Sigma Pi was probably one the best decisions I could have made during my time at the College.

for Life a special priority, both as a local philanthropy and "an incredible and inspiring event."

Rush Committee Chair Caitlin Boverly ('10) adds that even though she joined PSP to "find a group of friends who shared my interests in academics and service," the fraternity, well, fraternizes, with plenty of social events, including kickball, dessert nights, and semiannual formals and beach retreats. Similar to social Greek organizations, Rush, Clue Week, and Big Brothers are treasured traditions. The social aspects of PSP, however, do not preclude membership in other Greek organizations. In fact, anyone who has at least a 3.0 GPA (transfer students included) and plans to graduate in December 2010 or later is invited to two information sessions this week: Wednesday, September 9 at 7 pm or Thursday, September 10 at 7:30 pm in McGlothlin-Street Hall, Room 20.

Freshmen with eligible GPAs at the end of this semester are encouraged to rush in the spring. Hermida is excited to meet a "wonderful new generation of PSP. PSPers are eclectic and join for many different reasons...some want the camaraderie, others join for the service aspect, but we all end up as brothers (even the ladies)." Email mlhermida@wm.edu for further information about becoming a brother of Phi Sigma Pi.

Drink of the Week

Barbados Slider



Jeff Dailey

Jeff Dailey
Staff Writer

A variation on the white russian, this drink is... for lack of a better word, a panty dropper. I wanted a white Russian, but I lacked vodka and kaluha. So here we go.

Ingredients

- Vanilla coffee ice cream
- Rum
- Chai tea

Directions

Mix 1 measure vanilla coffee creamer, 1 scoop coffee ice cream and 4 measures rum, brewed with chai tea.

This will cool you down, and then, when bodies do math (1+1), get you hot. I think you'll forgive my discretion.

Editors Note: The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly, and in accordance with local, state and federal law.

William and Mary in Washington offers dynamic experience in hard times

Brittany Lane
Features Editor

Washington, DC, an eternally popular attraction and destination for many William and Mary students, plays an increasingly relevant role every day, both at home and worldwide. The current economic predicament allows the federal government to grasp more of the reins in the domestic economy, shining the spotlight on DC.



Courtesy of wm.edu

Satellite campus: The William and Mary Office opened in D.C. in 2001. The office was intended to serve as the College's "embassy" in the capital.

Through the W&M in Washington Program, William & Mary students now have the opportunity to see first hand how the economic crisis of the past year has affected not only the United States as a nation, but also its economic role abroad.

This spring, the program will boast an especially timely theme: "International Politics in Economic Hard Times," taught by government professor T.J. Cheng. Students who participate in the program will have internship opportunities with a wide range of employers, including the State Department, the House and Senate Banking Committees, the World Bank, the IMF, Fannie Mae, and Freddie Mac.

The spring semester's theme is "devoted to studying greater power dynamics in economic hard times. Like major wars, economic crises can trigger the rise and fall of great powers, or power transition," writes Professor Cheng in his class description. "Some have denoted the current global financial crisis as the beginning of the end of the dollar hegemony and American economic leadership. Our aim will be to understand the origins, processes, and consequences of international economic (especially financial) crises from comparative-historical perspectives." Accordingly, the two courses this spring are "Power Transition and International Economic Crises" and "Managing International Financial Crises."

"The program is challenging," adds director Roxane Adler Hickey, "but presents students with an in-depth look at a relevant and important topic. Students who participate in the spring semester will gain real world experience in their internships, have the chance to network with current economic policy makers, and have access to unique DC resources." Students also have the chance to listen to and meet high profile guest speakers from different areas of the Washington environment.

The program is open to students of all majors. Classes are held in the W&M Washington Office in the vibrant DC neighborhood of Dupont Circle. Students receive between 6-8 credits from course work and an additional 6 credits from their internship, which demands approximately 30-35 hours per week. Students live in the The Buchanan, an apartment complex conveniently located just a short metro ride from downtown Arlington, VA, in Crystal City.

The W&M in Washington Program provides a unique opportunity for students to live, work, and study in DC while exploring their interests and furthering their careers. Contact information for "Program Ambassadors," or student alums, is provided at the website mentioned above, under the tab for Prospective Students. Also online you can find frequently asked questions and a program video.

An online application for W&M in Washington is now available at www.wm.edu/wmindc. Students interested in applying must submit their completed application no later than 5 pm on Monday, September 21. Please contact Director Roxane Adler Hickey at 202-939-4001 or roadle@wm.edu with any questions.

Blame it on the Alcohol:

How to tailgate professionally at UVA

Hart Moore
Assistant News Editor

I'm sure this is not the first article to break the news of William and Mary's epic win this Saturday. I was lucky enough to make it up to Charlottesville for the game, and while our defense was outstanding, highlighted by a 50 yard interception return from BW Webb and 5 fumbles forced by the Tribe defense, which resulted in 4 turnovers, there was a great deal more of non-athletic activity that went into event, both before and after the game. As the Beer Columnist for the Virginia Informer, I feel obligated to indulge you all in this social scene that is Charlottesville, Virginia.

Unlike William and Mary, University of Virginia tailgates are taken very seriously. For a 6 p.m. game, fraternities began congregating around noon for Virginia's first game - day of the year. Fried chicken, coleslaw, watermelon, and Pabst Blue Ribbon were all served in tremendous quantities, and these festivities will often run until after kickoff, a whopping six hours later. Sixty year old fraternity alumni will participate right alongside current brothers. Though a bit slower at chugging their beers, these sixty year olds showed no less enthusiasm for both the tasks at hand and the game ahead.

The game is often a struggle for students. With no beer served at NCAA sanctioned events, a midgame hangover can often occur. Students often combat this by migrating to the giant grass hill on the stadium's north end, where they will doctor themselves with contraband goods.

The post-game atmosphere of UVA is something to marvel at. Every street we turned down had parties spilling out of the house and across the pavement. According to Gunnar Gregory ('11), who attended this Saturday's event, "It was as if I was in heaven. The decibal levels exceeded Williamsburg ordinance by about 100 decibels. Which is a lot of decibals." The drinking scene largely revolved around Pabst Blue Ribbon, just as the tailgates had, and while hard liquor was rarely scene, the sheer amount of beer was a bit overwhelming. The sidewalks were overflowing as girls in sundresses scurried back and forth between boys in button-downs and kahki's. We grabbed a late night sub at "Little John's," one of many Wawa equivalents located on "The Corner" of Rugby Road and 14th street.

The big events of the evening were not to be



gin until around 11 pm. Rugby Road, UVA's notorious Greek row, was filled with privately hired bands and music. Unlike William and Mary's Greek system, unaffiliated students are rarely welcome, and access to the fraternity Mansions (I say mansions, not "units") was based largely on who you knew in each respective house. We were often greeted with numerous kegs on tap, and liquor caches that would have put College Delly to shame. No one could understand what a "Deli" was, and the confusion continued when I would tell them we had only three.

All of the above will not change the fact that our football team is better than theirs. Hark Upon the Gale!

Editors Note: The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly, and in accordance with local, state and federal law.



Rounds at the Rotunda: Partying at the University of Virginia has several distinctions from William and Mary. A popular drink there is Pabst Blue Ribbon beer.

