

VARIETY:  
Can Santa find sexy presents  
to put under your tree?  
Find out, page 9

SPORTS:  
Women's basketball falls  
to JMU, page 13

# The Flat Hat



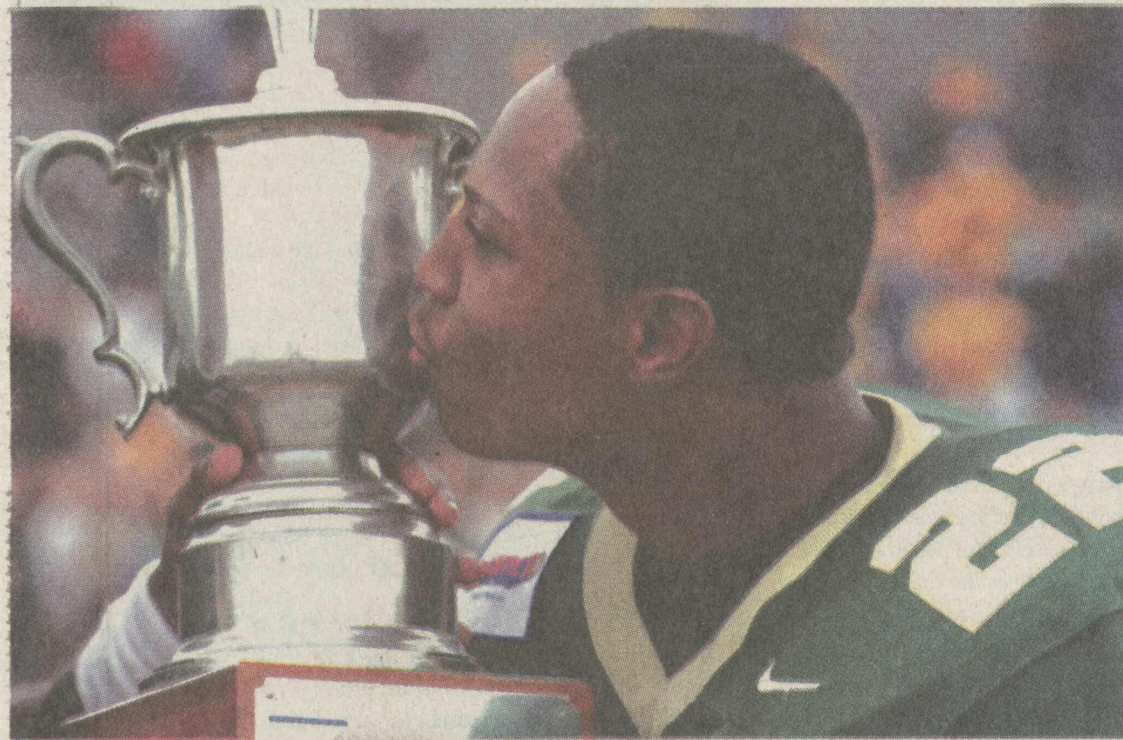
REVIEWS:  
'Merchant' pricks,  
bleeding ensues, page 8

DECEMBER 3, 2004 VOL.95, NO.13

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY SINCE 1911

http://flathat.wm.edu

## Tribe football advances in I-AA NCAA playoffs



ALLIE VEINOTE • THE FLAT HAT  
Defensive back junior Stephen Cason kisses the trophy the Tribe won after defeating the University of Richmond 38-14 to win the Atlantic 10 Championship. They are scheduled to play Delaware tomorrow at Zable Stadium.

BY JEFFREY LUNARDI  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

To say that the 2004 W&M football program has had a successful campaign during Head Coach Jimmye Laycock's 25th season would be akin to saying that Michael Jordan could hold his own on a basketball court.

The Tribe has won a share of the Atlantic 10 Conference title, disputably the top conference in I-AA football and earned a trip to the NCAA playoffs for the first time since this year's graduating seniors were redshirt freshman. The squad has also won 10 games in one season for the first time since 1996, the last time it advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Championship tournament. None of this takes into account statistics, records or individual achievements. And they're not finished yet.

This Saturday marks the first time that the College has ever

hosted a second-round NCAA tournament game. Tomorrow's match-up against the University of Delaware, the only I-AA team to outlast the Tribe this season, is one of the biggest football games ever played in Williamsburg.

The ride started Sept. 4 at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. A 48-39 loss didn't look all that impressive, but the College held a 10-point lead late in the third quarter at the same stadium where the University of Miami fell to the Tar Heels just a couple of months later. This game also served as notice that senior quarterback Lang Campbell was a player to watch, as he threw for 322 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Next came a surprising trip to the University of New Hampshire, ranked No. 10 in the nation. The College notched their first of five victories against nationally-ranked teams with a 9-7 defensive struggle.

See FOOTBALL + page 3

## De-Stress week aims to let students relax

BY JILL CLARE  
FLAT HAT INSIGHT EDITOR

With classes winding down and finals just a week away, Health Outreach Peer Educators, Student Health and the Counseling Center sponsored the second annual De-Stress Fest Tuesday to give students a chance to relax. Organizers boasted higher attendance and more activities than last year.

The event was advertised across campus in during the past week. Some students said they were attracted to the event because of the flyers advertising free massages and snacks.

"I saw [the event] advertised all over campus," freshman Mackenzie Whipps said. "It was the ani-

mals that really attracted me."

Paws to Relax, a group of therapy dogs and their owners, visited for the first two hours of the event. They sat outside the University Center and caught the attention of passing students who stopped to pet the dogs and socialize with their owners.

"The dogs always seem to have a very positive effect in bringing stress levels down," Stacey Campbell, one of the volunteers who brought his dog, said. "Just relaxing and petting a dog really makes people open up. We get a lot of kids who come by and tell us stories about their dogs at home."

See DE-STRESS + page 3



IRENE ROJAS • THE FLAT HAT  
Students got to relax with some friendly pooches at the University Center Tuesday night as part of the second annual De-Stress Fest.

## SAE charter revoked

BY CARA PASSARO  
FLAT HAT ASST. NEWS EDITOR

The College's chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon has been temporarily suspended from campus due to a hazing incident that occurred at the fraternity's house in October. Last month Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler announced the findings of a joint review conducted by the College and Sigma Alpha Epsilon's national office confirming allegations of hazing at the fraternity.

In an e-mail sent to students, faculty and staff Nov. 18, Sadler issued a statement from the College and Dr. Tom Goodale, executive director of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon National Fraternity. The statement contained the results of the review, which found that actions taken by members of the fraternity had broken rules established by both the College and the fraternity's national headquarters.

"The investigation revealed that actions by fraternity members were in direct violation of College policies regarding alcoholic beverages, endangering the health and safety of others on campus, hazing and also violated the national fraternity's policies," Sadler said in the e-mail. "More importantly, these actions put the safety of students at risk and resulted in one student sustaining serious injuries that required hospital care."

The joint review began after the College received a call from the parents of a freshman male student who was pledging the fraternity. The student had been taken to Sentara Community Hospital for treatment of serious cuts and bruises to his head and ear on the night of Oct. 21. According to Sadler's e-mail, the student had a .37 blood-alcohol level.

Upon reviewing the events that led to the injuries, the College and national fraternity office learned that the incident occurred on the organization's Revelation Night, where the fraternity presents the pledges with their big brothers. Members of the fraternity reportedly supplied alcohol to the pledges and permitted them to drink to the point of severe inebriation. Additionally, the review found that members of the fraternity had turned a student room into a social lounge and storage place for alcoholic beverages. The pledges were allowed to access

See SAE + page 3

## Student rejects offer of temporary expulsion

*Doherty, who discharged gun at party, chooses not to accept deal that would allow him to reapply next year*

BY BEN LOCHER  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Senior James Doherty, who fired a gun at a party at the soccer house on Ireland Street Nov. 1, faces a judicial hearing Tuesday after having rejected an informal resolution offered by Vice-President for Student Affairs Samuel Sadler.

If Doherty had accepted the offer, he would have been expelled from school but would be eligible to reapply without guarantee of readmission in 2005. Doherty also faces four criminal misdemeanors. Doherty has not, however, been charged with the felony counts that were errantly listed in court documents previously cited by The Flat Hat.

### College sanctions

Sadler outlined the informal resolution proposal in an e-mail addressed to Doherty's former attorney, State Senator Thomas Norment, Jr. Under the agreement, Doherty would be found guilty of violating school policy for bringing a firearm onto campus, but charges of harassment would be dropped.

Currently, Doherty is banned from campus and is on interim suspension until the matter is resolved, according to another e-mail from Sadler to Doherty. Doherty has asked Sadler to withdraw him from his classes.

Sadler, the office of Dean of Students Patricia Volp and University Relations Informa-

tion Manager Brian Whitson declined to elaborate.

