



NEWS

Honor Council elections

Results from Thursday's elections are available inside.

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OPINIONS

All bark, no bite

City council candidate Foster '10 must develop clear policy initiatives to win election.

SEE PAGE 6



SPORTS

Baseball spring preview

After a disappointing 2009, College looks to rebound with young squad.

SEE PAGE 8



The Flat Hat

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

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ThePulse

Bite-size news you can use

Make a stop at Lodge 1 and lay the smack down in the Wind Symphony's old school video game tournament tonight at 9:30 p.m. The tournament will feature the Nintendo 64 games Goldeneye and Super Smash Bros., participants can also play Mario Kart for fun. Winners can receive up to \$50 as well as other door prizes.

Chrissy Scott '11 stepped down from her position in the College of William and Mary's Undergraduate Council Monday. Student Assembly President Sarah Rojas '10 subsequently appointed Scott to the position of SA Deputy Chief of Staff. Rojas could not be reached for comment, and Scott declined to comment.

The prosecution in the high-profile murder case of Robert Wone '96 is confident that the three men charged with obstruction of justice know who killed the prominent D.C. lawyer. Wone was stabbed to death in August 2006 at the home of Joe Price '93, a friend from the College, his partner Victor Zaborsky and lover Dylan Ward. Evidence of a cover-up led investigators to suspect Wone was murdered by one of the three men. A recently filed court document indicates that, although the murder cannot be pinned on Price, Zaborsky or Ward, the prosecution intends to introduce evidence such as S&M sex toys found in the house and previous crimes associated with the men to reinforce their argument in the upcoming obstruction trial.

Glenn Close '74 will reprise her stage role in the upcoming film "Albert Nobbs," which she has co-written and will produce. The film is based on the famous off-Broadway drama "The Singular Life Of Albert Nobbs." Orlando Bloom, Michael Gambon and Janet McTeer are also expected to star alongside Close under the direction of Rodrigo Garcia. Close's character, Nobbs, is a woman in 19th century Dublin who must disguise herself as a man in the face of gender and class issues.

RecSports is sponsoring a free presentation by personal trainer Todd Durkin '93 entitled "Going for Greatness" tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the Commonwealth Auditorium. Durkin, a former Tribe quarterback, is the owner of Fitness Quest 10, a center for health and human performance that focuses on exercise, nutrition and wellness programs.

James City County ranked second among Virginia's 132 cities and counties for its "health factors", the Virginia Department of Health announced Wednesday. Ranking is based on two sets of measures: health outcomes (length and quality of life) and health factors (health behaviors and economic factors). Our less healthy Williamsburg ranked 80th.

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

AND THE CROWN GOES TO...



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT

...Lamar Shambley '10, who had a 14-woman escort for his introduction to the "Mr. William and Mary" pageant. Second place went to John Donehey '10, and Mark Nauta '11 received third. The pageant benefits the College's annual Alan Bukzin Memorial Bone Marrow Drive.

Colonial Williamsburg tourism at 47-year low

Tough times lead to increased cooperation

By GLORIA OH
The Flat Hat

A decline in Colonial Williamsburg ticket sales and annual fund donations performance has led to the development of a partnership between Colonial Williamsburg and the College of William and Mary.

According to recently released numbers, ticket sales in 2009 declined 7 percent from 2008, the greatest drop in 47 years. 600,000 admission tickets were sold, although free walk-ins, including student visitors and pass holders, brought the visitor count to roughly 1.7 million. CW area buses recorded 400,000 fewer passengers than the previous year. Tickets for evening programs and carriage rides in 2009 totaled 244,000 compared with

301,000 tickets in 2008. The Foundation's fundraising profits, managed by the annual CW Fund, also took a 4.5 percent hit.

While attendance and fundraising lagged, investment performance remained quite strong with an impressive return of 20 percent. Endowment increased in market value from \$84 million to \$695 million.

The Foundation cited financial pressure as the main factor for the slump in tourism. With the ongoing recession, attendance has dwindled as tourists and schools decide to spend less discretionary income. As a result, fewer school groups, tourist groups and leisure visitors have visited CW, although internet visits grew by 12 percent.

"The economic environment in 2009 was extremely challenging," CW Foundation President and CEO Colin

See TOURISM page 3



FILE PHOTO — THE FLAT HAT

A colonial reenactor entertains tourists.

Commission tables mixed-use project

College to edit triangle construction plans

By BERTEL KING JR.
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

The Williamsburg Planning Commission decided at a meeting Wednesday to send the College of William and Mary's Triangle Retail Project back to the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation for a month to work out the handful of problems holding back the project. The Triangle Project is a mixed-use housing and commercial complex intended to be built on Richmond Road.

Through the meeting, the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation hoped to create a text for the planned developmental college district, re-zone an acre of land between Wawa and Williamsburg Baptist Church and approve a master parking plan.

The wording was a cause of concern for several members of the commission. One issue of concern was the use of the term 'unrelated.'



Stafford

"I wondered why the statement was that the dwelling unit occupancy would be no more than four unrelated persons," planning commission member Sarah Stafford said. "Why isn't it just limited to four persons? We wouldn't want to have five students here, and two of them happen to be related. We would want these units to only have four students. 'Unrelated' could cause problems, could it not?"

City Planner Reed Nester, speaking on behalf of the Triangle Project, clarified that the wording would have to be cleared up and that the College only intends to house four students per apartment.

The complex is envisioned to stand three stories tall, with the first floor housing four restaurants or retail outlets and the top two floors housing students. Fourteen apartments within the complex would house 56 students. Resident Assistants would monitor each hall.

The first floor of the building would contain over 10,000 commercial square feet. The Thiemes House, the former Master Craftsman building, and the Taylor building would be torn down to make way for the building. The latter

See TRIANGLE page 4

Lack of state funding halts Tucker Hall renovation

College needs \$12.1 million to complete final phase

By MIKE CRUMP
Flat Hat News Editor

A College of William and Mary plan to renovate Tucker Hall may be delayed due to budgetary issues in Richmond.

The plan was fully funded by Richmond for its first two phases, which included feasibility studies and the development of initial blueprints. Those cost \$563,000. The College is currently waiting on an additional \$12.1 million for the final phase, which will result in construction-worthy blueprints as well as the actual renovation.

The delay in funds results from a cap on Virginia's debt capacity, the amount it is legally allowed to borrow. Because state spending has already reached the ceiling of 5 percent of total state revenue — a Virginia state policy — the

completion of the project relies on the state's future abilities to take further debt. The drop in overall state revenues has further lowered the amount the state can legally borrow.

"The state has been extremely generous to us in terms of funds," Vice President for Administration Anna Martin said. "This [delay] is the result of the national economy and the state's debt capacity."

The renovation project seeks to overhaul Tucker Hall, home to the English department, Charles Center and Writing Resources Center, which has not been renovated since 1967 when the building housed the law school.

Efforts in renovating the building include realigning to proper building codes, including the construction of an elevator for students with disabilities. Tucker

Hall currently does not conform to regulations laid out in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The renovation will also restore the building's staircase, part of the original structure but since converted to bend only clockwise.

"We're hoping that the historic parts of the building will come back in the renovation," English department Administrative Assistant and Renovation Committee member Kathy O'Brien said. "We want to realign Tucker with the Wren Building's design."

Other renovations include opening the cupola to a large student lounge on the third floor and revamping the Tucker Hall theater. Approximately 45 seats will be removed to allow for more personal space within the facility.

Va. Gov. Robert McDonnell has set the third and final phase of the project for the July 2011 budget. The College originally planned to receive the funds this year.

According to Martin, once the College receives the funds, it

will spend six months finalizing construction plans and one year to complete the renovation, making January 2013 the earliest the building will reopen.

Until the project is completed, the English department will continue to operate out of Tyler Hall.

English faculty members have said they are ready to return to Tucker, however.

"Tucker had an ugly design but it was also kind of homey," English professor Jack Martin said. "On the other hand, there are no smells of sewage in Tyler."



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT

Desks, chairs and other furniture will remain stacked in piles in Tucker Hall until the College receives enough money to complete the building's renovations.

