The DoG Street Journal

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September 2008

You're Back. So are we

One on one with

President Reveley

Who are you voting for?

Best Of's: Alternative Candidates

Professor Bolger's 11 Degrees

The DSJ Chats with Football Player &

Tribe Alum Billy Parker



(whoweare)

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The DoG Street Journal

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OURMISSION

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.

COVERIMAGE

Friday, August 29 marked the official start of the 2008-2009 academic year, kicked off by Convocation. The upcoming year promises significant change -- for our campus and for our country, -and The DSJ is back too, prepared to keep you updated every step of the way. Welcome back, Tribe.

Photo by Jonna Knappenberger Design by Marina Stranieri

WORDSRIFF

Chemistry Professor Randy Coleman Named 2008 Campus Technology **Innovator**



Associate Professor Randy Coleman's use of a tablet-style computer in his classroom has earned him Campus Technology Magazine's recognition as an on-campus innovator. Coleman used a Lenova Tablet PC rather than a blackboard to write his notes, opening up a wide range of student participation. Coleman encouraged his students to turn papers in online and, in another innovative use of technology, embedded audio comments into the paper rather than writing notes. "The kids love it," Coleman commented in a College press release. "It's changed my way of thinking about lectures." Although the information he presented in his Organic Chemistry class hasn't changed much in the last 30 years, Coleman saw his highest class average ever in his first semester of using the technology. "It's truly the sense of engagement they felt that I believe made the difference," he said.

Six Years, \$36.2 Million later, Swem Library among America's Best



In 2004, Swem Library finished a six-year reconstruction project intended to update the 1965 building to modern standards. The Wolf Law Library at the William and Mary Law School recently went through a similar project. This summer, based on surveys of nearly 120,000 undergraduates from across the US, the Princeton Review ranked the College eighth in its "Best College Library" category. Swem's reconstruction involved more than just adding new computers. The building more than doubled in size, added a new café and 24-hour study lounge - typically packed full until daybreak during midterms and finals - individual and group study rooms, and a fully-equipped media center that has a room full of TVs, rentable laptops and other electronic equipment. Provost P. Geoffrey Feiss commented in a press release, "We are very proud of our renovated, expanded and improved library facilities and understand their importance in the overall educational experience here."

Associate Professor of **History Scott Nelson Goes Backstage with Bruce** Springsteen

Professor Scott Nelson met Bruce Springsteen backstage at Springsteen's Richmond Coliseum show Aug. 18. Nelson recently published a book titled "Steel-Driven' Man" about the real John Henry. John Henry is a legendary character, a railroad worker who takes on a steam-powered hammer in order to prove man is better than machine. Henry wins, but collapses afterwards and dies. Nelson, in his book, traced Henry's origins to New Jersey. Springsteen, also born in New Jersey, recorded the song "John Henry" in 2006. Nelson said the focus of his meeting with Springsteen was not Springsteen's music but the history and legend of John Henry. "I think of Bruce Springsteen as an historian," Nelson said in a recent College press release. "He's got a way of capturing time and place and mood for a period of 10 or 20 years back that no other musician has been able to do."

College Launches Web Site, Redesigned Over 18 Months



The College has launched a new Web site which includes new features such as an improved search engine, student blogs, beautiful images and a user-centric approach. The core of this new approach is the site's "gateways," available in a drop-down menu accessible from every page, customized for the needs of alumni, parents, current students, community members and faculty and staff. The site will continue to launch - the School of Law and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science do not reopen with the new design until Sept. 30. The site for the School of Education and the Mason School of Business follow even later, with the final launch schedule for March 2009. Susan Evans, director of Web and communication services in IT, said in a College press release that she hopes the new site will serve "as a way to tell the personal stories of the W&M community, and offer a window into what it's like to teach, learn and work at the College."

savethedate

september 17

who: gideon yago what: a speech by the former

mtv news correspondent when: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. where: pbk hall

why: to learn about his experiences and his take on the current state of the nation

september 19

who: the college

what: the fall 2008 career fair

when: 12:00 p.m.

where: 3rd floor, sadler center why: to decide if you want to be a truck driver or an ambassador

september 20

who: football fans

what: tribe vs. norfolk state

when: 7:00 p.m. where: zable stadium why: to support the tribe

september 25-26

who: the philosophically in-

clined

what: human self conference when: september 25 - 26 where: the williamsburg hospital-

why: for studious self-reflection

september 26

who: future lawyers

what: supreme court preview

when: 6:00 p.m. where: the law school why: to watch journalists,

judges and lawyers in the same room

september 27

who: music fans who want to

support a good cause what: w&m fall fest when: 1:00 p.m. where: sunken gardens why: to listen to music and help build a clinic in liberia

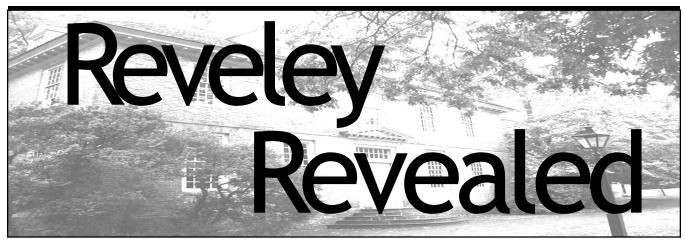
october 3-5 who: anyone whose family

wants to visit

what: family weekend when: all weekend where: all over campus

why: because your parents

miss you



» MEGAN HERMIDA, DSJ OPERATIONS EDITOR; ISABELLE COHEN, DSJ NEWS EDITOR

President W. Taylor Reveley, III opens up with The DoG Street Journal about his time as president of the College.

Former President Gene Nichol left the College abruptly and unexpectedly last spring, after learning from the Board of Visitors that his contract as president would not be renewed. Reveley, a dean at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, was called in almost immediately to replace him, in a transition that took place before most of the student body had come to terms with the change.

DSJ: You were obviously put in a very tough position. Nichol is a legacy, and he's very popular with the students. What are your thoughts about his resignation and your role coming in after he left?

Reveley: In describing my role I have usually termed it a civic duty. I had hardly gotten started when I got an email from one of my former students at the law school. He said he didn't know whether what had just happened to me was a promotion, a civic duty or a sentence. It felt like a civic duty for a long time because I ended up working 15-17 hours a day, seven days a week. ... Initially, I felt like I could do some good, I felt like I ought to do it, but it was pretty grinding. You're completely right about President Nichol. He was an enormously charismatic, charming figure, wildly beloved among the students and much of the faculty.

DSJ: Do you feel that Nichol's popularity was in any way a stigma to your productivity now as president?

Reveley: No. And I didn't feel that way at the beginning because even the people who were most concerned, angry, distressed about President Nichol's

departure nonetheless responded to me with offers of help and support, and a real focus on the good of William and Mary going forward. And I talked to Gene with some frequency about the university. He and I are friends.

Nichol was praised for his emphasis on diversity and involvement. This year's undergraduate class is the most diverse the College has seen. With Nichol gone, many in the College community wondered what changes would happen to the diversity of our school.

DSJ: Do you intend to further Nichol's projects?

Reveley: Oh yeah. The four things in particular that had characterized the Nichol administration were the Gateway program, which is need-based aid, particularly for families ... civic engagement, the internationalization of our efforts and diversity.

They are all efforts that actually predated President Nichol's coming. We've had needbased aid here for a long time, we just haven't emphasized the necessity to have more. Certainly internationalization has been going on for a good while. Civic engagement at William and Mary has characterized the place since 1693. Now we do an enormous amount of it here and that's wonderful. And certainly on the diversity - the university has been trying for a long time to do a lot better on that front.

In all of those areas we'll continue to move forward. I mean, on the Gateway front, where there had been no endowment for Gateway, we're in the process of raising a \$10 million endowment, which isn't enough, but it'll be a real help to be sure that that project is funded and will continue to be

funded... On the diversity front, as you all doubtless know, we just brought in our most diverse undergraduate class in history.

DSI: That we did hear.

Reveley: And we had a great recruiting year across the university, including in the undergraduate class. So everything that President Nichol did in these areas William and Mary embraced warmly and it's moving forward as it would have, I believe, if he were still here.

In recent years, the College and Virginia have both struggled with budget difficulties. Students (and parents) have noticed the steadily rising costs of tuition. Last spring, it seemed like news of Commonwealth budget cuts came in almost weekly. William and Mary was ranked by U.S. News and World Report's 2008 national rankings as 111th in terms of financial resources, nearly 80 places below it's 32nd ranking in the listings of best national universities.

DSJ: What are your financial plans during your time as acting President?

Reveley: You mean other than resort to tooth fairies or other such things... The state did a good job of supporting William and Mary financially for a long time. But now the state really is unable to keep doing that to the degree that we need. For example, this year we expect about 18 percent of our operating budget will come from the taxpayers which means 82 percent has to come from other sources.

What this means is that we've gone from being a school that was publicly supported by the taxpayers and gotten some private assistance too, to being a school that is basically privately supported with some state assistance. That's a new financial model and we've got to figure out how to make it work. In large part that means we have to learn how to raise a lot more money.

Now, having said the state really can't adequately support our operating budget, I also ought to say that the state has been very generous with the capital fund... Since the year 2000, a lot of buildings have been built, are being built on campus and not all of them, but most of them rely on state funding and that's wonderful. That's crucial. But when it comes to the operating budget, what we have to do financially is figure out big time how to build a private side of our

public-private financial foundation. That means more annual giving. It means more giving for endowment. It means more grants attained from foundations... It means more tuition.

