

# The DoG Street Journal

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November 2008

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Getting to know the  
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(whoweare)

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(what'sinside)

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**OUR MISSION**

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

**COVER IMAGE**

Welcome to The DSJ's Find Your Own Adventure Issue. Whether you travel the globe or just travel to the polls this month, we hope you find that zest you've been seeking.

**Photo by Carrie Daut  
Design by Marina Stranieri**

# WORDS IN BRIEF

(savethedate)

november 5

**who:** rent fans  
**what:** anthony rapp  
**when:** 7 p.m.  
**where:** pbk hall  
**why:** to hear about the actor's life and rent himself

november 8

**who:** music fans  
**what:** w&m early music ensemble's musical mass  
**when:** 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.  
**where:** wren chapel  
**why:** to listen to music spanning a hundred years

november 9

**who:** students with \$125 to spare  
**what:** the reves center's fifth annual global forum  
**when:** 6:30 p.m.  
**where:** williamsburg lodge  
**why:** to learn about foreign policy

november 14

**who:** book fans over 21  
**what:** a wine tasting and book signing  
**when:** 6 p.m.  
**where:** botetourt gallery, swem library  
**why:** to celebrate a book by photographer chiles t.a. larson ('53)

november 22

**who:** everyone who has tribe pride  
**what:** the last football game of the year  
**when:** 12 p.m.  
**where:** zable stadium  
**why:** the last chance to see tribe football

november 26

**who:** all students  
**what:** thanksgiving break  
**when:** nov. 26-40  
**where:** your home  
**why:** turkey!

## Miller Hall Almost Exists



Miller Hall is on its way to becoming the new home of the Mason School of Business. On October 10, the new cupola, weighing 7,700 pounds and reaching 28-feet high, was put into place. The 163,000 square-foot building was designed to be environmentally friendly. The building will cost \$75 million, which includes design, construction, furniture, information technology and audio-visual equipment costs. Last month, the Dominion Foundation granted \$350,000 to underwrite a 60-seat classroom in the hall.

## College Experts Confront Financial Crisis



Professors of Business John Merrich and John Boschen, Professor of Economics Till Schreiber and Law Professor Eric Kades participated in a panel discussion of the financial crisis on October 15. Professor Dick Ash, of the Mason School of Business, moderated. They spoke to a full crowd of students and community members at the William and Mary Office of Admission. The mood of the forum was serious in nature, but remained optimistic overall.

## State Cuts Funding by Seven Percent



Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced a 7 percent cut for the College, totaling \$3.4 million, on October 9, following last year's funding reduction of \$2.7 million. According to a message sent by President Reveley, the College has frozen hiring. College officials will try to avoid layoffs as long as possible, but the Commonwealth has already announced that state funding for salary increases will be delayed until July 2009. However, there is some good news for students: Kaine opposed mid-year tuition increases and reductions in financial aid.

## Speaker Questions Government on Safety Regulations



The William and Mary Libertarian Students group invited University of Virginia Professor of Systems Engineering Jim Lark to give a lecture in early October. Lark's lecture, "Warning: Governmentally-Mandated Safety Measures May Be Hazardous to Your Health," focused on the potential danger of government regulation. He talked about enforcing seat belt laws, arguing that stricter enforcement might make drivers feel safer, and possibly spur them to take more risks, which could lead to more fatalities in the long run.

## William and Mary Athletes Graduate Above the National Average



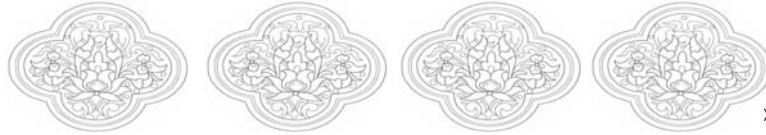
In 18 of the 19 sports measured, including all nine of the men's sports, William and Mary athletes graduated well above the national average. Twelve teams at the College graduated 100 percent of their athletes who enrolled between 1998 and 2001. In gymnastics, soccer, swimming, diving and tennis, the graduation rate was 100 percent. The men's soccer team scored 42 percent above the national average. These statistics are based on the NCAA's 2008 Graduation Success Rate, published in October.

## Dr. Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad Speaks about Islamophobia



Dr. Ahmad is a lecturer at the University of Maryland, College Park, as well as the president of the group Minaret of Freedom. Dr. Ahmad's lecture focused on how grand jury abuse is an example of what he calls the problem of Islamophobia in the United States. The original purpose of the grand jury was to protect the rights of the accused, but Dr. Ahmad claims that it is being subverted as an investigative tool.

# Keeping the Faith



» CASSIE COLE, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

The William and Mary students sitting in a circle in Tazewell Hall could have been gathered there for any purpose. Dressed in casual clothing and sitting comfortably in lounge chairs, they laughed and swapped stories. One woman offered a humorous challenge to the rest of the group.

“Most ridiculous place you’ve prayed. Go,” she said.

The people sitting around her immediately offered up the most oddball places they had paused to pray for one of the five required daily prayers in Islam.

“Park.”

“Changing room.”

“Behind a clothing rack.”

As followers of Islam, the students present at the Halaqa on Friday nights bond by sharing their thoughts on Muslim life in a predominately non-Muslim world. The Halaqa, however, is open to all students who wish to learn more about Islam. It is one way that the Muslim community at the College reaches out to the larger student body.

Adeela Tajdar ('08), the president of the Muslim Student Association, told The DoG Street Journal about her involvement in the MSA, as well as religious prejudice she has experienced.

“Being a Muslim,” Tajdar said, “you get questioned about it a lot and get attacked. You want to know how to defend your religion, to actually be able to know what you are talking about.”

Tajdar said she was “questioned about it so much and attacked so much, it made me realize how central it was to my identity.”

As a non-devout Muslim, she occasionally found herself up against stereotypes. This happened twice during her freshman year at parties, she said, when she was asked questions like “Why are you here?” and “Why isn’t your head covered?”

“I didn’t expect it at William and Mary because I thought it was such an academic place that people would know more. A few

times freshman year, I also got questions about my religion: ‘Why do you believe this? This isn’t right.’ I didn’t expect that either,” she said.

Tajdar finds solace and belonging in the MSA. She joined the organization in the second semester of her freshman year after Religion Professor Tamera Sonn, who teaches courses on Islam, counseled her about coming to terms with her Muslim identity. Tajdar had turned to Sonn for help after having some bad experiences at the College.

The MSA has grown exponentially since Tajdar joined. Six people attended her first meeting; now she estimates their membership to be between 45 and 50 students. She says the MSA is good for “giving other Muslim students a support system, because you definitely need it.”

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“Being a Muslim,” Tajdar said, “you get questioned about it a lot and get attacked. You want to know how to defend your religion, to actually be able to know what you are talking about.”

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The MSA does not only serve the College’s Muslim population. Anyone is welcome at meetings and events, like the Eid celebration held this year.

Sahar Gani ('11), who is also in the MSA, spoke about the unique challenges brought about by being Muslim at William and Mary.

“It’s kind of hard because there are certain things I’d never experienced for religious reasons,” she said. “I felt like I wasn’t part of that... Going to the frats, partying to that level, in Islam that’s just something we don’t do. Especially for girls.” But, she said, the partying on campus is “hard to get away from.”

Gani chooses not to wear a hijab, the traditional head scarf worn by some Muslim women. But she says her roommate does wear it, which causes her roommate to stand out.

“Sometimes that becomes a problem for her. She knows people know that she’s dif-

ferent,” Gani said.

Two Muslim freshmen, Imran Husain and Hassan Khan, attribute the lack of hostility they’ve experienced at the College to its high academic caliber.

“This school has a lot of interest in other people,” Khan said, as he packed his belongings to go home for fall break. Khan said he thinks students at the College are more intrigued than intimidated by other cultures. “That’s what I like about this school,” he said.

When asked how his experience as a student was affected by his Muslim identity, Khan did not cite accounts of prejudice. Instead, he mentioned “golden rule” – treat others as you would like to be treated – and suggested that Islam encourages believers to be friendly and “just be nice to people.”

Khan has, however, experienced prejudice

back home in northern Virginia. The one major incident he described happened when he was involved in ROTC in high school.

One day during inspections, a trainer asked in jest whether Khan was a terrorist. Because of the circumstances, the only response Khan could say was, “No, I’m not.” Despite the joking attitude behind the question, Khan said, “I did feel it was really wrong that he asked.”

As for potential experiences with prejudice at the College, he said, “It’s not like I go out every day trying to defend myself. If it comes, it comes. If it doesn’t, thank God.”

Husain reflected on similar experiences. “I haven’t really faced any bigotry [at William and Mary],” he said. “High school was a different story.”

As for the potential for hostility at the College, Husain said that, though he hasn’t been here for long, he doesn’t feel like he will face any problems. He described students as “nicer, more accepting people,” more well-



Two members of MSA sharing a meal they prepared.

read and better informed than his peers in high school.

“Generally, fear is a byproduct of ignorance,” he said.

On bigotry in general, Husain said, “I’d like to think that it shouldn’t be that way, but on the more realistic side, it’s always going to be there.” However, he added, “I’m optimistic. The underlying feeling I’m getting is this is a better informed group of kids, and my peers are more readily accepting.”

On a national scale, however, Islam suffers from an image problem. A study done in December 2007 by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center found that 35 percent of people in the United States have an unfavorable view of Muslims and 45 percent would be less likely to vote for a Muslim presidential candidate. A majority of 58 percent said they knew little to nothing about Islam. At the same time, a vast majority of respondents – 70 percent – say that Islam differs greatly from their personal religious traditions.

A study called “Muslim Americans: Middle Class and Mostly Mainstream,” published in May 2007 by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, drew some different conclusions. This study, which used responses from tens of thousands of American Muslims, concluded that the vast majority of Muslims in the United States are culturally assimilated, moderate in their religious views and practices and strongly disapproving of terrorism in the name of Islam.

