



VARIETY

State of the Students

Reactions after Obama's national address from those on both sides of the aisle.

SEE PAGE 6

OPINIONS

Going green globally

Global warming is the current issue, we should make sustainability part of our lifestyle.

SEE PAGE 4



SPORTS

Contact Game

Pye '12 rises above personal tragedy to become a scoring leader on the women's basketball team.

SEE PAGE 8



The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary — Est. 1911

VOL.99, NO.29

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2010

FLATHATNEWS.COM

ThePulse

Bite-size news you can use

Looking for a brookie fix? Head to Chick-fil-A in the Marketplace Wednesday between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. for a free brownie sampling. By the way, if you didn't know, a brookie is a brownie cookie desert.

Those free brownie samples sound great at first, but your belt sure is stretched afterward. Never fear: Head to the Rec for free spring break boot camp. Every Monday until March 1, certified personal trainers will help you shed those plump pounds for no dough from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the MAC Court.

Former Miss Virginia Caressa Cameron won the Miss America 2010 pageant Saturday night, trouncing 53 hopefuls. According to Today Online, highlights from Cameron's performance include when she sang Beyoncé's "Listen" and encouraged parents to prevent childhood obesity by limiting exposure to television and video games.

Samantha Casey '10, who was named Miss Virginia USA last semester, will compete for Miss USA April 18 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Jamie Tworowski, founder of the non-profit organization To Write Love on Her Arms, will present "Pain, Hope, Questions, and Community: An Evening With To Write Love On Her Arms" Thursday in the Sadler Center. TW-LOHA is dedicated to helping people struggling with depression, suicide, self-injury and addiction.

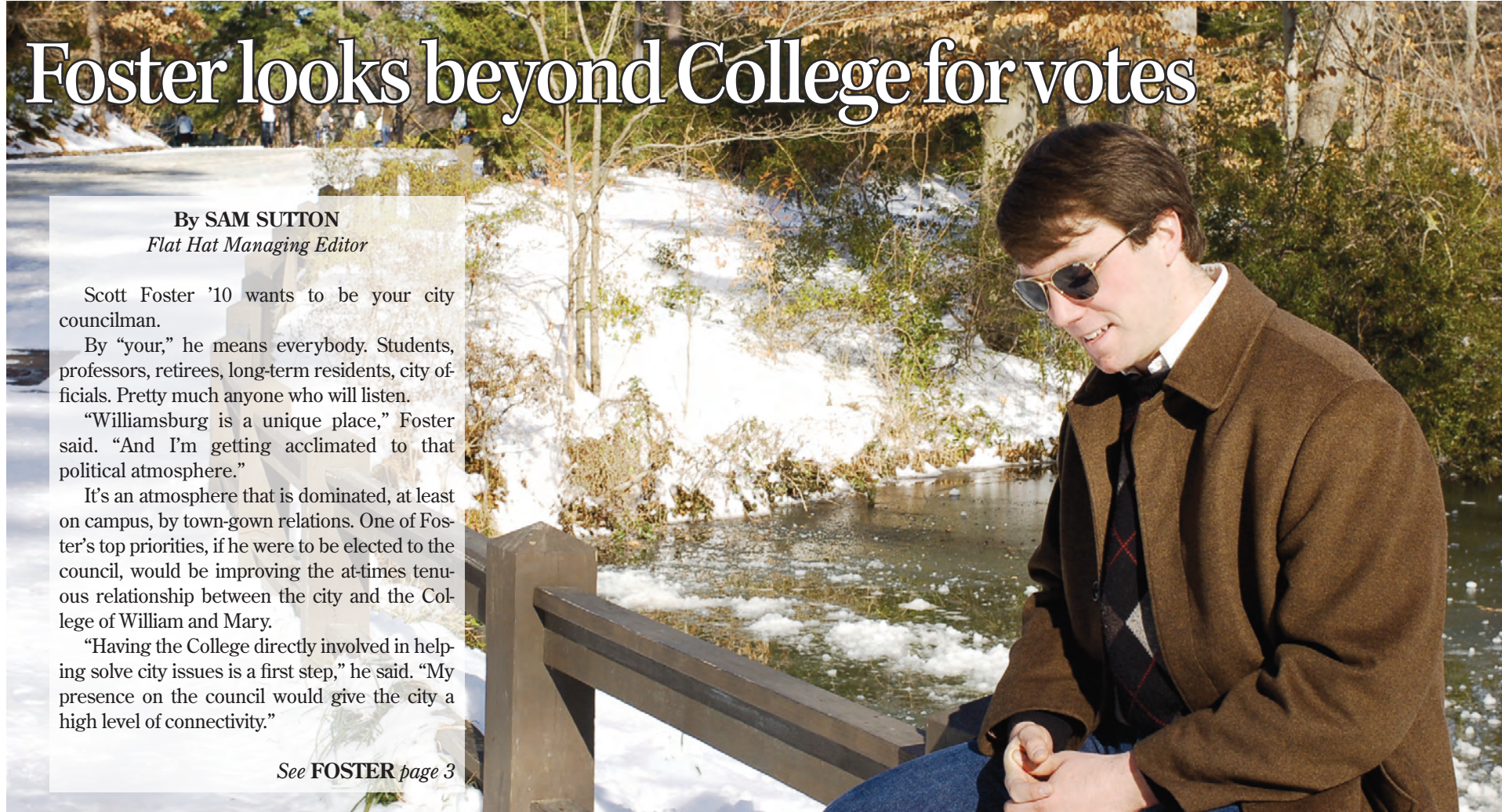
A bald eagle struck by an aircraft near the Newport News-Williamsburg International Airport Jan. 20 died from its injuries Sunday, according to WVEC. The eagle, likely seven or eight years old, was taken to the Wildlife Center of Virginia in Waynesboro with a fractured left wing and a lung infection. Sunday, however, the eagle's conditioned worsened after its morning treatment.

Emily Anthony '12 won the women's Pro-4 category at the sixth annual Tour De Bahamas cycling race this weekend on the western streets of New Providence. The race featured cyclists from the Bahamas as well as other professionals, largely from the United States.

Amy Dickinson of the Ask Amy column featured in The Washington Post will read from her personal memoir, "The Mighty Queens of Freeville," in Swem Library this Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. The memoir recounts her experiences growing up on a small dairy farm in the Finger Lakes region of New York.

Her daughter, Emily Mason '11, will join her. Maybe she can testify to the effectiveness of her mother's advice.

Got a tip for The Pulse? wmpulse@gmail.com



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

Foster looks beyond College for votes

By SAM SUTTON
Flat Hat Managing Editor

Scott Foster '10 wants to be your city councilman.

By "your," he means everybody. Students, professors, retirees, long-term residents, city officials. Pretty much anyone who will listen.

"Williamsburg is a unique place," Foster said. "And I'm getting acclimated to that political atmosphere."

It's an atmosphere that is dominated, at least on campus, by town-gown relations. One of Foster's top priorities, if he were to be elected to the council, would be improving the at-times tenuous relationship between the city and the College of William and Mary.

"Having the College directly involved in helping solve city issues is a first step," he said. "My presence on the council would give the city a high level of connectivity."

See FOSTER page 3

Faculty Assembly may cut merit-free raises

By BRITTANY HUGHES
Flat Hat Staff Writer

A long-standing faculty retirement option, which grants large, merit-free raises to retiring College of William and Mary professors, is being reconsidered by the Faculty Assembly.

Currently, a retiring professor is given the option of an 8 percent merit-free raise in his or her penultimate year of employment, followed by a 7 percent increase during his or her final year. Originally designed as an incentive for early retirement, the policy developed into an open option available to all professors, including those retiring later in their careers. However, some say that the option's accessibility has made it ineffective.

The assembly also said the policy is no longer necessary since professors are able to reach individual raise agreements with the deans of their departments.

Salary increases are financed by a set pool of funds determined by the Board of Visitors. College Provost Michael Halleran said faculty members are concerned that before traditional merit-based salary increases can be given to non-retiring professors, money must be allocated for this policy. As a result, less

money would be available for rewarding younger faculty.

Halleran added that the College's recent financial concerns have "intensified interest" in this issue.

"This is not a direct consequence of budget cuts," he said. "But if you have a lot of money, you don't worry about the absolute best way to use it. When there's less, you ask if this is the best way to use the resources we have."

In December, the Faculty Assembly proposed a gradual phasing-out of the policy to allow time for individual financial adjustment. The proposal stipulates that a professor intending to retire by Jul. 1, 2020 must decide whether he or she would receive the salary increase by Dec. 31, 2015. This time frame provides for those who are counting on the increase for their immediate futures, while giving younger faculty members sufficient time to make the necessary changes to their retirement plans.

The plan states that retiring professors may still opt to receive their final

raise merit-free after the current policy is phased out, but that any additional salary increase reached through individual negotiation must be funded from outside the set salary pool.

The proposition has prompted many professors to express their own views. English and philosophy professor Terry Meyers is the head of the working group charged with gathering faculty opinions and reporting them to the assembly.

"I've received about 20 replies from faculty who wanted to express an opinion," he said. "Virtually all of them are in favor of phasing [the policy] out."

The main debate seems to concern the phase-out's time-frame.

"Some of the younger faculty think that it should happen fairly quickly," Meyers said. "Most of the older faculty ... have planned their finances for retirement with the assumption that the bump-up would occur, so they see a rapid removal as being an abrupt change that they don't have time to plan around."

The group will submit a report by April, after considering faculty comments. Halleran said he believes this matter will not be resolved until the end of this academic school year at the earliest.