NEWS INSIGHT

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The Flat Hat

'Stabilitas et Fides'

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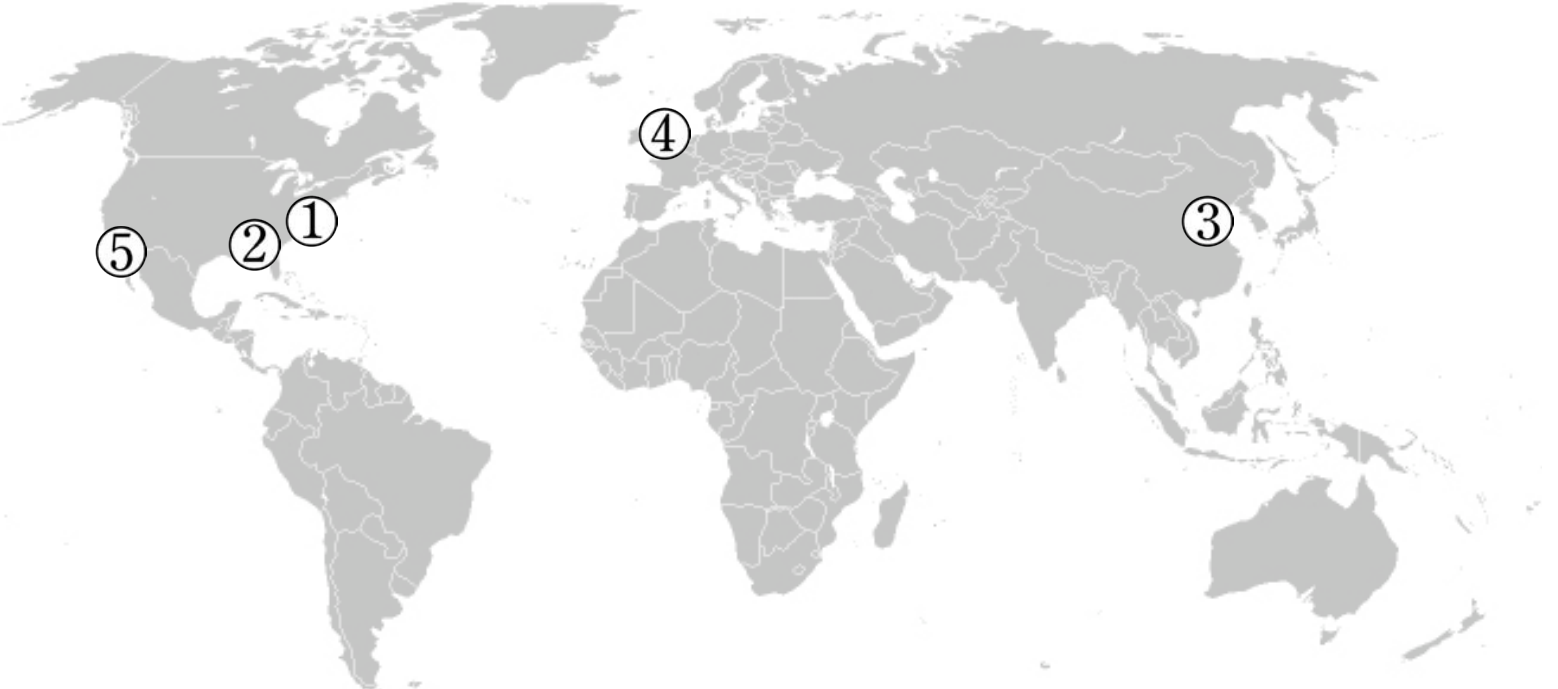
BEYOND THE 'BURG

1 George Washington University sent false acceptance e-mails to approximately 200 people last week due to a computer glitch. GWU Vice President for Student and Academic Services Robert Chernak said the university's admissions office decided to send a congratulatory e-mail to accepted students since the snow in Washington, D.C. had slowed the delivery of acceptance packets.

2 University of Alabama-Huntsville biology professor Amy Bishop shot three fellow professors dead during a faculty meeting Saturday. Three other faculty members were injured. Bishop had recently been denied academic tenure. She and her husband had previously been questioned in regard to two pipe bombs that a Harvard official received through the mail in 1993.

3 A study conducted by scientists at Tsinghua University discovered that some memory loss is a purposeful action of the brain. Experiments revealed that blocking the protein Rac in flies' brains caused new memories to last several hours longer than the memories of control flies. When flies became confused with new information, Rac increased, shortening the lifespan of memories.

4 Oxford University has resumed its search for a poetry professor three years after a search ended in controversy. Candidate Derek Walcott dropped out of the process after the university received anonymous papers suggesting Walcott had sexually harassed students. Oxford named Ruth Padel to the post, but she resigned after it was revealed she contributed to the papers.



COURTESY GRAPHIC — WIKIPEDIA.ORG

— by Maggie Reeb

CORRECTIONS

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor where the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

WEATHER

Friday



High 52°
Low 29°

Saturday



High 53°
Low 34°

Sunday



High 56°
Low 37°

Source: weather.com

A THOUSAND WORDS



OLYVIA SALTER — THE FLAT HAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prime Outlet set to add new stores

The Williamsburg Prime Outlet Mall announced the planned opening of two additional retail stores Wednesday.

Levi's and New Balance are expected to move into the mall complex in April, occupying spots near Dooney & Bourke and Calvin Klein. Additionally, Clark's Bostonian is set to reopen in a new, larger location in the mall complex.

The new stores join other recent additions in the 120-store mall, including Lids, Chico's Outlet and Soma Intimates.

Professors receive faculty service awards

Two College of William and Mary professors recently received commendations for their service to the College.

During a Feb. 2 ceremony, biology professor Eric Bradley and history professor Leisa Meyer were awarded the Arts and Sciences Award for Faculty Governance, recognizing their work with College programs and departmental committees.

The award is annually given to two tenured professors at the College, one with fewer than 10 years of service and the other with more than 10 years of service. Honorees receive a salary stipend or a research grant.

Majority of Americans have cynical view of colleges

A new study from the Public Agenda and the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, two non-profit research organizations, indicates that more Americans than ever previously measured believe the nation's colleges and universities operate more like businesses than schools and are focused more on "the bottom line" than educational quality.

The study found that 60 percent of Americans view higher education cynically, up 5 percent from last year and 8 percent from 2007.

Despite this, 64 percent felt universities should use federal stimulus money to hold down the cost of tuition — even at the expense of operations and other programs.

Furthermore, 55 percent said they feel a college education is key to success, up from 31 percent in 2000.

— by Ian Brickey

5 Israeli-Palestinian tension erupts at California school

Organization criticizes University of California-Irvine for response to speaker

By MAGGIE REEB
Flat Hat News Editor

The Zionist Organization of America has urged students nationwide to stop applying to the University of California-Irvine in response to growing tension between Jewish and Muslim students.

The current Israeli-Palestinian conflict has reignited pro-Israel and pro-Palestine students' antagonism.

Eleven students were arrested for repeatedly disrupting a lecture given by Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren in early February. Despite sending out an e-mail criticizing

Oren's appearance on campus, the Muslim Student Association has said it did not organize the protest.

Muslim Student Union spokeswoman Hadeer Soliman defended the arrested students' rights to protest in an editorial in the UCU newspaper.

"If the university chooses to selectively enforce its policies in order to punish these students, it is undoubtedly sending a political message and chilling all students' First Amendment rights," Solimann said in the editorial.

Both the Council of American-Islamic Relations and the Muslim Public Affairs Council spoke out against the arrests.

According to the Associated Press, the ZOA said it believes UCI Chancellor Michael Drake has not taken a strong enough stance against the anti-Semitic speech on campus.

"We're not asking the university to infringe on anyone's free speech rights, but our contention all along is that the chancellor has his own free speech rights, and for whatever reason, he's refusing to exercise them," ZOA Center for Law and Justice Director Susan Tuchman said. "He can come out and condemn the speech as hurtful and anti-Semitic."

This is not the first time ZOA has criticized UCU.

The MSU organized the wearing of green stoles during graduation in 2004.

The 12 students who participated said the stoles symbolized their faith, while other students claimed the accessory showed support for Hamas.

Last year, the ZOA accused the MSU of raising money for a group known as Viva Palestina and of raising money that it believed would be used to fund terrorist activities.

The Orange County police will determine whether or not to press charges against the 11 arrested students upon receiving official incident reports from the university.

STREET BEAT

What's been your favorite part of the Olympics so far?



"I'm really interested in the hockey tournament and Ovechkin destroying Canada."

Macs Smith '11



"Speedskating — men in spandex."

Alecka Blaisdell '13



"Pairs figure skating for sure."