Hart Moore

New noise ordinance: students, hush!

Sarah Nadler
Managing Editor

Are you planning on purchasing that new surround sound system for your off campus home? Thinking of hosting a small party that would go past 11 o'clock? Hoping to learn how to play the drums in your spare time? Think again, it seems the Williamsburg City Council might spoil your plans for the foreseeable future.

In an April 17, 2009 decision, the Virginia Supreme court struck down the City of Virginia Beach's noise control law. The law previously defined excessive noise as sound that would "offend a reasonable person." The Court's decision in *Tanner, et al. v. City of Virginia Beach* found Virginia Beach's noise ordinance too subjective, so amendments were necessary. Since the city of Williamsburg used the same vague "reasonable person" standard as Virginia Beach, the law in Williamsburg had to be changed as well. The Williamsburg City Council met on August 13 to amend their noise ordinance to create a standard for issuing violations and to specify the amount of noise allowed. The Williamsburg City Council unanimously approved the amendments to the ordinance.

If there is any good news about this new law in Williamsburg, it is that it is objective. The City Council's seven page amendment makes it very clear what is and what is not allowed between 11 o'clock p.m. and 7 o'clock a.m.. The catch is that unless you plan on speak-

ing in sign language, watching TV with closed caption, or installing sound proof walls, you are most likely going to break the law. This is especially true if you live in one of the two family homes common to Williamsburg. Your neighbors can now get you in trouble with the police just for having a few friends over, listening to your music or watching a movie after 11 p.m. Yes, this is true.

Normal conversation averages around 60 decibels. Under the new law, you can speak no louder than 65 decibels between 11 and 7. Sound devices also must be below 65 decibels. Vacuum cleaners, hair dryers and dishwashers all exceed this limit. Laughter commonly registers as around 65 decibels, so you can imagine how much this law will limit the amount of normal college fun one can have in Williamsburg. This is extremely poignant because most students move off campus to avoid the strict rules of on-campus residence halls that enforce quiet hours and police the amount of people going in and out of dorm rooms.

Official campus events such as those sponsored by the school or the alumni house, military events, religious ceremonies and emergency sirens are exempt from the law. Fraternity dance parties are not excused and it is vague whether this law applies to the College Deli, Paul's and the Leaf. However, is now illegal to operate a loud vehicle, collect garbage or begin construction between 11 and 7.

400 noise violations were issued in Williamsburg last year, but few went to court under the previous ordinance.

Sec. 12-72.

Specific prohibitions.

(2) Radios, television sets, musical instruments and similar devices.

Operating, playing or permitting the operation or playing of any radio, television, compact disc player, or other sound reproduction device, or any drum, musical instrument, or similar device between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

(8) Large party nuisance. *Plainly audible sound that continues unabated for thirty (30) minutes or more, and emanates from a gathering of ten (10) or more people where the gathering is not completely contained within a structure, but spills outdoors into balconies, yards, common areas, parking lots, or other outdoor spaces and is plainly audible across a property line.*

demeanor.

The new Williamsburg noise law went into effect August 23, right in time for the return of William and Mary students. Coincidence or not, the law had an impact on the back to school party scene. Parties at 333 Richmond Road and 219 Harrison Avenue dealt with neighbor complaints and police intervention that resulted in several noise ordinance violations the first week of school. The new law has armed the Williamsburg Police with sound level meters turned the already fanatical police force into a party ending machine. The funny thing is that many of the "parties" they are ending are not even parties, just small gatherings of WM students looking to relax with their friends in off campus home. Williamsburg is looking more and more like the town from Footloose each day.

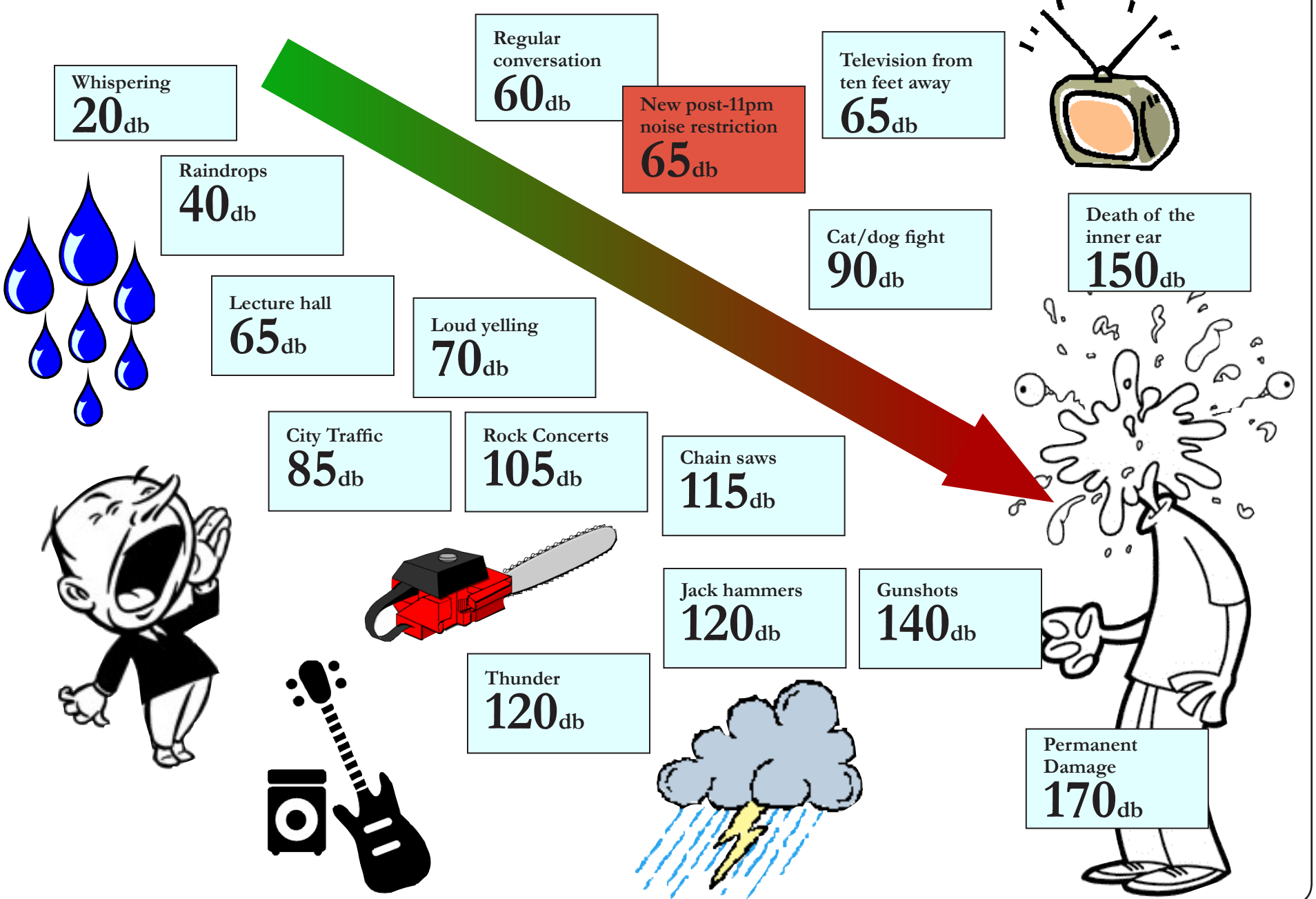
There is reason to worry. William and Mary already faces a bad reputation when it comes to campus life. If you search William and Mary on Urban dictionary, you will see the College defined as the place "Where fun goes to die" and "Where nothing has been fun since 1693." According to the Princeton Review's section on student life, "Off-campus parties are popular, but they get busted a lot" and "W&M can be draconian toward drinking." This isn't true, or didn't use to be. Regardless of whether the law was aimed to end off campus parties, the noise control ordinance will undoubtedly affect the occasional off-campus party, small and large alike.

