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FEBRUARY 2, 2007 VOL. 96, NO. 14

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

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Registrar eases voting standards for students

Students with Williamsburg addresses on their drivers' licenses will be able to register to vote in Williamsburg

By BEN LOCHER
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Nearly a year ago, Williamsburg General Voter Registrar Dave Andrews rejected now-sophomore Sen. Zach Pilchen's voter registration application. Even though Pilchen's driver's license matched his dormitory address, Andrews ruled that it was unclear if Pilchen was domiciled in Williamsburg, and he was therefore ineligible to vote in the city.

INSIDE

A bill to grant students the right to vote in the municipality where their college is located is expected to be discussed today in the General Assembly, see page A3.

But in Andrews' eyes, Pilchen — and perhaps dozens of other students previously denied voter registration — may now be domiciled in the city. Andrews announced a procedure change this week saying that he will now register anyone who has a driver's license that lists an address in Williamsburg.

College President Gene Nichol praised Andrews' announcement in his State of the College address, saying that the new rules would open "the door very substantially to fuller participation in the political process."

Andrews, who will be up for reappointment in June, said that the change comes with the arrival of a new statewide electronic voter registration system that ties into the Department of Motor Vehicles database.

"If we receive a non-permanent address, we will check to see if the address matches the DMV residence address," he said. "If it does, the application is accepted at that point. State law requires you to notify DMV within 30 days of moving to a new address, so this is a good standard."

Andrews said that he made the change in part because the State Board of Elections did not support guidelines for registering transitory voters, but instead set aside a proposed policy clarification at its January meeting.

Sophomore Sen. Matt Beato, an active supporter of student voting rights, said he believes this is the primary reason Andrews changed the policy.

"The SBE's decision to not approve the guidelines is a repudiation of the policy Dave Andrews has used to deny dozens of students the right to vote in

See REGISTRAR page A3

Nichol evaluates State of the College

Campaign for W&M reaches \$500 million goal after record fundraising quarter

"Expect an announcement regarding the campaign in the coming weeks"

By ANDY ZAHN
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

College President Gene Nichol announced that the Campaign for William and Mary raised \$26 million in the fourth quarter of 2006 during his first annual State of the College address last Thursday evening in the University Center Commonwealth Auditorium. Nichol said that the amount was a record for a fourth quarter.

The Campaign for William & Mary aims to raise \$500 million for the College by June of this year. The College releases figures for the campaign quarterly.

As of Sept. 30, 2006, the College had raised \$476.9 million. This most recent \$26 million quarter would appear to put the campaign above its \$500 million goal about six months early.

The College would not comment on whether the fundraising campaign had officially ended.

"The President did say we raised \$26 million in the past quarter," Director of News Services Brian Whitson said. "As the President said, 'good news is ahead for our Campaign.' Expect an announcement regarding the campaign in the coming weeks."

When Nichol was a candidate for



COURTESY PHOTOS • THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

College President Gene Nichol delivered his first State of the College address Jan. 25 in the UC Commonwealth Auditorium. He announced the formation of a committee to examine the role of religion in public universities, to be chaired by professors.



president after former College President Timothy J. Sullivan announced his retirement, Nichol participated in a forum with students in which he praised the work of the Campaign for William & Mary. He said that as soon as the current fundraising campaign was completed, the College would need to begin a larger fundraising campaign.

In the address, Nichol also announced the formation of a committee that would examine the place for religion in public universities. Nichol had been criticized for his decision to remove a cross from permanent display in the Wren Chapel. A group of concerned alumni founded the website savethewrencross.org to circulate a petition and post news articles from around the country about Nichol's decision, which some viewed as an overstep of his role as president of the College.

While over 10,000 people have signed the petition so far, the Board of Visitors

has continued to back Nichol's decision. Nichol recognized that the move was not popular with all members of the College community during his address.

"Though the decision [to remove the cross] has received much support—particularly within the campus community—many, many have seen it otherwise," Nichol said. "So tonight, having had discussions with many, on campus and beyond, including members of the Board of Visitors, I announce the creation of a presidential committee to aid in the exploration of these questions."

Nichol stated that the committee would be co-chaired by James Livingston, emeritus chair of the College's religious studies department, and Law School Professor Alan Meese.

The committee to examine the role of religion in public colleges is part of a recent effort on Nichol's part to moderate his decision. As part of a compromise, Nichol allowed the cross to return to the

chapel permanently on Sundays. For more information on the cross controversy, see Cross, page A1.

Nichol also thanked the Williamsburg for changing the way he evaluates voter registration applications. Now, anyone with a driver's license that lists a Williamsburg address as their residence will be able to vote in Williamsburg, a move toward allowing more student voting. Previously, students allegedly would be denied the right to vote in Williamsburg if they listed a dorm address on their application. For more information, see Registrar, page A1.

Nichol offered a positive assessment of the College during his 30-minute speech. He praised the graduation rates of student athletes at the College while referencing the College's disagreements to the NCAA. Recently, the NCAA ruled that the college's athletic logo, a WM with two feathers, was offensive to American Indian groups.

Sen. Hagel to deliver Charter Day address

Hagel, a possible presidential candidate, has gained recent notoriety for Iraq views

By JOSHUA PINKERTON
FLAT HAT EDITOR

Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-Neb.) will deliver the keynote speech and receive an honorary doctorate in public service at the College's Charter Day celebration Feb. 10. Hagel has been mentioned as a possible contender for the Republican presidential nomination in 2008, but has not officially declared his candidacy or filed paperwork to begin an exploratory committee. The Charter Day ceremony marks the 314th anniversary of the royal charter from King William III and Queen Mary II that established the College.

Hagel, first elected to the Senate in

1996, is best known for his work on foreign affairs and has been an outspoken critic of the handling of the war in Iraq, comparing it to the Vietnam War and calling for a phased troop withdrawal. According to a Dec. 14, 2006 USA Today/Gallup poll, Hagel is favored by only 1 percent of Republican voters for the 2008 presidential nomination. He is a member of the Foreign Relations; Intelligence; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Rules committees.



Sen. Chuck Hagel

The Washington Post reported Jan. 26 that, in addition to possibly seeking the Republican nomination for president in 2008, Hagel might be interested in a "unity" ticket with a Democratic politician. Hagel has been criticized by conservatives and the White House for

his views on Iraq. The Post reported that Hagel admires moderate Republicans such as New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Democrats such as Illinois Senator Barack Obama.

"Few have given more of themselves, or served our nation more thoughtfully, than Senator Chuck Hagel. We look forward to hearing from him and to the opportunity to recognize his exemplary career," President Gene Nichol said.

Before joining the Senate, Hagel had a long career in business and government, serving as president of the investment bank McCarthy & Co. and Deputy Administrator of the Veterans Administration under President Reagan. He was a sergeant in the U.S. Army and served in the Vietnam War, where he was

awarded two Purple Hearts.

Hagel will be joined by A. Marshall Acuff, Jr., '62, and JoAnn Falletta, who will also receive honorary degrees. Marshall Acuff is a former rector of the College and currently serves as president of AMA Investment Counsel. He is a former senior vice president and managing director at Smith Barney, a division of Citigroup, Inc., where he became Wall Street's first designated portfolio strategist.

JoAnn Falletta is the Grammy-nominated music director of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. The New York Times called her "one of the finest conductors of her generation." She has guest conducted over 100 symphonies around the world and participated in the recording of more than 40 CDs.

The Charter Day ceremony will take place Feb. 10 at 10 a.m. in Phi Beta Kappa Hall. Tickets are required.

Wren cross removal debated by professor, author

By BRIAN MAHONEY
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Wren Chapel, Religious Studies professor David L. Holmes and Dinesh D'Souza, a New York Times best-selling author and Fellow at the Hoover Institute, debated whether or not the Wren Cross — removed from the Wren Chapel in October by President Gene Nichol — should be reinstated.

The debate, co-sponsored by conservative campus newspaper The Virginia Informer and the conservative non-profit organization The Collegiate Network, was titled "Religion and the Campus: Should the Wren Cross be Reinstated in Wren Chapel?"

Holmes, a professor at the College since 1965, argued against the cross's reinstatement, while D'Souza supported it. Holmes began the debate insisting that his arguments were his own, and not those of the College administration.

"I speak for myself tonight," Holmes said, "and not as a surrogate for President Nichol."

In a 15-minute opening statement, Holmes noted the Anglican history of the Church, a history that rarely, if ever, placed crosses in its sacred spaces. He noted that the College went more than 200 years without a cross on display in the chapel. Holmes also said that,

throughout College history, the Chapel has been used for many secular purposes, including "theatrical performances, lectures, classes and kangaroo courts during freshman hazing." He added that, along with fellow colleagues, he was "baffled" with the subsequent uproar over the removal, as a chapel without a cross was consistent with Protestant tradition.

In his opening dialogue, D'Souza insisted that, even with the cross, the chapel remained "in the spirit of Christian Universalism ... a tolerant place." He argued, however, that the cross had been pigeonholed by some, including Nichol, as a "symbol of intolerance."

D'Souza also mentioned Nichol's alleged indiscretion in removing the cross without considering the views of the College community, as well as the President's continued avoidance of invitations to debate the issue.

According to D'Souza, Nichol's decision was made "recklessly, without deliberation, [and] without consultation." In one of many statements that drew laughter from the audience, D'Souza likened Nichol to a mechanical toy soldier that runs into a wall and, despite the fact, continues walking.

After the opening statements, both Hol-



SPENCER ATKINSON • THE FLAT HAT

Religious Studies Professor David Holmes, left, supported Nichol's cross decision in the debate while conservative author Dinesh D'Souza, right, argued for the opposition.

mes and D'Souza offered rebuttals. Holmes acknowledged that Nichol's decision was made with insufficient consultation, but also praised Nichol's establishment of a committee to examine the cross issue and the overall role of religion in public institutions. The committee will be co-chaired by James Livingston, emeritus chair of the College's religious studies department and Law School Professor Alan Meese.

"[The committee] could not be better, it could not be in better hands," Holmes said.



Holmes also noted that the College did not own the cross, but it belonged to the Canterbury Club, the College's Episcopalian student group, which borrowed it from the Burton Parish church in 1931.

"[The cross] doesn't belong to William and Mary," Holmes said. "The cross remains the property of Burton Parish, and conceivably they could ask for it back, because no ministry ... wants its cross to be a source of

See CROSS page A4

College admits 371 early decision

41 percent of the 899 early decision applicants were admitted

By ANDY ZAHN
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

The College admitted 371 students through early decision for the Class of 2011 out of 899 early decision applications.

Early decision applications were down about 7 percent from last year.

Dean of Admissions Henry Broaddus said that 169 applicants were rejected from the early decision pool and 359 applicants had their

See EARLY page A3

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Sports
For many Tribe athletics, Christmas vacation is business as usual. Page A10.



Variety
Alt-rock band My Chemical Romance is expected to perform at the College April 28. Page B1.

Reviews
Sinfonicron impresses audiences with skillful 'Mikado.' Page B6.



NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

'Stabilitas et Fides'

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Corrections

An article in the Nov. 10, 2006 issue about alumni in Congress failed to mention Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.), L.L.M. '88.

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.

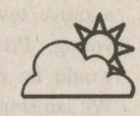
Weekend Weather

Friday



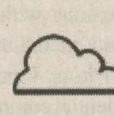
High 49°
Low 34°

Saturday



High 49°
Low 32°

Sunday



High 42°
Low 26°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“I always thought of William and Mary as a hotbed of rest. I was surprised to see such activism.”
- Dinesh D'Souza in the Wren Cross debate Thursday
See DEBATE page A1

“We want to take the swamp and turn it into something not smelly or hideous.”
- SA senator Walter McClean, on the swamp between Yates and the University Center.
See SA page A4

News in Brief

New e-mail addresses will have different format

Starting March 1, all new College e-mail addresses and usernames will have a new format and will contain full last names, up to a 16 character limit. The current system creates e-mail addresses using just the first four letters of a student's last name. Current addresses will not be affected. When two last names are the same they will be followed by random two-digit numbers.

Because the new format will allow a greater variety of names, old names will no longer be recycled after a student graduates or a faculty member retires. They will instead be maintained for College records.

Bush to address Democrats near Williamsburg Saturday

President Bush will address House Democrats at their retreat near Williamsburg on Saturday, the Daily Press reports. Some consider Bush's address, which is not open to the public, to be a sign of the Democrats' new power. Bill Clinton is also speaking at the event tonight.

Student groups at the College are preparing to protest and support the event. A facebook.com event group titled "Bush Bashing: Protesting an Escalation of the War in Iraq" plans to rally around the building where Bush is to speak. As of Thursday, 68 students said they would attend, while 180 said they might show up. The College Republicans are also recruiting students for "an event to welcome the President to Williamsburg."

The Daily Press reports that U.S. Capitol police were seen preparing the site Wednesday, and a county police spokesman speculated that the Secret Service might close down certain roads.

— by Maxim Lott

By the Numbers

17 years

The number of years since 1951 during which Williamsburg received more than 10 inches of snow. The record over this period was in the winter of 1979 when the College got over 35 inches.

7 points

The number of points by which the Chicago Bears are expected to beat the Indianapolis Colts in Superbowl XVI, according to oddsmaker bodog.com.

20 percent

The betting odds that Israel or the United States will execute an overt airstrike against Iran by the end of the year, based on live quotes from intrade.com.

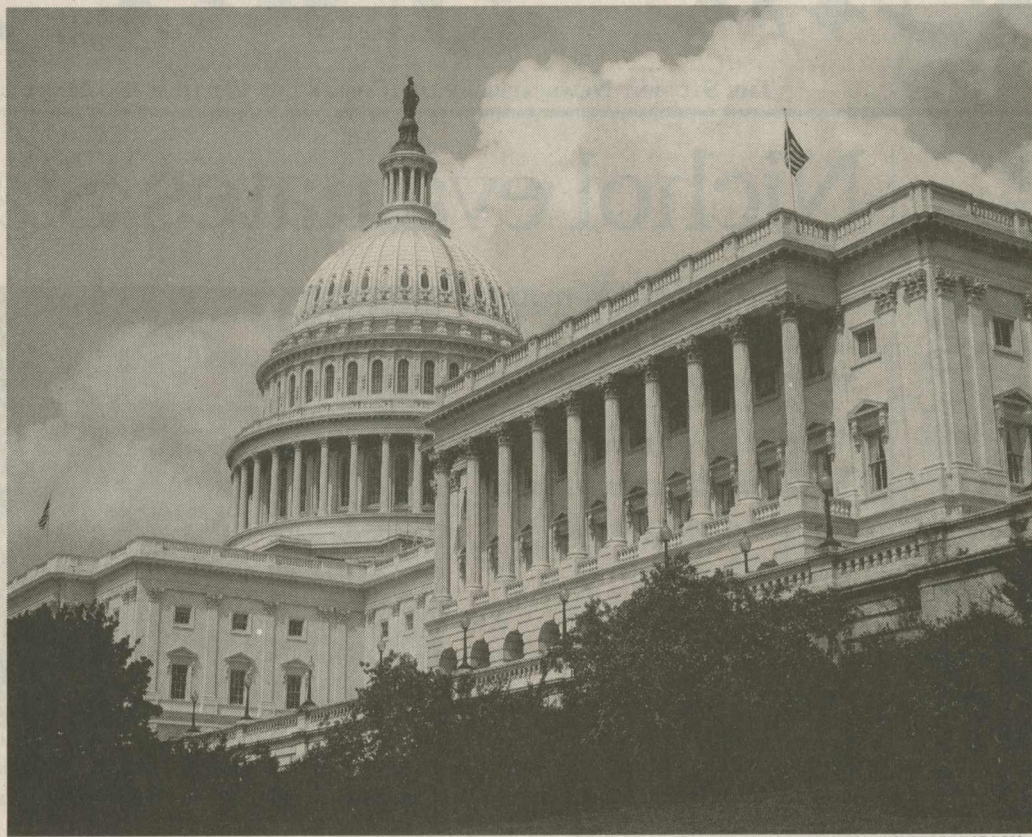
41 percent

The percent of early decision applicants who were accepted for the class of 2011. Regular admission statistics are expected to be released in April.

\$212,000

The salary of the highest-paid teaching professor at the College in the 2005-2006 school year, belonging to a law professor.

— compiled by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • MARTIN JACOBSON

BEYOND THE BURG

House votes to cut student loan rates

By ALEXANDRA COCHRANE
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The U.S. House of Representatives voted 356 to 71 to pass the College Student Relief Act Jan. 17. This act incrementally reduces student loan interest rates from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent over the next five years.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that the bill's sponsors said that in 2011, after the cut is fully phased in, "it would save the average borrower with \$13,800 in debt roughly \$4,400 in interest over the life of his or her loan."

Proponents of the bill claim that the cost, estimated to be between \$6 and \$7 billion, would not come from taxes, but instead from a reduction in government perks to lending institutions, cuts to other lending programs and minimized lender insurance.

Democrats cite increasing college costs as a main reason for the bill. According to a press release from the House of Representa-

tives, "the typical student now graduates with \$17,500 in total federal student loan debt. According to past estimates from the Department of Education, as many as 200,000 would-be students are forced to delay or forgo college altogether due to cost."

The White House opposes the bill with the view that spending money to increase grants instead of cutting interest rates would more directly serve those in need. The White House also stated that this decrease would help college graduates but not affect current students and families.

College economics Professor Robert Archibald agreed.

"Decreased interest rates could encourage families to save less and borrow more, thus increasing family debt, but the neediest families may not be able to save under either circumstance," he said. "Pell Grants are better targeted because the funding would only go to the neediest students rather than affect middle and upper income students

who might benefit from decreased interest rates."

Republicans also claim that the sunset clause, which makes the bill expire Jan. 1, 2012, curtails possible effectiveness and turns the bill into a political ploy. They say that Democrats are only trying to meet their goal of passing a student loan bill in the new Congress's first 100 legislative hours.

Democrats maintain that cutting interest rates directly benefits the most needy people.

The House of Representatives press release stated that, "half of the student-loan borrowers who would benefit under this legislation have family incomes between \$26,000 and \$68,000, according to the Congressional Research Service."

"I don't think this bill will be made into law," Professor Archibald said when asked about the economic implications of the bill. "It is the first volley in an exchange to change the federal student aid program."

This week in Flat Hat history

1928

Washington Hall, the College's "beautiful new \$200,000 academic building," opened for the first time. It was named after President George Washington, who was licensed by the College as a surveyor in 1749. The new building housed the department of biology.

1976

The administration reversed a policy change that would have taken away the exemption of language house residents from the lottery process. The change was considered amid a severe housing crunch.

1980

The Flat Hat reported that the fenced-off tunnels in front of the Campus Center had been built as an underpass to allow students to safely cross Jamestown Road. The tunnel was closed due to rumors of assaults and rapes in the tunnel and because many students found crossing the street on top easier.

1996

The State Internal Auditor accused College President Timothy Sullivan of violating state regulations because he served sherry, an alcoholic drink, at weekly staff meetings. Sullivan pointed out that the tradition of serving sherry at staff gatherings dated back to 1703.

"[James Blair] inaugurated the practice of having regular meetings over tea, sherry and tea cakes," Sullivan said. "It struck me as such a good idea that I can't believe other presidents didn't do it."

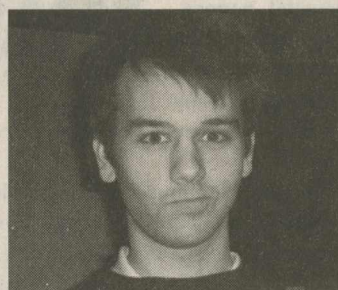
2000

The first opening of the coffeehouse that is now the Daily Grind was delayed a week due to snow. The name of the Daily Grind was later selected by students.

— compiled by Maxim Lott

STREET BEAT

What would you like to see changed on campus?



The tour guides should stop lying.

Hakan Seyalioglu, senior



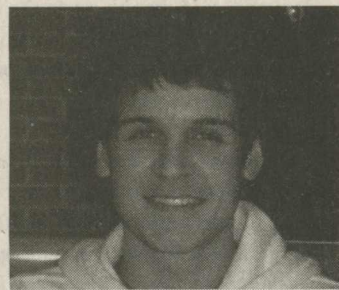
They could get rid of Dinwiddie. Or at least the mice in Dinwiddie.