Doug Nicholson '12



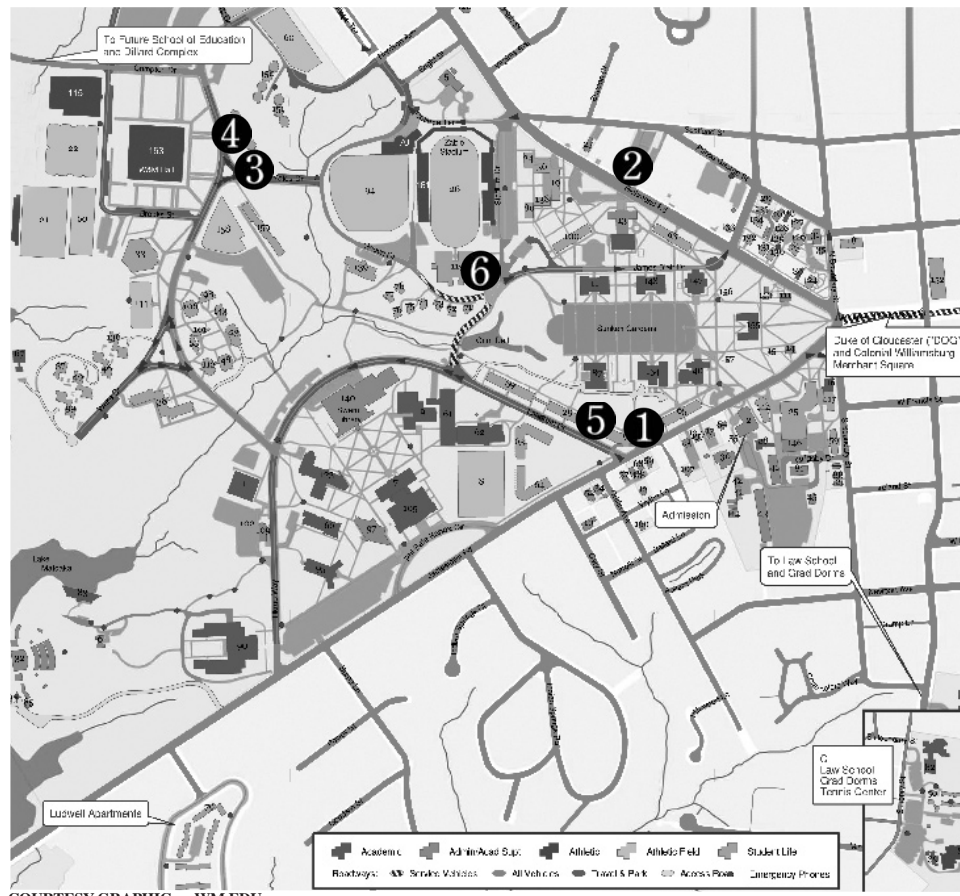
"Shaun White winning gold last night."

Lindsey Nicolai '12

— photos and interviews by Caitlin Fairchild

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

February 9 to February 16



COURTESY GRAPHIC — WM.EDU

- 1 **Wednesday, Feb. 10** — An individual reported a bike stolen from Barrett Hall. The estimated value was \$250.
- 2 **Thursday, Feb. 11** — A student was arrested for allegedly being drunk in public on the 300 block of Richmond Road.
- 3 — A student was arrested for allegedly being drunk in public on Yates Dr.
- 4 **Friday, Feb. 12** — A student was arrested for an alleged assault in Fraternity Unit B.
- 5 — An individual reported vandalism to a bike rack and bicycles near Barrett Hall. Estimated damage was at least \$20.
- 6 **Monday, Feb. 15** — An individual reported the theft of a parking decal from a car parked near the Sadler Center. Estimated value of the decal is \$153.

— compiled by Maggie Reeb

Student Assembly debates free newspapers for students

Act would provide copies of national newspapers available throughout campus

By REBECCA PHILLIPS
The Flat Hat

The College of William and Mary Student Assembly passed the Consolidated Reserve Interest Act and discussed the Get With the Times Act. The Consolidated Reserve Interest Act endorses the writing of a letter to College President Taylor Reveley and the Board of Visitors advocating that interest accrued on the Consolidated Reserve Fund be placed in the "Save a Professor" account. The Get With the Times Act would use consolidated reserve funds to dis-

tribute 200 copies of national newspapers daily throughout campus. "This is one of the best proposals I've heard about how to spend this money," Sen. Curt Mills '13 said. Sen. Betty Jeanne Manning '12 cited the success of last year's Collegiate Readership Act during her proposal and explained that this year's plan is considerably cheaper. There was debate over which newspaper should be delivered, whether to subscribe for the remainder of the semester or the entire year and which buildings should be used as drop-off locations. Previously, a poll conducted by the SA

showed that 64 percent of students would like The New York Times to be available on campus. The Washington Post was also among student favorites, while USA Today was the least popular option. Purchasing newspapers for the remainder of the semester would cost approximately \$17,000 for The Washington Post, \$20,000 for The New York Times and \$18,500 for a hybrid plan, which would bring 100 copies of each publication to campus each day. Sen. Imad Matini '11 advocated for the hybrid plan. "For only \$1,500 more, we can please more people," Matini said. Manning said that while it would be simpler to subscribe for the 2010-2011 year, it would cost the same as subscribing for the remainder of the 2009-2010

school year. Sen. Noah Kim '13 expressed concern that bringing two national newspapers to campus might diminish student publication readership. "It would push out student publications," Kim said. A senator noted that by January 2011, The New York Times will begin charging for full access to its website. Sen. Steven Nelson '10 said the SA should not spend money on a newspaper that campus can read for free for the rest of 2010. He added that the Post is more relevant to students since more people at the College are connected to the Washington, D.C. area and its classifieds section might be better-suited to student needs. In response to the suggestion that

this initiative was not environmentally friendly, Manning plans to place signs at newspaper distribution points asking students to return newspapers when they are finished reading. The bill will be discussed in committee before a final decision is reached. In other business, bike locks can now be purchased at the William and Mary Police Station and the Sadler Center thanks to the newly implemented Bicycle Theft Prevention Act. Chairman Ben Brown '11 also told the senate that the Ping Pong Provision of the Purposeful Playing Act II, which passed last week, is proceeding as planned. He intends to purchase the ping pong balls and containers for the Sadler Center and the Campus Center this week and have them installed by next week.

Council election favors incumbants

By MAGGIE REEB
Flat Hat News Editor

Nearly 2,000 students voted in the 2010-2011 Undergraduate Honor Council elections Monday. Students selected Hobbs Crockett '13, Justin Duke '13, Julian Harrison '13, Ben Migdol '13, Mirin Park '13, Nicole Rugayo '13, Alice Shaughnessy '13 and

David Zavelsky '13 to serve as class of 2013 representatives. Jason Gangwer '12, Will Hoing '12, Rachel Johnson '12, Kathleen Murphy '12, George Popps '12, Eric Robinson '12, Zara Staci '12 and Lina Yeh '12 will serve as juniors on the council. The class of 2012 returned six incumbants. Representing the class of 2011 are Justin de Benedictis-Kessner '11, Brian Focarino '11, Skyler Halbritter '11, Will Perkins '11, John Pothan '11, Andy Rudd '11, Jennifer Stolz '11 and Kathryn Stuart '11. Seven incumbants return to the council. Only Tyler Rutter '11, who was replaced by Stolz, did not seek reelection. Due to a glitch, the exact voting percentages were not available at the time of print.

CW, College set economic agenda

New marketing campaign targets national audience

TOURISM from page 1

Campbell said. "But there is reason to be optimistic as we look ahead." Difficult economic times have led to increased cooperation. "The College has certainly taken a more active role in efforts to market the region and promote William and Mary as an important partner of the Historic Triangle," College spokesman Brian Whitson said in an e-mail. "Working together with our colleagues from different agencies — and finding opportunities to join our efforts for the greater good — is a priority for [College] President [Taylor] Reveley." An economic recovery agenda is in place, which incorporates the College's support. "We currently meet monthly with our public relations and marketing colleagues at Colonial Williamsburg and the city," Whitson said. "It's not a formal meeting but simply an opportunity to gather over coffee and discuss what we're working on, talk through upcoming projects, and think about where we might be able to join forces." City spokesperson Kate Hoving participates in monthly meetings with marketing and public relations representatives from the College, CW and the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism

Alliance to share information and ideas about ways to promote the city. "The College has always been a part of the destination's marketing efforts, but this partnership is a real asset and another way we can work together," Hoving said. In January, CW launched a new national marketing campaign called "Be Part of the Story." "Advertising is designed to inspire national audiences to discover the breadth of Colonial Williamsburg's offerings," CW Director of Public Affairs Tom Shrout said. The Economic Development Authority has also taken a part of the recovery by starting monthly business roundtables, which support local businesses by hearing their concerns and ideas. GWCTA Director Linda Stanier said the Alliance is working to move CW tourism forward. "We have proposed that [the] Williamsburg Area Destination Marketing Committee undertake a research study of competitive destinations and their marketing initiatives — and have pledged \$10,000 in seed money for that research" she said. CW's low tourism rate should be a reason for concern, according to Hoving. "Tourism and its impact on the local economy is something that affects everyone," she said.

McDonnell announces education cuts

By MIKE CRUMP
Flat Hat News Editor

Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell announced a series of further state budget cuts Wednesday that will decrease funding to higher education-related programs by \$29.4 million over the next two years. "We face an historic budget shortfall in the commonwealth," he said at a press conference. "These budget decisions are among the toughest I have had to make in public service."

Education for Virginia, a state-sponsored advisory body for issues dealing with higher education, will have its administrative budget cut 50 percent, or \$1.5 million. The organization recommends policy to the governor and General Assembly about Virginia public colleges and universities. Four higher education centers, which work in partnership with state schools to award degrees to non-traditionally aged students, will have their operations budgets cut, with a proposed 15 percent reduction at each institution. This will save the state \$1.3 million. Other major cuts to Virginia higher education include a \$19.8 million cut over two years to the Tuition Assistance Grant Program — reducing coverage to students eligible for financial aid — and the elimination of a \$6.8 million program to attract well-known scholars to Virginia colleges and universities. In his address, McDonnell called for a moratorium on cuts to higher education following this round of budget cuts, due to major cuts sustained by state institutions over the past several years

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Triangle Retail Project garners reserved support from meeting Williamsburg residents and business owners express their concerns

TRIANGLE from page 1

two are vacant, and all three of the properties are owned by either the

College or the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation.

