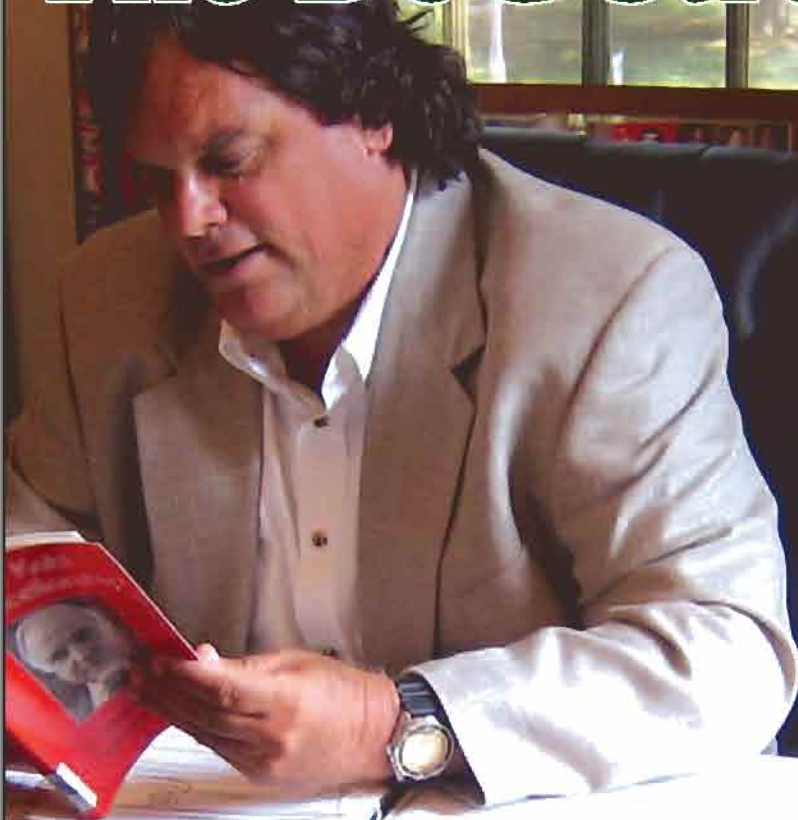


Emergency Response ■ Tribe Warm-Up ■ Summer Job Sampler

The DoG Street Journal

September 2007



Straight from the Office

Nichol on Another Year

www.dogstreetjournal.com

(whoweare)

EDITORIAL STAFF

- ♦Rebecca Hamfeldt
Co-Editor in Chief
- ♦Jeri Kent
Co-Editor in Chief
- ♦Carrie Daut
Managing Editor
- ♦Stacey Marin
Executive Editor
- ♦Jonna Knappenberger
News Editor
- ♦Gretchen Hannes
Style Editor
- ♦John Hill
Sports Editor
- ♦Katie Photiadis
Opinions Editor
- ♦Marina Stranieri
Photo Editor
- ♦Ryan Powers
Online Design Editor
- ♦Michael Duarte
Online Design Editor
- ♦Keeley Edmonds
Business Manager
- ♦Khaleelah Jones
Operations Editor

(talktous)

The DoG Street Journal

The College of William & Mary
Campus Center Basement
Office 12B
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
757.221.7851

(visitus)

www.dogstreetjournal.com

Your first news source for stories,
when they happen. Updated daily.

(what'sinside)

What's New This Year

>Changes on Campus

Updates on the most recent events and additions to affect the College.

page 8

Going Global

>Students Study Abroad

Every year hundreds of students at the College travel abroad; The DSJ profiles some of their adventures overseas.

page 9

A Blow to Education

>The State Budget Cuts

One DSJ columnist discusses the effect of the Commonwealth's budget cuts on its public universities.

page 16

We Are Virginia Tech

>Hokies Five Months Later

A prevailing Tech football team returned to the field Sept. 1 in an emotional game versus East Carolina.

page 22



OUR MISSION

The DSJ is the College's only monthly newsmagazine and daily online paper. Access us anytime on the web at dogstreetjournal.com. We strive to provide a quality, reliable and thought-provoking media outlet serving the College community with constantly updated coverage of diverse topics. If it happens here, you'll know.

COVER IMAGE

At the start of the fall semester, we sat down with President Nichol to discuss the year ahead. With everything from budget cuts to "I Heart Nichol" buttons striking up conversation amongst students, the President tells The DSJ his thoughts about the issues on everyone's minds. Enjoy!

**Photo & Cover Design by
Meg Luteran**

WORDS IN BRIEF

(savethedate)

september 18

W&M Student Pleads in Setting Off Chemical Bomb



In late August, Paul Juliano, 22, pleaded no contest to setting off a chemical bomb in a field on Midlands Road in May. The bomb was capable of producing smoke, meaning he had committed a Class 2 misdemeanor. A witness nearby had heard the explosion and called police, who found "bottle bombs" at the scene. According to the Daily Press, the judge withheld a finding of guilt on the conditions that Juliano complete 50 hours of community service and pay \$775 in fees to the County Fire Department. Juliano, a rising fifth-year senior at the College was also the baseball team's co-captain during the 2007 season. His case is scheduled for review by the General District Court on Feb. 21.

Whitehurst-Cook ('75) Opens the Year



The Class of 2011 and others gathered in the Wren Courtyard for Opening Convocation on Aug. 31. New Rector of the College Michael K. Powell brought greetings from the Board of Visitors. Dr. Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, an alumna from the class of '75, gave opening comments. She is now an associate dean of admissions at the Virginia Commonwealth University Medical School and a doctor with the Medical College of Virginia Clinic. She credits her life motto as a reason for her success and happiness: "If I can help somebody along the way, then my journey will not have been in vain."

College's Geriatric Health Center Offers Driver Evaluations



The Center for Excellence in Aging and Geriatric Health (CEAGH) was awarded a grant by The Virginia Department for the Aging to offer free driver evaluations in the Williamsburg area. Drivers over the age of 65 are more likely than teens to have fatal multi-vehicle crashes at intersections. The DMV encourages self-reporting as well as reports from professionals, relatives and concerned citizens about elderly drivers. The DMV will suspend licenses based solely on such a report until the driver can be evaluated. CEAGH will offer evaluations free of charge through September.

Two Humanities Professors Earn ACLS Fellowships



The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) is a private, not-for-profit group of 69 national scholarly organizations that promotes studies in the humanities and social sciences. ACLS gives fellowships and grants for research at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels. This year, their fellowships went to 232 scholars, two of whom work here at the College. Philosophy Professor Alan Goldman, who studies epistemology, ethics, aesthetics and philosophy of law, will use the award to write a book on practical reason. History Professor Melvin Patrick Ely, who looks at African-American history and the South, will use his fellowship to work on a book about slavery in old Virginia.

Woman Fends Off Attack on Jamestown Road



Around 2 a.m. on August 22, a 37-year-old woman was attacked on Jamestown Road. She was walking near the Village Green subdivision when a man pushed her to the ground and demanded money. The woman screamed, and he ran down the street toward the College. According to the Daily Press, police are still searching for the suspect. The man was described as a white man around 20 years old with shoulder-length brown hair. He is between 5'5" and 5'8" in height and weighs about 180 pounds.

College to Begin Demolition of Sentara Hospital



Starting in early September, demolition crews will begin tearing down the former Sentara Williamsburg Community Hospital. The ex-hospital, located on Monticello Avenue, is going to be made into the College's School of Education. The new building will be 109,000 square feet and will cost \$48 million. The demolition will continue for about three months. Construction will then start next summer; the entire project should be completed by 2010. During the process, 215 parking spaces will still be reserved for students and shuttles will run to the College.

who: art and music junkies

what: "silent surrealism"

when: 8 p.m.

where: PBK

why: because surrealist film with live gypsy jazz is undeniably intriguing

september 21-22

who: people of Jewish faith

what: yom kippur

when: sunset to sunset

where: around the world

why: people of faith uniting in atonement is powerful

september 22

who: all football fans

what: tribe v. tech football

when: 1:30 p.m.

where: va tech

why: support the hokies, support the tribe--need we say more?

september 22

who: soccer lovers

what: tribe soccer

when: 7 p.m.

where: albert-daly field

why: if you can't make it out to tech, support your favorite teams here in the 'burg

september 28-30

who: all undergrads and families

what: family weekend

when: all weekend

where: across campus

why: it's still nice to see your parents, if only in small doses



NICHOL NEWS

From the Desk of the President: Thoughts on the Year Ahead

Photo by Meg Luteran.

» RYAN POWERS, DSJ ONLINE EDITOR
DEAN EDWARDS, DSJ STAFF REPORTER
AND JONNA KNAPPENBERGER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

DSJ reporters Ryan Powers and Dean Edwards sat down with College President Gene Nichol, for a one-on-one about a range of topics. From the freshman class to budget cuts, U.S. News ratings to “I Heart Nichol” buttons, they talked about issues that new and returning students simply ought to be familiar with. This interview gets us all up-to-speed on the latest Nichol news.

DSJ: What did you do this summer?

Nichol: I had a great summer, including some work. We work a lot on the alumni fronts, the fundraising fronts, across the country. We also went to England for a week and met with some friends of the College. The Draper’s Guild is a big supporter of the College and has been for a long time. We visited the Cambridge program, and that was terrific. We have a lot of joint programs with St. Andrew’s in Scotland, and we’re expanding. So, we went up and tried to come

to agreements. And then we had a little vacation, which was good too. But it’s good to be back. I like the summer, but I like the school year much better.

THE CLASS OF 2011

This year’s freshman class has the most first-generation college students the College has ever had and a very high number of international students. On August 28, about 180 freshmen participated in the first annual Students Helping Out Williamsburg (S.H.O.W.) Day as part of Orientation.

DSJ: Is there anything in particular about this freshman class that stands out?

Nichol: There are some pleasing statistical things about the class and how strong the class is academically, which is expected. It has a good number more first generation collegians than we’ve had and more international students in the undergraduate program, which is a great benefit as well. As part of the orientation program, they started

S.H.O.W. Day, trying to introduce them to strong traditions of public service. I think this looks very much to be a class in the strongest traditions of the College. And that’s what we’re after.

DSJ: How about this year? Any particular programs?

Nichol: I think this College is the most inspiring campus in the country. Now, it sounds like presidential hype, but I think it has the strongest educational experience—the most effective—of any public university in the United States. That’s saying a lot, and that’s impressive. There are a lot of reasons for that. One of them is a tradition of rigor that hasn’t waned. I hear from your colleagues a lot that there’s not enough grade inflation here, no place to hide. A lot of it is scale, too. We have an 11-to-1 student-faculty ratio; on that front, it makes all the difference.

RANKINGS

“U.S. News & World Report” recently released their newest college rankings. The

College maintained its spot as the nation's sixth-best public university. In the overall list of publics and privates however, the College went from 31st to 33rd. In financial resources, the College was ranked at 106th, showing a significant disparity between finances and academics.

DSJ: Are you troubled by the recent fall in the ratings?