DSI: So how is the state of our budget?

Reveley: We have a budget for this year that is going to balance, but for the cuts from the state that we expect are coming. But once those cuts come, we'll have to figure out how to make the budget balance again at a lower total cost.

Before being appointed president of the College on Sept. 5, Reveley faced the unique challenge of knowing that his time as the College's president might very well have been

limited. Despite that, Reveley was not a man willing to sit by and be what he would call a caretaker, rather than a leader.

DSJ: Do you have any big projects on the horizon?

Reveley: Well, a huge project for this year is strategic planning, which we haven't done really since about 14 or 15 years ago. Who are we? Where are we trying to go? Why are we trying to go there? How do we plan to get there? We also have a major effort going on to try to figure out how to make this new financial model I was talking about work. We must have a great deal more

private support than we traditionally have had. How do we get that?

A third major initiative falls in the communications, marketing, branding area where we simply need to do a more effective, more coordinated job of getting William and Mary's message out. And as you all know, we got a new website, and that's great, a big improvement, but that's just part of the mix. So those three areas are particularly are on my mind for this year.

DSJ: Do you have any specific goals or aspirations for this new class in how you with people that are different than yourself ... We put a good bit of emphasis on diversity, not just in recruiting diversity but then integrating everybody into the whole and seeing that people understand that this is not simply political correctness by any means ... A woman named Chon Glover leads the charge for us. She does very good work.

We ended the interview on a lighter note, by asking Reveley to tell us more about his feelings about the College, its uniqueness and history.

DSJ: What's your favorite William and Mary tradition?



expect their increased diversity to affect the campus?

Reveley: Well, we just had two sessions, or actually it was three sessions and I was able to go to two of them, with the new students on diversity and why it's so important and how we go about it. I spoke at those two sessions, but mainly students carry the ball... getting across the fact that everybody is welcome here, that there is a huge amount to be learned from people that are different than ourselves ...

In this century if you want to be able to work effectively, you have to learn how to work Reveley: I'm really drawn to the fact first that William and Mary has so many traditions, which is nice because not many colleges do. ... Probably the most compelling one is that the freshmen and transfer students march through the Wren Building going east when they first come. They are, of course, hideously embarrassed as they come out the other side and everybody looks at them and applauds, but march through it. And then when they graduate repeat the drill going west. That's wonderful.

I think too, this is kind of related, it's one of the great comparative

advantages of William and Mary among the teeming herd of other colleges and universities in this country is its incredibly rich history. Our history here is richer than the history of any other school, including Harvard and Yale.

That's good for us, coupled with the fact that like the phoenix, like the mythical bird, we just keep bouncing back from adversity. You can't keep us down. We were burned during the Revolutionary War, burned during the Civil War. This is a place of extraordinary history, great tradition, and a place that remembers its history and delights in its traditions. That's good.



Mercury Rising

Students and Faculty Commit to Global Mercury Research

KELSEY POWELL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

This past summer, William and Mary students have been working on both the national and global level to research the effects of mercury on communities, local flora and fauna and the global environment.

Since the mercury program began in 2005, students have done research around Virginia, specifically on birds, fish and spiders in the Shenandoah River. The research done at the Shenandoah River in a previous year led to the publication of "The Movement of Aquatic Mercury Through Terrestrial Food Webs" by a research team of undergraduate and graduate students led by Pco-director of the mercury program, Professor of Biology Dan Cristol.

The Mercury Sustained Global Inquiry Group brings together students and faculty to discuss the problems of mercury pollution on a local and global scale. It moves between departments to encompass as many areas of study as possible. According to the Web site, "with faculty from biology, sociology, art, film studies, and history who teach undergraduates and graduates at William and Mary's Williamsburg campus and VIMS, our group crosses several academic borders."

The group's main focus is to promote student research and educate people about environmental hazards posed by mercury. The group site explains: "Our focus on mercury pollution provides a way to promote research projects, courses and public events that emphasize the global nature of mercury hazards and how they touch all disciplines and everyday life."

This past summer, Bethany Woods ('10) was one of the many students who took mercury research to a global scale. Woods spent six weeks in northern Ec-

uador with three other William and Mary students. While abroad, Woods studied the effects of mercury in Ecuador's gold-mining communities, while also teaching English to indigenous residents.

Woods spent several days in Portovelo, a county in the El Oro province, which is famous for its gold mines. In Portovelo, Woods talked to the locals about the environment and the mining community. She used these conversations and other research to study mercury use in the gold mines, an industry that employs most of the county.

In Ecuador, mining gold has been a profitable trade for decades. One mining center is Zaruma, a city located on the southeastern end of Ecuador. According to Woods, many local mines use mercury to refine gold. The process of refining is called mercury amalgamation. Essentially, the gold and mercury are alloyed together, allowing for the extraction of the gold.

"It's like mixing mercury with gold... then heating off the mercury to extract the gold," Woods explains.

The danger is in the contact the miners have with the mercury. Direct contact with mercury includes inhaling the vapors, consuming contaminated water or food or touching the actual substance. Any type of contact poses a huge threat; exposure to mercury damages the nervous system, causes symptoms ranging from a skin rash to cancer and can result in death.

Woods is focused "on the public heath prospect" of places like Zaruma. In Zaruma, she said, "there is public knowledge but there is no government regulation ... [the difficulty is] trying to balance what the government enforces and what the miners and their families are facing."

"The mining areas in Ecuador tend to be poor local communities," Woods said. Even though use of mercury in the mines is dangerous, the mines themselves create income and livelihood. "The people don't really have an option for alternatives ... There are different methods but mercury tends to get the greatest percentage of gold out of the mountain the fastest," Woods said.

Woods specifically worked on the "cultural" aspect of the project. The sGIG works such that people from all departments collaborate to create a picture of the effects of mercury beyond the scientific evidence recovered during research. "It's not just from a science perspective but also literary and cultural studies, social, economic and cultural aspects," Woods said.

Across the Atlantic, William and Mary student William Sealy ('09), with Professor of English Sharon Zuber and Professor of Marine Science Michael Newman, participated in a cultural and scientific exchange in Wuhan, a city in central China. They switched places with a group of Chinese graduate students and professors.

"The reason I went on the trip to China was to make a documentary film," Sealy said. "While there, I filmed interviews with all of the Chinese students and professors as well as the Americans. We even set up a round-table discussion between the two groups to compare perceptions - both wrong and right - of environmental governance policy in the U.S. and China.'

Sealy was amazed at the cultural differences and excited by the experience and opportunity to compare, contrast

"One Chinese student lived with five



other men in a room about the size of most freshmen doubles," Sealy recalled. "Each bed with suspended from the ceiling over their desks, which went around the peripheral of the room, all touching very closely. There was a laundry drying line that ran across the room and only one window. It was eve-opening to see students on the other side of the world so thankful for their opportunity to study at a university even though their living situations would be considered abysmal by American college students."

"All in all, we learned many new things and grew to be close friends with the Chinese students. Even now, we have kept in touch with them through e-mail. This semester I will be editing the film as an independent study with Sharon. I hope to have it finished in the coming weeks," Sealy said.

Closer to home, in the southeastern end of Newport News, undergraduate Ashley Pierce ('10) and graduate student Erica Holloman researched the mercury content in fish and its effects on the local community.

Holloman and Pierce's main task is to

examine fish using a "direct mercury analyzer" that measures the amount of mercury in a given sample.

"The research is still in set-up stage," Pierce explained. "The rest of the school year will be spent gathering [the type of] fish that the locals of Newport News said they ate in a survey and analyz-

ing their mercury content.'

Pierce and Holloman are hopeful they will have information to give to the Newport News community once they finish researching.

"The research we did this summer allowed me to get an idea of graduate research and it also gave me a chance to work with special machines such as a direct mercury analyzer that I probably wouldn't have worked with otherwise," said Pierce.

Graduate student Mikaela Howie also did his research a bit closer to the

College. He worked with Cristol and Adam Pflugrath ('11), an undergraduate biology major hired as a field assistant with his sGIG grant. They spent the summer at the Shenandoah river, where Cristol has done research for the last few

years.

"My overall research deals with looking at how terrestrial songbirds living and breeding along the South river in western Virginia are affected by mercury dumped into the river in the 1940's and 1950's," Howie said. "Specifically, my work has focused on how they

are being exposed through their diet and how large of a problem this is. I looked at how far from the contaminated river exposure is still a risk for these songbirds."

Howie has found that even at a distance of 300 meters from the contaminated river, birds still have elevated levels of mercury when compared to birds not in the area. He found that the birds consume contaminated wolf spiders. Howie claims the mystery remains as to how these spiders have such high levels of mercury.

The researchers speculate that the spiders may have high levels of mercury because, in their larval stage in the water, young spiders feed off of "emergent insects," and build up significant amounts of mercury in their



Students filming a documentary on mercury research

system.

"Another question we are asking is whether these birds change their diet preferences as they move farther from the river to forage. For example, spiders may be more abundant closer to the river and therefore, birds that forage closer may feed on more spiders and obtain higher levels of mercury," Howie said.

The research has not yet determined how the spiders contain such high levels of mercury but the students and professors believe they are getting closer.

This summer's mercury studies, as well as those of previous years, will be compiled in coming weeks. Woods said she is excited to see what information other students and researchers are bringing to the mercury questions.

