



VARIETY

Asking Amy

Famed columnist Amy Dickinson comes to share her advice with the College.

SEE PAGE 6

OPINIONS

U.S.-Sino relations heat up

Obama may be trying to drown out domestic opposition by instigating international conflict.

SEE PAGE 5



SPORTS

Monarch mayem

Tribe Men's Basketball losses at Old Dominion 61-42 Wednesday night.

SEE PAGE 8



# The Flat Hat

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

VOL.99, NO.30

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010

FLATHATNEWS.COM

## ThePulse

Bite-size news you can use

Neither rain nor sleet — but apparently snow — will stop a William and Mary party. Tomorrow night's Charter Day bash to celebrate the College's 317th birthday has been canceled due to snow. Forecasts call for a quarter to a full inch of the white stuff.

Tonight, before she receives a honorary degree from the College during Charter Day, University of Chicago law professor Martha Nussbaum will speak about liberal arts and global citizenship at 4 p.m. in Millington 150.

The new Michelangelo exhibit opens tonight at the Muscarelle; a dozen of the Old Master's sketches will be on display until April — and the Muscarelle is the only place in America you can see these pieces. Remember, admission is free for students.

You mean I get to eat and drink to help others in need? No problem. The International Relations Club, Haitian Earthquake American Relief Team (HEART) and the College Dolly will be hosting an all-day event today at the College Dolly. Ten percent of all purchases made will be donated to relief efforts in Haiti.

Speaking of delis, who better to represent the local hot spots than a saint? At Monday's Super Bowl Media Day at Sun Life Stadium, Darren Sharper '97 of the New Orleans Saints, when asked, confessed that his favorite deli is Paul's Deli.

Chocolate moose, anyone? Kilwin the Moose will make an appearance tomorrow at the grand opening of Kilwin's, the new chocolate and ice cream store at High Street. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Kilwin's will be giving out free mini ice cream cones and fudge samples while demonstrating the wonders of fudge-making.

Thao Nguyen '06 and her band, The Get Down Stay Down, will begin their California tour with The Thermals tomorrow in San Francisco. Thao + TGDSD released their most recent album "Know Better Learn Faster" last October.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates '65 announced Tuesday that the Pentagon has taken its first steps toward repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. President Obama had called for a repeal of the policy during his State of the Union address last week.

Government professor Larry Evans appeared on NPR's "On Point" program Wednesday. Along with Brookings Institution fellow Thomas Mann, Evans discussed partisan politics.

By the way, did you forget it's Tribe Pride Friday? Go home and change into your green and gold and show your Tribe spirit.

Got a tip for The Pulse? [wmpulse@gmail.com](mailto:wmpulse@gmail.com)



FILE PHOTOS — THE FLAT HAT

## Investigation critical of campus Greek life

Despite accessibility and involvement, external review finds alcohol abuse, acceptance of hazing

By ALISAN VANFLEET  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

An investigation into Greek life at the College of William and Mary has released a fairly critical report that includes charges of low-level hazing, alcohol abuse, a lack of leadership and poor living conditions.

After visiting campus in October, the Fraternity and Sorority Coalition Assessment Project released an exhaustive 25-page report outlining both strengths and weaknesses within the College's Greek community.

The report first examines the community's assets. One prevailing strength is the significant role fraternities and sororities play within the larger College community. The report lauds their unique inclusive na-

ture, reporting that the community is perceived as open.

"Non-members are invited and attend social events, philanthropy events and many other chapter events," the report said.

Additionally, fraternity and sorority members claim leadership roles in other organizations, and explain that they are not defined by their fraternity or sorority membership.

"I think an important strength that the sorority community has is that we contribute to our community as much as we gain from it," Intersorority Council President Laurel Berkheimer '11 said. "The CAP report lists several successful endeavors of ISC and the sorority community as a whole, such as leadership roles and addressing pertinent issues in the community."

Associate Director of Student Activities Anne Arsenneau '89, whose focus is Greek life and leadership, explained a heartening and challenging aspect of the report.

"They clearly articulated that the average experience at William and Mary provides students with advanced interest levels, a strong community, opportunities for leadership and engagement in service," she said. "At another campus, that might be the niche that Greek life would fill. So, here are we celebrating all that Greek life can do for you. If it's just a social outlet, then it's not living up to its potential."

However, despite these positives, the report details a variety of criticisms ranging from philanthropic shortcomings to offensive vernacular terms such as "pledge."

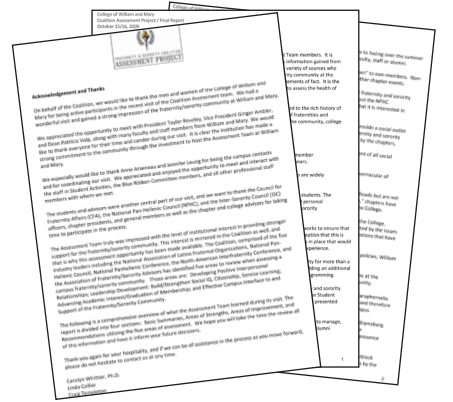
One particularly urgent area for improvement calls on fraternities and the College alike to address the current fraternity housing situation. Already a priority, the

See REPORT page 4

### INSIDE

Check out highlights of the report, including the investigators' recommendations.

Page 4



### ONLINE

Read the full 25-page report online at [Flatatnews.com](http://Flatatnews.com)



## BOV reviews faculty survey, mascot search

By AMEYA JAMMI  
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

The College of William and Mary's Board of Visitors discussed the direction of the College and how factors such as faculty satisfaction, the search for a mascot, College athletics and construction projects play into the school's strategic plan.

Vice President for Administration Anna Martin reported on the progress of capital outlay projects that are near completion. Martin said the phase I expansion of Small Hall was on schedule to finish in March 2010, with phase II renovations projected for completion by 2011. Other projects are also on schedule.

"The School of Education is moving right along and is

set for completion in May, and we should be able to move people in beginning in June," Martin said.

According to Martin, other projects currently in the design stage include renovations to Tucker and Tyler Halls and a feasibility study for renovations to the Brafferton. These future plans will be subject to a new State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) mandated metric called the facilities condition index.

"The facilities condition index is the ratio of deferred maintenance to the current replacement value of academic facilities," Martin said.

A ratio of 10 to 12 percent is considered "poor," while a ratio of 7 to 10 percent is considered "fair." The College recently

added decreasing its index ratio to the strategic plan. Lowering the index will require additional construction on or renovation to campus buildings.

"You can increase total building value by expanding existing buildings, constructing new ones or through renovation," Martin said. "You lower the total of the deferred maintenance through renovation or repair — either through a capital project or maintenance reserve work — or the demolition of a building."

The College's current index ratio is approximately 10 percent, down from a high of 16 percent in 1999. Martin said the decrease was due to over \$275 million of construction and renovation of campus buildings, including the Integrated Science Center, Rogers Hall and Alan B. Miller Hall.

"We're making tremendous progress," BOV Secretary Janet Brashear '82 said.

However, Dormitories, dining halls and administrative buildings like the Campus Center and Sadler Center are not included in the ratio.

Martin said that administrators are working on assessments that would include

these buildings in the ratio, but that their renovation would come at great expense.

"We haven't made the full assessment on dorms, but we started looking into it about two years ago," said Martin. "Our preliminary figures showed it would cost about \$97 million."

Additionally, SCHEV recommendations include dedicating 2.5 to 4 percent of yearly assets to maintenance. The College currently allocates .6 percent.

Due to the high cost of maintenance, Martin said that buildings such as the Campus Center and Trinkle Hall might be more suitable for demolition and reconstruction than renovation. However, the historic value of Old Campus buildings makes them more suitable for renovation.

"We've got to pay money for Old Campus, especially with the government department, economics, public policy and International Relations moving into Tyler [Hall]," Martin said.

Board members also discussed building projects, operating properties and

See BOV page 4

## Area lawyer declares candidacy

Sean Driscoll joins City Council race

By SAM SUTTON  
Flat Hat Managing Editor

Another contender has declared his candidacy for the Williamsburg City Council.

Planning Commission member Sean Driscoll officially announced his candidacy for the Williamsburg City Council Tuesday.

"I grew up here, [and have] been active in the city ... for the last 10 years," Driscoll said in an interview Thursday. "I want to help shape and grow the city."

Driscoll has served on the city's planning commission for four years, and says he plans to work



Braxton

See DRISCOLL page 3

### BOARD OF VISITORS MEETINGS

The following BOV meetings take place today

- Committee on Strategic Initiatives, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Committee on Financial Affairs, 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Full Board of Visitors Meeting, 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.



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# NEWS INSIGHT

## The Flat Hat

'Stabilitas et Fides'

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### CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 2 issue of The Flat Hat, the article "Foster looks beyond College for votes," lists Ross Gillingham '10 as an executive director of Students for a Better Williamsburg. Gillingham is not a member of SBW.

### WEATHER

Friday

Saturday

Sunday



High 40°  
Low 35°

High 37°  
Low 19°

High 38°  
Low 17°

Source: weather.com

### A THOUSAND WORDS



PHILIP DELANO — THE FLAT HAT

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### College named a top producer of Peace Corps volunteers

The Peace Corps named the College of William and Mary the fifth largest contributor for medium-sized schools in its annual ranking of collegiate contributors. There are 40 undergraduate alumni volunteers from the College serving in the Corps. The University of Virginia is ranked 10th in the large college and universities category with 64 undergraduate alumni volunteers, and the University of Mary Washington is ranked second in the small colleges and universities category with 23 undergraduate volunteers.

#### Amanda Wagstaff '10 wins Charter Day art competition

Amanda Wagstaff '10 won the Charter Day Art Contest with her watercolor painting of Barrett Hall. Wagstaff was an anthropology major until second semester of her junior year, when she decided to shift her concentration to art. She hopes to pursue a master's degree in art after graduating from the College. Her work will be used in the Charter Day program booklet.

#### VIMS research lays foundation for sturgeon restoration

Research conducted by VIMS has helped to restore Atlantic sturgeon to the James River. The James River Association, Virginia Commonwealth University and Luck Stone led the project to create a reef that will serve as a sturgeon breeding ground. VIMS scientists have helped determine the best potential location and design for the reef, which is slated to be completed this spring, in time for sturgeon mating migration.