The study portrayed American Muslims as overwhelmingly anti-terrorist. However, it provided one disturbing statistic that may have helped fan the flames of negativity against Muslims: one in four Muslims under the age of 30 said that suicide bombing could be justified some of the time.

Husain adamantly dissociated the Islamic doctrine he is familiar with from the beliefs of terrorists.

“Those who truly practice it, they certainly wouldn’t commit the atrocities that we associate with radical Muslims,” he said.

However, he emphasized the importance of looking at the issue of terrorism from all sides.

“The only thing I’d ask is to look at the bigger picture,” he said. “You need some objectivity. Bombing people, innocent people – any people – is reprehensible and it shouldn’t happen. However you also have to consider the

situations these people are in. Although their actions are wrong, a lot of people make bad choices. A lot of these people are victims of violence, poverty, their own governments.”

Husain mentioned that the actions of Islamic terrorists in recent years have “put Islam in the spotlight,” for better or worse. “If you rely on what the popular media tells you, you’re never going to understand it,” he said. “That’s where the tension emanates from.”

Among those interviewed for this story, the media was frequently cited as a major influence on negative public opinions toward Muslims. Most expressed unhappiness with the news coverage of Muslims, saying that radicals and terrorists receive disproportionate news coverage, giving people a distorted view of Islam.

“I just think, in general, the media really portrays Islam as this crazy religion,” said Gani. “It’s really stupid because I’ve been reading

stuff about why people commit suicide... a lot of studies conclude that suicide bombing isn’t done because of Islam – it’s nationalism.”

Professor Sonn drew similar conclusions. As a professor of Islamic studies, she comes in contact with many students who have misconceptions about the religion.

“It’s just surprising to some students to find out that Islam is just a mainstream, monotheistic religion with adherents from about one-fifth of the world’s population and that Islam condemns terrorism openly, repeatedly,” said Sonn. “When they know only headlines, then they’re surprised to find out that the headlines are enormous deviations from mainstream Islam.”

Husain lamented the constant media attention given to radicals in countries in the Middle East.

“Islam’s pervasiveness is a lot greater than just the Middle East,” he said. With the region “comes its association with terrorism and a lot of violence that we hear about.” He mentioned the substantial Muslim population in Europe, the predominance of Islam in Africa and the fact that Islam is the fastest-growing religion in the world.

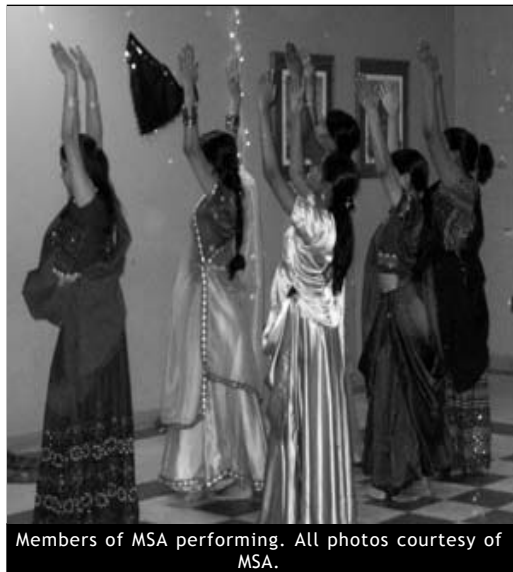
The students interviewed for this story expressed a desire for their peers to better understand Islam and Muslim life at the College.

“I think, for some, I would just like for them to increase their tolerance and respect for students, to never make anyone feel endangered,” said Tajdar. “Once that’s established, I’d like to see students push themselves and learn about how other people are different from them.”

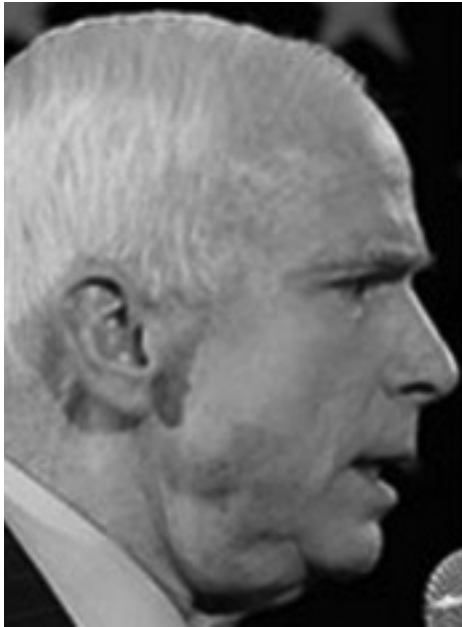
When asked what misconceptions she would like to clear up about Islam, Gani said, “It’s about love and peace. It’s not about hatred. It’s like any other religion.”

Of Islam and the other major monotheistic religions, Husain said, “What people like to do is really polarize them and make it seem as if they’re vastly different. But the thing is, despite a few fundamental differences, there are a lot more similarities than there are huge differences.”

Sonn suggested applying an Islamic adage in discussion about religion and world-view: “Argue with them with what is better.” ■



Members of MSA performing. All photos courtesy of MSA.



# It's the Economy, Stupid!



THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ROCKING WALL STREET WON'T STOP AT THE COLLEGE GATES.

» TODD CORILLO, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

The mounting economic crisis, both domestic and international, has prompted concern and confusion from the general public. Moreover, mounting monetary problems in the Commonwealth have resulted in significant state budget cuts to the College – seven percent of proposed cuts so far.

The iconic symbol for the current crisis has been the “Emergency Economic Stabilization Act,” more commonly referred to as the federal “bailout” plan, which was enacted on October 3. The plan provides up to \$700 billion to the U.S. Treasury Department to stabilize the economy – to most likely purchase bad mortgage-based assets from banks.

However, this economic bailout plan did not become a law easily. The first version of the bill was voted through by the Senate but was killed in the House of Representatives by a vote of 228-205 on September 29. A revised version, amended by the Senate to include “sweeteners” and gain support for the bill, passed in the Senate, by a vote of 74-25, and subsequently in the House, by a margin of 263-171.

The act, signed into law by President Bush just hours after the House vote, established the Troubled Assets Relief Program. The program, known as TARP, seeks to stabilize the U.S. banking industry by relieving banks of their bad mortgage assets.

“The broad authorities in this legislation, when combined with existing regulatory authorities and resources, gives us the ability to protect and recapitalize our financial system as we work through the stresses in

our credit markets,” said Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, Jr.

Senators from Virginia, retiring Republican John Warner and Democrat Jim Webb, both voted in favor of the bailout act. In his remarks on the Senate floor prior to the vote, Warner noted the severity of doing nothing in a time of crisis.

“My careful deliberations on this legislation and my understanding of the economic problems facing our nation lead me to believe that the consequences of not taking this action poses an ever greater threat to our economy and to all Americans,” Warner said.

Webb, in a statement released following the passage of the Senate bill, echoed

Webb promised. “Equally important, the next Congress must restore to our financial system a regulatory structure that will prevent this terrible chapter in American history from ever happening again.”

Representative Rob Wittman, a Republican from the 1st Congressional District, which includes Williamsburg, voted against the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. In his statement, Wittman explained that he had not supported the plan because he believed it put taxpayers in too much risk.

“I have argued over the last two weeks for a bill with much less taxpayer exposure and substantially more financial sector involvement,” explained Whitman. “I believed we

“My prediction is, in the end, five years from now, the law will not have changed. So ten years from now we may be meeting in this room again.”

Warner’s sentiments of the dangers of not taking action and also looked to stabilizing the economy beyond the bailout package in the future.

“Going forward, I will work aggressively with members of Congress from both sides of the aisle to ensure that this legislation is implemented fairly, and in a way that safeguards the American taxpayer,”

should focus our efforts to develop more of a ‘work out’ and less of a ‘bailout.’ Ultimately, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 fell far short of my goals and I could not support it.”

Economic uncertainty has undoubtedly come to Virginia. Governor Timothy M. Kaine recently announced that the state was facing a \$2.5 billion shortfall for the

two-year budget covering fiscal years 2009 and 2010. Kaine has suggested a series of cuts that include slashing funding at institutions of higher learning throughout the Commonwealth. Virginia General Assembly law requires a balanced budget each year. The state is also facing major transportation costs and problems.

Here at William and Mary, Kaine ordered a seven percent budget cut, resulting in the loss of \$3.4 million in state funding for the fiscal year that runs through June 30, 2009. President W. Taylor Reveley, III noted the severity of such a loss in a campus-wide e-mail, especially in light of the loss of \$2.7 million in state funding last year.

The impact of the budget cuts are already felt – in the form of a hiring freeze on campus. Planned salary increases are also on hold. However, Reveley conveyed his intentions to avoid layoffs as long as



Governor Tim Kaine had to cut school funding to cope with the current financial turmoil.

feasibly possible.

“Bad news from the state has been expected,” said Reveley, “and we have been planning for it. Before final cost-saving measures are put in place, there will be campus forums in the next few weeks to get your thoughts on funding priorities.”

College Vice President for Finance

Samuel Jones explained in a memorandum to Reveley that Kaine’s guidance in dealing with the loss of state money included requests that no mid-year tuition increases or reductions to financial aid be implemented.

Jones noted that the College has been proactive in already reducing operating costs by approximately one-third of the demanded cuts. However, he also noted that the College should prepare for these budget cuts to become permanent, not temporary, as Kaine shifts his attention towards the budget for 2010.

The high tensions resulting from an uncertain economic future prompted the College to hold a forum on the state of the economy on October 15. “Understanding the Current Financial Crisis” featured a panel of professors with backgrounds in business, law and economics. Each panelist presented outlooks on the state of the economy as it pertained to his area of expertise. Collectively, the panelists fielded questions from the audience, comprised of area community members and students.

Brinkley-Mason Professor of Economics and Finance John Boschen focused his remarks on the housing boom and bust and how it began the current economic crisis. The solution, according to Boschen, is for housing prices and income levels to realign.

“Sooner or later – and this always happens with housing prices – they have to come back in line with the growth of income,” said Boschen. “If that’s true, then when housing prices decline, I would say roughly 12 to 16 percent more, they’ll be back in line with historically what the ratio is between income and housing prices.”