Now, with specific regulations, offenders will be expected to cough up the dough if they break the law.

Anyone considered to be in violation of the noise ordinance will be deemed guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor and, upon conviction, will be punished by a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for the first offense. The second offense within a twelve month time period carries the price tag of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and is raised to a Class 1 mis-

How loud is too loud? Let's see...

Williamsburg's new noise ordinance is based on a strict decibel limit. See how Williamsburg's new noise ordinance compares to everyday occurrences.



Amid budget cuts, raises for senior administrators

Mike Watson
Editor at Large

Tough economic times and a budget crunch at the college have not had an impact on administrator salaries. In fact, according to materials provided to The Informer in compliance with a FOIA request, total administrator salaries rose from their 2007-2008 levels in the past year, with the College spending over \$34.5 million on its 439 administrative staff, up from \$29.5 million on 414 administrative staff last year.

Individual administrators saw raises in the 2-6 percent range, with a handful of administrators taking no raises at all and some taking up to 20% increases with no increase in responsibilities. The average administrator's salary in 2008-2009 was approximately \$79,000, an increase of \$8000 between 2007-08.

The College's highest-paid administrator was President Reveley, who saw his pay rise with his office from

\$319,300 in 2007-08 to \$332,100 in 2008-09. This is below President Nichol's salary of \$339,172 during his last year at the college.

Those earning over \$250,000 included Provost Feiss (\$296,100) and Lawrence Pulley (\$280,275), the Dean of the Mason School of Business. Vice President for Development Sean Pieri earned \$249,600, while the Interim Dean of the Marshall-Wythe School of Law Lynda Butler made \$240,000.

Vice Provost Dennis Manos (\$218,400), Dean of the School of Education Virginia McLaughlin (\$200,600), Dean of Arts and Sciences Carl Strikwerda (\$200,600), and Director of VIMS John Wells (\$200,600) all broke the \$200,000 mark, with Vice President for Administration Anna Martin falling short, at \$196,800.

The highest-paid member of the athletics department was not head football coach Jimmye Laycock, who saw his pay increase 2% to \$179,400, but Men's Basketball Head Coach Tony Shaver, who received a \$63,000 pay

increase, putting his compensation at \$180,000.

Vice President for Student Affairs Virginia Ambler also received a significant rise in compensation due to her promotion to the position, as her pay increased by \$42,000 to \$120,000, which is significantly lower than former VPSA Samuel Sadler's 2007-08 salary of \$205,000.

James Golden, the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, earned a \$35,900 increase, with his pay now \$187,800. Chief Investment Officer Frank Hiestand was also paid \$30,000 more for his services in 2008-09 than in the previous year, bringing his pay to \$180,000. Vice President for Finance Sam Jones also received a raise of \$20,000, bringing his compensation to \$193,000. Proving that financial minds did not profit alone in the past year, Muscarelle Museum of Art Director Aaron De Groft saw his pay rise by \$36,000 to \$150,000.

Name	Position	07-08 Salary	08-09 Salary
Taylor Reveley	President	\$319,300*	\$332,100
Geoff Feiss	Provost	\$287,500	\$296,100
Lawrence Pulley	Business School Dean	\$272,075	\$280,275
Sean Pieri	VP of Development	\$240,000	\$249,600
Lynda Butler	Interm Law Dean	\$200,700	\$240,000

* Mr. Reveley served as Dean of the Law School at this time.

** Ms. Ambler served as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at this time.

Name	Position	07-08 Salary	08-09 Salary
Dennis M. Manos	Vice Provost	\$210,600	\$218,400
Virginia McLaughlin	Dean of School of Education	\$192,900	\$200,600
Carl Strikwerda	Dean of Arts and Sciences	\$192,900	\$200,600
Virginia Ambler	Vice President for Student Affairs	\$78,000**	\$120,000
Sam Sadler	Frmr Vice Presedent for Student Affairs	\$205,000	N/A
Gene Nichol	Frmr President	\$339,172	N/A



NEW DRUG AMNESTY POLICY: School extends alcohol "amnesty" to drugs

continued from page one

proposal. Members of the committee included Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Constantine, representatives of the Student Health Center, and Dean David Gilbert, director of the Student Conduct office. The committee ultimately recommended that the change be made.

Efforts were guided by Ben Brown ('11) who met with college administrators in support of the change. Mr. Brown made what was likely the first public announcement of the policy change at the Student Assembly's meeting on September 1.

President Reveley was the ultimate decision maker on this matter. He told *The Informer* that "When a student needs medical help because of intoxication (whatever the cause of the intoxication), we want no obstacles in the path of his or her getting that help."

Mr. Reveley notes that previously "a fear of sanctions for violating College policies could be such an obstacle [to seeking medical attention]." However, he maintains that legal troubles associated with illegal drug possession are high and that "it remains the case that getting seriously intoxicated makes no sense."

Vice President for Student Affairs Ginger Ambler was another key player in determining this policy. Ms. Ambler notes that after the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Committee recommended the change be enacted she "recommended and President Reveley approved this important policy

change."

Ms. Ambler mentions that "if someone seeks medical attention due to a concern for health or safety, the Dean of Students Office will not pursue student conduct sanctions against the student for violations of the Alcohol Beverage Policy or Drug Policy of the Code of Conduct.

Dean of Student Conduct David Gilbert supported the changes that are now in effect. Although punishment will not be given for such emergencies, counseling and educational requirements may be assigned by his office, and future violations of college policy may result in more severe punishments. Mr. Gilbert was unable to be reached for comment on this story.

Ben Brown, who worked extensively on the push for "drug amnesty" says of the new policy, "As a 'preemptive' measure, I hope students at the College never find themselves in the potentially life threatening situation in which the policy would apply."

It remains to be seen if this policy has any tangible effect on campus. The College of William and Mary is noted for being a locale of sober study rather than out of control partying. RAs were briefed about how to conduct themselves in incidents involving this new form of amnesty prior to the Fall semester.

Ms. Ambler points out that "drug amnesty" applies only to college sanctions and that "the College's Medical Amnesty Policy cannot prevent action by police or other law enforcement personnel."

PILOT RECYCLING PROGRAM: New recycling program will save College thousands, says research findings

continued from page one

a per-pickup system to a scheduled service, prices for the program will drop significantly.