— by Maggie Reeb

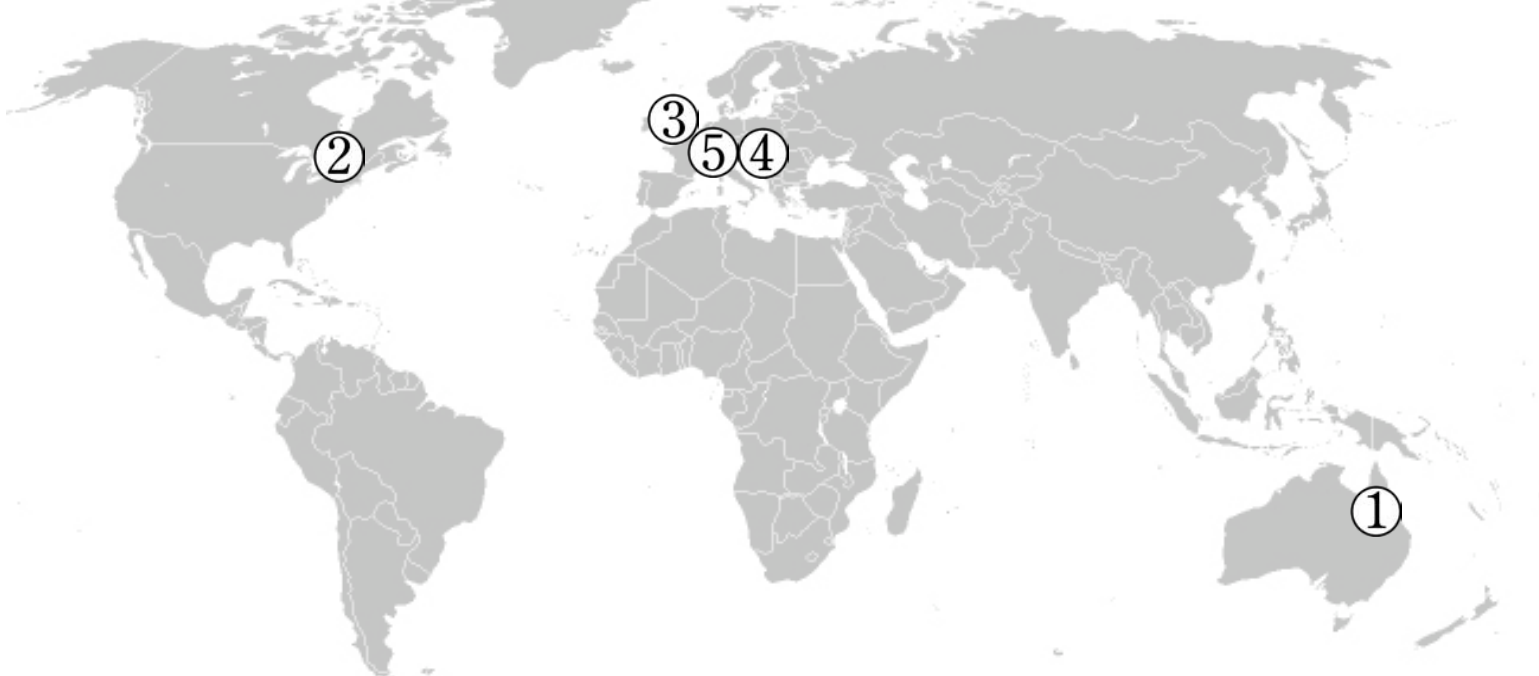
### BEYOND THE 'BURG

1 Studies at Queensland University have revealed that the month of a person's birth influences the chances of becoming a professional athlete. Research of players in the Australian Football league found a disproportionate number had birthdays in the early months of the year. Since the school year starts earlier in Australia, children born earlier in the year are likely to be taller than their later-month counterparts.

2 Archeologists from Canada's McMaster University working in Italy have unearthed a 2,000-year-old skeleton that did not belong where it was discovered. The unexpected male skeleton had DNA from East Asia, and was buried in a Vagnari cemetery at a time the Roman Empire had no direct contacts with the Far East. The findings are changing the understanding of the economic and political history of the region.

3 British researchers from Cambridge University revealed that it is possible to communicate with a vegetative patient of five years. A new brain scanning technique was used to 'talk' to a 29 year-old patient, who was able to respond "yes" and "no" using just his thoughts. The case, although rare, raises ethical issues whether to allow patients in a permanent vegetative state to die by withdrawing treatment.

4 According to research conducted at Austria's Medical University of Graz, sunbathing could improve the sexual desire of men. The study involved approximately 2,300 men and was published in the journal "Clinical Endocrinology." Research showed that levels of the male hormone testosterone are increased when vitamin D, whose production is greatly boosted when skin is exposed to the sun, is present.



COURTESY GRAPHIC — WIKIPEDIA.ORG

— by Elysia Alim

## 5 Those seeking to lose weight should head for the hills

High altitude research shaves pounds, gives insight into possible treatments

By ELYSIA ALIM  
Flat Hat Insight Editor

A study conducted by researchers at the Ludwig-Maximilians University Hospital in Munich has suggested that it is easier for obese men to lose weight at high altitudes.

The project studied 20 males who weighed an average of 232 pounds as they spent one week at a research station just below the summit of Germany's tallest mountain, approximately 8,700 feet above sea level. While at the research station, the men were free to eat as much as they wanted and their

physical activity was limited to taking slow walks around the facility to prevent them from exercising more than normal. The men lost three to four pounds on average and kept the weight off for at least four weeks after they returned to low altitudes.

"It's remarkable that the effects lasted after they returned from the mountain," says Robert Roach, research director of the Altitude Research Center at the University of Colorado in Denver said. "Whatever it is that promotes weight loss at high altitudes may be more potent in heavy people because it provides a lasting effect."

The men all had Metabolic Syndrome, a disorder that encompasses a number of health problems including too much fat around the waist. This condition increases a variety of risk factors such as blood-sugar intolerance, high blood pressure and obesity, increasing the risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.

During their time on the mountain, the men's metabolisms increased, they consumed fewer calories, and their blood-sugar levels and diastolic pressure improved. Their levels of leptin, a hormone known to suppress appetites, also in-

creased at high altitudes.

"The new study is intriguing and suggests that we need to do a lot more research into the effects of high altitudes on our weight and our health," Richard Atkinson, the director of Obetech Obesity Research Center of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, said.

While once-a-month mountain climbing isn't the most practical way to shed a few pounds, moving to a high-altitude city instead of a low-altitude city isn't a bad idea if given a choice.

According to scientists, these results could pave the way for new obesity treatments.

### STREET BEAT

## How do you feel about Scott Foster's run for City Council?



"I think it's great! I hope he wins."

Nithya Jayakumar '10



"I think it's a good thing overall. It is an important step in recognizing the importance of the student voice."

Kayley Horton '10



"I think it's a good idea."

Eric Chung '11



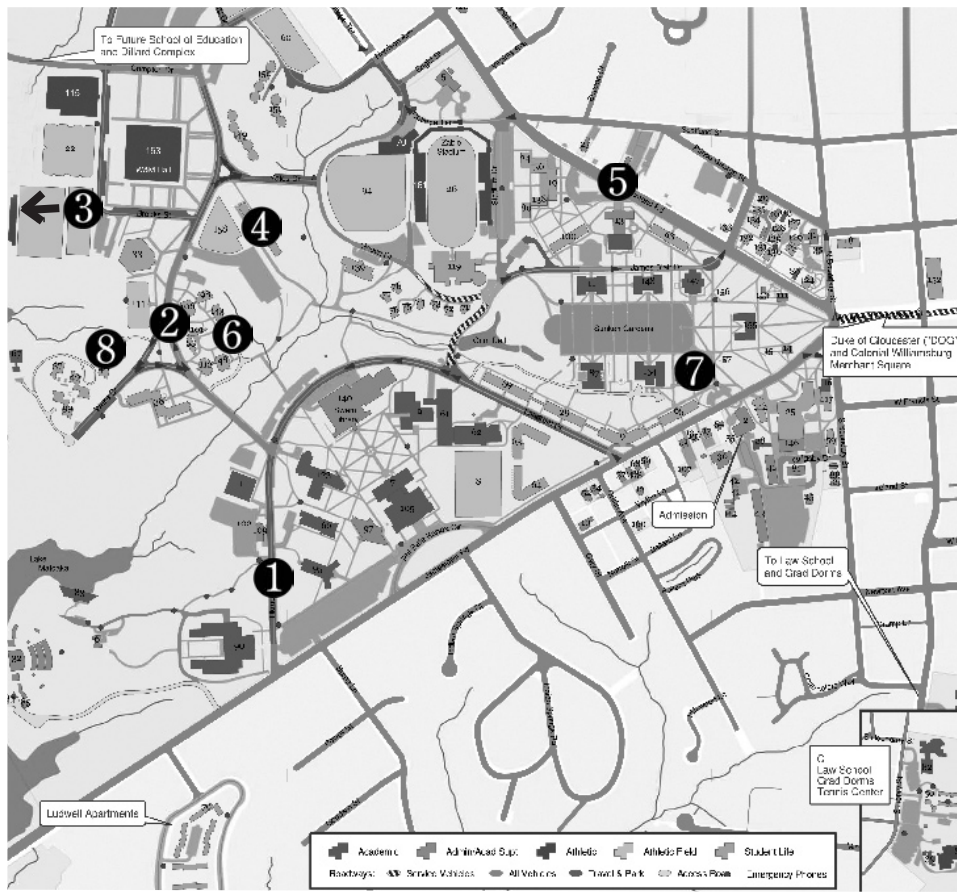
"I think it's a great way for the college to show interest in the community, and I think Scott can do well."

Rachel Ohm '10

— photos and interviews by Sun Park

### CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

## January 26 to February 2



COURTESY GRAPHIC — WM.EDU

- Tuesday, Jan. 26** — An individual reported larceny at 201 Ukrop Way. The estimated value was \$355.
- Wednesday, Jan. 27** — An individual was arrested for alleged possession of alcohol by a minor at 500 Ukrop Way.
- Thursday, Jan. 28** — An individual was arrested and charged with an alleged DUI and possession of marijuana at the intersection of Monticello Ave. and Ironbound Rd.
- Friday, Jan. 29** — An individual reported vandalism in Yates Hall. The estimated damage was \$700.
- An individual was arrested for an alleged DUI on Richmond Rd.
- An individual was arrested for allegedly being drunk in public and possession of alcohol by a minor in Tazewell.
- An individual reported larceny in Ewell. The estimated value was \$150.
- Sunday, Jan. 31** — An individual reported larceny in Fauquier. The estimated value was \$350.

— compiled by Elysia Alim



# A closer look at Charter Day

College celebrates its 317th birthday

## A brief history

During the 18th century, the College of William and Mary celebrated its founding during an event called 'Transfer Day' which took place on August 15. Transfer Day commemorated the anniversary of the transfer of the College's charter from the Founders to the College President James Blair on August 15, 1729.

Current Charter Day celebrations, which celebrate the granting of the College's Royal Charter from King William III and Queen Mary II, began with College President John Stewart Bryan in 1937 and were known as 'Founders' Day.'

Original celebrations included a march of students and faculty in full regalia from Jefferson Hall to Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall, or modern day Ewell Hall, a reading of the Royal Charter and guest speakers.

The current PBK Hall was built in 1957 and since then, almost all Charter Day events have taken place within its walls.

There are only two notable Charter Day celebrations that did not take place in PBK. In 1968,

celebrations moved to Blow Memorial Hall Gymnasium to fit an unusually high crowd for the guest speakers Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to the United States Sir Patrick Henry Dean and The Bishop of London Robert Wright Stopford. Similarly, in 1993, Charter Day ceremonies took place in William and Mary Hall because His Royal Highness Prince Charles spoke in honor of the College's Charter's 300th anniversary.

This year there has been an increased interest in Charter Day in hopes of reviving an aged College tradition.

"Often students don't know it's Charter Day," Brittany Fallon '11 said. "They don't understand what Charter Day is because it's not that big of a deal ... And we really wanted to change that."

This year's celebrations will include the traditional ceremonies as well as several new events such as Charter Day themed dinners at dining halls and the first-ever Charter Day "Birthday Bash" celebration. However, the "Birthday Bash" has been cancelled due to weather.