Nichol: I don't like it. But it does not change the nature of the educational experience. We will press initiatives to more strongly support student-faculty research, particularly undergraduate research, which are already more effective here than at most institutions.

We will push initiatives to expand what we have in the accreditation process, push what we characterize as capstone, or individual independent-learning experiences, usually in your senior years. We have maybe 60 or low 70 percent of our students doing that already; we want to expand those. I think making the senior year at the College a sort of distinct and unusual training ground for the graduate and professional work that so many of our students are going to undertake. Doing things other public universities can't really pull off.

DSJ: What changes might we see?

Nichol: You will hear this year a great deal of talk about something which I increasingly find defining—this commitment to civic engagement, to service, to community involvement, whether it be locally, across the Commonwealth or now across the globe.

We are looking for ways to provide greater support mechanisms. To tell you the truth, we don't want to get in the way of the great student initiative. We want to find ways to expand it. We'll hear the term probably "Beyond These Walls."

Lastly, in this fall semester, we will undertake a broad faculty-driven study to look at our goals to further "internationalize" the campus and what that ought to mean. We are inventorying all our international efforts now, which are far-flown. We are

studying the best practices from our peers across the country and will be coming up with a series of recommendations.

DSJ: What does it mean to internationalize the College?

Nichol: Taking the people, the work and the cultures—the exchanges of the broader world—and bringing them back here. And bringing the work of the College to people and places beyond our borders. So, there's a lot to do. But I think it all begins with the notion that this is an inspiring place to be and to work.

THE THREAT OF BUDGET CUTS

In August, Governor Timothy Kaine announced to the Virginia General Assembly that the Commonwealth will eventually hit a deficit of \$641 million because of the cooling real estate market. The Commonwealth budget is based on a 6.5 percent growth rate, but revenues this fiscal year only grew by 4.9 percent. This has raised the probability that public funding for the College may be cut.

DSJ: What effect, if any, will we see from Governor Kaine's request to cut the budget by up to 7.5 percent?

Nichol: It has our attention, and it is worrisome. We are looking at ways that we might have to make cuts and ways that we can attempt to reduce the demand for such cuts. We've been told to prepare plans, which we will do. And then I think there will be further discussion, which concern the actual level of cuts that we and all higher education institutions receive.

We are intensely interested in assuring that the reductions which the state does need to make can be handled here in ways that don't affect the quality of our educational experience and the programs we offer to our students. We will be intensely protective of the core mission of the College. And I think we have some reason to be optimistic; these are beginning discussions.

DSJ: So it's too early to estimate where the cuts would be made?

Nichol: Yes, clearly. But it is not too early for it to be a focus of our concerns.

DSJ: Do you feel that this request is justified, or do you think the state can make up the revenues in other ways?

Nichol: I would never characterize judgments made at levels higher than my own. But I will say that we understand the importance of higher education to the future of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the importance of the quality of our programs to the students who occupy our halls—that those matters are paramount. I think that we'll be able to make a case in that regard, and we have friends that will help us do it. I think we have, to be candid, a Governor and legislative leaders who are willing to listen.

DSJ: Do you think there is any alternative to state money if we do have to cut back?

Nichol: We are constantly in the process of raising private money. Private dollars, though, cannot relieve the Commonwealth of its obligation to support one of the strongest systems of higher education in America. So we need both. We need substantial infusions of public and private money in order to continue to be one of the strongest universities.

In the rankings, the College of William and Mary is characterized as the sixth strongest public university and the strongest small state university. But we have this modest change from 31st to 33rd [in the rankings]. We've been in a range for some years from 30th and 34th. It highlights different levels of support, particularly with regard to public universities. It's amazing that none of the 20 highest-ranked universities in U.S. News is a public university.

I don't know anyone in America who thinks that there aren't strong public universities that aren't in the top 20 in the U.S. It indicates that private universities can be heavily favored in such calculations. We are ranked 33rd in U.S. News, but 106th in resources per student. No one has a gap like that. We are the only university in the top 50 who is not in the top 100 in terms of resources. And of course, the largest factor there is tuition and financial aid. The difference between publics and privates on this front is inaccurate.

(Continued on page 6)



Possible budget cuts have been discussed since the semester's start. Photo courtesy www.piperreport.com

(Continued from page 5)

So we are adamant that we will perform strongly, even in rankings like U.S. News. We will make up that modest ground.

But the main thing is to provide the strongest educational experience of any public university in the United States, improve it, make it even more singular and then add to that stronger access, financial aid, affordability, make it a more diverse institution, more international and help to teach other public universities how we can play this marvelous role of giving back.

DSJ: What do you mean by that?

Nichol: There are several aspects. That is, using the intellectual resources of the university to help serve the needs of the Commonwealth and the nation that sustains it. For us, that includes work at VIMS, for example, powerful research to help with water-quality problems in the Chesapeake Bay. It includes the School of Education, the Business School in economic development and the Law School in the application of legal norms, work in environmental sustainability, and it includes this commitment in the student body of service.

We have a disproportionate number of students thinking they want to change the world. We want them to graduate thinking they are capable to do it. They'll have different ideas of what that means—but there's a peer pressure here from the faculty and the students to be more effective at it. It's a pretty heartening package to put together.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT

In November 2006, the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) approached President Nichol with the President's Climate Commitment and asked him to

sign on. He told them to do further research. They approached him again last spring, but he has not yet given the go-ahead. Instead, he appointed the Landscape Energy and Environment (LEE) Committee to study the proposal and report on September 30, 2007 with a recommendation.

The President's Climate Commitment is a nationwide initiative which students are asking college presidents to sign and uphold. So far, 347 college presidents have added their



names. The Commitment asks university presidents to work towards climate neutrality by assessing emissions and making plans to stem those emissions and teach students about sustainable, clean energy.

DSJ: Do you have any views on greening the College?

Nichol: I believe strongly in greening the College. I know that this ancient College—and I emphasize ancient—has much to do. When you look at efficiency, conservation and the way we use energy, we have large challenges.

I asked that the LEE committee here give me a final report about what it would mean for us to sign the President's Climate Commitment, and they will be reporting back. I will look very hard at those recommendations. There's no doubt that we'll be moving strongly in that direction.

FOOTBALL

DSJ: Will you be at the Virginia Tech football game in Blacksburg on the 22nd?

Nichol: I go to many of the away games, and I would particularly go to the Virginia Tech game, but I'm receiving some surely undeserved award so I can't make it, though I will be at the VMI game and a number of away games as well. But I think Virginia Tech is going to have a tough time against the

Tribe. There'll be an emotional part to that game, too. We all have such close ties to our friends in Blacksburg. But when it's game time, no one's asking your SAT score or your affections for the other college.

WHO HEARTS THE PRESIDENT?

President Nichol's decision to remove the cross from the Wren chapel last year made him a pariah for some at the College and a hero to others. He appointed the Committee on Religion in a Public University, which recommended a compromise. The cross was allowed to remain with a glass case and a text explanation of its impor-

tance and history. It is allowed display when the chapel is in use, just as other people of other faiths may display their symbols when in the chapel.

A number of websites cropped up in support or defiance of Nichol and the Committee. A few argued that the Wren cross should be "saved" (savethewrencross.org) or that President Nichol's contract with the College should not be renewed (shouldnicholberenewed.org).

Others have risen to his support (wmfightsback.blogspot.com) and, more recently, a website offering free buttons of love for the President (iheartnichol.com).

DSJ: Are you going to get an "I Heart Nichol" button?

Nichol: [laughs] Give them to my kids. I must admit I've tried very studiously to avoid the blogging world, but I have seen a couple of those buttons, and I appreciate the sentiments.



*Graduate & Professional
School Day*

University Center – Tidewater & Chesapeake
Friday, October 5, 2007
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Don't miss out on a great opportunity to talk
with representatives from the following
programs!

- Art History
- Arts & Sciences
- Business
- Divinity
- Education
- Journalism
- Law
- Medicine/Health Sciences
- Public Policy/Government
- International Affairs

*Specific program listings can be found at www.wm.edu/career

IN THE AFTERMATH OF A TRAGEDY...

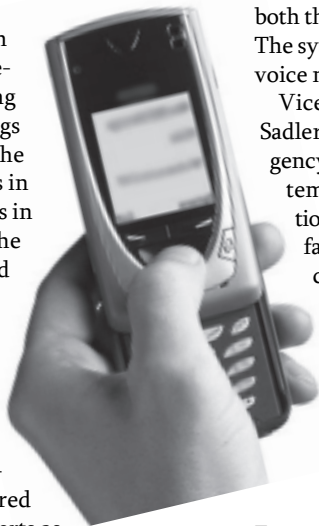
...The College's Response

» JONNA KNAPPENBERGER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

Governor Tim Kaine established a review panel following the April 16 shootings at Virginia Tech. The panel met four times in public and four times in private to discuss the facts of that day and what Virginia Tech and other universities can do to ensure safety on their campuses. The public meetings included professional opinions offered by public safety experts as well as some emotional appeals from Tech parents.

"We must now challenge ourselves to study this report carefully and make changes that will reduce the risk of future violence on our campuses," Kaine said when the panel's final reports were released in August. "If we act in that way, we will honor the lives and sacrifices of all who suffered on that terrible day."

Universities around the Commonwealth—including the College—are taking that to heart, installing new emergency alert systems. The College has signed a contract with The NTI Group to send immedi-



ate messages to students, faculty and staff at both the Williamsburg and VIMS campuses. The system is able to send text messages and voice messages.

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler, who also chairs the College's Emergency Response Team, said, "This new system, combined with other communication measures we'll be implementing this fall will greatly improve our ability to communicate quickly and effectively. We will be able to access this system from anywhere and alert our campus community immediately."

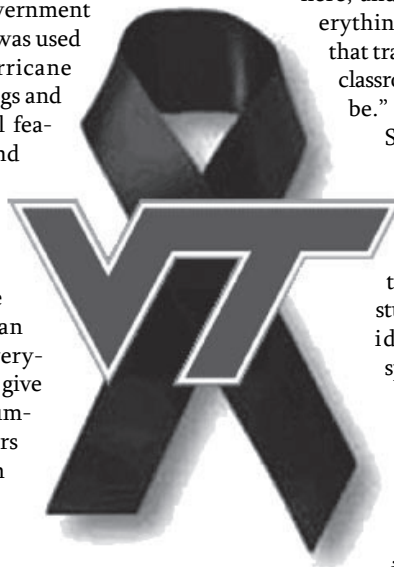
Based in California, NTI's other clients include military units and local, state and federal government agencies. Their system was used in Florida during Hurricane Ernesto to communicate closings and delays to parents. One special feature is that the system can send different messages to different sectors of a community, perhaps telling some to flee and some to stay put.

"At the beginning of the school year, we'll send out an emergency test message to everyone on campus. This system will give us an instant report on what numbers picked up, which numbers are no longer valid and which numbers we need to update," Sadler said.

In Charlottesville, the University of Virginia has created an entirely new office for such situations, the Office of Emergency Preparedness. Students there are being encouraged to sign up for text messages. The school is also looking at removing door handles that can easily be chained shut, according to the Cavalier Daily.