COURTESY PHOTO — WALLBEN
Halleran

College receives record number of applicants

By MAGGIE REEB
Flat Hat News Editor

The College of William and Mary received approximately 12,500 applications for the Class of 2014. This is the fifth year in a row that the number of students applying has

BY THE NUMBERS:
12,500 applications (approx)
22% increase in applications from international students
12% increase in applications from students of color

increased, up 3 percent from last year.

Dean of Admission Henry Broadus said in a press release that he believes the College's national reputation, as well as the Office of Undergraduate Admission's web and print recruitment efforts, helped spur the rise in applications. Admissions office efforts include conducting more prospective student interviews and increased activity on the College's blogs.

See ADMISSIONS page 3

AN ICY WEEKEND

Winter storm covers campus with snow, closes College for weekend

The Flat Hat

A winter storm deposited approximately nine inches of snow on the College of William and Mary's campus, beginning early Saturday morning with an icy mix that continued throughout the day.

Although the winter weather did not result in a snow day like many students hoped, the College closed for the weekend due to inclement weather and reopened late Monday at 10 a.m.

In preparation for the storm, facilities management prepared the College's snow removal equipment, checked the availability of contractors, and made sure the

College had a sufficient supply of sand and ice-melting chemicals. Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Dave Shepard said that during the storm facilities management concentrated on high-traffic areas.

"We focused on keeping the entrance doors, steps, and ramps of residence halls clear of snow," Shepard said.

All on-campus activities were canceled, and the Tribe men's basketball game against Drexel University, which was scheduled for a 7 p.m. tip-off Saturday, was postponed until 5 p.m. Sunday.

Dining Halls remained open for the weekend with hours only

slightly modified. The Commons served students from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. The Sadler Center opened two hours later than normal at 10 a.m. and closed at 8 p.m. Since the Marketplace remained closed Sunday, the Sadler Center had a large amount of student traffic and eventually ran low on food to serve to the dinner crowd. Adding to the frazzled atmosphere, at approximately 7:30 p.m. a fire alarm went off in the Sadler Center, and students evacuated the building.

The Admissions Office, acting in anticipation of the storm, decided Friday to cancel tours of the campus for the weekend and Monday.

Many area businesses closed for the weekend, and several area churches canceled services, including Williamsburg Presbyterian Church and Catholic Campus Ministries.

Williamsburg Area Transport buses, including the Green Line, were suspended for the weekend.



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

CAMPUS CLOSED

"While trekking through Colonial Williamsburg in an attempt to find food, I came across a cross-country skier and challenged him to a race." - Will Pence '13

Read more student accounts of snow day fun on page 5.

NEWS INSIGHT

News Editor Mike Crump
News Editor Maggie Reeb
fhnews@gmail.com

The Flat Hat

'Stabilitas et Fides'

25 Campus Center, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va. 23185
Newsroom (757) 221-3283 — Advertising Dept. (757) 221-3283 — Fax (757) 221-3242

THE FLAT HAT — flathat.editor@gmail.com
NEWS — fhnews@gmail.com VARIETY — flathat.variety@gmail.com
SPORTS — flathat.sports@gmail.com OPINIONS — fhopinions@gmail.com
PHOTOS — flathat.photos@gmail.com ADVERTISING — flathat.ads@gmail.com

Miles Hilder, *Editor-in-Chief*

Sam Sutton, *Managing Editor* — Ashley Morgan, *Executive Editor*
Alex Guillén, *Online Editor*

Mike Crump, *News Editor* Kelsey Weissgold, *Business Manager*
Maggie Reeb, *News Editor* Katie Lee, *Copy Chief*
Jessica Gold, *Variety Editor* Caitlin Fairchild, *Photo Editor*
Matt Poms, *Sports Editor* Adam Goodreau, *Web Director*
Chris Weidman, *Sports Editor* Russ Zerbo, *Opinions Editor*

Ian Brickey, *Assoc. News Editor* Andy Henderson, *Editorial Writer*
Ameya Jammie, *Assoc. News Editor* Austin Journey, *Video Editor*
Bertel King, Jr., *Assoc. News Editor* Ashley Allen, *Blog Editor*
Mary Bonney, *Assoc. Variety Editor* Chris McKenna, *Blog Editor*
Ellie Kaufman, *Assoc. Variety Editor* Todd Corillo, *News Anchor*
Jack Lambert, *Assoc. Sports Editor* Summer Finck, *Production Assistant*
Alexa McClanahan, *Assoc. Opinions Editor* Jill Found, *Production Assistant*
Chelsea Caumont, *Copy Editor* Liz Horne, *Production Assistant*
Betsy Goldemen, *Copy Editor* Beth Ramsey, *Production Assistant*
Logan Herries, *Copy Editor* Kevin Deisz, *Assoc. Web Developer*
Megan Keeling, *Copy Editor* Jessica Dobis, *Local Sales Representative*
Rachel Steinberg, *Copy Editor* Reggie Gomez, *Local Sales Representative*
Karsten Thot, *Copy Editor* Chelsea Liu, *Local Sales Representative*
Sun Park, *Assoc. Photo Editor* Ryan Minnick, *E-commerce Representative*
Elysia Alim, *Insight Editor* Peter Ross, *E-commerce Representative*
Vicky Chao, *Cartoonist* Juae Son, *Accountant*
Olivia Walch, *Cartoonist* Jin Woo, *Accountant*

CORRECTIONS

In Friday's edition of The Flat Hat, the article "Alpha Phi Alpha halts national recruiting" incorrectly listed the founding year as 1904. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. was established in 1906. The article also states that members of the fraternity participate in "step dance" shows. The correct term is "step shows." The article refers to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. as "APA." The fraternity prefers to be referred to as "Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc." or "the Alphas."

WEATHER

<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
High 43° Low 34°	High 49° Low 28°	High 48° Low 32°

Source: weather.com

A THOUSAND WORDS



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

General Assembly may privatize ABC stores

The Virginia General Assembly is considering a bill that would privatize the state's government-owned liquor stores.

SB 443, sponsored by Sen. Mark Obenshain (R-26), would close the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's retail operations. The stores would be auctioned off to private businesses wishing to sell alcohol. State alcohol taxes would still apply.

The bill would also allow grocery stores and other businesses to apply for liquor licenses. The state currently operates 334 ABC stores, providing a revenue of \$322 million in 2009 and over \$1.5 billion over the last five years.

New Town burger joint closes doors

New Town restaurant Cheeburger Cheeburger closed Jan. 25 as its parent company prepared to file for bankruptcy.

The contents of the restaurant, including furnishings and decorations, were auctioned off, and leftover food was donated to charity.

Owner Steve Touchstone said that the restaurant's closing was due to the overabundance of restaurants and dining venues in Williamsburg-area developments like New Town and High Street.

Cheeburger Cheeburger is one of five businesses in New Town, including Old Navy and pizza, to have closed in the last six months.

State senate strengthens seat belt law

The Virginia State Senate approved a bill sponsored by Sen. Harry Blevins (R-14) Wednesday, making failure to wear a seat-belt a primary offense in Virginia. It is currently a secondary offense in the state. Violators will be subject to a \$25 fine, which will go to the state Literary Fund. The bill passed 24-16 and now goes to the state House of Delegates for consideration.

Senate passes bill relaxing absentee vote limits

With a vote of 29-10, the Virginia State Senate passed a bill that would allow registered voters to cast absentee ballots in-person without having to provide an excuse or explanation.

However, the bill would still require voters to provide a reason for requesting an absentee ballot through the mail.

Current state law requires voters to choose one of 10 reasons for requesting a mailed absentee ballot. The bill now goes to the state House of Delegates for consideration.

If it were to pass, the bill would make Virginia the 33rd state to allow absentee voting without excuse.

— compiled by Ian Brickey

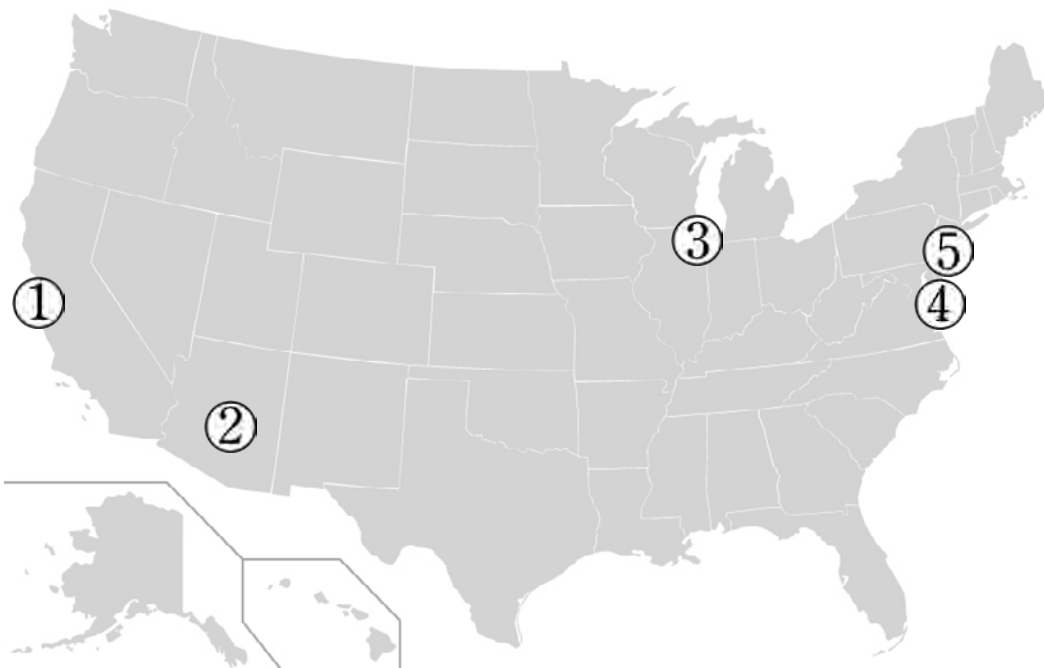
BEYOND THE 'BURG

1 For the first time in its history, the University of California system will institute a wait list system for applying students. The new system will allow the various universities in the system to more easily meet their enrollment goals. Administrators expect the change to affect nearly 1,000 applicants this year.