"This is a fantastic change for recycling at W&M," said the new William and Mary sustainability fellow, Phillip Zapfel. "Partly because the recycling program is now under budget for the first time in years, and partly because the new contract's monetary savings means that recycling is now cheaper per ton for the College to process than solid waste." By recycling more, it is possible that the College will save even more money than the \$40,000 estimated in Mr. Koontz and Ms. Sclafani's findings.

This was an unprecedented finding by summer interns at the College. The investigation and the internships were fund-

ed by the Green Fees initiative that was passed in 2008 a referendum on the Student Assembly ballot and later enacted by the Board of Visitors.

Samantha Lockhart ('10), co-facilitator of SEAC, added "this is just one example of student initiated Green Fees paying for themselves by avoiding the cost of previously overpriced recycling initiatives, and supporting sustainability research."

Mr. Zapfel said, "I fully support the contract changes, not only for the monetary savings to the College, but for the economic incentives the College now has to increase recycling and divert more materials from the waste stream. If recycling is cheaper than trash, not only can we recycle more than ever, but we can save money while doing so."



Shep Walker

Restructured recycling: A student-led initiative to alter the College's recycling pick-up schedule has resulted in massive future savings.

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Nooks & Crannies of William and Mary

Notable characters shaped the College's history

Most are relatively unknown to current students

Daisy Weill
Contributor

The College of William and Mary boasts dozens of famous professors. While famous alumni such as Thomas Jefferson, Glenn Close, and Jon Stewart usually steal the spotlight, students at the College have had the opportunity to learn from the best, too. George Wythe, a signer of the Declaration of Independence who attended the Constitutional Convention and helped design Virginia's Sic Semper Tyrannis state seal, became the first law professor in the United States at William and Mary. William Barton Rogers was graduated from William and Mary and later taught at the College for seven years. Rogers went on to found the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Among these distinguished professors, however, is one with a more infamous past.

The name Goronwy Owen draws blank stares from most William and Mary students, but in Wales, Owen commands attention as one of the country's most famous poets. Born in Wales in 1723, Goronwy Owen created a respectable life for himself before traveling to Virginia. Owen served in the church as a deacon and moved often, accepting work at several Welsh schools. Owen's unique style revived bardic poetry, a traditional Welsh form once commonly used by artists to lavishly praise their patrons but which was quickly disappearing due to the Anglicization of the country. His work quickly gained literary attention, and his style heavily influenced Welsh poets well into the nineteenth century. Proud of his work, Owen quit his job near Liverpool, believing that he could quickly find work in London at the Society of Cymmrodorion, an esteemed Welsh literary society. The group instead temporarily placed him as a deacon outside of London before sending him to William and Mary to serve as headmaster of its grammar school.

When Owen moved to Virginia in 1757, his life made a drastic turn for the worse. On the journey over, his wife and only daughter died of disease. Thrown into the rough and tumble world of unbearable heat, unruly teenagers, and a tense political climate while mourning the death of his family, Goronwy Owen



Storied history: Students have for centuries passed the statue of Lord Botetourt in front of the Wren building. But, many lesser-known figures in the College's history have left their mark.

did not adjust well to life as a William and Mary professor. Even though the Board of Visitors mandated that all professors live at the College as unmarried bachelors, Owen quickly remarried. This second marriage was to the College's housekeeper and sister of Thomas Dawson, president of the College.

Goronwy Owen quickly became friends with another professor at the College, Jacob Rower, professor of moral philosophy. They soon gained notoriety for their outbursts at House of Burgesses sessions, public drunkenness, and their prolific use of swear words. The Board of Visitors accused them of trying to "destroy the regular authority of the President of the College." The Rector of the College, Lieutenant Governor Fauquier, and the Board of Visitors repeatedly admonished Jacob Rower for his unseemly behavior, but Owen managed to escape rebuke until 1759. In winter of that year, Owen and Rower led students in a mob attack against the "apprentices and unwashed artificers" in town. While the reasons behind this attack are unknown, the armed crowd led by Owen and a pistol-wielding Rower

quickly drove the young locals out of Williamsburg.

Jacob Rower proved more enthusiastic in the frenzied endeavor than Owen. When Peyton Randolph, Williamsburg's House of Burgesses representative, approached Rower in an effort to dispel the mob, Rower shoved his pistol against Randolph's chest and threatened all who tried to obstruct his efforts to protect the College's honor. Not unexpectedly, the College quickly dismissed Rower, and he quietly returned to England.

Perhaps due to his smaller role in leading the armed mob, or possibly due to his status as brother-in-law to President Dawson, the College gave Goronwy Owen the opportunity to resign, which he smartly did. Goronwy Owen spent his final years as a parson at St. Andrews Church in New Brunswick.

While Goronwy Owen never returned to William and Mary, the memory of him remains. In 1957, the Society of Cymmrodorion donated a plaque to the school to honor him. Written in both Welsh and English, the plaque can be found on the third floor of Swem Library.

UPCOMING CONCERTS:

Joshua Radin
9/9
Norfolk, VA
8 p.m. \$15

Journey w/ Night Ranger
9/9
Richmond, VA
7:30 p.m. \$37.50-\$59.75

The Decemberists
9/23
Norfolk, VA
8 p.m. \$27.50

Buju Banton
9/25/2009
Norfolk, VA
10 p.m. \$30

Buju Banton
9/26/2009
Richmond, VA
10 p.m. \$28.50

Lady Gaga
9/28/2009
Richmond, VA
8 p.m. \$30

Blink 182
10/2/2009
Virginia Beach, VA
6:30 p.m. \$63-\$190

Psychedelic Furs, Islands
10/4/2009
Norfolk, VA
7:30 p.m. \$22.50

Grizzly Bear
10/6/2009
Norfolk, VA
8 p.m. \$19

Insane Clown Posse
10/16/2009
Norfolk, VA
8 p.m. \$25

Social Distortion
10/18/2009
Norfolk, VA NorVa
8 p.m. \$27.50

**Lamb of God, GWAR,
Job for a Cowboy**
10/20/2009
Norfolk, VA
7:30 p.m. \$32

The Gaslight Anthem
10/21/2009
Richmond, VA
7 p.m. \$18

Paramore
10/24/2009
Norfolk, VA
7:30 p.m. \$27.50

Brian Wilson
10/31/2009
Virginia Beach, VA
8 p.m. \$43-\$69

*All prices are in advance

The Finer Side:

The 50th anniversary of Hawaiian statehood

“Aloha” is a small word that represents a very large feeling. It is the Hawaiian word for both “hello” and “good-bye,” but it also can denote a spirit of love, good intentions, congratulations, and best wishes. It is said that Hawai’i is the “Land of Aloha,” referring to the welcoming spirit and warmth of the Hawaiian people. Hawai’i, a tropical paradise with incredible beaches and natural scenery, has a unique history and culture all its own. And it would seem that the state’s 50th anniversary is a great occasion to reflect on its incredible history.

Hawai’i existed first as a chain of independent island kingdoms. In the early nineteenth century, King Kamehameha I (also known as Kamehameha the Great) brought the islands together under a united rule. From then until the overthrow of the monarchy in 1892, the Hawaiian Islands were ruled under a united kingdom. Throughout its history, Hawai’i enjoyed a positive relationship with both the United States and the United Kingdom. American businessmen traveled to the Islands to take advantage of the lucrative sugar and pineapple industries. Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson even journeyed to the Pacific in 1888, where he befriended Princess Victoria Kaiulani.