Maggie Ryan, freshman



The UC. Better food.

Cassandra Bever, junior



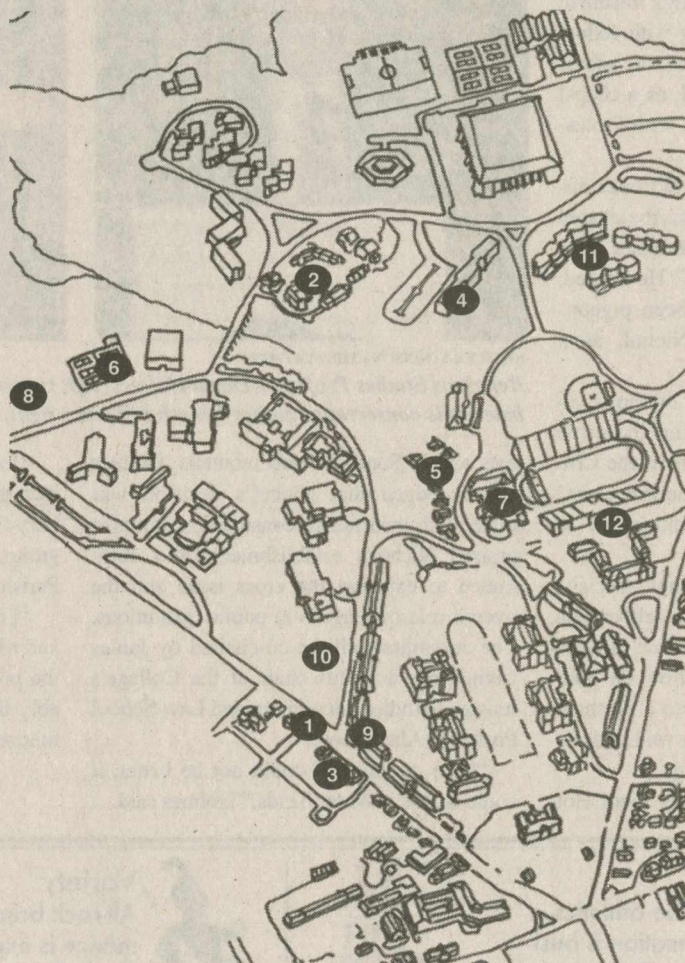
I only really have positive things to say about the campus.

Brian Cianella, freshman

— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton and Julia Schaumburg

POLICE BEAT

Dec. 24 to Jan. 30



Sunday, Dec. 24 — A non-student from Newport News was arrested at the intersection of Jamestown and Griffen streets on charges of DUI. He was taken to the regional jail. 1

Saturday, Dec. 30 — An officer found vandalism to a powerbox on the first floor of Preston Hall. Damages were estimated at \$150. 2

Sunday, Jan. 7 — A staff member reported that her wallet had been stolen from the Stetson House. The wallet contained credit cards and \$100 in cash. 3

Saturday, Jan. 13 — Officers responded to a fire alarm in Yates Hall at 2 a.m. The alarm appeared to have been triggered on the second south hall and a fire extinguisher had also been set off. 4

— An officer called in an extra unit while investigating damage at Lodge 16. A window had been broken and its screen slashed, while paint had also been thrown on the building. Police acted to secure all the surrounding buildings, and found paint on Lodge 14 as well. Estimated damages were \$100. 5

Tuesday, Jan. 16 — Police were told that a car's tires had been slashed in the parking garage. Damage was estimated at \$200. 6

Friday, Jan. 19 — University

Center staff reported that a radio worth about \$1600 was stolen. 7

Sunday, Jan. 21 — A male student was seen staggering down Ukrops Way and was arrested in the Common Glory Parking Lot for being drunk in public and underage possession of alcohol. He was taken to the regional jail. 8

Monday, Jan. 22 — A student in Barrett called police and reported that his roommate was throwing up blood and needed medical assistance. Officers and medics were dispatched. The two students were both issued summonses for underage possession of alcohol. 9

— A student in Jamestown North reported that his bike, worth an estimated \$1,200, had been stolen from his room. 10

Tuesday, Jan. 23 — A male student was arrested outside of Unit E for drinking in public. He was taken to the regional jail. 11

Wednesday, Jan. 24 — A male student was arrested for larceny of a road sign and underage possession of alcohol. The sign was returned to its original location. 12

Sunday, Jan. 28 — Vandalism was reported to the lights that illuminate the flag at Zable Stadium. Estimated damage was \$300. 12

— compiled by Maxim Lott

GA to debate student voting rights

Bill would require local voter registrars to process voter applications from college students

By Austin Wright
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

A bill to grant Virginia students the right to register to vote in their college's locality was scheduled to be discussed today in the General Assembly, due largely to the work of the College's Student Assembly Department of Public Affairs. The issue caused controversy last year when the Williamsburg General Voter Registrar denied many student voter registration applications on the grounds that the students were not domiciled at their college addresses.

House Bill 3200, sponsored by Delegate Melanie Rapp (R-96th district), seeks to standardize the way local registrars evaluate applications. It proposes two additions to the state voter registration code.

The first addition says that "Registrars shall process registration applications from full-time students who are residents of Virginia and attending an institution of higher education in the commonwealth."

The second says that the address a student gives the registrar will be presumed to be the address where the student is domiciled, regardless

of whether the student lives there permanently or intends to stay after graduating.

The bill was to be discussed today at 7 a.m. in a subcommittee within the Privileges and Elections Committee and may have been passed on to the full committee for a vote, but that information was not available as of press time. SA Sen. Brett Phillips, a junior, and sophomore Ross Grogg traveled to Richmond to represent students and show support for the bill.

Junior Seth Levey — who was confirmed unanimously at Tuesday night's SA meeting as the Secretary of Public Affairs and who is also the first student to hold a position on the board of the Neighborhood Council of Williamsburg as its secretary — said that the Department of Public Affairs decided last year that because student voting rights affect students across the state, the department should look beyond Williamsburg and seek statewide change.

"We decided to go through the state legislature because it's a statewide issue," Levey said, noting that the department worked with Rapp to write the bill. "We

figured it would be best to go to different schools around the state ... and pretty much everyone was in agreement that there should be a standard code."

So far, they have talked with students at nine other schools about the proposed changes, and Levey said the feedback from everyone was positive.

He added that the bill could be changed in subcommittee.

Last year, Rapp sponsored another bill, along with state Sen. Thomas Norment, Jr., to standardize the voting code. House Bill 1604 clarified the definition of "domicile," but it did not directly address the issue of student voting rights. The bill stayed in committee and was never voted on by the General Assembly.

At Tuesday night's SA meeting, the efforts of the Department of Public Affairs, along the efforts of several senators, were praised as an example of the College's senate and executive working together. Sens. Joe Luppino-Esposito, a junior, and Zach Pilchen, a sophomore, cosponsored legislation that encourages another unlikely pair to work together: the College Republican Federation of Virginia and the Virginia Young Democrats. The Coalition of Youth Political Organizations Act, which passed 18-0-1,

asks both organizations to support and work for the passage of House Bill 3200.

The CRFV and the VAYD have already pledged to fight for the bill, and leaders of both organizations co-wrote a letter to state delegates that urges its passage.

"As representatives of students across Virginia, we jointly ask you to show your support for a uniform voting standard that gives native Virginian students the right to determine for themselves where they call home," the letter reads. "We need your support today on HB 3200, just as you can expect our support come Election Day."

Luppino-Esposito said that because the organizations do so much to get politicians elected, they can pressure state representatives to pass the bill, and Pilchen added that the two groups asking together sends a strong message.

"There's always been a lot of animosity between these groups, and everyone likes to play off that animosity whether they're in Richmond or the campus groups themselves," Pilchen said. "But never, never have ... [the CRFV or VAYD] ever gotten together on something and said, 'You know what? Screw partisan politics. This is something that all the young people in Virginia can get behind.'"

iPod offerings to make Swem an iBrary

10 80GB units will be available to check out for one week at a time

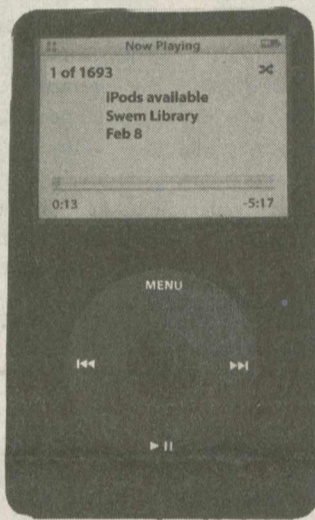
By Nik Belanger
The Flat Hat

Feb. 8, Swem Library will go one step further in its recent technology campaign by making 80-gigabyte iPod Video players available to the students, faculty and staff of the College.

The iPods were provided through funds from Verizon Foundation and will be managed by eSwat, the library's student tech help assistants. The 80-GB multimedia players will come preloaded with music from artists within the College community, along with audio and video files of faculty lectures and campus events.

According to Associate Dean of University Libraries Berna Heyman, the iPod loan program is an innovative way to provide students with easier access to information.

"The grant provided us with opportunities to do things on the edge, like experiment with technology and support training for staff," Heyman said. "Today, information is provided in so many different ways. We are looking for things to support intellectual inquiry."



The iPods will go out in one-week intervals, and, if the music selection and available podcasts still prove insufficient to fulfilling students' new-age technological needs, they may contact eSwat to obtain a video or audiobook download from iTunes or Audible.com.

Information Commons Coordinator Debra Weiss encourages students to give input on the new program. A survey will be available shortly after the inauguration of the pro-

gram, and those who respond will be entered into a drawing for an iPod Shuffle, says Weiss.

While only 10 units will be available, Swem expects a large response from the College community. No other academic libraries are known to be experimenting with a student-run iPod program with the level of choice made available at the College. According to Heyman, this program is just one example of Swem responding to the needs voiced by the College community.

"We are open to know what students want. Our services are largely structured around and responding to what we hear from students," Weiss says.

Among the files available during the program's inaugural week will be the State of the College address and the Wren cross debate.

Economists predict strongest job market for recent graduates in years

Reports show that hiring may be up to 17 percent higher for college seniors this year than last year

By Andy Garden
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Graduating seniors of the Class of 2007 may not have finalized their post-commencement plans, but regional and national employers are eager to hire. According to The Wall Street Journal's CollegeJournal.com, the Class of 2007 may enter the best job market since those of 2000 and 2001.

"Nationally, some reports are as high as a 17 percent increase in job offers for seniors. It's a pretty good market overall," Career Center Director Mary Schilling said.

The immediate region has an especially strong demand in the fields of investment banking and finance, accounting and certain sectors of teaching, such as mathematics, sciences, foreign languages and special education, Schilling said.

Representatives from several industries spoke about the job market at the College's career fair Wednesday.

According to Heather Angerer, a representative for the consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., consulting is another industry with a high demand for graduating seniors. "Consulting is a very high-profile job right now, especially in [Washington, D.C.]. It's very much in high demand."

"Consulting is basically problem-solving," Angerer said. "A client comes to us because they have a problem, and we advise them on

how to fix it and assist with implementation. For students who are good with coding, they can come and develop those skills and still get out in front of a client — it's pretty much the best of both worlds," she added.

The financial sector was also well represented at the fair, especially accounting and investment services. "We're looking for talent," Legg Mason representative Izabela Holmes said. "Legg Mason is looking to put the right person in the right job — what they are best at — and design a job around them."

Beyond Williamsburg, government and financial services hiring appears strong. According to Department of State Representative Robyn Hinson-Jones, the Department alone hires about 400 new employees per year.

Employers at Wednesday's Career Fair at the University Center stressed the availability of jobs in their sectors for both traditional and non-traditional majors.

"We're not looking for any one major," Hinson-Jones said. "We're looking for well-rounded people with good judgment who can think on their feet, who are creative."

According to a Department of State pamphlet available at the fair, the department has openings for graduates with degrees ranging from international relations and history to mathematics and journalism.

Some employers at the fair

noted the changing needs in their fields, while others pointed to the long-term stability of their employees' career tracks.

"If an applicant comes in [able to speak] Farsi, Chinese or Arabic, critical needs languages that are difficult to learn but crucial to our foreign policy, we are really, really in need of people who speak those languages," Hinson-Jones said. "Of course, that changes; 10 years ago, maybe Russian."

"I think what we're doing right now is very strong," Angerer said of consulting. "Anything dealing with the greatest and the latest — it always has been a robust field to get into."

Meanwhile, Legg Mason's Holmes pointed to the high demand in her industry. "If I were a student," she said, "I'd shoot for accounting and internal audit because these guys are always in demand and they'll always have a job."

In addition to changing needs at various companies, many of the presenters noted that the interview process is changing with new technologies. "Everyone who expresses interest in Booz Allen has to go through our website first," said Angerer, noting that this is a recent development.

While many companies have been transitioning to "paperless," or all-online, applications, other industries use the internet to actively seek potential employees.

"We use high-tech to identify people who may be interested," Hinson-Jones said. "Things like Jobster, Facebook, we use that." Financial services firm Ernst and

Young maintains a group on Facebook advertising itself and its corporate environment to potential employees.

While the internet has gained importance in the job-search process, Hinson-Jones described the recruitment process as a combination of technology and personal contact.

"Employers are realizing that to get the best in the business, the more face time, the more they can interact with a student on the campus, the more likely they'll make a good decision," Schilling said.

Another change in the recruitment process is the growing importance of internships for undergraduates. "We're looking for mostly accountants and internal audit professionals, maybe someone who has done an internship in the accounting or financial sector," Holmes said.

"We want the candidate to have a taste of what the job will be so there's no disappointment," she added. "We want management to know this candidate and where they will be [best-suited]."

For students still undecided on post-graduation plans, the Career Center offers a range of services, including resume reviews, consultations, help in finding internships and a variety of career fairs.

According to Schilling, the Center is co-sponsoring the Georgetown Non-Profit and Government Career EXPO Feb. 22 and will be running a bus from campus. "We're also doing an Education Recruiting Day with representatives from schools across the region," she added.

Magazine ranks College a top value

College improves to third-highest rank in annual Kiplinger's report on values in higher ed

By Kara Starr
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The College is ranked third in the nation on Kiplinger's 2007 Best Value rankings for public universities, up one slot from the previous year's list.

Falling behind the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and the University of Florida, the College is just above the University of Virginia — a reversal from last year.

The entire list was compiled by collecting data concerning academics and finances from over 500 of the nation's public schools.

"One of the comparisons families must make between a student's available options for college is their expense. We know that [the College] provides an extraordinary value, and to the extent that the Kiplinger's methodology bears that out, we obviously concur," Dean of Admissions Henry Broaddus said.

The rankings, which seek to reward universities that are "academically strong as well as affordable," are based on a two-part analysis. First, standards of academic quality, such as SAT/ACT scores, admission rates, freshman retention rates, student-faculty ratios and graduation rates, are used to eliminate the majority of the schools. The remaining schools are analyzed based on their cost and financial aid offerings. Academic measures are given more weight than cost measures.

Broaddus cautioned that the list was not a comprehensive indicator of quality or value.

"Any effort to provide a formulaic measure for the relative cost and quality of an undergraduate education is flawed by definition. Quite simply, education is not merely a consumer commodity. More profoundly, academic standing can't be measured as easily as cost," Broaddus said.

Some of the College's strongest assets included academic measures like SAT scores, acceptance rate, student to faculty ratio and graduation rate, despite the fact that the College's costs, at \$16,406 for in-state students and \$32,964 for out-of-state students, were higher than those of other schools. After four years, the average graduate has incurred approximately \$14,524 in debt, the magazine reported.

"Any time a third party offers an endorsement of [the College's] excellence, that endorsement lends additional credibility to our communication with prospective students and their families about the opportunities William and Mary provides," Broaddus said.

Other Virginia schools on the list include Virginia Tech, which ranked 18, University of Mary Washington, which ranked 20, and James Madison University, which ranked 21. George Mason University ranked 78th on the list of 100.

371 accepted early

EARLY from page A1

decision deferred to the regular decision application pool. The College typically notifies regular decision applicants by late March.

Broaddus said that 62.8 percent of students accepted early

decision are women and 14.8 percent are non-white. Of the accepted students, 279 are from Virginia and 92 are from out-of-state. The mid-50th percentile combined math and critical reading SAT scores for early decision applicants is 1270-1410.

Registrar revises voting guidelines

REGISTRAR from page A1

Williamsburg," Beato said.

If it had passed, the non-binding policy would have endorsed Andrews' original policy of issuing a questionnaire to applicants with an address at a dormitory, military barracks or any other non-permanent abode in order to determine domicile. Now the form will only be used if an applicant's address does not match the address listed on his or her driver's license.

At the January SBE meeting, several people made public comments against the proposed policy clarification.

Among those commenting was Chris Faia, a Democratic member of the Williamsburg Electoral Board, the group that will be responsible for appointing the voter registrar.

The proposed SBE policy "is, I believe, a step backward, an effort to use selective criteria to discriminate against certain groups, an effort that is reminiscent of poll taxes and literacy tests," she said in a written statement to the state board.

For now, Faia is satisfied with the procedure change offered by Andrews. She remains hopeful, however, that the SBE or the legislature will clarify the code and open voting to students living at college.

Beato agrees that there should be further clarification.

"I believe that Andrews has changed his policy before and could do so again to disenfranchise students," he said.

The issue of voter registration came to the forefront in 2004 when four students at the college ran for city council and many students found they could not register in Williamsburg. Controversy was renewed in 2006 when then-junior David Sievers announced his candidacy for city council and students faced similar problems when registering to vote.

Now many students previously rejected during the past election seasons may be able to vote.

The State Board of Elections released a report about voter registration in Williamsburg in March and April of 2006. During that period, at least 11 out of 89 applications were rejected that would likely be accepted under the new policy. It is unclear how many such cases have come up in the intervening months.

Pilchen may have been the first of these students to take advantage of the policy. He has already re-registered to vote, and Andrews accepted the application. Pilchen is happy to be able to register in Williamsburg, but he remains baffled about the policy change.

"I just don't understand it," Pilchen said. "[Andrews] said to me personally [Jan. 15] that using a driver's license was silly, that it doesn't mean anything about where you are determined to live, where your roots are, where you pay taxes. He said that what the DMV says means nothing. Then three days ago, he announced this new policy."

Nichol, students lobby legislators in 'Road to Richmond'

By ANGELA COTA
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Students attended the Road to Richmond lobbying event in record numbers Jan. 23, where volunteers traveled to the state capitol to lobby for continued funding for the College's new School of Education.

They breakfasted with legislators and talked about the College's goals.

"[The legislators] seemed excited to see us there, fighting for our education," sophomore

Brittany Constance said.

Every year, those who attend also address items such as faculty salaries and other funding issues. What seems most beneficial to the College, however, is the simple fact that students show up consistently.

"The important thing is to present [the legislators] with the direct beneficiaries of the funding and policy that they establish in order to remind them what they're working for," Student Assembly President Ryan Scofield, a senior, said.

Junior Seth Levey agreed.

"What's good is the reliability and that students get up early to talk to legislators," he said.

The event is traditionally put on through a cooperative effort between the Student Assembly and the College's Office of Public Affairs. Levey was a main contact and organizer for the event as an intern in the College's Office of Public Affairs and as Student Assembly secretary of public affairs.

Student Assembly members were not re-

quired to attend, but Levey requested that they show support for the College and attend. Monday night, volunteers met in the Board of Visitors Room in Blow Hall to discuss the talking points and logistical questions.

The annual event is in its 15th year. It started small with only five students, but Levey estimates that between 50 and 70 students attended last week, though he could not give an exact figure due to large discrepancies between the number of students on the sign-up list and the number that actually showed up.

SA ok's bill to beautify swamp

By MORGAN FIGA
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The Student Assembly held its first meeting of the semester Tuesday night. Sen. Joe Luppino-Esposito, a junior, presided over the meeting for the first time as Senate chair. He shares chairmanship with Sen. Scott Fitzgerald, a senior, who served as chair last semester.

Senior Victor Sulkowski stepped down from his senate position for personal reasons and was replaced by senior James Evans, who was sworn in at the meeting.

Evans has spent the past few years working with the SA.