Want to know more? Visit the group Web site: http://mercury.wm.edu. ■



Eleven of the Tribe grab this year's prestigious international scholarships.



» JOSEPH QUINN, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

The Fulbright scholarship is a coveted national honor, given by the Department of State to a handful of students nationwide. Only extremely well-qualified applicants receive this grant after their four years of undergraduate education.

As only about 1,600 were awarded across the entire country last year, it's impressive if even one graduate of a university receives a Fulbright scholarship in a given year. But this past year, William and Mary grabbed eleven.

When the number of Fulbright Scholarships received by William and Mary graduates is compared to that of other top schools in the nation, the results are even more impressive. According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, the College ranked 19th nationally among top "research universities." When compared to schools of a similar size and undergraduate mission, however, W&M takes the crown.

However, the percentage of applicants to Fulbright Scholars at the College this year trounced that of every other university in the category - beating Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Brown, Tufts, UC Berkeley and Michigan, to name a few.

The U.S. government sponsors the Fulbright Scholarship program. The idea to fund it was introduced in a bill to Congress by Senator J. William Fulbright

of Arkansas in 1945. World War II had just left a large part of the globe wal-

lowing in destruction and cultural barriers between many nations were steadily increasing.

The aim of the program was to help bring down walls, those through what Fulbright called "mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries of the world." A scholarship would be given to deserving applicants

to travel abroad, where they would either teach English at a foreign school or perform research in an international environment.

In 1946, Harry Truman officially signed the scholarship into existence. Thanks to the Department of State, eleven of the College's recent graduates will be traveling all over the world during the next few months. These trips will take them to a handful of the 155

> countries which with the Fulbright program works. These bright young alums are headed to countries such as Mexico, Austria, Germany and Jor-

> There are currently two main types Fulbrights - one primarily teaching and one solely for re

search.

A Fulbright english teaching assistant-



All photos courtesy University Relations

teaching each week, leaving them 20 hours of paid research time. No pressure, though. Research ideas don't have to be set in stone for ETAs, and can be cultivated overseas. Victoria Ryan ('08), traveling to Mexico for her project, explained, "Right now I don't have too many de-

ship gives members the opportunity to

teach English in the country of their

choice. Scholarship recipients who

choose this route perform 20 hours of

tails to share about my teaching job and any side research projects, because I won't know all of that until I arrive in Toluca." Nonetheless, she is expecting that her

time out of country will be spent doing much more than merely teaching.

"The Fulbright commission here in Mexico has been really great about stressing that we are 'cultural ambassadors,' and that this is very much a program of exchange. I'm looking forward to learning more about Mexican culture, politics, art, youth, and history and to working towards my goal of fluency in Spanish," Ryan said.



» NEWS

Alternatively, an applicant can choose to devote his or her time exclusively to research in a foreign country. The scholar is not required to teach, but to complete a project that could not be done in the United States.

Robert Landicho ('08), a Fulbright scholar in research, will be traveling to Jordan this month to begin his work. When asked about what the process will be like for him, he said that the first six months of his trip "will be devoted to intensive Arabic study at a private institute named Qasid. There, I will work on my colloquial and formal Arabic for 5 hours a day." Fulbright scholarships allow their recipients to receive education that will further the effectiveness of their project.

"After that," Landicho said, "I will conduct my own research, which will probably deal with working with the refugees in Jordan, from Iraq or Palestine, and studying the effectiveness of foreign aid programs there."

The Fulbright program offers a wonderful opportunity to do graduate research. According to Lisa Grimes, director of fellowships at the College and the coordinator for all students applying for the Fulbright, "Applicants plan their own programs. Projects may include university coursework, independent library or field research, classes in a music conservatory or art school, special projects in the social or life sciences, or a combination."

The initial part of the Fulbright selection process is the application itself. Students, aided by the College, go through a pre-application process within our community, assisted by the Charles Center. While one can apply solo, the College's reputation behind an applicant is more than likely a good addition to the application.

Two of the College's Fulbright scholars this year are headed to Austria under the ETA program. Kasey Hutson ('08), one of the two, shed some light on the Austrian application process, saying "the Austria program is handled differently because you're applying directly through the Austrian government, not through the US government." In fact, her application deadline came several months after that of all other programs'.

Hutson became interested in the Fulbright program through her academic advisor. As she looked into it, she realized what an ideal experience it would be for her. "I majored in German Studies and minored in American Studies, and one of the things that the program really encourages is cultural exchange, so I felt as though my academic interests matched up perfectly with what the aims of the program," Kasey explained.

In addition to teaching and research, the Fulbright scholars will have a huge amount of time to explore their countries of choice in any way that they like.

Olivia Lucas ('08), for example, plans to immerse herself in the diverse musical interests of Germany.

"I'm really excited about getting to spend a year in Germany, where classical music is very alive and accessible and the underground scene is just ... awesome," she said. Lucas is also looking forward to "Oktoberfest and the first real winter of my life."

William and Mary's success at obtain-

ing Fulbrights might have something to do with the similarities between the College's mission and the scholarship program's goal: discovery through open-mindedness and appreciation of a diverse community.

In the same way that the Fulbright program attempts to form international bonds through this program's cultural exchange, the College brings students together as an intellectual community, to learn through experience.

If you are interested in following the lives of our eleven Fulbright scholars, many of them will record their endeavors via blog on the Charles Center Web site. If you are interested in the Fulbright program, stop by Lisa Grimes' office in the basement of Tucker Hall.

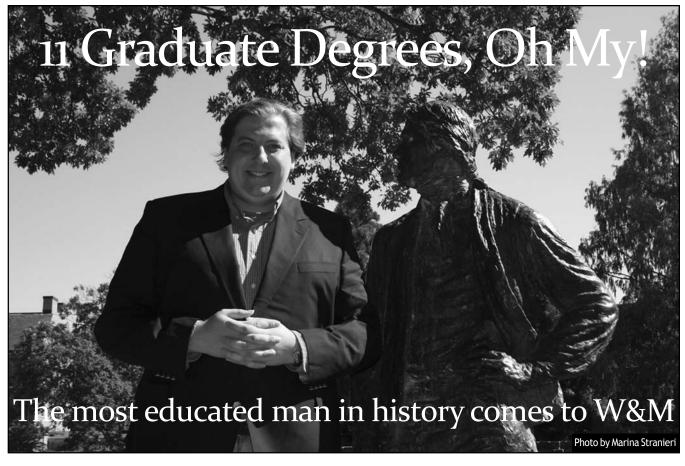
After all, it seems like if you go to William and Mary, your odds aren't bad. 🔳

HOW TO GRAB A FULBRIGHT

The pre-application begins with a draft of both the personal statement and the project proposal that the Institute of International Education demands for the regular process. The Charles Center also requires a list of potential faculty recommenders who have taught the applicant one of which must be a language evaluator if foreign language proficiency is required in that particular country. All of this is usually due within the first month of the school year to Grimes.

A committee of analysts then reviews all W&M Fulbright applications and conducts interviews in the several weeks following the application deadline.

After a full month, applications are finalized and sent out to a national committee in New York. Those who get through this process are notified and their applications are then sent abroad for the final round of selections. Each country then gets to choose the most qualified candidates of the bunch. Most Fulbright Scholars are notified of their achievement between mid-March and late June of the following year.



» LEE DRESSER, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Ben Bolger is rumored to be the "most educated man in history."

Having earned 11 advanced degrees at elite universities including, but not limited to, Harvard, Oxford and Brown, his thirst for knowledge perseveres despite his diagnosis of dyslexia. This year, he joins the William and Mary family as a visiting assistant professor of sociology.

Before meeting with Bolger to discuss his interesting educational experiences, our first interaction occurred in his American Society class, where I silently took note of his dark navy jacket and black and grey tennis shoes. Somewhat to my surprise, rather than starting off by revealing his life story, he used the first day of the course as a sneak peak for the semester to come.

"I'm starting off class as a trial for the rest of the semester," he said. "If you don't like today, it won't get any better."

He requested for the class to rearrange our seats in a circle and asked how many students were here because they needed to be here. About three people out of 30 raised their hands. Then he asked us about our reasons for enrolling in the course.

"What do you think you signed up for? Since this isn't a requirement for most of you, what do you expect?" he asked. The class, all in a circle, looked at each other. Few people raised their hands. "If you test drive a Ferrari, then you have an expectation that it will drive fast."

So what did we expect? After the first day of class, I'm still not sure. However, no matter what comes next, few people realized that the man standing in the front of class, with a strong presence and commanding voice, had overcome many adversities to be as accomplished as he is today.

Some of these adversities include a car crash in his early childhood when a drunk driver hit his parents at 90 miles per hour when he was two and a half years old. Soon after that, he was diagnosed with dyslexia.

"One of the challenges that I experience is that I still am dyslexic. My dyslexia is very severe," he said. "Part of me is that I'm a very logical and rational thinker. I want to spell psychology with 'S.' My dyslexia is sort of like a word blindness."

Unable to find a public or private school that would live up to his expectations and needs, his mother instructed Bolger at home.

"My home-schooling experience was very positive. A very experiential learning approach was utilized. When we were studying the ocean, I went to the aquarium in Baltimore," he said. "I guess my learning experience was going directly to the source."

Though his mother was a great teacher, his family understood that there were other educators out there who had specialties in different backgrounds from whom Bolger could benefit.