Under King David Kalakaua, Hawai’i began to experience a renaissance in indigenous culture and take on many of the characteristics we associate with the state today. Kalakaua encouraged the teaching and practice of hula, the traditional Hawaiian dance that had earlier been outlawed by Christian missionaries. Iolani Palace, completed in 1882, was outfitted with many new technologies of the time, including indoor plumbing, a modern communications system, and new electric lights to replace the old gas lamps.



Jennifer Souers
The Finer Side

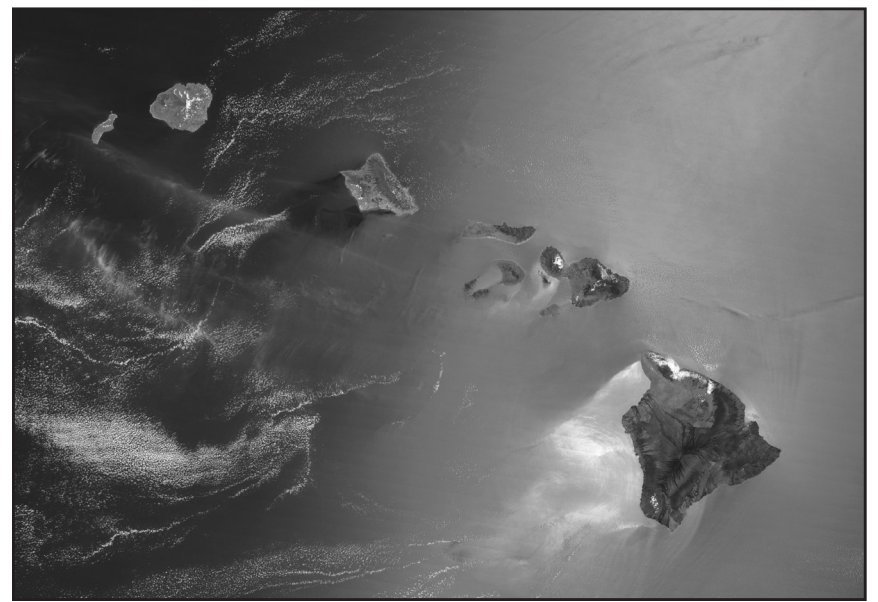
While Hawaiian culture continued to flourish under Queen Liliuokalani, Kalakaua’s successor, Hawaiian foreign relations began to sour. Liliuokalani indicated her disapproval of the power American and foreign businessmen had and began to take steps to limit their influence on Hawaiian politics. In response to her actions, American businessmen orchestrated the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, with the Islands becoming an official U.S. territory in 1900.

The process toward official statehood would take another 59 years. The first bill for statehood was introduced to Congress in 1919, but it was soundly defeated. The Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 and the following events of WWII interrupted the process of Hawaiian statehood, with Hawai’i then being placed under martial law. After WWII ended, a combined international push towards decolonization and the fear of communism began a move toward immediate statehood for Hawai’i. And though there were many outspoken advocates against statehood, including people concerned about the preservation of traditional rights and privileges of native Hawaiians, the bill for Hawaiian statehood not only eventually passed both houses of Congress in 1959, but was also ratified by Hawaiian voters. Out of 155,000 registered voters in 1959, 132,773 votes were cast in favor of statehood.

As a state, Hawai’i represents a cross-section of

America and its diversity. There is an emphasis placed on keeping old traditions alive; many schools teach the Hawaiian language to students as a regular part of the curriculum, hula is a very popular sport and art with competitions all over the state, and Hawaiian food and art practices, like poi and lei making, are becoming more recognized. But alongside the old traditions, new technologies are being developed. Hawai’i is a leader in environmental research and protection. Sea Life Park, on Oahu, is home to the only two “wholphins” – crosses between bottlenosed dolphins and false killer whales – kept in captivity.

Today, Hawai’i is the idyllic paradise, the land we dream of escaping to. It is most definitely a heaven on earth, but it is also a land of history and a culture uniquely its own. It is with both celebration and reflection we honor the 50th anniversary of the 50th state.



Courtesy of NASA.gov



Kimball Theatre

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Live Performances

Founding Fathers

Sept. 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29
Shows at 1:15 pm

Our First First Lady Remembers

Sept. 13, 20, 27
Shows at 11:30 am

Xiayin Wang

Sept. 16
Shows at 7:30 pm

Fiddeworks

Sept. 22, 29
Shows at 10:30 am

Jamestown Lecture: A Tale of Two Islands

Sept. 22
Shows at 7 pm

Pirates of the Chemotherapy

Sept. 25, 27
Shows at 8 pm

September Schedule

Movies

Whatever Works

Rated: PG-13
Sept. 7, 9, 11
Shows at 4:30 and 6:30 pm

Away We Go

Rated: R
Sept. 8, 10, 12-14
Shows at 4:45 and 6:45 pm

Easy Virtue

Rated: PG-13
Sept. 15-17
Shows at 4:30 and 6:30 pm

Cheri

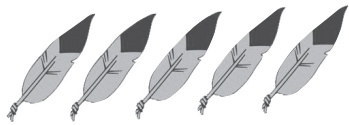
Rated: R
Sept. 18-19, 22-24
Shows at 4:45 and 6:45 pm

Moon

Rated: R
Sept. 25-28 and Sept. 30- Oct. 1
Shows at 4:30 and 6:30 pm

Inglorious Basterds is Nazi-killin' fun

Patrick Macaluso
Film Critic



First off, I am not a fan of Quentin Tarantino and never have been. I didn't even enjoy Pulp Fiction – at least not to its hype. While watching *Inglorious Basterds*, I was actively trying to find ways to disagree with the almost unanimously favorable reviews. Alas, I am humbled for the first time in a long time, because I found nothing! The film is virtually flawless and will easily go down as a classic in the canon of American film.

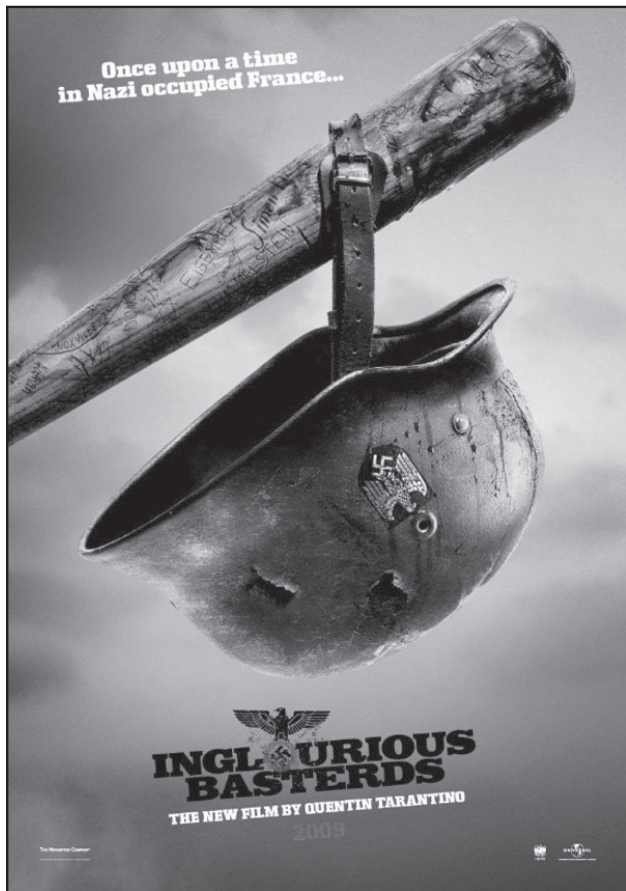
What is it about? In true Tarantino form, there are multiple plot lines: one involving a girl who escaped murder at the hands of a notorious Nazi killer; one involving spies attempting to get information out of Nazi soldiers; and one involving a group of Jewish American soldiers known as the 'Basterds,' whose only goal is to kill any Nazi in sight and cut off their scalp. The plot was mainly driven by dialogue. As such, every word is important, and bathroom breaks are not recommended. The violence was brutal, perhaps ad nauseam, but, as it is a wartime film, it helped enhance the reality of the brutal times. The storyline is complex, but not to the point where one has trouble keeping up. And there are many twists and turns that will keep the viewer eager for more.