Panelist Till Schreiber, assistant professor of economics, told audience members, “Not all is lost. I doubt we’ll see anything like another Great Depression.”

Keeping interest rates low, prompting investment in other sectors, should help the economy recover, Schreiber said, though he predicted that unemployment rates will rise two percent in the next year, creating additional woes.

Eric Kades, professor of law, was also confident that the economy would recover, however his remarks also focused on a

long-term projection.

“My prediction is, in the end, five years from now, the law will not have changed. So ten years from now we may be meeting in this room again,” Kades said.

Fellow panelist Richard S. Reynolds and Associate Professor of Business John Merrick focused on the TARP program created by the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. Merrick was particularly keen on creating what he called “truth squads” to go out and discover all of the bad assets the banks have.

“The vision behind that is that you clean them up, and they will be able to go out and raise new capital because they will be transparent,” Merrick said.

The panelists’ optimism, while not sugar-coating the seriousness of the crisis, left many in attendance reassured that it will not become a full blown depression.

While the blows of the crisis have had crippling impacts on financial markets worldwide, a trickledown effect has yet to really permeate the lives of many William and Mary students.

Chris Lettich (’11) has not seen any drastic changes to his spending habits as a result of the economic crisis. “I still go out to dinner and buy things that I like despite the state of the economy,” said Lettich.

Lettich and others point to the isolation factor of the college experience, especially in terms of the top college expense: food. Because many students are on one of the meal plans where a swipe is all it takes to get food, many don’t feel the price increases that have come about as a result of the worsening economy.

Katie Moody (’11), who has cut back on going out to eat, agrees that the convenience and set prices of a meal plan factor into her spending habits.

Both Lettich and Moody agreed in thinking that the economic crisis will have a bearing on the presidential election, especially considering that the winner will inherit the weakened economy and associated problems.

“The next president will have to deal with it,” Moody said.

While the individual impact of the worsening economy may have yet to be substantial for the average college student, most can point to the most important impact on the so far: “our state-funded budget cuts,” said Megan Hermida (’11).

It is that measure that will likely create the most lasting legacy of the 2008 economic crisis on our community at the College. ■

# The A Cappella Bond

*So much more than mere song*

» KELSEY POWELL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

A student walking late at night past Ewell Hall is likely to hear Reveille's melodies or the Intonations warming up at the beginning of practice. Students gather en masse outside at Wren Tens whether it's a balmy end-of-summer night or a frigid winter one, anticipating the 10:05 arrival of a favorite group. As a campus, we love our a cappella groups, but do we take their music for granted? Perhaps, we should think of a cappella groups as more than tools to satisfy our musical needs.

What is a cappella at William and Mary? How do these groups work? And what is it like to be a member?

## A Council of Crooners

A cappella "is what it is," said Monica Holt ('09), vice president of the William and Mary A cappella Council and a member of Reveille and the Christopher Wren Singers. "It's not some profound activity but it's totally worth every moment you put into it for the college time frame."

Holt said it's an organization poorly understood by students outside of the a cappella community.

The A cappella Council itself is composed of two members of each group, either the director, the president(s) or the business manager. Then,

the council elects a president and a vice president.

Holt and Council President Greg Genovese ('09), who is director of the Gentlemen of the College and a member of The Christopher Wren Singers, have held their respective positions in the a cappella council for the past two years.

The two are in charge of organizing the Wren Ten schedule, basic organization of all-group performances and other inter-

group issues.

The A cappella Council was originally created in the 90's to better organize the audition process for the different a cappella groups. Many of the College's groups were founded in the early 90's.

The first a cappella group was The Christopher Wren Singers, created in 1987. In 1990, The Gentlemen of the College and The Stairwells both sprang up, followed by The Intonations in '91, the Accidentals in '92 and Reveille and Doubletake in '93.



The Gentlemen of the College is the first all-male a cappella group at William and Mary. All photos courtesy Monica Holt

but an indication of interest. Then, the potential membership is discussed at a meeting prior to making a decision."

There are ten a cappella groups currently associated with the council, a large number for such a small campus.

"Due to the size of the College, one would not expect to find ten a cappella groups," said Holt. "Still, I don't think that a cappella groups are as selective as the general population thinks. It's not some prestigious thing to be in the A cappella Council - it's just an organization. I think the other a cappella groups on campus [that] are started on freshmen halls are fun and great, all the same, but not really interested in making it a big thing."

As for new groups, Holt said they shouldn't be discouraged, because "William and Mary thrives on the fact that people can create the experiences that they want." However, she also said the A cappella Council would probably not add more groups to its membership any time soon.

This is not to say that new interest is not welcome. Based on auditions this year, Holt and others agree that the female groups are in a good place in terms of quality and quantity, but that there was a lower turnout of male interest than they had been seeing for the past



The Christopher Wren Singers are the oldest a cappella group at the College.

When there were only a few groups, they did their audition processes independently. However, once other groups came about, there was too much confusion in the audition process and the A cappella Council was born.

Since the creation of the council, groups have had to petition for membership. Holt says "it's not truly an application process,



couple of years.

Following this trend is the disappearance of the all-male, Christian a cappella group One Accord. This set of crooners chose to take this semester to regroup from difficult past recruitments and the loss of their leader, who graduated last spring.

There has been some chatter that One Accord may combine with Ebony Expressions, a gospel choir group that is also spending the semester regrouping. Ebony Expressions might come back as an a cappella group, as opposed to its previous choral arrangement, said Holt.

### Unique Voices

Each a cappella group has a different leadership structure.

In The Gentlemen of the College, the director decides who the next director will be.

In Reveille, the director is chosen by election. As a rule, the seniors cannot talk during deliberations unless they are asked questions – so as to ensure the voice and pick of next year's members.

The auditions process is also a source of mystery to many.

Sarah Gwilliam ('09), a member of Cleftomaniacs, said that "auditions lasted two days, and were relatively painless."

Another Cleftomaniac, Abigail Stokley ('10), said that one of the only good things about auditions was that it doesn't take much time.

The A Cappella Council leaders will coordinate the groups in the fall to get their posters up for the activities fair on Tuesday night. Then,

Wednesday is an a cappella showcase where all the groups perform. After the showcase, the sign-ups for auditions are posted in Ewell Hall lobby. Traditionally, male auditions are Thursday night and female auditions are Friday. Callbacks are held throughout the



The Intonations, the oldest female-only group, originally only sang R&B.

day, generally in three time blocks. There is a selection meeting, and after that, all the groups go out and grab their "a cappella babies," said Holt.

If you get called back to only one group and are accepted as a member, then you must join that group. However, a student called back to multiple groups will fill out a preference sheet, explaining which group they would like to be in. A student could be called back to all the a cappella groups, but not be accepted into any.

"In the fall of my freshman year, I auditioned for all the groups that I could, with the exception of a couple," commented Holt on her own experience. "I was called back to several of them, but I was not accepted into any."

However, Holt auditioned in the spring and was accepted into Reveille. After two

years in Reveille, Holt auditioned for The Christopher Wren Singers in the fall of her junior year and got in.

Holt said she loves being in the two groups. It "helped me enjoy a cappella more because the two groups complement each other really well. But, I do know that sometimes when people are in two groups, it can get a little crazy when the two groups overlap more."

### Love of the Song

Once the group comes together, they seem to almost unanimously love to perform.

"It is one of the reasons I sing!" said Gwilliam. "It is why we work so hard. I enjoy providing entertainment and musical background to groups and events."

Stokley agreed. "I really, really enjoy the performance aspect. I've been a choral singer all my life, and I've participated in musical theatre since elementary school, so you know I love performing. With the Cleftos, performance is a huge part of our identity as a group, and everyone somehow manages to take it seriously – and focus – and have a really good time as well."

Another member of the Cleftomaniacs, Steve Hayet ('09), said he really loves performing at the Wren Tens. "It is mainly the one time all semester where our concert is focused solely on our friends and fellow students. The energy is incredible. The fans that come out to Wren 10s are so supportive and want to have fun as much as we do. Why else would they skip the end of Project Runway to be there?"

However, a cappella life does not just involve singing at Wren Tens and selling CDs. A cappella groups and the members themselves are involved in the school and give back in ways other than just singing.

Stokley told The DSJ that in the Cleftomaniacs "last semester we had a 4th grade teacher from inner city Richmond e-mail and tell us that her class starts out every day by listening to one of our songs. We were able to fundraise and bring her class here last semester for a day on campus, a meal at the Caf, a mini workshop and a private concert." ■



Reveille is another all-female group.



A

# Divided Campus



## Can we unite after such an intense national race?

» SARAH PUCKETT, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

In an election where the candidates seem black and white on many issues (no pun intended), it is expected that voters would take a firm stance on one side or the other. As youth involvement has reached a record high, especially in a battleground like Virginia, it just might be expected that students would also be clearly and passionately divided on the issues.

It's admirable to have these strong opinions, but what will happen when one candidate inevitably serves as president over us all? Can we get back together?

With Facebook groups like "Women Against Sarah Palin" and "One Million Americans Against Barack Obama," I anticipate a certain level of division after the election. I decided to talk to real students about the issues and see how divided we actually are – before we go to the polls.

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Thomas Chappell, a sophomore and tentative government major, was my McCain supporter. Rachel Olcheski, a senior English major, was for Obama. (Unfortunately, I didn't have time to find any Nader fanatics by the time this went to print.) Although neither interviewee had a chance to hear what the other said, their arguments were pretty discordant. They even repudiated some of each other's key points, unprompted by me.

At first, Chappell and Olcheski gave similar reasons for supporting their candidates – each one, in their view, represents a positive change for our country.

"I think [Obama is] going to give the country a new face, which is what we need," said Olcheski. "Our generation hasn't seen

the government do a lot of things that make us feel incredibly loyal and passionate about our country."

Chappell said, "I think McCain represents the best of our values. I think he will restore America to a more respectable leadership position – as opposed to Bush. I'm not a huge Bush fan."