The William and Mary Real Estate Foundation is a private

entity formed in 2006 with the goal of developing real estate for the College.

Twenty-nine parking spaces would be available behind the completed building. As of now, students would not be permitted to use those spots.

"To live there you have to be able to park on campus," Nester said. "I think that was non-negotiable."

When the floor opened to public comment, one local resident questioned where the residents of the mixed-use building would park when they move in and out of their dorm.

Greene Leafé Café owner Glenn Gormley '84 M.B.A.'89 spoke in favor of the proposal.

"I'm really supporting what the College is doing here," he said. "I think it is a vital thing, not so much for the College — I think [the College can say,] 'We've been here for over 300 years, and we'll be here tomorrow, too' — but for the businesses on Scotland Street."

The Green Leafé has two locations: one in New Town and one downtown on Scotland Street. The downtown location draws in less money than its New Town counterpart, according to Gormley.

"If you walk from where my business is now down [to the] Prince George Street area, you see a lot of businesses going out of business," he said. "I

don't know that we're going to be here next year, and I really hope the city [does] something here to help."

Gormley said the College is essential to business revitalization in the area.

"Nothing can help the city more than the College," he said. "The city was founded because the College is here. That's why the city survived — let's make no bones about that."

The planning commission's primary concern was the height of the proposed building. Gormley said he is confident the College will construct a sound structure.

"The College is only going to build a quality building," Gormley said. "I'm not going to get into the height thing — that's all your guys's baby. You know the College only builds good stuff."

Student Assembly representative Emily Gottschalk-Marconi '11 was the only student to speak at the meeting.

"I just wanted to echo my support for the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation's proposal," she said. "I know that as a student, and speaking on behalf of the students, we really appreciate all the efforts to increase economic development for the city and find ways that we can also support the city."

Gottschalk-Marconi expressed desire for more areas for students to eat, work and shop.

"I think it would be essen-

tial to have not only housing so close but other venues where we could contribute to the economy," she said.

Despite Gormley and Gottschalk-Marconi's support, several Williamsburg residents opposed the Triangle Project. One cited the difficulty of driving a car down Richmond and Jamestown Roads, and expressed a desire for sororities and the Campus Center to move on campus.

Other concerns included the building's large size, the types of stores within the building, retail hours of operation, the building's storm water draining and the lighting nearby buildings will have from the property's parking area.

"If we're too tough about this, we may lose the whole game," planning commission member William Kafes said regarding the concerns.

Kafes said the Triangle Project would give the city more control over the area. Currently, there is nothing to stop the state government from taking the property through eminent domain or otherwise.

"I believe this building makes sense," planning commission member Sean Driscoll said. "It addresses a lot of the needs we've been talking about for the last three, four, five, six years in terms of ... working to create more student housing. From an economic standpoint, I'd love to see a couple great businesses in there. I'm not as concerned about parking."

Driscoll downplayed the parking issue, doubting whether all 56 students would have cars and suggesting that the majority of the College student population probably did not own cars or did not bring their cars from home.

"We need to look for more op-

portunities to address student housing down the road," he said.

The planning commission raised a handful of questions of its own.

Planning commission member Jim Joseph expressed concerns about tax revenue, the look of the skyline from Richmond Road and Scotland Street after the building's completion and the opinions of Wawa and the Williamsburg Baptist Church, which would be the building's neighbors.

"We have more homework left to do," Joseph said. "We don't want anything that is going to be detrimental to the street."

Joseph said he was certain the student population would not be enough to sustain the potential businesses and expressed a need to appeal to city residents. He emphasized, however, that he was in favor of the plan.

"I'm not against this project," he said. "I think it is a great one."

Planning Commission Chairman Douglas Pons agreed.

"I think we would all agree that it is a good one," he said.

One concern was whether the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation would have the right to sell the property in the future if it faced financial difficulty. Some residents felt that the College should have permanent control of the property.

The planning commission acknowledges that the concerns of the local residents must be addressed. An underlying concern was that the College had something it was hiding in its rezoning proposal.

"We need to make sure that everyone feels that there is clear disclosure," Pons said.

The planning commission will work out the intricacies of the project at its March meeting.

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OPINIONS

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Election imperfection

The honor system of the College of William and Mary composes the backbone of our character as an institution. It's the embodiment of our founding ideals, and something of which we are proud to be a part. But despite being the oldest system of its kind in the country, it is still imperfect. That fact was again highlighted by yesterday's Honor Council elections, the current structure of which amounts to nothing more than a simple popularity contest.

The Honor Council's electoral process was established with the best of intentions. Candidates are not allowed to campaign; no information is released about them until election day, on which a short personal statement and picture are listed next to their name on the ballot. The motive here is to create, without the pomp and glad-handing of campaigning, an election based purely on merit.

The effect is exactly opposite: So little is known about the candidates that voting based on superficial aspects — name recognition or, sure, even attractiveness — seem encouraged. What substantive information is provided comes in a deluge. Asking students to read 200 words per candidate before voting, when there are up to 30 students running for the eight freshmen seats, lengthens the process to an almost absurd degree.

This is a poor system. It short changes substance in favor of quick, unconsidered decisions, and should not be a part of forming our otherwise reputable Honor Council. The reason it remains in use is because it is difficult to pinpoint a precise improvement. Inviting any campaign into the process is opposed to the ideal of blind, impartial justice.

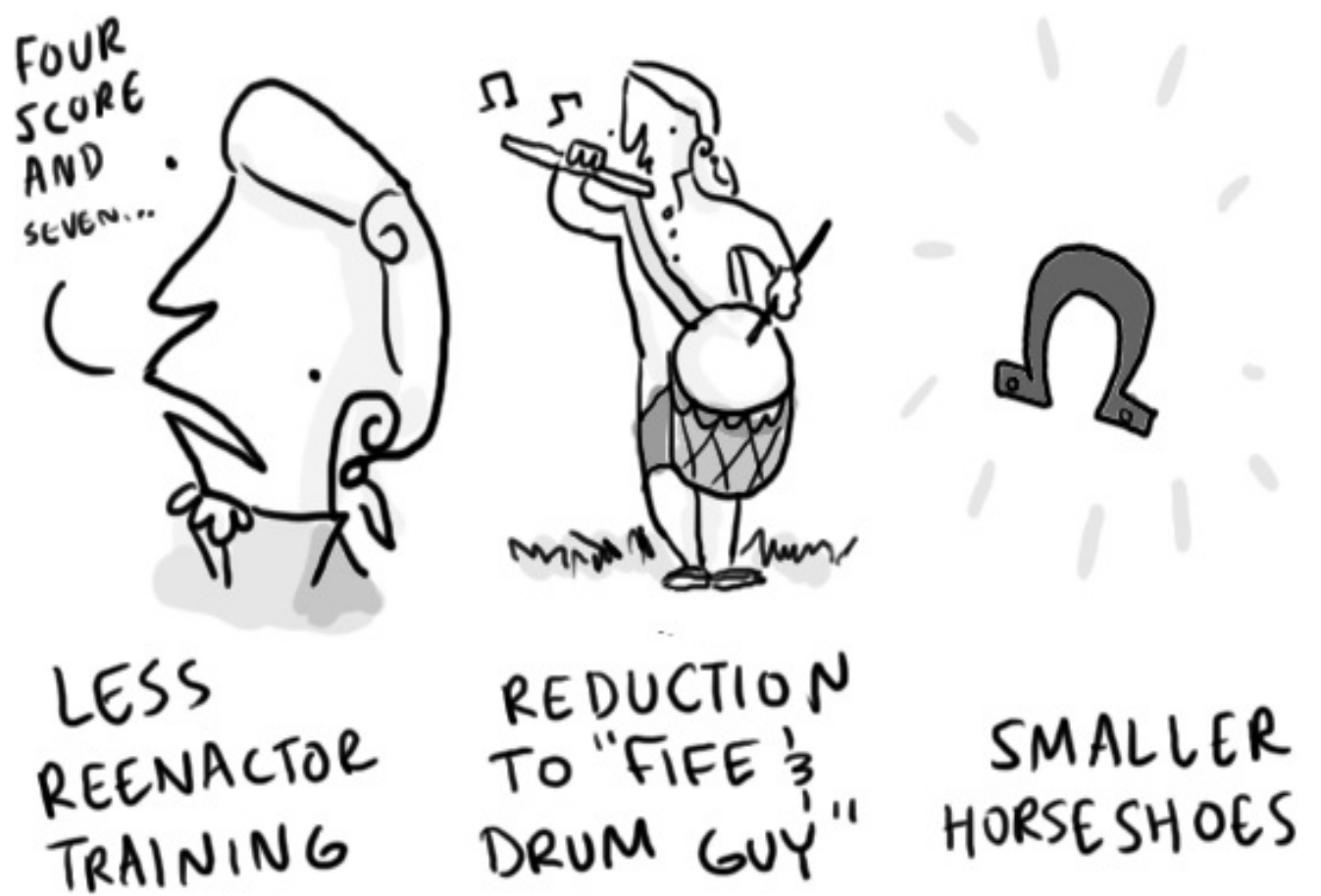
But there are options. Releasing the candidates' personal statements before the election itself, instead of only having them available during the process of voting, would help to ensure people actually read them. Better yet, introducing a forum discussion, in which students could hear and question each candidate, would be a welcome change. Yes, this introduces an element of politicization, but it would ultimately lead to a more informed voting process.