2 The presidents of the University of Arizona, Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University announced plans to double the offered number of degrees at those institutions within the next 10 years. The plans also call for additional cooperation with the state's community colleges and increased availability of dual-enrollment programs.

3 According to a study from the University of Chicago, female teachers' anxieties about math are likely to be passed on to their female students. Researchers said that the teachers' anxiety about the subject is likely to confirm the social stereotype that boys are better at math than girls, inhibiting girls' achievement.

4 Six members of the Rutgers University chapter of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority are facing possible expulsion after being charged with the aggravated hazing of several pledges. The members allegedly paddled pledges and denied them food, causing severe injury to at least one. Rutgers has suspended the sorority indefinitely.



COURTESY GRAPHIC — WIKIPEDIA.ORG

— by Ian Brickey

5 Princeton University students criticize grading quotas

Attempt to limit grade inflation could lower GPAs, hurt job placement

By IAN BRICKEY
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

Declining grade point averages have students and faculty members at Princeton University questioning the university's controversial grade quota policy.

Instituted in 2004 to stop grade inflation, Princeton's grading policy requires that no more than 35 percent of grades issued in all undergraduate courses fall into the A-plus, A or A-minus ranges. Students now wonder whether it discourages equal achievement.

"[It has] too many harmful consequences that outweigh the good intentions behind the system," the university's newspaper, The Daily Princetonian, said in an editorial.

From 2003 to 2009, the mean GPA of graduating Princeton students dropped from 3.46 to 3.39. Additionally, in a survey conducted by the university's student government in 2009, 32 percent of students identified the school's grading quota policy as their biggest source of

dissatisfaction, compared with 25 percent who answered lack of sleep.

"I had complaints from students who said that their professors handed back exams and told them, 'I wanted to give 10 of you A's, but because of the policy, I could only give five A's,'" Connor Diemand-Yauman, Princeton senior and undergraduate student body president, said to The New York Times. "When students hear that, an alarm goes off."

Many students are now concerned that their declining GPAs will damage their appeal to employers. The number of Princeton graduates receiving jobs in the consulting and financial industries dropped from 249 to 169 between 2008 and 2009.

"The nightmare scenario, if you will, is that you apply with a 3.5 from Princeton and someone just as smart as you applies with a 3.8 from Yale," Princeton senior Daniel Rauch said to The New York Times.

To curtail these fears, the university's administration began distributing pamphlets and

information describing the school's grading policy to graduate schools and businesses from around the country. "What people don't realize is that grades at different schools always have different meanings, and people at Goldman Sachs or the Marshall Scholarship have tons of experience assessing different G.P.A.'s," Princeton sophomore Jonathan Sarnoff said to The New York Times. "A Princeton G.P.A. is different from the G.P.A. at The College of New Jersey down the road."

Many students remain adamant that the policy amounts to excessive academic punishment with few long-term benefits.

"There are tons of really great schools with really smart kids applying for the same jobs," Princeton junior Jacob Loewenstein said to The New York Times. "People intuitively take a G.P.A. to be a representation of your academic ability and act accordingly. The assumption that a recruiter who is screening applications is going to treat a Princeton student differently based on a letter is naive."

STREET BEAT

How did you deal with the snow on campus and did you enjoy it?



"I just slept in. I didn't enjoy the snow, but it justified my sleeping all day long."

Sungche Jo '12



"I didn't enjoy the snow on campus because I live off campus. FYI I'm not a fan of cold weather."

Terreon Conyers '11



"I went sledding so I obviously enjoyed it."

Joe Lahouchuc '10



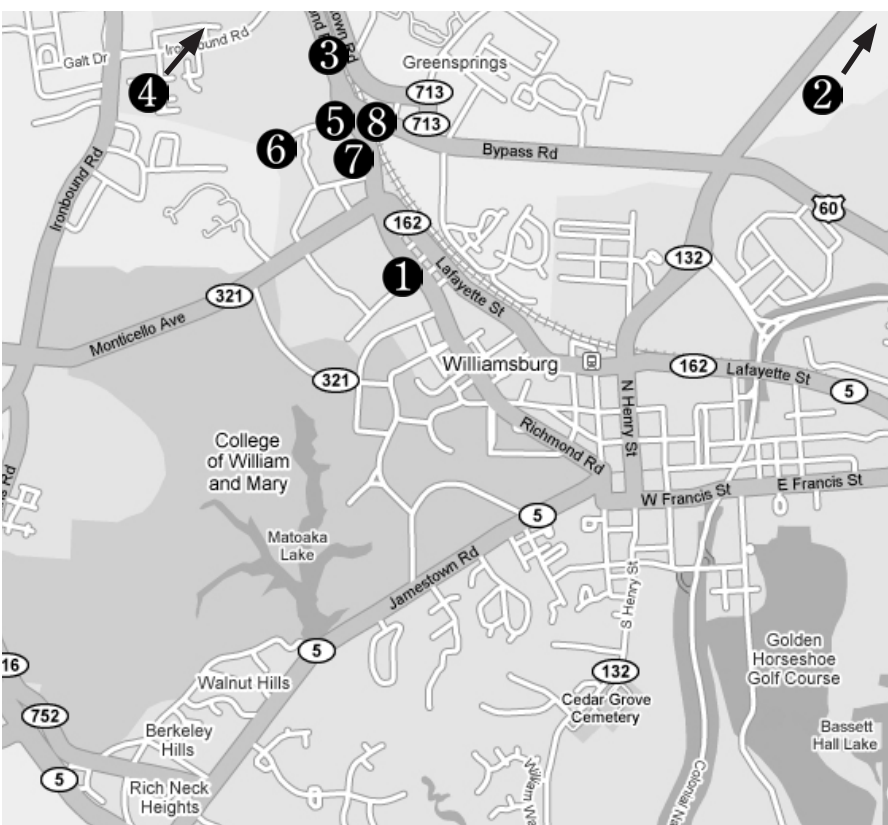
"I don't really like snow."

Caroline Kim '10

— photos and interviews by Sun Park

CITY POLICE BEAT

January 25 to January 31



COURTESY GRAPHIC — GOOGLE MAPS

- Monday, Jan. 25** — An individual was arrested for alleged public drunkenness on the 1000 block of Richmond Rd.
- Tuesday, Jan. 26** — An individual was arrested for allegedly driving with a suspended license on the 100 block of Wichita Ln.
- An individual reported a burglary on the 1600 block of Richmond Rd.
- Thursday, Jan. 28** — An individual reported an alleged breaking and entering on the 2400 block of Westgate Circle.
- An individual was arrested for allegedly driving with a suspended license on the 1400 block of Richmond Rd.
- Friday, Jan. 29** — Two individuals were arrested for an alleged domestic disturbance on the 200 block of New Hope Rd.
- Sunday, Jan. 31** — An individual was arrested for allegedly driving with a suspended license on the 1400 block of Richmond Rd.
- An individual was arrested for alleged possession of marijuana on the 1400 block of Richmond Rd.

— compiled by Ian Brickey

College begins composting efforts

Dining Services works to reduce the amount of recyclable waste sent to landfills

By ANA MOROIANU
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Last week Dining Services at the College of William and Mary initiated a new program to compost food waste from the dining halls in an effort to increase sustainability efforts on campus.

The program is a result of the combined efforts of the College's Committee on Sustainability and Aramark, the College's dining vendor. The program will reduce waste by nearly one-third, alleviate the College's contribution to landfills and decrease waste costs.

"Composting had always been seriously considered, but only now did the right infrastructure and regional connections appear to make the program a reality," College Sustainability Fellow Phil Zapfel '09 said.

For years the Student Environmental Action Coalition has advocated, with limited success, for the collection of biodegradable waste to send to a composting facility.

It was not until Aramark hired three sustainability student interns last fall that the program became a reality. Ian Fuller '11, Christy Ottinger '10 and Sarah Will '11 worked with Commons Director Larry Smith and Zapfel to prioritize creating a campus-wide composting program, develop standardized procedures, and secure funding.

"Dining Services has made a real commitment this year by hiring us interns," Ottinger said. "It's our paid job to make sure this type of thing is happening, and we're really devoting a lot of time and effort to making it happen."

The students submitted a project proposal for funding from the student green fee in the fall of 2008 which helped COS purchase necessary food waste.

Under the new program, employees at the Commons, Sadler Center RFOC, the Marketplace and Miller Hall dining facilities will place organic waste created from food preparation into specially marked bins that are lined with biodegradable bags instead of regular trash bins. The Commons and Sadler Center will also collect post-consumer waste to compost.

Virginia's Natural Organic Process Enterprises will haul the food waste to a composting facility in Waverly, Va. twice weekly from campus. The waste is sold to companies and farmers around the area as bags of compost for fertilizer.