"Even though I only have two and a half months, I hope I can knock some sense into the senate," he said.

The SA passed the Campus Wetlands Reclamation Act, sponsored by Sens. Zach Pilchen and Walter McClean, both sophomores. The bill allocates \$892.50 from the consolidated reserve fund to purchase paludal Virginian wildflowers to be planted in and around the swamp behind the Health Center. The purpose of the plants is to beautify the land, cut down on the swamp's odor and enhance the biodiversity of the area.

"We want to take the swamp and turn it into something not smelly or hideous-looking," McClean said. "It's good for the campus and good for the wildlife area."

The SA also passed the Constitutional Committee Review Act, the Coalition of Youth Political Organizations Act and confirmed members to the review board and executive positions.

Professor, author spar over Wren cross in debate

CROSS from page A1

peace."

Holmes' statements were greeted with applause as D'Souza took the podium to begin his rebuttal.

"Somewhat like the mosquito in the nudist colony," he said, "I am not sure where to begin."

D'Souza claimed that Holmes was mistaken in emphasizing the historical accuracies of the church,

claiming that such facts did not guide Nichol's decision.

"[Nichol's] decision was driven by something very different. It was basically driven by the idea that Christianity and its symbols are in some ways offensive, if not inclusive, and that [non-Christians] become lesser or second class members of the community."

After a second round of rebut-

tals, both Holmes and D'Souza made closing statements reinforcing their opening positions.

After the debate, Holmes and D'Souza spoke to The Flat Hat about the debate.

"I came in here a little tired, I prayed that I would be able to think. I'm content but I'm not exhilarated," Holmes said.

Holmes also said that he was surprised at the personal com-

ments that D'Souza made throughout the debate.

D'Souza said that he was pleased to be a part of the discussion.

"I was really very honored to be part of it. If our debate introduced some moral clarity, I am very pleased to be part of that," he said.

The debate comes three months after Nichol's Oct. 26 decision to

remove the cross, which was donated to the school in 1931, from permanent display. Nichol said cross's removal was meant to make the Chapel "more welcoming to students, faculty, staff and visitors of all faiths."

Nichol's decision was met with disagreement among some students and alumni, who felt that the cross should remain as a symbol of the College's Christian roots. Those who protested the decision also cited Nichol's failure to discuss the matter with students prior to the cross's removal.

Over 10,500 people have signed a petition on the website SaveTheWrenCross.org to support the cross's reinstatement.

Despite the petition, Nichol defended himself Nov. 16 at a College Board of Visitors meeting.

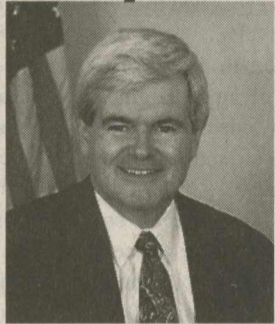
The BOV offered tacit approval over the cross removal, but the issue remained contentious for those opposed to the decision. In response to the outcry, Nichol - in a Dec. 20 school-wide e-mail - announced two changes to the policy. The cross would be displayed all day Sundays, and a plaque commemorating the chapel's history would be installed.

Despite the addenda to the policy, disparity on the issue remained. Since The Flat Hat broke the story in October, the issue has been featured in the national media, including Fox News and the Washington Post.

Notable opinions about the Wren cross



WHO: Dinesh D'Souza
OCCUPATION: Conservative author
RELATION TO COLLEGE: None
STANCE: Opposes removal
IN HIS WORDS: "You have a cross donated 70 years ago that has imbued itself into the identity of this institution. This is a Christian chapel. If you look around, its Christianity speaks very outwardly."



WHO: Newt Gingrich
OCCUPATION: Fmr Speaker of the House of Representatives
RELATION TO COLLEGE: None
STANCE: Opposes removal
IN HIS WORDS: "The controversy at William and Mary is one of Nichol's own creation, based on vicarious offense taken in the service of arbitrary principle."



WHO: Tim Kaine
OCCUPATION: Governor of Virginia
RELATION TO COLLEGE: Appoints Board of Visitors
STANCE: Supports Nichol's autonomy
IN HIS WORDS: "I don't feel a need to micromanage decisions made by college presidents because they're doing that job, not me."



WHO: Gene Nichol
OCCUPATION: President, College of William & Mary
RELATION TO COLLEGE: President
STANCE: Ordered removal of cross from chapel
IN HIS WORDS: "I think the members of the campus understand the need for our campus and the chapel to be open and welcoming to all."



WHO: Michael Powell
OCCUPATION: Former FCC Chair
RELATION TO COLLEGE: BOV Rector
STANCE: Supports Nichol
IN HIS WORDS: "It is clear from your report that there are a lot of great things going on here, even the occasional controversy... In all that you do, you continue to make this board proud, and we're grateful for your leadership."

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

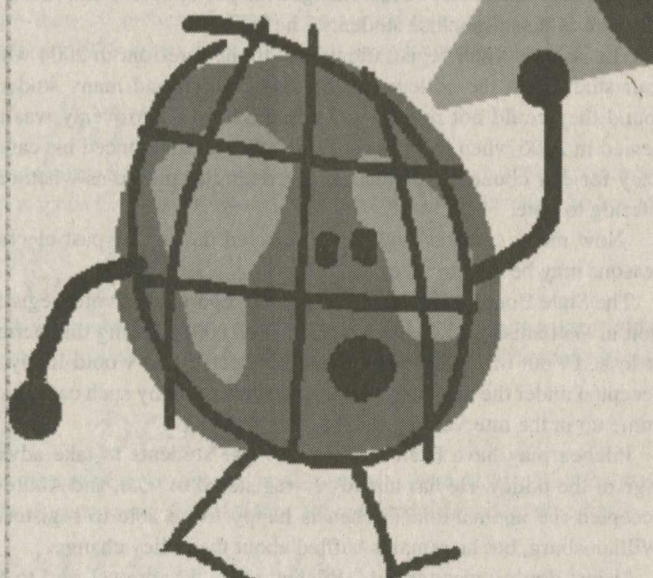
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Under the MICROSCOPE

◆ PREDATORY BEETLES THREATEN ROCKY MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEM

KATE PRENGAMAN
FLAT HAT SCIENCE COLUMNIST

What do beetles, bears and rising atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have in common? In the Rocky Mountains, they are intricately linked in what might become a major ecological disaster for North America's pine forests. The mountain pine beetle is spreading through the higher-altitude whitebark pines, threatening the trees and the entire eco-systems that depend on them.

Also known as pine bark beetles, the insects are commonly found in lodgepole and ponderosa pine, and have taken advantage of the slight increase in temperatures to expand their range into the Rocky Mountains' higher altitudes. The females burrow into the pine bark to deposit their eggs and the spores of a fungus that eventually kills the tree after the beetles have moved on to new prey.

In the early stages of infection, the trees appear healthy, except for small holes in the bark from the burrowing females. However, according to research from Colorado State, while the larvae grow and track through the phloem feeding, a bluestain fungus cuts off the flow of sap through the tree, helping the beetles feed off the trees. The larvae spend the winter under the bark, and the adults emerge in mid-to-late summer to move on and infect new trees. The pine slowly dies from the fungal infection after the beetles have gone, turning a characteristic rust-red color.

Dr. Jesse Logan, a beetle expert from the US Forest Service, told The New York Times that once a tree is infected by the mountain pine beetle, the tree's death is inevitable. In the Rockies, 143,000 acres are already infected. "These are true predators," Logan said. "They have to kill to reproduce. Most other bark beetles don't do that."

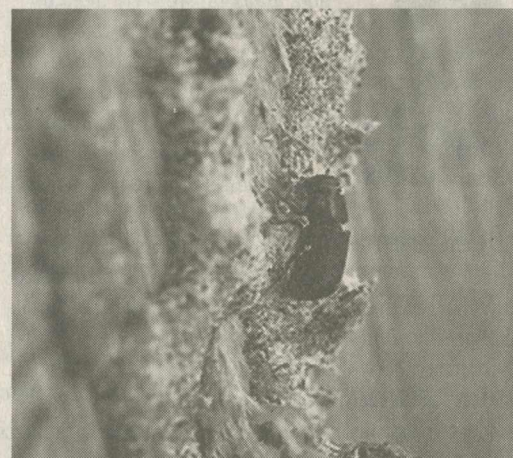
But what does a spreading wave of beetles and rusty, dying trees have to do with the grizzly bear population? Although, according to Wikipedia.com, the bears have been on the threatened and endangered species lists in the United States and Canada, respectively, recent population increases mean that they might be taken off the lists in the near future. Cutting protections now could be

harmful to the bears, Logan said, because their habitats are at risk from the spreading mountain beetles.

We think of bears as classic omnivores — predators eating other wild mammals and occasional campers — but with more refined tastes as well, catching salmon and munching on nuts and blueberries. In fact, these food sources change with the seasons, and in the fall, the bears depend on pinenuts for a high fat intake before the winter hibernation. With dying strands of lodgepole and whitebark pines across the mountains, there will be less food available for the grizzlies during the leaner fall season.

Right now, there are still regions of higher altitude where the voracious beetles have been unable to establish, the cooler temperatures blocking their natural reproductive cycles.

It might be only a matter of time before further temperature increases allow the beetles to climb higher. They required a less-than-two-degree-Fahrenheit increase to begin using whitebark pines, and current global climate change estimates are predicting a much greater increase in the century to come. The beetles might push the bears up the mountain, if finding a stable pinenut supply from healthy tree keeps getting harder. If the trends aren't reversed, however, Logan and others worry that the grizzlies and beetles might run out of mountaintops to climb.



COURTESY PHOTO + NYTIMES.COM
According to the U.S. Forest Service, pine trees die shortly after invasion from mountain pine beetles.

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OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Address shows strength

President Gene Nichol's first annual State of the College address on Jan. 25 was a welcome dose of openness and honesty from an administration that has recently had trouble with those same ideals. The speech included two of Nichol's oft-repeated catchphrases — pledging to keep the College "great and public" and his signature "hark upon the gale" — but it was more than the mere recitation of platitudes that it could have been.

The speech, which included a look back at what Nichol highlighted as the most important achievements of the past year and a look forward at what he plans for 2007, provided important insight into the president's thinking. What he revealed showed a responsible plan for guiding the College through a time of enormous change and a president who is becoming increasingly comfortable in his role as the College's leader.

Nichol's initial handling of his decision to remove a cross from the Wren Chapel altar last fall when The Flat Hat first broke the story was ham handed and helped turn what should have been a relatively minor change in policy into the biggest issue of the year. But beginning with his lengthy e-mail to students and staff during final exams, Nichol has responded to the well deserved criticism by staking out a reasonable compromise, returning the cross to the altar on Sundays and creating a plaque to acknowledge the chapel's Christian history. He has also provided the reasoning behind his decision and welcomed further debate by promising to create a presidential committee to explore the role of religion at public universities.

It would have been better if Nichol had taken these common sense steps when he first announced the cross decision, but his actions in the past two months have gone a long way toward healing the rift

of last fall. Hopefully the president has learned the importance that our College places on discussion and community involvement, and will not repeat the mistakes of the Wren cross incident again. Many of Nichol's critics will never forgive him even if the cross is returned permanently to the Wren altar, but his acts and words of compromise show that he is on the right track to resolve this issue.

The Wren cross incident has upset many alumni, but the volume of donations flowing into the College appears to be unaffected. The five-year fundraising drive known as the Campaign for William and Mary reached its \$500 million goal after a record-setting \$26 million fourth quarter. It now appears that the College is gearing up for a new, even more ambitious fundraising campaign.

Aggressive soliciting of alumni and other donations are absolutely essential for the College to maintain its position among the elite of America's universities. The College was late to the fundraising game compared to many of its peers, and risks being left behind in the increasingly competitive world of higher education.

In the midst of the most expensive construction cycle in the College's history, the expansion of the Gateway initiative and improving professor pay from the 38th to the 75th percentile of peer institutions, more money is needed than ever before. With state funding stagnant and tuition already rising faster than inflation, the only way to pay for the College's needs is by courting our extensive network of alumni. A new Campaign for William and Mary, building on the experience of the last campaign and hitting an even higher goal, would ensure the state of the College remains strong for many years to come.

What he revealed showed a responsible plan for guiding the College through a time of enormous change.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. 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 may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to fhops@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.

Amnesty policy brings freedom but begs funding

The Administration's recent decision to adopt a Medical Amnesty Policy, which was heralded to the student body in an e-mail from Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler on Jan. 24, is a step forward in our campus dialogue on substance use and abuse. Implicit in the adoption of the policy is an acknowledgment that punitive means are not sufficient to reduce the harm associated with substance abuse. Building from this newfound perspective, we must push ahead on two fronts: funding reprioritization and judicial sanction parity between alcohol and other drugs.

I have called for cuts in the budget of the College Police Department in this venue before and fear that the need for such an administrative action has only become more urgent. Thankfully, violent crime is extraordinarily rare on this campus, and the Police Department's own statistics attest to that. Our police force has very little of substance to do other than to enforce traffic laws (as a cyclist, I thank them for that) and drug laws.

According to the Police Department's website, 19 full-time officers, as well as a large support staff and several part-time officers, are employed to protect and serve the College student body. On a campus with practically no crime, the presence of such a large staff is preposterous.

The College should reallocate a significant portion of the funds eaten up by the Police Department each year to better fund the Health Center and the Fish Bowl. Organizations such as these have the real power to combat the problems associated with substance abuse, which generally spring from either ignorance or pre-existing psychological issues rather than from some sort of inborn criminal instinct.

Students have a right to know the answers to the questions they have about drugs, and they have a right to receive those answers in a nonjudgmental environment. It is the role of these services not to tell us what we may or may not do, but rather to demurely raise concerns about the possible pitfalls of the use of certain substances. For instance, we need drug educators inclined to point out the enhanced danger of taking opioids and alcohol in tandem, rather than people who meet the prospect of recreational Vicodin use with condescending

disdain. We need a clean needle exchange program, not a "no means no" attitude toward intravenous drugs.

More importantly, we need people who will acknowledge that the tendency to use such drugs is often linked to pre-existing psychological conditions. The College must recognize the good work done by the Counseling Center and further fund that service. No student should ever have to feel as though she or he needs to threaten to commit suicide in order to get an appointment. We, as students, must play a role in this process by removing the stigma attached to psychological conditions from our own minds. When one member of our community suffers from Bipolar Disorder, we all must confront the slender thread that separates any of us from that same peril and respond with love and compassion rather than a distancing silence.

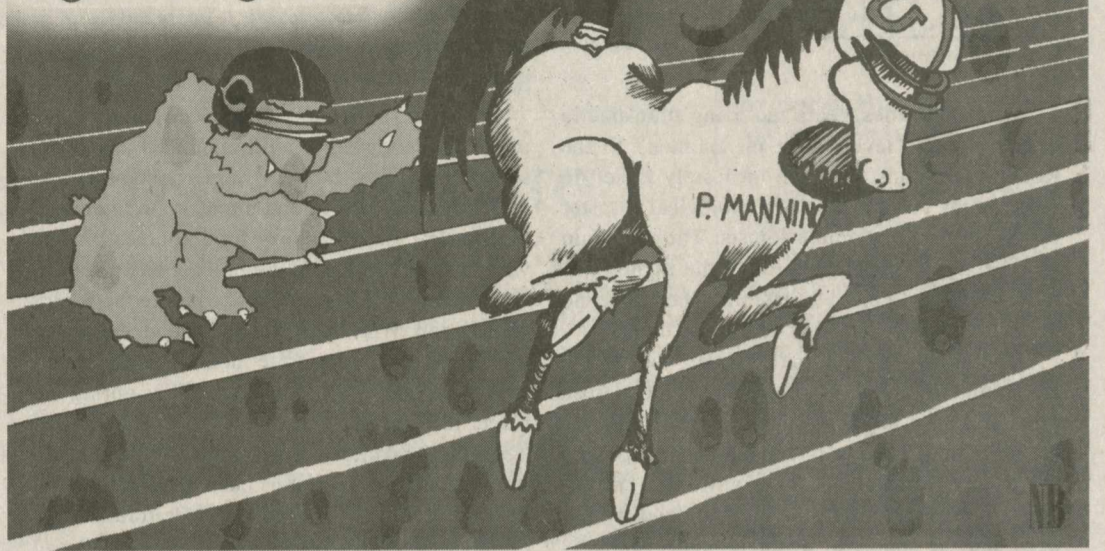
Changes in funding priorities are important to the quest for a sensible drug policy, but the battle for such progress will be long fraught with inevitable miles of bureaucratic red tape. More immediate help can come from making simple changes in the College's Judicial Code to establish parity in the sanctions handed down for different drug offenses.

Cannabis, for instance, is a non-addictive drug that has caused no known deaths and is an object of sacramental use in several religions around the globe. Currently, a freshman living in a dorm who is caught with Cannabis is subject to eviction from his or her residence. Freshmen may only be enrolled in the College if they are living with their parents or in a residence hall. This policy makes for de facto expulsion for the use of a drug far less dangerous than alcohol. Cannabis is not the only drug that has been so misvaluated by our administration. Psilocybin mushrooms have even less negative health implications, yet their use or possession is met with the same institutional recalcitrance. We need to acknowledge that even though alcohol is less illegal, this does not make it any more or less dangerous.

I beg President Nichol and Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler to build upon the good judgment illustrated by the adoption of the Medical Amnesty Policy and initiate the reforms detailed herein.

Thomas Silverstein is a junior at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

ALL of Lovie's Horses and ALL of Lovie's men won't put DA BEARS defense together again...



What a ripoff

With the dawn of the 20th century, the world experienced the death of the novel as a genre; the 21st century ushered in the death of the book as a medium.

You can say books have become obsolete. The other day, my roommate Seth and I went to the College Bookstore and, although we were there for books, it seemed more like a local souvenir shop. You'd be lucky if you walked into a real bookstore now that is devoid of a Starbucks, doesn't have a souvenir department, and sells more books than CDs, DVDs or audio books.

These days, higher learning comes at a pretty price. The bookstore charged me around \$450 for the handful of books



Sherif Abdelkarim

I managed to find. And the whole "used books" deal is no good. It's all a scam — all you get is a two or maybe three-dollar discount. Hell, one of the books had a difference of about 20 cents. Another cost about four dollars more than the new copy. I don't know. That last one didn't make much sense to me. And their return policy is shit. Their deadlines are pretty lame. They don't even give you a full 30 days to return the books.

Like my roommate, most students are buying textbooks online, through Half.com, sin.wm.edu or a myriad of other websites. I checked sin.wm.edu and found that, of the 20-odd books I needed, none of my required books were posted. On Half.com I was dismayed to realize that, when you figure the shipping time and fee into the increasingly expensive equation, you don't really save all that much money. Seth personally recommended Craigslist.com, where you can find all the used books you will possibly need (they also sell used bikes, used movies and used clothes).

So college education comes with a cost. Probably

because nobody reads anymore, publishers find it necessary to transform ordinary books into attention-grabbing, limited-criterion-collection-exclusive-edition-eyecandy-eyepopping-eyesores, a rather futile attempt to bring the book back. This, in turn, makes it increasingly difficult for those who do enjoy reading to find what they are looking for: a plain old book.

The scant texts available at the souvenir shop that calls itself a college bookstore are too ornate and arbitrarily priced. Today's standard books need to have more than mere words on a page. Your general, off-the-counter book must be double bound and aesthetically eye-catching. It also must come with a DVD-ROM, include at least four pages of color pictures and accommodate at least 12 blank, acid-free pages for notes. And it must cost at least \$30 to be considered a highbrow-friendly, intellectually-arousing text.

Of the books at the souvenir shop, well, they fall substantially below par. Did you know that you can purchase a copy from the Weird U.S. Collection for only \$20? Did you know they had a whole series? For

every state? Some having two or three volumes? Jesus. Or those "Philosophy of" books. You can find a Philosophy of the Simpsons, Seinfeld, Star Wars, Sopranos, Lord of the Rings, Family Guy, Dummies and soon a Philosophy of the Illiterate (this comes in DVD format).

The truth is that people don't read books anymore. Only a proud handful of students read the books they invariably spend fortunes on. The rest rely on Sparknotes, read their instructors' notes or cheat, returning their untouched books at a reduced price at the end of the semester. I guess that's why the used books are so damn expensive — because they've yet to be cracked open.