We don't pretend to have the perfect answer in either these suggestions. There may, in fact, be no ideal candidate, which is why the Honor Council trains its candidates so extensively. Each is put through an extensive 45-day training process in preparation for service, perhaps in recognition that whoever is selected won't be perfect. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't also strive to select those students best suited for the job, regardless of training.

Amending the election process will not be an easy process, as anyone who remembers the Honor Council's recent bylaw revision attempt will attest. But we shouldn't allow that to forestall this change. An investigative committee — with contribution from the Honor Council, Student Assembly, at-large students and faculty members, but comprised mainly of students — should be created to weigh these and other options. They should try to compose a voting system worthy of the country's oldest honor system, and surely that's a lofty goal, but providing some improvement couldn't be hard. Anything's better than just voting on a picture and a blurb.

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, Andy Henderson and Kevin Mooney. 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.

C-W CUTS COSTS



BY OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

Students may get head start with early exit

Ed Innace

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



This week a plan was announced that has the ability to alter a fundamental structure of American society. And no, I'm not referring to one South Carolinian lawmaker's attempt to create a new state-wide currency. Kentucky, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Connecticut are adopting a plan that would allow high school sophomores to receive their diplomas two years early. These students — who must first pass several tests — would be able to enroll in community colleges, enter the work force, or continue taking courses in order to enter a selective four-year institution. This plan will be tested next year in a few dozen schools across the eight states.

This sort of institutional change was recommended in a 2006 report published by the National Center on Education and the Economy. The report proposed a broad range of institutional reforms as means to ensure American competitiveness in the global economy, an accomplishment that can only be achieved by technological and intellectual leadership that requires a highly educated population. Citing the dismal educational rankings of America's workforce, the NCEE proposed radical changes to our educational system. Of these, one was a high school education based on performance rather than on credit hours.

This is the system some states will implement next year. It would require students to pass board examinations testing a set of academic standards that have yet to be developed, thus ensuring they are prepared to graduate. If they are not, they must continue course work and take the test again at a later date.

This plan has many merits. It offers diverse educational options to different students with different abilities and goals,

as opposed to the current system, which funnels them all onto the same path. It will also raise the academic standards for high school students, who must complete in two years what currently takes four. When faced with these higher expectations, most students will perform at a superior level because, at least in my experience, intellectual capacity is not what is lacking in many underperforming students. Rather, it is complacency or a perceived lack of purpose that is the problem. This program would show students a clear relationship between effort and advancement, giving those eager to leave high school, either for the work force or higher education, an incentive to excel.

An additional benefit is the money that would be saved, since fewer students would stay in high school for four years. This could be a great help for cash-strapped states with ballooning K-12 education commitments. But this consideration should not trump what should be the main goal of the plan: namely, superior educational achievement.

This is a real fear. Utah legislators are toying around with a proposal that would abolish 12th grade, with seemingly no strategy to change the quality of the remaining three grades. There, at least, financial considerations won the day.

It is unclear if the more comprehensive education proposals will also suffer from this mindset. It should be noted that the two-year graduation option was only one of several proposals the NCEE report recommended. The report specifically stated that simply adopting the two-year plan would not be enough to affect educational improvement. Among other proposals, they view the hiring of better educated teachers and changing their pay structure as important steps. These moves might be financially and politically more costly, and we can only wait to see if the states will adhere to them. If they do, we can conclude they are serious about true educational reform. If they do not, and they have made no intimation to the contrary, it may be that they are simply looking for a way to reduce expenditures at the student's expense.

E-mail Ed Innace at einnace@wm.edu.

This program would show students a clear relationship between effort and advancement, encouraging an incentive to excel.

For Foster, winning student votes means putting substance over style

Zach Marcus

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST



Finally, one of our own is going to be on the Williamsburg City Council. This is the general consensus that appears to be circulating in the classrooms and dorm rooms of the College of William and Mary. But is this the case? Let's examine the facts and see what Scott Foster '10 himself has to say about this issue.

More than 1,000 people — mostly current students — are fans on Facebook of Foster's candidacy, but nowhere on the page does it say that Foster is a student, except in small blurbs where The Flat Hat says so.

Also missing from the Facebook page are policy positions of any kind. On his campaign website, Foster does say he is a student at the College, but no policy initiatives or problems he would address are mentioned. We are expected to believe that Foster will work in our best interest

because he is one of us for the next few months, but we have no way of knowing because he has made no campaign promises for which we can hold him accountable. If he is elected under the current circumstances, we have no control over his agenda. We as students would have no right to complain if he misrepresents our opinions because we are not holding him to the standard we would expect from any other candidate.

Clearly, Foster assumes that his status as an undergraduate at this institution entitles him to the votes of all undergraduates registered in Williamsburg. John McCain used this logic when he picked Sarah Palin as his running mate in the vain hope that she would bring female voters over to the Republican camp. As the shellacking McCain took on Election Day shows, women are not so naive. Policy positions do, and should, matter.

I urge Foster not to make this same mistake. If he were to come out with an outline of the policy initiatives he plans to enact during his term on city council; if he were to show

us how he would convince the other members to support these initiatives we would have something to look at and discuss. Then, with the full set of facts, we would be able to make an informed decision about whether or not to support Foster in his bid to be on city council.

I want to support Foster's candidacy for city council. I think it would be highly beneficial to the student body and to the city at large to have a representative who speaks for the students of the College on the council to address our issues and concerns.

It is clear to me that a candidate such as Sean Driscoll would clearly not be better for students, given his track record on the planning commission. That does not mean, however, that Foster has a monopoly on student-friendly policies. If another candidate came out strongly in support of student rights in the city, by all means, we should vote for that candidate.

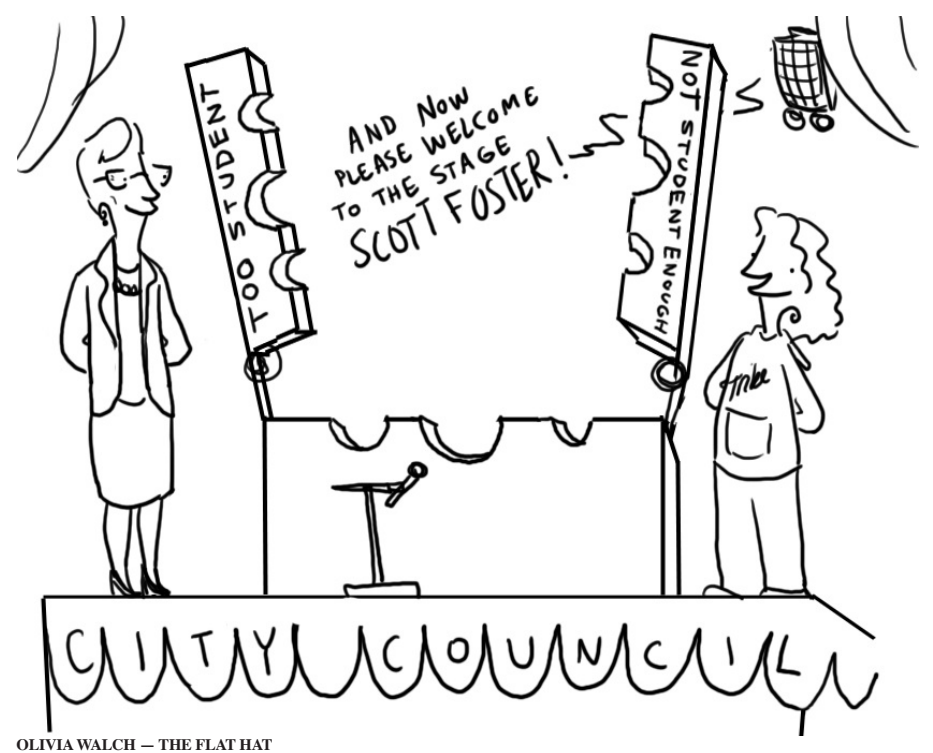
Let me repeat that Foster is the student body's greatest chance for having a voice in the City Council.

However, he owes it to all students and city residents to actually come out with policy initiatives that would convince us to vote for him.

I'll be waiting, and I urge the rest

of the student body to withhold support of the Foster campaign until he does have a platform firmly in the public eye.

E-mail Zach Marcus at zjmarcus@wm.edu.



OLIVIA WALCH — THE FLAT HAT

VARIETY

Variety Editor Jessica Gold
flathat.variety@gmail.com

AIDS gets personal

Second Season delivers cliched support but strong leads in 'Before it Hits Home'

By IAN GOODRUM
The Flat Hat

In the years since its first case was reported, the HIV epidemic hasn't really gone away. New treatments have been discovered, of course, but there is still little that can prepare someone for the shock of a positive diagnosis.