"One person doesn't know everything and we recognized that [my mother] had limitations so we thought we should supplement [her teachings] by taking a few college courses. We didn't have a lot of economic resources and the local community college was nearby," he said. "I actually think that community college courses provide an excellent education. I'm very proud of attending community college and want to dispel the myth that you can't get a good education [at a community college]."

After finishing some community college classes, he attended the University of Michigan at age 12. As such a young pupil, accompanied by his dyslexia, college proved to be a challenge for Bolger.

"I read at about a grade school level when I went to college and that was quite a challenge," he said. "I'm very sympathetic to students with disabilities. In the early 90's when I went to see a faculty member, the reaction was 'If you can't read, then why are you in college?"

Despite dealing with his severe dyslexia, he dealt with adversity and strove to excel.

"I walked into class with faculty having lower expectations. I felt compelled to work harder to prove that I was a good student,"

As a professor at the College, he aims to cultivate cleverness and a strong sense of analytical ability in his students.

"I think that if we think about the future of education...we're already trying to make people more critical consumers of education, but it's not enough. We need to incubate creativity," he said. "Computers already have us beat when it comes to rote memory. I'm sure there are some things I have to memorize. I think we should emphasize how we can encourage people to become more creative thinkers."

In Bolger's mind, for America to excel, it

needs to push students to think outside of the box.

"I think we need innovation. If America is going to be competitive, we need to be a creative society. We can provide a learning environment that's supportive to thinking," he said. "There were venture capitalists that incubated Google. If we apply that model to education, then we can really get impressive results."

In addition, he adds that the ability to speak well in public is a skill in short supply.

Of all the things Bolger could do with his 11 Master's degrees in architecture, sociology, education and urban planning, I asked, "Why teach?"

"My mother was a teacher. Several of my aunts were teachers. I have a big extended family that all values teaching," Bolger said. "I appreciate the fact that I've studied at elite institutions and I think there's a social obligation to give back to the community. I'm not doing teaching for the money. It's something that I really enjoy doing."

With 11 Master's degrees, I asked what subject Bolger enjoys teaching the most.

He replied, "I enjoyed teaching economics and architecture. It's like asking a parent who has eight children who is their favorite. I love sociology, though. I think I have an enduring interest."

Though he has a passion for teaching,

not surprisingly, he has other plans in mind for his future.

"I don't see myself as a life-long academic. I'm reminded of the fact that Bill Clinton was a professor, Obama was a lecturer... My long term interests are in public service," he said. "I'm actively interested in fixing them, but it would be arrogant [to try to fix everything] right out of college without thinking about what I want to do."

Bolger also has non-academic goals, saying that he wants to someday fall in love, get married and start a family.



Sitting in class on the first day, I could see his love of politics and appreciation of American values. Having studied in Cambridge and Oxford, I asked him if he learned anything about foreign political systems. Surprisingly, he came away with more of a love for

"When I lived in England, the thing I learned most about was America. The one thing I'll say that may sound a little cheesy is that...I appreciated the American flag and I thought it was a great thing, but I became more patriotic while I was living abroad," he

Bolger says he wishes there was more patriotism - but not necessarily the unques-

"We're already trying to

make people more critical

consumers of education, but

it's not enough. We need to

incubate creativity."

tioning kind we tend to think of in the country.

"When I lived away from America, I appreciated the unique values. Jefferson and Washington were willing to sign their life away on a docu-

ment and I wished we had more patriotic people in the last eight years. If we had more patriotic people, I don't think the Patriot Act would have been passed," he said.

In the American Society class, he mentioned that some people saw John Kerry as unpatriotic and un-American, and McCain could use a similar strategy against Obama.

"I think patriotism is respectfully criticizing government while loving the institution of government. When I criticize America, I criticize it in the same way a mother would love a child,"

Bolger worked as an intern for the Clinton presidency in 1995.

"When I was 19, I was in the West Wing press office," he said. "The way that complicated public policies are transmitted into short sound bites is very interesting....To me, it was a political education. I learned a lot about the value of bipartisan politics."

Bolger said we should be wary of polarization between the two political parties because, for change to happen, Democrats and Republicans must work together and respect each other. He thinks cooperation among politicians creates real success in Washington. Bolger is hopeful that this November's presidential election "doesn't degenerate into the mudslinging that it is."

Towards the end of class, Bolger intrigued us with an anecdote about taking individual responsibility for social problems.

He told the class that he has a spare bedroom in his place in New York. During the cold winters, he saw homeless people pass on the street but never once offered his spare bedroom to anyone in need. He asked us if he was a bad person for not offering his home to others. If one of them died from the cold, was he indirectly responsible for

Each of us wracking our brains, Bolger had succeeded at his goal of leaving his students with "a certain degree of intellectual confusion" after each class.

No, Bolger, you're not a bad person. ■

A Random Assortment of Five Best Thir

FIVE BEST "NEWS SHOWS"

FOR ELECTION COVERAGE

» JASMIN COPELAND, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

The Colbert Report

Stephen Colbert was shut out of both conventions this year. Hmm. Is it because his truth-telling may reveal something that both parties do not want revealed? Nevertheless, count on Colbert to bring you his own spin of facts. And who knows, we might just witness another dance-off between Colbert and Kpop sensation, Rain. We can hope.



Morning Joe

Politicians and pudits look most at ease on this casual news program. It is the only place where you can watch Richard Belzer, his rescue dog and Pat Buchanan share the same table. They also ask the tough questions, like how John McCain "feels about his endorsement from Heidi Montag?" and "Who the heck is Heidi Montag?"



Saturday Night Live

During an election year, you can always count on the SNL gang to be on top of their game. Despite what some critics may say, Saturday Night Live is still relevant. Remember when Hillary Clinton cited a sketch during a debate? Plus, there's an added bonus for all you Michael Phelps fans - he will

host the season premiere.

Real Time with Bill Maher

This show features a round table of celebrities, academics and politicians, all discussing world politics. Never afraid to offend, Maher will never miss the opportunity for a good insult, even if it results in awkward silence. The show just returned from a fourmonth hiatus, so expect Bill and his panel to have a lot to talk about.

The Daily Show

The New York Times asked, "Is Jon Stewart the most trusted person in the news?" You can decide for yourself. But rest assured, the show will be there to pick up every political figure's snafus, as long there is video footage of it. And you can definitely expect all the candidates and their surrogates to make at least 1,000 guest appearances between now and November.

FIVE BEST BIZARRE CELEBRITY

BABY NAMES

» POOJA GUPTA, DSJ STYLE EDITOR

Shannyn Sossamon: Audio Science

Sossamon's indie, alternative style has clearly played into the naming of her first child. Audio Science may sound technical, sterile and just plain weird, but at least she



knows what class to take in high school, right?

Sylvester Stallone: Sage Moon Blood

It seems fitting that Rocky would give his offspring a violent name. It's more the juxtaposition of the three names I'm concerned with.

Perhaps the first two offset the more brutal third. And now he's covered,

whichever path he takes: sage or blood.

Jason Lee: Pilot Inspektor

Funnyman Lee doesn't stop when it comes to his kids. Apparently Lee named his son Pilot because of a song

on an album by the band "Grandaddy" he had been



listening to. But what's with the misspelling of the name after that?

Forest Whitaker: Ocean

When the actor was asked why he chose to name his son Ocean (and daughters Sonnet and True), he said, "I want those names to be their destiny, for my daughter to be honest and my son to be expansive. I try to be like a forest, revitalizing and constantly growing."



Gwen Stefani and husband Gavin Rossdale: Zuma **Nesta Rock**

The couple explained that Zuma is a toast to a beach in Malibu, where Rossdale had a musical epiphany. Nesta, apparently, was Bob Marley's middle name before it was changed by immigration officials. According to US Weekly, Rock is an obvious choice, given his parents' profession. Well, that makes perfect

sense to me. And I'm sure it will to him, too.

FIVE BEST TELEVISION PRE-

MIERES COMING THIS FALL

» JASMIN COPELAND, DSJ STAFF REPORTER



The Office

Awkwardness and S c r a n t o n , Pennsylvania have never been cooler. Last year's finale ended with a surprise pregnancy, a white collar crime and

(literally) fireworks! This season has to answer "What will happen with Dwight and Angela and Andy?" "Will Ryan serve time?" and

"Did Toby really move to Costa Rica?"

Heroes

At least one good thing came from last year's writer's strike - more time to perfect storylines. While the show started off slow last season, series creator Tim Kring promises better for this season. "Heroes" enters a new chapter called "Villains." The line between good and bad, hero and villain will be blurred. Tune in to see if any of your favorites have crossed over to the dark side. And



if it's really good, we might be able to

forgive Hayden Panettiere for that awful "wake up call" song.

Lost

This season is a must-see as the show begins its final season and all questions are finally answered. Now that the Oceanic Six (the members who left the island) are revealed, we can learn the fate of the other islanders. But more importantly, we can find out why there is a polar bear on the island. If you are one of those who have no idea what I'm talking about and do not plan on watching all three seasons to catch up, Wikipedia is a

nice refresher.



30 Rock

The show known for its fast pace, inside jokes and stellar cast is back for more. Last season brought us Al Gore, the song "Werewolf Bar Mitzvah" and Jack Donaghy's new job as Homeland Security Director of Crisis and Weather Management. Find out how your

favorite characters spent their summer vacation on October 30.

Everybody Hates Chris

This is one of the most underrated shows on T.V. Based on Chris Rock's childhood, the show follows him around 1980's Brooklyn as he deals with family, school bullies and other neighborhood characters. Also, if you are wondering whatever happened to stars from 70's and 80's sitcoms, they are all on this show.