In Blacksburg, the Office of Recovery and Support was created to help the community heal. "We are trying hard to support those most in need," Virginia Tech President Charles Steger said when welcoming students back to campus. "Nineteen injured students have returned to the Virginia Tech campus to continue their education here, and we are doing everything possible to make that transition back to the classroom as easy as it can be."

Steger outlined three recommendations he looks to implement or expand: the Care Team, a student group, which identifies and responds to at-risk students; the Threat Assessment Team; and the follow-up capacities of the Deans' Office and the Counseling Center.



Kaine Continues Virginia Tech Investigations

» JONNA KNAPPENBERGER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

The Virginia Tech Review Panel established by Gov. Kaine to investigate the shootings in April submitted its conclusions at the end of August. The panel criticized the university's response to the shootings and the treatment of the shooter, Seung Hui Cho. They concluded that lives could have been saved if officials had issued some sort of alert following the first incident in the dormitory.

The panel also concluded that the counseling center failed to treat Cho in 2005, was passive in its follow-up and is currently missing important records about Cho.

The eight-member panel made 13 clear recommendations about the mental health system in Virginia, such as changing the standard by which people are admitted involuntarily to a mental health facility. It did not, though, come to closure about Cho's motives on April 16 or address the problem of funding these needs.

Governor Kaine has told the Washington Post that he will study the panel's report and make further suggestions to both state and federal legislators. "We need to fix this issue of follow-up," he stated. "We need accountability."

According to the Post, a report last year by a special investigator said that Virginia needs more than 230 more case managers just to bring caseloads to the national average. The additional jobs mean additional millions. Time for hiring, training and organizing is also a much greater cost.

KEEPING UP WITH THE TIMES

◆◆◆
Since 1693



The new admissions building on Jamestown Road was once the College's bookstore. Photo by Meg Luteran.

ADMISSIONS MOVES TO JAMESTOWN ROAD

» JONNA KNAPPENBERGER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

Over the summer, the undergraduate admission offices moved from Blow Memorial Hall to the old College bookstore, a newly renovated building on Jamestown Road near the Campus Center.

The 17,000-square-foot building will now serve as the entrance to the College for prospective touring students. For the last two years, the College has received a record number of applications; last year's alone totaled 10,800.

The bookstore moved to Merchant's Square in 2001. Renovations began on the building that was left behind in the summer of 2006 and were completed in June. The project cost \$2.8 million.

The new admissions building has three different sections. First, an entrance area provides a space for information sessions for prospective families. It is equipped with audio and visual technology and can seat 300 people. Secondly, a staging and office area houses the admissions staff and allows organization of tours. Downstairs, there are interview rooms and a mailroom.

The admissions office welcomes over 25,000 people to the College every year. There are over 1,000 tours given by student tour guides each year. There is good evidence the interview rooms will be used, as well—last year, the College conducted more than 1,300 interviews with prospective students.

“Our own data shows that campus visitors convert to applicants far higher than any other contact source,” Dean of Admission Henry Broaddus said in a press release. He added that national research showed a campus tour is the most important factor in choosing a college.



TUITION CLIMBS HIGHER



» JONNA KNAPPENBERGER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

According to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, college costs around the Commonwealth are continuing to rise. The Council indicates that the total full-time in-state increases for undergrads amounts to 7.9 percent at the College.

Only Christopher Newport University, the University of Virginia, and UVA-Wise had a higher percentage increase than the College from last year to this year. The average increase in Virginia this year was 6.8 percent. This follows on the heels of an even higher increase last year, of 9.3 percent.

According to the Virginian Pilot, all colleges and universities qualified for extra state funding this year. The General Assembly put together the Higher Education Tuition Incentive Fund of \$7.2 million, which will be split among the institutions.

However, this doesn't seem to be enough. With costs going up annually, middle- and lower-income students are being pushed off campuses. Since 2002, the costs have gone up 47 percent (after inflation) at Virginia four-year schools. More seem to be turning to two-year community colleges, which only went up an average of 5 percent this year.

Nonetheless, the College did pull in the highest percentage ever of first-generation college students in the Class of 2011. A total of 163 students, 12 percent of the class, are the first in their families to attend college. This is a 60 percent increase from last year.

Perhaps the advance is due to President Nichol's Gateway Program, which he started

two years ago in August of 2005. He outlined broad goals, saying that “gateway students will graduate debt-free, and will thus be able to progress to advanced education, professional schools or rewarding jobs without the worry of paying off loans associated with their undergraduate education.”

Nichol said in 2005 that he hoped the College would double the enrollment of undergraduates from lower-income homes from 300 to 600 by 2012.

The Program offers a financial aid package covering most, if not all, expenses of school to those who come from families that earn less than \$40,000 each year. When the program was begun in 2005, this amount was slightly more than double the federal poverty level for a family of four, \$19,350.

According to the College Board website, 84 percent of student need is met here, though the average indebtedness at graduation is still a heavy \$14,770.

With Governor Kaine's proposed 7.5 percent budget cuts, the financial aid and tuition rate may be in jeopardy. President Nichol did not comment in an interview with the DSJ about the effects of cuts at the College but said that plans are being prepared. The cuts are the Governor's response to the impending \$641 million revenue shortfall in the Commonwealth because of the cooling real estate market. Any more tuition hikes remains a question unanswered at this point.

Greetings from...

William & Mary students share stories from abroad

Every year more than 600 students at the College embark on life-changing adventures to places all over the world—France, Italy, Russia, India, China—few locations are off-limits for a study abroad experience. Here, four College students describe their favorite memories from abroad and tell why it was so worthwhile.

...South Africa

» CAROLINE SCHENKEL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Two hundred and sixteen meters is really, really high. You can read that and believe it, but it's not something that I can make you understand. I don't even understand it, and I've been thinking about that number at least once a day for almost two months now. Two hundred sixteen meters is the height of the Bloukrans River Bridge, located in Plettenberg Bay, South Africa on the Indian Ocean coast, about 300 miles from Cape Town.

I remember the three hours that I spent on that bridge more vividly than anything else I did or saw during my five weeks of study abroad in South Africa, and that's saying a lot. I can't remember how far the walk was from Nelson Mandela's cell to the Robben Island dock, from which he departed after 18 years as a political prisoner. I can't remember how cold the water was at the Cape of Good Hope when I finally dipped

my feet into the mythic spot "where two oceans meet." But I can still feel how cold the concrete of that bridge was against my bare feet, and I can remember how long it took to walk across. And most of all, I can remember exactly what it felt like to fall off that bridge.

Two hundred sixteen meters is approximately 709 feet, 70 stories or, if you're measuring free-fall time, about five seconds. It was hands down the longest five seconds of my life. Ironically, the countdown immediately preceding the fall (five... four... three... two... one... BUNGEE) was the shortest five seconds of my life. And then I fell. And bounced and fell and bounced and fell and bounced and hung upside



Schenkel bungees off the Bloukrans River Bridge.

down, by my feet, who knows how many feet in the air, for who knows how long.

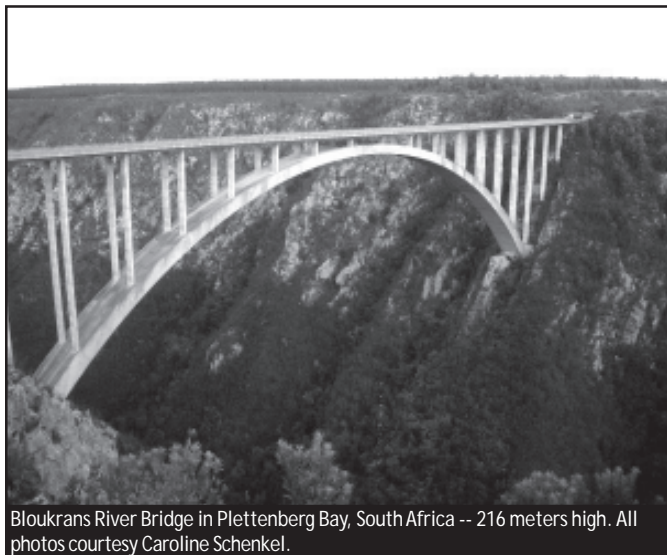
The most terrifying part was waiting to be drawn back up to the bridge. Of course it was perfectly rational to be scared at that point, dangling hundreds of feet above a rock-strewn gorge with absolutely no way of getting myself back up, but I couldn't help but

curse my own instincts' poor timing. Why wasn't I this scared when they were tightening the harness? Or when I was walking across the narrow tunnel towards the jump site, staring down 216 meters through an open grate?

But of course I knew why. I was completely alone, for the first time since my friends and I had committed to the jump. No one was there to cheer me on or remind me of the bragging rights I'd won. I had been left to dangle with only fear to keep me company.

But of course I was hoisted back up. The endorphins took over, the fear was gone and all that was left was pride and relief. Scary, sure. But worthwhile in more ways than I could have ever imagined, just like the trip. I'd go again in a heartbeat.

(Continued on page 10)



Bloukrans River Bridge in Plettenberg Bay, South Africa -- 216 meters high. All photos courtesy Caroline Schenkel.

...Australia

(Continued from page 9)

» JEFF HUBER, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

When I saw her standing inside the refrigerator, I knew that I had found what I was looking for.

She stood next to a ten-speed mountain bike, her hands adorned with bicycle gloves. And, to top it off, she was wearing only a bikini.

This is almost too perfect, I thought to myself, as I opened the refrigerator door and grabbed a hold of her. Together, we walked to the check-out counter.

My friends, Mary and Sarah, were impressed with my choice. We had come to the Booze Brothers Bottle Shop in North Adelaide, Australia, on a Friday night in April with the sole purpose of purchasing “the most ridiculous beer” we could find. When they saw the blank stare of the bikini-clad model with any affinity for mountain biking on my beer bottle, they both agreed that nothing beat “Sexy Lager.”

We placed our selections atop the check-out counter and the cashier swiped each of our selections.

“Oh! Sexy Lager,” he exclaimed. “You guys know about this stuff, right?”

“Yeah. Of course,” I immediately responded before Mary and Sarah had a chance to speak.

We paid for our beers and as we left the store, I realized my mistake.

“Why the hell did I just say that I *knew* about Sexy Lager?!” I asked my friends. “I don’t know anything about this beer. I’ve never seen it before in my life.”

In the week following, I recounted this incident to almost every one of my friends at Lincoln College, the “dorm” where I was living as I attended the University of Adelaide for a semester. What mystery lay hidden within the walls of that glass bottle?

I soon learned the answer from Xan, an American from Vanderbilt University who was also in Adelaide for the semester. As soon as he heard my story, he ventured to Booze Brothers and purchased a “Sexy Lager” for himself. Returning to his room, he drank the beer, set the bottle down on the desk, and began staring at the bottle for hours on end. After a couple of days of reflection, he had an epiphany.

“I figured it out,” Xan told me as we ate chicken burgers at North Adelaide’s Blue and White Café late one night. “You know the bikini that the chick is wearing in the picture? Well, the thing is, it’s a scratch-off. You can scratch the bikini off.”