## About the Charter

— The College's original charter was lost around the time of the American Revolution and was never recovered. College officials at the time believed the original Charter found its way into the possession of a Russian national named Karjavina. According to an extract from a faculty meeting in 1791, Karjavina wanted to give the Charter to the St. Petersburg Library.

— The copy of the College's Charter in the Special Collections Research Center in the Earl Greg Swem Library is believed to have belonged to the Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia at the time of the College's founding Sir Edmund Andros.

— The Charter went through four stages before it was complete. First, the general request for the establishment of the College were written in English into a document called the Warrant. Second, the Attorney General translated the Warrant into Latin and wrote it by hand onto five sheets of paper called the Writ of the Privy Seal for the king to sign. Thirdly, the Writ was patented by a group of officials called the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal. Last, the Writ was copied onto Patent Rolls called the Enrollment to serve as the government's official record of the College's establishment.

— The Enrollment was not the official Charter, but all five known copies of the College's Charter were modeled of of the Writ of the Privy Seal.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tribe Pride Friday  
Feb. 5

Swem Library Exhibitions  
Feb. 5 - Feb. 6 at Swem Library

Alumni Medallion Ceremony  
Feb. 5, 2:30 p.m. at Sadler Center, Chesapeake Room

Lord Botetourt Auction  
Feb. 5, 6:30 p.m. at Alan B. Miller Hall

Charter Day Gala  
Feb. 5, 9:00 p.m. at Sadler Center, Chesapeake Rooms

Charter Day Exercises  
Feb. 6, 10:00 a.m. at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall

Charter Day "Birthday Bash"  
Feb. 6, 9:00 p.m. at Wren Yard  
(Cancelled due to weather.)

# Student Assembly to initiate new water bottle program

By CLARA VAUGHN  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The College of William and Mary Student Assembly passed a bill Tuesday that will help fund a four-day event about sustainability issues surrounding plastic water bottles.

The Student Environmental Action Coalition has been working on its "Take Back the Tap" campaign to raise student awareness about problems associated with buying bottled water.

"We're going to be giving away 900 bottles ... to students on campus," SEAC member Dylan Reilly '12 said.

Students will be asked to sign a pledge to avoid purchasing bottled water when they receive the reusable bottles.

Reilly came to Tuesday's SA meeting with the hope of securing the additional funds needed to bring Elizabeth Royte, author of the book "Bottlemania," to campus during the event.

"All we need is another \$500 to get her to come to campus," he said.

SEAC has already raised \$2,400 for the event and received an additional \$2,200 from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the Roy R. Charles Center, Aramark, the Wendy and Emery Reves Center and the Mason School of Business.

The Bottled Water Awareness Act, which provided SEAC with the additional \$500 from the consolidated reserve, was passed by unanimous consent. The four-day event will take place Feb. 15-18, with stations set up across campus.

"They've done a really good job planning this event," Sen. Brittany Fallon '11 said. "This

is a really good job of outsourcing funding. I am a big fan of this."

The SA also passed the Help Haiti Now Act unanimously. The bill allocates \$1,000 from the SA off-campus account to William and Mary Supports Haiti, a Haiti earthquake relief organization, to print 200 T-shirts. Shirts will be sold for \$10, and proceeds will be sent to the University of Fondwa, Haiti's only degree-awarding university.

"The university has been significantly damaged," Sen. Kristin O'Conner J.D. '10 said. "I don't think we'll have trouble at all selling 200 shirts or more."

The SA debated increasing the number of shirts printed, but decided to print more shirts only if demand persists after the first 200 sell out.

"We don't want to be losing money on this," Sen. Steven Nelson '10 said.

The Open Miller Hall Act, a

bill to keep Alan B. Miller Hall open to non business majors at all hours, passed 18 to 0.

Currently, all students pay \$150 annually in facility fees for Miller, although the building is closed from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Monday through Friday to students who are not enrolled in business classes.


A Facebook group devoted to opening Miller to all students has 1,054 members.

Bills to be discussed in future weeks include the SC Free Pool Act, which would allocate \$1,000 from the SA's consolidated reserve to allow students to use the pool tables in the Sadler Center free-of-charge.

The SA is also working to re-establish office hours.

"We should be there if students want to come talk to us," Sen. Jill Olszewski '12 said.

Office hours are tentatively set for Wednesday evenings in Lodge 1.



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Wednesday, Feb. 10

Information Table  
Education Fair  
Sadler Center-Chesapeake Rm  
9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

# Braxton, Dafashy candidacies still unclear

COUNCIL from page 1

with the College if elected to the council.

"Unfortunately, some people view [town-gown relations] as strained," he said. "I'd be willing to sit down with the College and figure out what needs to be done."

In recent planning commission meetings, several commissioners have urged the city and the College to explore public-private projects as a way to improve the College's housing situation.

"It would make sense to cluster students so they have access to certain services," Driscoll said.

He added that he would like to see projects in the same vein as the apartment and retail complex being built by the College of William and Mary Real Estate Foundation near Wawa on Richmond Road

While on the planning commission, Driscoll voted against expanding the city's occupancy limit to more than three unrelated individuals.

"We were for keeping the three-person rule," Driscoll said. "My biggest thing is preserving certain neighborhoods. I've been in favor of supporting higher density, which works."

Currently, the city prohibits more than 14 individuals from living on an acre of land. Increasing that density limit could potentially allow for the development of larger multi-family dwellings or apartment buildings.

According to the city's voter registrar office, five people have begun filing the paperwork necessary to run for the council.

Driscoll is the second person to officially declare his candidacy, behind Scott Foster '10. Dr. David Dafashy, a physician at the College's Student Health Center, has said that he, too, plans on running for the council.

Council member Bobby Braxton said that he will be announcing whether or not he will run today. The registrar's office did not identify the fifth individual to take out paperwork for filing candidacy.

The city council election will take place May 4.

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-Laundry Facilities

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Equal Housing Opportunity



# CAP report calls for more inter-Greek communication

REPORT from page 1

CAP report bolsters the issue's importance, characterizing the housing as conducive to high-risk behavior and not attractive to men seeking a "safe and healthy place to live on campus." It also chides fraternity leaders for putting more energy into discussing the problem than finding solutions.

Moreover, in a section concerning the use of appropriate terminology, the report suggested the immediate expulsion of the term "frat unit."

"Simply changing the name of them does not address the overarching issues,"

Council for Fraternity Affairs President Ian Fenwick '11 said.

The CAP report also calls for increased collaboration between CFA and ISC beyond social affiliation, as well as a closer relationship between CFA, ISC and National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters on campus.

"Things have functioned in a way where everyone was okay with benign neglect at the leadership level amongst the three councils," Arseneau said. "This is a new call to focus on coming together for the benefit of the whole community."

As for the College administration, the report suggested a more honest discus-

sion about the unique relationship the administration has with sororities and fraternities in comparison to the other 400 groups on campus. As the administration alternately assigns fraternities and sororities unique privileges, expectations and restrictions, a new "relationship statement" would be both more accurate and more beneficial to each organization.

Fenwick agreed that a clarified relationship is needed.

"I think the greatest weakness is a disconnect, or believed disconnect depending on who you ask, between the William and Mary administration and Greeks," he said.

Other points in the report cite the conflict between current practices within Greek life and College and/or national organization policies. Beer pong tables, openly present in some College-owned and operated dormitories, violate the College's policy against drinking games. Alcohol's presence at philanthropic events violates national policies. Moreover, the report reproaches sororities for the practice of spending up to \$500 on each "little" during Clue Week.

Finally, the report suggests the College more openly celebrate its role as the birthplace of fraternities and sororities via a monument of some kind, with

a proposed establishment date of 2026 to coordinate with the 250th anniversary of the founding of Phi Beta Kappa at the College.

Berkheimer said she thought this was a unique strength of the College's Greek community.

"No other school in the country can claim the founding of Greek organizations," she said.

A Blue Ribbon Committee, consisting of 13 faculty, students, advisers and other stakeholders, is in place to coordinate short-term and long-term implementation of suggestions made in the CAP report.

## NEWS ANALYSIS: THE CAP REPORT

**The Coalition Assessment Project listed 25 recommendations for the College of William and Mary Greek community by importance. A selection of these, and the feasibility of each, is ranked below.**

**3.** The associate director of student activities should consider leading an effort to ensure that the William and Mary Police, the Office of Residence Life and the Student Affairs professional staff are on the same page regarding policy and policy enforcement.  
**Feasibility:** Medium  
**Obstacles:** Differences in expectations about policy  
**Why it matters:** Currently a conception exists that policies are not enforced equally.

**5.** The student leadership, in cooperation with their inter/national organizations, should consider addressing the issues of using and abusing alcohol at philanthropy events.  
**Feasibility:** Difficult  
**Obstacles:** Many would not attend philanthropic efforts were it not for alcohol

consumption prior or during.  
**Why it matters:** A balance must be struck between the perceived enjoyment and effectiveness of individual philanthropies.

**6.** The Greek Life staff should consider aligning the College's definition of hazing based on [the Fraternal Information and Programing Group] guidelines. Further it should consider regularly educating undergraduates on what is and is not hazing.  
**Feasibility:** Medium  
**Obstacles:** Definitions of hazing may vary, organizations may view events that fall under the definition as acceptable.  
**Why it matters:** Hazing is a major issue nationally with Greek letter organizations and is illegal on campus.

**8.** The student leaders of the three councils should consider developing an integration plan to create a stronger interfraternal connection, and to have all organizations be an active part of the overall fraternity and sorority experience.  
**Feasibility:** Easy  
**Obstacles:** Gathering support for such an extensive project, different values and organization structures between councils.

**Why this matters:** Greater communication between the IFC, the ISC and the NPHC will improve Greek solidarity.

**11.** The Blue Ribbon Committee assembled to facilitate this assessment process should consider addressing the College of William and Mary's current unrest about the state of fraternity housing.  
**Feasibility:** Difficult  
**Obstacles:** College's financial state, securing land use, determining suitable design

**Why it matters:** As units do not fit the current needs of the fraternities, new housing has long been a priority for Greek Life.

**12.** The inter/national organizations with a chartered chapter at the College of William and Mary need to be asked to consider re-committing to providing assistance in addressing the risk management issues and the lack of understanding of the inter/national organization policies.  
**Feasibility:** Difficult  
**Obstacles:** Many Greek organization national policies are more strict than those of the College, so fraternities and sororities would avoid adherence.

**Why it matters:** Discrepancies between national and campus policy must be resolved.

**14.** The Greek Life staff should consider adding to the College Alcohol Policy a statu[t]e about "beer pong tables" and their presence in College-owned and operated facilities.  
**Feasibility:** Difficult  
**Obstacles:** Greeks would be quick to fight the ruling, difficult to monitor

**Why it matters:** The furnishings, are both contrary to national policies and valued by the College chapters.

**18.** The Greek Life staff should consider empowering the fraternity and sorority governing councils to create strong accountability structures through their stated judicial boards.  
**Feasibility:** Medium  
**Obstacles:** Greek willingness/ability to self-govern.

**Why it matters:** An effective Greek judicial board will make for important steps towards autonomy.

— by The Flat Hat

### What's in a name

The Coalition Action Project suggested the Greek community update its terminology to reflect changing values within the Greek community, as well as the College of William and Mary as a whole.

"We all adjust our behavior and our language as we enter different environments," the report said. "It speaks to our attitude about, and respect for, those environments."