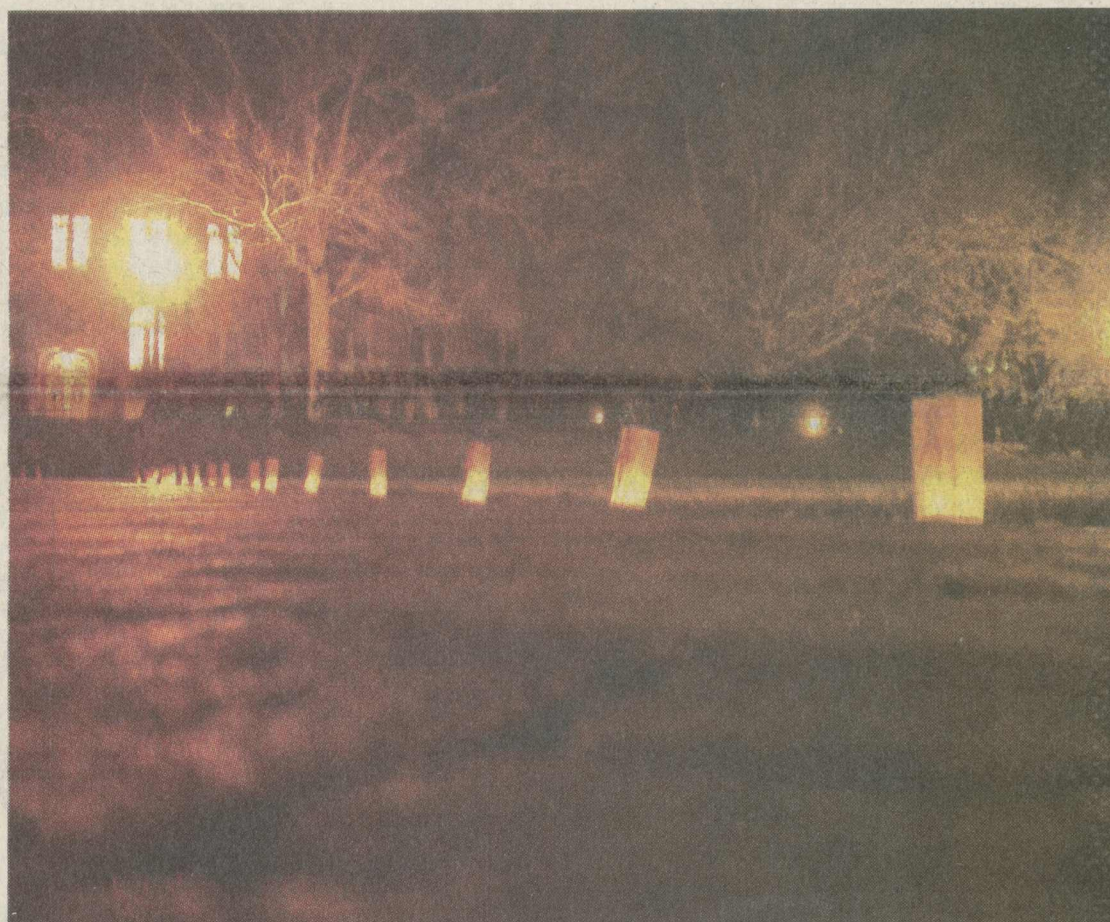
### Two different versions

The e-mail from Sadler to Norment and statements given to Volp have revealed more about what happened at the party, though many of the details are still contended. Both of the documents were provided to The Flat Hat by Doherty.

According to Sadler's e-mail, Doherty allegedly got into a physical altercation at the soccer house party with three members of the varsity baseball team: Jonathan Rhymes, Joe Roenker and Mike DeCarlo. The three

See DOHERTY + page 3

## LONG, AND HARD, IS THE WAY THAT LEADS UP TO LIGHT



STEPHEN CARLEY • THE FLAT HAT  
Juniors Christine Moe, Megan Danford along with senior Megan Doyle and sophomores Diane Grills and Kate Leary lit candles in the Sunken Gardens Wednesday night in honor of World AIDS Day. The ceremony was preceded by a service in Washington Hall sponsored by the Williamsburg AIDS Network.

## myNotebook to offer laptops for all students in five years

BY ANDY ZAHN  
FLAT HAT INSIGHT EDITOR

The College unveiled a plan last week that aims to ensure that all College students own a laptop computer, beginning with the 2005 to 2006 school year. The program, entitled "myNotebook," would work with incoming students to make sure that they all have a laptop computer that meets a set of minimum requirements. The program's proponents say it will also provide financing options, such as applying financial aid toward the computer to cover the added expenses.

In 2003, more than 25 percent of four-year colleges required computer ownership for students. The College will specifically require the ownership of laptop computers in order for students to be able to take advantage of the various areas of campus with wireless internet access and to standardize computer ownership, which College officials regard as necessary tool for students today.

According to Provost Geoffrey

P. Feiss, the program will increase the caliber of education offered by the College.

"The myNotebook program brings the promise of enhanced high-quality collaboration and communication that are the hallmarks of the William and Mary educational experience," Feiss said. "There are exciting possibilities ahead."

The myNotebook program is currently in the planning stages. Implementation of the program will affect students and the College in several ways. Under the current plan, the College will take responsibility for ordering, delivery and setup of the laptop computers, and the computers will be given to students when they arrive on campus for freshman orientation.

Information Technology Director of Web, Learning and Communication Services Susan T. Evans also serves as chair of the communications committee for the program. She said that an objective of the plan is to facilitate joint projects among students and professors.

"We want to be able to allow students to continue to work on collaborative projects with other students and faculty members," she said.

The program will also allow the College to reevaluate the current computer labs which, according to Evans, are now primarily used for word processing, checking e-mail, web browsing and instant messaging, all features to which students would have access on portable computers. The laptops the College will provide will be equipped with these basic features, allowing students to update the computers continually for other uses as well.

Once all students possess a laptop, some of the current labs can be converted into specialty multimedia labs, which can focus on elements like video editing, Evans said.

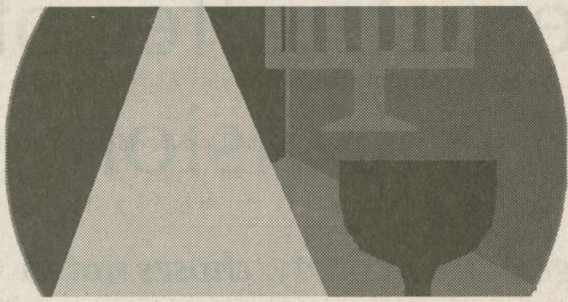
She added that laptop possession is essential in today's world, where business and academics continue to be dominated by developing technology. Because the

See LAPTOPS + page 3

“ I like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals. ”  
SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL  
WWW.QUOTATIONS.PAGE.COM

Inside this week's issue

VARIETY



Campus organizations prepare to celebrate the diversity of the various December holidays.  
See HOLIDAY, page 7.



“Buffy” makes a comeback on a new DVD that features the butt-kicking vampire slayer in her final season.  
See SLAYER's, page 11.

OPINIONS



Common sense dictates that a woman makes her “reproductive choice” when she spreads her legs.  
See POLITICAL, page 5.



Women's basketball opens their season with tough competition, taking on JMU at 7:00 p.m. in William and Mary Hall.  
See BASKETBALL, page 13.



Check online for a photo gallery of recent football pictures, World AIDS Day events and the Javanese Gamelan performance.  
See <http://flathat.wm.edu>.

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REVIEWS, PAGE 11 + SPORTS, PAGE 13

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters should be no more than 300 words, columns should be no more than 700 words. Letters must be e-mailed to flhops@wm.edu. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets weekly to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by the Editor or a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only. The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Beyond the 'Burg

PROPOSED STUDENT DIRECTORY DRAWS CRITICISM

(U-WIRE) CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — A recent proposal by the Department of Education to create a new database of enrollment records on all students attending colleges and universities across the country is raising concerns among advocacy groups over the loss of privacy rights.

In the past, the government has only requested specific student information on individuals who apply for financial aid. Otherwise, colleges and universities only submit general information about overall enrollment, graduation and financial aid.

The new requirements would demand that colleges and universities provide information on all students individually along with their social security numbers. ...

“Our concern really centers on this being a really major move away from the confidentiality of student information that has been in place for more than 30 years,” Roland King, vice president for public affairs for the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, said. “In our view there is a fairly limited return from a research standpoint versus what would be given up in student privacy.” ...

Sarah Flanagan, NAICU vice president for government relations, said the proposed reasons for the new regulations would be two-fold.

First, the government would like to be able to track the success of its student loan programs. Second, the government would like to be better able to track transfer students.

Flanagan said the NAICU is generally concerned with the concept of creating a centrally-located national database for every enrolled student in the country.

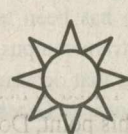
“We believe that students, not the federal government, should have control over their own educational records,” she said. ...

The National Center for Education Statistics at the Department of Education would be in charge of receiving, analyzing and protecting the data. Officials from the center said that it has never been forced to share student information with law enforcement or other government agencies in the past. ...