When I returned to my dorm, I clawed at the left side of the model’s bikini top with my finger. In seconds, the model’s previ-

ously concealed left nipple was exposed. The mystery solved, I could now see a breast blurred by the very same residue that a scratch-off lottery ticket produces.

When I arrived back home to Pennsylvania to friends who wanted to know about my study abroad experience, I would with all the subtlety of a prop comic, pull the “Sexy Lager” bottle out of my pocket and hand it to my audience. Gazing at the model’s partially scratched-off bikini, my listeners, for a brief moment, actually experienced the same world I had experienced while abroad.

This tactic worked well until, during one fateful presentation, my audience’s busy hands completely scratched off the model’s bikini. Now, with all of the model’s coverage removed, my bottle no longer appeared suitable for casual conversation.

Ever since abandoning my “Sexy Lager” presentation, I’ve struggled to convey to others just how much fun I had in Australia.



Huber poses with a koala at Urimburra Wildlife Park, located outside of Adelaide, Australia. Photo courtesy Jeff Huber.

...Greece

» JENNY BROUGHTON, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Medieval towns overlooking crystal clear blue water, gyros and fresh vegetables, weekend trips to Italy, Crete and Santorini...studying abroad is one of the most rewarding experiences. I spent this past semester in Athens, Greece. Even though traveling for the first time to Europe is scary, that initial fright disappears almost immediately. While attending classes, I was able to explore not only Athens, with all of its historical significance and eclectic people, but I also traveled to the mountains of the Peloponnese, up to Northern Greece and Thessaloniki (the second largest city in

Greece) and to some of the most breathtaking islands that surround Greece.

My favorite place was undoubtedly Santorini. I traveled there in May, right before tourist season but when it was just becoming hot enough to swim. Our hostel picked us up in a rickety old bus, the driver floored it up the windy, almost one lane road to the top of the island. He even introduced us to the owner of a restaurant who gave us free food later that night. I think that is one of the best parts about Greece—the small, privately owned businesses made the experience more personal and meaningful and got



la, a town in Santorini, before sunset. All photos courtesy Jenny Broughton.

us free, fresh seafood. Just a short boat ride away, we were able to walk all over a volcanic island and then swim in a hot spring. Later on that day, we watched the sun set on Ia, a small town on the island, which was magical.

I definitely recommend traveling abroad. The culture of Greece is very different from the U.S. It is not as fast-paced. Coffee dates last a minimum of one hour. Grocery shopping consists of going to at least three

different places for fresh veggies, bread and other groceries. Stray dogs and cats roam all over, especially in the beginning of the year before it the weather warms up. The people were friendly (except for the constant stares from older men). And seeing monuments like the Parthenon lit up on a nightly basis while eating outside a restaurant never ceased to amaze.



A boat takes a sunset cruise in Ia, a town in Santorini.

...Semester at Sea

» AMELIA HAGEN, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

I spent last spring semester circumnavigating the world on the University of Virginia's Semester at Sea program. My 100-day voyage spanned four continents and brought me everywhere from the Carnival-crazed streets of Rio de Janeiro to the Taj Mahal to the Great Wall of China and back to the good ol' USA.

My most powerful day on Semester at Sea was my tour of Khayelitsha, a slum outside of Cape Town, South Africa. Gerald, our guide for the tour, was also a model and South African movie star. He pulled up in a black BMW convertible. At first, I thought it would seem pretentious to roll into the South African slums in a luxury car, but I soon found out it was exactly the opposite. Upon entering Khayelitsha, everyone was waving to us and giving us the thumbs-up sign. At our first stop, a local bar, people flocked to us, introducing themselves and asking where we were from. All of the people we met had grown up in the township and repeatedly emphasized that they were truly happy and loved living there.

At our next stop Gerald, a Khayelitsha native, led us into his home. Scanning the area, the walls of the living room and kitchen were covered with commercial ads Gerald had done – everything from Smirnoff to Corn Flakes to Shell Gas. The clippings were all signs of the Western World's influence on South Africa. Seeing the ads, I never would have guessed that Gerald grew up in Khayelitsha.

For lunch we headed to Maphindi's Butchery for "The Best Barbeque in All of Khayelitsha," according to Gerald. We devoured various kinds of meat and an entire loaf of white bread as restaurant patrons stared at us. Just as we finished, Khaya, the owner, introduced himself and invited us on a tour of the Maphindi facilities. We were treated like VIPs as Khaya showed us

freshly-finished conference rooms, a new downstairs sit-down restaurant, state-of-the-art restrooms, a patio bar and, from the rooftop, the best view in Khayelitsha.

After lunch we headed to the weekly Sunday block party. When we arrived, I realized it was the South African version of the Brazilian Carnival, only better. The fellowship and camaraderie we saw as we stepped out of the car was infectious. People were dancing everywhere and we sat in the middle of it all, immersed in township life. Our skin color was not a barrier in the township. It was, surprisingly, a catalyst for conversation that provided an opportunity for growth and education. Openness, sincerity, generosity and love abounded in place of the hate, bitterness and hostility that I ex-



Hagen poses with guide, Gerald, who showed them around Khayelitsha, a slum outside Cape Town, South Africa. Photo courtesy Amelia Hagen.

pected in a country long plagued by racial strife.

As the sun set in the township, Gerald herded us into the BMW one final time. Everything that we saw grabbed at my emotions, and I had a difficult time saying goodbye to Gerald, who guided a sheltered person like me into a place where poverty was a reality, and where people had a genuine love for life despite their living conditions. I did not go on

a tour of a township. Rather, I experienced a township in its purest form – a place of community, culture and acceptance.

Get Connected!
Get **twitter**



What is...
twitter

twitter is a part of the internet social networking scene that allows you to follow other twitter users.

Sign-up for W&M Twitter and receive weekly updates and special one time dining promotions as a WM Twitter member.

Why Wait? You get to choose!
Text Message, IM, Email ...
visit <http://www.twitter.com/WMdining>

BEST OF'S

A Random Assortment of Five Best Things

FIVE BEST CELEB EXCUSES

» KATIE MOSCONY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

“I was preparing for a movie role.”

Winona used it to defend her shoplifting in 2002, and even Janet Jackson claimed her massive weight gain back in '06 was for a film. Yet perhaps the best application of this get-out-of-jail-free card was when Britney Spears told fans via her website that beating an SUV outside her ex-husband's house with an umbrella was “for a movie.”



“I was suffering from exhaustion.”

Lindsay used it to escape the demands of the *Georgia Rule* set when she was scolded for her chronic lateness to work. When Britney passed out at a club after a night of imbibing, it was because she was “just really tired.” Uh-huh.

“My wardrobe malfunctioned.”



Janet Jackson spawned this excuse after that infamous flashing-the-world-at-the-SuperBowl incident, and Jessica Simpson jumped on board not too long after. Apparently “wardrobe problems” were the culprit in Jess's flubbed tribute to Dolly Parton, causing her to forget most of the lyrics to “9 to 5” and run offstage in tears. Hey, it could happen to anyone, right?

“I'm just naturally this skinny.”

Nicole Richie, Kate Bosworth, Hilary Duff. All have resembled skeletons at some point and claimed that their uncanny ability to showcase their ribcages was due to a fast metabolism...not that they were ever seen eating.

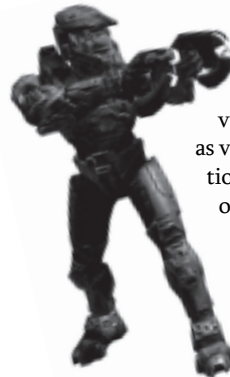
“I took some sleeping pills.”

After John Stamos indulged in some erratic talk show antics in Australia (check out YouTube for the hilarious video), he defended himself by claiming that he was under the effects of an Ambien he had taken on the plane. Right, that makes complete sense...



FIVE BEST PHILOSOPHIES TO USE WHEN DEALING WITH MISSING HOMEWORK

» KHALEELAH JONES, DSJ OPERATIONS EDITOR



Relativism

“Actually, where I come from, ‘due Tuesday’ means ‘due whenever convenient.’ Since this point of view is just as valid as your own, I object to the imposition of your deadlines-based value system on my native culture.”

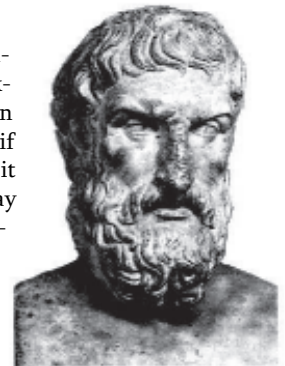
Determinism

“Since my reaction to the present is entirely dependent on the past, there was no way I could have done the homework. Therefore, it's

society's fault that I was inevitably forced to play eighty-five consecutive rounds of Halo last night.”

Solipsism

“As Gorgias might say, there's no reason to believe the assignment ever existed. Even if it did exist, nothing can be known about it. Finally, even if something *could* be known about it, it would certainly be impossible to relay the information, making the whole assignment unreasonable in the first place.”



Nihilism

“What's the use? Homework doesn't matter. Nothing matters. I think I'll just sit here and wallow in cynicism until I die of dehydration.”

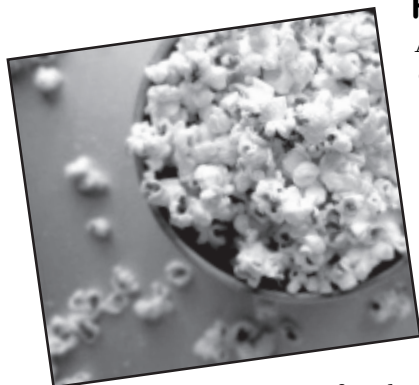
Zen

“My homework was completed, but its perfection was such that it has achieved Nirvana and vanished into the spirit world. If it's at one with the universe, does it count as being turned-in?”



FIVE BEST SNACKS TO KEEP ON HAND IN YOUR DORM

» MEGAN GRADY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER



Popcorn

A staple of the college diet. Other than its tendency to burn, resulting in fire alarms going off at obnoxious hours of the day, it's a fast treat that can quickly become a daily midnight snack.

Easy Mac

This stuff is a quick fix for when you need a full meal or just a snack. All that's required is a microwave, a pack of EasyMac and water. While it's not exactly the healthiest healthy choice, it's small enough that you don't feel too guilty gulping it down when you're in a hurry.

Instant Tea

Though not always considered a snack, tea is worth mentioning because it's a great caffeine pick-me-up. It's usually sold in large packs so you get more for your money. Plus, there are tons of flavors to try, from a simple green tea to a cinnamon spice, and you can drink it hot or iced.



100 Calorie Packs

These little bags are just 100 calories each and come in so many different types of everyone's favorite snack they're just impossible to resist. Examples include Wheat Thins, Ritz Snack Mix, popcorn, Fudge Shoppe Cookies and Cheez-Its. They're great to throw in your bag when you're rushing off to class because they're perfectly sized for eating on-the-go.