Suggested changes to the Greek lexicon are listed to the right.

Greek Life Pledge	Fraternity and Sorority Life New or Associate Member Pledge Training
Rush	New Member Education Recruitment
Rushee	Potential New Member
Probate	New Member Show / Presentation / Presentation of New Members
Boys	Men (or Gentlemen)
Girls	Women (or Ladies)
Frat	Fraternity
Babies	New Members

The report also suggested the College search for a new term to replace the fraternity housing "Units." "A 'unit' is appropriate as a reference to a cinder-block student storage structure," the report said.

# BOV meetings commence with athletics, personnel discussions

BOV from page 1

construction and maintenance goals.

The results of the latest faculty surveys, which are conducted annually, were another focus of the meeting.

While in the past the survey asked faculty members to rank their top three priorities, this year's survey asked respondents to list their top eight priorities.

The top priority, by a wide margin, was faculty salaries, followed by support for faculty research, support for graduate and professional students, and support for professional research presentations. The ranking of priorities varied between different areas of academia. The board members noted that 71.6 percent of the faculty had responded to the surveys.

While no other specifics of the survey were mentioned during the meeting, the statistics from the 315-page survey can be

found at the Faculty Assembly's website.

Another survey with a large volume of responses was the one about the five mascot finalists.

The website received 77,282 hits between Dec. 8 and Jan. 7.

11,183 people completed the College mascot survey, and 22,381 comments were posted regarding the five finalists. Of the comments, 50 percent were from students, 31 percent were from alumni, and 20 percent were identified as being either from those who remain friends of the college or unaffiliated altogether.

"People are following this," Director of Athletics Terry Driscoll said. "People do care about it."

Driscoll said every comment was read. "Some were read very quickly,"

Driscoll said. "About half could be considered derogatory. Some were hysterically funny. Some were very thoughtful."

Graduating members of the College's football team R.J. Archer '10, David Caldwell '10 and Rob Varno '10 were featured as special guests. Members of the board asked the students questions about what attracted them to College, their opinions of the Laycock Center and their plans after college.

"[The football team] really did a lot to lift the spirits of a lot of people here on campus," Driscoll said, contrasting this year's successful football season with the sluggish economic climate.

It was noted that the football team was not the only sports team to draw exceptional interest this year. Last Saturday's basketball game was witnessed by the largest crowd in Kaplan Arena since 1993. 7,600 people came to watch, far more than the 2,800 who normally attend. 2,100 of those in attendance were students, much higher than the usual 300.



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT  
Board members gathered yesterday and today in Blow Hall to discuss College issues.

The meeting ended with discussion of the plans to build a mixed-use residential development on the College-owned Triangle property near Wawa. In a unanimous voice-vote, board members agreed to transfer control of the Thiemes House,

part of the Triangle property, from the College's administration to the William and Mary Real Estate Foundation.

Flat Hat Assoc. News Editors Ian Brickey and Bertel King, Jr. also contributed to this report.



Sherman & Gloria H. Cohen Career Center — Fall 2010

## Education Recruiting Day

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

9:00-10:45a.m.: Interviews scheduled

11:00a.m.-4:30p.m.: Half-hour interviews

Sadler Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

A Career Fair for employment in Education. Open to future teachers, school counselors, school psychologists, and administrators. All are welcome! No pre-registration! Just bring plenty of resumes and come prepared to interview.

\* For more information on these events, visit the Undergraduate Section of our website at [www.wm.edu/offices/career](http://www.wm.edu/offices/career)

## RUSH ALPHA KAPPA PSI SPRING 2010

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Monday, Feb. 8 at 6:00

Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 6:00

Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 6:00

Thursday, Feb. 11 at 6:00

All events are in Miller 1069

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Showtimes valid 2/5 to 2/12

AVATAR 3D 1050 210 530 900 [PG13]

DEAR JOHN 1100 140 420 700 940 [PG13]

EDGE OF DARKNESS 1110 250 620 910 [R]

FROM PARIS WITH LOVE 1130 200 440 720

950 [R]

LEGION 150 230 500 730 1000 [R]

PRECIOUS 1200 300 640 920 [R]

THE TOOTH FAIRY 1140 240 610 905 [PG]

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WHEN IN ROME 1120 150 410 710 930 [PG13]

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# OPINIONS

Opinions Editor Russ Zerbo

Associate Opinions Editor Alexa McClanahan

fhopinions@gmail.com

STAFF EDITORIAL

## Greek life revisited

Let's face it: The state of Greek life at the College of William and Mary is far from perfect. From housing issues to an unfortunately singular focus on alcohol consumption, a range of problems prevent fraternities and sororities from realizing some of their varied and lofty aims. The CAP report's recommendations, released this week, ranged from the frivolous to the direly needed, and now the administration must work to separate the wheat from the chaff to make positive changes that will help create a better environment for Greek life now and into the future.

The 25-page assessment was expansive and honest. It frankly addressed issues like alcohol, but not in a way that derided all drinking. For instance, it has long been a problem that alcohol enforcement varies between Student Affairs, Residence Life and the Campus Police, making it very unclear where the line is drawn. For students, it is great that this message is finally being heard.

As far as College policy is concerned, there were two other major areas of focus: fraternity housing and the status of Greek organizations on campus with respect to the College. Since the need for new fraternity housing is self-evident and College President Taylor Reveley has begun taking steps toward the creation of a new Greek village, we will focus on the second.

In the College's eyes, all student groups — from a movie club to a fraternity — are created equal. The needs of a Greek organization differ sharply than those of a standard club. The College has already created Greek Life positions. The report says that it should also establish a committee with the mandate to recommend changes to College policy. We endorse this suggestion, with some reservation. The College has been very effective at allowing fraternities and sororities to maintain their independence over the years. As a result, the community is fragmented; organizations like the Inter-Sorority Council and the Council for Fraternity Affairs are somewhat hobbled as a result. Going forward, the College should do what it can to give the nature of Greek life more frank recognition. More centralized cohesion should allow for a more effective implementation of beneficial policies overall.

Positive change to the College's Greek life will not happen overnight. However, change is certainly within reach and the Greek community isn't going anywhere. We should get started.

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.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### McDonnell comes at cost

To the Editor:

Although I've never felt particularly passionate about Charter Day, this year's events forced me to question what exactly we're celebrating. Gov. Bob McDonnell will deliver the keynote speech at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall Saturday at 10 a.m., where the College of William and Mary will grant him an honorary degree. Oddly, I was under the impression that the College honors education, diversity and community engagement on Charter Day.

Unfortunately, the College Corporation is not as profitable as Freddie Mac or Dominion Power, so McDonnell doesn't exactly have plans to prioritize us — or any school — in the Commonwealth's budget. In fact, McDonnell will likely support a bill proposed by former Gov. Tim Kaine, which will tax public university auxiliary funds in order to put money back into the general fund deficit. Under this bill, the state will seize roughly 5 percent of each school's auxiliary funds, or \$18.8 million total from higher education.

The College uses auxiliary service funds for operations such as food

services, housing, athletics and the Student Health Center, and it generates these funds partly through student fees. A tax on these funds will directly affect students who have already faced a mid-year tuition increase of \$300. We've seen how College administrators and administrators at schools across the country are responding to budget cuts: hiring freezes, layoffs, tuition hikes, and program and student services cuts.

Our state legislators are claiming that there isn't any money for higher education, yet they're pouring money into corporations and their own pet projects. College administrators — who have apparently been taking notes — are claiming that there isn't any money because of state cuts, yet they're pouring money into so-called profit-making departments, construction projects and their own salaries. Is it a coincidence that our administrators and state legislators have used these crises to attack working people, students and campus workers?

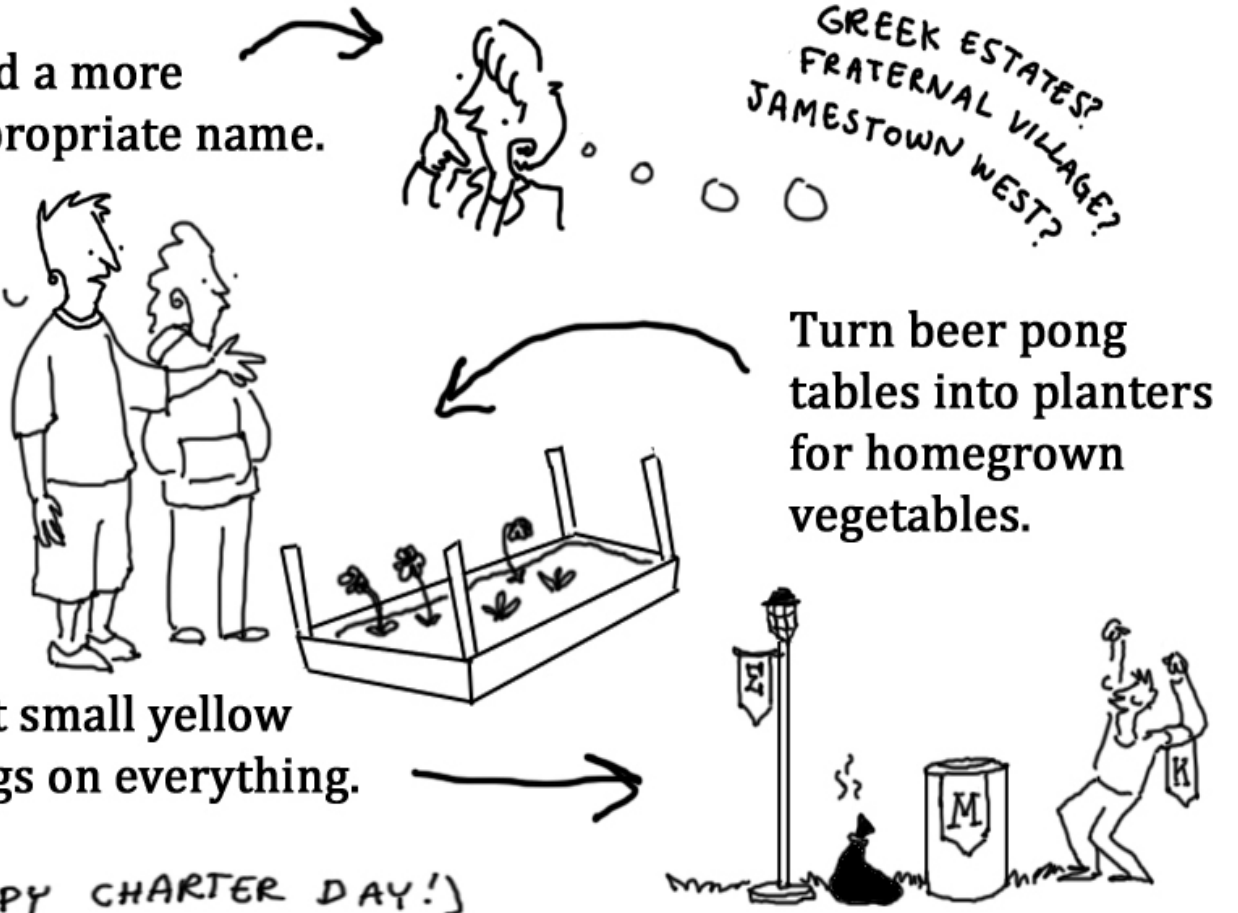
The only people at the Charter Day Celebration not taking cuts will be McDonnell and a few administrators, and I plan to ask them why.