—By A.J. Frank, Cavalier Daily (U. Virginia)  
— compiled by andy zahn

WEEKEND WEATHER

Friday



High 57°  
Low 31°

Saturday



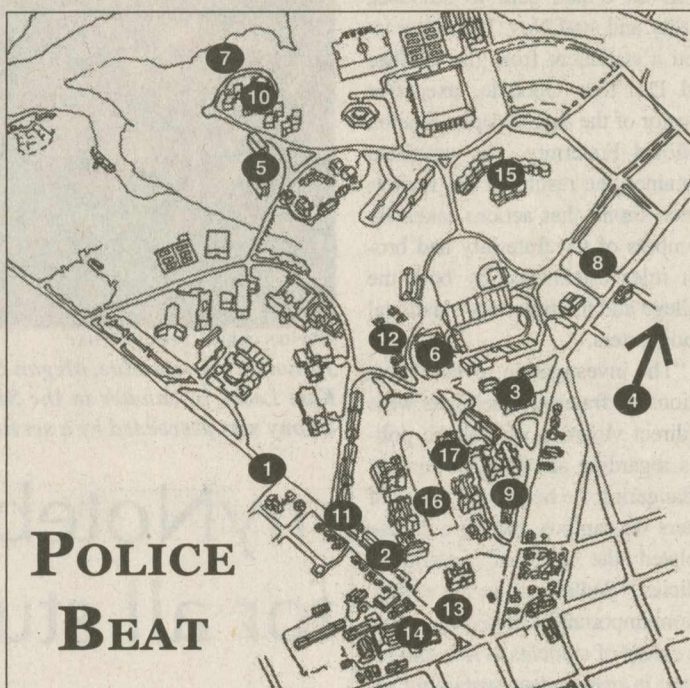
High 53°  
Low 32°

Sunday



High 58°  
Low 49°

Source: www.weather.com



Friday, Nov. 12 — A female student reported being hit by an automobile on Jamestown Rd. across from Barksdale Field. The student suffered minor scratches. Williamsburg police are handling the investigation. 1  
Sunday, Nov. 14 — A fire alarm pull station was activated in Jefferson Hall. 2  
Monday, Nov. 15 — A female student reported harassing instant messages at Stith Hall. 3  
— A female student reported harassing instant messages at Munford Hall. 4  
Friday, Nov. 19 — A male student reported petty larceny of a bicycle valued at \$16 at Dupont Hall. 5  
— A radio used by personnel at the University Center was reported stolen. The value of the radio was estimated at \$1,000. 6  
Saturday, Nov. 20 — Suspicious persons were reported in the area of the Keck Lab. Four students received ID checks. 7  
— A male student was arrested for allegedly being drunk in public on Harrison Avenue. 8  
— A male student was referred to the administration for alleged underage possession of alcohol in Monroe Hall. 9  
Sunday, Nov. 21 — A juvenile student was referred to the administration for allegedly being drunk in public, underage possession of alcohol and contributing to the delinquency of a minor in Dinwiddie Hall. 10  
— A male student was referred to the administration for underage possession of alcohol in Fauquier Hall. 11  
— A female student reported harassing phone calls in Barrett Hall. 12  
— A male student reported larceny of a bicycle from Lodge 16. The estimated value of the bike was \$175. 13  
— Two male students were referred to the administration for failure to respond to a fire alarm. 14  
The students reportedly did not evacuate Dinwiddie Hall. 15  
Monday, Nov. 22 — A female student reported petty larceny from Dawson Hall. The student hung her ID card on the handlebars of her bike while she went running. Estimated damages were \$20. 16  
— A suspicious e-mail was sent to President Timothy J. Sullivan's office in Brafferton. 17  
— A female staff member reported grand larceny of a ring in the Campus Center. The staff member left the ring on a sink. The estimated value of the ring was \$300. 18  
Tuesday, Nov. 23 — Arson of a bulletin board was reported in Lambda Chi. 19  
— A male student reported petty larceny of a bicycle from the Sunken Gardens. The estimated value of the bike was \$100. 20  
Wednesday, Dec. 1 — A male student was transported to Sentara Community Hospital. The student tripped and fell when attempting to jump over a chain fence at James Blair Hall. The student suffered a laceration to his forehead requiring stitches. 21  
— compiled by michael j. schobel

STREET BEAT :

What is your favorite way to de-stress for exams?



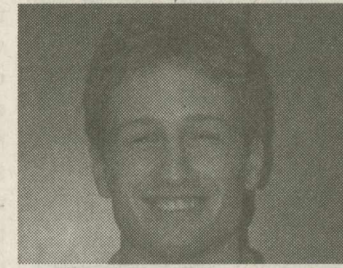
“I write letters to professors desperately begging for extensions.”

+ Brittany Bird, sophomore



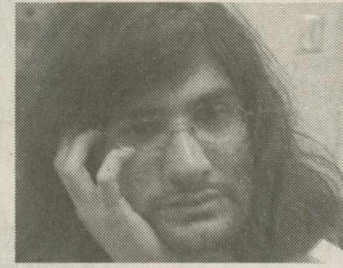
“I wander aimlessly around the hall and then I lock myself in my room and cry. And wish I had chocolate.”

+ Allison Black, junior



For me working out is a way to zone out all the stress in my life

+ Matt Rubenstein, freshman



I like to go to special events on campus or go see a movie.”

+ Bay Johnson, junior

— photos and interviews by jason mckim



## Under the MICROSCOPE

◆ GAME THEORY STRATEGIES OBSERVED ACROSS NUMEROUS SPECIES

BY BECKY EASLEY  
THE FLAT HAT

Two accomplices are separately interrogated by the police. Each accomplice can either cooperate with his partner and say, "I didn't do it," or can defect by saying that his partner committed the crime. If both cooperate then each gets one year in jail. If they both defect then they both get five years, and if one defects and the other cooperates the defector gets six months in jail while the cooperator gets 10 years. This scenario is just one example of game theory, a field of mathematics that studies choices made by players either to benefit themselves or the larger group. From the standpoint of the prisoners, the best choice in the prisoner's dilemma is to defect no matter what.

A tit-for-tat strategy can also be beneficial if the accomplice knows that he will be in the same situation again. In this case one accomplice should plan to cooperate the first time and then mimic their accomplice's choice the next round. If both accomplices follow this strategy then the highest payoff is received.

Another example of game theory is the snowdrift game. The difference here is that no matter what, one person has to cooperate in order to benefit. In this game, two cars are stuck in a snowdrift. Both drivers have shovels, so a driver can either cooperate by shoveling or defect by sitting while the other works. The best strategy in this case is for both to cooperate because they will get out of the snowdrift faster.

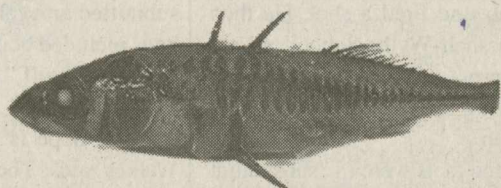
The principles of game theory are not limited to synthetic situations. In fact, game theory plays a large role in biology as well. Some organisms exhibit all three behaviors described in the examples above and have been found to use the "best strategy" in order to maximize utility for both the group and the individual.

Game strategy is interesting because it appears to run counter to the Darwinian concept of survival of the fittest. The July 24 edition of Science News reported how Darwinian theory does not explain the behavior exhibited by the species velvet monkey. Upon seeing a leopard, the monkey will begin to make calls to warn other monkeys of the leopard's presence. However, this action brings more attention to the individual, making it more likely that the

leopard will attack the boisterous monkey. A possible explanation for such behavior is that survival of the monkey's kin is a better strategy for perpetuation of the monkey's genes than survival of the individual monkey.

The prisoner's dilemma is usually not a fight for a shorter sentence but rather a fight for "increased fitness and reproductive success." Evolution has helped certain organisms learn the best route in these games. Even in organisms that do not seem to have the reasoning capacity to understand game theory, the appropriate behavior is programmed into the organism. RNA viruses, for instance, participate in a version of the snowdrift game. In one experiment, two strains of phi6, a type of RNA virus, were cultured separately. One strain was grown to produce a molecule used in reproduction and was considered cooperative. The other strain did not produce this molecule and was considered uncooperative. When the strains were mixed the uncooperative strain leached off the production of molecules by the cooperative strain but the cooperative strain was so productive that there were enough molecules for both strains.

Another example of game strategy can be seen in a type of fish called a stickleback. When a potential predator is near a group of stickleback fish, two stickleback fish go to inspect the predator, which is usually a pike. Upon swimming up to the pike, one stickleback advances while the other begins to slow. Then the first stickleback begins to slow while the other begins to advance. In this case whichever fish lags behind has decreased its chances of being eaten from 50 percent to 10 percent. In addition, the two stickleback draw the pike away from the group.



COURTESY PHOTO • HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE  
A specimen of the stickleback fish. This organism escapes predators by alternating position with other fish while swimming away. The benefits of this strategy are described through game theory, a field of mathematics.

## World Beat: Asia Nations battle with AIDS

By STEPHEN CARLEY  
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

The two most populous nations in the world joined forces to eliminate ignorance about AIDS by putting on the events Wednesday to commemorate "World AIDS Day," the Dec. 1 edition of the CNN.com reported. Officials from China, a country that may have as many as 10 million infected citizens by 2010, made public overtures for commitment to fight the epidemic this week, while in India, sex workers distributed ribbons among police officers in Ahmedabad to spread general awareness.

about talking about sexual matters," he said, according to CNN.com. "These are large societal issues to confront."

China and India were not the only countries involved in the events of the week. In Cambodia, CNN.com reported, the infection rate has fallen from 3.3 percent to 2.6 percent among adults over the years 1998 to 2003. However, officials are concerned that the disease is spreading into rural areas where more than 10 million of its population of 13 million live. Wednesday's efforts concentrated on encouraging accountability among unfaithful

can only be won when all discrimination and stigmatization to people with HIV/AIDS is eliminated," he said.

On the treatment side, Indian researchers are planning to begin human trials of a new vaccine starting in January, CNN.com reported. The United States, Europe, Africa and South America are also conducting research on different strains of HIV, while India's study is on the subtype C, the country's most common strain. The research follows an announcement by the World Bank in August that warned that HIV would become the leading cause of death

### SITUATION:

Governments and international organizations recognized the havoc that HIV and AIDS have wreaked on the world's populations with "World AIDS Day" Wednesday. Chinese officials, who have been accused by critics of ignoring the problem, wore red ribbons and President Hu Jintao made a well-publicized visit to a Beijing hospital to meet with AIDS patients. In India sex workers distributed ribbons among police officers. Still, the United Nations and its AIDS program says there is much work left to be done and the spread of the virus in India, China and Russia is extremely close to becoming a global epidemic.

Critics have charged the Chinese government with largely ignoring the spread of the disease in recent years, a perception Chinese officials are attempting to combat through major media outlets. According to CNN.com, Chinese newspapers carried photos of President Hu Jintao shaking hands with an AIDS patient and quoted Premier Wen Jiabao calling for "unrelenting efforts" against the epidemic. Hu, wearing a red silk ribbon, visited a Beijing hospital accompanied by Vice Premier Wu Yi and Beijing's Communist Party leader Liu Qi.

Khalid Malik, a coordinator for the United Nations in China, said he was pleased by the recent enthusiasm of China's leaders, but he added that the necessary next step was to make sure that reforms had an impact among China's working poor.

"It is a society where there is still a lot of stigma, a lot of uneasiness

husbands who typically spread HIV to young women.

"I would like to send a message to those unfaithful husbands not to bring AIDS home to kill your innocent wife," Dr. Tia Phalla, head of the national AIDS authority, said, according to CNN.com.

Thailand also saw demonstrations this week, including one in which Thai children paraded through marketplaces dressed as condoms to distribute contraceptives. Since the movement began in the 1990s, the Thai efforts have reportedly reduced the number of new infections by a significant amount, CNN.com reported.

Vietnam also has a major HIV problem, and according to CNN.com, Health Minister Tran Thi Trung said that ignorance about the disease is still retarding prevention efforts.

"The battle against this disease

in India unless there was progress in treatment and prevention.

The United Nations and its AIDS program issued statements Tuesday warning that India, China and Russia are extremely close to allowing their own infections to turn into a global epidemic, the Dec. 1 online edition of The Washington Post reported.

"[This situation] bears alarming similarities to the situation we faced 20 years ago in Africa," Peter Piot, a Belgian physician and epidemiologist, told policymakers, according to the Post. "[It could go] from a series of concentrated outbreaks and hot spots into a generalized explosion across the entire population, spreading like a wildfire from there."