Homemade Cookies

Ask your parents or grandparents to do you a favor every once in awhile and send you some good ol' homemade cookies. They're a nice change of pace from the typical Chips Ahoy, and they will make everyone on your hall jealous. If mom won't do it for you, go ahead and make some yourself. Nothing smells better than a batch of fresh-baked cookies.



FIVE BEST ADDICTIONS YOU WILL DEVELOP IN COLLEGE

» KATIE MOSCONY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Caffeine

There's no avoiding it, unless you have the discipline of a saint. A few months at the College, and caffeine will start to insidiously creep into your daily routine - a cup of coffee here, a Diet Coke there, and next thing you know you have a full-blown addiction.

Embrace it; there's nothing better for getting through those all-nighters around mid-terms.



Zzzzzzzzzzzz's

Interestingly, as you develop a dependence on coffee during the school week, your weekends will become 48-hour nap-a-thons. Ah, eight hours a night, that elusive luxury of those students not pursuing a William and Mary education. Cherish the few bedtime hours you manage to squeeze out of the school day like they carry the secret to ever-lasting life - you can "binge" on the weekends.

Facebook

Deny it all you want, but you know that website calls your name two, three...well, okay, 10 times a day. Before long, you've got it down to a science: check the Newsfeed for updates then hit up the Friends tab, followed by Photos. At least, that's what a friend told me she does.



Bad TV Re-runs

It's 4 p.m. You've been up since 6 that morning writing a biology paper, and you need some mindless entertainment to block out the facts on plant reproduction that are swimming through your brain. You switch on the TV just in time for an "America's Next Top Model" marathon. Normally you wouldn't be caught dead watching Tyra Banks deliver each line with cheesy emphasis, but hey, it's just for a few minutes to give yourself a break. Next thing you know, it's 10 p.m. and you're deeply invested in whether Melrose will oust CariDee in the Cycle 7 finale...oops.

Wawa

There's nothing like Wawa when you've got a late night craving for a sandwich or a mid-day hankering for a milkshake. You can even get your caffeine fix here with various flavored coffees! Hit up Wawa at 2 a.m. on any weekend night and you are likely to be in the company of numerous fellow addicts.



Spending the Summer **INTERN-STYLE**

(because anything's better than folding clothes for minimum wage)

Finding a summer job or internship isn't always the easiest task, especially when trying to avoid three months of retail hell at Bath and Body Works or Limited Too. If you manage to snag a position that even remotely relates to your potential career, though, the experience can be invaluable. It gives you the opportunity to evaluate a certain type of work, build your résumé, gain a variety of skills and experiences and expand your professional network. Four College students share their stories of their unique summer internships.

Broadcast Journalism

» BETHANY BAGLEY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

I spent my summer as a news intern at ABC-27 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It was an unpaid internship, but I did get paid in experience. As a reporting intern, I was allowed to go out on some interesting stories. I spent a few days at different murder scenes. When I first got to one of the scenes, the body was still lying on the ground under a sheet... creepy. Another day, there was still blood on the ground from the recent murder; I am not a fan of blood. It was also weird to have to interview neighbors of murderers or [victims]. I went with a reporter to interview a 16 year-old boy from Lancaster County who confessed to killing a classmate and the classmate's parents.

The saddest story I covered involved a house that had been condemned. The woman who lived there with her three children was arrested and the kids put into foster care because the house was "not fit for human capacity," as the sign posted on the door said. It smelled horrible, a mix of urine and dirt and overall yuck. Ironically, a welcome mat outside the front door asked visitors to "please wipe your paws."

Some stories were lighter in nature. One of my favorites was about a 21-year-old boy, Bobby*, with Down's syndrome whose special three-

wheel bike was stolen. Police found it within the night, but before it was found, many viewers came forward who were willing to make donations to help Bobby get a new one. We covered the story once Bobby had his bike back. It was incredibly heartwarming; he was so thrilled. His dad told us that when Bobby saw his bike again, it was like Christmas.

I'm not sure yet if reporting is the right career path for me because the summer was full of ups and downs. There were things I loved about it and things I hated. Only time will tell if I have a future as an anchorwoman!

*name has been changed



Senior Bethany Bagley completed an internship in Broadcast Journalism this summer. All photos provided by writers.

Psychiatric Hospital

» JORDAN COINER, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

I'm a psychology major interested in clinical psychology, so this summer I interned at a psychiatric hospital. I primarily helped schizophrenic patients with stress management, delusions and hallucinations. The time I spent at the hospital was an incredible learning experience that I never could have gained in a classroom.

My most unsettling experience was when a patient threatened to kill me. It was strange because the patient had liked me so much and loved talking to me about my college classes and what I wanted to do in life. One day I was discussing ways to relieve stress with the patients, and he suddenly became very upset with me. He began to mutter how he was going to "find me and kill me." I was pretty scared but had to ignore it and continue my discussion about managing stress (how ironic). Afterwards, the psychologist explained that his behavior was probably a result of a voice in his head telling him to threaten me. The next day, he was completely normal and happily asked about my plans for the weekend.

Another memorable experience happened while I was playing a quiz game with some patients. With this particular group, there was a patient who would never sit at the table with the rest of us but rather slept on the floor in the corner and rarely participated. During the quiz game, I asked a "bonus" question about physiological effects of stress on the body. As I expected, no one knew the answer. I was getting ready to move on when the patient on the floor yelled out the correct answer. I was extremely surprised and praised him for his knowledge. He then launched into a discussion about the central nervous system and effects of various neurotransmitters. I was speechless and wondered how he knew all that information. Afterwards, I found out from a staff member that the patient was extremely intelligent and had been a third year med student when he developed his illness. That really hit close to home. So many of my friends are on the same path he was on, and then his illness robbed him of the life he could have had. And that is the real eye-opener: mental illness can happen to anyone.



Senior Jordan Coiner worked this summer at a psychiatric hospital.

Surgeon's Office

» INTERVIEW WITH EMILY SHERBIN CONDUCTED BY
GRECHEN HANNES, DSJ STYLE EDITOR

Where did you work this summer?

I worked as a medtech at a colo-rectal surgeon's office. The job included taking vital signs and medical histories, assisting with procedures and watching surgeries.

How did you get this job?

Originally, I found an ad on monster.com for an office assistant position at Lutheran General Hospital. I interviewed for the job but since I could not stay for the full year, they couldn't hire me. So instead, they told me that the office across the hall was just about to put out an ad for a medtech position. I went across the hall, interviewed there and got hired on the spot.

Why did you choose to work there?

I chose to work as a medtech there because I am planning on going to grad school to become a physician's assistant. Before entering school though, you are required to have between 1000 and 2000 clinical (hands-on experience) hours. This job gave me the experience I needed to be able to apply to grad school without taking a year off.

What is your favorite (most entertaining) memory of the job?

There's an episode of "Scrubs" where they talk about the "butt box," a.k.a. the box where the doctors put every object that has been retrieved from patients' butts over the years. This summer, I definitely learned why that box is necessary in a hospital when an older gentleman came in with something stuck in him that you would only find in an adult store. That kept us laughing for weeks!

How do you think this job experience will help you in your future career path? Is it a line of work you hope to pursue?

While I knew going into this job that I wanted to be a physician's assistant, this experience helped reaffirm that goal. When you are spending 60 hours a week looking at people's butts and being yelled at by angry patients, and you still love getting up every morning and going to work, you know that you are in the right field. However, do I want to pursue becoming a PA within the colo-rectal field? Definitely not! While I loved the work I did this summer, I think I can go the rest of my life without observing another colonoscopy. I have always wanted to specialize in obstetrics so hopefully in a few years, that's where I'll be.

What surprised you most about working at the doctor's office?

I have shadowed at doctors' offices in the past so the job was mostly what I expected it to be. In fact, the biggest shock I received the entire time working there was when a close family friend walked into the office. With such an embarrassing specialty, I figured it would be better if they just didn't know that I was there. I spent that day playing hide and seek with the patient. Later that week, I picked up the phone when the patient called and talked to them for 10 minutes without them knowing who I am! Makes you think about who you may know at your doctor's offices, right?



Senior Emily Sherbin interned in a surgeon's office over the summer.

Performance Art PR

» CARRIE DAUT, DSJ MANAGING EDITOR

Spring 2007 was the second semester of my sophomore year, meaning one thing and one thing only: declare a major. Gross.

Like a lot of underclassmen, I had no idea what to choose for my major. I'd taken a class in almost every department at the College, but all I had seemed to do was rule out careers I didn't want to pursue. My "I-could-see-myself-doing-this" list was nonexistent.

Desperate, I made a plan. Do internship. Analyze experience. Get going on life plan. Now.

I decided arts administration sounded exciting, so I declared a Marketing major and landed a public relations/marketing job at The Kentucky Center for the Arts in my hometown of Louisville.

I wrote, edited, sent out mass mailings and followed up on press releases about performers. I worked with local, regional and national media to update The Center's contacts. And I became a pro at summarizing and compiling clippings into press reports.

Oh, and then there was the research. The truckload of research. While probably some of the most tedious work I've ever done in my life, it was hands-down also some of the most interesting.

I looked up every barber shop and beauty shop in Louisville's West End in order to market a D.L. Hughley show. I looked up information on every Star Wars Fan Club, Collector's Club, Costume Club and Fan site in the state to create target lists for a One-Man "Star Wars" performance. I emailed/called/harassed marketing managers from performing arts venues across the U.S. and Canada to get tips on marketing specific shows in our season.

And finally, I helped with a MySpace research project. Performing arts centers around the country had been experimenting with different types of online marketing; The Kentucky Center had already created a Facebook account and was looking into MySpace. I took about 100 arts venues, determined if they had a MySpace page, analyzed the sophistication of the page and set up contact information. From there, the fall intern will be contacting each venue for details about their page and then presenting this to The Kentucky Center.



Junior Carrie Daut interned at a performing arts center.

I learned an incredible amount from my internship in a very short time, and I always wanted to wake up and go to work. I saw the difficulty of marketing for a nonprofit organization with a budget of nearly nothing. I learned that in that business, you compromise every day—with media, with performers and with other departments. And I realized that in the world of the arts, it's a constant struggle to compete with the HD movies and Wii's that dominate today's entertainment.

And my life plan? Well that's the best part of this whole story. Two weeks before finals in May, I switched my major. I wasn't even a Marketing major anymore on my first day in the office.

I loved every minute of it, though, and I ended summer relieved. Marketing major or not, I could see myself doing this. Finally, one for the list.

A TRIBULATION OF EDUCATION

» DEAN EDWARDS, DSJ STAFF COLUMNIST

If Woody had anything to say about the political joke of Governor Kaine's recently proposed budget cuts, he'd end with "... and those who can't teach gym, legislate."

For the uninformed reader the story is simple: Virginia just discovered that it can't foot the bill for the 2007 budget. As a result, the politicians resorted to the only political (read: expedient) solution conceivable: cut the current budget. And as far as we're concerned, Virginia's governor wants the public universities, all of which are now several weeks into their respective academic terms, to cut *present* spending by 7.5 percent.