— Kathleen Brower '11

## Additional CAP Suggestions to transform the Units into a "safe and healthy" environment

Find a more appropriate name.

IT'S KIND OF MY DOT



By OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

## Once warm welcome turns cold

Ed Innace

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



It was only a few months ago that President Barack Obama's whirlwind Asian tour stopped over in China, and the president received a very warm welcome. In the past week, much of the warmth the Chinese felt toward the United States, and Obama specifically, has disappeared. In what has become an almost daily event, Beijing and Washington have been consistently issuing statements berating each other. This change in relations was as sudden as it was dramatic, most likely due to its rather superficial nature. Throughout history, presidents have tried to overshadow domestic opposition by drumming up international conflict.

Some say that such tension is inevitable as China's power and influence grows relative to the United States's. China naturally finds it can flaunt U.S. authority with greater impunity and challenge America's hegemony. However, this theory has some problems. Chinese power has been on the rise for quite some time, and it is unlikely that tensions would appear overnight. Moreover, the issues fueling the spat are by no means novel. Rather, Obama's sudden about-face — from a president seemingly soft on foreign affairs and dependant on China's treasury holdings to one who is apparently ready to fight — is seen by the Chinese as more political than substantive, and thus they see no need to compromise or back down.

During the Obama campaign, and into the first year of his presidency, Obama espoused a less confrontational foreign policy strategy, famously offering to open dialogue with Iran and other American foes. When he was elected, the Chinese applauded his emphasis on cooperation over conflict, but showed him little respect. During his Asian visit, he was proudly paraded around the country, but sent home empty handed. The Chinese offered only vague

promises of cooperation on major issues.

It did not help that earlier last year Secretary of State Hillary Clinton had asked Beijing to keep buying U.S. debt. As a result, the Chinese perhaps thought they had little to fear from this new administration. Obama did not seem combative in foreign relations and still needed China to invest in the United States.

Now all that has changed; leading up to this week, Clinton publicly criticized China for its restrictive internet policies, its cyber attacks on the United States and its refusal to help the United States address Iran's nuclear program. However, the real offensive began last weekend when Obama announced a multi-billion dollar sale of weaponry to Taiwan. As China considers Taiwan to be its own territory, they were naturally displeased and responded by cutting off military-to-military dialogue and threatening sanctions against U.S. weapons companies involved in the deal. Obama responded Tuesday by announcing a meeting with the Dalai Lama, whom China views as a Tibetan separatist, and accused China of currency manipulation Wednesday. These moves further angered the Chinese, who, in turn, issued more threats.

This sudden shift from respectful economic dependence to ever-growing hostilities is stunning, and most likely a function of politics more than of policy. It is unlikely that the Obama administration changed its China policy so drastically. Furthermore, the Chinese response cannot be explained simply by disagreements over Taiwan, currency or Tibet — these are not new to U.S.-Sino relations and have always been handled without major turmoil. It is the political context of the situation that has caused the spat.

According to China Daily columnist Huang Xiangyang, the Chinese see this new, tougher stance as a political ploy by Obama to score much-needed public support at home. They do not think he is serious in his threats and are therefore not backing down or compromising. Thus, both sides are issuing rhetorical broadsides — hopefully with little intention of real harm.

E-mail Ed Innace at [einnace@wm.edu](mailto:einnace@wm.edu).

*The Chinese see Obama's new tougher stance as a political ploy to score much needed public support at home.*

## Virginia Senate launches preemptive strike on universal healthcare

Russ Zerbo

FLAT HAT OPINIONS EDITOR



The democrat-controlled Virginia Senate passed the Virginia Health Care Freedom Act this week that — if passed by the Republican-controlled house — would make it illegal to force Virginians to purchase healthcare as well make it illegal to fine Virginians for not doing so. Wherever you stand on universal healthcare, this bill is an abomination to the democratic process, which the Virginia General Assembly supposedly intends to uphold. To pass this bill while President Barack Obama and his administration are retreating from their plans for healthcare reform is the ultimate display of stubbornness. Why not wait until the administration actually produces any legislation before voicing opposition to it?

Under the guise of protecting "the blessings of liberty," this bill merely protects the profits of private health insurers and ensures that Virginia is exempt from any variety of universal

healthcare. If Virginia senators actually cared about the federal government infringing on their ability to purchase private healthcare they would voice their concerns in a more hospitable way to allow Virginians the free choice to participate in a public healthcare option, if they so choose.

This bill brings front and center the elitism that is at the heart of the anti-universal healthcare movement. As well-paid legislators, the GA has nothing to lose by electing not to participate in universal healthcare. It is the average citizen who loses the ability to participate in a universal healthcare system that would most likely be cheaper than private insurance. Contrary to the opinion of the GA, universal healthcare is not intended to force citizens into a one-size-fits-all healthcare plan. The goal of universal healthcare is to allow all citizens the right to have health insurance that is not controlled by a private enterprise whose ultimate goal is profit. The only freedom the GA is protecting with this bill is the freedom of private health insurers to charge exorbitant rates while providing minimum coverage.

A government-run healthcare plan would ensure that citizens with pre-existing conditions are shown the same care as those with clean bills of health. While this may not mean much to those who can pay for their healthcare out-of-pocket, it means a great deal to those who cannot afford healthcare and whose lack of preventative care has left them with conditions deemed uncoverable by private insurers.

The principles behind a public healthcare option are the same as those behind public schools. All citizens must pay into public education because, as a democratic society, we have deemed basic education every citizen's right and not a privilege for those who can afford it. If one is not satisfied with public education, one has the freedom to purchase a private education, just as a citizen covered by universal healthcare has the ability to purchase additional private healthcare if they choose to do so. This bill is equivalent to deeming Virginians exempt from paying the taxes that go to public education — considering how the GA treats the College of William and Mary — this may very well be their intention.

Although I have outlined some reasons for the adoption of universal healthcare, you don't have to be a socialist to see why the Virginia Health Care Freedom Act is an assault on the democratic process. Above all, this bill is a preemptive strike on any possibility

of a public health care option before any such legislation has been proposed. The Virginia Senate has demonstrated that it is unwilling to participate in an open discourse on this issue and has chosen to end the debate before it has even started. E-mail Russ Zerbo at [rzerbo@wm.edu](mailto:rzerbo@wm.edu).



OLIVIA WALCH — THE FLAT HAT



# VARIETY

Variety Editor Jessica Gold  
flathat.variety@gmail.com

## Amy will now take your questions

Syndicated advice columnist Amy Dickinson discusses doling out guidance

By EMILY KREMER  
The Flat Hat

Almost every group of friends has its “therapist,” the one person everyone goes to for advice. Amy Dickinson was not that friend, and although she claims that in high school nobody would have predicted she would go on to guide the morally confused as her career path, Dickinson has managed to become one of the most respected and trusted advice columnists in the nation. Writing for the Chicago Tribune and having her column syndicated to many newspapers across the country, Dickinson possesses a positive and often humorous outlook on her job and her loyal readers while covering topics varying from fake letters to what not to wear on a first date. The Flat Hat had the chance to chat with her before her appearance today at Earl Gregg Swem Library.

### What first inspired you to give advice to others?

Well, it was the promise of a paycheck and a steady job. I'm not one of those people who has always wanted to tell other people what to do. I tried out for this job when I realized that I was good at it. I've been the person more likely to be on the receiving end of that. I had been out there as a journalist for a long time. This was an opportunity that shot my way pretty suddenly, and I grabbed it.

### How many questions do you receive daily?

Well, I get usually between 200 and 300 e-mails a day, and then I get these packets of letters, between 100 and 150 letters a week. A big part of this job is going through the mail. I have various criteria, but I feel that my column should be entertaining. Anyone who is in my life is going to hear a letter read aloud every single day. It's an icebreaker at dinner parties. It's great material and it's fascinating.

### How many get answered?

What I do is I start to go through — I usually write the column Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, part of Wednesday. I file seven columns a week. Each column contains only 3 letters. I spend a lot of time going through the mail looking for variety.

### How do you choose which questions get answered?

I'm looking for letters with problems people can identify with. For instance, I just decided to answer a letter from a woman with a guy, been with him many years; he's an

alcoholic. It's a common issue. Another letter I just answered is from a perennial favorite — she writes to me and says her three-year-old grandson is poorly behaved and his parents don't discipline him and she wants to say something. That's something that occurs in lots and lots of families.

I want for readers to read the column and say, “Oh boy, that's just like me” or “Oh, how strange” or “What an idiot” or “That is so hilarious.” I love letters that are funny, that are written by people who are so delusional that anyone would enjoy smacking them, along with me. I hear from people that the “dumber the letter, the more I look forward to seeing what you will say.”