Sherif Abdelkarim, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Trustworthy tour guides

We are responding to James Damon's Dec. 8 column, "Misguided tours." Damon described an interviewee in the tour guide selection process whom he felt epitomized everything he hated about high school. Not until we were



Alex Guillén Dawson Lindauere

discussing the column at a party did we realize that he had compacted us into a composite character who looked like Dawson, talked like Alex and came from the Midwest (although we are from Pennsylvania and Delaware). Damon claimed that this student scammed the Admissions Department with lots of fake, flashy smiles and grotesque charm. He also was angry when this character was chosen as a tour guide over him. To begin, neither one of us was called back for a tour guide position. We were disappointed at the decision (though not to the point of having "a large metal clipboard [driven] straight into" our hearts), but we did not immediately write an acidic and slanderous column for The Flat Hat. In fact, both of us plan on trying out again next year and figure that, if we truly want the tour guide position, we should not bash the very institution we want to represent.

Damon began by describing the character's physical appearance. He instantly classified the character as a "darn theatre kid," based entirely on the fact that Dawson was wearing a Wicked T-shirt. He also seemed disgusted by Dawson's enthusiasm about the College, misinterpreting his bubbling sincerity as a façade "to impress others." Therefore, it seems that before he even spoke, Damon had judged him.

He then moved on to a description of some questions Alex answered. Since it was November, we had only been at the College for a few months, so we

answered each question asked of us with the knowledge and experiences we had — even if that meant revealing we weren't veteran students. Alex was asked to describe his favorite campus tradition. As there were relatively few traditions in the two and a half months since he was here, he answered using what information he had: that one of the most exciting traditions on campus is the Yule Log Ceremony (which, of course, had not yet taken place). Damon complained that student was "lying through his teeth" when, in reality, he was just answering the question with the inherent enthusiasm that comes from a typical student at the College. (Now, having attended the Yule Log Ceremony, he can confirm the answer given back at that interview — it is awesome.)

Damon also used our composite character as an example of why he hates the tour guide system, insulting the very students who represent the College to visiting families and set it apart from other institutions. Damon claimed that, as a tour guide, he "wouldn't have sugarcoated a thing," telling students how the food is awful, freshman year is the worst year of one's life, and how this is the place where fun goes to die — all of which are, in our opinion, untrue. We would tell the real truth: the food is (usually) decent; freshman year is so far the best of our lives and fun comes here not to die but to thrive on the vibrant and fun-loving personalities of the students.

To his credit, Damon is an excellent actor: we apparently made him want "to vomit," and he "hated [us] for being fake," (he was sitting next to us).

We'd like to end with some advice for the author: loosen up. Come on, it was a tour guide interview. If you can't handle that kind of light rejection, you need to get out of the competitive world of real life. The College may not be perfect, but for us it comes pretty damn close.

Alex Guillén and Dawson Lindauere are freshmen at the College. Their views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Res Life reversal needed

Early last semester, Residence Life announced a surprise new policy to the hard-working men and women who clean our dorms: starting in the spring semester, housekeepers would be required to work on weekends. This was not an extension, nor would they be earning any overtime pay in the process. Instead they were now going to work half of the day Friday and then come in Saturday mornings for four hours. The staff members were not consulted before the announcement was made, nor were students.

Needless to say, the staff was less than pleased. I don't know about you, but I'm not a huge fan of waking up to work at 8 a.m. on Saturdays either. With a starting salary of \$9 per hour, housekeepers working full time earn about \$18,000 a year cleaning up our Chanellos boxes and Natty cans. Many have second jobs to support their families. But nevermind second jobs, or spending well-deserved rest time with their families on the weekends, the housekeepers were now informed of a mandatory weekend shift.

Luckily, our student body stepped up to address this gross mistreatment of the staff, and many believe that Res Life has now revoked the policy. Unfortunately, the truth is that they have postponed it and plan on implementing this policy once student opposition dies down a bit (read: over the summer when not many of us are here).

When I asked how the staff members felt about the change, Res Life told me that, in fact, the housekeepers were happy with the change. Excuse me? If the change was such a terrific idea, perhaps those who work in the office of Res Life would like to come in to work at 8 a.m. on Saturday mornings as well. After all, they went on to point out that there was no unified voice of opposition to the change. Isn't it funny (and convenient) how content your employees can be with a little change in policy when you don't have any discussion beforehand, don't address a group worried about its job security, and prohibit unions from being formed?

Res Life continued, telling me that the housekeepers shouldn't be upset because a lot of other

places do this — the ever so classic “but everyone else is doing it” line of reasoning. This didn't work for me beyond kindergarten (unfortunately). Asked if they were worried about people having to quit their jobs over the change, Res Life told me with a shrug, “Well, this is an industry with a high turnover rate.”

So according to the College, the housekeepers are happy about the change (completely false), they didn't protest the change (in fear of losing their jobs they really could not), and everyone else is doing it (because that's always a relevant point in terms of justifying something). Besides, why should we worry if they're upset? They can quit anyway.

We care about impressing prospective students and keeping big donors happy, but this school does not care about its employees who earn the least. Sure, the College will object to me saying this, but the treatment of their employees speaks much louder than any statement or press release they could possibly make. So it's up to us. The College does not allow the housekeepers to have a voice, so we must become that voice. It was inspirational

to see the student response to the initial announcement, but now we must ensure that the policy is shelved for good. We must let the school know that we care about the housekeepers more than we care about how much trash is on the floor on Saturday morning. Please, introduce yourself to the housekeepers who work so hard cleaning up your dorm, and let them know how much the students appreciate what they do for us. We have to show Res Life that we will not stand by and let them take advantage of their employees while we sit here twiddling our thumbs. Go ahead and give the office a call (x4314), or get everyone on your hall who supports the housekeepers to sign a petition and deliver it to the Campus Center, Room 212.

It will take effort to make Res Life cancel this policy, but we must embrace that challenge or else stand by and watch the school abuse our housekeepers. We can be the ones who begin making this school an environment where everyone is treated fairly, regardless of how many digits are in their paycheck.

Shaun Loria is a junior at the College. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

It will take effort to make Res Life cancel this policy, but we must embrace that challenge or else stand by and watch the school abuse our housekeepers.

Hear what Hagel has to say

On Feb. 10, Republican Senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska will serve as the keynote speaker at the College's annual Charter Day Ceremony. Based on my limited research, the College seems to follow

a tradition of inviting mildly famous politicians to speak at this event — in 2006 it was Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, in 2005 Librarian of Congress James Billington and in 2004 Virginia Sen. John Chichester (R-28). While Sen. Hagel appears to fit this mold, his unique ability to infuriate fellow Republicans,

totally alienate the Bush Administration and throw Democrats for a loop certainly makes him worthy of a closer look.

On the most basic level, Hagel is an extreme right-winger. According to www.OnTheIssues.org, he was given a zero percent rating by NARAL Pro-Choice America, a zero percent rating by the League of Conservation Voters, a 100 percent rating by the Christian Coalition and an “A” from the National Rifle Association. Hagel voted

against expanding hate crimes to include sexual orientation, voted for ending special funding for minority and women-owned businesses, and maintains very pro-free trade and anti-taxation stances. On paper, Hagel is basically as staunchly conservative as possible, and yet he has attained a kind of odd, bipartisan appeal. While more conservative members of Congress pretty much despise him for not totally adhering to the party line, some Democrats actually like the guy. In fact, The Washington Post even came out saying that “die-hard liberals” find Hagel “appealing.”

In fact, the only aspect of Hagel's political persona that separates him from other typical far right-wingers is his extremely strong stance on the Iraq war. Not only does Hagel object to Bush's recent “troop surge,” but he actually co-sponsored the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's nonbinding resolution condemning it and was the only Republican to vote for the measure. Media outlets seem to love Hagel in the same way they love John McCain — they are both politicians who appear to have backbones in a political scene filled with partisan robots. These Senators are perceived as bipartisan, independent-minded mavericks.

One could argue (as do many loyal Democrats

who are unable to justify praising a member of the opposing team) that Hagel isn't really doing anything astonishing. First, he originally supported the president's invasion of Iraq, unlike many members of Congress who were against the war from the beginning. Furthermore, almost everyone besides the administration is unsupportive of the war at this point, so it can't be that difficult to rebel against party leadership in favor of the American people. In fact, a Newsweek poll taken this month shows that a whopping 70 percent of Americans disapprove of the way Bush is handling the situation in Iraq—it's almost absurd for politicians to not criticize Bush. Even more revealing, however, is the fact that he might run for president. Unlike earlier predictions, he is not vying for a Republican bid, but may try to run on the “Unity08” ticket, which would hypothetically include one Democrat and one Republican. For many, not only would Hagel's “strong” stance on Iraq be more accurately described as “incredibly easy,” but it may be motivated by selfish intentions, not any sort of moral imperative.

I am, however, not a party loyalist. While I vehemently disagree with Hagel on, well, just about everything besides

Iraq, I take my victories wherever I can get them. Frankly, I don't care what his motivations are — it seems like Americans have come to a consensus on Iraq, and it's about time politicians started taking strong stands against the war. Even Democratic presidential hopefuls like Sens. Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama have not taken a stance as tough as Hagel's. While I find his McCain-like, maverick characterization in the media somewhat ridiculous (in my mind “really conservative and then sort of liberal on one specific issue” does not make a bipartisan), it is rather refreshing to see a staunch Republican unafraid to actually act against GOP leadership in the case of discordant opinions.

Regardless of your political affiliation, I urge everyone to hear Senator Hagel speak on Feb. 10. If nothing else, he is a unique, intriguing political figure, and certainly deserves recognition for his willingness to disrupt (albeit very slightly) the linear liberal-conservative political model so entrenched in American politics.

Devan Barber, a junior at the College, is a Staff Columnist. Her views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

Media outlets seem to love Hagel in the same way they love John McCain ... both politicians appear to have backbones in a political scene filled with partisan robots.

Be prepared, especially when it's cold outside

It's 12:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, and I would kill for a space heater. Heck, I'd settle for anything that would warm my frozen limbs. Instead, I curl up and hug my knees, praying to God that sleep — or death — will free me from this frigid hell on earth. I'm camping outside of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. for free tickets to a Sufjan Stevens concert, and I'm having the time of my life.

The Boy Scout motto has always been “Be Prepared.” As an Eagle Scout, I know this, and should abide by these words. Instead, I've always preferred to pack less when given a choice in the matter. “I don't need a printer or a lamp,” I said to my parents as I began packing for freshman year. “And really, bed sheets? Blankets? I think I can do without. You know? It would just be so much easier if I slept on my bare mattress. Really.” I reluctantly gave into their cries and ended up bringing pillows, blankets and even sheets to furnish my freshman dorm room. But I wasn't happy about it.

I don't loathe owning things. In fact, I relish every addition to my collection of solid color tee shirts. However, I prefer packing too little for two simple reasons: weight and simplicity. Who wants to worry about remembering a million and one things, or carrying all that dead weight? Not me. If I forget to bring something it's never because I forgot, but due to my own intent. This trepidation to being prepared directly led to my freezing that Friday night. Taylor, the friend I was camping with, told me to bring a sleeping bag and pillow. Naturally, my bag included only a thin sweatshirt and neck pillow. “James, you're going to freeze,” Taylor said upon looking at my gear. “Nonsense,” I replied. “I've got a toothbrush and a neck pillow. And besides, I was an Eagle Scout.”

To make my point, I left out the fact that I had been possibly the least qualified Boy Scout in the history of that organization, worse even than the other boys in my troop who set barrels of hay on fire and smoked pot during summer camp. At least they could light a match. I still can't tie a knot, start a

fire, or put up a tent. Admittedly, I can read a compass, but I don't think that helps much when you find yourself camped in a tent in the middle of our nation's capital.

Sometime around 4 a.m., in a state somewhere between awake and asleep, I thought I would actually freeze to death. Several hours ago, I'd lost feeling in my feet, which I'd wrapped in Taylor's thick wool coat for warmth. She, in her heavy sleeping bag, snored lightly beside me. So this is what it feels like to be homeless, I thought to myself. I swore that, if I survived, I'd give a cool 50 bucks to the next bum I saw. “There you go buddy, why don't you buy yourself some hand warmers or maybe a nice electric blanket.”

I was about to call it quits and give up my fight against the cold slowly inching its way up my body. I planned first to text message all of my closest friends, bequeathing my life sized ceramic dog sculpture to my brother who, though allergic, has always had a fondness for canines. Suddenly, a voice from outside my tent yelled, “None of you fuckers

are getting any tickets.” For a moment I'd forgotten where I was. I was freezing to death in order to get tickets for what would be a really gnarly concert. “Fuck you, asshole,” I hissed through chattering teeth at that jerk. Taylor shifted lightly beside me and then returned to her slumber. I couldn't give up on living if it meant that asshole would get my tickets. No, I was going to get those tickets, I told myself as I rocked back and forth in the fetal position with newfound determination.

It wasn't a love of music or a desire to give my extra ticket to a friend that got me through the rest of that night, though I wish it was. Bitterness toward everyone who hadn't been camping for nine hours in the freezing cold kept me alive. Like the young Paul Atreides, protagonist of the “Dune” novels, I was kept alive in the face of insurmountable odds by my own determination to come out on top. For Paul, the prize was rule over the desert planet known as Dune and all the sweet euphoric spice chemical he could consume. As pleasant as that sounds, I'm glad I got those tickets.

James Damon, a sophomore at the College, is a Staff Columnist. His views do not necessarily represent those of The Flat Hat.

The Boy Scout motto has always been “Be Prepared.” Instead, I've always preferred to pack less when given a choice in the matter.



James Damon



Devan Barber

Letters to the Editor

Don't give in to political correctness

To the Editor:
I came across an article (www.FederalistPatriot.com — 12/8/06 Digest edition) that mentioned how President Nichol has decided to remove the historic Wren Chapel cross. Nichol decided to do this “in order to make it less of a faith-specific space, and to make it more welcoming to students, faculty, staff, and visitors of all faiths.” I think this is the wrong decision.

The Wren Chapel was built in 1732 as “a faith-specific space” and, as such, it makes sense that it would have a cross. This cross has become part of the Wren Chapel and its history, and after all these years, why is it time to remove it? Does Nichol think the cross is so offensive that it no longer makes sense to display it?

Well, I think this is the latest attempt by secular America to remove any reference of God from public places. I am sick and tired of people bowing down to these groups and giving up without a fight. America was founded under Judeo-Christian values, and to capitulate so easily causes me great concern. I want to know who was offended at the site of this cross and why. It is a cross in a chapel, it does not force anyone to do anything! In fact, most people probably pay little, if any, attention to it when visiting the Wren Chapel. To those who are offended by it, I say “Grow Up!” What is next, removing the word “Chapel” as some people are offended by that? We could simply call it “Wren, The Politically Correct, Secular Den.”

The decision to remove the cross comes shortly after Nichol decided to live with the NCAA's decision that the two feathers on our logo is potentially “hostile and abusive.” In this case, Nichol also decided to give in. It seems like another example of the College being pushed

around and not sticking up for itself and for what is right.

My four years at the College were some of the best of my life. I have fond memories of my friends, professors, and various experiences while there. However, I am concerned about the current state of the College. I ask President Nichol to reconsider his recent decision to remove the cross from Wren Chapel in order to show real leadership in defending the tradition of the Wren Chapel and of the College.

— Lucas Shuler, BBA '01

The purpose of the Chapel

To the Editor:
During the course of a year, the Wren Chapel is opened for three types of activities: specific activities dedicated to Christian worship, specific activities other than Christian worship and tours.

The purpose of these activities dictate the setup and appearance of the chapel. During Christian worship the cross would logically be displayed. During specific activities when Christian worship is not the intended purpose, the cross would logically not be displayed.

However tours are different. Tours are about telling a story. They tell the story of our history, particularly the role the chapel played in our history. This history would be incomplete without the role of the Church of England in the formation of the College. To remove the cross from the chapel during these times removes the cross from discussion of our history. It removes all that it represents: the bishops and priests who worked so hard to build, rebuild, and sustain this venerable college over the centuries. It removes an opportunity to discuss the historical purpose of the college as outlined in the Charter, among these to prepare young men for priest-

hood in the Church of England.

The Anglican Church sacrificed so much to create this school. Without these sacrifices, there would be no College. It's inaccurate and disrespectful to surreptitiously remove this part of our rich history.

I call on President Nichol to recognize the purpose of tours — to tell the history of the College: all of our history, not just the part that is convenient or easy.

— Michael Weissberger, '05

Preserving ethics is important

To the Editor:

Thank you to Ethan Forrest and Joanna Greer for both a fitting tribute to Mr. Tiefel's teaching legacy and for calling attention to the College's loss of a religious ethics position. As a former student of Mr. Tiefel now embarking on a career in religious ethics, I am grateful for his lasting legacy in my personal and academic life.

Just as fields such as medicine, business and journalism are deeply enriched by courses in ethics, so too is the study of religion. But religion is perhaps an even more potent social force in our world. Whether religious or not, we all come from somewhere; our moral and ethical choices depend on who and what we want to be. Religious ethics strives to understand the world-views of others, and looks for ways to reconcile what are often conflicting visions of reality. This is an incredibly important task in an increasingly violent world.

Religious ethics incorporates many domains of academic inquiry at the College from philosophy to medicine and sociology to ecology. A position in religious ethics stays true to the College's goal of offering a well-rounded liberal arts education.

I am confident that all who teach and work within

the Department of Religious Studies recognize the need for a track in religious ethics. Unfortunately, it is not up to the Department alone to decide. I echo Ethan and Joanna's hope that the administration will reinstitute a religious ethics position. Losing it for good would be a serious loss for scholarship at the College.

— Patrick Comstock, '07

Editorial needs more reliable facts

To the Editor:

I was singularly disappointed to read The Flat Hat's staff editorial, “Nichol botched handling of the cross” just before winter break. I was embarrassed that the staff published an opinion lacking the level of integrity deserving of the newspaper's standing.

The article is poorly informed and poorly reasoned. Any opinion piece, especially one which makes severe accusations, should establish certain facts. The editorial assumed that the President's decision and intent were for the policy reversal to be private (as in secretive). There was no description about how and why the decision became highly-visible. There also were no facts framing its purpose or targets — there were only assumptions because the writers did not know, and more importantly, did not inquire about facts.

A failure to solicit (and therefore, establish) facts is a cardinal sin in journalism. Even opinion articles are based on “certifiable truths.” As a result, a noble attempt to contribute to the debate was reduced into a string of sloppy admonishments. Bold stands require bold reliability. I will advise The Flat Hat to be more careful so that we can trust its opinion writing as much as its news reporting in the future.

— Michael Faithful, '07

Hester, defense keys to victory for 'da Bears'

BEARS from page A10

legacy, but also to over-prepare for the Bears' intimidating defense. The extra week of preparation will be a detriment for him in this case, because if there were ever an athlete who thinks too much, it's Peyton Manning. If he throws a couple of early interceptions (as is his playoff trademark) to ball hawks Ricky Manning Jr., Brian Urlacher or Nathan Washer, Manning could be in trouble.

4. Rex Grossman — Him? It may be hard to believe, but Grossman is a major reason the Bears will go back to Chicago as Super Bowl champions. The reason has less to do with Grossman's playing ability and more to do with the fact that he clearly has some incredibly good karma on his side. Let's look at some of his most recent feats: he maintained his starting job and subsequently led his team to the Super Bowl after publicly admitting that he was not totally focused on the Bears' regular-season finale against the Green Bay Packers because, among other less-than-valid reasons, it was New Year's Eve. Clearly, somebody upstairs is looking out for this guy (did I mention he began to run off the field of the NFC Championship game before the first half actually ended, unaware that his own team, which was on offense at the time, had called a timeout?). If Grossman pulls off a victory, he'll be the most unlikely Super Bowl champion quarterback since Trent Dilfer, which is saying something.

3. Special Teams — At first glance,

this area seems like an obvious advantage for the Colts because they have the most clutch kicker in the history of the game in Adam Vinatieri. But it's important to keep in mind that Bears kicker Robbie Gould is no slouch, either. Plus, the Bears have rookie kick returner Devin Hester at their disposal, a man who is capable of taking a return back for a touchdown every time he touches the ball. And Colts punt returner Terrance Wilkins has looked very shaky in recent weeks handling punts. A big run back or muffed punt in the return game would be enough to outweigh the Colts' advantage in the kicking game.