On the surface, 7.5 percent sounds like a modest figure, a minor adjustment on paper. I mean, it's less than 8! Nevertheless, numbers and dollar signs always make for easy figures on paper to the economists and politicians; you know, 7.5 percent on a dollar is only 7.5 cents. Reality, however, holds a different end as single-digit percentages translate to millions of dollars. For the projects where that 7.5 percent was des-

tinued, well, that's the difference between success and waiting another year.

No one takes away the surgeon's tools in the middle of a procedure; why should education be treated as any less of a major operation? In fact, one could imagine that were this a proposed budget cut to Mr. Kaine's latest preschool initiatives, it would be Mr. Kaine balking.

Yet the state has spoken and the institutions of higher learning are coming to heel, forcing professors, administrators and staff to sacrifice office hours and productivity to rework budgets they thought existed, juggling money they believed to have for needs they thought were secured.

For once, though, we're facing a real crisis on our campus, and while Mr. Nichol and others commit their energies to salvaging what we can of the loss, it will remain, at the very least, a slap in the face of public education. And for that reason, we have yet to demand from the state some of the toughest answers.

Why is it the case that Virginia can't afford to supply the needs of its colleges? The Commonwealth Institute, a budget watchdog group in Virginia, warned of the impending budgetary shortcomings, estimating a gap of \$1.2 billion. Despite the crunch looking slightly smaller (in the ballpark of \$600 million at the moment), the fact stands that what services we could provide are seriously now in jeopardy.

But enough of the theoretics; the effect on campus is already tangible. For example, Swem Library can't offer students jobs and wage hikes as it's compelled to keep its 2006-07 budget for the coming year. And we have yet to see the ramifications in the academic departments.

Perhaps the end will not be catastrophic; maybe the College will prove resilient in the face of this financial chal-

lenge. As President Nichol emphasized, the College is the only public university that sits in the overall top 50 while not making the top 100 universities for student resources (we make #33 and #106 respectively). Coupled with these possibilities is the certainty that there is a degree of waste to the spending habits of any institution; the College is no different. But the loss of funds trivializes that figure.

Of course, it remains within the realm of sensible oversight to review spending and call the universities' attention to shrewd fiscal strategies. On the contrary, this abrupt disruption of financial resources smacks of ill-planning, ill intention and the potential for ill results.

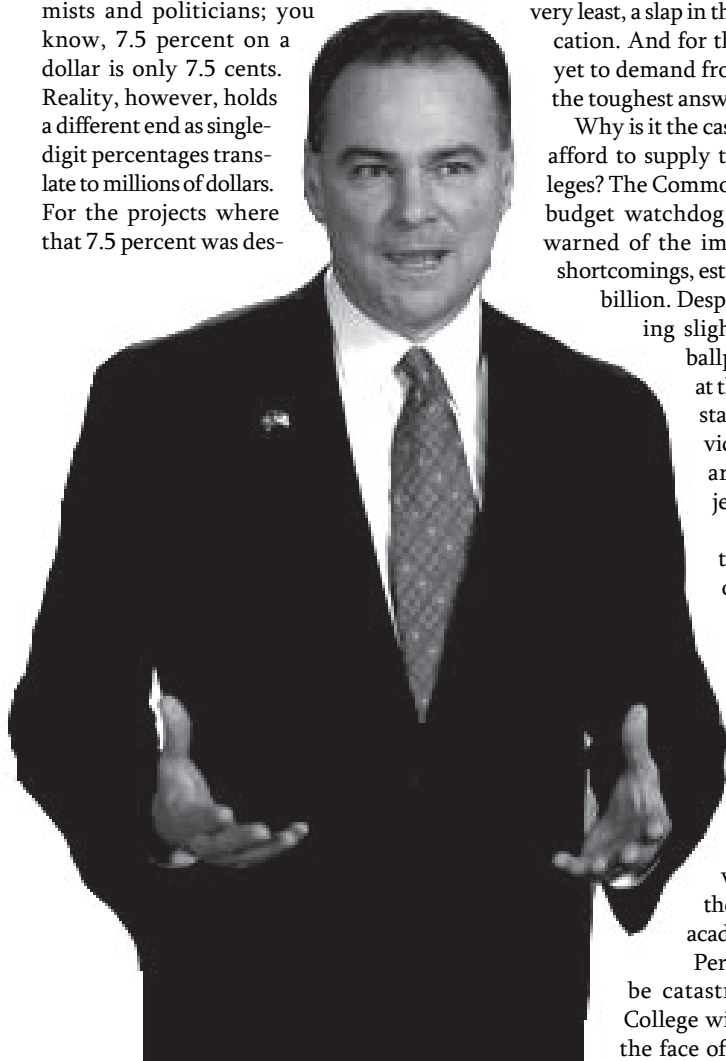
In the end, add or subtract, multiply or divide, and the budgets will grow and shrink. But budgets remain lifeless lists of mere numbers, numbers that happen to ignore the human element behind the projects those budgets will fund. This budget shortfall and resulting mockery of education implicit in the cuts illustrates the shortsightedness that plagues government.

And that's the crux of the debacle: a pitiful reliance on a regressive income tax, "sin" taxes (on alcohol and tobacco) and the problem of tax returns and the phase out of the car and estate taxes. It seems the math on the governor's mind was limited to subtraction. Virginians must accept that there needs to be an overhaul of the state's tax revenues, one that will prevent similar pitfalls and ensure adequate funding for the essentials, namely education.

At this time, the only people who should be losing time and money to solving this budgetary crunch are those who were responsible for it. If we'd like to preserve the quality functions of this education system without denuding our institutions of the money they need to furnish those programs and services, it's time we stopped talking about numbers. Instead, let's rework new initiatives, persevere through this year and then reevaluate the needs of the state and the College without the threat of funding cuts.

Given that they are often mutual here are two elements to politics that are often ignored by its practitioners: patience and common sense. For us, too, we must carry on patiently while Richmond regains any common sense from the present deficit it would rather avoid.

Dean Edwards is a staff columnist for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.



PUBLIC OFFICE

THE WORLD'S OLDEST PROFESSION

» KHALEELAH JONES, DSJ OPERATIONS EDITOR

I've always been one for a good, entertaining fight. That's not to say I'm a fan of professional boxing or wrestling, although watching a good catfight amongst peers is always hilarious. However, when people have real ideals or beliefs that they feel strongly enough about to share or stick up for, however forcefully, I feel that they deserve to be heard.

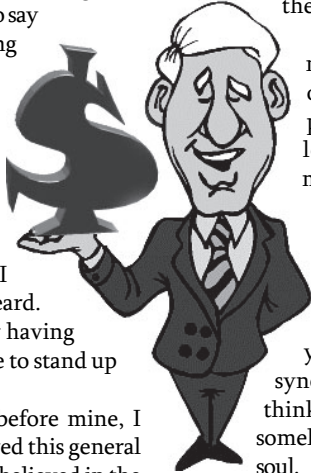
And they deserve respect for having the courage and perseverance to stand up for what they believe in, too.

There was a time, much before mine, I suppose, when politics followed this general formula. Candidates strongly believed in the American system of government but believed that they could lead the way and steer the government more effectively with their certain set of ideals and beliefs. These candidates worked both for and with the populace to ensure that problems were addressed and things got done. They had dynamic, working ideas about how to foster change and how to have a positive effect on both the government and the people for whom it claimed to protect and provide.

Now, some people would probably claim that I am not looking at the "big picture." We are, after all, a country that no longer subsists solely on the voting rights of its landed male population. Times have changed. The government now has much more to do than worry about preserving male voting rights and what territories we should allow to join the union. Still, it seems to me that, in those days, candidates had real ideas and worked, once in office, to change the way the system worked in a positive way that affected change. When a candidate proposed a change, it didn't cross the minds of the voting public that these changes would not be at least taken into consideration. Now, this is one of the paramount concerns surrounding politics: Why isn't anything getting done?

For years now, politics have been obscured by party competition. The party doesn't care what it needs to say or do in order to gain power. Many times, promises are made without subsequent results. Candidates try to "sell" themselves like they

are this year's new Tickle Me Elmo, working hard to appeal to certain groups of the electorate.

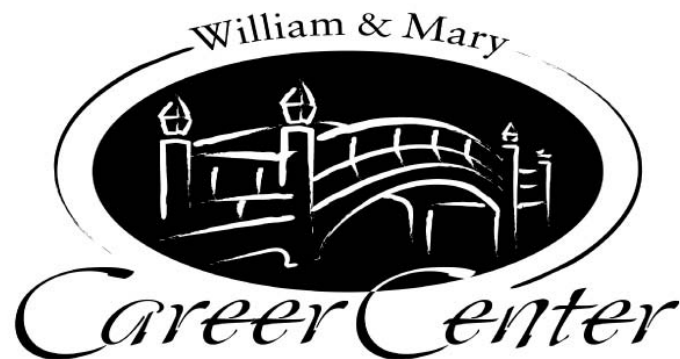


Maybe it's the fault of the mass media. With all the hype over Jessica Simpson losing 20 pounds and which celebrity looks good in Marc Jacobs miniskirts, the American people are less inclined to care about what a candidate does than how he or she looks and presents themselves. We've come to believe that the way you look can actually be synonymous with the way you think, feel and behave. Beauty has somehow become a mirror into the soul.

Maybe it's the fault of the stratification of American society. Obviously, general interests between different demographics will not agree—why would the richest tax bracket and the lowest tax bracket consent to the same tax break scheme? Therefore, candidates must decide which group to appeal to and leave others in the dust.

Whoever or whatever it is (and I'm not saying I have an edge on the market and know the culprit), we have turned our politicians into marketable goods that must be sold to be bought. This has led to the general disenfranchisement of the common American—we no longer have a voice in the political process. Hell, there is hardly a political process anymore. It seems that nothing gets done, that promises are never kept. We are never fully informed of what the government is doing and why. As long as you have a pretty face, a well-ironed suit and appeal to the populace in the Gallup Poll, apparently you're doing alright. The price of such politics, if you ask me, is just too high.

Khaleelah Jones is a staff columnist for The DSJ. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.



Fall 2007 Career Fair

Friday, September 21, 2007

12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

University Center, 3rd Floor

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to talk with over 100 employers interested in meeting and talking with you about jobs and internships.

All Majors and Class Years Welcome!

For a list of Employers attending, visit the Undergraduate Section of our website at www.wm.edu/career

Tribe Looks Forward to an All-Around Solid Fall

» JOHN BRENT HILL, DSJ SPORTS EDITOR

Looking ahead to the rapidly approaching (and in some cases already underway) fall season of Tribe sports, there is no sport at the College that appears to be lagging behind. Each fall sport looks to either match or build on their successes from last year in both men's and women's divisions.

Looking first at men's and women's cross country, both teams seem poised to build on the successes of last year. On the men's side, the team returns four of their seven scorers, most notably two-time All-American Christo Landry. If Landry, as expected, is named an All-American once again, he will be only the second Tribe cross country runner to have done so, after Matt Lane ('01). Despite losing Keith Bechtol, one of the team's most successful runners, the combination of a strong recruiting class with Landry's prowess should be enough to allow the Tribe to again win the CAA title and hopefully even surpass last year's finish of eighth place in the NCAA.