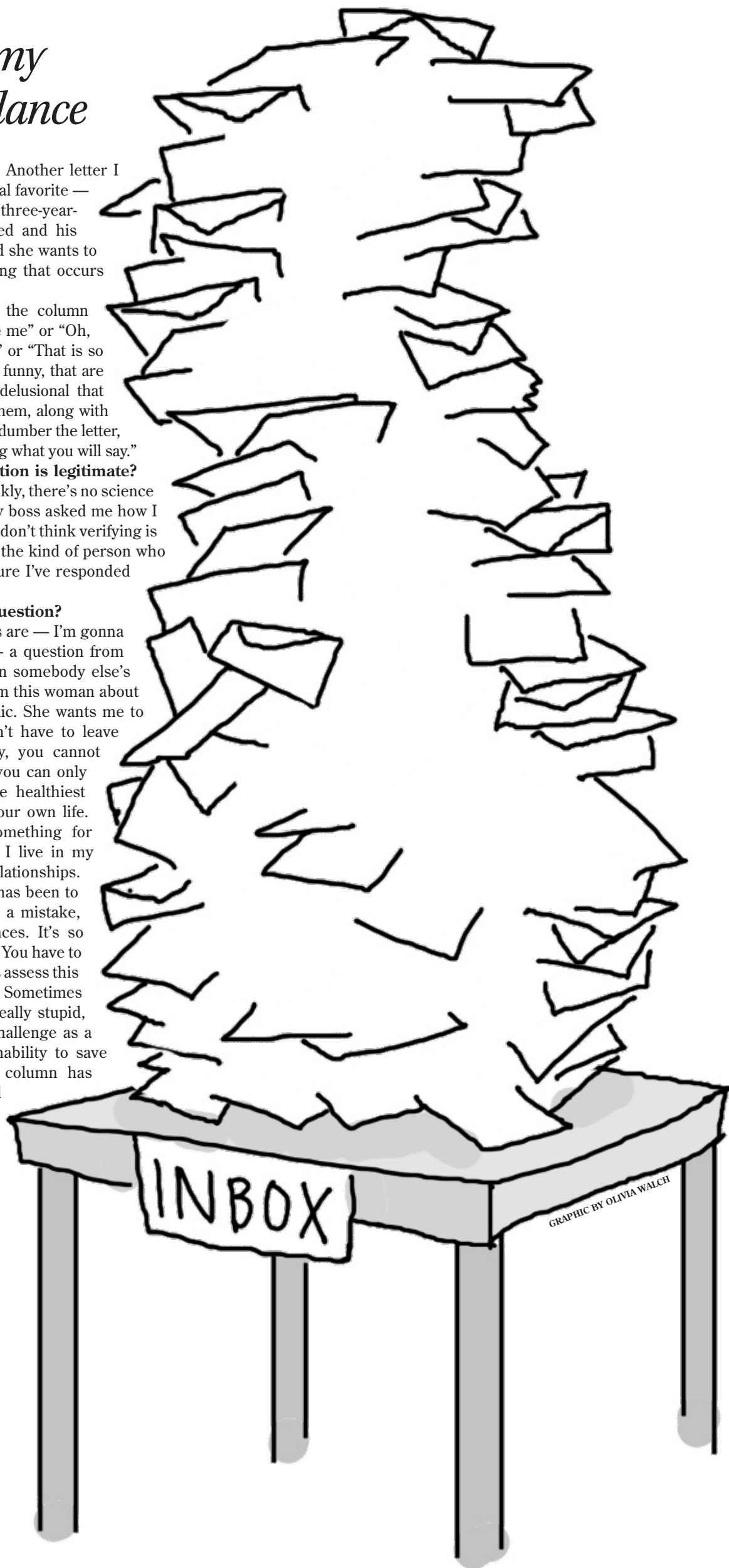
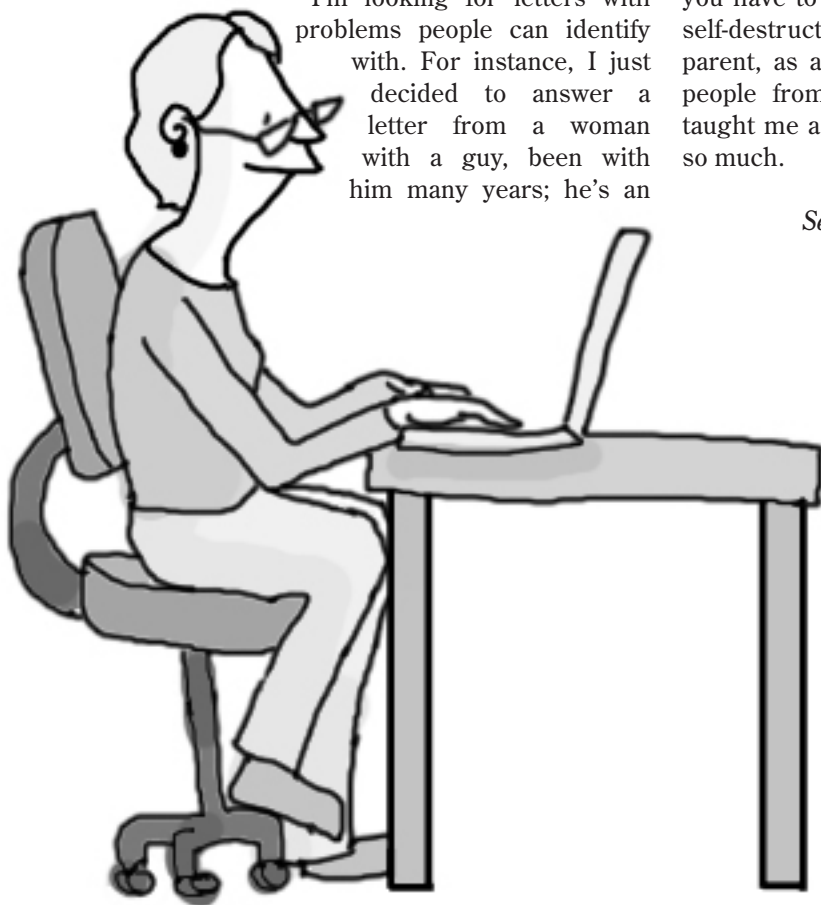
### How do you decide if a question is legitimate?

It's really hard to do, and frankly, there's no science to it. When I was first hired, my boss asked me how I was going to verify the letters. I don't think verifying is a useful process ... I think like the kind of person who would write a fake letter. I'm sure I've responded to a fake letter.

### What is the most common question?

The most common questions are — I'm gonna put them in a genre for you — a question from someone who wants to work on somebody else's problem. It's like this letter from this woman about her husband who is an alcoholic. She wants me to help him get help so she won't have to leave the relationship. Unfortunately, you cannot force someone into recovery; you can only make the choices that are the healthiest choices for you to make for your own life. It's something that's been something for me to absorb in my own life. I live in my own life with lots and lots of relationships. One of the biggest challenges has been to let someone flounder, to make a mistake, to face the natural consequences. It's so challenging and heartbreaking. You have to tell yourself: “Well, all I can do is assess this relationship and be in it if I can.” Sometimes you have to watch people do really stupid, self-destructive things. It's a challenge as a parent, as a daughter, [the] inability to save people from themselves. My column has taught me a lot. I have learned so much.

See ADVICE page 7



GRAPHIC BY OLIVIA WALCH

## CONFUSION CORNER

### Lost in inebriation:

Kevin Mooney

CONFUSION CORNER  
COLUMNIST



There's really nothing about college I love more than inebriated discussions. I'm not sure why, but there's always that point during any college social gathering — and it may have to do with the feigned intellectual, collegiate atmosphere campuses tend to have — when a very intense, involved conversation arises. If you've ever stayed at a party past 1 a.m., and you're not making out on a loveseat in the corner, or trying

to find your coat so you can get the hell out, it's probably because of a particular conversation. Alcohol plays an interesting role in conversations. It's the whole reason that people feel comfortable sharing insights and concerns they'd never voice while sober, but it also impairs their ability to coherently voice those concerns. Of course no one realizes this at the time, as they are blathering on about this band or that friend's girlfriend. But pressed the next day for a recap of that discussion, the one they seemed feverishly devoted to the night before, they'll admit there wasn't much to it. The problem is exponentially confused if one, or God forbid, both

people involved in the conversation are enrolled in a philosophy class. Those ever involved in a “How do I know I have hands” conversation know what I mean.

But drinking merely heightens the inherent comedy of any real, substantial communication. Language is a problem. Everyone realizes this when running up against actual language barriers; it's what makes studying abroad so simultaneously eye-opening and frustrating. Forget the Chinese word for toilet paper at a Beijing supermarket and you're screwed. But we seem reluctant to realize that no two people, even fluent English speakers, are actually ever

speaking the same language. The meaning you associate with a certain word, or at least its connotations, is almost certainly not exactly the same as someone else's. I remember one conversation I had with a friend — in broad, un-intoxicated daylight — where I tried the entire time, missing the entire content of the discussion, I might add, to figure out his use of the word “mimetic.” Only after a few weeks in a classics class am I beginning to even get a grasp of the concept, but I'm never actually going to access the idea he was trying to express. Milan Kundera's brilliant novel, the “Unbearable Lightness of Being,” plays on this disconnect

for comedic effect, as if his two lovers' different understanding of the connotations of parades is the reason they can never know each other. But in most situations — Kundera's characters notwithstanding — we recognize when there's a fundamental misunderstanding. Normal conversation deftly acknowledges, even respects, certain constraints of language. But what I love about drunken conversations is that they just smack up against these barriers like a bird against plate glass, as if they'll get you to understand if by sheer force of conviction.

See EMPATHY page 7



## THAT GUY

# Monroe Scholar monkeys around

By CHELSEA CAUMONT  
Flat Hat That Guy Columnist

*Despite the cold, dreary weather outside, Joe Kessler's attitude is unmistakably positive. A Florida native, Joe's perspective is sunny side up when it comes to academia, hanging around with monkeys, crypt crawling, even watching horrible movies. Our conversation allowed him to open up about his opinions of the College of William and Mary's unique Greek life, his interest in theater and film and his desire to save the world's endangered languages.*

## Where are you from?

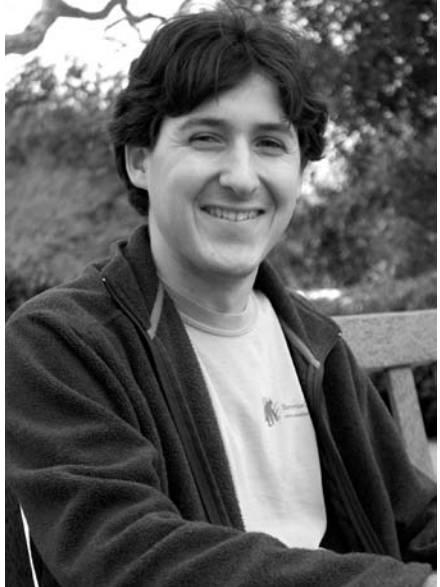
I grew up in Vero Beach, Fl., where most people haven't even heard of William and Mary. Usually when I told people where I was going after high school they'd get either this blank look like, "Is that a private school?" As soon as I came here to visit, I just knew it was the right [school] for me.

## When did you first hear about the College?

I feel like I've always heard of it. My family is a huge fan of the "1776" musical. Thomas Jefferson has a line in there where he's bragging about being a William and Mary graduate. Little things like that. I always knew it was a good school and had a good reputation. When I was applying to colleges I didn't know where I wanted to go, so I just applied to six or seven schools that I thought sounded good.

## Once you got here, how did you decide what to major in?

I'm a linguistics and anthropology double major. When I first came to school I was undeclared, and I just took classes that first semester that sounded interesting to me. One of them was Study of Language, the introductory linguistics course. And then the next semester I just still kept taking classes that sounded interesting. At one point I realized that most of these interesting classes I [was] taking [were] linguistics, so I thought, "All right. That's great. I've got that figured out." Anthropology snuck up on me as a second major, though. There's a lot of overlap with that and linguistics,



MICHELLE GABRO — THE FLAT HAT  
Kessler plans to continue studying linguistics and will be pursuing a Ph.D. this fall. He is also an anthropology major at the College.

so that helped. And there was one class, professor Barbara King's Ape Communication and Human Language course, that I wanted to take because it appealed to the linguistics major in me, but it was an anthropology-majors-only class, so I talked to professor King and I thought, "Well, I'll declare anthropology as a second major so I can get in that class." And then, as I was talking to her, I realized that I'm actually pretty close to fulfilling the anthropology major credit-wise.

## What kind of activities are you involved in?

I'm involved in a lot less now than I used to be. When I first came to college, pretty much the only thing I was involved with was SKIFFY, the College's science fiction and fantasy club. Around sophomore and junior years, I just started joining a whole bunch more things. I pledged my fraternity, [Theta Delta Chi], sophomore year; I was part of the Information Technology student advisory committee for a while; I did some stuff with internal affairs for the Student Assembly, some Mystic Theatre things. It just kind of hit an overload at one point. Last spring I was taking an academic overload of 20 credits, and with all the other things I was doing, too, and it just got to be a bit too much. I sort of had to step back and realize I like all these different activities but maybe it was time to focus on just a few of them.

I'm also a tour guide with the Spotswood Society, so I give tours of the Wren Building once a week. I heard they were accepting applicants, and I had heard of the crypt crawl where only those kids in Spotswood Society are allowed into the crypt underneath the Wren Chapel, and that sounded like fun. You have to put in a full year of being in Spotswood Society before you're allowed to go down in there, so I did that the first time last spring.

## What kind of activities does SKIFFY engage in?

SKIFFY tends to be composed of bad movie fanatics. Like "Mystery Science Theatre 3000," we watch a lot of that. My freshman year we got a group of people together to go out to the theaters to go see "Snakes on a Plane." Earlier this year we watched this terrible, terrible movie called "Mega Shark vs. Giant Octopus," which is every bit as bad as it sounds. I love terrible movies like that, so it's a lot of fun to just sit there and make fun of it with your friends. That's what the club is all about.