"If we are able to divert all organic matter and recyclable matter, we will probably end up with 20 percent of what we were formerly sending to landfills," Ottinger said. "This organic matter can be recycled back into the earth by being composted, keeping it out of landfills."

Other environmental benefits include eliminating greenhouse gases, particularly methane. According to Zapfel, the program helps to complete a resource use cycle, as the compost will be used to make organic fertilizer.

This is not the first campus initiative to improve the College's sustainability. Previous efforts included making several on-campus facilities trayless, including the Sadler Center and the Commons, and providing biodegradable take-out containers.

Student campaign finds support

FOSTER from page 1

The need to find and build a cooperative relationship between city residents and the College has become the mantra for city officials, politicians, college officials and student leaders in recent years. In a statement explaining her decision not to seek reelection, Mayor Jeanne Zeidler M.A. '76 said that improving town-gown relations was one of the proudest accomplishments and greatest struggles of her time on the council.

"We've got to work on that neighborhood connection," Foster said. "Reminding students that they are living in a neighborhood, with neighbors, and [that] it would be in their best interest to get to know [the neighbors] ... Giving some direction there would be a great move for the College."

According to Foster, one way the College can take the first step is by dedicating some of its student orientation resources into preparing students for living off campus. As students become more accustomed to living in single-family communities, some of the tension that has accompanied city debates over zoning and housing may subside.

Recently, the council approved an amended version of a controversial zoning ordinance that would allow more than four unrelated individuals to share a housing unit if their home is approved by the zoning administrator, and issued a special use permit. The amended ordinance was the product of years of negotiations between city officials, the College and student leaders.

"I was really impressed how the city council [looked at] that three-to-four person issue through the special use permit system," Foster said. "If that's successful ... if it's working well, we'll move forward. If not, we'll have to come

up with something different."

As the campaign progresses, Foster said he expects to continue developing his contacts within the city to learn more about the issues that will be arising in the campaign.

"City employees have been a huge resource as far as information goes," he said. "That we've reached out to those people early ... that sets us apart from past student candidates."

The last student to run for city council was former Student Assembly Sen. Matt Beato '09. Although Foster said he has never met Beato, his campaign includes several students who participated in Beato's failed run for a council seat in 2008.

Foster is quick to point out that the SA cannot take an official stance on his campaign, and that although he considers some members of the SA to be resources, his campaign staff is made up of city residents, non students and students from several different organizations.

"This campaign is made up from a diverse group of people. A lot of SA folks, as well as a lot of people from the student body and the community," he said. "If you have a diverse and broad group of supporters, which is indicated by a broad group of [donors], your group grows."

Foster's campaign has already raised over \$6,000 from over 40 donors. Former SA

Secretary of Finance Andrew Blasi '10 is running the campaign's fundraising efforts.

Other staffers include Managing Director of Students for a Better Williamsburg Josh Karp '11, SA Undersecretary of Public Affairs to Williamsburg Emily Gottschalk-Marconi '11, Executive Director of SBW and former SA Sen. Ross Gillingham '10 and Student Conduct Council member Ayana Russell '10. Foster says the campaign is being supported by government professor Clay Clemens '80 and SA President Sara Rojas '10, although strictly from an advisory capacity. Foster is serving as his own campaign manager.

"We've raised a lot of money in a short amount of time, and I think it's from broad excitement," Foster said. The campaign will be holding a fundraiser with College alumni in Washington, D.C. in the near future, as well as hosting a barbecue scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 13.

According to Scott Foster Williamsburg Communications Director Erik Houser '10, the campaign will also be releasing merchandise in the coming weeks to increase Foster's visibility on campus and around the city.

Win or lose, Foster said he will be staying in Williamsburg for at least the foreseeable future. He plans on applying to the Marshall-Wythe School of Law for the 2011-12 academic year.

Admissions show College diversity

ADMISSIONS from page 1

Broaddus, who is out of town for the week, could not be reached for further comment on the class of 2014 applicant pool.

The number of applications from minority students increased 12 percent from last year, and the number of international students applying to the College went up 22 percent, making the pool of prospective freshmen one of the most diverse groups of applicants in the College's history.

"We are very pleased with this year's applicant pool — the largest and one of the most diverse in our history," Associate Provost for Enrollment Earl Granger said in a press release. "William and Mary offers a unique educational experience — one that challenges and engages our student body and prepares them for life."

The admissions office and College officials have begun the process of selecting regular decision applicants for the class of 2014. They will mail out offers of admission by April 1 after their decisions have been reached.



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT
City Council candidate Scott Foster poses in Morton Hall.



UN-FRIEND THE FLU

The flu season is far from over. If you haven't been vaccinated for the H1N1 flu virus, now is the time. It's very important for your own health and for those around you.

Visit
H1N1GET1.COM

and enter your zip code to find a
vaccination location near you.

Or call
877.275.8343

OPINIONS

Opinions Editor Russ Zerbo
fhopinions@gmail.com



By VICKY CHAO, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

The trouble with roommates

Victoria Narine
FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



The College of William and Mary prides itself on having a meticulous room selection process. We are told that a lot of time is spent tediously sorting, matching and anticipating amicable room assignments. From an outsider's point of view, one might think Residence Life puts forth every effort to place incoming students with people who stand on somewhat common ground. From an insider's view, it's obvious that the opposite occurs. While there's nothing wrong with expanding personal views, keeping an open mind, or slightly blending the political divide, having to live with someone who believes and stands for everything the other despises is a nightmarish and totally undesirable situation.

The College's not-so-extensive room selection process serves to emphasize its desire for diversity. This inexplicable need for interaction causes a passive, independent thinker with ultra-liberal tendencies from the Washington, D.C. area to be placed in a 10-by-12 room with a cadet from the farms of Maryland with Sarah Palin ideals.

Honoring a student's roommate preference is vital to creating a productive living situation. Unfortunately, the College's basic and inadequate pairing system consists of four irrelevant questions, which leaves ResLife with virtually meaningless information and gives no insight on the true personalities and habits of the incoming students.

The continuation of the current room assignment process will ultimately lead to dissatisfied, emotionally distraught students forced to seek immediate recourse in the form of

a room switch, a task that ResLife seems to be unable to handle. Similarly, academically challenged students — with more pressing priorities than to unwillingly accost reluctant peers — have few places to turn for solace. Unless a student can find someone else in their dorm to switch rooms with, their fate is in the hands of ResLife. Even if a room change is initiated, students are thrown back into the same muddled process that left him or her with an incompatible roommate in the first place.

Moreover, scheduling conflicts may be more troublesome than personality issues. The College's quest for campus-wide unity catalyzes roommate wars. Monroe Scholars are immune to the contagiousness of diversity and are comfortably confined to one living space, just athletes are often preferentially roomed together. Meanwhile, the College insists on assimilating the most intrusive of roommates — those in ROTC — among other students, even though a cadet's schedule can seem disruptive to those in the civilian population. Even if the College ignores personality and values in assigning roommates, at the very least they should consider that students on similar schedules will make more amicable roommates. A studious and well-disciplined student has the right not to be awakened at 5 a.m.

A studious and well-disciplined student has the right not to be awakened at 5 a.m.

Commonalities should be honored rather than neglected, and special students should be partnered with those of a similar disposition. This is not to say that students who are different should be segregated, but merely that the College should assume that not all students will get along. A more intensive questionnaire inquiring about the kind of person one wishes to live with would produce happier students and ultimately reduce the amount of time spent on reorganizing dorm assignments.

E-mail Victoria Narine at vrnarin@wm.edu.

STAFF EDITORIALS

Old raise policy retired

Necessity is the mother of invention, the old adage advises. This week, professors young and old announced that the limited budget situation has led them to an agreement to change an old policy that affected the way raises were doled out. In the coming years, the fruits of their efforts — a revised and improved raise policy — will leave us in a better position to retain young professors.

Many years ago, the school implemented a narrow policy to encourage older professors to retire early by raising their salaries about 10 percent for each of their final two years of teaching, regardless of merit. Even with the raise, this was a good deal for the College of William and Mary, as retiring professors tended to be paid much more than their younger counterparts. In time, however, the narrow policy came to apply to all professors, regardless of whether or not they were actually retiring early.

The Faculty Assembly has recently come out against this policy, and it is now likely that it will be removed. Too much has changed since the initial implementation of these raises, and they now no longer serve their intended purposes. Furthermore, because all of this money comes from the same pool and budgets have tightened, these raises now stand in the way of rewarding the performance of younger professors. The raises will be phased out over the next decade so that no one who has been relying on them for retirement will be left in the cold.

While an adverse budgetary environment does bring pain, it also presents plenty of opportunity. Any institution as large and as old as the College will have its fair share of inefficiencies. Tinkering with the details of salaries and retirement bonuses may be sensitive, but doing so can lead the school in a positive direction. We should all keep our eyes out for such opportunities.

Applicants underwhelm

Today, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions released the application statistics for this year, and overall the message is positive: For the fifth year in a row, the incoming freshmen class will be drawn from the largest pool of applicants in the College of William and Mary's history. The admissions office is hard at work to ensure that we are able to choose from the best, and their efforts should be commended.

However, we question whether this is good enough. This year, we received a modest 3 percent uptick in applications. Good as this increase may be, it is still slight — and smaller than last year's. Our university offers one of the best values in higher education in the country. During the largest recession in recent history, we should be doing better than this.

The staff editorial represents the opinion of The Flat Hat. The editorial board, which is elected by The Flat Hat's section editors and executive staff, consists of Miles Hilder, Ashley Morgan, Jessica Gold, Caitlin Fairchild and Andy Henderson. The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Limit letters to 250 words and columns to 700 words. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only. E-mail submissions to fhopinions@gmail.com.