Botswana's president, Festus Mogae, issued a statement to his people, 37 percent of whom are infected with HIV, saying that they needed to abstain from unprotected sex or die.

## Interested in Becoming a Certified Personal Trainer?

The William and Mary Recreational Sports Department is offering an in-house training course that will provide students with the information, instruction, education, and practical experience needed to become a Personal Trainer. The course will prepare students to take a National Personal Training Certification Exam.

Class is limited to 15 participants. Because the class size is limited, preference will be given to those that are interested in employment as Personal Trainers for W&M Rec Sports.

**CLASS TIME/DAY:** Wednesdays from 6-8pm, starting January 26th.

**LOCATION:** TBA

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Fill out a registration form at the front desk of the Rec Center.

**COST:** \$80.00- covers the training manual and study guide

Outside training courses/exams can total up to \$500.00! By taking the in-house training course you can take a national certification exam for only \$160.00, making the total cost of becoming a certified Personal Trainer only \$240.00!

For more information go to:

<http://www.wm.edu/recsports/fitnesscorner/ptinstructionalprogram.php>

Or contact Jenny Ruehrmund at 221-3313 or [jvrueh@wm.edu](mailto:jvrueh@wm.edu)

## Interested in scholarships?

National? Campus?  
But always feel out of the loop?  
Don't know which is perfect for you?  
Exciting lesser known scholarships  
passing you by?

Don't let this continue!

So how can you keep updated on the  
latest information?

The Charles Center!  
Join the Charles Center scholarship  
listserv and never miss an opportunity  
again!

Just complete and submit the online form  
at  
<http://fswb.wm.edu/charles/scholarships/scholform.cfm>

For more information,  
go to the Charles Center website,  
[www.wm.edu/charlescenter](http://www.wm.edu/charlescenter)

# OPINIONS

Dance Dance Revolution  
provides hours of  
entertainment.  
See DANCE, page 6

## Laptop mandate lacks luster

The recently announced myNotebook initiative will require a fundamental culture change in the way we use our computers. Altering students' using habits will be the largest part of the transition to a laptop campus. Instead of having our desktops, or desk-bound laptops, and using Public Access Computer labs to perform our various mundane tasks, we will be forced to have a laptop on our person at all times. IT will reduce the number of PAC Labs and refocus some of the remaining labs as special purpose labs for digital video editing, complex statistical manipulation or music composition.

Our major hang-up is that many of the program's goals can be achieved without requiring laptops. A general computer requirement could facilitate financial aid, increase student productivity, allow students to use specialty software on their personal computers, increase the efficiency of the wireless network and lower IT turnaround times on malfunctioning computers. If every student came to campus with a standards-compliant computer, or had the College purchase and configure it for them, why couldn't we pursue aggressive software deals, expand the wireless network and increase repair efficiency?

Additionally, the logistics of the program are close to nightmarish. Laptops are heavy, it rains a lot in Williamsburg and many current classrooms lack acceptably large desks or enough electrical outlets. And perhaps the largest logistical issue is that of hardware failure and the subsequent IT repair turnaround time. Laptops break more often than comparable desktops. It doesn't matter how fast IT can fix a computer if it breaks at 11 p.m. and the user's project is due at 9 a.m. Our other concern was that a four-year cycle for a laptop is about their absolute useful life — a two-year refresh cycle, hinted at as a possibility in the White Paper, would be a better course of action.

It should be understood that we did find several aspects of the plan beneficial. We unanimously agreed that the infrastructure improvements are indispensable to the plan and the future of technology on campus. Expanding the wireless network is crucial; the steering committee should consider adding dorms to the list of supported areas to create an entirely wireless campus. Inexpensive site licensing is a fantastic idea and should be implemented as soon as possible. Finally, alternative purchasing options will allow students the freedom to choose a manufacturer that fulfills their needs, because it's nearly impossible to build a computer that will appeal to over 6,000 people with differing priorities.

As we progress through the spring semester, students and faculty should keep an eye out for changes in the plan as it gets closer to its final state. We don't "need more computers," as the white paper for the myNotebook initiative states; what we need is an expanded infrastructure to better use the ones that we have. Because the project is still in its planning stage, input and questions are crucial to getting the best result. Questions can be addressed to myNotebook Project Director Gene Roche and concerns can be voiced in The Flat Hat as a letter to the Editor or a column.

### Editorial Board:

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## AP classes valuable, credit worthy

Recently there has been a questioning of the merit of high school advanced placement courses and their respective Advanced Placement tests created by the College Board. Due to this criticism, many colleges are questioning how much weight to give these test scores when evaluating a student's application, and some are even going so far as to reconsider granting credit to incoming students for AP classes and tests.



Monica Loveley

Here at the College, the Student Assembly has recently implemented an amendment in which credits earned through AP (and International Baccalaureate) will not count during the freshman registration process. I believe this action, in addition to being detrimental, implies a consensus with critics of AP, which is a dangerous reaction to a concept that was originally developed to improve highly motivated students' high school academic experience and better prepare them for college.

Critics argue that the pressure to take AP classes to beef up applications causes students to take classes that they otherwise would not be interested in. To compete in today's cutthroat admissions process, however, students must combine a slew of challenging courses, athletic and musical talents, awards of excellence, leadership, volunteering and other extracurricular activities — AP is only just a small part of this formula. In addition, most high school students do not have much room left for choosing their courses after completing requirements. In many cases, the choice may be as simple as AP biology or regular biology, AP calculus or no more math.

Pure and simple, AP was designed to provide motivated students with learning equal to that which is provided in college. AP classes may range in effectiveness from school to school, but the tests serve to standardize their evaluation. The College Board adheres to rigorous grading standards in order to fairly gauge a student's level of competence in the subject matter. The process, explained to me by former teacher and AP test grader, is not

arbitrary, but rather is a strict system in which multiple well-trained graders evaluate a student's work based on a system of checks and balances.

By not allowing credits earned through AP to count in the registration process, the College is sending the message that we believe the AP experience is indeed not equal.

The most vehement argument against AP courses seems to be that a student cannot possibly gain as much depth and level of knowledge in them as they can in a real college course.

In response, I would like to say that I have not had a single course at the College that has compared to the breadth, challenge, intensity and passion that I found in my high school AP classes. My classes here meet three hours a week for one semester; in high school, my AP classes each met for five hours every week for an entire year, allowing us to cover more material in greater depth. I had extremely close relationships with each of my instructors, who were more passionate about teaching their students and less worried about publishing, school duties and being politically correct (an inescapable part of teaching at any college). These AP courses absolutely fulfilled their promise to equal the college course experience, and this was reflected in my test scores.

Without the credit that I received from the AP tests, I would never have been able to register in a progress-appropriate window as a freshman and perhaps would not have been able to complete my education here in three years. Instead of being able to gain additional work experience and live, travel and study in six countries in Europe and Asia, an experience that I view as integral to my "college experience" as a whole, I would have spent an extra semester repeating classes I had already taken.

So I want to thank the College for its AP credit acceptance policies, and I urge the SA to reconsider the new registration policy, especially in the era of class cuts and burgeoning admissions numbers. To do this would be to make a statement that challenging oneself goes rewarded, progress is encouraged and that college is indeed for learning, not re-learning.

Monica Loveley is a staff columnist for The Flat Hat. She is currently a senior at the College.

O SADLER-BAUM, O SADLER-BAUM...  
YOUR EMAILS LONG DELIGHT US!  
THEY'RE LONG WHEN PARKING'S REARRANGED...  
THEY'RE LONG WHEN SOME FRAT BOYS BEEN HAZED...  
O SADLER-BAUM, O SADLER-BAUM...YOUR EMAILS LONG DELIGHT US!



GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS, EVERYBODY!

## Political correctness handicaps America

My tolerance level for liberalism reached its breaking point on Thanksgiving.

I was doing well. George W. Bush was reelected by mandate a couple weeks ago, showing liberals

that you can't lie through your teeth and expect to win a presidential election. (Scratch that — Bill Clinton won twice). It's expected that Bush will be able to nominate up to four Supreme Court justices and maybe — just maybe — reorganize the federal appeals courts to break up the 9th Circuit's chokehold on the west. The last vestiges of liberal control of our government may soon disappear. However, some late-breaking news quickly reminded me that these freaks aren't giving up.

The day before Thanksgiving, a Reuters story announced, "A California teacher has been barred by his school from giving students documents from American history that refer to God — including the Declaration of Independence." As if our public education system isn't bad enough, now kids can't even learn about the Declaration of Independence?

Terry Thompson, the teacher's attorney, hit it right on the nose when he said, "It's a fact of American history that our founders were religious men, and to hide this fact from young fifth-graders in the name of political correctness is outrageous and shameful."

Political correctness is the biggest handicap America must overcome. Here's a summary of political correctness I came up with off the top of my head:

1. In politically correct schools, it's OK to teach kids how to put a condom on a cucumber, but teachers can be arrested for saying the Pledge of Allegiance or, God forbid, praying in class.

2. In politically correct law enforcement, terrorists who attempt to kill American soldiers must be given five-star accommodations and the same rights as American citizens.

3. In politically correct airport security, 19 Islamic terrorists hijacked four airplanes, but airlines are fined enormous amounts of money if security pays extra attention to those who resemble or come from the same countries as the killers.

4. In politically correct college admissions, lesser-qualified minorities receive more admission points based on their race regardless of the fact that every respectable civil rights leader from Frederick Douglass to Martin Luther King, Jr. fought for racial equality — not to replace one form of racial discrimination with another.

5. In the politically correct White House, it's OK to bring a Bible into the Oval Office where you sodomize interns while married, but it's beyond the pale to pray about presidential decisions or claim that God helped you to arrive at them.

6. In politically correct courthouses, judges are thrown off the bench if they display the Ten Commandments in public despite the fact that many of our laws were derived from those timeless mandates.

7. In the politically correct Senate, it's OK for Democrats to worship a former Klansman as a great leader, but it's an abomination for a Republican majority leader to say nice words about the life of a longtime senator on his one-hundredth birthday.