Both students agreed that something needs to change, and that c h a n g e needs to start with George Bush and the government we have grown up with. However, the question becomes: How will we start implementing changes? And what changes, exactly, should we decide on?

Chappell agreed that Obama could elicit activism from our generation. "If Obama wins, we'll see more interest in politics by college students because he's a younger guy, somebody who many students respect and look up to," he said. But Chappell doesn't see Obama showing enough evidence of plans that will tangibly affect students. "I'm not really sure what he wants to do about making college more affordable. I don't really know how he's going to do that."

Olcheski shed some light on the plan Chappell questioned. "[Obama] has a thing with education. In exchange for community service, students will get \$4,000 a year [for tuition]. Community service is one of the greatest things we have," she said.

"You can't change the world, but you can change a world," Olcheski said. "And if you change the world of an individual, that person could turn out to be the next Einstein."

Olcheski's view seems to reflect Obama's. Obama has said the government should invest in every individual because as a society we are dependent on different individuals for different types of knowledge, labor and

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"I see [Obama] playing a much weaker role in the world, backing down from things, not being as tough in dealing with dictators." - Thomas Chappell ('11)

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skills. Everyone counts. Olcheski mentioned that McCain accused Obama of wanting to rob the rich of their hard-earned money in order to spread the wealth around.

"As for the wealthy, it's not like their taxes are skyrocketing; it's just that they're not getting any more cuts [under Obama's plan]," she said. "There's a difference between redistribution of wealth and changing taxes. This is not Robin Hood."

Chappell also believes in supporting the individual, especially the individual college student about to enter the real world. He just disagrees about the method. He sees the potential for higher taxes as detrimental to the enterprising young person.

"It's important not to take away the incentive to be successful. If you tax the wealthy, you take away some of that incentive." Still, even though the economy is foremost on the minds of many right now,

Chappell finds more wrong with Obama than just his plans to raise taxes.

"I see [Obama] playing a much weaker role in the world, backing down from things, not being as tough in dealing with dictators. I feel like he's inexperienced and he could make rash decisions," he said.

Inexperience isn't what Olcheski is afraid of in terms of America's foreign policy. She's afraid of experience that is founded on being too tough. "You know the phrase speak quietly and carry a big stick? I think that works well. McCain speaks very loudly and carries a big stick, and we have problems overseas already."

She also calls out the McCain campaign on inexperience. "You talk about no experience. [Sarah Palin] seems to live in a complete fantasy world. She's just completely out of touch. I guess some people identify with her. But you don't need to identify with your president; they need to be smarter than you," Olcheski said. "I don't want someone sitting across the table from Vladimir Putin winking and saying 'Doggonnit.'"

McCain supporters do realize that Palin has her weaknesses as a VP candidate. Chappell commented, "I will admit she has not been the best in the campaign."

When I asked him to discuss the man Palin fired for questionable reasons in Alaska, he said, "I'm iffy about it, too. But it won't deter me from voting for her. She has other good things working for her."

Chappell cited Palin's fresh enthusiasm on the McCain campaign and positive image as a powerful woman as reasons to keep her on-board. But Olcheski finds her a hazardous part of a hate-ridden campaign.

"When I see Sarah Palin smiling and waving to a crowd of people who are all shouting 'terrorist,' [I'm] not comfortable," Olcheski said. She's worried that McCain's campaign has caused people to adopt dangerous, possibly even violent, mentalities that could carry on after the election.

"Throughout history, plenty of people have done bad things when they get caught up in a political movement. No matter who wins, he's setting up a divided country," Olcheski warned. "He's scared people to the point where they think Obama is associated with people who slaughter Americans."



This year's election divided our country -- and our campus.

At the same time, Chappell sees value in doing a thorough background check on Obama's associations. "I think it has been very unfair to both sides, people making empty accusations. Saying Obama's a terrorist – that's just wrong," he said. "But it shouldn't be considered dirty campaigning if it's true. I don't have a problem with people going after the Ayers/Acorn connection, because that's true."

**"I don't want someone sitting across the table from Vladimir Putin winking and saying 'Doggonnit.'" - Rachel Olcheski ('09)**

## A CLOSER LOOK

Both Chappell and Olcheski agree: it has been a fierce campaign on the national level. But what has been happening on the local level? What about William and Mary?

Chappell hasn't noticed anything too vicious. "I was selling McCain T-shirts, and I got some really snide remarks from people walking by. But there hasn't been any vandalism, or anything that I'm aware of," he said. "And I haven't heard anything on the McCain side negative towards Obama. Not on the whole."

On the other hand, Olcheski is appalled at the polar partisanship she's encountered. She talked about a girl friend of hers who was hitting it off with a guy at a party, only to be flat-out dumped when he found out she was a Democrat. Olcheski herself was harassed at a stoplight for having an Obama bumper sticker.

"[The sticker was] totally benign, not dissing anyone. This truck sped up, rolled down the window and started screaming at me, really nasty stuff," she said. "This is divisive, this is dangerous."

Granted, the truck driver could have been anyone. He might not have been a student, but his aggression is indicative of a divided political climate. Whether this climate permeates the Williamsburg and College community is less clear. Chappell testifies that McCain supporters are a minority on campus. But does that mean they are less vocal and divisive, too? Or perhaps it means they are more vocal and flamboyant to get their message heard? Perhaps it means Obama supporters feel comfortable enough in their majority to make snide remarks and not be called out. Either way, both sides contribute to the division.

## A RESOLUTION IN SIGHT?

But what has caused such a division? Is it the stark differences in the candidates' opinions on major issues, like whether we should raise taxes for the wealthy or lower them, whether we should have an aggressive foreign policy or advocate discussions with our adversaries? Does it matter that we debate whether Sarah Palin's hotness is worth her lack of experience? Has one candidate been the driving force in anger and dirty campaigning, making unreasonable accusations and empty assertions, more than the other?

Chappell and Olcheski have shown two different sides to the campaign that exist on campus. Whether these two sides can coexist harmoniously after the election will depend on the strength of the leader we elect, both to unite us and to bring about change; it will depend on the next president of the United States. By the time this issue goes to print, the mystery will be solved – hopefully. ■

# BEST OF'S

## A Random Assortment of Five Best Things

### FIVE BEST CONCERTS ON THEIR WAY TO CAMPUS

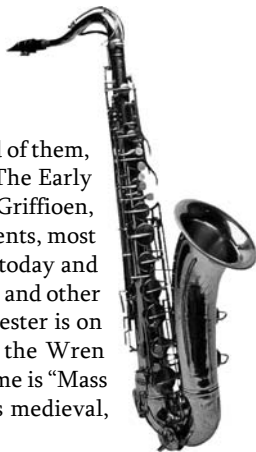
» MEGAN GRADY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

#### Appalachian String Band Concert

One of the most unique musical groups on campus, the Appalachian String Band, has its first performance of the year on Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. in Ewell Recital Hall. They present a lively and entertaining assortment of music, revolving around the classic styles of Appalachian folk. The ensemble is under the direction of Peter Frostic and comprised entirely of students.

#### Early Music Ensemble, Concert, "Mass of a Thousand Years"

If you've never seen this group or heard of them, this is a concert worth checking out. The Early Music Ensemble, directed by Dr. Ruth Griffioen, is compiled entirely of period instruments, most of which are no longer manufactured today and can only be found at William and Mary and other historical sites. Their concert this semester is on Nov. at 5 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. in the Wren Chapel. Admission is free, and the theme is "Mass of a Thousand Years," which includes medieval, renaissance and baroque mass music.



#### Nordic Folk Music Ensemble Concert

This is the newest addition to the Ewell family, started this year by Professor David Kamisky. Their premiere concert will be Dec. at 7 p.m. at Lodge One and is free.

#### W&M Jazz Ensemble Fall Concert

Under the direction of Professor Angela Holt, who is new to the College, the Jazz Ensemble will be performing for free at Lodge One on Nov. at 8 p.m. as a pre-concert to their Kimball performance. If you attend, be prepared for a lively evening of jazz music and optional swing dancing.

#### W&M Holiday Concerts

If you like music even a little bit, you should take the time to check out at least one of the large ensemble holiday performances. The W&M Orchestra kicks off the series on Dec. at 8 p.m. in PBK. The W&M Wind Symphony performs the following night, Dec. 4, also at 8 p.m. at PBK. On the 5th and 6th, the choral department will be singing at PBK.

### FIVE BEST DRAMATIC CELEBRITY BREAK-UPS WE'VE SEEN

» CAITI HALL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

#### Terry "The Hulk" Hogan and wife, Linda

Divorcing a champion WCW wrestler is not a healthy (or safe) decision in the first place. Secondly, moving on to date someone the same age as your child (especially one not yet 21) is just... wrong. Please, Linda, we're begging you to reconsider.

#### Angelina Jolie and Billy Bob Thornton

How these two got together in the first place is unfathomable, but the whole vials-of-each-others-blood-around-the-neck-thing was just a bit too much. The general American public was thrilled when Angie decided she needed the gloriousness of Brad Pitt, instead. Now, there's a decision we can applaud.

#### Princess Diana and Prince Charles

She was always too pretty for him. And, while it's terrible that she met an early, tragic death, she left behind two of the most gorgeous royals on the face of the planet. So, something good came out of it, after all.

#### Carrie Underwood/Chace Crawford and Joe Jonas/Taylor Swift

U CAN'T TXT MESSAGE BREAK UP!

#### Britney Spears and Her Sanity

It was only a matter of time. There were bets on when it would happen. And Britney didn't disappoint. It provided endless entertainment while simultaneously invoking pity. We are, however, delighted that the two have seemed to have come to a reconciliation. We're wishing you the best of luck the second time around, Britney!



## FIVE BEST THANKSGIVING

### TRADITIONS

» CAITI HALL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

#### Turkey

Really, there is no contest. You can't have Thanksgiving without turkey. The dinner is centered on it, and there really isn't any way someone can cook it poorly. For a delicious change, I recommend deep-frying it.

Your taste buds will thank you.