Obama's call to correct climate ignores copious consumption

Devin Braun
FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



President Barack Obama uttered the magic words for casual environmentalists in last week's State of the Union address: comprehensive climate change bill.

Nevermind that the fomenting Kerry-Boxer-Graham bill is sure to placate the coal and oil industry. Nevermind that the active ingredient will be an infinitely complex cap-and-trade carbon permit system. Nevermind that the hesitant political attitude of the Democratic Party will likely derail the compromise anyway. The real travesty is that Obama has continued the recent pattern of climate change-centered environmentalism at the expense of the broader environmental movement.

After over 25 years of ostracism and marginalization, environmentalists must have thought global warming to be the perfect political issue. It had the ability to give everyday citizens an apocalyptic vision of the consequences of their actions, and it seemingly provided a universal threat, regardless of social status or location.

As our knowledge has increased, however, we've come to realize that global warming would have vastly different effects on different societies over a considerable period of time. Not only would tropical third world

countries be the first to experience droughts, desertification and extreme cyclonic events, but richer countries like the Netherlands are far better equipped to deal with the dangers of a rise in sea level, for example, than are countries like Bangladesh. This gives wealthier countries incentive to continue the economic and diplomatic status quo for just that little while longer, as evidenced by the Sino-American tensions over the non-binding Copenhagen Treaty.

Interestingly, there are hosts of other equally daunting environmental problems that are not nearly as divisive as global warming. In the last century, we've lost over 20 percent of our forested land. Potentially up to 50 percent of all current flora and fauna are threatened with extinction due to habitat destruction, overuse by humans and invasive species.

Our country's daily total of 63,000 filled garbage trucks is more than our landfills can process, and our ecological footprint is already exceeding the global carrying capacity due to poor soil use. If this isn't enough to animate a movement, I don't know what is. While the global warming debate is exaggerated through controversies like the East Anglia University debacle, where private e-mails regarding inflation of global temperatures were revealed, there is even less debate on these other ailments.

These problems are all distinct from

global warming, but their solutions can be linked to the adaptations to global warming. Mitigating tropical deforestation — through forest purchase credits or improvements in agriculture — not only preserves biodiversity but also lessens the release of carbon into the atmosphere.

Decreased garbage would both purify our groundwater reservoirs and reduce the greenhouse gases released via incineration. The phasing-out of our petroleum-based herbicide and pesticide industries would also improve the health of our soils and our own neural systems. In truth, these scenarios all relate to more sensible consumption patterns, especially for developed nations.

This type of environmentalism is often considered radical or idealistic. In comparison to the global warming agenda though, this environmentalism has gotten things done. Whether it is the Clean Air Act, the Basel Convention on waste disposal, the Endangered Species Act, or the much-praised Montreal Protocol on CFC elimination, environmentalism has been every bit as successful in prior pursuits as it has when limited to global warming.

Decades into the impressive global organization on climate change, all we have to show for it is the American-ignored Kyoto Protocol — many of its signatories have failed to meet their abatement assignments — and a non-binding Copenhagen treaty.

Despite the recent fad of global warming skepticism, climate change is a real threat to the way we conduct our lives. This, and other great environmental challenges, are best met by comprehensive environmentalism — an environmentalism that embraces more holistic lifestyle changes like decreased consumption and a heightened appreciation for biodiversity. These features of a well-rounded environmentalism would

also reduce our contribution to global warming. What we can't afford is an environmentalism discredited by climate change dithering.

Addressing our over-consumptive ways can remedy environmental issues more salient to the American public while still responding to the threats posed by global warming. We can kill two birds with one stone, or more appropriately, save two birds with one bird feeder.

E-mail Devin Braun at debrown@wm.edu.



VICKY CHAO — THE FLAT HAT

VARIETY

Variety Editor Jessica Gold
flathat.variety@gmail.com

Let it snow

Let it snow

Let it snow



JASLEEN SINGH — THE FLAT HAT

Students enjoy record-breaking snowfall on campus, while more wintry weather looms in the near future



COURTESY PHOTOS — DELANEY JANSON, ALTHEA LYNESS

Students climb the snow-covered tree outside of Barrett Hall [LEFT] while others play pick-up football [ABOVE]. After the record-breaking snowfall, students spent time frolicking in the snow. "I traveled to Old Campus from Botetourt," Nicholas Howard '13 said. "We did the mighty duck formation across the Sunken Garden. I jumped in a pile of snow and just acted like a kid. I also wrestled in the snow with some friends. I think it was a pretty fun snow day." While some students enjoyed the snow outdoors, others took the opportunity to relax inside. "For my snow day, I stayed inside in the warmth, caught up on some work, and spent the rest of the day spending quality time with my friends on my hall," Danielle Liang '13 said. Whether students spent time with friends outdoors or indoors, all agreed that the snow added a magical touch to campus. "Everything felt a little more like a Hogwarts adventure," Peter Cabrera '10 said.

Many students chose to spend their snow day sledding down hills around campus. While some used real sleds, others made makeshift sleds out of old pizza boxes and other items. "My friends and I improvised some sleds and went sledding on the road next to Yates," Sarah Marcellin '13 said. "I'm from Arizona so it was really exciting because it was my first snow day." Others saw strange occurrences in the snow. "While trekking across colonial Williamsburg in an attempt to find food, I came across a cross-country skier and challenged him to a race," Will Pence '13 said. Some students chose to entertain themselves in creative ways. "I made snow balls on the fire escape and ambushed my friend while he was trying to study," Michael Axline '13 said.



OLIVIA SALYER — THE FLAT HAT



CAPLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

Even though most local schools were closed on Feb. 1, the College remained open. In order to prepare for students traveling to and from classes, campus workers shoveled and poured salt on sidewalks. Snow plows cleared the roads on campus. While this snowfall was above average, wintry weather has not left the area yet. Freezing rain and snow are in the forecast later this week. This unusual weather makes many out of state students feel a little more at home with snow on campus. "I am from New England where winters are too long, so I get the best of both worlds here in Virginia," Meghan Veno '13 said. "God gave us snow to make winter a great thing instead of the bummer of a season it usually is after break," Adam Clark '10 said.



COURTESY PHOTO — SARAH MARCELLIN



COURTESY PHOTO — DELANEY JANSON

Political groups reflect on past year

By CAITLIN FAIRCHILD
Flat Hat Photos Editor

Jon Stewart '84, one of the College of William and Mary's favorite political commentators, has grown increasingly frustrated with the current political situation. A column in The Washington Post noted the recent slew of zings on The Daily Show, Stewart's television program, directed at President Barack Obama. On his Jan. 27 show, Stewart sounded off on the democratic leader for "flipping on the right-turn blinker" in an attempt to find the political center.

"What Obama leftist agenda are you running from? Guantanamo? Still open. Gays in the military closet? Still closed. Afghanistan troop surge," Stewart said. "The only vaguely progressive action taken by this administration is an increase in government spending to stimulate us out of recession. That seems to be the sum total of our leftist swing."

Back in November 2008, the youth vote certainly played a large part in propelling Obama toward the White House. According to a Flat Hat online survey conducted for the election, 68 percent of students supported Obama and 27 percent supported Sen. John McCain. Only 1.86 percent of the students surveyed were not registered to vote.

Since then, student political opinion at the College has seemed to change only slightly, and, according to some, political interest and involvement on both sides of the aisle has only increased.

Recently, the College's Young Democrats Club followed their first meeting of the semester with a viewing of Obama's first State of the Union address. President Ross Gillingham '10 described the event as highly successful, with about 35 to 40 people in attendance and an enthusiastic and excited mood from the majority.

"Well, certainly there were some people concerned with what he would say after the Massachusetts election, but he really connected with the audience," Gillingham said. "He spoke about college grants and about job creation, which is important to those of us graduating. A lot of people were joking at points when [Speaker of the House Nancy] Pelosi blanked a lot or [Vice President Joe] Biden seemed to clap at the wrong point. But people were generally rapt with attention when Obama spoke. The one concern was the length, particularly after a long day of classes and meetings, but people for the most part wanted to see the whole thing, to see [Gov. Bob McDonnell's] response."

A few students have become a little more tempered in their enthusiasm. Beau Wright '11, a member of the Young Democrats, admits feeling some disappointment regarding the president's performance since his election.

"It's been hard seeing him in office, watching my expectations die a little," Wright said. "But he governs the way I like, which is cautious. Still, I feel he hasn't been forceful, he hasn't pushed hard enough. I feel he's wimped out a little."

Some students did not expect immediate change in the White House, regardless of which candidate was elected.

"I didn't think things would change entirely in Washington," Gillingham said. "I just felt that [Obama] had the best chance to bring people together and pass meaningful legislation, and I still do."

Obama's tenure in office, coupled with the democratic majority in Congress, has helped to inspire activism in conservative students as well. College Republican's Chairman Thomas Chappell '11 says that the organization has been growing, and roughly 60 people attended the first meeting of this semester.

"We're at an all-time high as far as enthusiasm and numbers," Chappell said. "Especially after the McDonnell election [win] last semester, and the tea party rally that happened last spring."

Chappell feels that over the past two years, students have become more comfortable openly identifying as politically conservative.

"We were very splintered," he said. "But since then, more and more people are willing to speak."

Despite growing numbers on the republican side, Wright said he and his fellow democrats are still firm believers in the Obama administration.