The acting was equally stunning. There are too many stand out performances to describe them all, but there are five names that may be thrown around come award season: Christopher Waltz and Brad Pitt for Lead Actor, Mélanie Laurent for Lead Actress, Daniel Brühl for Supporting Actor, and Diane

Kruger for Supporting Actress. It would not be surprising to see more. Even the more minor roles in the film were well acted and well coordinated.

Finally, the director deserves credit. This perfect composition of dialogue, action, acting, sound, and cinematography will likely be studied by film students in the future as an example of perfection in film making. The dialogue is engaging, though at different times, three languages are spoken. The action is shocking at times. The acting is spot on. The score combined irony and reality perfectly. Most viewers will probably want to see it again, and will not feel burdened enduring a second viewing of the two and a half hour film. Every aspect of this film works, and Quentin Tarantino absolutely deserves recognition this award season.

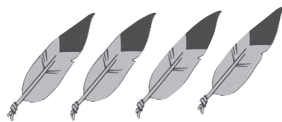
I am usually very hesitant to give away the top grade for a film, but this one needs no hesitation. In every aspect possible, the film was perfect, and it has set the bar so far for the best film of 2009. A solid five feathers.



Music Review:

The xx debut an original hybrid of indie and pop

Jack Evans
Music Critic



If the critics have their way, 2009 will be remembered as the year of the formerly "experimental" indie rock band embracing pop songwriting (read: Animal Collective, Grizzly Bear, and Dirty Projectors). It's an understatement to say the least. Sure, you might say the Dirty Projectors' *Bitte Orca* is their most accessible record to date, but you wouldn't really be saying much. The two that came before it were a concept album centering on a suicidal Don Henley and an equally perverse song-by-song cover of Black Flag's *Damaged*.

So when the DP's frontman Dave Longstreth goes out of his way to express his great admiration for T-Pain in interviews, it's not quite that I don't believe him -- it just feels like a gimmick. Don't even get me started on the forthcoming Grizzly Bear/Michael McDonald collaboration.

Enter The xx, a British group of four twenty-year-olds (two guys and two girls), whose self-titled debut is the truest, most self-assured hybrid of indie rock and post-millennial pop I've ever heard.

The xx have a sound that is so difficult to pin down, after a while I just stopped caring. On the surface, they are a post-punk band. Sonically, The xx is full of post-punk hallmarks: intricate bass line on "Islands," the glacial single note guitar riff on "Fantasy,"

and the vaguely danceable drum beat at the end of "Heart Skips a Beat." But these familiar conventions are applied to a set of understated pop songs about teen love written by two people who are still young enough to write convincingly about such things.

Romy Madley Croft and Oliver Sim's shared vocal duty plays out like a hushed game of he said/she said. They both have appealingly plain voices. Sim in particular sounds less like a frontman and more like a guy singing softly to himself alone in the car or walking down a deserted street. Croft achieves an earnest, unself-conscious soulfulness.

But while the vocal interplay of Croft and Sim is impressive, the two also succeed on their own. On "Fantasy" Sim delivers a vocal over a slow motion dreamscape, which is immediately followed by Croft's "Shelter," which may be my favorite song on the album. Listen to how the drums and bass drop out of the mix at the beginning of the verse and return right as Croft is singing, "Maybe I have said some that was wrong / Can I make it better with the lights turned on."

It is one moment of restrained and deliberate pop craftsmanship on a debut album that is full of them. Four feathers.

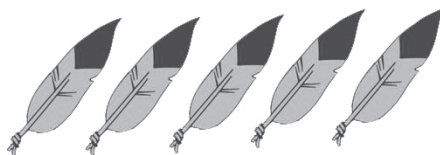


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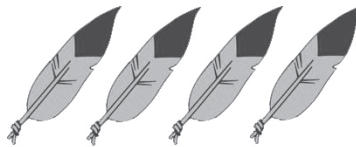
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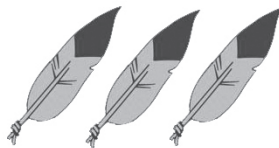
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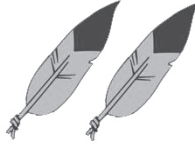
Excellent



Good



Average



Poor



Terrible

OPINION

Staff Editorial:

Financial cutbacks must apply to everyone

In times of economic trouble, we are all called upon to make sacrifices in the interest of a brighter future. All are called upon to curb wasteful spending and to manage our resources so we may move forward into an uncertain future. Everyone is asked, in essence, to do more with less. It is unnerving that the College has seen fit to disregard this memorandum by raising the salaries of its administrators.

We believe such an attitude on the part of publicly-paid civil servants to be inappropriate and detrimental to the well being of civil society. When the College asked the Tribe community to swallow a steep tuition increase, we grudgingly accepted the measure, and we agreed that we had to move forward in the midst of drastic budget cuts announced late last year. Now we are disappointed and dismayed to learn that the administration feels that such sacrifices apply to the whole College except them. If the administration expects us to believe that they have the well being of those other than themselves at heart, then they would do well to alter their budget proposals. This behavior suggests at best indifference, at worst callousness.

As intelligent young men and women, students at the College believe in maintaining ethical and moral integrity in both our public and private lives. It is why we take so seriously the Honor Code from which we draw the principles that are what it means to be one of the Tribe. Section 1.1 of the College of William and Mary Honor System states that the freedom that comes with the Honor Code requires a "spirit of mutual trust." We at *The Informer* believe that this misuse of resources hampers a continued trust between the administration and the college community. While we are not so presumptuous as to categorically state that the administration has violated it, we do believe that their actions are contrary to the spirit of the Honor Code.

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[Administrative raises] represent an abdication and a dereliction of the principles of responsible public administration.

We do not question the administration's commitment to maintaining the College's status as one of the nation's greatest universities; we question only how they think they can accomplish such lofty goals while doing as they have done. To demand from Tribe families more of their hard-earned money only to spend it with such lack of regard for common decency represents an abdication and a dereliction of the principles of responsible public administration. We sincerely hope that the administration of the College has acted with all due integrity and that our fears are unfounded, but we are left with few ways of explaining this pay raise in a positive light.