FIVE BEST FRINGE

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

» FRANCESCA CHILCOTE, DSJ BUSINESS MANAGER

Gene Amondson, Prohibition Party

Male. 65 years old. Single. Gemini. Yes, Gene has a MySpace. And he only has one friend, Tom. Gene poses for his profile pic in coke-bottle glasses, colorful tie, suspenders and a suit jacket sassily thrown over his shoulder. His many skills include landscape painting, woodcarving, ministering and lecturing. His reenactment of Billy Sunday sermons are especially popular in his local state of Washington. If he could pick anyone as his VP, it

would be Newt Gingrich. Charles Jay, "CJ"

Running on behalf of the Boston Tea Party of Florida, CJ's background includes 17 years of work in the boxing industry, including providing fight commentary and working as a booking agent. He is an expert on boxing reform and also had a brief stint as a special event consultant for a casino. In 2004, he published an electronic book entitled *Body Shots: Outside the Ring and Inside*



the Game of Pro-Boxing.

Frank Moore, Independent

Frank Moore is a performance artist, writer, painter and musician. He closely resembles batboy from the *The Weekly World News*

tabloids. His plan to reform the economy is a two step process: eliminate welfare and social security. Also he plans to allot every American \$1,000 a month.



Santa Claus

His legal name is Santa Claus and he is real. A Christian monk and children's advocate, Santa likes to wear a red monk's robe to project a genuine image. This is not your everyday

Santa, though. He is ready to take down the big guys. He recently issued a press release: "Obama and McCain: One Lump, or Two?" Check out his site, complete with reindeer, sleighs and video blogs: www.santaslink.net.

Jackson Kirk Grimes, United Facist Union

The UFS Web site proudly proclaims in their mission statement, with a picture of lady liberty as the backdrop, that, "The United Fascist Union was incorporated in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania in 1996 as a non-profit political club to promote the economic theories and political ideologies of Benito Mussolini and Saddam Hussein." Grimes' three goals for world stabilization put Benito to shame. 1) Abolish paper money. 2) Freeze all prices. 3) Create a system of corporate statism by forming a global government.

Autumn's Activities

Irresistible Leaf-Diving, Pumpkins and Candy

» ELIZABETH COLE, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Autumn is upon us. A few nights ago, felt the first chill of fall settle over the campus. The crisp autumn season marks what is, for many, a time of reunions, traditions and various other diversions from academics.

Unbeknownst to many students, Williamsburg boasts a va options for fall fun that are not only affordable but accessible to every student. The provide a great escape from daunting classes, professors and the settling gloom of midterms.

Tayrides: Sure, we all dodge the horses and carriages on DoG Street and would be crazy to pay the exorbitant prices to succumb to such a tourist attraction. However,

more than once, we've all wanted to experience the fun that accompanies a mid-day ride around town.

When fall rolls around, the idea of hopping in the bed of a pickup truck strewn with hay and bumping along for a ride is a similarly appealing idea. Hayrides are a fall classic for every age group and readily available for those desiring it at the College. A quick drive to Richmond affords the chance to go on a haunted hayride through the Creepy Hollow Hayride attraction.



Continuously operating and offering frightening rides for 17 years, the ride chronicles a fictional tale of a doctor's spooky experiments gone awry. Go around Halloween and combine fall fun with ghost tales that are sure to stay with you well past October 31.

The Creature Feature hayride at York River State Park also has night-time hayrides to evoke Halloween monsters. If horror hayrides aren't quite your thing, try the York River State Park on October 18 for Harvest Day. Daytime hayrides go through the scenic park and are more pleasant than they are petrifying, often a good choice for students who have had enough of the haunted Williamsburg atmosphere.

Whichever you prefer, it is certain to take you back to your childhood and launch you into fall. Take some cider from Hill Pleasant Farm with you and enjoy the ride.

Pumpkin-Carving: I am certainly no Picasso, but every fall I devote a few good hours to the artistry of pumpkin-carving. You don't have to be an amazing artist to dazzle with these gourds. Years ago I chucked the idea that those snazzy guidebook faces will ever transfer well to my pumpkin, so I like to take a spontaneous approach.



You could etch the obsolete W&M feathers in homage to your Tribe pride, carve a rendition of President Reveley or go with whatever spontaneous design strikes your fancy. The point is, spending an afternoon with friends chipping away at pumpkins is time well spent and generally only socially acceptable in the fall. Take advantage! Even the Marketplace put a few pumpkins on their stoop last year, so don't hesitate to deck out your dorm and lend your artistic skills.

Leaf-Pile-Diving: Remember when you were that

obnoxious little kid who dove headfirst into your neighbors' leaf piles and destroyed their hours of hard labor? Maybe that was just me. Whatever the case, I highly recommend leaf-pile-diving. The leafy trees framing the Sunken Gardens provide plenty of foliage to admire in the early fall and ample opportunity to enjoy their majesty again once the leaves have fallen. Be on the lookout for the blanket of dusty, irresistibly crunchy leaves come late October.

Either scope out a nice, leafy pile or just grab a few friends and form an impromptu one of your own. People might stare (especially the poor landscaper whose work you are desecrating), but dive right in and instantly return to those blissful childhood days of fall.



Apple-Picking: Let's face it, the produce at the dining halls leaves much to be desired. Countless times, I have examined fruit, selecting what I think to be the perfect apple only to sink my teeth into rancid mush - if I can find an apple at all, that is.



Luckily for all the fruit-lovers out there, plentiful orchards are only a quick drive from campus. There, you can not only pick your own apples and be assured of their freshness, but also admire the beautiful Williamsburg scenery not often seen by students.

Try visiting Bush Neck Farm, seven miles west of Williamsburg for a nearby option. From mid-April to mid-November, they offer pick-your-own strawberries, apples, blueberries, asparagus, sweet corn, peaches and pumpkins, depending on the season.

The Hill Pleasant Farm is another option. Located down the road from the Williamsburg pottery outlet, it offers similar pick-your-own produce. They also make and sell apple cider during the autumn months, perfect to warm you up and take the chill off classes. The excursion to an orchard is an affordable, outdoorsy adventure. Not to mention, you'll be the envy of your friends when your mini-fridge is stocked with delectably fresh produce.

Trick-or-Treating: As a college student, it might be a tad more difficult to score free candy from your neighbors than it was when you were six, but that doesn't mean you have to nix the tradition altogether.

Many dorms allot a time to trick-or-treat through the hallways, and some even invite local children from the community to come and do just this. Collecting coins for UNICEF is another great way to embrace the tradition with just cause. Last year my R.A. put out a huge bowl of candy for us, and that was enough to satiate my Halloween candy cravings. Additionally, the Wythe Candy Shoppe in Colonial Williamsburg has a plethora of homemade and seasonal candies to get you in the spirit. Whatever you choose, don't neglect fall as a time to indulge your sweet tooth!

You and your roommates could have a bowl out for your neighbors. Go to

Bloom and buy a bag of candy corn, mellowcreme candy pumpkins or Reese's chocolate jack-o-lanterns. And of course, you can always dress up in costume while doing it. No need to abandon the tradition!



As overwhelming as the start of classes can be, relish the unique traditions and activities of fall. Williamsburg embraces the spirit of fall with its many venues for hayrides, apple-picking and trick-or-treating, so give in and take a break from studying. Stroll through the Sunken Gardens with your camera, go see Matthew Whaley Elementary School's annual Halloween parade or just dive into a pile of leaves.

Sexism

» JAKE NELSON, DSJ OPINIONS EDITOR

The past year of election craziness has called forth in my mind several important questions about us, the American people, but one question never left the vanguard of my attention: just how sexist are we?

I've seen some "Bros Before Hos" t-shirts. emblazoned with the faces of Senators Obama and Clinton (the "bro" and the "ho," respectively).

I've heard countless people call Hillary Clinton a bitch—and not in the I'm-a-feminist-reclaiming-the-word way.

But it doesn't stop with college students, who have admittedly been known to lack some of the more nuanced social graces.

FOX News referred to Michelle Obama as Barack Obama's "baby mama."

An anti-Clinton political action committee named Citizens United Not Timid (C.U.N.T.) was formed with the specific focus of teaching the public about "the importance of moral character and integrity in those who hold public office."

Many have decried the sexism engendered by both the mass public and the mass media during the primary campaign.

Yet anti-feminists like Phyllis Schlafly dismiss any mentions of sexism as whining and self-victimization (two actions often attributed to feminists). And the Pew Research Center reported in 2007 that 13 percent of Americans said they would be less likely to vote for a female candidate than for a male candidate with the same qualifications.

It seems like the women we prefer in the public sphere are either the ones men want for mothers (loving matriarchs like First Lady Laura Bush) or the ones with whom men want to have one-night stands (sextaped celebutantes like Paris Hilton).



And, while both of those exemplary women are intelligent and charismatic, they got where they are today not because of their own wit or acumen but because of men in their lives. Without Laura's husband President George W. Bush or Paris' father Rick Hilton, both would surely not be where they are today.

I see the same situation with Republican vice presidential nominee, Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska.

She noted after being named Senator McCain's running mate that she could break the glass ceiling in which Clinton supporters put 18 million cracks.

But is it really breaking the glass ceiling when you need a man to break it for you?