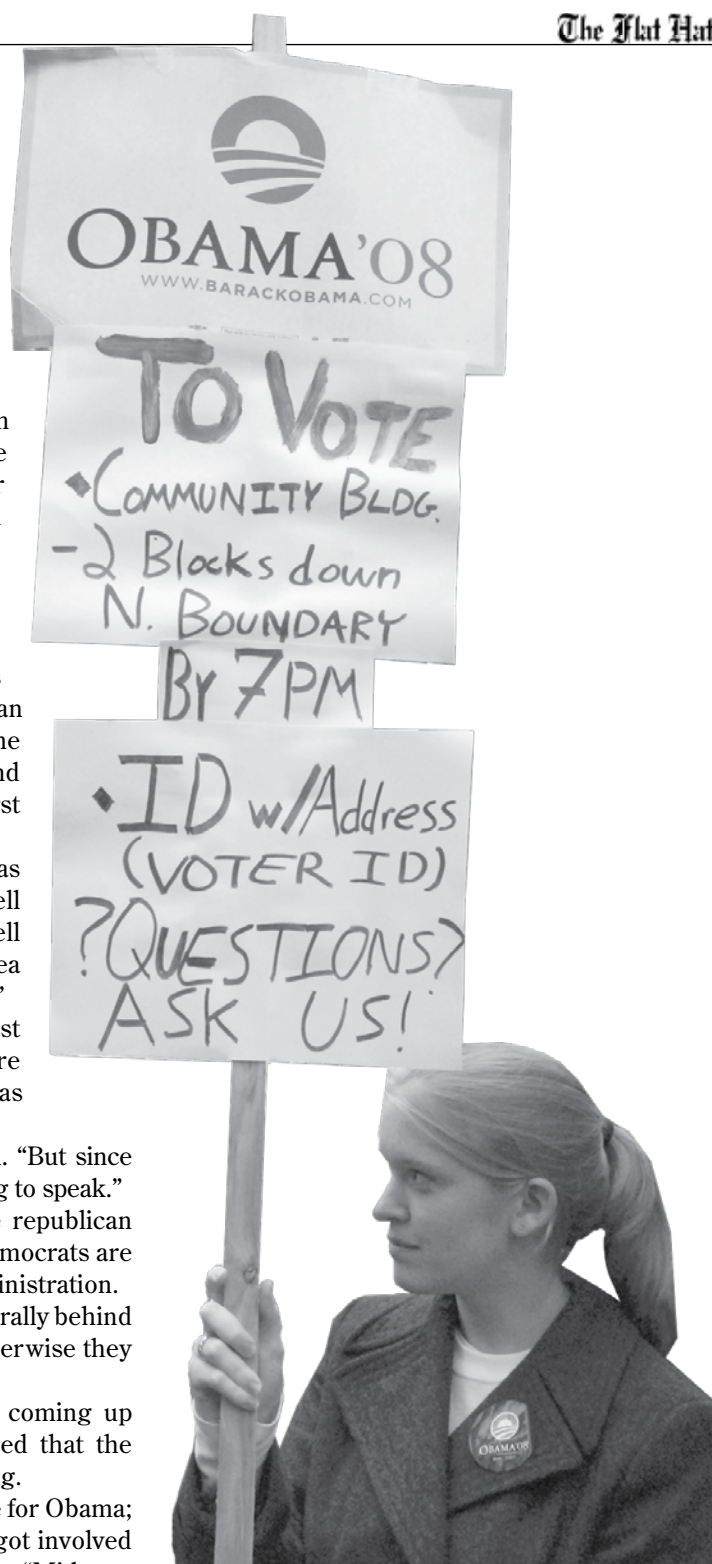
"I think most people still in the club rally behind our president," Gillingham said. "Otherwise they would probably stop coming."

Yet even with midterm elections coming up this year, some students have noticed that the political fervor of 2008 is not returning.

"Last November, it was cool to vote for Obama; it was the hip thing to do, so people got involved for the social aspect," Wright said. "Midterm [elections] are definitely not as sexy."

Omar Farid '10, vice president of the Young Democrats, noted that for young voters, some of the appeal of politics has died out. Young Democrats' numbers have dropped from 115 members last fall, but the club remains optimistic. He listed several of events that the organization has planned, from bringing guest speakers to attending conventions.

"I think a lot of us are frustrated because we expected too much," Farid said. "The system is set up for people to collaborate slowly. But I think people will be as enthusiastic as ever come



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT

During the 2008 Presidential Election, various student organizations campaigned for both candidates across campus, including posting informational maps in Lodge 1.

election time in 2012. I really had no morale left after the Massachusetts election, but a lot of members of the Young Democrats were riled up and applauding at our viewing of the State of the Union address."

Not all the politically minded citizens share this optimism. In the same Jan. 27 episode, Daily Show correspondent Asif Mandvi presented a new mascot for the Democratic Party to replace the Donkey: "Presenting the [Democratic National Committee] possum: it says, 'you can't hurt us anymore, because we're already dead.'"



See why everyone is talking about the credit union difference!

Do you work at or attend William & Mary? If so, you and your immediate family* are eligible to join Langley Federal Credit Union! Open your account today - it's easy.

- Not-for-profit Financial Cooperative
- Credit Cards with No "Gotcha" Fees
- FREE Online Banking and Bill Pay**
- Mobile Banking

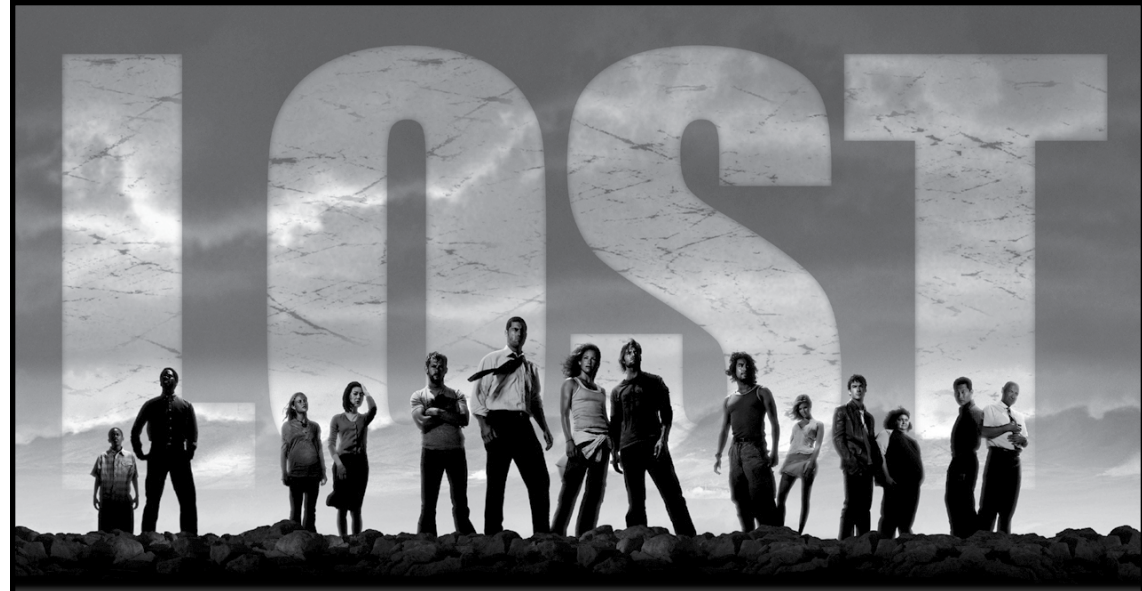
Visit one of our two convenient Williamsburg locations! Williamsburg City Branch near Blooms & Williamsburg New Town on Monticello Avenue.

Langley
Federal Credit Union
Spirit of community. Warmth of family.
Pride of membership.

Contact Us:
757-827-EASY/800-588-EASY
www.langleyfcu.org

*Immediate family members include: spouse, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, stepparents, stepchildren, stepsiblings and adoptive relationships. Membership eligibility required. Minimum required to open an account is the purchase of a share in the Credit Union (\$5). This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration. **Checking account required.