Coping with the situation is difficult enough for the victim, but having to deal with a family who reacts to the news with anger, ignorance or fear makes the deadly struggle even worse. These are the tribulations of one deeply conflicted man in Cheryl West's play "Before it Hits Home," produced by Jason Blackwell '10 for the College of William and Mary's Second Season.

As the lights go up we are introduced to Wendal, played by Logan Scott '13. Wendal a musician in the throes of supreme confidence, undeterred by the telltale coughs and lesions slowly pointing to a fatal prognosis.

As the symptoms become more and more intrusive, Wendal realizes he must tell the people he treasures most what has happened — his lovers, Simone (Cienna Wesley '12), and Douglass (Randall Taylor '08), and his family: his mother Reba, father Bailey, brother Junior and son Dwayne.

His growing physical pain and his family's emotional trauma after he breaks the news comprise the bulk of the story, and presumably the bulk of the drama.

Unfortunately for this cast and crew, West did not provide the depth necessary to tell such a story. The characters the play presents are outlets for these themes, but are largely caricatures. With the exceptions of Wendal, Bailey and Reba, who defy type and convention, the characters in "Before it Hits Home" may as well have been

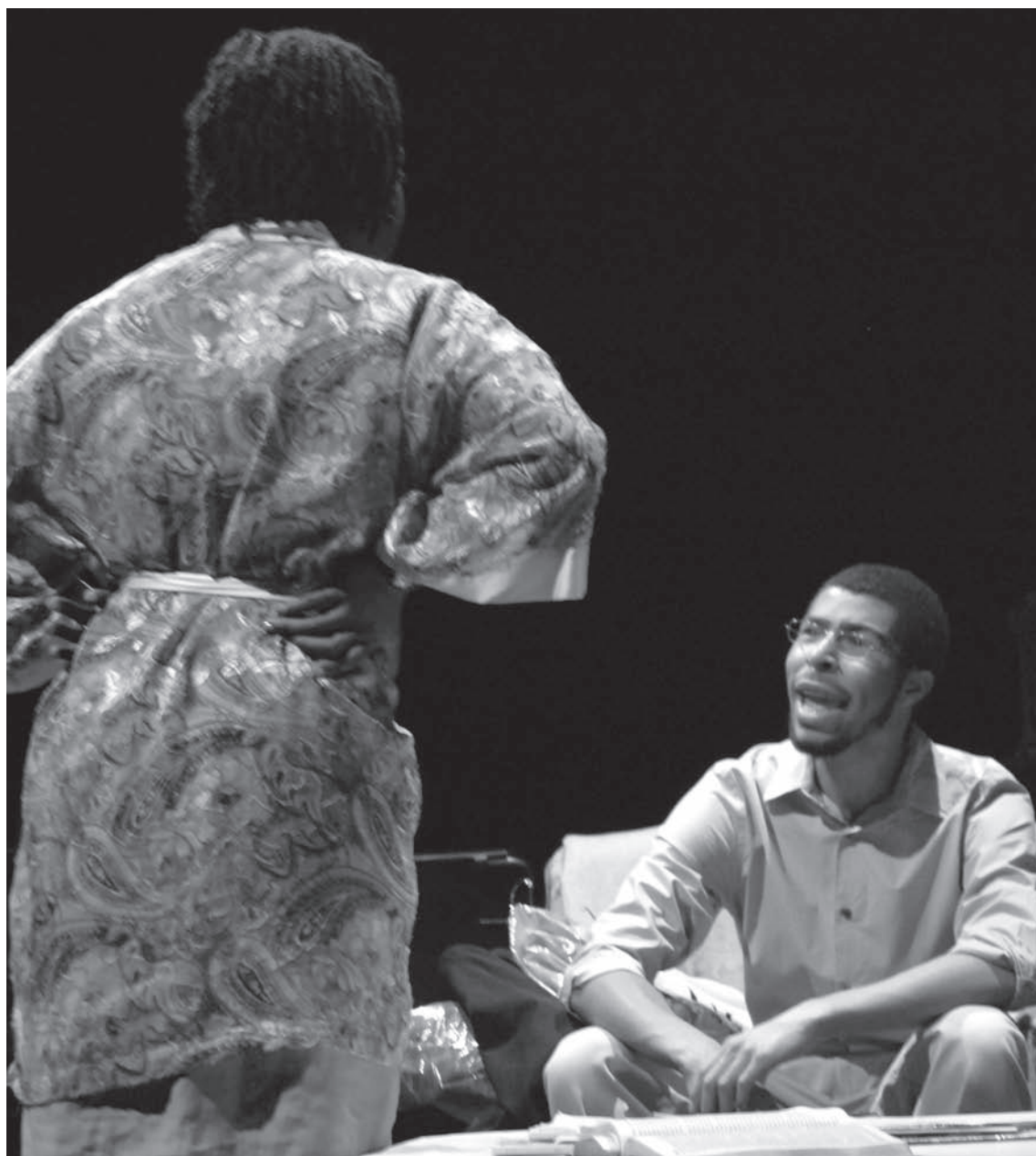
cut out of cardboard. There are parts of West that have been done to death: the worried lover, the doctor who's seen it all before. West makes no effort to infuse these people with any characteristics that are recognizably human. Yet, the actors do their best to inhabit these roles, and several of them shine through the stereotypes.

One actor worth looking out for is Jamar Jones '13 as Junior, the army brother, who hides his fear of the unknown beneath a mask of posturing and bluster. Also superb is Regenea Hurte as the family friend and neighbor whose good humor and optimism stand in stark contrast to her phobic reaction to Wendal's disease. And in a small but memorable role, Eden Stuart '13 plays an HIV patient who meets Wendal in the hospital and shows Wendal the cost of his imminent diagnosis.

Despite — or perhaps because of — the cliched characters in the supporting cast, the leads are that much more compelling. Scott gives us a marvelously layered Wendal, who exudes confidence and style at the outset; his transformation into a weak and helpless invalid never feels forced or unnatural. He struggles with the truth, accepts it, succumbs to it, and watches his life fall apart over the course of two acts — and it is absolutely heart-breaking.

Ashley Ward '12 also excels as Reba, whose kindness and understanding in the first act belie the erupting volcano she becomes in the second. Bailey (Renzy Bryant '09) is Wendal's troubled, angry father, who seems ready to lash out at his son at a moment's notice. When the truth comes out, the nuances of his response subvert audience expectations and are fascinating to behold.

The acting in this production is inspired enough to make the trite characters a minor flaw, which is no easy task, but the play seems determined to dull the talent present. The first act is plagued



DYLAN MURRAY — THE FLAT HAT

The College's Second Season is putting on "Before it Hits Home," written by Cheryl West and produced by Jason Blackwell '10. The production opened last night.

with bland dialogue, an excess of characters, and a meandering plot that stubbornly refuses to tread new ground until midway through.

Although the first half boasts one of the more clever devices of the play — a conversation between Wendal and his two lovers that takes place in separate bedrooms — it dwells on

Wendal's diagnosis longer than necessary and has very little tension to break up the monotony. By the second act, however, a time bomb has been placed in the room, and every audience member knows it. The conflict appears so quickly, and

See **SECOND SEASON** page 7



DYLAN MURRAY — THE FLAT HAT

"Before it Hits Home" tells the story of a young man named Wendal (Logan Scott '13) who is diagnosed with HIV and must deal with the pain of the epidemic as well as the pain in his family as he tells them the news. Wendal's angry father Bailey, played by Renzy Bryant '09 [SECOND FROM LEFT IN LEFT PHOTO] creates nuances in his character that lash out in the first act and soften up in the second.



Rappers set to bring spring act

By MARY BONNEY AND
JILL FOUND
The Flat Hat

In his own words: "My name's Wale, and I came to get it." Rapper Wale will be chillin' in the 'Burg when he performs at AMP's spring concert at the College of William and Mary on Friday, April 9.

The rap-infused spring concert will be a considerable change from the folk-rock of Carbon Leaf and pop-rock of Sleeperstar at AMP's welcome back concert, as well as from the Robert Randolph and the Family Band and

indie performer Ace Enders at the Homecoming concert. This change is welcomed by rap fans at the College.

"I think it's great that William and Mary is getting big-time rap artists to come to campus," Jonathon Futa '13 said.

While AMP has yet to publicly confirm the performers, dates have been released on K'Naan's official website, which lists the College as one of the stops on his tour with Wale.

"Contracts are still in works, but we are talking to their agents," AMP Music Committee Chair Seira Nakagawa '10 said.

K'Naan was the main goal for AMP's spring concert, with Wale as a fortuitous addition.

"Originally we were talking about bringing only K'Naan, but the other acts have the same agent," Nakagawa said. "[Their agent] said K'Naan is going to be touring with Wale and two other supporting acts, so we were really lucky that we came up with more acts for the spring concert."

Washington, D.C. rapper Wale first rose to prominence in the go-go scene, a genre of dance music popular in the capital which has evolved from the go-go music of the 1970s.