Against the City Council of Williamsburg

For how long, City Council of Williamsburg, will you try our patience? How long is that madness of yours still to mock us? Where is the end of your unbridled ambition, swaggering about as it does now? Does not the protestation of your fellow residents, the students of William and Mary, with their cries of injustice, does not the unity of all good students, does not the precautions taken by them to secure their rights have any effect upon you? Do you not see that we do not take your persecution lying down? Do you not see that we understand that in your meetings you produce cruel and tyrannical laws that compromise our freedom?



Alexander Powell
Opinion Editor

us of our rights! We know their persecution of us will not end by itself. We must affect it. Truly we should be ashamed. Within us we have the power to prevent our rights from being stripped from us by tyrants and yet we sit idle. There are among us students who are not registered, their voices remaining unheard. We must unite. We must place one of our own on the city council or our rights shall be further prey.

There are some among us who do not see this danger hanging over us, or they conceal what they see. They have fueled the ambition of the Council by mild sentiments. They hoped that in acquiescing, favorable concessions would be gained at a later time. This people are

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not wicked but rather naïve. But truly now, after these most recent decisions by the council, there is no person so foolish to not see we need change, no person so hard as to not admit it. Our voice must truly be heard or all is lost.

Action, bold and decisive, must be taken. Every student must feel it their duty to register in Williamsburg and restore their rights and the rights of their fellow students. It is an issue that will affect us all in time if we do not act. We now have the chance to force real change. Council elections are approaching. We can no longer stand to be prey for the paranoid prejudices of the City Council. We cannot bear it, we cannot suffer it, we cannot allow it. Register, unite, and strike a victory for justice!

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Thank you from all of us at
The Virginia Informer

The Informer is an independent publication and does not receive any public funding, unlike other publications at William and Mary.

We would like to especially recognize some of our private supporters.

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This paper is produced for the benefit of students at the College and is available at no cost for members of the greater Williamsburg community. However, copies should be taken only if they are meant to be read and enjoyed. In the event an individual or group prevents these copies from being enjoyed by others, the cost to that individual or group will be \$15 per copy.

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Meetings on Mondays, 7:30pm in Blow 331

Camp William and Mary: Tales from Freshman Orientation

“Busy,” “eventful,” “expositional,” “bland,” “informational,” “overwhelming,” there is absolutely no single word to encompass all that Orientation is. There are, however, two words to describe this five-day spree of havoc: summer camp. With fun Orientation Aides, dreadfully long presentations in the PB and J (oops, the PBK), and a packed schedule running from eight a.m. to midnight, this crash course on life at William and Mary is completely consuming to all involved.



Heather McCormic
Contributor

paths to destinations unknown make the experience exciting! But isn't orientation a bit extreme?

After being accepted into one of the most prestigious institutions of higher learning in the United States, you would think that the class of 2013 would have common sense enough to look into the William and Mary community, its diversity, its academic standings, and its policies before move-in day. I know I did, and I think one would be hard pressed to find a freshman who didn't.

Unfortunately, orientation assumes you know absolutely nothing about William and Mary, and life in general, and starts from scratch. I think we have to be at least somewhat smart to be attending the College, so why all these repetitive and patronizing sessions? Maybe some free time would be more enjoyable

than these many seemingly pointless presentations.

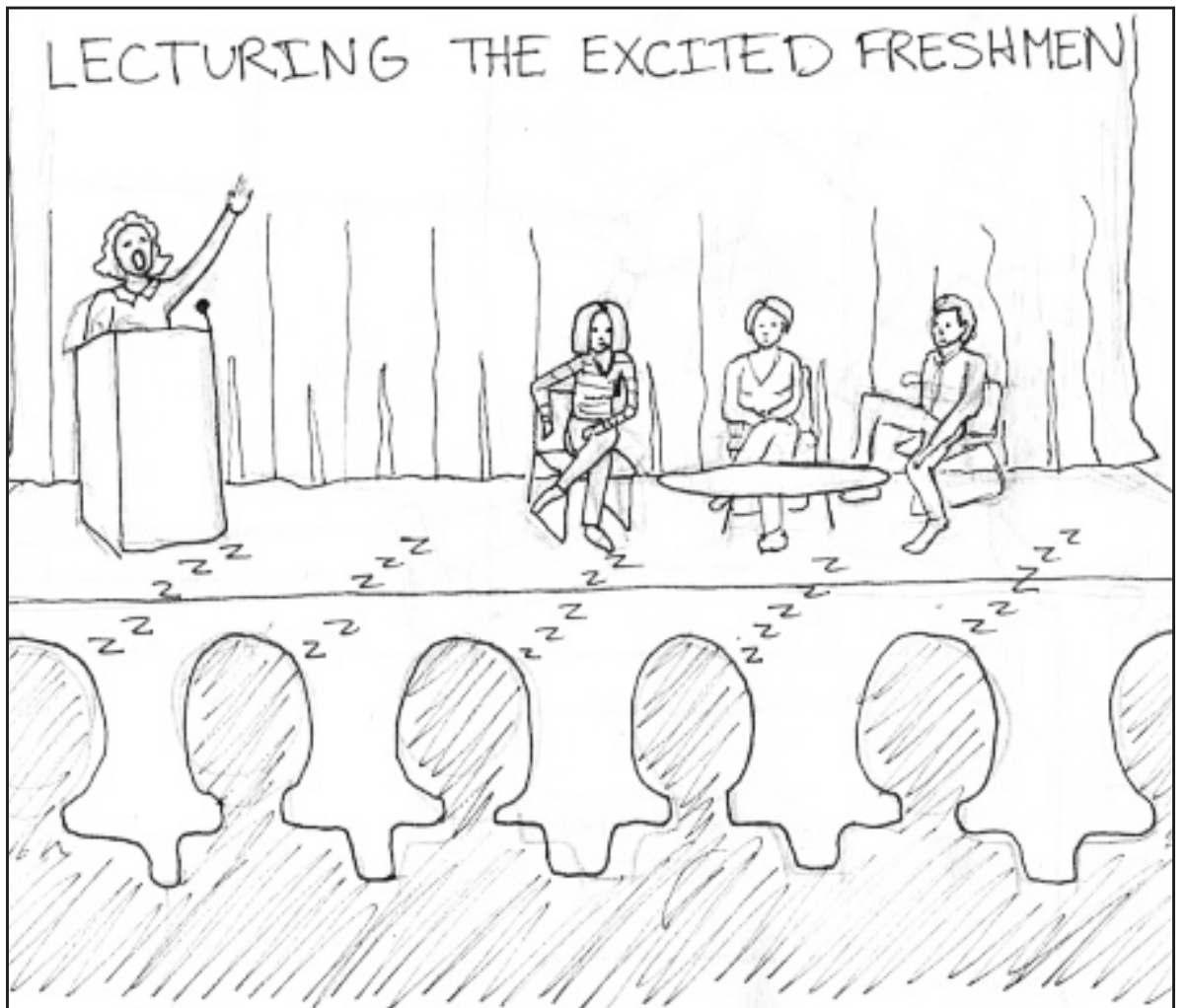
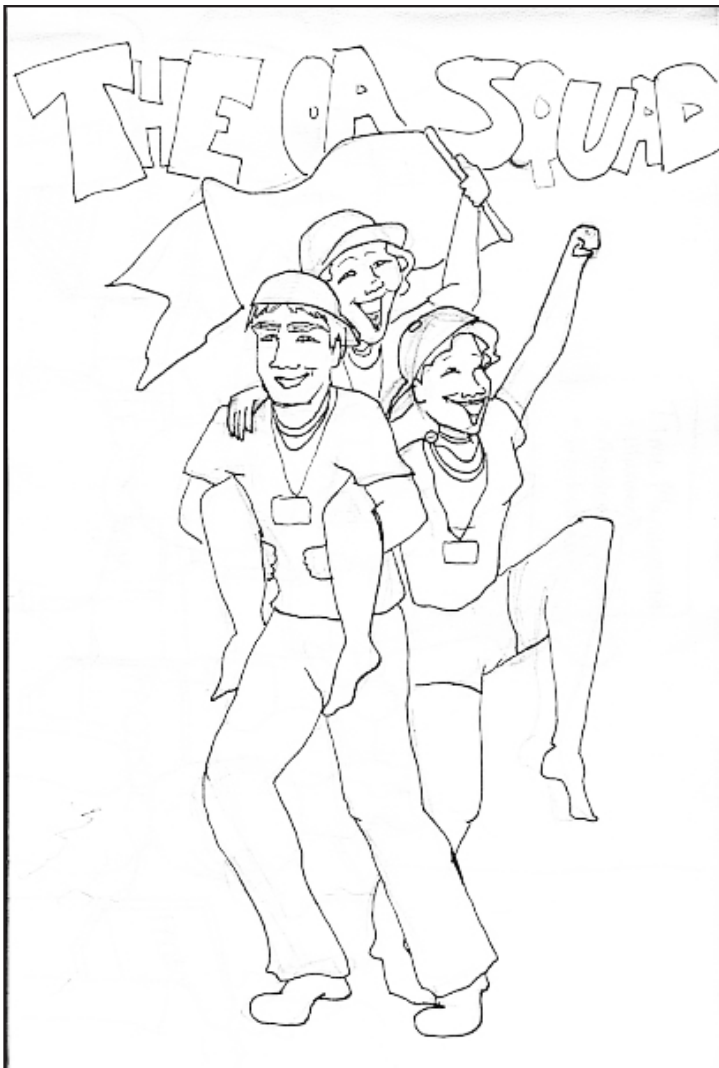
Simply put, every hour of our collegiate summer camp is scheduled; residence hall members are herded from one activity to another like lambs, making me feel like I was on a fourth grade field trip. Even mixers with the guys and gals in neighboring dorms are mandatory. Awkward! What a turn off! Instead, why not delegate that time to be used for tours of the campus? Or explaining the bus system? Throw us a bone, give us a tour, or we are going to need a bigger map.