2. Bears' Defense — The Bears' defense experienced a fall from grace after their impressive start to the season, but they still are among the best in the league when it comes to forcing turnovers. They have several big play guys, led by the always-dangerous Urlacher, who will pose major threats to Manning and the rest of the Colts' offense.

1. Underdog advantage — The Bears have really been sliding under the radar the past two weeks, with most of the attention on Manning and the Colts. The pressure is not on the Bears for this reason, and they have played their best this season when the focus has been on their opponents.

Final Score: Bears 24, Colts 21

Jeff Dooley is the associate sports editor for The Flat Hat.

Manning to finally put Colts over top in XLI

COLTS from page A10

defense to pack the box in order to neutralize Jones, hence challenging the inexperienced Grossman to beat them through the air. After only managing only 11 completions in 24 attempts against a porous Saint pass defense, there is no chance that the inconsistent Grossman will be able to do much damage against the stout Colts' start pass defense featuring ball-hawk strong safety Bob Sanders.

4. Tarik Glenn — In order to achieve any kind of offensive continuity, the Colts must be able to resist the relentless pressure of freakish Chicago Bear pass rushers Adewale Ogunleye and rookie Mark Anderson. Luckily for the Colts, their beastly left tackle Tarik Glenn is just the man for the job. At a massive 332 pounds, Glenn possesses incredible agility for his colossal frame, making him the best pass blocker on either team. With the help of Glenn's pass protection, Manning should have plenty of time to pick apart the Bears' defense.

3. Dallas Clark — With Marvin Harrison and Reggie Wayne, Manning possesses one of the most dangerous and reliable wide out tandems in the league. More important to the Colts' success will be the performance of unheralded tight end Dallas Clark. Clark, who leads the team with 17 receptions for 281 yards in the postseason, gives Manning a viable option over the middle of the field. If the sure-handed Clark can draw attention away from the Colts' talented receivers by getting open

and gaining tough yardage between the hash marks, look for Manning to open up the passing game by hitting Harrison and Wayne on big plays over the top.

2. Jeff (X-Factor) Saturday — Sorry, Peyton; I know that you are instrumental to the success of the Colts' offensive unit, but center Jeff Saturday is the secret weapon in the Colts' arsenal that the Bears really need to be worried about. An offensive force felt around the league since recovering a fumble for a touchdown in the AFC championship game, Lovie Smith will be scratching his head in bewilderment in an attempt to find a defensive scheme that can contain the sleek and elusive Saturday. Look for Saturday to score at least one touchdown in the game.

1. Adam Vinatieri — Although the Bears possess the NFL's most explosive return man in Devin Hester, I still give the Colts' special teams unit the edge because of one man: Adam "Iceman" Vinatieri. Eleven for 11 on field goal opportunities thus far this postseason, when it comes to pressure situations, Vinatieri simply does not miss. Look for the clutch Vinatieri to add one more Super Bowl clincher to his impressive resume as the Colts take down the Bears.

Prediction: Colts 26, Bears 24.

Graham Williamson is a sports columnist for The Flat Hat.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Tribe dominates, prepares for CAAs

By MADELINE WOLFERT
THE FLAT HAT

While other College students relaxed over winter break, the Tribe men's and women's swimming and diving teams trained hard and finished their regular seasons against tough competitors.

"This year, William and Mary was the team to beat... our team stepped up and many individuals were able to put up some unbelievably fast times against our opponents," sophomore Jason Brisson said.

The men's team defeated the College of Charleston 122-105, improving to 6-1 and securing a winning season. Sophomore Jeff Collier and junior Brandon Paster recorded dual wins. Both the 200-meter free relay team of freshmen Joe DeBiase and Kevin Gallagher, junior Alex Jendzjec and senior Nick Duda, and sophomore Shawn Matthews grabbed wins.

The women's team dominated, winning 152-80 and improving to 6-2.

"We hadn't even been back home after ten-day standard training in North Palm Beach. They did a great job with racing," Head Coach McGee Moody said.

The 200-m medley relay team, consisting of junior Meredith David, senior captains Kelly Reitz and Marnie Rognlien and freshman Erin Welshofer, began the meet with a two minute, 3.31 second victory. Marina Falcone finished with two wins, in the 200 free (2:07.93) and 400 free (4:29.17), as did freshman Katie Radloff in the 50 (27.11) and 100 (57.89) freestyles.

Also victorious were David, Welshofer, Reitz,

freshmen Jill Hamilton and Suzanne Figuers, Reitz and the 200 free relay team of Radloff, sophomore Sara Fitzsimmons, David and junior Christina Monsees (1:52.13). Junior Meg O'Connor won the 1-m in diving with 202.42 and sophomore Samantha Greenwood took the 3-m with 190.57.

In the Jan. 20 competition against the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, and Davidson College, the men were defeated by the Seahawks, 110.5-187.5, but tied with Davidson at 147 to improve to 6-2-1. Brisson, named CAA Swimmer of the Week, totaled five victories, defeating both schools in 200 breast (2:10.72) and 400 IM (4:13.52). Duda earned three wins against Davidson in the 200 free (1:46.10), 50 free (21.84) and 100 free (47.76), while Collier won against both opposing teams in the 500 free (4:44.65).

The women's team fell to UNCW 145-155 but snatched a decisive win from Davidson, 216-83, improving to 7-3. Radloff, named CAA Swimmer of the Week, led the Tribe with eight victories in four events, taking wins against both teams in the 50 free (24.06), 100 free (51.59), 100 back (58.66) and in the 400 free relay with Fitzsimmons, Falcone and Rognlien (3:31.42).

"I don't think there's anyone of [Radloff's] caliber anywhere else in the conference. We're very lucky to have her," Coach Moody said.

Falcone, Rognlien, David, Reitz, Welshofer and freshman Courtney Alles all finished with additional wins.

The women faced the University of Richmond but lost to the Spiders 146.5-153.5. Collecting dual wins were O'Connor, Radloff and Falcone. Freshman Tage Waite earned the ninth-fastest time in school history in the 1,000 free (10:40.07)

and Figuers took the seventh-best time in the 400 individual medley (4:36.19).

The final home meet, against James Madison University, ended in a 137-152 loss for the Tribe (6-3-1), the emotional event marking the last meet ever for the long-time rival JMU men's team. Collecting wins were Collier in the 1,000 free (9:47.64) and 500 free (4:46.67), Brisson in the 100 breast (59.53), Matthews in the 200 back (1:54.39), Duda in the 200 free (1:45.04), DeBiase, Gallagher, Duda and Matthews in the 400 free relay (3:12.10), senior Peter King in the 200 fly (1:59.41) and Brisson and David Mangini tied for first in the 400 individual medley (4:17.12).

"There were a few very close races in the sprints that if they had gone our way, could have led to a different outcome," senior captain Joey Peterson said.

The women trumped JMU 180.5-109.5 in the final meet, improving to 8-4. Radloff was victorious in three events, the 50 free (23.75), 100 free (51.42), and 200 free (1:51.63). David, Reitz, Welshofer and Rognlien took the 200 medley relay (1:48.67) and David took the 100 back (59.36) and 200 back (2:07.14), while Reitz swept the 100-yard (1:05.85) and 200-yard (2:22.56) breaststrokes. O'Connor, Alles, sophomore Whitney Pezza and Falcone all finished with wins.

"This year, both the men's and women's teams have a chance to do something that has never been done before. We are both in great positions to have some awesome swims and take home some medals," Brisson said.

Both teams will be back in action at the CAA Championships Feb. 14 to 17.

Men to host UNC

BASKETBALL from page A10

12 three-pointers. The College shot the ball well, too, at 48.1 percent, but it was not enough to keep up with the Rams.

The Tribe jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead on Schneider's three-pointer and Kisielius' jumper, but after two straight VCU three-pointers the lead was gone and the Rams never looked back. VCU enjoyed a 12-point halftime lead and stretched it to as many as 27 late in the second half.

VCU's defensive pressure forced the College into 16 turnovers, which led to 21 points off turnovers for the Rams. The Tribe had only two points off turnovers and could not slow down VCU's talented backcourt of Eric Maynor, B.A. Walker and Jamal Shuler. The trio combined for 59 points and hit all 12 of the Rams' three-pointers.

The Tribe's two leading scorers — Kisielius and Payton — continued to produce for the College as Kisielius notched a season-high 22 points and Payton added 12 points.

In last Saturday's home game against Georgia State University, the Tribe put on an offensive clinic en route to defeating the Panthers 81-65. The College shot 60.9 percent and had 18 assists on 28 made baskets (including 13 assists

for 15 scores in the second half).

"We got great shots. In the last two weeks we haven't made these [shots]," Shaver said.

The Tribe put an end to its five-game losing streak with the win.

"I thought [the victory] was huge," Shaver said. "This basketball team didn't feel like we were coming off a five-game losing streak. We didn't feel we're playing bad ball. I was so excited with the energy and excitement on the court."

The College took the lead for good on Schneider's three-pointer with 6:29 to go in the first half. The Tribe began the second half with a six-point advantage and extended the lead to 11 by the 18:40 mark. Georgia State would only get to within seven points the rest of the way as the College's offense ignited and its lead grew to as many as 24.

The team's energy led to a stellar performance that included sophomore forward Chris Darnell's baseline dunk. Darnell converted his free-throw for the three-point play and finished with eight points in eight minutes.

Payton and Kisielius led the Tribe in scoring with 17 apiece and sophomore forward Peter Stein chipped in a season-high 12 points.

The College hosts the University of North Carolina, Wilmington tomorrow night at 7 p.m. at Kaplan Arena.

Tribe women go to 6-3 for January

W. HOOPS from page A9

for the remainder of the half, and although the College held a five-point lead with under six minutes remaining, by the end of the first half GSU again only trailed by one point.

After intermission, the Tribe went on a 7-0 run to gain a six-point lead with 16:57 showing. Although the College held a six-point lead multiple times in the second half, an 11-0 spurt by the Panthers caused the Tribe to trail 68-63 with less than 5 minutes left in the game.

The College surged forward, however, outscoring GSU 7-1 to put the Tribe ahead by one point with 1:45 remaining. Although the Panthers briefly reclaimed the lead, a three-pointer and a pair of foul shots by Kaylor, followed by two free throws from James, allowed the College to clinch the 1-point victory over GSU.

ODU ended the Tribe's winning streak Sunday by a score of 63-47. Benson led the Tribe with 12 points, marking her first career double-double and giving her a total of 45 blocks so far this season.

Benson is now in first place for most rejections in a single season, exceeding the previous record of 42 set in 1991. Devin James and Sarah Stroh added 12 and 10 points, respectively.

The Lady Monarchs opened scoring with a 15-0 run to take an early lead. The Tribe managed to hold ODU scoreless for almost six minutes before the Lady Monarchs made another 12-3 spurt. The College answered with a 9-2 run of its own, but it wasn't enough as the Tribe trailed by 13 at halftime.

Although James and Stroh were the Tribe's only scorers in the first half, Benson and Taylor managed to knock down some baskets to help the College in the second. The Lady Monarchs charged ahead, however, making another run to gain a sizable 50-33 lead with 9:38 showing. With a pair of three-pointers by senior guard Katy Neumer, the College cut the margin to 13 points with 5:38 to go. Despite an all-around team effort, the Tribe was unable to significantly narrow the lead as it fell 47-63.

The Tribe hosts James Madison University Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at Kaplan Arena.

Women begin mid-west roadtrip next week

TENNIS, from page A10

final score as Sabacinski, raising her yearly record to 14-4 overall. Kasztelaniec, Tribe's no. 3 player, won her match with a little less ease. Ranked 58th nationally, she split the first two sets with her opponent, Ilina, but won the third in a tiebreaker, 10-4. This is Kasztelaniec's 14th win of the season.

Sunday's match against the Virginia Cavaliers brought the Tribe even more success. U.Va., who is ranked 25th, lost to the Tribe by a final score of 5-2. This marks the sixth straight victory over the Cavs. The recent triumph also marks the team's

ninth victory over a top-25 nationally ranked team in Coach Kevin Epley's tenure at the College.

The Cavaliers are not only an in-state rival of the team, but both schools have the top two freshmen recruiting classes in the country, according to the Tennis Recruiting Network, who slotted U.Va. at no. 1 and put the Tribe in the second position. The Tribe freshmen backed up their high ranking with impressive play, as the doubles team of freshmen Ragini Acharya and Magdalena Bresson won both their doubles and singles matches. At the no. 4 ranking, Acharya won her first two sets, 6-1, and 6-2, gaining a victory over Virginia's Maggie Yahner. Bresson, Acharya's fellow freshman and

doubles partner, won her match at the no. 5 spot. She beat the Cavaliers' Lindsey Pereira, 6-0, 6-3, upping her record to 13-7 overall.

Moulton-Levy, the no. 1 positioned player, beat Virginia's Brintney Larson, winning the first set, 7-5, and then the second set 6-1, for her 15th victory this season.

The team will now travel to the mid-west for three matches. The Tribe plays the University of Illinois Feb. 9 and seventh-ranked Georgia Tech Feb. 10. Both of these matches will be played in Champagne, Ill. The College will end their road trip by battling no. 40 Purdue University Feb. 11 in West Lafayette, Ind.

A student-athlete's winter break: 'eat, sleep and play basketball'

BREAK from page A10

off impressive seven-game win streaks. In previous seasons, both programs have hit cold slumps, losing several games in a row during late December and early January. Senior guard Adam Payton credited some of the men's holiday success, capped off by a 67-63 road upset over 2006 Final Four participant George Mason University earlier this month, to having fewer distractions.

"When there's no class and when students leave, there's nothing to do but play ball and focus," Payton said.

There are no NCAA rules governing how long coaches can keep players occupied with basketball over break. "It's not just sit in your apartment time," he said. The team often practiced twice per day.

The small amount of vacation can be a problem for some players who don't live close to campus. A native of Burlington, N.J., Payton drives home to visit family for the holidays. Last year, with only five days of vacation, Payton found himself hustling back to Williamsburg as the team was preparing to leave for a road game. Sitting in a traffic jam, he missed a whole

practice.

This year, Payton's wife, Sharena, traveled down from New Jersey with him after Christmas and stayed through New Year's Day.

"It's definitely hard to have a family while in school, but I know right after I graduate I'll be back with them," he said.

Stroh, who must fly home, said however many days the team has off for vacation, she usually subtracts two for travel time. This year she intended to leave the College at 6 a.m. Dec. 22 and arrive in Seattle at 11 a.m., but the

flight was changed a month before its departure and she was not able to leave Williamsburg before 11 a.m. Scheduled to arrive in Seattle early in the evening, her plane did not land until after midnight. It took another two-hour drive into Canada before she was home. A whole day was shot.

"It's very hectic, but I've learned to be calm over the years," Stroh said.

Unlike Stroh and Payton, Schneider lives closer to Williamsburg and doesn't have to worry as much about travel arrangements. He went to Charlottesville to spend time with his mom and

grandmother during the team's four-day break this year. Originally from Arizona, his family moved to Myrtle Beach, S.C., so they were better able to travel to watch him play over break.

"Having family really close, that's a bonus for me," he said.

While suiting up for the Tribe ultimately means that all three players must forfeit most of their winter break, they still enjoy all the time they dedicate to playing basketball.

"I kind of wish I had a bigger break," Payton said. "But I love the sport and I have learned to play it all the time."

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

Athletics: self-flagellation with a purpose

We look ridiculous, jumping up and down on the edge of these metal benches like this. Any sane person would be sitting comfortably inside, a warm beverage on the side table, watching



BRAD CLARK

TV and putting off the 200 pages of reading every professor has assigned for the first full week of classes. Instead, we're out on Busch Field. Our crystallized breath hangs in the nighttime air, and soon enough a small fog has enveloped us — we have become lost in our own individual worlds of silent labor. On the field beside us, the women's lacrosse team toils through a seemingly endless set of drills, and beyond that the stands sit, imposing and empty, like a long-forgotten ghost town.

Conversation ceased ages ago, probably set adrift in our milky cloud of exertion. The entire group faces the field, watching the lacrosse team in silence, looking like a pack of prairie dogs strung out on speed.

We, the Ultimate Frisbee team, that is, have been doing a program called Air Alert — a series of exercises that guarantees to increase a person's vertical leaping ability by nearly a foot. Consequently, we spend three nights a week hopping and bounding in place, looking like a group of escaped patients from Eastern State who, in a desperate attempt to fill the time previously spent counting the tiles of nondescript white rooms, have started their own sadomasochistic jazzercise class.

Just then, at that crazy, prairie dog/

jazzercise moment (and the award for the most ridiculous mixed metaphor of all time goes to ...), it struck me — the lengths to which athletes go to behind the scenes to be successful is astounding. Everyone, of course, loves the glory of the competition, the feeling of warmth when the spotlight swings in your direction. But one watching the action rarely thinks of all those hours which, when piled upon each other like bricks in a wall, transform into a momentary flash of perfection.

Athletics — 95 percent of it anyway — is self-flagellation with a purpose. Says I, at least, which may explain my frustrating inability to break into the refrigerator magnet industry. In an effort to find a quote slightly more inspirational (or at least refrigerator magnet-worthy) and that may or may not conjure up images of fanatics whipping themselves into a bloody pulp, I decided to do some thorough journalistic research, the kind of hard work that we reporters thrive on and that the general public simply can't understand. So, of course, I typed the phrase "practice quotes" into Google, and waited for the magic to happen. I knew that I was but a few quick clicks away from glory. Goodbye Flat Hat, hello Pulitzer. Just as I began thinking about who I would thank at the awards banquet, the computer returned with the answer to my query. Eagerly, I opened up the first page, a quote by some guy named Edward Jenner, which said: "I hope that someday the practice of producing cow pox in human beings will spread over the world — when that day comes there will be no more smallpox."

Excellent. I knew very little about this so called "cow pox" — or its seemingly sinister

brother "small pox" — but at least now I did know that on some level it was one of the key ingredients to athletic success. The second page I opened held a slightly different sentiment: "Practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty."

Well, obviously that one's garbage. Finally, I found the quote that I was looking for. Martha Graham, the famous modern dance choreographer, once said, "Practice means to perform, over and over again in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire. Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired."

What she captures, more perfectly than any of the pseudo-philosophical musings listed above, is the underlying factor at work any time a runner gets up for an early morning run, or a soccer player takes corner kicks into an empty net by himself: the intense and persistent desire to better oneself.

Suddenly, in light of this new thread, our repetitive calisthenics began to look slightly less ridiculous. I jumped higher and higher, getting lost in that feathery vapor and blurring the edge that separates earth from air. The empty stands still sat across from us as before, but now promising a day when the spotlight would shine in our collective direction and repay every drop of sweat and lactic acid with the type of glory made possible only through athletic endeavor. Until then, we had to satisfy ourselves with the solitary glow of the stadium lights, lending effervescence to our unforgiving efforts, and forming a scene that I can only describe as senselessly beautiful.

Brad Clark is a sports columnist for The Flat Hat.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

FOOTBALL

◆ Mike Tomlin, '95, a former three-year varsity starter at the College, was named head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers last week. While Tomlin excelled on the field, accumulating 2,053 yards as a wide receiver — including 20 touchdowns — it was clear that his calling was on the sidelines as a coach. Upon graduating from the College, he worked for a number of small schools before landing the job as defensive backs coach at the University of Cincinnati in 1999. Two years later, Tomlin earned his first coaching job in the pro ranks when the Tampa Bay Buccaneers hired him as their defensive backs coach. He won a Super Bowl ring with the Bucs in 2003. In 2006, the Minnesota Vikings hired Tomlin as their defensive coordinator. After an extremely successful season that saw Tomlin transform the Viking defense into the league's most efficient run-stoppers, he interviewed for the head coaching job at Pittsburgh and Miami, ultimately being hired by the Steelers. At 34 years old, Tomlin stands as the second-youngest head coach of any major sports franchise in America.



◆ 2004 Walter Payton Award winner Lang Campbell '05 signed with the Cleveland Browns for the last week of the NFL season. Campbell, whose 2004 All-American season led the Tribe within one game of the Division I-AA championship, was invited to Cleveland's training camp the last two years but failed to make the team. Campbell's signing makes him the sixth former Tribe player to currently hold a place on an NFL roster.