Palin is without doubt a smart woman and a mayerick politician, but one cannot compare Palin's being chosen as a running mate to Clinton's fighting and trudging through a year-long primary campaign.

Hillary Clinton has had to deal with years of vilification for everything from her pantsuit-filled wardrobe ("she doesn't dress feminine enough") to her husband's affair during his presidency ("she obviously couldn't satisfy him").

Palin won a beauty pageant ("she's a VPILF [Vice President I'd like to f - - k]") and had five children ("her husband couldn't get enough").

The motivation behind the choice of Palin is even more disturbing. It seems rather evident that the choice of a female running mate was a strategic move by the McCain camp to court disaffected Clinton support-

But the only similarities between Clinton and Palin are their genitalia.

This choice shows what the Republican party and many of its supporters truly think of women—that they will flock to any candidate with two breasts and a vagina, even if she has less than two years of experience and if her staunch pro-life policies will be a blow to women's right to choose.

Do we really still think of women as those flighty 1950's young TV housewives who completely disregard logic and reason at the whim of their emotions? As bodies who need to be propped up by a strong man before amounting to anything in society?

When a woman like Clinton comes alonga driven, career-focused feminist-and shakes up our ideas about women in the public eye, how shall we respond? More importantly, how shall we respond when such a woman comes into our daily lives as a colleague or classmate?

Should we translate our fears and trepidations into defamation and ad hominem attacks?

Should we ignore her policies and opinions and focus on her wardrobe and makeup?

The sexual prejudices that have proliferated through society at large filter down to each of our personal lives. Many of us have become so desensitized to sexism that hearing someone call a woman a whore or a bitch seems like no big deal.

But maybe rather than calling a woman who stands up for her opinions harmful names, we should follow her lead and break the glass ceiling together, hand in hand as equal members of society.

Jake Nelson is The DSJ Opinions Editor. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.

TheUnpublishedCrisis

>> ANNIE BROWN, DSJ OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

For many Americans, the climate crisis is the biggest challenge of the modern age. Yet despite a growing movement to push climate policies to the front of American consciousness, the mass media remains dangerously apathetic. Leading news providers continually fail to place environmental issues on the front page above the fold.

While July saw some pick-up in environmental reporting with Bush's lift of the offshore drilling ban and Al Gore's speech for urgent political action, I am still left to wonder, where were all the news stories about global warming in past months, in past years? Where are they today?

As our nation moves into an age of uncertainty, the lack of environmental reporting highlights the growing disconnect between corporate news and the needs of the public. Mass media is treating the environmental crisis like most other big businesses. They claim to be helping the environmental movement by adding "green" pages to their Web sites and having more efficient ways to run their business. However, this is all about business, not change.

An excellent example of this is the increase in "green" advertising and decrease in environmental reporting that occurred after Rupert Murdoch purchased The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times in December of 2007.

In 2007, Murdoch made multiple announcements that he was becoming a "green campaigner." He heavily advertised that his company, The News Corporation, would be a carbon neutral corporation in 2010. Murdoch praised himself for wanting to "educate and engage" his readers and viewers on the issue of global warming-impressive statements from a man who was an open skeptic about the issue of global warming for many years. However, a new study by The Project for Excellence in Journalism reveals that Murdoch's sudden shift to green is more to improve the company's image than for real change. The study reveals a sudden decrease in environmental/scientific reporting after December 13, 2007, the day that News Corps purchased the two papers.

Within a 3-month period, front-page coverage was cut in half. In The Wall Street Journal, the percentage of front-page stories about science/technology or environClimate Change and the Media

ment went from 5 percent to 2.1. The New York Times' reporting was even less, at 1.8 percent.

If Murdoch wanted change he would put the words "global warming" on the front page. If he wanted change, The New York Times, TheWall Street Journal and FOX would change their reporting priorities. Even Murdoch's neoconservative magazine

The

Daily Standard should have

frequent stories on the facts climate change. As the realities of global warming set in, it is clear that the public awareness we have today about envi-

ronmental issues has little to do with mainstream news. As EcoTech Daily writer Chris Baskind states, "The Wall Street Journal and New York Times' disconnect with environmental issues speaks to the decline of traditional mass media."

Independent environmental news operations have developed to meet public demands to know what is going on with global warming and the energy revolution. As corporate news continues to rely on print and TV journalism, the environmental media movement is largely Web-based. While newspapers are one-directional and based on old technologies, the Internet's interactive and multi-media capabilities fuel the new media movement.

"TreeHugger" is one of the most notable sources in the growing "enviroblog" community. The goal of the blog is to be "a onestop shop for green news, solutions, and product information" and "drive sustainability to the mainstream." With more than 5 million page views (as of May 2008) this blog has become a reliable source for up-to-the-minute environmental updates, as well as an interacting community of concerned citizens. Similar to "TreeHugger," "Ecogeek" is another popular blog with a focus on technological development.

The reporting provided to readers on environmental blogs like "TreeHugger" and "Ecogeek" is news. In fact, it's big news. These sites are covering the speed at which scientists, engineers and citizens are devel-

> oping advanced systems that aim to be the foundations of future human civi-

The mass media, however, continues to deny the worth of environmental reporting.

Although news sales have been declining in recent years, the major news corporations, like Murdoch's News Corp, still has access to the majority of readers, listeners and viewers. However, these corporations do not see responsibility in their mass audience; rather, they see business.

The issue of climate change is one that every person has a right to be informed about. It is a global crisis that will impact everyone, and everyone should have the access to information about how to deal with this crisis, how to take action and how to learn what others are doing.

The climate crisis has often been called a "challenge for humanity" but, more specifically, it is a challenge to our media. Will the mass media break from its corporate ties to do the kind of investigative reporting of big business, energy developments and scientific breakthroughs that people need?

In a time of great change, like the one we find ourselves in now, this is possible. However, the more likely scenario, based on recent trends, is that Americans will turn away from mainstream news and rely more and more on independent news sources that cover stories relevant to the preservation of humanity and the world we inhabit.

Lucky for us, the environmental media revolution has already begun and shows no signs of slowing down.

Annie Brown is an opinions contributor to The DSJ. Her opinions do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.



Before joining the Dragons, College alum Billy Parker spent a year coaching the Hanover High School Hawks

» JOHN BRENT HILL, DSJ SPORTS EDITOR

The Virginia General Assembly's House Joint Resolution number 205 is titled, "Commending the Hanover High School football team." That's right, it is a resolution, brought before our very own state legislature, with the sole purpose of recognizing the successes of a local high school football team. But then again, Hanover's football team did a lot more than just win in 2007.

Hanover posted a program best 9-3 record and won the Virginia High School League Group AAA Central Region, Division 5 championship. And they did it just two years removed from an 0-10 season. Yes, the recent success of Hanover is a great story. The story - and the team's gradual rise to success - started four years ago, with William and Mary alum and current Arena Football star Billy Parker.

In 2004, Parker was one year removed from the College where he had played (and excelled) as a defensive back on some of the best teams in school history. Parker, while playing for the Tribe, was one of the most successful defensive players in team history. During his senior season in 2003, Parker led the Tribe in interceptions, passes defended and fumble recoveries, and was among the top 10 leading tacklers.

His 2002 campaign was even more impressive. Parker recorded a team-leading five interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns. He was the only defensive player on the team to return an interception for a touchdown, and was a bright spot on a defensive unit that struggled overall.

Perhaps most impressive about Parker's junior year is that the two interception touchdowns he scored placed him as eighth on the team in touchdowns, despite being a defensive player. He also led the team in passes defended.

However, after graduation, Parker was not drafted into the NFL and failed to make the Montreal Alouettes of the CFL. Parker was without a team and in need of a practice facility if he wanted to continue to work on his skills and go pro. Enter Hanover High School, a school that, in 2004, was in the midst of the second year of its new football program and was struggling mightily.

"It's crazy," says Parker, "because I went to Atlee High School."

Atlee is a rival program in Hanover County, but with all of his coaches gone from Atlee, and the school unaccommodating to

his need to utilize its facilities to stay in football shape, Parker went elsewhere. Hanover High School was built directly across the street from his house and conveniently left the track and weight room unlocked so he could train there.

After the Hanover coaches watched Parker train hard to stay in shape, he recalls, they made him an offer.

"They asked me if I would talk to the kids at the end of camp," said Parker. "I did that, and then they asked me if I would come out and help for a little while. They ended up asking to be a coach and I thought, 'Sure. Why not?'"

And just like that, Parker found himself as an assistant coach, working mostly with the defensive backs and wide receivers.

However, it wasn't easy coaching at Hanover. The program, because of how new it was, struggled to get moving. That year, 2004, the team would go 1-9.

"They were a very, very young team," said Parker. "It was more about getting them ready for the years to come."

As a team that was starting many underclassmen, Hanover would experience an excruciating learning curve, going 0-10 in 2005. They finally began winning with a 5-5 record in 2006. However, it was in 2007, when Parker's freshmen were now seniors, that the team really flourished.

"They had a very good season. Those guys that had the really good season were the

> same freshmen that had gotten thrown in there very early playing varsity four years ago. While at the time they probably weren't

really ready for varsity yet, the experience helped them have a great season down the road," Parker said. He added that he is still in touch with the coaches and went back to Hanover this year to watch a game.

The experience clearly had a lasting impact on Parker. When speaking about the kids he coached, Parker glows, exuding pride in the steps that the program has taken since he was there. He is very complimentary of the coaching staff, both for their drastic turnaround of the young program at Hanover, but also for the way that they treated Parker as he attempted to continue his football career.