After circulating around various residence halls and random hang out

spots like the Sadler Center and the Caf, I discovered that some of the main concerns of freshman entering campus life were never addressed during orientation. The use of Blackboard tops many lists on what new freshman need to know about, yet it is not covered at all in the many orientation tutorials. A staple to W&M life, Blackboard should be discussed at least in residence hall meetings to ensure that new students can find their syllabi *before* professors ask if everyone has completed the first assignment. As the College becomes “digitally enhanced,” new students need to understand how to use the resources given to them, especially this link to courses online. Orientation never mentions this all important resource.

However no matter the faults, excesses, or patronizing nature of this organized chaos, I can thank orientation for the bonding experiences that epitomized this phase of my freshman year.

Residence hall members are herded from one activity to another like lambs, making me feel like I was on a fourth grade field trip.



All comics by Reland Happel



Go Greek

Although most freshmen haven't yet realized this, William and Mary's social scene often leaves something to be desired. Williamsburg is home to three popular bars that enforce the drinking age, sporting events that suffer from low attendance, and coffee shops that close by 10 p.m. Dorms are well policed by R.A.s and "open house" parties are rare. When the dust settles three weeks from now and the lull of the semester creeps over this quiet town, many freshmen will wonder why they didn't go Greek. But while access to social events may seem like the biggest reason for going Greek at W&M to some people, there are even more compelling reasons to join.



Bert Mueller
Executive Editor



Sarah Nadler
Managing Editor

Go Greek because fraternities and sororities act as social bases within the greater Tribe. Belonging to a Greek organization is a great way to expand your knowledge of what is happening on campus, both academically and socially. You will experience

the diversity of William and Mary firsthand through friendships with individuals with similar interests, but different backgrounds and insights. Furthermore, the "big" system allows older members of a Greek organization to take new members under their wing, introducing them to all aspects of college life. Traditions are passed on through Greek "families," making one feel like they are part of the unique history of their chapter. This smaller network within each chapter creates life long bonds and a loyalty that are unparalleled by any other relationships one will experience in college.

Go Greek because Greeks are leaders and active members of the William and Mary community. For instance, almost 75% of SA senators are Greek. Greeks edit numerous campus publications. Most members of the honor council are Greek. And as for life after college, the numbers say it best. Greeks head 43 of America's 50 largest corporations and 30% of all fortune 500 companies. Additionally, Greeks give approximately 75% of all money donated to universities. Studies also prove that Fraternity and Sorority Alumni are much more likely than non-Greeks to participate in community service activities after graduation.

Go Greek because it's fun. Date parties, formals, tabs, homecoming and trips off-campus will probably be the best days and nights of your college career. Students at W&M take themselves and their work very seriously and sometimes just need to let



Joanna Sandager

Social science: Members of Chi Omega and their dates dress up in vintage clothes costing less than five dollars for their annual 1980's themed dance party, "5 dollar prom."

loose and dress up in some crazy theme costume (think \$5 dollar prom and jock jams) and dance the night away with friends. Even the philanthropies are fun. Believe it or not, community service events are the place to be. Greek organizations at the College raise money for a myriad of causes through hosting fun philanthropies such as campus golf, Moonball, karaoke and derby days.

Detractors paint the Greek system as nothing more than a bunch of judgmental alcoholics paying for friends. Although we cannot speak for other schools, this couldn't be further from the truth at William and Mary. Different fraternities and sororities cater to different tastes so everybody can find an organization that matches their interests. By paying dues, just as with any other organization, you are paying to join a network and enjoy the rewards associated with that network includ-

ing dinners, formals and other social events.

At a time when the school and city are cracking down on its Greeks, it is more important than ever before to strengthen the system long-established as part of the American college tradition, not to mention the William and Mary tradition. The first Greek society, Phi Beta Kappa, was founded on this campus back in 1776 with the mission to "celebrate and advocate excellence in the liberal arts and sciences." The political clout of the Greeks on campus is unmatched by any other student organization on campus - Greeks donate the most money to the college and make up 26% of the student body population. If the anti-student policies of the school and city are to be reversed, the collective strength and organizational power of the Greek system will be key.

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!

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W&M in Washington INFORMATION SESSION
Tuesday, September 8
Sadler Center, Tidewater A, 6:30 p.m.



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