BASKETBALL

◆ Adam Hess ('04) was voted to the starting lineup of Germany's Bundesliga All-Star game. Hess averages 20.7 points per game, tops in the Bundesliga and has led his team, the Artland Dragons, to a 10-5 record midway through the season. The 6'7" forward received 29 percent of over 40,000 All-Star votes cast in his first season playing for Artland. After attending Eastern Michigan University as a freshman, Hess transferred to the College, where he went on to become the Tribe's sixth-most prolific scorer, averaging 17.6 ppg, and placed 10th on the College's all-time points scored list.

FIELD HOCKEY

◆ Gina Cimarelli's postseason accolades continue to grow as the senior forward has been awarded second-team All-State and second team All-Region honors to go with her first team All-CAA selection. Cimarelli led the Tribe with 21 points while finishing fifth in the CAA with seven assists and fourth in the conference in game-winning goals. Her selection to the Virginia Sports Information Directors' All-State team is the 18th in school history, while her selection to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association All-South Region team marks the 58th time a woman from the College has made the team.



By Miles Hilder. Photos courtesy www.TribeAthletics.com.

THIS WEEK IN TRIBE SPORTS			FEBRUARY 3 TO FEBRUARY 9			
Men's Basketball UNC Wilmington James Madison	Sat 2/3 7 p.m. Wed 2/7 7 p.m.	Women's Basketball James Madison Hofstra	Sun 2/4 Wed 2/7	2 p.m. 7 p.m.	Men's Tennis Michigan Bold denotes home game.	Fri 2/9 5 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS: TRIBE 6, EAST CAROLINA 1

Tennis goes 2-2 in first week

Tribe travels to Wake Forest tomorrow, University of Georgia Sunday

BY HEATHER IRELAND
THE FLAT HAT

The men's tennis team had a busy first week of classes with four matches in five days, finishing the four-match home span at 2-2. The last two matches played both went to the Tribe, giving them momentum as they head into this young season.

All four matches were played at the McCormack-Nagelson Tennis Center, with the first match taking place last Wednesday against no. 8 University of Virginia, and ending in a shutout against the College. The U.Va. doubles teams swept the opening play, earning the first team point from the doubles match, giving them the early lead. Senior Colin O'Brien lost to his nationally-ranked singles opponent 6-3, 6-0. Following him in defeat were sophomore Marwan Ramadan, who was defeated 6-0, 6-0, and freshman Keziel Jeneau, who also lost his match 6-1, 6-2. After those

losses, Virginia had already claimed the win, but there were still close matches going on with nationally-ranked junior Alex Cojanu, who nearly forced his opponent into a third set but instead fell at 6-3, 7-6(2), and junior Kavi Sud, who lost in the third set 7-5, 2-6, 10-6.

The next nationally-ranked team to play the Tribe was no. 13 University of Notre Dame, who also did not allow the Tribe to earn any points in the match, ending the contest 7-0 Saturday. Notre Dame swept the doubles play, forcing the Tribe once again to attempt to overcome an early lead. Cojanu, ranked 49th in the country, went up against an opponent ranked 30th and lost after three sets, 7-6(3), 3-6, 10-5. Sophomore Alex Zuck lost a close match next, falling 6-4, 7-6(6) final score, followed by freshman Richard Wardell, who also lost a set in a tiebreaker and then fell in the second set as well, 7-6(1), 7-5, sealing the win for Notre Dame.

The next match, played the following Sunday against the University of Richmond, took a 180-degree turn in the Tribe's favor, as they handed the Spiders a 7-0 defeat. The Tribe swept the doubles play, with O'Brien and Cojanu improving their season record to 16-6, after a decisive 8-3 win in the top doubles spot. The doubles team of Ramadan and Sud both won their sets as well, with identical scores of 8-4. Sud swept his opponent in singles, finishing him off 6-0, 6-0, and Wardell was not far behind with a 6-0, 6-1 victory of his own. O'Brien, Cojanu, Jeneau and Ramadan all won their singles matches and none let their opponent earn more than four points in a set.

The Tribe's winning streak continued later that day against East Carolina University, allowing ECU only one team point on the scoreboard, winning 6-1. Once again, the Tribe swept doubles play

with Ramadan and Wardell starting it off with an 8-3 win, followed by Jeneau and Sud sending their opponent home after an 8-5 final score. The 30th-ranked team of O'Brien and Cojanu fought hard for their 9-8(4) victory over their ECU opponents. Zuck made quick work of his singles opponent, with a final score of 6-0, 6-1. Wardell followed in a similar suit with a 6-1, 6-1 victory, but Sud was the next one to finish his sets, losing 6-2, 6-4. Jeneau clinched the Tribe win, coming out on top of his opponent, 6-3, 6-3, with Cojanu and O'Brien winning their matches as well, 6-2, 4-6, 6-0, and 6-4, 6-1, respectively.

This weekend, the Tribe faces off against no. 24 Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. Saturday, then goes up against no. 1 University of Georgia in Athens, Ga. Sunday. The team returns home again Friday to the McCormack-Nagelson Tennis Center to take on the University of Michigan.

Box Scores

Men's Basketball		
UMBC	W, 70-58	Dec. 22
Hampton	W, 72-67	Dec. 28
Richmond	W, 61-53	Dec. 31
George Mason	W, 67-63	Jan. 3
Northeastern	W, 60-57	Jan. 6
Georgia State	W, 57-43	Jan. 8
Virginia Commonwealth	L, 77-88	Jan. 10
Delaware	L, 62-77	Jan. 13
George Mason	L, 63-76	Jan. 16
Hofstra	L, 69-77	Jan. 20
Old Dominion	L, 44-59	Jan. 24
Women's Basketball		
Norfolk State	W, 73-58	Dec. 21
Radford	W, 54-47	Dec. 29
Duquesne	W, 69-54	Jan. 2
Drexel	W, 48-43	Jan. 4
George Mason	W, 47-46	Jan. 7
UNC Wilmington	W, 60-50	Jan. 11
James Madison	L, 76-51	Jan. 14
Delaware	L, 68-55	Jan. 18

Women

W. HOOPS from page A10

Tribe managed to keep the lead and finish with a 58-49 victory.

The College earned its second win of the week in its triumph over Georgia State in Atlanta last Thursday. It was a grueling match, as the Tribe only out-shot the Panthers 47.4 percent to 45.2 percent to secure a 77-76 victory.

Kaylor again led the College with 30 points, which enabled her to reach the 1,200-point mark, becoming only the sixth player to do so in the program's history. James also gave a stellar performance, recording a career-high 27 points along with eight rebounds and two steals. Stroh and Benson again played key roles in the win.

The Tribe led 8-6 at the first media timeout, as all of the points came from Kaylor. While the College commanded an 8-point lead with 13:12 on the clock, the Panthers countered with a 9-2 run to cut the Tribe lead to one. There was back-and-forth scoring

See W. HOOPS, page A8

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MEN'S BASKETBALL: TRIBE 65, JAMES MADISON 62

Mann shoots down Dukes by 3

Junior guard's five three-pointers and 21 points help dismiss CAA opponent

By ANDREW PIKE
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Behind hot-shooting junior guard Nathan Mann, the Tribe held off James Madison University to win 62-59 Wednesday at Kaplan Arena. With the victory, the Tribe improved to 12-10 overall and 5-7 in the CAA. Mann reached a season-high 21 points on eight of 11 shooting, including a career-high tying five three-pointers.

"He was pretty good, wasn't he?" Head Coach Tony Shaver said. "It is nice for him to have a ballgame like that."

Mann connected on six of the Tribe's 11 field goals in the second half and capped a key second half run for the College. JMU had cut the deficit to four with 16 minutes and 6 seconds left, but the Tribe answered with two hustle plays. Sophomore forward Alex Smith lunged across the lane, gathered a rebound and dished to senior guard Adam Payton, who laid the ball in and completed an old-fashioned three-point play.

On the other end of the floor, freshman guard David Schneider hit the floor for a loose ball and tipped it to Mann. Mann delivered

a perfect pass to Payton who slammed it home. On the next possession, Mann connected on a three-pointer and the Tribe found itself up by 12 with 14:33 left.

"Those were the plays of the night," Shaver said. "We need to make more of those effort plays to make me happy."

In addition to Mann, junior forward Laimis Kisielius and Payton reached double figures with 13 and 16 points, respectively. Moreover, Schneider matched his best floor game of the season with six assists and just one turnover.

For the second time in a week,

the College bounced back from tough road losses with home victories.

Prior to Monday night's game at Virginia Commonwealth University, Shaver said, "we're going right back into the fire [of the CAA]."

He was right. VCU scorched the Tribe with its superior speed and dead-eye shooting. The result was a 68-90 defeat for the College.

VCU shot 55.7 percent from the floor and a sizzling 50.0 percent from three-point range as they hit

See BASKETBALL, page A8



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
Three Tribe players crash the offensive boards in 65-62 win over JMU.

W. BASKETBALL: TRIBE 75, DREXEL 50

Tribe lays smack-down on Drexel

Kaylor scores 18 in conference rout

By JESSICA HECHT
THE FLAT HAT

Junior forward Kyra Kaylor paced the Tribe with 18 points, and senior guard Sarah Stroh and junior guard Devin James each added 12 of their own as the College routed CAA opponent Drexel University 75-50 last night at Kaplan Arena.

Despite its loss to Old Dominion University Sunday, the team went into last night's game with a 13-7 overall record and a 5-4 record in CAA play. The Tribe defeated Northeastern University and Georgia State University before falling to ODU, the only undefeated team in the conference. Additionally, the College won nine of its last 12 games and has already surpassed its total number of home wins from last season.

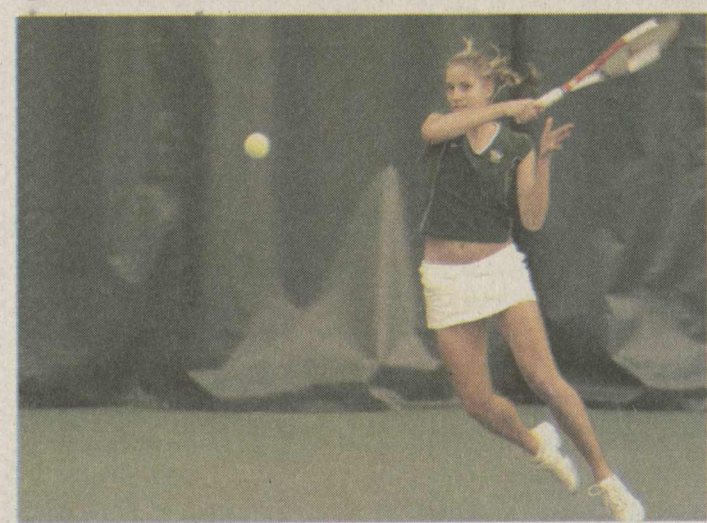
Kaylor recorded her 7th double-double of the year, leading the Tribe with 18 points and 10 rebounds in its 58-49 victory over Northeastern. Stroh also tallied 13 points and four steals, while sophomore guard Courtney Portell and freshman forward Tiffany Benson each poured in 11 points.

Though Northeastern got on

the scoreboard first, the College countered with an 11-0 run, six points of which came from Benson. The Huskies answered with a 7-2 spurt to narrow the Tribe's advantage to 4 points with 12:59 remaining in the first half. After rampant scoring on each end, the College built a sizable 27-18 lead with 6:17 left in the first. The Tribe only allowed the Huskies another four points the remainder of the half, and held them scoreless in the last four minutes. The College went into the locker room with a 32-22 lead.

The Tribe came out strong in the second half, going on an 8-0 run within the first two minutes to build a 40-22 lead. The Huskies refused to back down, however, as they charged back with a 7-0 run to cut the lead to 44-34. With consecutive three-pointers from Portell and Stroh, the College pushed the margin back up to 16 points by the second media timeout. Despite a valiant eight-point comeback attempt by the Huskies, the

See W. HOOPS, page A9



NICOLE SCHEER • THE FLAT HAT
Katarina Zoricic (above) and the Tribe dominated U.Va. and ETSU.

W. TENNIS: TRIBE 5, VIRGINIA 2

Tribe shows Cavs no love in 5-2 win

Women also shut out East Tennessee

By KATE TEDESCO
THE FLAT HAT

This weekend, the women's tennis team, ranked no. 26 in the nation, took on two worthy opponents, East Tennessee State University and the University of Virginia. The Tribe reigned victorious over the Buccaneers and the Cavaliers, both on our home court at the McCormack-Nagelsen Tennis Center.

Saturday, the Tribe took on East Tennessee, whose record prior to opposing the Tribe was 2-3. All three of our doubles teams were victorious. The doubles team of senior Megan Moulton-Levy and

sophomore Katarina Zoricic, ranked no. 1 in the nation, crushed East Tennessee's Masha Iliina and Yevgeniya Stupak. This triumph raised the Tribe duo's season mark to 20-1.

Freshman Lauren Sabacinski only dropped one game on her quest for a win over Vita Moskaliyova, with a final score of 6-0, 6-1 at the no. 6 position. This is Sabacinski's fourth straight victory, upping her record to 12-3 for the entire year. At the no. 1 position, Moulton-Levy, who is ranked fifth nationally, gained a victory. She won with the same

See TENNIS, page A8

SPORTS FEATURE

A working vacation



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
Seniors Adam Payton (left) and Sarah Stroh (right) are among the many Tribe athletes whose winter breaks are cut short by game schedules.



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT

Athletics cut short winter vacations for many student-athletes

By CARL R. SIEGMUND
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

This year, senior Sarah Stroh's entire winter break amounted to the equivalent of most students' fall break: four days. In fact, the longest winter vacation she can ever recall having at the College was six days. Factor in travel time back to her home in British Columbia on the Pacific coast of Canada, and she only got to see her family for two full days around the Christmas holiday this year. But you won't hear her gripe much about her lack of vacation. As a member of the women's basketball team, Stroh is more than used to cutting her time with friends and family short in order to practice and play games.

"Everyone would like to be home as long as possible," Stroh said. "Three days doesn't seem like a long time, but the reason I'm here is to play basketball. For four years of my life, that's what I committed myself to do."

Over break, when most students head home to relax and mooch off their parents, members of the men's and women's basketball team remain in Williamsburg and work, preparing for the heart of their season.

"It's not vacation. It's like an extended basketball camp. Basically you eat, sleep and play basketball," Stroh said. "Some years, we would come in to practice and work out at 11 a.m., and leave when it was dark, around 6 p.m. It pretty much feels like a month-long basketball game."

Freshman members of both teams must live

in Williamsburg area hotels, while most of the upperclassmen remain in their off-campus apartments. Stroh, who has lived on campus all four years, is an exception and lived with the women's team at a local Days Inn this year.

Given a daily food stipend of \$7, players must also deal with the closure of campus dining halls.

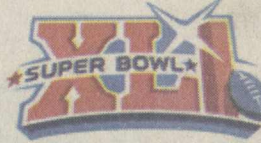
"I like campus life better, especially with students back," freshman men's basketball player David Schneider said. "The UC and Caf are good because you have a meal right there and you don't have to go looking for food."

This winter break, when other students were probably resting at home sipping on egg nog, both the men's and women's teams rattled

See BREAK, page A8

FROM THE SIDELINES

Colts' offense too much for Chicago



Colts vs. Bears
Sunday, Feb. 4 @ 6 p.m.
TV: CBS (channel 3)

Underdog status gives Bears edge

Associate sports editor Jeff Dooley must have watched one too many Colts games this season, because, like the pragmatic Peyton Manning, Dooley is calling an audible at the last possible moment.

As frequent readers may recall, Dooley wrote an NFL predictions column at

the outset of the season. In this well-crafted work, Dooley made both a bold and wise prediction by picking the Indianapolis Colts to win Super Bowl XLI. So, when Indianapolis cornerback Marlin Jackson intercepted the Patriots' Tom Brady's pass guaranteeing the Colts a berth in Super Bowl XLI, I immediately assumed, generous and caring friend that I am, that it would only be just that Jeff could pick the Colts for this week's column, because, well, he had "dibs." Much to my surprise, when

we met to debate who would pick the Colts, Dooley eagerly volunteered to pick the Bears. At first I was both thankful and grateful for Jeff's generosity, but then I began to speculate ... maybe there's something in this for Jeff. Then it dawned on me. With flip-flopping antics rivaled only by John Kerry, the wily Dooley is attempting to craft a win-win situation for himself. If the Colts win the game, he will say that he knew it all along. If the Bears prevail, he will claim that he called the upset of the year. Dooley's cleverness aside, here are the top five reasons the Indianapolis Colts will vanquish the Chicago Bears and win Super Bowl XLI.

5. Rex Grossman — Without doubt, the strength of the Bears' offense is their power running game anchored by a sturdy offensive line and the bruising tailback Thomas Jones. Look for Tony Dungy and the Colts'

See COLTS, page A8

It was a mere five months ago that I wrote to you with my preseason NFL predictions. While a couple of my choices may not have panned out (Arizona, Detroit, Carolina, Miami, etc.), I did get something right: the Indianapolis Colts are now one win away from the Super

Bowl Championship I promised. So who is my pick to win it all, now? Da Bears, of course.

Now, I fully expect my esteemed colleague and competitor Graham Williamson to present some half-baked, ill-constructed, poorly-worded attack against me, saying that I'm now picking the Bears so that, either way, I will have chosen, in writing, the Super Bowl champion. This argument is as weak as someone saying that Tony Romo was the second coming of Tom Brady and would

lead the Dallas Cowboys to a Super Bowl victory (oh wait, that was you, too, wasn't it Graham?). I have my reasons for picking the Bears, and here are the top five: **5. Peyton Manning** — While he's proven a lot of skeptics wrong this postseason by getting his team to the Super Bowl, he's also been very lucky. His very shaky performances against the Kansas City Chiefs and Baltimore Ravens in the first two rounds of the playoffs would normally have been enough to lose it for his team, but he was bailed out by running backs Joseph Addai and Dominic Rhodes, as well as pathetic quarterbacking performances by counterparts Trent Green and Steve McNair. He redeemed himself somewhat in the AFC championship game against the New England Patriots, but that was in a game that nobody expected him to win. The pressure is on Manning now, and he's had two weeks to not only hear about how the Super Bowl will define his

See BEARS, page A8



GRAHAM WILLIAMSON



JEFF DOOLEY

MCR's 'Parade' Tour to make stop in 'Burg

**Kaplan Arena awaits
'Phantasmagorical high-wire
act' on April 28**

By CHASE JOHNSON
FLAT HAT VARIETY EDITOR

Popular alternative rock band My Chemical Romance is expected to perform at Kaplan Arena at William and Mary Hall April 28 as part of MCR's international Black Parade Tour.

The band disclosed details

about the location of 11 stops on the tour between April 14 and April 28 to its official fan club today on the band's website, MyChemicalRomance.com. The non-restricted portion of the website shows the scheduled dates, but with the locations are left mostly blank with only some let-

ters filled in. While the location for the April 28 show is among those left mostly blank, the given letters appear to spell out "Williamsburg, Va., William and Mary Hall Kaplan Arena."

The locations will be disclosed to the general public Monday.

The date of the show coincides with the general time frame for the University Center Activities Board's annual spring concert; however, UCAB could not comment at press time.

The College's main arena, now called Kaplan Arena, used to be a regular stop for high profile concerts, including the Grateful Dead, Bruce Springsteen and The Cars. My Chemical Romance would represent a return of big-name headliner concerts in Williamsburg.

MCR is known for its popular blend of alternative, punk and emo rock. The 'Parade' tour comes on the heels of the release of the band's latest album, "The Black Parade," in October. "The Black Parade" is the third effort from the quintet, comprised of frontman Gerard Way, bassist Mikey Way, drummer Bob

Bryar and guitarists Frank Iero and Ray Toro. Like the band's previous two albums, "Black Parade" is a concept album looking back on the life of the central character, "the Patient."

The album debuted at number two on the Billboard Hot 100 list and has enjoyed generally positive reviews. Rolling Stone called the album "the best mid-Seventies record of 2006 — an ingenious, unrestrained paraphrasing of the over-the-top glam theater of Queen and classic Alice Cooper." Likewise, The Washington Post referred to 'Parade' as a "phantasmagorical high-wire act."