"They were always really cool and supportive because they knew what I was doing," he said.

When speaking about the influence of his experience as a coach, he noted that, "It was challenging to try to make what's in my mind make sense to somebody else. How

It was in 2007, when Parker's freshmen were now seniors, that the team really flourished.

» SPORTS

do you explain something that, to me, is simple? As a player, I used to hate when a coach said, 'It's really easy, all you had do is this.' So I always tried not to say that to them, because I know that sometimes it's not easy. I wanted to make sure that everyone can actually understand and grasp it, and go through it. You have to be patient."

And patient Parker was. Not only did he stay with a struggling team and contribute invaluable advice to the youngsters, he also managed to get himself into top playing shape by training with the team.

Parker, after leaving Hanover, was invited first to training camp in the NFL with the Miami Dolphins. He was then offered a spot on the practice squad with the Carolina Panthers. While making an appearance in the NFL is special, and surely denotes true athletic prowess, Parker, now three years removed from the league, is actually making a bigger impact on the gridiron than he ever has before.

Parker joined the New York Dragons, an Arena Football team, in 2005. While the league is certainly lesser known than the NFL, the level of play is almost undoubtedly the second highest of any professional league in the country. Players from the Arena League often make the jump to the NFL, including notables like Kurt Warner, currently the starting quarterback of the Arizona Cardinals, Kicker Rob Bironas of the Tennessee Titans, who was a 2008 probowler and holds the NFL record for most



Parker played as a defensive back for the Tribe. All photos courtesy Tribe Athletics.

field goals made in a game and Mike Furrey, a starting wide receiver on the Detroit Lions. Both of those players, in fact, spent time on Parker's New York Dragons (or their prior reincarnation, the Iowa Barnstormers).

Parker, like those aforementioned pros, has quickly established himself as one of the best players in the game. In his rookie season, he was named to the All-Rookie and All-Arena teams as a defensive back and tied the franchise interception record with ten.

This year, Parker helped to lead the Dragons to their first ever playoff victory. He was first on the team and tied for fifth in the league with eight interceptions, and was again named to the All-Arena team.

Parker is also not the only former Tribe football player in the AFL. Lang Campbell, a former teammate of Parker's, and perhaps the greatest quarterback in Tribe history, is on the Arizona Rattlers. Parker said that the two are still in touch and exchange texts when either has a big game.

Today, Parker is looking forward to another season with the Dragons. The team made its deepest playoff run in its history and lost to the Philadelphia Soul in a controversial call on the last play of the game. With both success and adversity in the team's recent past, they could be one of the more dangerous teams in the league this coming year.

And, as for his (albeit brief) career in coaching, Parker said he wouldn't count out the idea of coaching football again somewhere down the road.

"It is far down the road, but I think I study the game pretty well and that if the opportunity presented itself, it would be something I'd consider."

After all, it seems to have worked out pretty well the last time a Dragons defensive specialist made the jump to coaching. Just ask the Dragons current head coach, Weylan Harding.

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Are We Lazy or Are They Crazy?

Men and Women's XC



>> ANNA MAHALAK, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Is the cross country team "crazy"? Some might argue the question. For those of us who think the jog from Tucker or Ewell to classes in Morton or Jones in less than ten minutes is bad, a team of men and women who run 70 plus miles on a weekly basis really do sound insane.

"I get crazy comments all the time," said Emily Anderson ('10). "Some days in the middle of a long run of 12 miles I seriously question my sanity myself."

Charlie Swartz ('09), on the men's team, has also heard his share of the comments. "Running as a sport is so foreign to people. People think of it as punishment, something they are forced to do, or exercise not as a sport," he said.

But unlike many of us "give me an elliptical or give me death" exercisers may believe – the cross country team is not crazy. They are committed—to making themselves, and their teammates, better.

They have won the last 8 CAA titles and advanced to the NCAAs each of the last 11 years. But with only three returning runners from last year's 15th place finish

Moran will return as the assistant coach after competing for a spot on the Beijing Olympic team this summer.

Aside from the experience of the coach-

ing staff and the returning runners, the team also looks forward to the strength of the class of 2012.

Gibby said, "We have a great fresh-

man class that may, with some patience, have an opportunity to contribute to our varsity as freshman."

One of these freshman, Zach Gates of Fishers, Indiana, remarked on his choice to run for the Tribe, saying, "This team is unique because it's large and they are from all over the country...the team doesn't get a lot of All-Americans coming in, but still do very well year in and year out qualifying for nationals. Coach Gibby is a great coach, and there are a ton of great runners here to train with."

Meanwhile, under the leadership of Coach Kathy Newberry, the women's team is training hard to accomplish their main goal for the season - to maintain excellence at the local level while increasing success at the national level. The remarkable feat of winning their fifth consecutive CAA championship was simply not enough for these competitive young women.

"We did not finish last season placing as well as we wanted at NCAA regionals. I think that is only feeding as fuel for the fire

"I get crazy comments all the time. Some days in the middle of a long run of 12 miles I seriously question my sanity myself." - Emily Anderson ('10)

at nationals, the talent of Christo Landry (three-time All American) and Ian Fitzgerald will be sorely missed.

A teammate said of Landry, "Christo Landry was the 13th best runner in the country last year getting the majority of his calories from toast and jelly." We're sure that's where Michael Phelps got his daily 10,000 calories from, too.

"Running keeps you honest. It holds you accountable to a goal to be better than the last time you came out." - Drew Midland ('09)

"Running keeps you honest," commented senior Drew Midland. "It holds you accountable to a goal to be better than the last time you came out."

Because of their hard work this summer, both the men and women's teams expect success on the national level this fall.

The men's cross country team hopes to continue to build off of past success.

However, experience is one area of this year's squad that is by no means lacking. Runners anticipating a successful season will be looking to the senior leadership of Colin Leak, Cabell Rosanelli, Harry Miller, Charlie Swartz, Drew Midland and David Groff. At the helm is Alex Gibby who has been the head cross country coach for six years, with three years as an assistant. Ed to qualify for nationals as a team and prove ourselves as national contenders," freshman runner Anderson said.

But practices are not all serious business. As Emily explained, the team is as busy talking as they are running as they build the bonds that will get them through the upcoming season.

"The first few runs with the team are so refreshing to be running all together again, we just have so much to catch up on that the miles just go by so much quicker," she said.

Despite lacking the physical presence of their teammates all summer, the thought of the team was never far from their minds as they put in their weekly mileage. In the end, this individual effort will ensure greater successes as a team this fall

"Everyone on the team contributes to the team's success in different ways," said junior Kelly McElroy. "I love the sense of camaraderie on the cross country team. Everyone on the team shares the same challenges and goals, and it binds us all together."

So why go see the men and women's cross country teams compete? Quite simply, cross country is not like any other sport you will see this fall season. "It is not a sport where you can fake success with substitutions or another player covering



your responsibilities and there are no timeouts to regroup. If you are not ready, you will literally be left behind. The fittest ath-

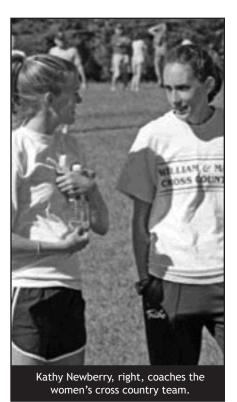
"It is not a sport where you can fake success with substitutions...and there are no timeouts to regroup." - Alex Gibby, Coach

lete, mentally and physically, will triumph pure and simple," Gibby explained.

This fall, the cross country team will continue to work to be the fittest athletes

not only on campus, but in the nation. Your first chance to see a glimpse of the great sport of cross country will be the Williamsburg High School Invitational, drawing over 4,000 runners to campus. William and Mary cross country hosts this race every year to fund the teams.

These athletes are not "crazy" – they simply love what they do. Still don't believe that someone could love running and not be mentally unstable? Go check it out for yourself. The men's and women's teams will host racing events Saturday, Sept. 27 and Oct. 18. With only two home meets, your chances to cheer these athletes on are limited. Maybe it will inspire you to join in the "insanity" and go jog 70 plus miles a week ...or at least pick up the pace from the Sunken Gardens to new campus.







Class of 2008 members Ian Fitzgerald and Christo Landry from a 2007 meet.

Another Year,-

Another Championship Shirt

>> HEATHER IRELAND, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

"If winning isn't everything, then why keep score?"

That is one of those sayings that I really enjoy. It's not necessarily deep, philosophic or even intelligent, but it's very simple and even logical. Makes sense to me. And maybe that's why I have the title I do, Graduate Assistant for Intramurals.

I give all of you a chance to duke it out on the arena of your choice - the MAC, Miller Gym, Busch Turf, or others - to decide who ultimately walks away as Intramural champion. Oh, and I also give out the championship t-shirts that are such a

hot commodity these days. Not a bad job, all in all. And while I always enjoy a little good competition, I have also found that the intramural department actually offers a great deal more than just a chance at a t-shirt.

For freshman halls and campus organizations alike, the intramural department offers an important outlet in which students can get to know each other beyond everyone's favorite ice-breakers and mixers. Junior Ryan Cerone has been an active competitor on the co-rec team for Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity at the College, which just recently earned the title of co-rec volleyball champions.

"In a group as large as APO, IM sports are a crucial part of our social component and help to bring our brotherhood closer together," Cerone stated.