Vegetarians shouldn't miss out – try the equally delicious Tofurkey! (It's usually available in the frozen fake turkey section of the store.)

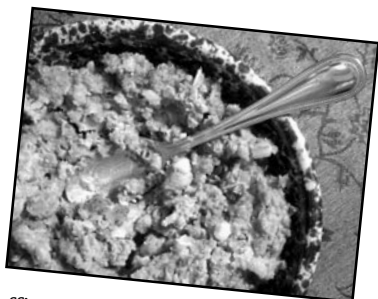


#### Cranberry Sauce

While it may not be a personal favorite, everyone else I know can't get enough of this Thanksgiving institution. And, if nothing else, eat it because it's a really pretty color. Just keep it off the table cloth.

#### Stuffing

There are few foods in existence that can come as close to being completely satisfying as stuffing. Its warm, soft deliciousness will never fail you. And, for the obligatory turkey sandwich you will be eating the next day, throw some stuffing on top. It's heavenly.

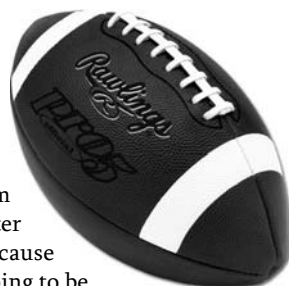


#### Pumpkin Pie

This is the perfect ending to your most calorific and utterly pleasing meal of the year. A blob of whipped cream on the top is the best way to go. And, if for some odd reason, you are completely opposed to pie, I recommend pumpkin ice cream. It's equally delicious, and just a few degrees cooler.

#### Football

After you've enjoyed the last bite of pumpkin pie, what's the perfect way to end the evening? While a turkey-induced semi-coma would be appealing to some, most people are headed towards the living room to watch the big game. It's even better when two rivals are playing, because chances are that not everyone is going to be rooting for the same team. And that's when the fun starts.



## FIVE BEST HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED AROUND THE WORLD

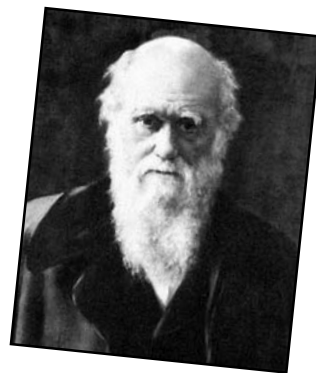
» MEGAN GRADY, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

### International Women's Day (March 8)

This holiday is celebrated as a national holiday in many countries and is recognized by the United Nations. It was established in the U.S. in 1909, but disappeared only a few years later. During World War I, Russian women held the first International Women's Day to show solidarity and protest against the war. Since then, it has evolved into a holiday celebrating the history, struggle and success of women internationally.

### Darwin Day (February 12)

Two days before V-Day, throw a party for Charles Darwin's birthday. This holiday promotes public education about science and encourage celebration of science and humanity. Salem College in Massachusetts still holds an annual week-long Darwin Festival, a tradition since 1980. In 2009, it will also be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Darwin's blockbuster, *On the Origin of Species*.



### International Peace Day (September 21)

A relatively new holiday, World Peace Day is recognized by the United Nations and was first celebrated in 2001, requiring a day of cease-fire and non-violence. The idea for the holiday originally came from a filmmaker in 1999 and almost 200 now participate. International Peace Day helps to raise awareness for a variety of issues – from children's polio to conflict and strife.

### Wintereenmas (January 25 - 31)



There are many reasons this holiday stands out. First of all, it is a celebration stretched out into an entire week. Secondly, it was created especially to celebrate the joy of video games and the people who play them. So, if that's your thing, go

ahead and mark your calendars! There's nothing like starting the spring semester with a week of gaming.

### International Chocolate Day (September 13)

This holiday is one in a series of sweet days to celebrate throughout the year. October was National Caramel Month and included National Chocolate Day, Candy Corn Day and Caramel Apple Day. To find out more about the candy-filled holidays, visit [www.candyusa.org](http://www.candyusa.org).



# The International Student

## The College Goes Abroad

Photo provided by Carrie Daut.

>>DEIDRA A. DENSON, DSJ STAFF REPORTER AND POOJA GUPTA, DSJ STYLE EDITOR

At a hotbed of international curiosity like the College, it is only natural that hordes of students choose to go abroad at some point in their academic career. But, in fact, many of those who travel outside American borders during their tenure at William and Mary had not planned on going abroad before attending school here. And the numbers keep increasing.

As of last year, more than 700 undergraduates have gone abroad each semester. Why go? The reasons are many and diverse. They include international service trips, independent study programs, foreign exchange programs and even undergraduate research. But the fun doesn't stop there: some William and Mary graduates go abroad even after graduation.

The options for future and, sometimes, long-term international living are even more plentiful. Students can strive for a Fulbright Scholarship, continued language study and ambitious academic research. With the options and possibilities continuing to grow, it can be overwhelming to consider. How do we make this seemingly limitless bounty more manageable? The best way to find out

all the information is to stop by the Charles Center, located in the basement of Tucker Hall. It boasts a bevy of scholarship information, most of which can be invaluable in your selection and financial arrangements.

Another on-campus resource providing international knowledge to the curious is the Reves Center. Offering a wide variety of programs, ranging from summer abroad to faculty-sponsored trips, the Reves Center puts visions of international learning in the heads of even the most hesitant candidates. As a result, the destination of travel is nearly unlimited for any student. In fact, a student can even pursue overseas study through another school, granted that he or she finds an appropriate affiliated program. Or the student can pursue a program completely independent.

The bottom line? Even if William and Mary doesn't offer the desired program, there is always a way to make the journey happen. Even for the extremely ambitious, though, the opportunity will require a lot of research and dedication. For a student who is doing a non-affiliated study abroad program, he or she will have to take

responsibility for contacting the host school and setting up all arrangements for semester or summer enrollment themselves. However, this supposed challenge can also make the experience much more rewarding.

But the Charles and Reves centers can only tell you so much. The real wealth of knowledge comes from students themselves. It's hard to find a student whose outlook on life and living was not changed by his or her experience abroad. And it's also hard to find one who will tell you that the learning was limited to classes.

### Coming Back with Stories

Colin Pearson, ('09), knows firsthand. After spending the spring semester in Spain, Pearson will advise that if you remain open to new, random experiences, "you'll always have a good story to tell." He also warns of taking your classes too seriously. "It's not really about the classes. Don't overload with classes or take them too seriously, because otherwise you'll wind up missing out on some really great experiences. Interact with whomever you can."

Clara Ngomba, ('09), echoes his words. Ngomba went to Athens, Greece this past spring. She, like Colin, learned to speak a language, enjoy a new culture and discover

a new sense of self. "Before I left, I never realized how much I needed a personal, international experience where I could

immerse myself completely in a culture unlike my own. I learned a different language, ate different foods, and sometimes wore different clothes – but most of the learning while I was in Greece came from within," she says. Once again, it seems as though the real learning happens outside the classroom walls and even outside the confines of a pocket dictionary.

Crystal Nwokorie, ('10), is more than ready to experience this learning. She is currently preparing to travel to Singapore and advocates starting in advance and finding the right program. "For any who are interested in going to Singapore, William and Mary has a really nice exchange program with the National University of Singapore. If everything works out all right, I will be there next semester. It's one of the best universities in Southeast Asia and it has a tuition exchange open-enrollment program so I can take any classes I want within any discipline."

Colin, Clara and Crystal, like any veteran student travelers, will tell a study abroad newbie that the first thing to do is set up an appointment with a study abroad advisor. If that sounds intimidating, don't hesitate to stop by the Reves Center and go to the second floor for a pre-advising session. For the fall semester, the only days to go are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Time slots on those days are quite flexible and are normally in the afternoon. An employee at the Reves Center will talk about the basics of preparation and answer any questions you may have. Also, the student will be

introduced to the Reves library, with a wide selection of programs grouped by country and sponsor.

**"Don't overload with classes or take them too seriously, because otherwise you'll wind up missing out on some really great experiences."**

**- Colin Pearson ('09)**

Before the session is over, the student should receive a folder full of very, very important paperwork. Yes, the preparation process will be very long, but the sooner it is dealt with, the less painful it will be. Before any sort of study abroad

program is undertaken, the department of study has to know the student's plan. That is to say, the student has to register and fill out a "consortium agreement," which is required for students receiving financial aid in the form of loans, scholarships and grants. Financial aid depends on the program.

**"It was a perfect time and opportunity to challenge myself and break out of my comfort zone."** - Clara Ngomba ('09)

more meaningful, the only way to find out all the answers is to ask the questions.

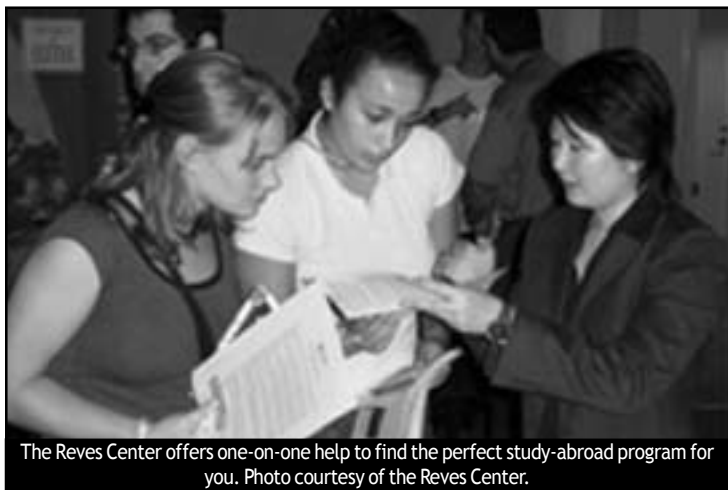
Once the initial obstacle, the paperwork, is taken care of, next comes the actual departure preparation. All students must accept that they will be in a foreign environment away from their family, friends and everything they have ever known. The one thing that all study abroad students enjoy is their sense of independence. Most feel confident, more mature, and more aware. Before a student actually leaves the country, he or she should be relatively familiar with his or her region of choice.