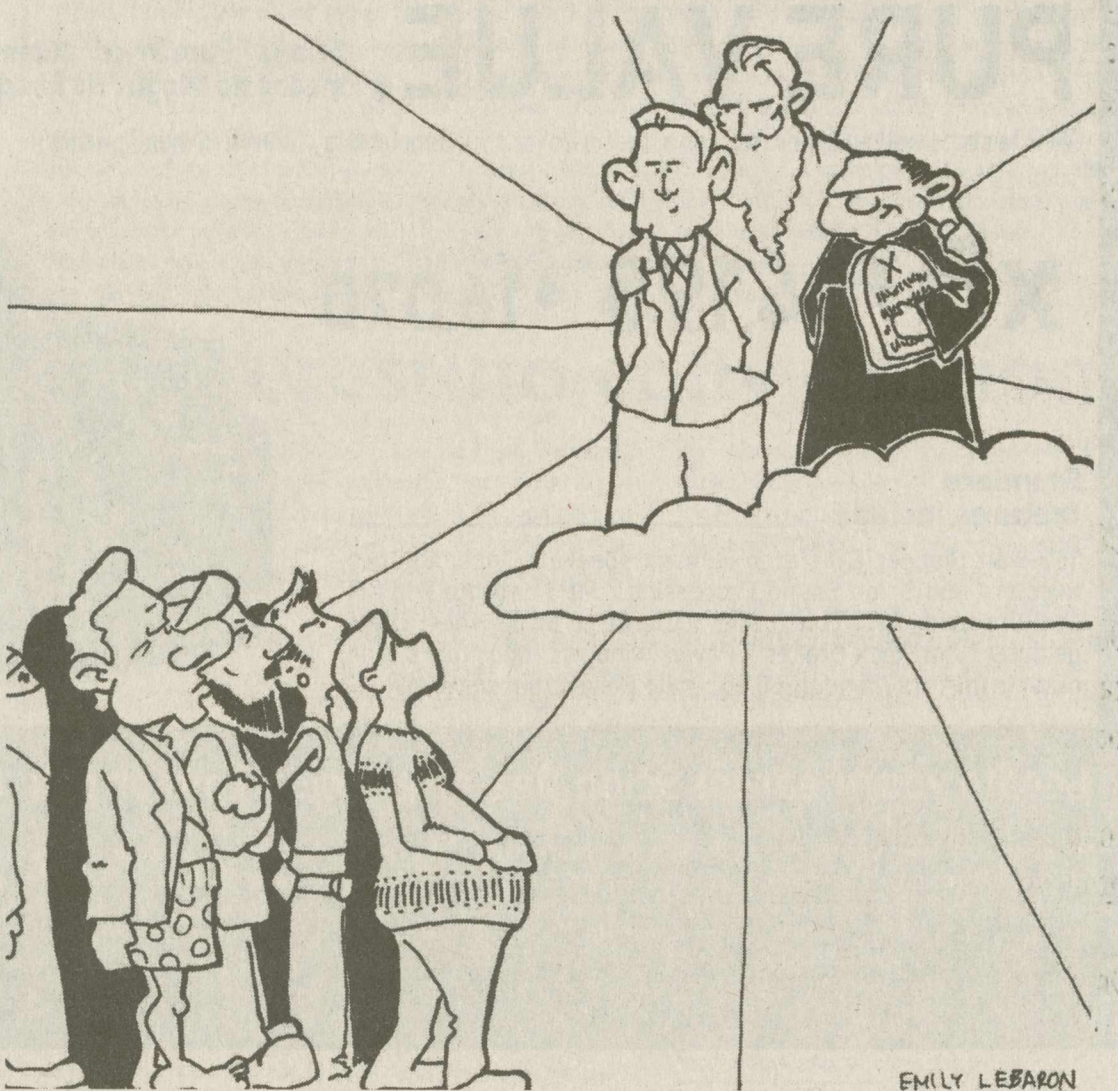
8. In politically correct medicine, infanticide, commonly referred to as "abortion," is permitted as "women's reproductive freedom of choice" though common sense dictates that a woman makes her "reproductive choice" when she spreads her legs. Apparently it's a human rights violation to execute a convicted murderer, but it's perfectly fine to execute an unborn child.

In her new book "How to Talk to a Liberal (If You Must)," Ann Coulter argues that being a liberal requires "The absolute conviction that there is one set of rules for you, and another, completely different set of rules for everyone else." That sums up political correctness quite nicely.

In the end, everything is about liberals scrambling to get some level of power in the government, which would be a dark day indeed. The good news is they don't know how to do it. As liberals get more and more shrill, conservatives gain more and more power. In general, Americans are not liberals. Take a look at the last several elections. Every time a candidate ran on a purely liberal agenda (Mondale and Kerry, we're looking your way) he lost. Why? Americans are not liberals.

For God's sake don't stop the liberals. By losing they're making America a better place.

Michael Ruff is a staff columnist for The Flat Hat. He is currently a junior at the College.



EMILY LEBARON

# Dance Dance Revolution: the game of humiliation

Everyone knows that video games were invented by the Man for the enslavement of the mind. Despite that, they are a lot of fun, especially if you are good at them. If you are not good at them, that's



Alex Danvers

OK, too, because you usually don't look like an idiot while playing them. However, this was a positive attribute of video games, and enslavement tools with positive attributes just don't mesh. So the Man decided to rectify this situation by creating the video game Dance Dance Revolution.

line the basics of DDR.

Firstly, you need to understand, DDR is unlike other video games. It is a dancing video game, and that doesn't mean you sit there pressing buttons to get your character to dance, it means you are physically dancing while you play it. The way you dance in this game is by stepping on various squares on a mat that is divided up like a tic-tac-toe board. The screen displays images of various directional arrows scrolling upwards, and as they reach the top of the screen you have to step on the corresponding square on the mat. To be good at this game requires foot-eye coordination, and possibly also a sense of rhythm, which immediately ruled out my ever mastering it.

I first stepped on the mat in a state of trepidation. I had seen others play this, others who possessed a certain level of talent, and so I had a general idea of what it took to be good at this game. I also had a very general idea of the overwhelming potential for looking ridiculous while playing it. I selected the easiest level of play to begin, then selected a song to

dance to.

When the song began, an arrow pointing to the left scrolled slowly to the top of the TV screen. I thought about which side was left, then moved my foot to that side of the pad. I timed it fairly closely to when the arrow on the screen had reached the designated point at which I was supposed to step, and was rewarded by the message "good" flashing briefly on the screen. Another arrow scrolled upwards, but this time I was better prepared. I stepped forward on the pad and the game told me that this was "perfect." This was the Man's clever way of using flattery to lull me into a false sense of security before completely crushing my ego.

At this point the music began to pick up tempo and the arrows began to come faster. I was becoming a little frantic. I moved my feet from one square and before it could even sink into the rubbery pad I had already missed two more arrows. The music was starting to pound almost palpably on my brain, and my feet felt like a button that has become jammed from too much use. I tried following the

arrows, but my legs always seemed disinclined to join me. They did go faster, however, and soon I was swinging them about randomly, touching various incorrect parts of the pad, and getting booed by the TV. Little messages saying "bad" kept popping up, and the word "boo" was displayed for the hearing impaired.

Just as my socks had built up enough friction for me to strike back at the game with a deadly static shock the game ended abruptly and the message "failed" filled the screen. I stopped moving and stepped off the pad, feeling like an idiot, and tried to remember which directions my feet needed to go to walk forward. All that I could think about was the little arrows scrolling up. Left! Right! Down! Left! I knew then that it was too late for me. No matter how ridiculous I looked, I was compelled to play again. The Man had enslaved my mind once again, and so I prepared to step back on the pad for another round. Curse the Man for holding me down.

Alex Danvers is a guest columnist for The Flat Hat. He is currently a freshman at the College.

### Letters to the Editor

#### President must unite party and country To the Editor:

Sherman Patrick describes in the Nov. 12 edition of The Flat Hat, the division that he believes is taking place within the Republican Party. It follows then, that the columnist would condone a strategy to unite the Republicans. This could indeed be a strategy for compromise that would bring many ideas to the debate.

Instead, the columnist advises Karl Rove to "come up with a strategy that will get them to keep their mouths shut and vote Republican."

If the president cannot unite his own party without silencing the opposition within the party, how does he plan to unite a country in which 49 percent of voters cast a vote for another candidate? Are we who did not vote for President George W. Bush doomed to have to "keep our mouths shut" as well, or are we not even part of equation?

— Matthew Taverna, '04

#### Picture endangers credibility of paper To the Editor:

When I looked at the cover of the Nov. 12 issue of The Flat Hat, I was quite saddened. I read most of the paper every week and enjoy it most of the time. However, when you decided to put a picture of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Club playing Nerf games on the cover, I became quite concerned.

When a premier university puts students playing Nerf games on the cover of their school paper it puts into question the quality of the paper as a whole. Don't you think that a story and picture about Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's death or another international event might have been a little more significant than kids playing Nerf games?

I am simply pointing this out because I would like The Flat Hat to maintain its integrity and publish important stories on the cover.

— Robert Lopez, '05

## Clinton bad choice for 2008

### Democratic nomination

Now that all the fun has ended from the presidential election of 2004, it is time for our nation to go back to business as usual.

Or so one would think.



Joe Luppino-Esposito

Instead, we have already been embroiled in talks about who will be the candidates in a wide-open presidential race in 2008. Republicans have a fairly large hole to fill after enjoying the reelection of President George W. Bush, whose vice president, Dick Cheney, is in no way the next in line to run. Speculation of a "Bush dynasty" was

quelled with Florida governor Jeb Bush saying he will not run in 2008. Moderates such as Sen. John McCain of Arizona, former federal prosecutor and mayor of New York Rudy Giuliani and New York governor George Pataki have all been rumored as successors. Unfortunately, they would all be great additions to the ticket as vice presidents, perhaps not as well suited for the top. In this respect, a party that is coming off the biggest mandate in well over a decade will be hard pressed to find the right leader come 2008.