## What kind of post-grad options are you looking into?

I'm applying to a couple different programs, all for a linguistics Ph.D. Actually, yesterday I heard back from the first one. Buffalo in New York said yes, so I'm excited about that. That was one of my top two choices. Back when I was applying to colleges I applied to a few different schools; at least this time I have the advantage that I actually know what I want to do, whereas I definitely was completely clueless when I was applying to undergrad.

## Do you have a focus that you're looking at for your Ph.D.?

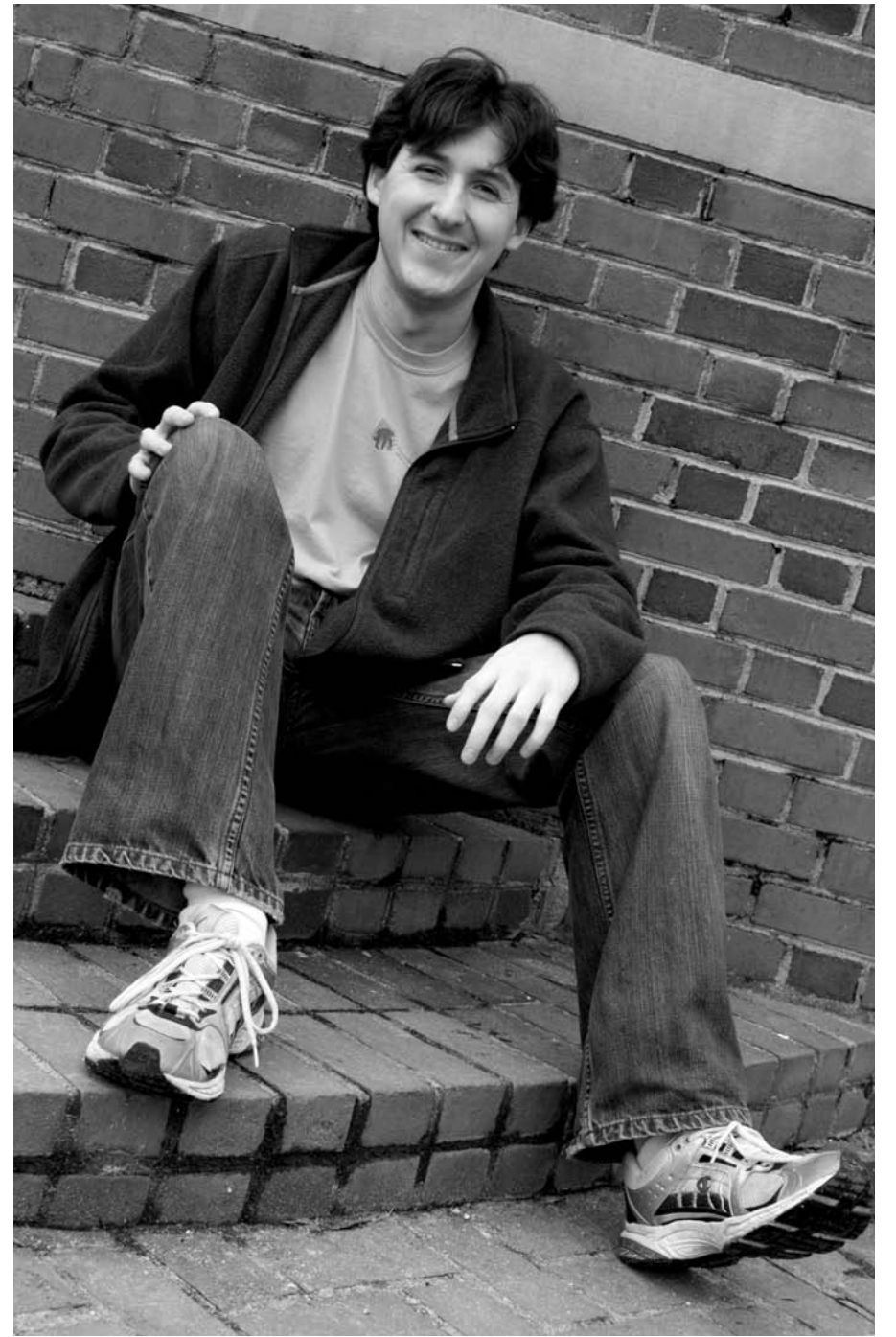
What I really want to do for a living is work on endangered languages, language preservation and revitalization. I did work like that this past summer with professor Jack Martin. I went with him and a few other William and Mary students down to Elton, La. to help the Koasati Indians there. We worked with the native speakers and developed a sixth grade textbook for their language, because the situation there is basically that the youngest speaker is about 18. Most of the speakers are actually much older, in their 50s, 60s and 70s. So they've only recently realized within the past few years that this is a problem — that kids are just not learning the language in their houses anymore. It was a very rewarding experience, and it sort of made up my mind that that's what I think I want to do.

## What was the biggest surprise you encountered at the College?

The weather surprised me. Coming from Florida, I'm used to warm weather year-round. This winter, when I was home, we had a cold snap where it actually got down into the 40s, and everyone was freaking out. No one had proper heating in their houses. Also, I found with Williamsburg weather that it can really fluctuate. You'll have 70 degrees one day and 35 the next, so I've sort of learned to check the Weather Channel every morning when I get dressed, just so I know how hot it's going to be. Some people think I'm crazy; my friends back home in Florida think, "Why on Earth would you go to Virginia? It's snowing." And people here are telling me, "Two of the schools you applied to for grad school, those are up in upstate New York, so what are you thinking?"

## You're also a Monroe Scholar. What was your project?

The work I did with professor Martin this past summer, that was my upperclass Monroe project. Freshman year, professor King in the anthropology department was my adviser. Through her class I found out about this chimpanzee sanctuary that's only about a half hour from where I live back home in Florida, which I had never heard about growing up because it's a pretty private place. I wrote to them and I asked them if they were taking any volunteers that summer, and eventually I was able to go there and volunteer. Actually, I still go there when I'm home over breaks. It's a lot of fun. The sanctuary's called "Save the Chimps." They've got about 200 chimpanzees on the site, and most of them are former biomedical subjects, and Save the Chimps is just a retirement home for them, basically. It's a place for them to live out the rest of their lives without being tested and injected. Mostly I work there in the kitchens because chimpanzees, especially that many, go through a lot of food. There's 10 or 12 smaller groups of chimpanzees and each one has its own island that they go out on. It's tucked away, pretty much off the beaten path. The first time I went there I thought, "Hmmm, this is kind of sketchy," because



MICHELLE GABRO — THE FLAT HAT

Joe Kessler '10 has volunteered at a chimpanzee sanctuary called "Save the Chimps." This experience stemmed from his work with professor Barbara King.

it's in the middle of all this farmland in a very rural area. I love it to pieces now. It's one of my favorite things to do when I'm back home.

## Have you had any notable changes over your time at the College?

I feel like a lot for me has changed since I first came to school. When I first came to school, I had no idea what I was doing here; I pretty much came to college because I've always loved learning, and growing up my parents definitely strongly encouraged the university experience. I came to college wanting to learn but not really knowing what, and now I'm getting ready to go off to grad school and I have at least somewhat clearer vision of what the future holds. I definitely never thought I would join a fraternity when I first came to college, and I ended up doing that sophomore year. My friends back home still think that's weird. I'm one of the last people they would have pegged to join a fraternity.

## What is one of your biggest mistakes since you came to college?

There have definitely been times where I've worried that I've bitten off more than I can chew academically. I love learning, and getting good grades has always been important to me, and I've managed to do that for the most part, but there have definitely been a lot more all-nighters than I would have preferred. As a result of that, there have definitely

been times when I couldn't hang out with friends or do something fun because there was something huge due the next day. In general I try to arrange my schedule so that's not an issue, and that's something I've definitely gotten better with over the years. There are just so many fun classes offered at the College. I've taken so many classes here that haven't helped me at all with GERs or major or minor requirements or anything like that.

## Do any classes that you've taken out outside of your major track stand out for you?

I'm taking Shakespeare in Film this semester with Paula Blank and Colleen Kennedy. Last year I took professor Blank's Shakespeare in Language course. Those were both 400-level English classes that didn't help me at all toward graduation, but they just sounded fun and they have been really enjoyable. I took Arabic 101 last semester and, again, some people thought, "Why are you doing that?" But it was a fun time.

*Turning a potential negative into a positive seems to be one of Joe's strong points as he remarks on his academic overloading and scheduling conflicts. Joe makes it clear that he enjoys learning, whether it be introductory Arabic or how to feed monkeys giant popsicles. Fortunately for Joe, the College offers tons of opportunities in education, which he seems to have taken full advantage of, both in and out of the classroom.*

## Finding substance in late night talks

EMPATHY from page 6

Whether or not it's possible to get around this misunderstanding I'm still unsure; the only method I've yet found is, again, in fiction. Dave Eggers wrote his book "What is the What," which he termed a "fictionalized autobiography" in the voice of Valentino Achak Deng, a Sudanese refugee. Based on his interviews with Deng, Eggers combines Deng's fascinating story with his own experience, creating a narrative that either man might have experienced. It's an exercise in sustained empathy, the likes of which is rarely seen in writing, fiction or non. William Burroughs, for my money, plays a similar game in "Naked Lunch." He's an author who spent his entire drug-addled life consorting with various characters — cops, bookies, addicts and gigolos. His novel seems to evoke something of each of them, and they are each written in the style of prose appropriate to their characters: science fiction, detective fiction and even the detached pseudo psychological journal are all spliced together, as is Burroughs' fashion. It's like reading 12 books at once, each by a different author. Some authors strive to find one authentic tone; he has a cupboard full — a feat I can only attribute to sincere empathy.

Of course, when I tried to explain this to someone at a party, the only reaction I got was a long stare and a response, the gist of which was "I have no earthly idea what you're talking about." He had read the same book and was far more concerned with something entirely different. So we just talked louder and louder until someone who had no interest in either of our concerns finally told us to go home.

Kevin Mooney is the Flat Hat *Confusion Corner* columnist. He fully supports drunkenly talking your acquaintance's ears off, as long as he is not one of them.

## Ask Amy visits Swem for open discussion

ADVICE from page 6

### What do you do if someone seems at risk to themselves or others?

The most worrisome letter I would never run. The lead time is several weeks. I make an effort to go through all my mail. I've only gotten a handful of letters that were worrisome. I've never gotten an e-mail about someone who is going to harm someone else. I can only offer myself as a resource. I'm not 911, I write a column.

Once in a blue moon I've had to get back to someone and say, "You need help." I always say, "Let me know if you're okay." I want the people to know they're heard. I'm under no illusions of what I can do, I am no substitute for a hotline.

### Do you ever consult other people with a particularly difficult question?

Yeah, absolutely. I was a reporter before I did this. I like to think that what I bring to the column is the ability to call in other people who know more than I do. It's funny — I don't like to tackle legal questions and I certainly don't tackle medical questions, but I do tackle relationship issues.

If your siblings are fighting over a mother's will, I know a little bit about estates, quite a bit about emotional and mental disorders. I try to read up on stuff. A letter that is only looking for a legal answer, I'm not going to run that in my column. Some people think they have legal questions but they are emotional questions.