Also, don't feel so compelled to bring a lot of clothes. Leaving the States for a while

will be fun, but dragging two suitcases will not be. In fact, count on extra baggage that accumulates while staying in the host country, like souvenirs, pictures, mementos or postcards. Things that must be brought, though, are tickets, passports and cash. It also helps to come prepared for the weather, especially with any necessary prescribed medicines. Be prepared to tell everyone back home that the abroad experience is important.

Ngomba said the most important surprise she experienced was not in the cuisine, culture or even language, but rather in her own abilities. "It was a perfect time and opportunity for me to challenge myself and break out of my comfort zone. I cannot wait to go back to Greece. In fact, I hope one day, I'll find myself there on a more permanent basis. Until then, I'll just have to eat as many gyros and as much baklava as I can to remind me of Greece."

For those who may not know, the Reves Center is located next to the Campus Center, but if the actual walk is impossible, the Reves Center website is <http://www.wm.edu/revescenter>. E-mail anyone there, and someone will point you in the right direction. Who knows where you'll end up? The possibilities are endless. ■



The Reves Center offers one-on-one help to find the perfect study-abroad program for you. Photo courtesy of the Reves Center.

Nonetheless, a student should try not to feel limited by money. There are too numerous ways to get around that problem.

On the other side of the preparation folder are a few tips to help better enjoy the study abroad experience. Each person reacts differently to being abroad, and will therefore have different stories. To make it



» JUAE SON, DSJ STAFF COLUMNIST

Four years ago, when I came to high school in the United States as an exchange student from South Korea, I was fifteen and could not compose a sentence of English.

But the first thing that struck me was the use of paper towels. People used these white rolls of disposable paper for everything. There was always a roll of paper towels sitting in the back of my class, and it was gone by end of the day.

Another thing that shocked me was the huge trash cans I saw every 50 feet. I wondered why they had to be so big until I saw kids throwing empty soda bottles inside, along with other trash.

No one recycled.

All the kids casually threw away their things – as if that was the way they dealt with the trash they had been generating for their whole lives.

I felt a little bit deceived inside.

At my Korean school, everyone in the class brought a piece of an old T-shirt from home for everyday cleaning. I would wipe my desk and chair with it, then wash it and hang it to dry. Then I would use it whenever I spilled something and wash it again.

There was a little trash can and a huge recycling bin at the back of my classroom. No one dared to put paper, plastics or cans in the trash can.

Every Saturday, the apartment complex I lived in had a recycling day, when all the residents could throw away their papers, plastics and waste that had accumulated during the week so that recycling company could take them.

I doubted whether all the efforts Koreans had been making to preserve the environment meant anything when there was so much excessive use and waste of resources on the other side of the world.

Since then, I have witnessed much more in the United States that would be such a shock to the people back home: paper plates and

plastic silverware everywhere, water running all the time, lights on constantly, ice-cold air conditioning, excessive use of cars and no separation between dry and wet trash.

And that's just the start.

Not many Americans seem to care about it or even notice that it was a problem. There were small environmentally-conscious movements here and there, but they did not get much attention.

Ironically enough, the longer I stayed in the U.S., the more I became accustomed to this new lifestyle. Before I realized it, I was throwing soda bottles into the trash can without any hesitation.

However, all of a sudden,

I sensed a difference. There were recycling cans everywhere. Commercials screamed that their companies supported environmental causes. Magazines and newspapers constantly wrote about how serious the earth's environmental problems had gotten and what people could do about it. Eating organic fruits and vegetables became very fashionable.

All of a sudden, a surge of green seemed to hit people's minds.

This fall, when I returned to the U.S., I was confused by the stares I got every time I threw a soda bottle into the trash can.

Now I am afraid.

It is a great thing that environmental awareness has grown so much lately, but how long will it last? From an outsider's point of view, the whole thing looks like the sort of trend that becomes fashionable one day but disappears just as fast.

There is a limit to the amount newspapers and magazines can run special programs on the environment without talking about the same things over and over. Right now, it seems like competition-driven companies are promoting "green" products in order to sell

their products regardless of what their real intentions are.

What will happen once people's minds are no longer focused on saving the earth or when marketing on the environment does not seem profitable anymore?

Recycling bins will still be lying around, but what is the use of them if people no longer take their own time to sort their trash? Only time will tell, but I still cannot walk away from the thought that one day, I will again see what shocked me so much four years ago.

My hope is that this green movement

All the kids casually threw away their things – as if that was the way they dealt with the trash they had been generating for their whole lives.

becomes stronger; that the little everyday practices of conserving the environment

become habitual for Americans.

Koreans are so accustomed to thinking about the environment all the time, but it is not because we cannot afford to buy paper towels or to run the air conditioner all year long. The notion that where we live will turn in to a wasteland was established in our minds so solidly that whatever we do, we unconsciously think of the environment.

We need a new generation of Americans to be like that, to grow up to be eco-friendly without voices from the media telling them to recycle.

By the time we have kids, we probably won't hear so much about the green movement, but is that such a bad thing? Environmentalism is more than a movement. It's a way of thinking. What we need is a concerted effort from everyone to not forget that, no matter what trends pass us by, the earth will still be with us. ■

*Juae Son is a staff columnist for The DSJ. Her views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.*



# REAL FOOD ON CAMPUS?

When eating becomes a chore,  
you know something is wrong.

>> JAKE ROBERT NELSON, DSJ OPINIONS EDITOR

A walk down the average grocery store aisle has become something so far removed from its past that our great-grandmothers would hardly recognize what they saw.

Bright, flashy colors. Anthropomorphic, cutesy mascots. Claims of “all natural” and “lite” that bear little meaning.

We are losing touch with food. Not with edible chemistry projects – the partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, the high fructose corn syrup, the artificial colors – those, we are far too familiar with.

It has come to a point where children have tasted artificial cherry flavoring before they’ve tasted fresh cherries bursting with juice more succulent than any candy, where children think that “sour blue raspberries” and “tropical apple-berries” can be found growing in the wild, where children can justify French fries and ketchup as their main vegetable intakes.

We’re in a dangerous place, susceptible to completely losing the wonderful alimentary diversity that is waiting just beyond our fingertips.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service reported in 2002 that only 19 cents of every dollar spent on American-grown food goes to farmers.

Back in 1950, farmers received over 40 percent of the revenue.

When we open up that box of Froot Loops (it’s a bad sign when a company avoids the word “fruit” by using a cute spelling error), part of the three dollars we spend goes to paying for Kellogg’s advertising companies, truck drivers to transport the cereal from the main plant in Michigan to our grocery store and everyone’s salaries along the way.

Food produced far away with products grown even further away has a damaging impact both on the environment and on local agro-economies, but many of the choices

made by food manufacturing companies have a damaging effect on our personal health, too.

Often, when products are marketed as “healthier,” the shortcuts taken to decrease calories or fat lead to bigger problems.

This is most clearly exemplified in the recent craze over trans fats, the majority of which come from hydrogenated vegetable oils (most commonly from soybeans or corn). Food companies started using these oils as a replacement for butter and lard because of the then stigma of using animal fats.

Butter has since made a comeback, especially in finer dining, but I can clearly recall just a few years ago reaching into the refrigerator for that ubiquitous yellow tub instead of the stick of butter my mother preferred. Something about butter seemed so old-fashioned and obsolete.

We have, of course, since learned that trans fats are detrimental to human health in many ways: lowering good cholesterol, raising bad cholesterol, putting us at risk for heart disease.

But what can we do, especially in our current predicament as college students?

Surely no one expects us to come into contact with local farmers and use their produce and dairy to make our own natural applesauce and yogurt.

But there are several ways to combat this overarching sameness that has found its way into all of our daily meals.

First, and most obviously, use local produce. We have two weekly farmers’ markets within a few miles of the College—Saturday mornings in Merchant’s Square and Thursday afternoons at New Town—that can give students easy access to fresh, locally grown produce.

The first time at a farmers’ market can be rather daunting. The beautifully plump and perfectly round fruits found at hypermarkets

have no place there; rather, you will find asymmetrical, lumpy, ugly produce. But as is often true with first impressions, with a look beyond you will find delicious and affordable produce fit for snacking and cooking.

A second way to broaden your notions of food is to actually try cooking it. Cooking dinner at least once every month will not only give you a much-needed break from the over-produced food often found in the dining halls and at Wawa, but it can also allow you to spend time cooking, eating and talking with friends.

An informal dinner can be the perfect excuse to spend time with people you appreciate. From experience, it seems that few people on this campus will turn down free food.

Nothing fancy is necessary. With one pot and a handful of ingredients, you can make a dinner that rivals even the Caf.

For example, heat up a pan with some butter or vegetable oil and pan-fry whatever vegetables you have. Mix it with cooked spaghetti. That’s all it takes.

Finally, and most importantly, it is important to really taste and savor everything you eat. I realize that it’s hard when you only have a few minutes between classes to grab take-out from the Sadler Center, but eating food should never be a chore.

So if you’re eating a hamburger or an apple from a dining hall and realize that the food in your hand tastes like murky water, put it down! Go back to your great-grandmother’s recipe book and opt instead for *pierogies* and *babka*. (My family is Polish.)

At least you’ll be eating real food. ■

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



# Rugby, Water Polo, Ultimate Frisbee, Oh My!

## Club Sports Offer Fun Alternatives to Mainstream Athletics

>> RUSSELL TAYLOR, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Whether it be by “flying beneath the radar,” “scrumping on the pitch” or “swimming beneath the surface,” Ultimate Frisbee, rugby and water polo all share immense popularity as club sports, while getting little of the recognition.

The rugby team is the oldest of the three, founded at William and Mary in the '70s. Today the team is led by captains Dustin Dunbar ('09) and William Hammer ('09). The rugby club team has about 30 members and, due to the nature of the sport, is more physically rigorous than most other varsity teams.

Last season was a relatively successful one for the rugby team, according to Dunbar, and the team had a .500 record. However, this season has gotten off to a rough start. The team has lost their first four games of the season and is now “just looking for a win,” Dunbar said.