The Democrats, on the other hand, seem to have already anointed their nominee. She hails from New York, via Little Rock, via Chicago. (Carpetbagger? Anyone?) She has somehow changed her perception as an "It Takes a Village" left wing socialist to a "moderate" in her four years in the U.S. Senate. Then again, if she can transform from a Chicago Cubs fan to a "lifelong" New York Yankees fan, she could make this switch with ease. (Note that this is all before Karl Rove, the bane of existence for liberals everywhere, created the "flip-flopper.")

Senator Hillary Clinton has already started down the path to be the 44th president of the United States, only eight years since she completed her co-presidency with her husband, the heartthrob (or should I say heart-attack?), Bill.

The first time she hit the national stage was with a proposal for a national healthcare system. After everyone checked their maps to make sure they hadn't wandered into the Soviet Union, her grand plan was foiled.

But to remind you of those actual facts would be pointless. I won't make arguments against her now based on her stance on the issues and what she stands for and actual hard facts; Democrats didn't see that fit for Bush the entire presidential race. So I will say but one thing that should sum it all up: anybody but Hillary.

As much as the Democrats despise the Bush family, Republicans have an equal reaction to the diabolical Clintons. And as ridiculous as the baseless claims were against a second Bush term, Republicans can certainly come up with creative ones for a nightmare sequence of a Hillary presidency, essentially a more liberal version of 1993-2001. You can hear us shouting now: "We'll be forced into homosexual marriage!" "Abortion will be mandatory!" "Kiss your guns and second amendment rights goodbye!" "Religion will be outlawed!" I could go on ... Oh could I go on.

Rush Limbaugh has already come out saying that Hillary will not get the nomination because she wants it too bad. As bad as she wants it, Rush is relying on the fact that conservatives will stand strong and agree on "Anybody But Hillary." Yet there is a fine line on which to tread where the party relies on anger and hatred of a particular person as a means of promoting their own candidate, who may not have two legs to stand on. Just ask Rick Lazio who ran against Hillary for Senate in 2000, or Bob Dole who ran against Bill Clinton in 1996, or, perhaps it would be best to ask John Kerry. Republicans need to be wary of turning Hillary into a demagogue, as she can just as easily turn herself into a victim.

But saying all that is too responsible. Until 2007 rolls around, I think I'll stick with "Anybody But Hillary," and hopefully the rest of the nation will agree, for now at least.

Joe Luppino-Esposito is a guest columnist for The Flat Hat. He is currently a freshman at the College.

This will be the last issue of The Flat Hat for the semester.

Good luck with finals!

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The Flat Hat will resume printing January 28. Have a good break!











# REVIEWS



Revenge of Lindsay?  
See page 12

## SLAYER'S FINAL SEASON RESURRECTS CULT SHOW'S FANDOM ON DVD

By ALEJANDRO SALINAS  
FLAT HAT REVIEWS EDITOR

So, after surviving a network change, six seasons, a musical, dying twice and stopping the apocalypse ... a lot, Buffy Summers, Joss Whedon's ditzzy California blonde hottie, finally came across her greatest enemy yet: a house full of pre-pubescent, annoying-as-hell potentials — as if dealing with irritating Dawn weren't bad enough. Can't the slayer ever get a break?!

OK, so not quite, but that's what the final season of the show felt like to many. Now, don't get me wrong, I utterly worship Joss Whedon's creation and have genuine feelings for the Scoobies (with the exception of Dawn), but the show's final season felt rather, well, boring. Not quite "Dawson's" boring but (as Andrew would say) "Episode I" boring. It all started well enough; Sunnydale High reopening, the big bad of the season revealing itself to be The First (as

in the first evil), Willow coping with hocus pocus withdrawal, Xander looking sharp in a fancy tux and Buffy getting a job as a counselor of some sorts. Even the less prominent Scoobies got their time in the spotlight — albeit with mixed results. Dawn, again, proved in both the season opener "Lessons" and the dismally silly "Him" that she had more personality as a blob of energy. If only Buffy had pushed her into the portal at the end of season five ...

On the other hand, the criminally overlooked Anya finally got the story arc she deserved. Sure, season six's wedding arc hinted at the depth behind the delightfully blunt ex-vengeance demon, but it wasn't until this season's "Selfless" that viewers finally got to learn more about Anya as a person — a real person. From her beginnings and her unique connection to bunnies, to a flashback to the musical episode with an all new number all to herself, to her quest for some sort of identity independent of Xander,

Anya transcended the role of comic relief and became a genuine, fleshed-out character. Forget about Buffy and Angel/Spike, the Anya/Xander relationship, with its candidness, bitterness, lust, frustrating stagnation and closure, proved to be the show's most endearing.

The season peaked with the nifty "Conversations with Dead People" which brought back another scene-stealing character: the is-he-or-isn't-he-gay nerd and former villain Andrew. The mere presence of this hilarious, hopeless big bad-wannabe alongside a bewitching song by Angie Hart made this episode easily one of the show's best. Like top 10 best. After that it all went downhill. Episodes like "Get it Done," where Buffy discovers the origins of the slayer lineage, and "The Killer in Me" lacked some serious spark, while "Potential" and "First Date" were simply horrible. Dawn as a possible

See FINAL + page 12



COURTESY PHOTOS • TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX  
Buffy (Sarah Michelle Gellar) battles and slays an übervampire.

### A look back at the Scoobies

Buffy Summers



The one. The slayer. Quite blonde and quite clueless. Aside from slaying she also occasionally beds vampires (but only if they have a soul). Not too good with authority but keen on fashion.

Willow Rosenberg



Buffy's best friend. Went from quintessential nerd to wiccan to evil and veiny (as well as transitioning from boys to girls). Can't carry a tune but great with books and the occult.

Xander Harris



The heart of the gang. Awkward with women and not too good at handling rejection. He might not have any special power, but Xander's sense of humor makes him essential to the group.

Rupert Giles



Buffy's watcher. Unusually sexually active for his age and great with the guitar. A bad boy in his times, Giles functions as the voice or reason in the gang. Most of the time anyway.

## Wolfe scores barely passing marks for mediocre 'Charlotte Simmons'

By TRISTAN LEJEUNE  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

You could smell it in the excerpts, printed this past year in "Rolling Stone" and "Men's Journal." You could feel it radiating from the pages of the limp, irrelevant essays in 2000's "Hooking Up." With a fortuneteller's eye you could even read it, like tea leaves, in the fissures of the great "A Man in Full": Tom Wolfe has lost his touch.

Not his touch for writing per se; he can still build those massive pyramids of language in which a phrase cascades and expands into paragraph which cascades and expands into a kind of whirlwind passage that hits you like a breath — nay a gale of exuberant, "maximalist" storytelling. I would still be hard-pressed to name three writers in whose prose I would rather curl up for a few days (or weeks if you're slow, these are doorstoppers we're talking about). He seems, however, to have lost touch with the American society he so bravely chronicles. That Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale isn't getting younger and neither is he. Cracking the cover of "I Am Charlotte Simmons," Wolfe's latest, I was disappointed



COURTESY PHOTO • FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX

and confounded to find that he had made sparse and paltry new observations about my America, and still less about my college.

This being said, the novel is not nearly as poor as other reviews would have you believe. I do not find the members of fictional Dupont University "so stereotyped that they give new meaning to the word caricature," as Michiko Kakutani of the "New York Times" claims. At least not all of them. Wolfe always excels at making what we thought were two-dimensional characters suddenly but believably leap to life. In particular I wish more time was spent with the established athlete but only rising student, Jojo. Nor do I agree with Michael Dirda of the "Post" that "Wolfe treats late adolescence as largely a crime against humanity." Wolfe frowns on our casual fashion (hey, we can't all wear egg-white

tailor-made suits), our promiscuity (because I'm sure they never partied when he was an undergrad) and even our language, more than once snidely praising a student

See MEDIOCRE + page 12

## Impressive acting sells 'Merchant'

By CHRIS ADAMS  
FLAT HAT ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

"The Merchant of Venice" is one of Shakespeare's most problematic plays for modern audiences. W&M Theatre tried their hand at the comedy Nov. 18 to 21. Director Richard Palmer decided to set the play in 1937 Venice to utilize the rising anti-Semitism of the times, for which the production is indebted to Trevor Nunn and his 1999 stage (and later screen) version of the play.

The story centers on the Venetian merchant Antonio, played by grad student Danny Ramish, and his friend Bassanio, played by senior Russell Fenton, who needs money to woo Portia, junior Rachel Manteuffel. Bassanio uses Antonio's credit to borrow the money from a Jewish usurer, Shylock,

played by senior Nolan Bennet. In case the bond should fall through, Shylock asks for a pound of Antonio's flesh as security. Bassanio wins Portia's heart, but not before Antonio goes bankrupt. Shylock insists on his pound of flesh, but all turns out well when Portia, with the help of a disguise and some sharp thinking, manages to save the day.

The play's controversy lies in the character of Shylock and the other characters' treatment of him. Is he a clichéd evil villain? Do the other characters care what they do to him? Unfortunately, the production kept the audience guessing. With his slight accent and mannerisms, Bennet's portrayal of Shylock swung wildly from a caricature of the "stereotypical Jew"

See 'MERCHANT' + page 12



COURTESY PHOTO • W&M THEATRE DEPARTMENT

## Myriad bands provide quintessential seasonal soundtracks

### CRITICAL CONDITION



Lindsay Randall

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every album under heaven." Quoted [somewhat] from Ecclesiastes 3.

There have been four great albums of the past year. And corresponding to each of these albums, there is a season. From the rain of spring to the snow of winter, from the sun-screen of summer to the scarves of autumn, this year, the indie rock world has got you covered. Jackets, galoshes, flip-flops and all.

"Good News for People who Love Bad News" is for springtime. From the brassy trumpets announcing the dawn of the album and the transition from "ice age" to "heat wave," you "can't complain." The moment the music starts you'll see the leaves turn mint green. The dreamy keyboards and childlike "bah-bahs" weave a musical tapestry of pastels and lightly falling rain. Later songs about bizarre dance halls and satin in coffins add the dark overtone of thunderstorms so necessary for a great album of March and April. Modest Mouse's fourth record is a delight of an album, containing the

widest range of sound on a single album since The Smashing Pumpkins' "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness."