His 2005 mixtape, "Paint a Picture," is strongly go-go, but the majority of his work since 2006 has been more straightforward rap with a go-go influence. His first major album, "Attention Deficit," was released in 2009 with primarily positive reviews, reaching number two on Billboard Rap Albums and number 21 on the Billboard 200. The lead single "Chillin'," featuring Lady Gaga, reached 99 on the Billboard Hot 100.

Even though Wale has mainly reached fame in D.C., students from outside the D.C. metropolitan area

CONFUSION CORNER

Awkward passing moments

Jason Rogers

CONFUSION CORNER
COLUMNIST



It's the most uncomfortable moment of your day. You're walking past the Sunken Garden on your way home from History of Anthropological Theory when out of the corner of your eye, you see someone walking in your direction. You quickly glance up and panic strikes — it's the guy or girl who sits behind you in your lecture.

Now normally, this wouldn't be too terrifying an event. But you have encountered a situation that can turn even the most suave among us into the proverbial deer in headlights: the awkward walk-by greeting with that person you sort-of, kind-of know.

Your brain goes into full panic mode. Do you pretend to not even see them? Did they see that you saw them? Should you stop and say hello, or seem busy and keep walking? And where for the love of God is your phone so you can pretend like you're texting?

Well, my friends, fear not, for I am here to provide you with the right moves for any walk-by greeting situation, guaranteed to make sure you don't end up babbling in front of Barrett Hall like an idiot.

Situation One: The cute girl from your lecture is walking towards you. You've already made eye contact, so there's no turning back at this point. You know her name; she might not know yours. What do you do?

Answer: You can't fake like you didn't see her, so you may as well wave from far away. This eliminates that uncomfortable tension, and makes you seem cheerful. When she gets closer, play it off like you're struggling to find her name. "You are ... Sarah, right?" You make her feel special while still playing it cool like you haven't been fantasizing about her every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 to 2:50 p.m.

As for conversation, try ragging on the professor. Is it fair? Probably not, but it will instantly give you something to talk about. "Isn't Professor Smith so boring?" It's a time-honored tradition: Make fun of those who aren't there to defend themselves. This should provide you with about 30 seconds of material, just enough to allow you a smooth escape with, "Well, I'm supposed to be meeting a friend, but I'll see you in class." Boom. Like a pro.

Situation Two: Your arch-nemesis — and if you have one at 20 years old, reevaluate your life — is quickly

See **AVOIDANCE** page 7



COURTESY PHOTOS — ALLTHINGSGO.COM

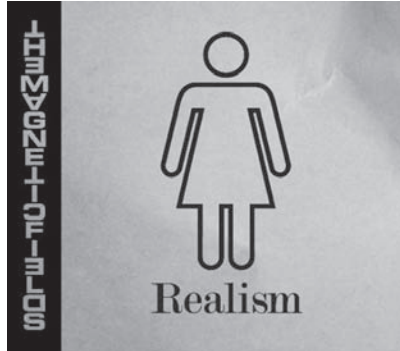
Rapper Wale is scheduled to perform at the College for AMP's spring concert on Friday, April 9.

See **CONCERT** page 7

ON THE RECORD

REALISM THE MAGNETIC FIELDS

"Realism," the latest album from The Magnetic Fields, covers up a well-known fact of indie pop: The genius of Stephin Merritt's song writing cannot be denied. This latest effort is a far cry from those created during the glory days of The



Magnetic Fields. While it's still as charming as Merritt's high points, this album seems somewhat contrived and, in a completely un-Merritt-like manner, stale.

The album starts strong with a throwback to the band's early days, highlighting Merritt's ability to turn an insult into an art form, with

lines like, "I want you crawling back to me/ Down on your knees, yeah/ Like an appendectomy/ Sans anesthesia."

Even though this sticks out as a sweet pop gem, it's nothing new from The Magnetic Fields: just a reworking of the lyrics and melodies Merritt has droned before, but as gleeful as ever. This continues on "Everything is One Big Christmas Tree," where he offers some perfect advice for your everyday TWAMP: "Stop mumbling and cheer up/ Put down the book, pick beer up," and throws in a few lines in German for good measure, making it the only truly good and original song on "Realism."

For all the glories of "Realism," there are just as many downfalls. On "We Are Having a Hootenanny," Merritt's usually beautifully crafted madness seems forced, dampening what is supposed to be a rousing good time of a song. "The Dolls' Tea Party," is probably one of The Magnetic Fields' worst songs, a twee chamber pop melody about, well, tea parties. "The Dada Polka," mixes the very worst of both Dada and polka, creating an outrageous mesh of confusion and grating melodies.

"Realism" claims to be a folk pop album, a counterbalance to the noise pop of their last effort, "Distortion." But it falls short of that in more than a few places, creating a hodgepodge of classic Magnetic Fields pop and some tired, simply just bizarre songs.

★★★★☆ — by Jill Found

NINE SOUNDTRACK VARIOUS ARTISTS

As the Academy Awards approach, I'm reminded of the great injustice that occurs each year when several very good films, including "Invictus" and "The Road," are overlooked. However, none have been quite as maltreated as the movie "Nine." Directed by Rob Marshall, director of the hit film "Chicago," "Nine" musically leaps into the hedonistic flair and fashion we have come to associate with Italy.

Director Guido Contini, played by Daniel Day-Lewis, looks to recover from a series of flops by artistically unfolding the Italian psyche across the silver screen. Throughout the film, Contini reflects on his childhood, particularly on the various women who act as the cornerstone to his success. Sensual, racy, "Nine" will make you sweat — and cause male viewers to consider purchasing a trim, black Armani suit.

However, "Nine" also stretches for almost three hours, and if you don't have the time to spare, I encourage you to check out the soundtrack. I've never been a follower of hip-hop, but Fergie's performance demands respect. Her song, "Be Italian," suggests an underlying, amorous heat that flows through the veins of all Italian men. The mandolins and tambourines, combined with Fergie's surprisingly rich tone, make for a song that embodies European eroticism. Penelope Cruz plays the seductive role of Contini's mistress and muse. Her song, ironically entitled "A Call from the Vatican," presents a burlesque playfulness that will make men quiver. Despite the movie's perhaps overdone sensuality, it also portrays more serious matters, such as the failing marriage of Guido Contini and his wife, played by Marion Cotillard. She admires her husband's artistic talents and sings of her desire to be more present in his life, in the song "My Husband Makes Movies." Listening to the soundtrack of the film "Nine" is a journey within itself. This musical combination of the erotic, lighthearted, hurtful, and bleak succeeds in doing what Contini envisions for his new film.



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★★★★☆ — by Barrett Mohrmann

Play falls short of a full home run

SECOND SEASON from page 6

without warning, that one almost wonders where the first half of this play went.

"Before it Hits Home" is not a perfect play, but with a strong cast and Blackwell's inventive staging, the jagged narrative gains shape and focus, molding a half-formed story into an effective, if uneven, modern

tragedy. The AIDS outbreak may have fallen out of favor with the modern media, but in the rough-hewn drama of this production, there is an authenticity and an anguish that no news report could hope to provide.

The show will be playing Friday and Saturday at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall with shows at 8 p.m.



DYLAN MURRAY — THE FLAT HAT
Regeneia Hurte and Ashley Ward '12 give superb performances in "Before it Hits Home" as the mother, Reba, and a neighbor.



COURTESY PHOTO — MELBOMUSIC.COM
K'Naan performs international hip-hop and has worked with many different genres of artists. He and Wale will tour together this spring and summer.

AMP lands rap artists

Wale and K'Naan to appear in spring concert

CONCERT from page 6

are well acquainted with him.

"Being a huge Wale fan, I'm giddy that a D.C. icon will be here," Matthew Avera '13, a Boston native, said.

Rapper K'Naan has a more international feel to his music, differing considerably from Wale's D.C.-centric style. K'Naan was born in Somalia and lived through the Somali civil war. He later moved to Canada with his family. He took the performance name K'Naan, which means "traveler" in Somali. His

music combines Bob Marley's style with socially-conscious American hip-hop and protest poetry, and he collaborates with countless artists from Keane to Mos Def. His song "Wavin' Flag" has been selected as the 2010 Coca-Cola World Cup theme song.

The two artists will be performing together in Baltimore, Md. April 3 and in D.C. April 8 while touring the country throughout the spring and summer.

AMP will be releasing more information once the contracts have been finalized.



COURTESY PHOTO — ABMNEWYORK.COM
Rapper Wale's songs are infused with go-go music from his native D.C. though he has a more traditional rap style than his co-headliner K'Naan.

Surviving Sunken Garden encounters

AVOIDANCE from page 6

approaching. You've made eye contact — shit! — and it would be too obvious if you suddenly changed your direction. What do you do?

Answer: Lie your ass off. We're assuming you can't find your phone to fake a phone call, but that doesn't mean you can't fake a friendship. Just when the crucial moment is about arrive when you have to either say hello or punch them in the face, look directly over their shoulder — hopefully toward a group of people — and shout a name. Any name. Heck, try your own name. That

ought to confuse them. The point is, it will imply that you're getting the attention of a friend, and while this will draw attention from other people, your enemy will not want to appear like a creeper by turning around to look.