Unlike the other above two teams, rugby has a coach, although he only works part-time for the team. Dunbar expressed his

desire for a full time coach with a more “hands-on” philosophy. In the meantime, captains Dunbar and Hammer continue to lead the team both on the pitch and off.

The rugby team has two upcoming games, including one against rival University of Richmond, and hopes to rebound from its early season losses with solid wins in both

the rugby team would be beneficial is that varsity athletes are granted full access to physical therapy. Athletes on the Rugby club team, however, are left to take care of themselves when they've been injured.

Another club sport that has of yet been largely ignored in the campus media is Ul-

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“You don't even want to see my legs.” --Dustin Dunbar ('09)

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games.

When asked about the occurrence of injuries for the student athletes on this physically demanding team, Dunbar recounted a laundry list of his own personal injuries: two shoulder injuries, hip injuries, and, Dunbar said, “You don't even want to see my legs.” Dunbar also pointed out that one reason why varsity status for

ultimate Frisbee. The Ultimate Frisbee club team was founded in the '80s and has since progressed from a hippie sport played without shoes and with dogs—I'm (hopefully) exaggerating here—to the highly competitive, fast paced sport that it is today.

Even then though the team ended with a losing record, going 16-19 in the spring, captain Alan Kolick ('09) said that last season was “a step forward.” The season's results were “up and down” says Kolick, with big wins over Delaware and Central Florida, but “disappointing at the end” when William and Mary placed 3rd in the Blue Ridge section, and finished 15th out of 16 at the Atlantic Coast regionals in Statesboro, Georgia.

However, for the members of the Frisbee team, the past is in the past, and this season, “expectations are high.” The turnover rate was solid this year for the team. While losing only three seniors, the team had a strong turnout at tryouts and took on eight freshmen and one sophomore transfer, all “full of heart,” Kolick joked. Growth and improvement have been the name of the game in past years, and now with a slightly swollen roster of about 30, this season looks to be the pay-off. Kolick declared that the team's goal this year is to be the top team in the section and to play well against the regional competition, which includes powerhouse universities such as Georgia and UNC.

Unfortunately, Ultimate Frisbee inaccurately

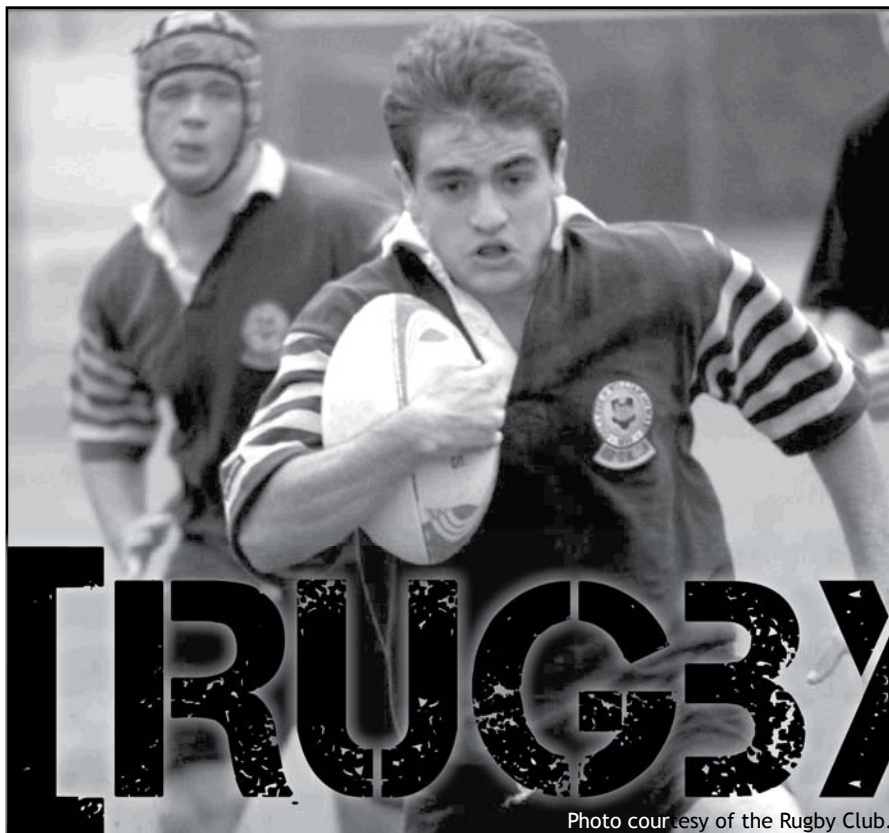


Photo courtesy of the Rugby Club.



Photo courtesy of the Ultimate Frisbee Club.

and a non-collegiate club team from the Richmond area. Are expectations high this season? Savage said that the first step was to continue to grow, and in the future he plans for the team to join a competitive league so that they will have more games per season.

I was invited to put on my swim trunks and join the team for a practice and I think I will—after all, Higinbotham and Savage tell me the team is still accepting members.

Unfortunately, if you're interested in seeing these teams play, you're mostly out of luck. The Rugby team has played its last home game of the fall season, and the Ultimate Frisbee team travels to remote tournaments.

has a reputation of being a "hippie sport." Kolick, however, is not phased by this unflattering reputation. When asked him how he would respond if some obnoxious observer asked "Where's your dog, man?" Kolick admitted that he probably wouldn't get it at first, but then would laugh and shrug it off.

In contrast to those two more established teams, who have long histories at William and Mary, the Water Polo team was founded just last spring by Alison Higinbotham, who played Water Polo in high school. She enlisted friend and former varsity swimmer John Savage, and the team was born. As to why they started the team, Savage replied, "No one loves badminton this much. We started it because we love it." After Higinbotham informed Savage that William and Mary does, in fact, have a badminton team, she added that she was partially inspired to start the team because she was "bored."

They began by focusing on growth, which is still a key objective for the '08-'09 team. Last year the team consisted

of about 15 members, and since then has increased to over 30. While the growth rate is impressive, they still do not have consistent enough numbers and talent to split into separate men's and women's teams, so the team currently plays in a mixed format. Another remarkable accomplishment is the team's 3-1 record last year, with wins over Richmond, Virginia Tech's B team,

However, the Water Polo team is hosting a mini-tournament on Nov. 22 at the Rec. Center. So, be it by land, sea or air, don't let these club sports sneak up on you, for they are among the most beloved at the College. ■

# [ULTIMATE FRISBEE]



Photo courtesy of the Water Polo Club.

# [WATER POLO]



is *it* in you?

# TRIBE SOCCER

>> ANNA MAHALAK, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

If you are one of those fans who only gets excited about soccer when the World Cup rolls around, you may want to consider this – the William and Mary men’s soccer team is off to its strongest start in recent history. After finishing the past two seasons with a .500 record, the Tribe will complete their first winning season in four years. If you want to find success like these players have - whether it be in academics,

fitness, or relationships - it’s time to find the varsity soccer player within you.

The Tribe’s winning season comes from a surprisingly young team with only two seniors on the roster – Nathan Belcher and Doug McBride. Their leadership, however, along with a strong junior class and experienced coaches, has made the men’s soccer team the team to watch this fall.

“Our expectations this year were to win the CAA and get a bid to the NCAA tournament, and these are well within our reach,” explained Belcher (’09).

s o c - cer staff in 1995 under legendary coach Al Albert. This season is his fourth as head coach of the Tribe. He is assisted by the experienced Chuck Connelly and Tom Duffy, who together combine for 17 years of experience behind the Tribe bench. Leadership and experience: is it in you?

Men’s soccer has already started breaking its fair share of new records and outstanding statistics. Alan Koger scored a hat-trick in the first

16 minutes of play against Delaware. This was the 14th-fastest hat trick in NCAA history. Koger is the Tribe’s leading scorer so far this season, with Price Thomas leading in the assists column. Yet a statistic about the team that you might not find in the



This season will be the first winning season for the Tribe in four years. Photo courtesy of Tribe Athletics.

“Our expectations this year were to win the CAA and get a bid to the NCAA tournament, and these are well within our reach.”

“The coaches have done a great job creating this team.” Head Coaches Chris Norris joined the

game report is that the team is one of four on campus to graduate 100 percent of its senior class last season. William and Mary is one of the few schools in the country to

hold this high graduation rate among most of its sports teams.

Like any other William and Mary student, the men's soccer players are constantly trying to find that balance between academics and extracurriculars.

"Academics at W&M are rigorous as is, so having to schedule time around athletics is very tough. [...] If it were not for the athletic staff here, mainly Jason Simms, I don't believe that I would have had any of the success I have had so far. I owe a lot to them," explained freshman Nicolas Abrigo. This success does not come easily – it takes hours of studying, or in this case, training, to be the best at their sport. Even in the off-season, the men's soccer team was working to prepare for this season. The endurance required of them demands it. If you can't run, you can't play soccer, whether you have the footwork of Pele or not.

"The preseason conditioning definitely helps with the fitness, and establishes a

good base level of fitness to draw on throughout the season," said Belcher. "Our coaches did a good job this preseason of mixing hard physical practices with hard mental practices, so that we could recover yet work on our skills. It has definitely paid off as we have moved through the season, and conditioning is something we work on a bit at each practice." Endurance – is it in you?



Freshman Nicolas Abrigo finds help in balancing academics and athletics from athletic staff such as Jason Simms. Photo courtesy of Tribe Athletics.



Midfielder Jeremy Harris '09 helps the Tribe to victory. Photo courtesy of Tribe Athletics.

In between the preseason, practices, and games – these athletes had one more thing to work at – their relationships. Relationship advice is the last thing you might expect in a sports article – but building relationships is what any athletic team is all about. "We always try to hang out together as a team after tough losses and celebrate together after wins," explained sophomore Jimmy Carroll. By supporting each other on and off the field

through past three difficult seasons, the Tribe men have created the sort of bonds that lead teams to championships.