Senior Brad Bell, a brother in Kappa Sigma fraternity, echoed Cerone's sentiments. Falling just short of the championship title in flag football, the brothers' continued participation in intramurals throughout last year resulted in a championship win in outdoor soccer - and a stronger bond.

"I have been participating in IM sports with Kappa Sigma for three years now and we've always had a lot of fun," Bell said. "For us, it's a great way to bring the brothers closer together and we often use it for our rush to get to know potential pledges better."

Lauren Lamp, a sophomore at the College, has been involved with almost every IM sport in one way or another, either as a player (with DE United, her outdoor soccer championship team last year), an official or a spectator. An obvious supporter of the intramural program here, she summed up two of what she feels are the best selling points of IM sports, friendship and (of course!) the championship t-shirts.

"I met a few guys at an orientation mixer my freshman year, started playing pick-up soccer with them and from there we formed an IM team," Lamp said. "We played indoor soccer, floor hockey and

Intramurals are offered in both team and individual sports, and this year will also bring new competitions in arena-style indoor flag football and kickball. Photo courtesy Heather Ireland.

outdoor soccer together last year. This year, even though we are all spread out around campus, we are all playing on the same team together. IM sports have provided us with a great avenue to keep up with each other even though we are all extremely busy with an array of activities."

As for the championship shirts, Seth Finck, the former graduate assistant of Intramurals, said it best last year. "I think a big part of participation is simply that you want to be able to wear that shirt around. It doesn't matter if you win an A championship or a C championship, you're a champion when you rock that shirt!"

The intramural department does offer a great fashion line, as well as an outlet for student development on the courts and

fields. On top of all that it also employs a great student staff to keep the program running smoothly. Officiating athletic events, no matter what level of competition, can be an unenviable job, but also a very rewarding one when done right. Working as a referee for IM sports not only gets you extra spending money, but also offers flexible hours for a busy schedule and keeps you involved on campus and meeting other students.

"You have to respect the intramural refs," senior Cailin Falato, a Rec Sports employee and avid IM participant, pointed out. "They usually know people on the

> field but still stay fair to both sides and have to stand by any controversial calls. It's a lot of pressure and they really deserve props for putting up with us!"

Reflecting on all her experiences with intramurals thus far, including those as an official herself, Lamp commented, "I think the IM program offered here is one of the most extensive, most rewarding and most fun activities to participate in on campus. Anywhere from mini-golf to soccer, there is a sport for everyone!"

And she's right! Rec sports offers a wide range of activities that appeal to those preferring team sports, such as the fall line-

up of indoor soccer, softball, flag football and floor hockey, as well as individual events including golf tournaments, a home run derby, table tennis tournaments and a 5K run. The intramural department even added an arena-style indoor flag football tournament and a kickball tournament to the schedule this year.

So the point is, no matter what type of sport you enjoy, or how competitive you are – winning apparently isn't everything. Or so I've been told. We have a spot for you in IM sports. You will meet new people, have a ton of fun and maybe - just maybe - get your very own championship shirt to rock around campus. You don't even have to keep score to know that all that adds up to a winning combination!

Popularity and Politics

Alumni affect our popularity more than shout-outs from big-wigs

Only days after visiting the College to tour the new Integrated Science Center while dodging speculation about possible vice presidential aspirations, Governor Timothy Kaine gave the College a shoutout on national television from Denver. Kaine made an appearance on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, who (as we all know) graduated from the College in 1984, as a psychology major and member of the men's soccer team.

Stewart asked Kaine if he expected a role in an Obama White House after November. Kaine responded with, "I've got a gig until a year after the administration starts. Governor of Virginia – a one-term governor, can't run to succeed, as you know [as] a William and Mary grad."

Jon Stewart ignored the shout-out, perhaps wanting to avoid appearing to have exclusive or elitist Tribe pride.

This whole interaction highlights an important piece of the College's public relations puzzle. Our reputation isn't really about what the governor or President Reveley say about us in public. That's all fairly predictable. Our reputation depends even more on what alumni say, think and do after they leave us. Likewise,

the standing of the College will depend on us in only a few short years.

It's never been completely clear that Jon Stewart even enjoyed his experience at the College that much, though he did come back in 2004 to give the keynote address at graduation. In our favor, much at the College has no doubt changed since the 80's.

Nevertheless, the love of our veritable alumni army is the most valuable kind of love to the College. Once you're out there, spun out in a web across the country, if you love the College you'd better speak up. If you (supposedly) lived in the basement of Yates and now host a national television show, you're our voice.

Raise Funds Another Way, Please

Expect whining when the permit price goes up

We realize the College might face impending budget cuts for yet another year. We understand ambitious development and maintenance plans will require large expenditures. We sympathize with professors who deserve higher salaries. But we cannot concede that the price of a parking permit is ridiculous.

This is a public university, famously ranked well for our meager financial resources. And it's true, some people who go here are well-off, able to pay higher, out-of-state expenses and tuition without breaking a sweat. But others (most of us, it seems) are average college students dependent on parents, who might also be supporting other children and paying off mortgages.

We know you need the money, College, but we're going to whine loudly about how you're getting it. Parking permits that cost \$300 hurt us. And that's up from last year.

The permit price is an un-

fair tax, especially for students who live off campus and have no choice. (Don't worry, we've got a ResLife editorial on file, too.) For students who weren't able

to get on-campus housing, especially transfers who were pushed to the end of the line well into the summer, having to pay an arm and a leg for a parking permit (without even a hint of a discount) is a little cruel.

This topic may seem trivial, but this is a time in our lives and in our economy when money matters. Can't we raise money any other way?

Editors' Note: In the May 2008 edition of The DSJ, clarification was needed regarding a news brief on the Mac option to the MyNotebook program. All three Mac notebook computers are not only discounted relative to regular retail prices but are also discounted beyond Apple's standard educational pricing. The bundled three-year AppleCare warranty is also discounted beyond Apple's standard educational pricing, and William & Mary students have the option to purchase a fourth-year extension to AppleCare (not normally available from Apple).

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Fall 2008 Career Fair

Friday, September 19, 2008 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Sadler Center, 3rd Floor

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Don't miss out on this great opportunity to talk with directly with over 100 admissions representatives from various graduate programs in law, medicine, business and the arts & sciences!

* For a more information on both events, visit the Undergraduate Section of our website at www.wm.edu/career



WILLIAMSBURG. VIRGINIA

Schedule for September

When Did You Last See Your Father? (PG-13) Sun., Sept. 14-Sun., Sept. 20 Sept. 14, 16, 18, 20 in screening room (35 seats)

GasHole (Not rated) Sun., Sept. 14-Fri., Sept. 19 6:45 and 8:30 p.m. Sept. 15, 47, 19 in screening room (35 seats)

Live Performances

Chaos in the House From producer James McNeil Person and director Jennifer Mason Fri., Sept. 5 and Sat., Sept. 6 6:45 and 8:45 p.m. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$35 at door

92.3 FM--The Tide presents Another Skookum Music Series Concert Featuring Mike Doughty - "The Question-Jar Show" Wed., Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. All seats \$17.50

The College of William and Mary's Sinonicron Light Opera Co. presents: Gala 2008, Sat., Oct. 18 at 2 p.m., All seats \$15 Kabluey (PG-13) Sun., Sept. 21-Fri., Sept. 26 7 and 9 p.m. Sept. 21, 23, 25 in screening room (35 seats)

Brideshead Revisited (PG-13) Sun., Sept. 21-Wed., Oct. 1 6:30 and 9 p.m. Sept. 22, 24, 26-27, 29, Oct. 1 in screening room (35 seats)

Mongol (R) Sun., Sept. 28-Sun., Oct. 5 6:30 and 9 p.m. Sept. 28, 30, Oct. 2-4 in screening room (35 seats)

Preservation and Exploration of John Smith 2008 Jamestown Lecture Series All lectures start at 7 p.m.

The Buried Truth - Dr. William Kelso Tues., Oct. 7

Oyster Shells from the Jamestown Well -- Dr. Juliana Harding

For St. George -- Dr. Jeffrey P. Brain Tues., Oct. 21

Virginia Premiere Theatre Presents Nixon's Nixon By Russell Lees Oct. 10-11, 15, 17-18, 22, 24-25 at 7:30 p.m. General admission \$25, Seniors/Students \$20

Man on Wire (PG-13) Sun., Oct. 5-Sun., Oct. 12 7 and 9 p.m. Oct. 5-7, 9-11 in screening room (35 seats)

Tell No One (Not rated) Sun., Oct. 12-Sun., Oct. 19 6:30 and 8:45 p.m. Oct. 12-18 in screening room (35 seats)

My Winnipeg (Not rated) Sun., Oct. 10-Sun., Oct. 26 7 and 8:45 p.m.

Oct. 19-25 in screening room (35 seats)

Laughing Redhead Studio presents Clean Comedy Night featuring Isaac Witty Sat., Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m., all seats \$15

The Williamsburg Charity Concert Series presents Bobby Blackhat Blues Sponsored by the James City County Rotary Club Sat., Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m., all seats \$15

Parenting Playgroups Inc. presents A Day of Positive Discipline with Dr. Rene Giese Hackney Sat., Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., tickets \$50 single, \$75 couple

The Big Bamboo Radio Show Fri., Oct. 3 at 7:45 p.m., all seats \$7.50

Laughing Redhead Studio presents Clean Comedy Night Featuring Michael Rayner and Special Guest Moira Quirk Sat., Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m., all seats \$15

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