Then you slink away, suddenly wishing you were popular enough to actually have friends around.

Situation Three: The douchebag from your freshman hall is swaggering toward you, Von Dutch hat cocked at an angle you could carve a roast on, Ed Hardy T-shirt giving the finger to good taste. He's seen you and already has one arm

out, ready to elaborately dap you up in a handshake only he thinks is cool. What do you do?

Answer: Run. Who cares about how bad it looks; that guy's the worst!

So there you have it, three fail-safe escape plans to handle even the most awkward of social situations with grace and panache. Don't be afraid to cross our beloved campus, and remember: No one will interrupt you if you're texting. Trust me.

Jason Rogers is a Flat Hat Confusion Corner columnist he fully supports faking phone calls to get out of actually talking to people.

The Flat Hat
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SPORTS

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Pye's 25 points not enough as VCU blows out College

Sophomore guard Taysha Pye poured in 25 points on 10 of 18 shooting, but her nine turnovers stifled the Tribe in a 83-58 road loss to Virginia Commonwealth. The College dropped to 4-10 in the CAA and 11-14 overall with the loss. The Rams shot 54 percent from the field and 50 percent from beyond the arc in front of the home crowd. But it was turnovers that ultimately doomed the College, as the squad coughed up the basketball 24 times to only 10 assists. That sloppiness allowed VCU to build a sizeable lead early on.

LACROSSE

Magazine names Jonson preseason All-American

Junior defender Sarah Jonson was selected to Lacrosse Magazine's preseason All-American team after a year in which she was named as an All-American by WomensLacrosse.com. Jonson's 39 caused turnovers last season set a single-season record for the College. Jonson, a preseason All-CAA selection, caused three turnovers in the season-opening win against 16th-ranked Ohio State.

TENNIS

Orre helps Tribe pull off upset win at no. 48 VCU

The Tribe knocked off 48th-ranked VCU, rallying back to win the second-set tiebreaker and defeat the 11-time CAA Champion Rams 4-3 Wednesday night. Sophomore Iija Orre won for the fourth time in dual-match play, coming back from a 5-2 hole in the second-set tiebreaker to clinch the team victory. Junior Sebastien Vidal and freshman Jamie Whiteford recorded singles victories for the Tribe, as William and Mary also claimed the doubles point to clinch the victory.

ATHLETE FOCUS

DAVID ELLIS
JUNIOR, GYMNAST



The Flat Hat caught up with junior gymnast David Ellis and talked about his love for Boston and Army.

Being from Boston, was it hard to watch the Yankees win the World Series? The Yankees won the World Series this year? I don't spend my time watching standard sporting events (anything without a Boston team in it).

Who is the biggest jokester on the team? Steve Deutsch, without a doubt. I bet he's the only person on campus who can talk down to his coach and not only get away with it, but make him laugh in doing so.

You transferred from Army. Which school has more history? This is honestly a hard question to answer. Some of the biggest decisions in history have been made and influenced by alumni from both West Point and W and M and both have produced multiple American presidents. I consider myself lucky for having attended two of the country's richest colleges, historically speaking.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tribe comeback takes down Mason 63-60

Sumner's last-second block seals win

By MIKE BARNES
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Two weeks ago, William and Mary was reeling from a 19-point road loss at Old Dominion, wondering where its early season magic had gone after dropping four of five games. Sitting a distant sixth place in the CAA, the squad's once bright postseason future suddenly seemed dim.

What a difference two weeks makes.

Tuesday night, the Tribe (19-7, 11-5 CAA) notched its fourth-straight win by overcoming an 11-point halftime deficit to knock off conference front-runner George Mason (16-11, 11-5 CAA) 63-60. The victory vaulted the College into a tie for third place with just two conference games remaining before the CAA tournament.

Senior guard David Schneider scored 15 points, including two crucial free throws in the final seconds, to counter the early George Mason advantage. With a one-point Tribe lead and just seconds to go, senior forward Danny Sumner blocked Cam Long's game-winning attempt in the lane to secure the win.

"It was just a great win," Head Coach Tony Shaver said. "We were disappointed, quite honestly, with how we played in the first half of the ballgame. We challenged the guys a little bit at halftime, and they responded. They came out and played a great second half. They just weren't going to be denied."

The College became the first visiting CAA squad to emerge victorious from the Patriot Center in nearly two years.

At the conclusion of the first half, the

Tribe's prospects did not look bright. Defensively, the College came out sluggish against George Mason's deep, athletic lineup. Kevin Foster, picking up the slack for a suspended Mike Morrisson, scored 12 points for the Patriots in the first half, and Andre Cornelius frustrated the Tribe by sinking three shots from beyond the arc.

To make matters worse, the Tribe's shots weren't falling, as the team converted just 35 percent of its attempts in the opening period.

But after halftime, the College employed a bit of its trademark resiliency and scored the first five points of the second half to pull back into the game.

"It was pretty much a story of two halves," sophomore guard Quinn McDowell said. "We played pretty badly in the first half and came back a lot better in the second half with a lot more effort and a lot better defense. We played better defense overall, and transitions were a big thing. We got killed in the first half on transitions, and that is really George Mason's strength, so we tried to limit that."

After yielding 36 points in the first half, a more physical Tribe squad held the Patriots to just 24 points in the second. The College silenced George Mason's sharpshooters, holding the Patriots without a three-pointer the rest of the way.

"Once we did what we needed to do on the defensive end, I thought we started to get some good offensive looks, and things just kind of went our way in the second half," Sumner said.

The Tribe's offensive numbers im-



KYLE MCMAHON — THE FLAT HAT

Junior center Marcus Kitts pulled down nine rebounds in the Tribe's win at George Mason.

proved significantly, as the College converted 50 percent of its shots from the field, and 45 percent from beyond the arc. Schneider was an offensive force with 11 of his 15 points coming in the final period.

The win was the Tribe's fourth in a row after a midseason slump.

"It's satisfying," Shaver said. "A lot of people gave up on these guys, and we

didn't. The most important thing for us right now is to keep enjoying what we are doing, taking it one day at a time, not talking about the NCAA [tournament]. We have to allow this team to keep enjoying what it is doing without putting extra pressure on them right now."

The victory moved the Tribe into third place in the CAA, in position to receive one of four CAA tournament first-round byes.

BASEBALL SPRING PREVIEW

Young Tribe attempts to move beyond underachieving season

By JACK LAMBERT
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Last season, a veteran William and Mary squad underachieved to the frustration of players, coaches and fans alike. While this year's team will be much younger, Head Coach Frank Leoni feels it is not the Tribe's youth that has made the preseason so invigorating.

"I've had some young teams I haven't cared for; I've had some old teams I haven't cared for. I've had some old teams that I've really loved, and some young teams I've really enjoyed," Leoni said. "I am thoroughly enjoying this team, and I told them last week in practice that I look forward to working with this team every day."

The Tribe will take the field this season with nine upperclassmen on the roster, only two of whom are slated to start on the pre-season depth chart. The pitching staff, with the exception of junior ace Logan Billbrough, will likely consist mostly of freshmen and

sophomores.

"We're going to be much improved defensively and much improved on the mound," Leoni said. "This may be a no-brainer comment, but as the weeks go by, we're going to progress very nicely. We're going to get better and better every week."

The young talent will need to produce early for Leoni and his staff, as the Tribe opens with one of the harder schedules in the country. After an opening weekend series versus the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, the Tribe heads down to third-ranked LSU the following weekend for a three-game series against last season's College World Series champion.

William and Mary will also face 20th-ranked North Carolina in Chapel Hill and play a home-and-home series against second-ranked Virginia within the first four weeks of the season.

"They definitely are games to look forward to," sophomore pitcher Matt Davenport said. "Going to those places and showing what we can do and the type of talent we have. It will give us a chance, especially if we win some games, to get our name out there more."

With a tough early season schedule, the Tribe will have to mature quickly, but Leoni believes his team has the talent to do so.

"I'm not going to say I expect us to shell North Carolina or go out there and spank Maryland. We're just going to go out and play those games like any other game," Leoni said. "And I expect every time we take the field, my team is going to be successful."

Key contributor: Logan Billbrough

Scary as it may sound to opposing CAA hitters, William and Mary might not yet have seen the real Logan Billbrough.

After an injury-marred freshman season and spending time coming out of the bullpen last year, the junior pitcher is poised to emerge as the ace of a young Tribe pitching staff.

"I did enjoy coming out of the bullpen last year, but I think it's a new challenge and that I can really help the team out in this new role," Billbrough said.

As a reliever in 2009, Billbrough led the Tribe with a 4.20 ERA while striking out 44 in 40.2 innings.

Billbrough believes his time in the Cape Cod League this summer helped him mature even more from the pitcher he was last season.

"I feel like whenever you play with the best you get better and have to rise to the occasion," Billbrough said. "We all shared tips and took something from each other, and we all

became better baseball players because of it."



By the numbers

4 Returning players with at least 100 at bats last season

6 Games against pre-season top-25 opponents

11 Freshmen on the Tribe roster

100 Errors for the Tribe last season, the most in Leoni's four seasons