In its live act, MCR is known for high-energy performances and attention to thematic details. Like the concept-heavy albums, the band attempts to tell a story through the performance, and chooses song lists carefully, an attention to detail that is appreciated by fans who post on the message board on the band's website.

More details about the additional tour dates, including times and ticket pricing, are expected to be announced Monday.



COURTESY PHOTO • MYCHEMICALROMANCE.COM

My Chemical Romance has gained notoriety for its highly developed concept albums and energetic stage performances. The band will perform at Kaplan Arena April 28.



COURTESY PHOTO • REPRISÉ

Local eateries offer gourmet discounts

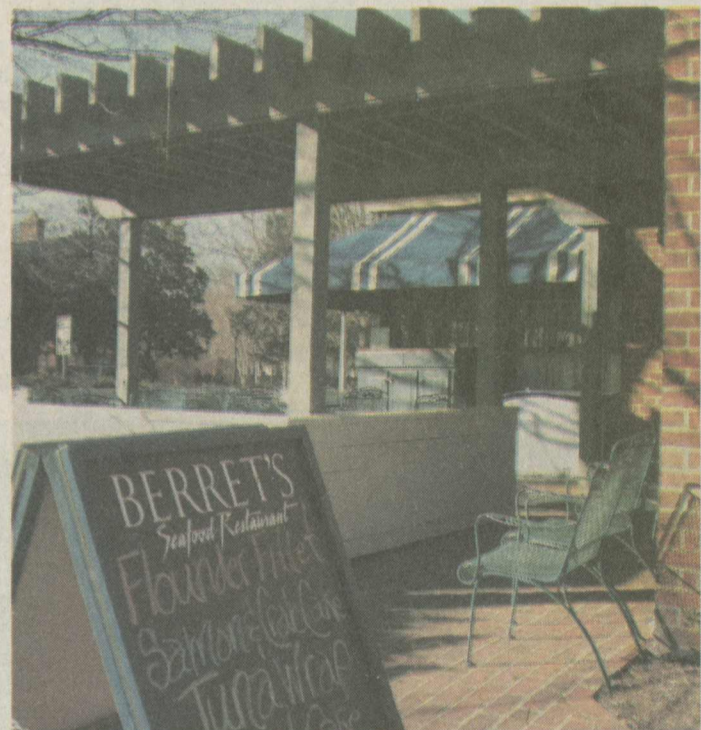
By MEGAN DOYLE & ALEX ELY
FLAT HAT ASSOC. VARIETY EDITORS

The Williamsburg Area Restaurant Association will feature 22 local eateries in its "Williamsburg Restaurant Week" in order to showcase restaurants that stand out from the abundance of steak and waffle houses. From Jan. 28 through Sunday, WARA invites diners to "enjoy Williamsburg's finest dining at a fraction of the price." For eight days, the 22 participating WARA restaurants

will feature multi-course fixed-price lunch and dinner menus for guests to sample. Notable participants include The Trellis, the 415 Grill, Berret's Seafood Restaurant and Seasons Cafe.

As Richmond Road confidently displays, the area offers an infinite variety of eating places, 120 of which belong to the WARA. The association is a leading organization helping promote the area restaurant industry's vast expansion and

See EATERIES page B2



FILE PHOTO • THE FLAT HAT

Berret's Seafood Restaurant serves a three-course dinner for \$20.07.

College expands study abroad programs

By ALEX ELY
FLAT HAT ASSOC. VARIETY EDITOR

In an effort to respond to increasing student demands for study abroad opportunities, the Wendy and Emery Reves Center for International Studies, in cooperation with a variety of esteemed faculty members, once again are offering several summer programs in a variety of global locations, including the brand new option of Galway, Ireland.

Currently, students may choose from 12 programs, while incoming freshmen have the option of a College-sponsored Freshmen Experience in St. Andrews, Scotland.

Students interested in studying abroad this summer have until Feb. 8 to complete an application and submit all of the required materials to the Global Education Office. Applications require a personal statement, a written reference and a \$50 application fee. The Reves Center hosts pre-advising workshops on Tuesdays at 3 p.m., Wednesdays at 4 p.m., Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. and Fridays at 11:30 a.m. Students must attend one of these workshops before arranging an appointment with a study abroad advisor.

For a full list of available programs and information, visit the Reves Center's website at www.wm.edu/revescenter. The website also includes information on other international education options, including cooperative programs through other American universities and accredited study abroad agencies.

According to Reves Center Director of Global Education Guru Ghosh, the popularity and variety of options available has grown tremendously over the last seven years. In addition to the current possibilities, both during the summer and the academic year, the Global Education Office has recently been the recipient of notable grants from the U.S. State Department to pursue Arabic study programs in the Middle East and a \$1.2 million contribution from the Freeman Foundation to

expand opportunities for students wishing to study in East Asia.

"Students are going where they never used to study," Ghosh said. "Since April of 2000, we've doubled the number of students who go overseas and doubled the number of summer programs available."

Ghosh also said that the College has more than doubled the number of scholarships for students, and noted that the GEO hopes to start Arabic programs in Syria or Morocco as early as the Fall semester. Planners are also looking at Jordan and Egypt as possible locations.

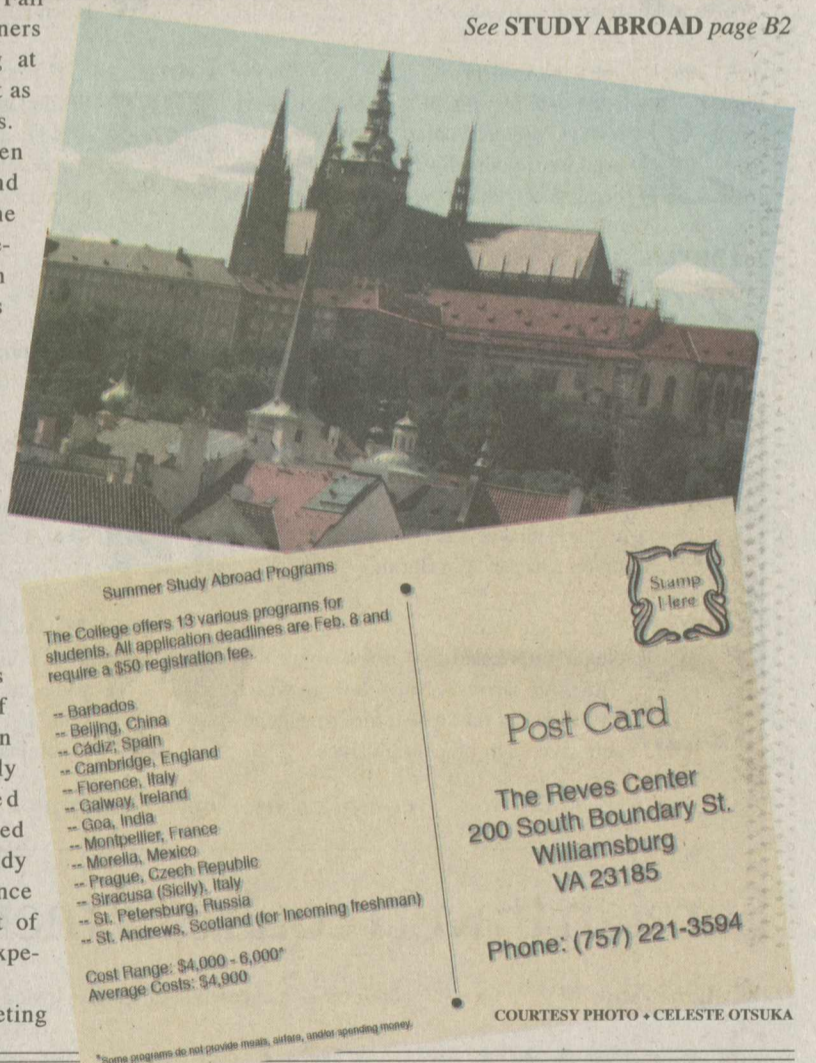
"We've been impressed and stunned at the level of involvement," Ghosh said. "Students are yearning for the international experience."

Ghosh stressed the importance of global and international education, concepts which have become virtually ubiquitous at institutions of higher education in an increasingly interconnected world. He called a sustained study abroad experience "an integral part of the liberal arts experience."

The skyrocketing

percentage of students studying abroad is perhaps a testament to the effectiveness and practicality of the programs. Sophomore Rob Cottrell, who participated in a joint economics and sociology program in Goa, India last summer, said that he originally chose India because of the courses and subjects offered. Cottrell said that learning about globalization and economic development in India was incredibly influential in helping him to adjust his course of study.

See STUDY ABROAD page B2



COURTESY PHOTO • CELESTE OTSUKA

Foreign excursions require culture, civility, obnoxious American pride

CONFUSION
CORNER



Lauren
Bell

A lot of us experienced some exciting travels over winter break. We went to grandma's house (over the river and through the woods), to big cities, maybe even to foreign lands. And in these distant places, I'm sure all of us were on our very best behavior.

We attend one of the best colleges for studying in the country. We also attend one of the worst colleges for partying in the universe. Combine these two facts, and it's easy to infer that, when we travel to different places around the world, students of the College go as ambassadors of culture and civility.

The average student most likely researches where she's going at least a month before hopping on a plane or jumping in a car. She learns the customs, the culture, the sorts of foods she will be expected to eat and the ways she will be expected to act. She is out to prove to the rest of the world that Americans are not always rude, ignorant and

obese — despite what our sitcoms would have foreigners believe.

When a group of my friends made the brilliant decision to visit Montreal in January (average temperature: -4 degrees — wooo vacation!), I was stupid enough to agree,

but I was at least smart enough to check out some Montreal websites in the month preceding my departure. I learned all the cool coffee shops, the bars, the streets for night life and the proper way to ask the time in crazy Canadian French. I figured that, disregarding my despicable American accent, I would soon be welcomed into the Canadians' frosty embrace.

I didn't take my traveling companions into

consideration.

Six out of seven of my travel buddies were really excellent. We drank tasty beer and shivered in the seasonally appropriate snow in a very non-offensive way. We practiced our terrible French together before

It was really funny watching this giant, furry-hatted man terrorize the relatively diminutive Quebecois in his search for those most basic of American comforts — a cheeseburger and a "titty bar."

heading out to town. We were ready to show those Montrealers that, hey, we "southerners" are not so bad.

But then there was the eighth member of our group. He was loud. He was rude. His version of a polite Montreal greeting was, "Hey, do you speak English?!" His efforts to embrace the Canadian culture started and ended solely with his purchase of an (albeit amazing) furry hat.

For the first couple of days, I silently resented him from behind the protective barrier of my own furry hat, scarf and layered turtle-necks. But then, I had a change of heart. Watching our eighth man lurch around the slushy streets of Montreal, harassing passers-by for directions to the nearest Taco Bell, I felt a small twinge of what might have been American pride. As I listened to him bellow, "Thanks!" loudly enough to drown out all of our heart felt "merci"s, I got a warm, mushy feeling inside.

It was like that feeling you get at the end of "King Kong," or when you bring your child to his first day of school only to watch him run off and punch some other kid before he's even assigned a seat — he may be a bit of a monster, but he's your monster, and you have a soft spot for him. We had brought our

See PRIDE page B2

VARIETY FUN

Variety Calendar

Highlights of the week
— compiled by ashley morgan

On-Campus Events

♦ Tonight, the Bone Marrow Drive will hold **Casino Night** in the UC Chesapeake at 8 p.m. Relay for Life will sponsor **Contra Dancing** in the UC Chesapeake tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. UCAB will host **Homebrew** in Lodge 1 Feb. 8. The show will display a variety of student talents.

Area Concerts

♦ Tonight, **Keller Williams** will play at The NorVa in Norfolk at 9 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at TicketMaster.com for \$15-17 or for \$20 at the door. **Old School Freight Train** will perform at Williamsburg Library Theatre, located at 515 Scotland Street, tonight and tomorrow starting at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students with ID. Tomorrow at the Jewish Mother in Virginia Beach, **The Hackensaw Boys** will perform at 9 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10 at InTicketing.com or by calling 422-5430. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$15. As part of the Take Action Tour, **Red Jumpsuit Apparatus** will perform tomorrow night at The NorVa at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$16.50 online on TicketMaster.com. Tickets at the door are \$18. **Midnite with Black Culture** will perform Feb. 7 at the Jewish Mother. The show starts at 9 p.m. and tickets cost \$20.

To have an event printed in the Variety Calendar, e-mail fhvrtv@wm.edu before 5 p.m. Tuesday.



Heroman By Thomas Baumgardner

Horoscopes

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18



The president may think he knows what is best for our country in the war, but he also thought he knew what was best when he hired his speech coach.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22



Recently receiving your first speeding ticket, you will refuse to pay in court and suffer the worst punishment: standing in line one day outside American Idol.

Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20



While a box of rain might ease the pain and love will see you through, you maintain that you prefer to keep your boxes dry, thank you.

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22



While the show "Gay, Straight, or Taken?" has you guessing, what the producers didn't tell you is that one of dates is actually a convicted serial killer.

Aries: March 21 - April 19



Although New Year's resolutions have always seemed pointless to you, you promised yourself that you will stop being such a damn weirdo this year.

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



While Dell may think they are geniuses with their "low carbon emissions", you will one-up them by throwing that piece of shit into the woods.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20



You will want to nudge the judge against whom you hold a grudge for refusing to budge, until the pudge throws some fudge, and then things just get weird.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



The new semester is exciting, but your constant quips about "springing forth" and "springing into action" only make you sound like an "unclever loser."

Gemini: May 21 - June 21



You have always felt comfortable anywhere you've been in the world, however that will change this week when you wake up on a haystack in Burma.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21



Giving to the poor has never seemed appealing to you, especially when they steal food out of the garbage can you're trying to sleep in.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22



Never impressed by "Borat", you will film your parody, "Boar-Rat", in which a boar and a rat have funny mustaches and give each other high fives.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19



The holiday season severely tested you emotionally and financially this year, but at least you're still pretty solid abdominally.

..... compiled by stephen knapp

Foreign travel requires American pride

PRIDE from page B1

own ultra-American monster to this strange place where he didn't really fit in, where he was scared (most notably of the poutine) and where people tried to punish him just for doing his loud, English-speaking thing, and we were going to stick through it with him. Besides, it was really funny watching this giant, furry-hatted man terrorize the relatively diminutive Quebecois in his search for those most basic of American

comforts — a cheeseburger and a "titty bar."

As soon as I let go of my dream of becoming more beloved than Celine Dion and started embracing the much older American dream of going to foreign lands and then having your way with them, Montreal became a lot more fun. After all, the province of Quebec has been pushing for a split from Canada — whose official slogan is, "Can you think of any place more benign?" — for about a quarter of a century. If the

Montrealers can't even handle the rest of Canada, there really isn't a lot of hope for their louder, crazier, somehow fatter (although we eat far less maple syrup) neighbors to the south. And so, there wasn't really much we could do except set our monster free, send him our love and hope he didn't get us all deported ... or shot.

Lauren Bell is the Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She's working on a summer project to bring Southern manners and Taco Bell to Quebec.

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The Variety section is looking for writers.
Come to our meeting this Friday at 4 p.m. in the Campus Center basement.

Sudoku

Easy

		7	8	1	5			
1		7	2					6
			5	9		7		
			8	5	6	3		
	1	3	6		7	2	4	
8	4	6		2				
7		4		1				
9					6	8		2
	2	1	8		5			

Solution

6	9	4	7	5	3	8	1	2
2	1	8	6	4	7	9	5	3
5	3	6	2	9	1	4	8	7
1	9	7	3	2	5	6	4	8
8	4	2	9	6	7	3	5	1
3	6	8	4	5	1	2	7	9
7	5	1	8	9	3	6	4	2
4	6	8	5	1	9	2	7	3
3	9	2	7	6	8	1	5	4

Directions:

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9. Source: crazydad.com

Hard

				2				8
9	2			4				
		2	8		7	1		
	3	6						
		7	9					
				6	4			
8	6	4	1					
		9				2	7	
2	9							

Solution

2	1	9	3	5	7	8	4	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
8	6	7	4	2	1	9	3	5
7	9	2	8	1	3	6	4	5
5	8	4	7	6	9	3	1	2
1	3	6	5	4	2	7	8	9
6	5	3	2	9	8	4	7	1
9	2	8	1	7	4	5	3	6
4	7	1	6	3	5	2	9	8

College expands summer studies

STUDY ABROAD from page B1

"I initially chose Goa because I thought I wanted to double major in economics and sociology. The location was just an added bonus, but those were the courses being offered," Cottrell said. "My experience there made me change one of my majors, and I'm now really interested in international business."

Senior Celeste Otsuka attended the College's exchange program in Prague in the summer of 2005, a program which was first launched three years ago and whose numbers have doubled in that time. Otsuka also chose the program based on the course offerings, since the College did not offer many economics courses during its summer session.

Otsuka said that even though she took classes from both Czech and College professors, the classes were structured very similarly to upper level economics classes students would find at the College.

"The fact that we were learning about corruption in emerging markets in a recently corrupt country made the facts a little more real," Otsuka said. "We could really see instances of the communist influ-

ence on the country."

The College's programs continue to grow both in variety and popularity, but the safety of students abroad remains the primary concern of the GEO. While many Americans have been concerned with post-Sept. 11 travel, Ghosh noted that, ironically, the College "experienced a tremendous spike in students going abroad, which has continued ever since."

Ghosh also noted that faculty for the programs are well-trained and carefully selected. "Faculty members apply based on their experience and their areas of interest," he said. "There is a systematic selection process. All of our faculty are also trained in emergency situations."

It is the hope of the GEO that options for cultural learning abroad will continue on their current upward trend. A new program is scheduled to open in Capetown, South Africa for the summer of 2008.

"Study abroad is not just about people who are international studies or language majors," Ghosh said. "We hope that these programs can be catalysts for our students."

Eateries offer gourmet discounts

EATERIES from page B1

change. To aid in this growth, Restaurant Week aims to bring in customers to choose from each restaurant's featured specialties. In celebratory fashion, each price is reminiscent of the New Year: three-course dinner menus range from \$20.07 to \$30.07 while two-course lunch menus are priced at \$10.07.

"We just think it's a wonderful opportunity for all residents of Williamsburg to enjoy our food and the food of other restaurants at a discounted price," Trellis General Manager Robert Hall said. "We've advertised in local newspapers, and we hope to give people who don't dine out often the change to enjoy our food."

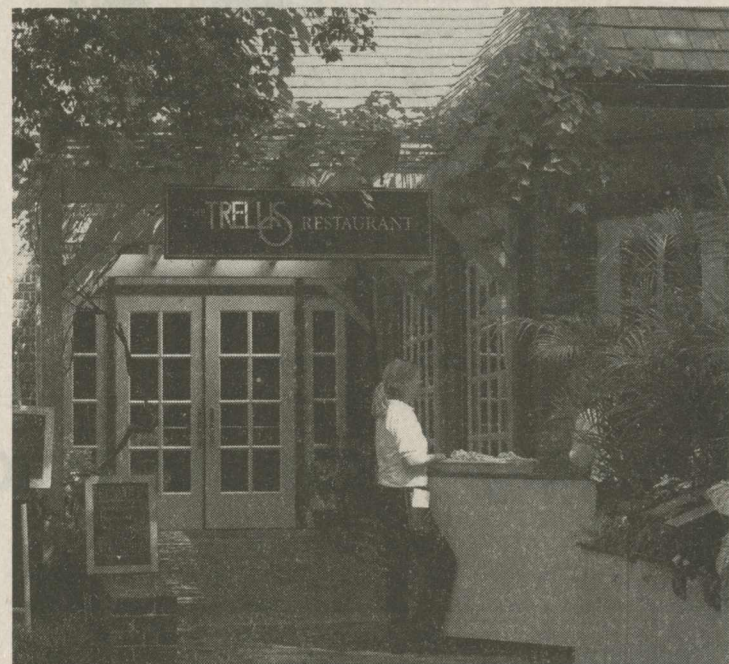
The Fat Canary, another popular white-table restaurant on Duke of Gloucester Street is not a member of the Williamsburg Area Restaurants Association, although owner Tom Power, Sr. said that, had they been members of the organization, they would certainly be participating in the program. A three-course dinner at the Fat Canary costs an average of \$50-\$60 per person.