On the women's side, the Tribe hopes to put last year's season behind them, as they fell short of nationals because of a seventh place finish at southeast Regionals. They will look to win their fifth consecutive CAA title, thanks especially to the return of many of their All-CAA runners from last year. The team is young but talented. They should almost certainly build on their performance from last year, despite the loss of Meghan Bishop, and will definitely compete for a spot at nationals.

Away from the running world, the Tribe's prospects are similarly bright on the soccer pitch. As The DSJ re-

ported in our Orientation issue, the women's soccer team was picked to win the CAA and has started the season off well. Going into the Tribe Invitational, the Tribe was 1-1 and put up a stellar three goals on NC State.

On the men's team, the Tribe defeated Elon in the season opener and is headed to the Penn State Classic where they will face off with Big Ten opponents Penn State and Ohio State. The team is now ranked ninth in the South Atlantic Region and could see this ranking jump even higher should they upset number 22 in the nation Ohio State.

The men's and women's golf teams are also hot programs, although their seasons have yet to begin. They will start invitational play this fall, but do not have CAA Championships until the spring. Nonetheless, Golf Digest recently ranked the men's

best program nationally and the women's team 23rd of the 792 men's and 510 women's golf programs in the nation.

Men's tennis also looks to have a strong year, as they begin play

soon as well (like golf, their team championships are not this season, however). The team

is poised to make a run for NAAs like last year, and should go even further. They return two all-state players, including State Rookie of the Year Keziel Juneau.

The women's tennis team also looks to

return to NAAs, led by half of the doubles team that competed in the NCAA doubles championships, Katarina Zoricic. Her partner, Megan Moulton-Levy, has graduated, but Zoricic will almost certainly look to



Junior Danielle Collins defended the ball in August's exhibition win over George Washington University. The Tribe women's soccer team was picked to win this year's CAA. Photo courtesy Tribe Athletics.

continue the successes of last year. Also worth noting was the success of Ragini Acharya over the summer. Acharya won the women's singles championships of the ITA National Summer Championships and also had a very successful freshman campaign with the Tribe. She will be a vital player for the Tribe this year.

Tribe field hockey, despite starting the season 2-2, is off to a good start. They won their two opening games, and the two losses they have since suffered have been to two teams ranked in the top 10 nationally. Also, the losses were by a total of four points combined. Number four Duke defeated the Tribe at Duke 3-0, and then the Tribe lost a heartbreaker to number 10 Iowa at home 1-0. Since these losses, the Tribe has received an increased number of votes in the

If [two-time All-American] Landry is named an All-American once again, he will be only the second Tribe cross country runner to have done so, after Matt Lane ('01).



Senior Jay Sutton in the 2005 William & Mary Invitational. Golf Digest recently ranked the men's team the 25th best of 792 programs nationwide. Photo courtesy Tribe Athletics.

NFHCA Poll (where national rankings are decided) and the team still has five opponents who are currently ranked in the top 20. Preseason All-CAA senior Kim Hedley will continue to lead the team with her play.

Tribe volleyball also looks to build off last year's 10-16 season with a combination of gained experience and young talent. The Tribe has already taken second at the Tribe Invitational, and freshman Cassie Crumal has been named Rookie of the Week for two consecutive weeks.

Last, but not least, Tribe football looks to rebound from a hard loss in the team's home opener to Delaware. The team has a lot of talent and saw good production out of junior QB Jake Phillips. They will need to improve the run defense, but if the Tribe can

combine the consistency that they showed on their opening drive against the Blue Hens—which lasted 20 plays and resulted in just a field goal—with the explosiveness of

Phillips' 50 yard touch-down pass to Drew Atchinson, there is still hope yet for the team. And while the defense

Tribe [volleyball] has already taken second at the Tribe Invitational, and freshman Cassie Crumal has been named Rookie of the Week for two consecutive weeks.

did struggle, any time a defense scores a touchdown it is a small victory, and Terrell Wells did just that when he recovered a fumble and ran it back 28 yards. The Tribe had no defensive scores last year.

All in all, it appears that the 2007 fall season should be an interesting one for Tribe sports fans. With a lot of young teams maturing and getting stronger, there will certainly be a flurry of activity come CAA time later this fall.

Millennium Magic

As part of our expansion program, our company is looking for part-time, work-from-home account managers and sales representatives.

It pays at least \$2000 a month plus benefits and takes only little of your time.

Please contact us for more details. Requirements: Should be computer literate. 2-3 hours access to the internet weekly. Must be over 19 yrs of age. Must be efficient and dedicated.

If you are interested and need more information, contact Michael J Sloan, email: mjsloan01@yahoo.com

Diamondbacks Score a Memorable Season, *Washington Nationals on Deck*



» ALEXANDER DANVERS, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

September looks like a vicious free-for-all as the final contenders sprint to the finish for the final few MLB playoff spots, with 10 teams having at least a 30 percent chance of making the playoffs, according to Baseball Prospectus' Playoffs Odds Generator (as of Aug. 29, 2007). There's nothing baseball fans love more than an exciting pennant race, but for diehard Nationals fans (that'll sound more impressive after the team's been in D.C. more than three years), it's hard not to feel left out. After all, the Nationals have been in last place for most of the season, and any excitement among fans of the team is centered around the delayed gratification of having been with a future champion when it was still giving at-bats to guys like Nook Logan.

So, in this time of trouble, Nationals fans may feel compelled to turn their attention to the Arizona Diamondbacks, who are battling for both the National League West title with the San Diego Padres as well as for the National League wild card. Why root for the Diamondbacks, you ask? Mainly because they resemble the future that the Nationals are hoping for right now.

Last July, Mike Rizzo, scouting director of the Arizona Diamondbacks from 1998-2006, was hired as an Assistant to the General Manager for the Washington Nationals. Rizzo's role will expand with the Nationals, who expect him to scout and sign amateur players in the United States, Latin America, Japan and Korea, as well as continuing his work in the annual amateur draft. For the Nationals, a team determined to win in the long term by

investing in a strong minor league pipeline, how Rizzo performs will have a huge effect on the team's ability to rebuild. If Rizzo can consistently turn out half a dozen solid major leaguers with one or two All-Stars, the Nationals can then buy the last pieces to the puzzle on the free-agent market the way Detroit did leading up to last year's World Series run.



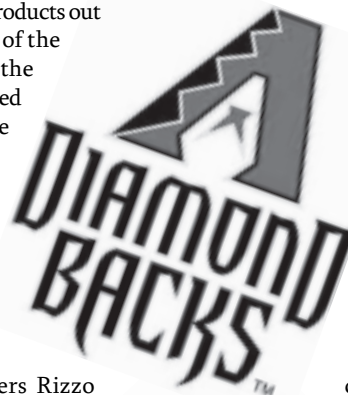
To see whether Rizzo is up to the job, one has to look no further than this year's D'backs. The division leaders' active roster contains 12 Rizzo products out of 25 players, including five of the everyday starters and six of the 12 pitchers on the team. Ranked the number one minor league system heading into this season by Baseball America, the core Rizzo developed over his eight years running Arizona's drafts has carried the team. The evidence suggests that Rizzo is very much up to the job.

A run-down of the players Rizzo brought to Arizona like the pied piper of proper player evaluation is enough to get any Nationals fan's mouth watering.

His biggest draft success is Brandon Webb, the D'backs' ace pitcher and last year's Cy Young Award Winner. An eighth round draft pick in 2000, Webb has never posted an ERA as high as 3.60, never struck out fewer than 160 batters in a season and never gave up more than a hit an inning. With 170 Ks, 14 Ws and a 2.83 ERA, Webb ranks second, third and fourth respectively in each of the

triple crown pitching stats in the National League.

While Webb is undisputed king for now, 19-year-old center fielder Justin Upton may soon eclipse him. The first overall pick in the 2005 draft and brother of Devil Rays second baseman B.J. Upton (who was picked second overall in 2002), Upton has drawn comparisons to a young Alex Rodriguez or Ken Griffey, Jr. Considered a prospect since he was only 14, Upton shot through the minors in a year and a half and could help the D'backs right away. Though he hasn't yet made the kind of splash fellow rookies Hunter Pence and Ryan Braun have this season, he could end up being the best of the bunch.

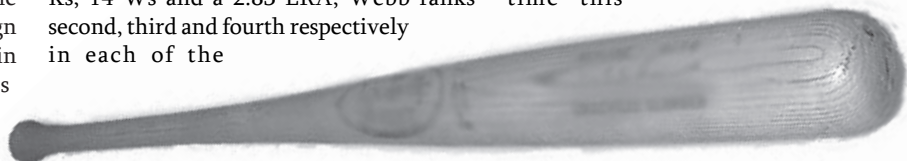


Other Rizzo products making key contributions for this year's D'backs are:

—First baseman Conor Jackson, who so far has shown the ability to hit at about league average but could develop into more than just a younger, cheaper Scott Hatteberg (not that there's any shame in giving Scott Hatteberg 400+ ABs).

—Utility infielder Mark Reynolds, starting in place of injured 3B Chad Tracy (another Rizzo product), has translated some of the power he showed in the minors last season into 11 HR and a .477 slugging percentage in the majors this year.

—The catching tandem of Chris Snyder and Miguel Montero have shared playing time this



season with the good results coming mostly out of Snyder's bat, but Montero has the better long-term upside.

Finally, there's Stephen Drew. Picked in the first round of the 2004 draft (15th overall), Drew looked like the super-stud, rock-star, number one hit machine that his older brother J.D. shows flashes of when healthy. He hit a tasty .316/.357/.517 (AVG/OBP/SLG) in a 200 AB test drive of the majors at the end of last year, and the D'backs expected him to pick up where he left off this year, terrorizing the league with numbers comparable to those of last year but stretched over the 162-game season.

Unfortunately, his production has fallen off greatly from the potential he exhibited last year. One theory is that he's being exposed as the fraud he really is after padding his résumé in hitter-friendly minor leagues, but even Vinny Castilla had some decent seasons outside of Coors field. The problem is probably something deeper than that; some adjustment pitchers are making that he hasn't caught up to, some lingering injury he hasn't talked about—something, in short, that probably doesn't diminish Mike Rizzo's good work in getting the heart throb actor Josh Hartnett look-alike to the majors.

In terms of pitching, it's no secret that the crème de la crème of the youth in the NL is Brandon Webb, but what's been almost as important in terms of Rizzo's contributions is the bullpen. Set-up men Tony Pena (signed as an amateur free agent in 2002) and Doug Slaten (17th round pick in the 2000 draft) have put up ERAs of 2.78 and 2.27, respectively. Their 100+ innings of lights-out relief for pre-arbitration salaries are a big part of the reason the D'backs are outperforming their expected record (based on runs scored) by an eyeball-popping 11 games. Micah Owings is giving some league



average innings to the Snakes in the rotation. And relievers Dustin Nippert and Edgar Gonzalez—well, they made the team. Nippert could even turn into a three or four starter, which is nothing to sneeze at when my home team has given 18 starts to Mike Bascik.