Blessed with a couple of solid singles ("Float On," "Ocean Breathes Salty") and some of the best lyrics of their career ("the clouds just hung around like black Cadillacs outside a funeral"), "Good News" is an undeniably riveting record. Isaac Brock's voice has been stretched to its weirdest, alternately whining and shouting like a drill sergeant; the rest of the band has grown along with him, conducting wonderful experiments with guitar sounds and melody. The album is a considerable departure from the days of "Paper Thin Walls," but nonetheless retains that fun, solid indie rock sound that is the mark of the Mice and pours sunshine and flowers out of your cd player.

Roll down your windows and get ready for the summer's hottest group, Franz Ferdinand. The Scottish quartet filled MTV2 and local coffee shops with their rocking debut album, "Franz Ferdinand," within a couple months of

release. Pop this record in and you'll understand why.

"Jacqueline" is one of the best songs in a long time. Starting quietly with an incredibly itching build, the song explodes into pure, simple rock bliss by the time we're hearing about how it is, truly, "so much better on holiday." The album doesn't lose any of its energy as the songs progress; the band executes flawless short, sharp tunes with catchy choruses. As lead singer Alexander Kapranos says, he just wanted to "make music girls could dance to." Girls screaming along and dancing in their sundresses and high-heels (à la Beatles' first concert) somehow just fits the whole tone of the record.

Rigorously ingratiating and sunny as hell, this record is by far the best pop-rock album of the year. It also just happens to have the best single of the year, "Take Me Out," an incredible ode to who-knows-what that is impossible to listen to without tapping your foot and bouncing your head. I'm having trouble typing right now because the song is playing right now and I

can't seem to stop dancing in my chair to write this article.

So if popcicles, slip-n-slides, barbecues and backyard dances are your thing, "Franz Ferdinand" will be your perfect summery soundtrack.

I can't help saying that autumn is my favorite season. I also can't help saying that "Here Comes Everyone" is my favorite album.

The third album from the little-known band Aloha, this record has more heart-breaking songs and plaintive lyrics than November has leaves. It's difficult to listen to the whole thing without wet eyes and clasped hands by the final, glorious prayer, "Goodbye to the Factory." Musically, the record is the most complex and rich of the past five years. Layer upon layer of unique sounds, vibraphones, quivering guitars, and tripping pianos combine with impeccably constructed songs to create an exceptional album.

See BANDS + page 12



# SPORTS



Grab some skates and a stick and check out the W&M ice hockey team. See Ice Hockey, page 14



FILE PHOTO • THE FLAT HAT

A Tribe player outfoxes her opponent in a previous game. The Tribe earned their first victory of the season against Norfolk State last Wednesday.

## Women's basketball opens

By DOROTHY PARK  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The past four games of this season have ended in disappointment for the women's basketball team. Weak offense rendered W&M's strong defense useless, which translated into low scores and low shooting percentages in each matchup.

Sunday, Nov. 21, marked the beginning of W&M's 20th season as a Division I women's basketball team.

The host and opponent American University Eagles came in with a 25-14 all-time series advantage over the Tribe, but W&M had triumphed over AU in two of the last three meetings.

Still, the Eagles dominated the game, 78-59, as it shot 60 percent from the floor and detained the Tribe to a 34 percent effort. AU led the entire game, only allowing W&M to come within 13 points. Despite tremendous effort, the Tribe fell, 0-1.

Two days later, the Tribe was home to contend against the Longwood University Lancers. The two teams rallied, each taking runs to take and cut leads, but the Lancers' 19-5 drive in the final six minutes sealed their 60-46 victory.

The score reflects the particularly low shooting percentages of both teams for the game: Longwood shot 38 percent from the floor, while W&M shot just 25 percent. The Tribe forced 29 Lancer turnovers and committed 21. Longwood, however, outrebounded W&M 56-37. The Tribe fell, 0-2.

Just three days later, W&M was out west in San Francisco to participate in the Odwalla/Adidas Classic Tournament hosted by the University of San Francisco's Lady Dons.

The strong defense that the Tribe had relied on its past two games proved ineffective in the opening game against the potent Lady Dons, who shot 57.4 percent from the floor at War Memorial Gym.

Meanwhile, they held the Tribe to 37.4 percent from the floor and 16.7 percent from beyond the arc. USF also forced more turnovers, 26 total, as well as tallying 20 steals to W&M's five. USF guard Dominique Carter scored a game-high 21 points, leading her team to a 79-48 win. The Tribe fell, 0-3.

The following night, W&M faced the University of California Riverside Highlanders. UCR shot 49.4 percent from the floor, while W&M shot just 38.5 percent from the field. The Highlanders were more successful with three-pointers, shooting 44.4 percent while the Tribe shot just 33.3 percent. At halftime, UCR led 28-22. W&M rallied with a 12-2 run by Boone, Sazonova, James, DeHaven, and Stroh to lead 51-10.

The Highlanders responded with a 10-0 run, which ended with less than two minutes left in the game. They then went six for six with free throws in the final minute to seal their win. The Tribe outrebounded UCR 37-28 and had nine steals, four by DeHaven. Still, the Tribe fell, 0-4.

The Tribe's next opportunity to break the 0-4 losing streak came last night in a contest at Norfolk State University's Echols Hall against the Lady Spartans. The Tribe's tenacious spirit broke the curse, and it celebrated its first win of the season 68-60.

Senior forward Lindsey Brizendine led all players with 17 points, sophomore guard Kyle DeHaven was close behind with 15 points, and freshman forward Jalen Boone, whose leg injury forced her to bench all last season, brought 11 points for the Tribe.

Reflecting on the previous four games, Head Coach Debbie Taylor said, "We're a young team, and wanted to do well. [But] we didn't hit our shots."

She also gave insight as to improvements that could be made: "Our defense was okay ... [we did] a decent job rebounding. But you have to score to win."

Last year, the Tribe was crippled by turnovers. Referring specifically to this year's

game against USF Taylor said, "We had unnecessary turnovers and let the game [get] out of control. Most of their spurts were off our turnovers. We need to do a better job of not letting them have those spurts."

Taylor, however, remained optimistic about the game at Norfolk.

"[It's] an opportunity for us to shoot well. I think our goal right now is to keep improving on the previous game. We've tried a couple of different lineups. Hopefully we'll play our best game to date tonight," Taylor said.

It was indeed an auspicious and victorious night. The Tribe shot a season-high 46.6 percent from the floor and 31.3 percent from beyond the arc, as it held Norfolk State to 36.8 percent from the floor. In addition to her 17 points, W&M's Brizendine also had seven rebounds and four steals.

Sophomore guard Katy Neumer connected on three of four attempted from the arc to add nine points for the Tribe. At the half, W&M had a commanding 36-20 lead.

The Tribe extended its lead to 19 less than a minute into the second half with Bonne's layup and Brizendine's free throw. The double-digit lead lasted for several minutes before the Lady Spartans came within seven (50-43) with less than 10 minutes left. The Lady Spartans then went on a 12-8 run that brought them to within five points, with 4 minutes 20 seconds left in the game.

The Tribe would not stay silent, however, as Stroh assisted junior forward Maria Sazonova, and Brizendine sank a sideline jumper. W&M continued to answer, as James made three free throw, and DeHaven hit two more to seal the victory.

Stroh recorded a career-high seven assists. The Tribe committed 19 turnovers, but forced 25. Brizendine had four steals; fellow teammates Boone, Stroh, DeHaven, Sazonova and James had two apiece.

Sophomore guard Kyra Kaylor, who usually starts games, did not play. According to Taylor, Kaylor has decided to sit out the rest of the season due to a nagging injury.

W&M hosts James Madison this Friday at 7 p.m. in the first CAA game of the season.

### Look ahead

**Who:** James Madison University  
**Date:** Today  
**Where:** W&M Hall  
**Time:** 7 p.m.



## Wait unbearable as Tribe seeks UD payback

I've been waiting for this weekend for the past four years. It is my senior year, the last fall blow-out I'll ever participate in and the biggest football playoff game since I've been here. This Saturday the Tribe football team will take on the defending I-AA champions, the University of Delaware Fighting Blue Hens here at home.

Being a Delaware resident and living 15 minutes from the UD campus for the entirety of my 21-year life, this game holds extra-special meaning for me. People ask me if I'm torn between who I want to win. My only response is: "We'll be having roasted blue hen for dinner when the game is over."

Some friends and I came back for the Hampton University game last weekend, in which we played the worst game I've ever seen a Tribe football team play and still squeak out a victory with 42 points on the scoreboard. The fan base was just beyond terrible. We sat in the student section where there were probably more Hampton fans

than W&M fans. The Hampton fans clearly outnumbered us throughout the rest of the stadium as well. And where was the band?

Also, since when has a visiting football team in a crucial playoff game been allowed to take the field of the home team and convert it to their house? Hampton's marching band stole the half-time show, a Hampton announcer was allowed to speak over the speaker system, and they were permitted to play music to pump up Hampton after halftime.

The Tribe came onto the field with some jitters for their first playoff game. Lang Campbell threw three picks, two more than he had thrown all season, and the team missed three field goals. The defense appeared to be a sieve to their option and deep pass early, as Jerome Mathis piled up almost 400 yards of total offense. He appeared to be unstoppable.

After the game, I still continued to call several people I knew from UD in order to get the bets

on the table, no monetary bets ... all friendly wagers. We all have been going back and forth throughout the season arguing that each of our teams is better, although we all know that W&M definitely is.

This week, against a strong Delaware team, we must hope that W&M comes out with a hunger that wasn't shown at the start of last week's game. They nearly defeated Delaware earlier in the season after blowing a 21-7 lead. Having been at that game, I saw several flaws in a weak Delaware secondary. They had poor tackling, and Dominique Thompson proved he could handle any cornerback that Delaware threw at him. He even beat double coverage on several occasions.

That was also a game in which UD had several key injuries, a few of them to defensive backs. At home this week, the Tribe needs your support. Get out there with banners, signs, and a loud voice. W&M is going to Chattanooga

this year, but first we must knock off last year's champion.