BETTER RATES • LOWER FEES • GREAT SERVICE

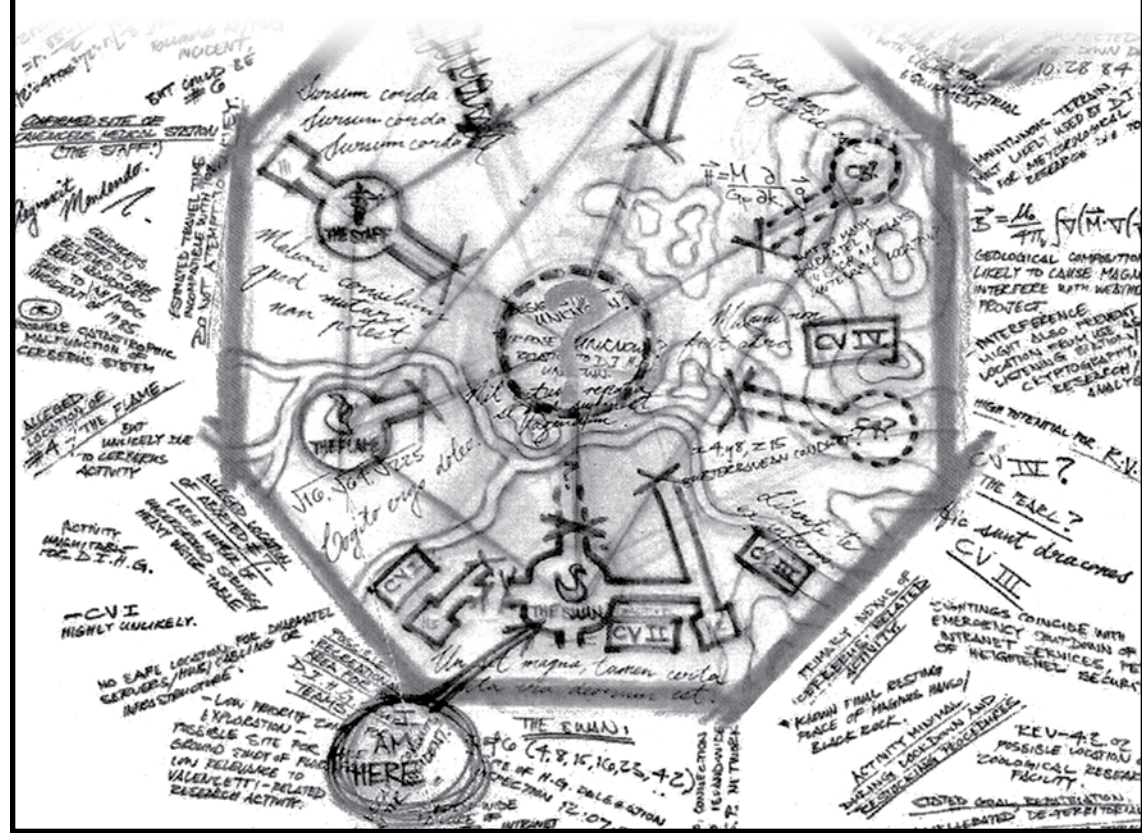


Flat Hat "Lost" Blogger Summer Finck is back for the series' final season.

Check out her review of season five right now at flathatnews.com/tubetalk.

And check back every Wednesday for her thoughts, theories and thrilling recaps — and join the conversation by sharing your own ideas.

On the Flat Hat's TV blog, at flathatnews.com/tubetalk



INSIDE SPORTS

Sports Editor Matt Poms
flathatsports@gmail.com

What's on TV

NHL

Minnesota vs. Dallas
— 8:00 p.m. Tuesday on Versus

NBA

Miami vs. Boston
— 8:00 p.m. Wednesday on ESPN

Sound bytes

"I have done a number of wrong things recently."

— Wizards' guard Gilbert Arenas in an op-ed piece in the Washington Post



By the numbers

70,697

Number of fans who attended the Pro Bowl Sunday in Miami. It was the largest crowd to attend a Pro Bowl since the 1959 game in Los Angeles.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

GYMNASTICS

Men fall in dual meet at Penn State, drop to 3-2

The College of William and Mary (3-2) fell in a dual meet at sixth-ranked Penn State Sunday, 341.450 to 321.400. Senior Derek Gygak scored in all six events for the Tribe, posting an all-around mark of 79.55. Senior Josh Fried also had a strong showing, recording the team's top individual finish in the floor exercise, finishing second, and registering the team's top individual score of 15.05 in the vault. The Tribe will return home Sunday when they host the State Open at William and Mary Hall.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Women fall just short at sixth-ranked Georgia

The Tribe (3-2) took 4th-ranked Georgia to the limit Saturday but fell just short, going down 4-2 in a five-hour, ten-minute contest in Athens, Ga. Senior Carmen Pop and freshman Marlen Mesgarzadeth racked up singles wins for the Tribe, 6-4, 6-4 and 5-7, 6-6, 7-6 (1) respectively. Mesgarzadeth and sophomore Katie Kargl also recorded the Tribe's only doubles win of the tournament, defeating their Bulldog counterparts 8-5.

WOMEN'S TRACK

Guevel and Kazuba earn spots at ECACs in meet

Junior Katie Guevel and senior Nicole Kazuba qualified for ECACs Friday at the CNU Captains Invitational, helping the Tribe earn five event victories at the snow-shortened meet. Guevel qualified for ECACs in the pentathlon, scoring a Freeman Center-record total of 3,502 points in the ten-event competition. Kazuba qualified for ECACs in the pole vault after clearing the bar at 12-6 (3.81m). Saturday's portion of the meet was canceled due to inclement weather. The College will be back in action Saturday.

ATHLETE FOCUS

RICHARD WARDELL
SENIOR, TENNIS

The Flat Hat caught up with senior Richard Wardell to discuss injuries, nicknames and his favorite sport to watch on campus.

What was the hardest part about missing most of last season due to injury? Just not being able to play. You always want to be on the court.

Do you have a nickname? Richie. Rich. R-Dub, which are my initials.

What is your favorite sport to watch on campus? I'm gonna say football.

Who is your favorite professional athlete? Michael Chang.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Tribe falls to Wilmington, drops to 3-6 in CAA

Benson breaks CAA record for career blocks

By TRAVIS TRIGGS
Flat Hat Staff Writer

With her first block against UNC-Wilmington, Tribe senior forward Tiffany Benson inscribed her name into the CAA record books as the conference's all-time blocks leader.

Otherwise, it was a forgettable Sunday afternoon for the College, as William and Mary (10-10, 3-6) fell to UNC-Wilmington 69-59 at Kaplan arena.

Benson's record-setting rejection came with 16:19 remaining in the first half, as the senior forward swatted away a Whitney Simmons shot from just outside the lane. The block gave Benson 237 blocks for her career, moving her ahead of former George Mason forward Trish Halpin '00 on the all-time conference list.

"It's an amazing accomplishment. I've never had a player here do that, become number one in the CAA," Head Coach Debbie Taylor said. "To have a William and Mary player number one all time in the CAA speaks loudly and I am just really proud of her."

Benson, who would record another block later in the contest, recorded her sixth double-double of the season, scoring 12 points to go along with 15 rebounds in the losing effort.

The rest of the snowy afternoon would prove less memorable for the Tribe, as the College committed 22 turnovers and could only shoot 30 percent from the field in the second half against the Seahawks.

The team's leading scorer on the season, sophomore guard Taysha Pye, did not enter the game until the 16:09 mark of the second half. Despite only seeing 16 minutes of action, Pye led all scorers with 17 points.

"[Pye] was horrible in the last game [against Old Dominion]. She didn't deserve to play," Taylor said. "She was a much better player than she had been playing and obviously you can see what she can do when she wants to play."

Sophomore guard Janine Aldridge was the only other College player to score in double figures, racking up 10 points despite going 4-for-16 from the field, 2-for-12 from behind the three-point line.

The Tribe's inability to put the ball in the basket, coupled with the team's turnovers, allowed UNC-Wilmington to come out of the gate strong in the second half, as the Seahawks started the half on a 10-2 run.

The College would cut the lead to eight on a Pye jumper with 1:30 remaining in the game, but would get no closer,



PHILIP DELANO — THE FLAT HAT

Senior guard Kelly Heath finished with three points and four turnovers Sunday.

going 1-for-4 from the field in the last minute and a half of the game.

"Our problem right now is that we're getting inconsistent play from good players" Taylor said about losing the

squad last six of eight games. "Everybody needs to bring to the table what they can bring every night. We've got a long way to go and I still feel like we are a very good team."

MEN'S TENNIS

College splits pair of weekend matches, upsets no. 72 Elon

Juneau, Vidal lead squad, go undefeated in singles play

By WESLEY STUKENBROEKER
Flat Hat Staff Writer

COURTESY PHOTO — W&M SPORTS INFORMATION

Junior Sebastien Vidal won two singles matches this weekend.

A resilient Tribe (6-4) powered past No. 72 Elon 6-1 at the McCormack-Nagelson Tennis Center on Sunday afternoon. The win snapped a three-game losing streak and helped the College bounce back from a loss against East Tennessee State on Friday.

"That was the toughest 6-1 match I have ever been a part of," Head Coach Peter Daub said. "It took four hours and 40 minutes to complete and I thought each team really gave it their all."

The Tribe began the day by taking two of three doubles matches. Junior Sebastien Vidal and freshman Jamie Whiteford extended their record to 5-0 on the year with an 8-4 triumph at the no. two position, while redshirt freshman Daniel Mihalov and sophomore Ilija Orre earned their second victory of the season.

In singles play, vocal leader and top player Keziel Juneau dropped a frustrating first set to Phillip Nemeč, 5-7. But the Montreal-native battled back and eventually clinched the first singles victory of the afternoon.

"I knew I could beat [Nemeč]," Juneau said. "He's from Canada and I had played him before."

Vidal, playing in the no. 2 spot, also dropped the initial set, but eventually settled in to take the next two sets 7-6 (2) and 6-4.

"I wasn't playing great, but everything came slowly back," Vidal said. "Sometimes wins aren't perfect."

Sophomore Ilija Orre fought a marathon battle in the no. 5 spot against Elon's Carlos Arboledo. The match, which ran several hours, finally came to an end when Orre won consecutive games. Other singles wins were notched by freshmen Anton Andersson and Adrian Vodislav.

"All 12 players were warriors out there and everyone gave all they had," Daub said. "Both teams played at a high level, and we were fortunate enough to come out on top."

On Friday, the Tribe was edged 5-4 by 60th ranked East Tennessee State. The doubles matches were tightly contested, but the Buccaneers outlasted the Tribe, taking two of the three, 9-8 and 8-6.

Juneau and Vidal each tallied victories in singles improving their records to 14-6 and 16-6, respectively. Vodislav also added a come-from-behind victory in the no. 6 spot, but it was not enough for the win.