This improvement, as Belcher adds, truly "has come with increased chemistry on and off the field and execution on the field. We are a very tight-knit group, and I believe this has helped with getting results when we need to. [...] We have a ton of talent on the squad and a bunch of guys who are ready to work hard every day." Teamwork – is it in you?

If you find the lessons to be learned through sports in you, anyone can appreciate varsity men's soccer – whether you call yourself an athlete or haven't even heard of Pele. But no matter what your sporting background, these qualities are something we can find in all of us. So find the varsity soccer player within in and support the team in their last home game this season. Friday, Nov. 7 at p.m. will be the campus's last chance to watch the best men's soccer team in years – so don't miss it. ■

# Grad School Teams

## Put a Damper on the IM Field

» JOHN BRENT HILL, DSJ SPORTS EDITOR

There is nothing, absolutely nothing, more frustrating in the world of intramural sports than looking at the schedule and seeing your next opponent has a name like “Law School.” For anyone who has played on a serious intramural team, and I know not all teams are serious in demeanor, you know what I am talking about. Whether the sport is football or softball, the division co-rec or men’s, a graduate school team on the schedule can generally mean only one thing: imminent doom.

Let me paint a picture for you. A freshman hall, a generally rag-tag bunch of guys, all athletic enthusiasts, decides to put together a team. However, upon arriving at their first game, the guys are met by an opponent who brings not only the necessary bats and gloves to the game, but also wives and children.

Now, I realize that a wife and kid is not, in and of itself, worth complaining about, particularly in the context of sports. After all, anyone can watch any game. However, the problem is not just in the company the grad school teams bring with them. The fact that they bring children is just somewhat comical. The problem, rather, is in the level of play that often accompanies a grad school team.

I am all for a challenge. Hell, the reason I play intramural sports is to live out my

delusions of athletic prowess. Having played varsity sports since I was a freshman in high school, without playing IM, there would be a huge competitive void in my life. I welcome rivalry, in all of its forms. However, and this is a big however, I don’t like getting slaughtered by unfair competition. And that

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Last year, for example, I recall playing a team that boasted a former Hofstra QB.

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is, in many cases, what happens when a grad school team comes onto the field. There are numerous advantages that these teams have, particularly their age. Because they are in grad school, they are older, generally bigger and stronger and therefore physically advantaged. Just as a college team wouldn’t play a high school football team, neither should a graduate team play an undergraduate team.

Perhaps more notable, even, is the presence of ex-varsity athletes on grad school teams. While college varsity athletes cannot play on IM teams, there is no rule regarding the presence of ex-varsity athletes. Students in grad school, therefore, who played varsity football in college but have since graduated, are eligible for IM football without a hitch. This is where the

problem seems to lie. Last year, for example, I recall playing a team that boasted a former Hofstra QB—Hofstra is in our football conference—and a WR who played for Marshall, a D-I program that routinely competes to win the MAC conference. Again, I love competition, but there is a reason that students play football on Wednesday nights for a team named after their freshman hall and not Saturday afternoons for the Tribe. Therefore, when faced with the daunting task of matching up with a former D-I WR who was getting looks from another college QB, I felt overmatched.

I have nothing against the graduate school here at the College. I may even apply to it, some day. However, there are few things that are more frustrating than seeing a team like the one a friend of mine once saw on his IM schedule for football – “Not Undergrads.” IM sports are about competition, are about fun, but it does not seem fair that they occasionally pit a 26 year-old who played college football against an 18 year-old who didn’t even play high school football. Call me a whiner, but I for one am tired of playing against the grad school. ■

*John Hill is Sports Editor for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.*

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NEWS . STYLE . SPORTS . OPINION

# The Wo(Men)'s Rights Movement

*When the tables turn on gender equity, don't send the wrong message.*

The year 2008 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women attending the College. In 1918, William and Mary became the first state-supported four-year college in Virginia to admit women, and the Commonwealth of Virginia became the final state in the union to finally provide public higher education to its female residents.

So as 2008 is coming to a close, we should wonder: where are we now? What have we roughly 90 years

Ninety years has certainly seen an impressive run of progress for American women. How have men fared during this time?

wrought in the fight for women's equality?

In 1920, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment prohibited state and federal governments from denying women the right to vote based on their sex.

In 1936, federal law ruled that information on birth control was no longer classified as obscene, and in 1960, the Food and Drug Administration approved birth control pills.

The 1963 Equal Pay Act made it illegal to pay men and women different wages for equal jobs, and one year later the Civil Rights Act barred employment discrimination based on sex.

In 1972, Title IX banned sex discrimination – from academics to athletics – in schools with federal financial assistance.

And then, in 1981, the College's very own chancellor, Sandra Day O'Connor, became the first woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ninety years has certainly seen an impressive run of progress for American

women. How have men fared during this time?

Two years ago, the male-to-female ratio among American college students was 43:57, and a 2005 report by USA Today quoted Thomas Mortensen, publisher of the Postsecondary Education Opportunity

newsletter, as saying that national statistics forecasted a continued drop in the percentage of males on college campuses – across all races, income groups and fields of study.

The Department of Education predicted the gender gap would worsen to 40:60 by 2010, and studies agree that more boys are continuing to drop out of high school and college.

Additionally, programs once enacted to protect women's rights, like Title IX, are under scrutiny due to claims of adverse effects on male students. A Government Accountability Office study showed that between 1981 and 1998, the number of women's sports teams grew and the number of men's teams available per male student declined by 21 percent.

So, where are the cries for men's gender equity?

Author and family therapist Michael Gurián argued in 2005 that "there is no big network

that protects the needs of boys" and also commented that "if we create a generation of men who aren't getting an education, that's bad for women."

It seems that the voices speaking up today for men's equality in college admissions and college athletics are few, and it seems that they are speaking against a much louder voice of media images and traditional notions that say being male means not needing someone else to fight for you.

In the 1994 movie adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women," Jo March said, "I find it poor logic to say that women should vote because they are good. Men do not vote because they are good; they vote because they are male. And women should vote, not because we are angels and men are animals, but because we are human beings and citizens of this country."

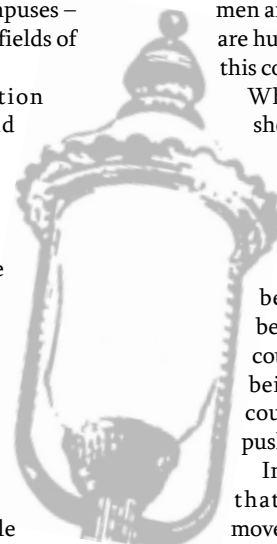
When the tables are turned, shouldn't this logic still hold true? Women do not deserve campaigns for equality because they are good or fragile; women deserve equality because they are human beings and citizens of this country. Men, as also human beings and citizens of this country, deserve that same push for equality.

In no way is the point to say that the women's rights movement has finished its work. On average, women still receive

only 77 cents for every dollar men receive in salary, and worldwide, more women work in sweatshops and live in poverty than men.

The point is that when the facts show inequalities and we ignore (or laugh at) the thought of a "men's rights movement," we are perpetuating the idea that while it's okay for women to have a major advocacy movement, it's not okay for men.

To the men – this is unfair. And to the women – this screams inferiority, something that would certainly be against the ideals of that first class of women who entered the College 90 years ago. ■



It seems that the voices speaking up today for men's equality...are few, and it seems that they are speaking against a much louder voice of media images and traditional notions that say being male means not needing someone else to fight for you.

# BREAKING NEWS: The DSJ and The Powwow Join Forces!

The William & Mary Powwow is W&M's first independent podcast. The DSJ is W&M's only daily online paper and monthly news magazine.

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## Kimball Theatre

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

### Schedule for November:

Frozen River (R)  
Sat., Nov. 1 - Fri., Nov. 7 @ 6:45 and 8:45 p.m.  
Nov. 1-3, 6-7 screening room (35 seats)

Baghead (R)  
Sat., Nov. 8 - Fri., Nov. 14 @ 6:30, 8, 9:30 p.m.  
All shows in screening room (35 seats)

The College of William & Mary Film Studies Program presents *Quick Feet, Soft Hands* and *Gina, an Actress, Age 29* with special guest Director Paul Harrill  
Tues., Nov. 11 @ 7 p.m.  
Event is free but tickets are required

*Wild and Scenic Film Festival to Benefit James River*  
Presented by Patagonia with Blue Ridge Mountain Sports  
Wed., Nov. 12 @ 7 p.m.  
Adults \$10, Students \$5. Proceeds benefit James River Assoc.

The Virginia Peninsula Jewish Film Festival  
On Merchants Square  
Sat., Nov. 15 - A Secret (NR) @ 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$20 (includes dessert reception)  
Sun., Nov. 16 - Noodle (NR) @ 3 p.m.  
Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Social @ 2 p.m.  
Tickets: Adults \$7, Seniors/Students \$6

Bottle Shock (PG-13)  
Sat., Nov. 15 - Thurs., Nov. 20 @ 7 and 9 p.m.  
Nov. 15, 17-20 screening room (35 seats)

In Search of a Midnight Kiss (NR)  
Fri., Nov. 21 - Wed., Nov. 26 @ 7 and 8:45 p.m.  
Nov. 21-25 screening room (35 seats)

### Live Performances

The Williamsburg Charity Concert Series Presents Schnickelfritz and the Oompahs German Band  
Sponsored by the James City County Rotary Club  
Fri., Nov. 7 @ 8 p.m.  
All seats \$15

Laughing Redhead Studio presents Clean Comedy Night  
Featuring Thor Ramsey  
Sat., Nov. 8 @ 7:30 p.m.  
All seats \$15

Avalon Benefit Performance: Leap of Faith  
Sun., Nov. 9 @ 2:30 p.m.  
General admission \$25, Students \$15

The W&M Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo in Concert  
Sun., Nov. 9 @ 8 p.m.  
General admission \$8, Seniors/Students \$5

Student Groups from the College of William & Mary present International Music and Dance Showcase  
Fri., Nov. 14 @ 8 p.m.  
General admission \$5, W&M ID \$3, Children under 10 free

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