This is the best Tribe squad we've had in years, and if anyone can do it they can. Lang Campbell is one of the best QB's in the nation, and his receivers are all top notch. Elijah Brooks showed us he could carry the running game this past week against Hampton. If we can get something established early, I don't see a collapse in the Tribe defense. Adam "Man-Bear" O'Connor (as a select few of us call him) will maul the opposing line to make big plays all day.

After that disheartening loss at the University of Delaware in October, I feel that W&M is hungry to avenge that loss and get deeper into the playoffs. Make Jimmie Laycock's 25th season a championship season to remember. Come out and pack the stadium on Saturday at noon to support your Tribe football team.

Stephen Replenski is the Flat Hat sports columnist. He wishes the football team good luck.

FROM THE SIDELINES



Stephen Replenski

# Ice Hockey

## Life Sports: Get Involved

— compiled by Tracy Hansen

The Tribe's talented club ice hockey team deserves much more attention than it receives. The team's current ranking of eighth in the Atlantic Region sets a record for W&M as it is the first time that the ice hockey program has ever broken into the top 10. However, because it is only the team's first year in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, the Tribe is not eligible for the national tournament.



The team remains strong after the loss of last year's seniors, with 12 returning players and 12 freshmen. This is Head Coach Phil Morris' sixth season here at W&M and his 25th year as an ice hockey coach.

"We're lucky in many ways," Morris said. "Not only do we have the numbers, but most of our freshman have played the game for a long time and have a good grasp of the basics. As soon as we get them acclimated to the W&M program, there's no telling how far we will go."

The ice hockey team competes September through February, usually about once or twice a week on Fridays or Saturdays.

All home games are played at the Ice Plex in Newport

News, Va. The away game destinations include Richmond, Roanoke, Charlottesville, Baltimore, Washington, D.C. and Clemson, S.C.

Opponents include Virginia Military Institute, Old Dominion University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Mary Washington University and others. Directions to all of the ice rinks where games are played are available on the team's website at [www.wm.edu/so/ice-hockey/](http://www.wm.edu/so/ice-hockey/)

The team practices Thursday nights at the Yorktown Ice Arena. If you're interested in joining, contact president senior Chris Koves at [cskove@wm.edu](mailto:cskove@wm.edu) or go to the ice hockey website and click on the link to the recruitment page.




COURTESY PHOTO + ICE HOCKEY CLUB WEBSITE

Above and Left: Members of the club ice hockey team face off against an opponent in the Fredricksburg tournament last season.

Below: The team gathers around long-time coach Phil Morris.





**Enduring Love (R)**  
Fri., Dec. 3-Sat., Dec. 4  
7 and 9 p.m.  
Dec. 1-4 screening room  
(35 seats)

**Coming Attraction**  
**We Don't Live Here Anymore**  
Sun., Dec. 5-Tues., Dec. 14  
6:45 and 8:45 p.m.  
Dec. 5-12 screening room  
(35 seats)

**Live Performances**  
**The Williamsburg Symphonia: Holiday Concert**  
Sat., Dec. 4 and  
Sun., Dec. 5 at 2 p.m.  
All seats \$15

**The Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drums: On Christmas Day**  
Sat., Dec. 4 at 8 p.m.  
General admission \$12.  
Seniors/Students \$10

**Crystal Christmas: Glass Armonica Concert**  
*Featuring the Tapestry Handbell Ensemble*  
Mon., Dec. 6 and  
Thurs., Dec. 23 at 7 and 9 p.m.  
All seats \$10

**The Chesapeake Bay Wind Ensemble**  
Wed., Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$8.  
Seniors/Students \$5

BOX SCORES		
<b>Women's Swimming &amp; Diving</b> Terrapin Invitational, 6th of 11 teams		Nov. 18 to 20
<b>Men's Swimming &amp; Diving</b> Terrapin Invitational, 4th of 8 teams		Nov. 18 to 20
<b>Volleyball</b> Virginia Commonwealth University, W 3-0		Nov. 13
<b>Women's Soccer</b> North Carolina - Chapel Hill, L 0-6		Nov. 13
<b>Football</b> James Madison University, W 27-24 University of Richmond, W 38-14		Nov. 13 Nov. 20
<b>Men's Cross Country</b> NCAA Southeast Regional, 2nd of 29 teams IC4A Championship, 2nd of 20 teams		Nov. 13 Nov. 20
<b>Women's Cross Country</b> NCAA Southeast Regional, 6th of 25 teams IC4A Championship, 4th of 15 teams		Nov. 13 Nov. 20
<b>Men's Basketball</b> University of Hartford, W 84-71 Radford University, W 81-76 Campbell University, L 62-75 Virginia Technical University, L 63-80 Longwood University, W 90-60		Nov. 19 Nov. 20 Nov. 23 Nov. 28 Dec. 1

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**W&M v. DELAWARE**  
**DEC. 4 NOON**



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"Modern Rock Recorded Song of the Year"

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December 8 @ 7PM**  
Admission: FREE

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## Men's soccer closes season

BY HEATHER IRELAND  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The men's soccer team started out the year strong, and while they had a largely successful season their record stands at 9-7-4, barely indicative of what these men accomplished this fall. They played competitively and held their own against top teams on the field with two of their opponents, University of Maryland and Virginia Commonwealth University, ending up in the Elite 8 this year.

"Obviously we were disappointed with not making it farther in our conference tournament and earning a bid to the NCAA tournament, but the team gained valuable experience for next year and should be exciting to watch in the coming future," senior forward Brannon Thomas said.

Experience was something quite a few of the players were lacking this year, with only eight people having more than a year of collegiate experience coming into this season.

"We had a very young team, and they performed admirably," Head Coach Chris Norris said. "We continued our string of consecutive winning seasons. It now stands at 30, which is tied for fourth all-time."

Norris spent nine years as an assistant coach for the Tribe soccer team before being named head coach just last spring, yet he already has a winning season to his name.

"First of all, it was a good first year for our new coach Chris Norris. He was able to adapt very well to becoming our head coach and did a great job," junior forward Pat Scherder said. "Secondly, we were able to

finally open our new stadium, which is awesome for our program and for Al Albert, John Daly and the Athletic Department as a whole, who have worked hard to put the project together. Lastly, we experienced probably one of the greatest victories our program has had when we beat No. 1 Maryland in overtime. That is something the players and coaches will never forget."

Scherder pointed out many of the team's accomplishments as a whole, but while the soccer team had quite a few highlights this season, several of the individual players received their own accolades. Senior back Colin Young was honored when he was voted to the 2004 Academic All-District III Men's Soccer Team and is now in the running for the Academic All-American team. Sophomore goalkeeper Kris Rake ended his second season as goalkeeper for the Tribe with six shutouts this season and 84 saves to his credit after playing every minute of every game. Redshirt freshman Ryan Overdeest was selected as a CAA Men's Soccer Rookie of the Week, and Rake was also named an ECAC Goalkeeper of the Week and selected as a goalkeeper for *Soccer America's* National Team of the Week.

"The team set a goal of being better defensively, and we accomplished this, only conceding 21 goals in 20 games," Norris said.

Thomas leads the team in scoring points with three goals and a team-high five assists. He is also tied with McCurdy for the most game-winning goals with two accredited to each of them; McCurdy scored the team-high four goals this season.

Although the season did not end as well as it started out for the Tribe, it was still a proud one.

Q: WHICH IS THE MOST APPEALING OPTION?

a. MAKING OUT WITH NATALIE PORTMAN  
b. WATCHING BRAD PITT TAKE A SHOWER  
c. READING THE OXFORD UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY  
d. WRITING FOR THE FLAT HAT AS THE NEW SPORTS COLUMNIST

IF YOU ANSWERED "D," THE FLAT HAT WANTS YOU  
SEND TWO COLUMNS (600 WORDS) TO [fhsprt@wm.edu](mailto:fhsprt@wm.edu) BY JAN. 19

EMPLOYER: Techron, Inc  
JOB TITLE: Demonstrator  
DISTANCE FROM CAMPUS: 5+ miles  
ADDRESS: Williamsburg Country Club, Williamsburg  
DETAILS: Demonstrate qualities of features and benefits of world class exceptional cleaning equipment to local prospects that have set up an appointment for a presentation. Extra incentives paid on sales can easily increase earnings to \$500/wk. Scholarship competitions during summer months = 3x's \$500/\$750/\$1000. Part time management positions and recruiting incentives also available.  
REQUIREMENTS: Auto, good people skills, outgoing, lots of enthusiasm & positive attitude.  
WAGE: \$10 - \$25.00/hr  
HOURS: 10 - 30 (flexible) per week  
STARTS: December 1st, 2004 ENDS: Unspecified  
Contact Mark Levy at [LEVIXYZ@aol.com](mailto:LEVIXYZ@aol.com) or 757-869-6733

The annual Yule Log ceremony, one of the College's most cherished traditions, will be held on Saturday, December 11 from 6-8 pm in the Wren Courtyard (rain location: Trinkle Hall). Join us for a celebration of the holiday season, featuring representatives from campus organizations, a traditional poem by Sam Sadler, performances by the WM Choir and the Gentlemen of the College, and even a visit from Santa Claus! A coin drive will be held at the entrances and during the weeks preceding the ceremony to benefit Avalon, a local women's shelter, so that we may remember others in our community during the holidays.  
Please come and celebrate the season with us!

EMPLOYER: Techron, Inc  
DISTANCE FROM CAMPUS: 5+ miles  
JOB TITLE: Promo-Delivery  
ADDRESS: Williamsburg Country Club, Williamsburg  
DETAILS: Deliver free \$1000 Drawing entry forms to pre-selected names w/ address & and verify phone #. NO SELLING - NO COLLECTING; delivery & information only. Week days - 5-8pm. Saturday & Sunday optional. Bonuses & Gas allowance provided in addition to pay.  
REQUIREMENTS: Auto  
WAGE: \$10 - \$15.00/hr  
HOURS: 10 - 30 (flexible) per week  
STARTS: December 1st, 2004 ENDS: Unspecified  
Contact Mark Levy at [LEVIXYZ@aol.com](mailto:LEVIXYZ@aol.com) or 757-869-6733