The College hosts James Madison University at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

Tribe picks up crucial home win over Dragons, now fourth in CAA

MEN'S BASKETBALL from page 7

for a vital first-round bye in the CAA tournament — and left it holding an important tiebreaker over Drexel and VCU.

"The biggest thing is keep winning, get a nice little streak going," Schneider said.

Next up will be second-place Old Dominion Wednesday, which defeated the College 58-55 Jan. 23 to a record crowd in Williamsburg.

Due to a weekend snowstorm that caused the contest against Drexel to be played Sunday instead of Saturday, the Tribe will now have one fewer day of rest before that matchup. But even more difficult will be compensating for the lost day of preparation, crucial against a Monarch defense that stifled the College in the two squads' previous meeting.

"We have a short turnaround for Old Dominion," Shaver said. "We've got to prepare to handle their zone. They're number one in the country defensively. It's such a big lineup, so we've got to be better against their zone than we were last time and a little bit better defensively inside."

CAA STANDINGS

1. George Mason — 10-1, 15-7
2. Old Dominion — 9-2, 17-6
3. Northeastern — 9-2, 14-8
4. TRIBE — 7-4, 15-6
5. VCU — 7-4, 15-5
6. Drexel — 7-4, 12-11
7. Hofstra — 4-7, 11-12
8. James Madison — 3-8, 10-12
9. Georgia State — 3-8, 9-14
10. UNC-Wilmington — 3-8, 7-15
11. Delaware — 2-9, 6-16
12. Towson — 2-9, 5-16

Top four teams receive first-round bye in CAA Tournament — Tribe currently holds fourth place due to CAA tiebreaking rules.

Pye producing for College



PHILIP DELANO — THE FLAT HAT

PYE from page 7

who has already destroyed many a child-sized basketball hoop in the Pye household.

For Pye's family, basketball is the love which unites them, making Pye's game as much a game of love as it is a game of contact. For it was basketball which her father

gave her, and it was basketball which kept her family together.

"He just kept the family together and kept us all together and kept a loving family," Pye said. "When you get through something like that, that's really all you need. You just need to be loved."

Anything that powerful has to be love, right?

SPORTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COVERAGE

SEE PAGE 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Standing strong

Taysha Pye overcame the loss of her mother to blossom into the on-court leader of the Tribe

CATTIN FAIRCILD — THE FLAT HAT

By JACK LAMBERT
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Describe Taysha Pye's game in one word.
One word? Powerful.

Wait, powerful is not strong enough. Crashing, jarring, punishing. Pye loves contact. Her game is contact. You know how they say great players can call their move beforehand yet still execute it anyway? Pye's move is contact.

"It's almost animalistic," Channel Murchison, Pye's teammate and roommate, said. "It's almost

something we all wish we were capable of doing. We all play basketball, we all are shooters but man, to have that much body control is amazing."

Amazing and effective. In the 24 games she has started in her William and Mary career, sophomore guard Taysha Pye has scored under double-figures only three times. She leads the Tribe in scoring this season, averaging 14.8 points per game. She's shooting 46 percent from the field.

Last season, Pye dropped 30 on James Madison without taking a single three-pointer. Her game plays at the top of the CAA — she was named to the CAA All-Rookie team last season — and she's only a sophomore.

Since high school, Pye has been able to drive past defenders at will. It was this skill that attracted Head Coach Debbie Taylor to Pye when she was at St. Anne's Belfield in Charlottesville, Va, where Pye had transferred after her freshman year of high school.

"To be honest, we didn't really think we would have a shot at her," Taylor said. "Early on in the process, she was getting some looks from some pretty big schools; West Virginia, I believe, was interested in her. It was a thing where we learned late that no one had signed her, and her grades weren't great, so when she got her grades up in the second semester, we went after her."

Perhaps the best way to describe Pye's game is to say that it comes from her father, Maurice. It was her father who first made Taysha start playing with the boys, a strategy born as much out of necessity as any other factor.

When Pye was five years old, her mother, Darala, passed away from breast cancer, leaving Maurice to raise Taysha and her older brother Maurice Jr. by himself.

"It was tough. That's the reason my father and I are so close," Pye said. "When I was that age, I actually felt like it really didn't hit me. I didn't really start thinking about it until I started coming of age and I was like, wow, I lost my mother."

In charge of both kids after his wife's death, Maurice started bringing Taysha to the park as he went through drills with her brother.

"When we were younger, he'd be doing drills with my older brother in the park and I'd be like 'Daddy, can I try,'" Pye said. "He was just like, 'Come on girl, go finish playing in the park.' Then he finally saw me playing and was like 'wow,' and that's when I started running around with my brother. I eventually just stopped playing with my friends all together."

Eventually, Pye started playing only in pick-up games with her brother and his friends, instilling the aggressive, contact-driven game she plays today. Even though Maurice has only seen Pye play once in her college career, to this day he can listen to her over the radio and still picture her as clearly as if she were still playing in front of him on a blacktop in the Bronx.

"He hasn't actually been to any of my games this year, but I actually talked to him last night after the game and he talked about the game as if he had seen every game for the whole season," Pye said. "He talked to me like he was Coach Taylor. He told me 'You need to not go to the rim so much. You need to start pulling up,' which is exactly what Coach Taylor told me at halftime."

All this is not to say that Maurice was ever totally able to replace Darala. Pye is still reminded of her mother from time to time, often in the little things which go unnoticed by those yet to experience such a loss.

"I feel it when I see people's relationship with their mothers like my friends. Even my friends here, they all do stuff with their mothers and I just don't have that, which is fine," Pye said. "I'm happy with my family and I know she's in a better place and I've come to terms with it."

It has helped that over the last two years, Pye has grown close to her two roommates, Murchison and sophomore guard Janine Aldridge, and their respective families.

"I could see

it being a little hard on her, but when ever our parents come to town, we always bring her along" Murchison said. "For both of our parents, Taysha knows that pretty much anything she wants from them, she can have it."

Today, in addition to her older brother, Pye has three brothers, Max, 14, Ryan, 8, and Dylan, 3, as well as two sisters, Shylah, 15, and Asheree, 14. All of them are basketball players, even Dylan,

SEE PYE page 7



BACKCOURT PHENOM

Despite only seven starts last year, sophomore guard Taysha Pye put together one of the better freshman campaigns in Tribe history, ranking second on the team in scoring (9.9 ppg), third in rebounding (4.2 rpg) and tied for first in steals (4.3). This season, she's been even more unstoppable, leading the team with 14.8 points per game and improving her field goal percentage to 45.6 percent. But beyond those numbers, she came to Williamsburg with a singular goal, one she is still in search of: "CAA championships — that's always the goal. I could score four points the rest of the season and if we won the championship, I would be happy. And I think we can do it. We just have to keep working hard and play like we know how we can play."

MEN'S BASKETBALL



KYLE MCMAHON — THE FLAT HAT

Senior forward Danny Sumner finished with nine points and three blocks.

Tribe downs Drexel to end losing streak

College scores 28 points at free throw line, comes away with 54-51 win

By MATT POMS
Flat Hat Sports Editor

Returning home in the midst of a momentum-sapping, three-game losing streak, the College knew that it badly needed a win to remain in the picture at the top of a highly competitive CAA. And late in a crucial, back-and-forth game with Drexel (12-11, 7-4 CAA), the College was not going to give that win away, no matter how many shots refused to fall.

William and Mary (15-6, 7-4 CAA) sank its last field goal with over six minutes left in the second half, but drained 11 free throws the rest of the way to ice an intense, foul-ridden contest at Kaplan Arena. In the end, the College prevailed 54-51 in a game that contained crucial applications for both squads. Drexel guard Shannon Givens' attempt at a tying three-pointer clanked harmlessly off the front iron as the final buzzer sounded.

"It was a great win," Head Coach Tony Shaver said. "Today, we needed a good performance as much as a win."

Despite poor shooting totals and 10 turnovers, the College got both. Facing one of the CAA's toughest defenses and hottest teams, the Tribe overcame a 12 of 46 night from the

field by sinking 28 of 37 free throws. On an evening in which the whistle blew early and often, the College repeatedly challenged the Drexel press and was rewarded by getting to the foul line consistently.

"We started with a lot of intensity," senior guard David Schneider said. "Coach took us aside before the game started and told us to be the aggressor. Especially when shots weren't falling, I thought we did a great job of getting to the line."

After averaging 30 three-point attempts per game over its last three losses, the Tribe came out determined to work the ball inside. The squad's 15 three-point tries marked their second-fewest total of the season — and they made only two of those shots.

"We didn't get a lot of good looks today, a lot because of their defense," Schneider said. "They did a great job of taking away the three, especially."

But the College made up for that void with a furious defensive effort that belied the importance of the contest. The Tribe scored 18 points off of 15 Drexel turnovers, while holding the Dragons to 38.8 percent shooting overall. Drexel also shot a futile 9-22 from the free throw line for the game.

That, combined with the Tribe's marks-

manship at their own stripe, combined to put an end to the College's midseason slump and supply the squad with a crucial win entering the CAA stretch run.

The victory brought the Tribe back into the top four of the conference — necessary

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL page 7

BRACKETBUSTER

At no. 51 in the national RPI and a bubble team for the NCAA tournament — Sports Illustrated's Andy Glockner had the Tribe as an at-large squad in his latest bracket projection — the College drew a marquee television matchup in ESPN's annual Bracketbusters event. The Tribe will journey to New Rochelle, N. Y. to take on Iona (RPI 81) at 9 p.m. on Feb. 19. The game will be shown on ESPNU, and give the College a chance to garner a crucial top-100 RPI road win to bolster its at-large profile.