### Do you ever change your mind after you give someone advice?

I have. I have changed my mind. My goal has always been that I wasn't to be factually accurate. There is so much room for valued judgments. I love the fact that readers will respond to me and say, "With all due respect, your answer was terrible." Very seldom have I looked at an answer and said, "That was wrong," but I have thought that I would answer it differently, knowing what I know now.

### What is the best advice you have ever been given?

Actually a very real piece of advice, which I think is excellent but not earth-shattering: never buy a new outfit for a blind date. I chose to not follow this excellent advice, to my regret. Some of this stuff is like the golden rule. It's an important rule to live your life, do unto others, respect other people, tell the truth. I try to remind people of these universal truths, to tell the truth even when it's hard, to treat people with respect and be kind when we can, but that sometimes people need to be slapped.

*If you are interested in finding out Amy Dickinson's opinion on an issue in your own life and in possibly having your question published in newspapers around the country, make sure to check out Chicagotribune.com, where you can submit your question online. Better yet, go hear her talk at Swem this afternoon in the Read and Relax area from 4 to 6 p.m.*



COURTESY PHOTO — EMILY MASON

Amy Dickinson, author of the nationally syndicated "Ask Amy" advice column, will be in Earl Gregg Swem Library this afternoon from 4 to 6 p.m.



# SPORTS

Sports Editor Matt Poms  
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## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#### College falls at Delaware, drops to 10th in conference

The Tribe (10-11, 3-7 CAA) lost at Delaware Thursday 84-55, giving the squad its fourth conference loss in its last five games. Sophomore guard Taysha Pye led the College with 22 points on 10 of 26 shooting, holding up her end of the matchup with Delaware forward Elena Delle Donne. Della Donne, the 2007-2008 Gatorade National Player of the Year out of high school, scored 23 points to go along with 9 rebounds. Teammate Tesia Harris led all scorers with 26 points. The Tribe fell behind early, trailing 16-6 with 15:10 remaining in the first half. A jumper by Delaware forward Danielle Parker gave the Blue Hens a 41-21 lead at the half. The Tribe would cut that deficit to 15 in the second half, but could get no closer. The loss dropped the squad to 10th place in the CAA.

### WOMEN'S SWIMMING

#### Radloff honored as CAA Swimmer of the Week

Senior Katie Radloff was named CAA Swimmer of the Week Tuesday, the third time this season Radloff has taken home that honor. Radloff is coming off last weekend's meet against Delaware and UMBC, where she earned four individual victories to help lead the Tribe to a split. Radloff finished first in both the 100 and 200 free, adding to her career-best 93 wins at the College.

### WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

#### Cream wins weekly ECAC Coach's Choice Award

Junior Melissa Cream earned the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference's Coach's Choice Award, the second consecutive week the Tribe gymnast has taken home the award. Cream competed in the all-around for the first time in her career at Towson last weekend, posting a score of 37.450 to help the Tribe tally their best score of the season versus the Tigers.

## ATHLETE FOCUS

CHANEL MURCHINSON  
SOPHOMORE, GUARD



The Flat Hat caught up with sophomore guard Chanel Murchinson to find out her take on her roommates, hidden talents and her favorite class.

**You live with Taysha Pye and Janine Aldridge. What would people be surprised to learn about you guys?** People wouldn't expect that we watched seven seasons of Will and Grace this summer when our cable went out.

**What's the best class you've taken?** Definitely American Pop. It was interesting and the professor was animated, so it was never boring.

**What do people not know about Janine Aldridge?** G [Aldridge] can't hear. You'll say, 'Janine come here real quick,' and it's always 'What was that?'

**Who on the team has a secret talent?** Taylor Hilton. She DJ's. She brought all of her stuff down here and keeps it at a house. We sometimes go over there and hang out as she DJ's.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL



# Running on empty

## Tribe handed fourth loss in five games in 61-42 defeat to Old Dominion, drops to sixth in CAA

By MIKE BARNES  
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Heading into its Jan. 20 matchup with Virginia Commonwealth, William and Mary had compiled a 14-3 record, a 5-1 mark in the CAA and seemed to be on its way to the postseason for the first time since 1983. The College had garnered significant national attention, received votes in the national polls, and was projected to be a contender for a NCAA tournament bid, provided it could maintain its winning ways.

But beginning with a loss against the Rams, the College (15-7, 7-5 CAA) has now dropped four of its last five games, including a 61-42 blowout at the hands of conference rival Old Dominion (18-6, 10-2 CAA) in Norfolk Wednesday.

The two teams met for the second time in 12 days, and unlike the Tribe's heartbreaking, last-second 58-55 loss to ODU at Kaplan Arena, the Monarchs left no doubt this time around, physically dominating the College from start to finish.

"I would say that we simply got beat by an outstanding basketball team tonight," Head Coach Tony Shaver said.

"They've got it all in my opinion. They are great defensively, they have great size, great athleticism and they have great speed at the guard position. For 30 minutes, we battled, but we couldn't stay with them down the stretch."

Old Dominion solidified an increasingly powerful at-large resume with the win.

The overarching theme of the College's recent four-game skid has been the loss of its strongest asset — its shooting ability. For the fifth game in a row, the Tribe posted an anemic shooting performance, managing to convert just 33.3 percent of its shots.

Most importantly, the College's usually reliable three-point shooting has suddenly dropped off — a fact that was punctuated by a 20 percent evening from behind the arc. While the squad did manage to earn open looks against an ODU defense rated among the top in the nation, it was unable to capitalize.

"I'm concerned [about the shooting], but I really thought that for 30 minutes, we got outstanding shots tonight," Shaver said. "We missed a few layups. We're going to shoot the three — people can say all night long, 'Go inside,' but we don't match up inside with these guys.

We have been one of the top five shooting teams all year, but we aren't shooting it right now."

Sophomore forward Quinn McDowell finished a futile 3 for 9 from the field, while senior forward Danny Summer converted only two field goal attempts. Senior guard David Schneider continued his recent offensive struggles, going scoreless in the second half while hitting only 2 of 12 shots.

The College's offensive struggles could be attributed in part to the size and athleticism of the Monarchs' lineup. Old Dominion used its strength and height to out-rebound the Tribe by a decisive 48-25 margin, including 23 offensive boards.

"ODU is big, they are physical, they are better than we are right now," McDowell said. "We knew it was going to be physical; we just didn't capitalize tonight. You just can't give that team so many second opportunities."

The Monarchs utilized their second chances and shot 50 percent from the field in the second half, further distancing themselves from a lackluster Tribe that managed to convert only 28 percent of its field goals after the break.

With the loss, the College dropped to sixth in the CAA standings. With six CAA games remaining in the regular season, the Tribe is now focused on relieving the team's recent woes and regaining at least fourth place in the conference, thereby guaranteeing a first-round bye in the upcoming CAA tournament.

"Coach said that we have kind of hit a plateau lately, and we have to find a way to get better," McDowell said. "That's going to be our emphasis in the last third of the season."

Although the Tribe has already played both Virginia Commonwealth and Old Dominion twice, several challenging contests loom, including a home matchup against Northeastern and a road test against George Mason. The squad will have a chance to get back on track Saturday in Atlanta, when it will face Georgia State. The Panthers sit at 4-8 in the conference and are 10-14 overall. But the squad upset first-place George Mason Wednesday, and will prove far from an easy win for the College.

"We just have to rebound on Saturday, and hopefully just get a win at Georgia State, and go from there," freshman guard Matt Rum said.

### FOOTBALL

## College signs 13 freshmen to class of 2014

### Two-star running back Laws, NC-transfer Paulus highlight strong group

By MATT POMES  
Flat Hat Sports Editor

Despite a late start to the recruiting season, William and Mary Head Coach Jimmy Laycock signed 13 incoming freshmen Wednesday, in a group highlighted by depth on the offensive and defensive lines. The class will also be joined by junior transfer quarterback Mike Paulus, a marquee addition from the University of North Carolina.

"We certainly got a good cross-section of players," Laycock said. "We've got some good solid linemen, and we've got some skill players that give us some flexibility at different positions."

Due to the College's playoff run to the FCS national semifinals in December, the Tribe coaching staff had little time to focus on recruiting until after the season ended, almost a month later than usual.

"We weren't able to have any official visits until the end of January," Laycock said. "It really put us late in that regard, but the notoriety and attention we got really helped us."

The most immediate contributor will be Paulus, who decided to transfer to the College just days after the Tribe's season ended with a playoff loss to Villano-

va Dec. 11. A former four-star recruit in the high school class of 2007 from Syracuse, N.Y., Paulus will be thrown into a quarterback battle to replace the departed senior R.J. Archer. Laycock said Paulus, who is already enrolled in classes at the College this semester, is already working out with his new teammates.

"He's been watching tape and he says he's been out there throwing with the guys," Laycock said. "[The starting quarterback job] is wide open, nobody's been promised anything. And I think that's what caused all of them to go out and work and look at film right now."

New Jersey running back Darnell Laws will highlight the group of incoming freshmen. Rated a two-star recruit by both Rivals and Scout.com, Laws ran for 731 yards on 114 carries his senior season at St. Augustine Prep and will likely redshirt his freshman season in Williamsburg.

"He gives us another big runner," Laycock said. "That's one thing we were looking for, and if we had an opportunity to sign a big running back, we were going to do that."

The Tribe coaching staff also focused on the offensive and defensive lines, after losing several key players to graduation.

Lansdale, Pa. product Stephen Sinnott headlines the group of three defensive linemen, after being named first-team All-State and leading La Salle High School to a state championship this past fall. Meanwhile, Baron Goodwin comes to the College as a second-team All-State offensive lineman from Nansemond-Suffolk Academy in Smithfield, Va.

Raphael Ortiz will be the only scholarship quarterback in the freshman class. The Jersey City, N.J. native threw for 1,610 yards and 18 touchdowns during his

senior season at St. Peter's Prep, making first team All-State honors.

The class also includes a kicker, a rarity for scholarship freshmen. John Carpenter hit all eight of his field goal attempts this past season for Allegheny High School in Cumberland, Md., while recording 50 touchbacks.

Laycock was pleased with the overall depth of the class, and will supplement the group with invited walk-ons in the fall.

"You try to get as good, solid players as you can, hope they can develop, and see where they are two, three years from now," he said.

### Freshman signing class of 2010

George Beerhalter — DL, 6-3, 250, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Alex Berry — OL, 6-4, 275, Roanoke, Va.

John Carpenter — K/P, 6-1, 190, Cumberland, Md.

Jake Franklin — OL, 6-4, 263, New Bern, N.C.

Alex Goodman — LB, 6-0, 215, Fredericksburg, Va.

Baron Goodman — OL, 6-3, 284, Smithfield, Va.

Jordan King — WR/DB, 5-10, 185, Stafford, Va.

Darnell Laws — RB, 5-11, 211, Sicklerville, N.J.

Jesse McNeal — WR/DB, 5-11, 170, Spotsylvania, Va.

Raphael Ortiz — QB, 6-2, 214, Rahway, N.J.

Mike Reilly — DL, 6-4, 240, Old Tappan, N.J.

Stephen Sinnott — DL, 6-3, 222, Lansdale, Pa.

Ivan Tagoe — WR/DB, 6-0, 203, Burtonville, Md.