So that's the post-Rizzo look rattlers for you—young and bountiful, cups running over with talent. Other Rizz-ciples who may be coming soon to a box score near you are:

—Carlos Quentin, who scouts see as a potential .300-30-100 guy, but who has so far alternately not hit and been hurt;

—Carlos Gonzalez, an outfield prospect with middle of the order power who could push Eric Byrnes for playing time as early as next season;

—Max Scherzer, the last drafted player to be able to hold out an entire year before finally signing with his team, now that a rule change forces teams to sign drafted players by Aug. 15. The RHP has finally gotten to the minors, where he's posting a 71:35 K:BB rate at AA, and might get a September call-up.



Even the talent Rizzo's D'backs let get away is impressive. Lyle Overbay of the Blue Jays (18th round, 1999), Ian Kinsler of the Rangers (26th round, 2001), Dan Uggla of the Marlins (11th round, 2001) and D.C.'s own cherub-faced Matt Chico (third round, 2003) are all Rizzo products. Not too shabby—this is exactly why Nationals fans should be looking forward to good things.

The Nationals signed all of their top-20 picks under Rizzo this year, and fans may get a look at star prospect and sixth-overall pick Ross Detwiler this September. So when Nationals games finish this fall, tune in to the

West Coast just in time to catch the future of the Nats—the

Diamondbacks—in action

right now. Just

remember, every time

Brandon Webb racks

up another K or Upton

blasts one out of the

park, you should be

cheering twice as hard—

once for the pennant race going

on right now, and once for the

pennant race two seasons from now when the Nationals will be making their own run at the championship.

Tech Prevails On and Off the Field

» JOHN BRENT HILL, DSJ SPORTS EDITOR

September 16th will mark the five month anniversary of one of the darkest days in our nation, and most certainly the Commonwealth of Virginia's history. It was on that day, April 16th, that the worst school shooting in American history took place on the campus of Virginia Tech, a school that we at the College closely associate with, be it through friends or family, or simply because of the school's existence, like the College, in the Virginia state college system.

On Saturday, September 1, however, Tech took a major step towards its "return to normalcy," a term that was coined by Warren G. Harding to describe America's recovery from World War I, and was very aptly applied to Saturday's football game by ESPN reporter Mark Schlabach. Tech is among the perennial powerhouse schools in NCAA division one football. They are an annual competitor for the Atlantic Coast Conference Championship (and this year's frontrunner), have made appearances in 142 consecutive bowl games (including two BCS bowls) and this year are ranked among the top 10 teams in the country, coming in at number nine and poised to move up.

Football at Virginia Tech is more than just a sport; it is a defining aspect of the community. Students are just as much Hokies as the football players. Lane Stadium, where the Hokie football team plays, seats over 66,000 fans and is packed to capacity every Saturday in the fall when the team is home. On September 1, the stadium had never been nearly as quiet or as loud as it was at times. In the moments before both teams, Tech and the East Carolina Pirates, left their locker rooms, a stirring memorial was played on the jumbotron.

This film left the stadium literally devoid of any sound and left all three of ESPN's commentators in tears, most notably Lee Corso, who was noticeably stirred by the remembrance. The film featured scenes from the days following the tragedy and fittingly and poignantly ended with professor and poet Nikki Giovanni emphasizing the school's adopted motto during its recovery: "We will

prevail! We will prevail! We will prevail! We are Virginia Tech!"

The pre-game ceremony also featured a flyby of F-15 jets in missing man formation, as well as Virginia Governor Tom Kaine wandering amongst the tailgaters outside the stadium, offering greetings to the Hokie faithful and just adding to the camaraderie that had already developed in Blacksburg.

Also away from the stadium was the somber memorial to the victims of the tragedy. In front of Burruss Hall, the memorial site, fans and visitors alike walked through the area gazing at the 32 monuments, each of which had been adorned with a tulip by a nameless stranger earlier that morning.

As game time neared, those commentating on ESPN began to wonder how East Carolina would handle playing the roll of the foe of Tech. On a day where almost every person in America was aware of the game's implications was cheering for Tech, how would the small school handle their roll in opposition? Prior to the game, East Carolina made a donation of \$100,000 to the Hokie Sprit Memorial Fund, a gesture that certainly demonstrated their understanding and compassion towards the situation they were in. In another very strong indication of the unity that characterized the day, the two teams chose to emerge from the locker rooms from the same tunnel, foregoing individual introductions and the boos that usually follow the away team's emergence. Instead, both teams were met with a swell of emotion

and cheers that literally shook the television cameras.

To say that emotion was high in the moments surrounding the kickoff would be a severe understatement. However, as the actual contest ensued, this emotion did not immediately translate into successes for the Hokies. The

Tech players were slightly erratic at times, and the offense especially had a lot of difficulty in moving the ball early.

An early fumble led to the Pirates leading the contest 7-3 for a large portion of the first half. Finally, in the waning minutes of the second quarter, Tech got the spark it needed on an interception for a touchdown and did not look back. While the offense did not ever really get into a groove, they did

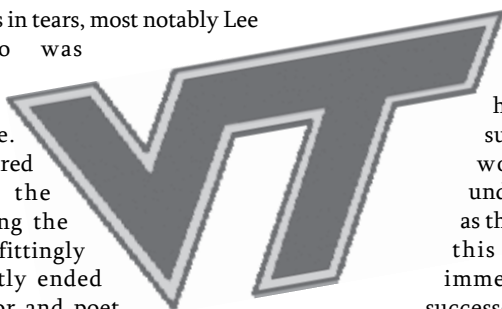
The return of Virginia Tech football marked the return of a normal atmosphere to Virginia Tech... Football united the population as only sports can.

stabilize and avoid the mistakes that had cost them earlier.

The chaos that had been widespread at kickoff had largely waned, especially when Tech trailed early and fears of an upset lingered. But with all of America's eyes turned to and yearning for a Tech victory, the day would not be lost, and in the end Tech did prevail. They left the game slightly less confident, however, after winning only 17-7, and facing the number two ranked LSU Tigers in their next game.

When the game was over, fans triumphantly filed out of the packed stadium like they have so many times before. But never before has a game had implications like those of Saturday, September 1. Football is just a sport, and especially in a collegiate setting, sports take the back seat to education. However, in a community of over 28,000 students and staff members, football is just about as important an aspect of every day life as any other.

The return of Virginia Tech football marked the return of a normal atmosphere to Virginia Tech. In a time when the community was questioning itself, football united the population as only sports can. Football transcends gender, race, major and creed. On that Saturday, it wasn't so much about football as it was about being a Hokie. And, because of football, every person in that stadium, in Blacksburg, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States was a Hokie. And as a Hokie on that Saturday, I could safely say that with the help of football, and time, "We will prevail! We are Virginia Tech!"



A Year of Firsts for Us All

It's pretty safe to say that college is a place where most of us have experienced some significant firsts. Many students get their first C, go to their first frat party and fall in love for the first time while at the College. A lot of us will, for the first time, find something we are truly passionate about, ranging from community service causes and religious devotion to academic interests and research aspirations. And this year will be no different. Each September, we at the College gear up for another crazy, jam-packed, exciting and undoubtedly fun year of firsts.

Freshmen in particular come to mind when reflecting on upcoming firsts for this year.

Most freshmen are away from their parents for the first time in their lives. Some may have arrived at the College knowing no one and are, for the first time, essentially alone. Some of them will, of course, get their first William and Mary exam back and realize that, for the first time, they might need to study. Others might feel that they have finally found a group of friends as academically focused and passionate as themselves. They will have the opportunity to travel to other countries on service trips—not exactly your standard family beach vacation. And the extracurricular activities they will find themselves involved in—juggling club, Greek life, surfing club, the list goes on—will definitely provide some first experiences. And take advantage of them! The blank slate doesn't last too long at the College. Even though these first few months are crazy, take time to enjoy all your academic and social firsts.

For sophomores, the firsts are a different flavor. After their inaugural year, most sophomores are in better dorms, take more interesting classes and have closer friends

than this time last year. With a year behind them, sophomores, in some ways, are just now ready to thoroughly enjoy their time at the College. But with this newfound familiarity and ease often come some unexpected decisions that clamor to be made.

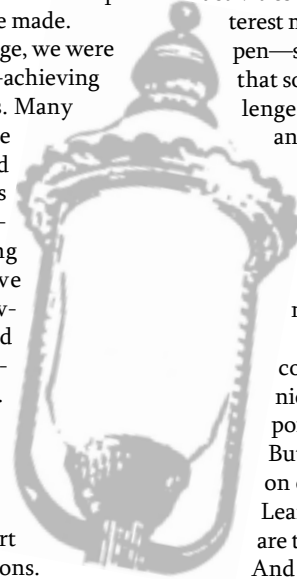
As a student at the College, we were all most likely pretty high-achieving kids in our younger years. Many of us were told we could be anything we set our mind to. Triteness aside, this hackneyed statement is often true—high-achieving teenagers really do have their pick from doctor, lawyer, business executive and other high-profile, academically-inclined careers. And college is the first step towards the realization of these potential future paths. But after freshman year, people start asking you to make decisions. Instead of saying, "I want to be a doctor," you have to commit to that goal in the form of a major, thereby agreeing to take certain classes and fulfill inflexible requirements. For some sophomores this will be just one more step towards a goal they've had for years, but it can also be a time of uncertainty. So good luck, sophomores, and trust yourselves with this, the first of many such decisions.

Although juniors are right in the middle of their experience at the College, there are still new experiences to be had. A lot of juniors are just now adjusting to new lead-

ership positions on campus. Now that the cool juniors and seniors that led organizations are gone and graduated, it's time for the juniors to step up. And leadership, especially at the College, can certainly be daunting. You being to realize that tables at the activities fair, flyers around campus and interest meetings with pizza don't just happen—someone makes that happen. Now, that someone is you. Embrace the challenge! Leadership is hardly automatic, and you'll learn as you go. Leadership at the College is an excellent opportunity to work with other enthusiastic students, while perfecting your interpersonal and time management skills—definitely a nice combination.

And now for seniors. As counterintuitive as it may seem, seniors are still experiencing some important firsts. Okay, yes, Mug Night. But other important firsts are going on outside the hallowed walls of the Leafe. For the first time ever, seniors are thinking about postgraduate plans. And it's terrifying. Of course, some will go on to med school, law school or a fancy consulting job. But for the rest of us, think college search times 10. Uncertainty, especially at an age when our parents may not want to convert the new study back into your old room, can be overwhelming. But we're students at the College. No doubt each of us will find something spectacular for our lives after graduation.

So, there it is: four different years, four different sets of adjustments, uncertainties and excitement. It's just another common thread for all students here at the College. And The DSJ wishes you the best of luck.



Want to Get Involved?

The DoG Street Journal has openings for News, Style, Sports and Opinions writers, copy editors and distribution team members.

For more information, or to get an application, e-mail us today!

join@dogstreetjournal.com

The DoG Street Journal
The Future of Student Media