"We chose not to be a part of the organization," Power said. "It isn't because we don't like them, we just did not see that it was an advantage for our restaurant. It certainly is great for some restaurants."

Participating restaurants have

already noted the success of the promotion. Berret's Dining Room Manager Melissa McKelvey said

participating restaurants prepare for Jamestown's 400th anniversary and the influx of tourists it will



FILE PHOTO • THE FLAT HAT

The popular Trellis restaurant and cafe is one of 22 establishments participating in "Williamsburg Restaurant Week."

that a large percentage of patrons took advantage of the discounted entrees last Wednesday night. "We sold 30 of the specials after seating only 50 people," she said.

Ending just before Valentine's Day week, the promotion offers a way for restaurant-goers to scout out dining spots for February 14. This week of discounts also serves to make more upscale restaurants affordable to students and locals. In addition, the project will help

bring to the Historic Triangle.

With millions of visitors — including Queen Elizabeth II — expected, the success of Restaurant Week will get WARA members ready for big business in May.

For more information on Restaurant Week or the Williamsburg Restaurant Association, including menus and prices of participating restaurants, visit WilliamsburgAreaRestaurants.com.



That Girl

Amanda Nixon

By ELIZABETH DERBY
THE FLAT HAT

Few college students would welcome a late-night interview when they have a cough and homework to do, especially during the first week of classes (a time when, let's face it, the very notion of homework still seems like a cruel joke). That Girl, however, managed not only to illuminate a cold winter night with her warm conversation but reveal some ways in which she follows Ghandi's instruction to 'be the change you want to see in the world.' Amanda Nixon talks about building schools in Uganda, medical relief overseas, and the appeal of the great outdoors.

What's your major?

I'm a government major. Only at William & Mary is one major underachieving. I hate that people can be defined by what organizations they are in. I love everything that I do but it's not the sum of my person. I think that I'm guilty of it too — that we can do that with. I do everything that I do because I love it. It fills me in a way that other things don't, but by no means is that 'Amanda Nixon.'

How do you define yourself?

I think that if someone were going to define me by the people that I choose to spend my time with, that would probably be a better definition than I actually am. I love to surround myself with people who inspire me and people who challenge me and that are crazy. So I think my friendships are the most important thing to me. It's tough when you are really involved, to maintain that as your top priority.

What about community service and philanthropy interests you?

I was part of Young Life for two years. I felt really pulled away from my William and Mary experience because I was in high schools most of the time off-campus. I'm pleased with my decision to be part of Young Life because I learned so much and met so many incredible people, but I wasn't giving myself the opportunity to grow as a college person. So junior year I decided to come back and made William & Mary my community. I haven't been involved in as much Williamsburg, but I have worked really hard servicing this campus and abroad with Building Tomorrow. I think that it's incredible to be in a place where so many people are willing to give time to others instead of themselves. But I also think that it can be draining and it takes draining yourself to learn that time to yourself is important to you too. I can't do as good a job for anyone else if I'm not doing good for me. My trip to Uganda in January brought

clarity to how many people are willing and able to do something and don't.

Tell me about Uganda.

I went for two and half weeks over Christmas break. It was incredible. We stayed in the first school that William and Mary built [for Building Tomorrow] for a week. I got to play wit kids and teach them. We sang songs and danced and jumped rope. And then I got to see where the kids were from, which was heartbreaking. We did some bme-based care. The whole experience made me realize how important Building Tomorrow is. I would love to graduate having raised enough money to build another school there. We just take so much for granted and the people there, the thing that hit hard, according to our standards have nothing materialistic. They live in dark houses surrounded by HIV and AIDS. The idea that we can give these children a place to go learn, learn English, learn skills to sustain themselves, learn ways of making a living and insiring them would be incredible.

Are you going to participating in a Spring Service Trip?

I'm going to Nicaragua with W&M Medical Relief. I thought I knew what I wanted to do with the rest of my life at the end of junior year and then I realized I wasn't so sure.

I wanted to go into Higher Education and work in student activities with college students and I'm still considering it, but medicine has recently come into my head. It was a dream I had as a child and then I realized that I could either go pre-med to college and not have a life, because sciences do not come naturally to me, or that I could fully experience college and chose a major with incredible professors that comes more naturally to me. I chose government, and I do not regret it at all, but now I'm reconsidering being a doctor or going into public health.

What is the appeal of the great outdoors?

I think I see God in the outdoors. I look for God in the outdoors and in other people. The African outdoors are sweet. We went on a safari. It was really hilly, and the animals were incredible. We saw elephants and hippos in their natural habitat. One night a hippo joined us for dinner, just walked right up to the table. Our server said "Excuse me, hippo!" A zoo will never quite be the same. I'm so excited because one of my best friends and I are taking a trip across the U.S. after graduation, and I've never seen the West before. I can't wait to live off peanut butter and crackers and sleep in the car and under the stars.

Bonding experiences

Happy new semester! I'd wish you a happy new year, but since it's already February, that would feel a little outdated. I usually spend my first January column writing about sex resolutions for the new year— ways to make this year the year of the best sex you've ever had. But at this point, pretty much all of the new year's resolutions have already been dropped, broken or forgotten, and we've given up the shiny promise of a new year and reconciled for another year just like any other.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate Prengaman

Why experiment with bondage? Well, to begin with, there is something incredibly hot about knowing that for a brief period of time, you have control of your partner's sexual pleasure. You get off watching them get off, knowing that you've brought them to this place where they are wriggling and moaning with orgasm, or the anticipation thereof. All of the touching and teasing of foreplay can be taken to another level of intensity, and the desired main event is even more explosive as a result of all that build-up.

On the other hand, bondage is also hot for the partner relinquishing control, or more accurately, pretending to, since stopping the activity is always still in your control. But you have to give yourself up to your partner and trust them to take you somewhere sexually you may have never been before. The vulnerability involved can be a little scary, but that risk is what makes the payoff so excellent. Feeling powerless and watching your partner take control over you in a sexual situation is a major turn-on for many people.

The first important thing about experimenting with bondage is that this is clearly not meant for one-night-stand sex. To enjoy this kind of sex, you need to trust your partner completely. A little nervousness about a new situation and new sensations is normal, but feeling uncomfortable isn't, and in those situations you should decline or stop. Always agree on a "stop" word before really getting started, so that you can easily communicate if you get uncomfortable or want to end things. The word you choose should be completely unrelated to sex, as to avoid confusion. It's important to remember that this is sexual play and to create a pretend situation of being out of control, without actually being powerless. The level to which you take this play is up to you and your partner, and it's a good idea to start slow and discover what you enjoy.

Getting started is easier than you expect. You don't



need anything more complicated than a couple of bandanas and something to which you can tie your partner. The bars on the ends of the dorm room bunk beds work well, as do the arms of a typical desk chair. Wrists can be tied separately or together overhead. Also, hands tied behind the back can work if you don't have an object to anchor them to, although they have the tendency to go numb. Once you have a tactical plan, make sure the hands and feet are comfortably restrained (unless you are going for a more masochist-erotic uncomfortable restraint, in which case you probably don't need my beginner's advice).

Directions for the tied-up partner are pretty easy — try to let go of some of your inhibitions and go where your partner takes you. A good example is how many women feel uncomfortable with the sensations building up to a G-spot orgasm and stop early. In a bondage situation, their partner may "insist" that they continue through to an orgasm — and many women discover something they really enjoy.

As the unrestrained partner, it's a little bit trickier. You have this hot, naked person tied up in your bed waiting for you to do something. There can be a little pressure in deciding what to do. The best recommendation is to do what comes naturally to you, starting with simple foreplay, and building from there. The key is remembering that while your partner is restrained, you want to drive him or her wild while keeping yourself patient and controlled. Enjoy his or her body and reactions to your touch. Tease your partner with the suggestion of oral sex until they beg for it. Intercourse can be a little bit trickier with the positioning restrained, but you can make it work with some practice, or you can untie your partner after foreplay for intercourse.

Other suggestions include buying some real handcuffs — these up the kinky factor quite a bit. You might also want to blindfold your partner in addition to binding his or her wrists. Make sure that you trade roles and experience the different positions. It's sexual play, so have fun with it. Just remember that trust and comfort with your partner are the keys to making this play both safe and rewarding.

Kate Prengaman is the Flat Hat Sex columnist. She loves sharing a special bond with her readers.

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COURTESY PHOTO • LOST-MEDIA.COM
Pan (Doug Jones), an eerie faun, guides young Ofelia (Ivana Baquero) through adventures which lead her back to her regal fairy tale parents.

'Labyrinth' shines with lore and gore

By MOHAMMAD RAHMAN
THE FLAT HAT

Master of gore, guts and all things that go bump in the night, Mexican director Guillermo del Toro ("Hellboy"), presents his masterpiece "Pan's Labyrinth." Appropriately described as a fairy tale for adults, all the essentials of a del Toro film are present in this movie. There is an excessive amount of violence, hideous creatures run rampant, and at the center of it all is the heart of a child. This time, however, del Toro has a nearly flawless script to work with and the end result is a rare gem.

It is 1944 and Franco has just declared victory in Spain. The movie begins with a pregnant mother, Carmen Vidal (Ariadna Gil), and her daughter, Ofelia (Ivana Baquero), setting off to live with her new husband in a rural area in northern Spain. The husband, Captain Vidal (Sergi Lopez, "Dirty Pretty Things"), is a cold and caustic man who tortures at all costs, kills mercilessly and only cares that Carmen deliver him a baby boy so that his legacy will endure. Ofelia, desperate to escape the fascist world around her, finds reprieve in a labyrinth near the mill where they reside. There, she encounters a faun (Doug Jones, "Hellboy") who reveals to her that she is the long lost princess of the underworld and that to return to her regal parents she must complete three tasks. Amid the completion of these gruesome, at times horrifying tasks, Ofelia must deal with her dying mother, rebels invading the village and the visceral nature of her step-father. Del Toro's setup is fascinating, haunting and full of curiosity.

Technically, the movie is almost flawless — a pleasant surprise considering the fact that del Toro is working with about a third of his typical budget. The creatures in the film are very realistic as del Toro's decision to use animatronics and body suits as opposed to CGI paid off. The man wearing the suits, Doug Jones, is one of Hollywood's most renowned prosthetics men because of his ability to become the creature he is trying to portray. After working with del Toro in "Hellboy," he knows exactly how del Toro wants his creatures to behave.

The setting is dark and very dreary: throughout the film, the rain and cloudy weather of Spain add a sense of despair to the environment. The only drawbacks in the film are its battle scenes. Del Toro has a penchant for displaying a lot of gore, which at times is effective at making the audience squeamish. However, since most of the gore is computer generated, it often looks fake. Also, Del Toro makes the mistake of showing too much; it can be more effective to keep the killings off-screen to let the audience's imagination create its own gruesome image.

The acting in the film is excellent. Ivan Baquero as Ofelia must carry the entire movie on her shoulders — she performs marvelously. Her innocence is never questioned in the film and she is able to avoid the pitfalls most child actors fall into: overacting and becoming annoying. Baquero should be commended for never losing her audience. The other notable performance is that of Sergi Lopez as the vile Captain Vidal. Lopez is remarkably evil as the cool and collected Captain. His facial expressions are stoic in nature and the delivery of his lines is powerful. Del Toro spends a lot of time showing the Captain going through his daily routine, which would be no different from any normal man, except the way Lopez exhibits his habits shows him falling on the side of insanity.

See 'LABYRINTH' page B6

Sinfonicron's 'Mikado' wows

By BETH SUTHERLAND
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

As ironic as it may seem, an event like Sinfonicron's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" can be very difficult to review. Unlike a movie or a book, where the story is subject to criticism, all we can judge here is the interpretation of previously-written songs, characters and events. When a theatrical production does this so well that it seems (at least to the viewer) not only seamless, but incredibly entertaining, then no real critiques can be made. With the exception of a few strained high notes, Sinfonicron's "Mikado" was magnificent. Thus, this article makes no pretense of being anything other than a laudatory ode to all involved.

Gilbert and Sullivan are better known for writing the musicals "H.M.S. Pinafore" and "Pirates of Penzance," but "The Mikado" certainly deserves some notoriety as well. "Mikado," often classified as a "light opera," has been called a play about England. Though it is a comedy that takes place in Japan and spoofs Japanese names, not

much else proves truly Japanese. Many interpret it as a parody of English culture and society, simply set in Japan. It is a delicate, yet rip-roaring free-for-all of an opera which provided ample fodder for the brilliant cast and crew that brought it to life in Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall last weekend.

The first thing one notices upon entering PBK is the gorgeous set, with its soothing, ethereal colors and gigantic traditional Japanese fan standing front-and-center on the stage. The set is sparse — as most of the stage is needed for dancing — but the set crew has made clever use of all available space, transforming it into a beautiful Japanese courtyard. An elegant pagoda, complete with paper windows, stands in the background. A crescent moon floats in the sky during the night scenes. Two half-stairwells bordering the stage are later joined to form a bridge. The whole set is simple, beautiful and wholly practical.

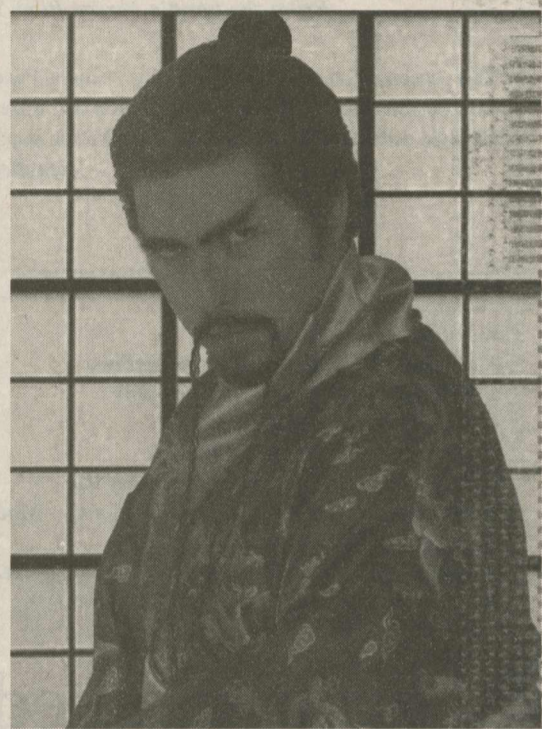
The overture begins, and the pit plays it so gorgeously that, long as it is, it would have been sufficiently entertaining on its own. The audience is given

something to look at, however, in the form of five strategically-placed and occasionally changing silhouettes behind the fan. This delightful little innovation sets the mood beautifully.

Finally the show begins with the charming, hilarious opening number, "If You Want to Know Who We Are," in which the gentlemen of Japan parade around the stage and sing a tongue-in-cheek song about their own sophistication. This song sets the tone for the rest of the play; it gives a very elegant, majestic feel while its lyrics dip in and out of hilarity. The

result is a pleasant combination of melodrama and burlesque. While the actors possess the voices and acting capabilities to carry off

See 'MIKADO' page B6



COURTESY PHOTO • SINFONICRON
Senior Tom Bambara plays the Mikado himself in Sinfonicron's latest production.

The best of 2006 in music

One reviewer gives us his list of the top ten albums you must hear from 2006 — a year of comebacks, maturity and breakthroughs

By NATHAN HIPPLE
THE FLAT HAT

10. "Karmacode," Lacuna Coil

Lacuna Coil's brand of loud rock music coupled with ethereal female vocals has drawn some unfortunate comparisons to its contemporary, Evanescence. However, where Evanescence creates accessible pop-metal for a mass audience, Lacuna Coil goes straight for the jugular. Anyone who has heard the eastern-influenced single "Our Truth" can testify that vocalist Cristina Scabbia makes Amy Lee sound downright sheepish.

9. "A City by the Light Divided," Thursday

This album that almost never was finds the emo-core group Thursday continuing the musical progression from their last album, "War All the Time." While not a drastically different album, it improves on the existing foundation. An album that practically seethes with emotion, "A City by the Light Divided" represents the best of Thursday's catalogue and stands as a solid release from an increasingly diluted genre.

8. "Modern Times," Bob Dylan

Bob Dylan is aging gracefully. Few artists have had the same impact as Dylan, and hardly anyone can lay claim to such a vast catalogue. Accordingly, with each new release comes the pressure to live up to his legend. "Modern Times" isn't quite "Highway 61 Revisited" for the new generation, but it is an incredible

album from a music legend and well worth checking out.

7. "The Devil and God are Raging Inside Me," Brand New

Brand New proves that the third time's the charm with this latest effort. After the band's

tour-de-force is not to be missed.

6. "Donuts," J Dilla

Of all the albums on this list, this one is probably the most emotionally charged of the lot. Released a few days before producer J. Dilla passed away, this album is a collection of beats put together while fighting a losing battle with Lupus. Arguably one of the best collections of instrumentals to date, this work represents the apex of an underground legend's skill and devotion to his chosen art form. If anything from 2006 will be regarded as a classic record a decade from now, this is it.

5. "Pearl Jam," Pearl Jam

After slipping from its perch, Pearl Jam returns to form with this self-titled release. Besides being an excellent comeback record that captures listeners through to the sweeping conclusion, this disc also marks a rarity in the modern rock scene: a straightforward rock album. A breath of fresh air in a genre filled with gimmicks and hybrid styles, the band proves that it can still do it better than almost any other out there.

4. "Love, Pain and the Whole Crazy Thing," Keith Urban

While other artists are branching out and expanding their musical palette, Keith Urban has consistently stayed true to the course. Though detractors could argue that this comes from a lack of innovation, Urban has, instead, taken a particular sound and steadily perfected it over time. His newest album marks the latest installment in this refining process and proves to be his strongest to date.

3. "10,000 Days," Tool

If Tool's excellent track record doesn't recommend this album, nothing said here will

See ALBUMS page B6



COURTESY PHOTOS • SONY • DEF JAM

first effort — the witty, but ultimately cardboard "Your Favorite Weapon" — it was assumed that it would go the way of other cookie-cutter emo-pop outfits, but the band returned with a surprisingly strong, matured sophomore album. Continuing the growth started on that second album, "Deja Entendu," Brand New's latest shows a band to be reckoned with. Better than either of their earlier efforts, this alt-rock

Underappreciated 'Lost' loses ground due to misguided execs

CRITICAL CONDITION



Alejandro Salinas

Dear ABC,

What gives? First you take a staple show like "Lost" off the air for almost three months — an unprecedented amount of time which in our current TV landscape translates to about, say, a bazillion years. Then you go on and scare us (and by "us" I mean geeky television nerds, and by "geeky television nerds" I mean this writer) by getting all worked up at the show's producers for suggesting an imminent series finale. I know, I know: Wednesday night's line-up would suffer without "Lost," which is, after all, your third best performing drama behind "Grey's Anatomy" and "Desperate Housewives;" and none of your new shows are doing that hot, really; and syndication is where the money is these days and blah, blah, blah. But putting "Lost" in danger of becoming the next "X-Files" just for a couple of bucks? Really, ABC? What gives?

I really like you, ABC, I do. After all, you're the network that brought me "Alias,"

reintroducing me to J.J. Abrams after the whole "Felicity" fiasco, and you recently made Thursdays bearable by giving me the greatest guilty pleasure in the form of a small, poncho-wearing, ratty-haired, bushy-eyebrowed Latina gal from Queens with a heart almost as big as her ... personality. However, I have to be honest: I'm not buying this we-care-about-"Lost" shtick you've been pulling off lately in all the magazines. It seems, well, a little fake and desperate — like an apologetic Isaiah Washington, but I digress.

Let's be honest, ABC, if you really cared for "Lost" as much as you've been trying to make it sound like you do, you would have run the show in the fall or the spring. Look at FOX's "24." Now that's a shining example of a network actually supporting its hit show and going the extra mile for it. And if you think about it, "24" is not that different from "Lost": they're both critically acclaimed shows with intricate plots and plenty of

unanswered questions and they both boast a very, very devoted (if not exactly large) following. Sure, the analogy only runs so far before falling apart, but you know what, ABC? Save it — because no matter what you try to argue, a three month hiatus is not in any show's best interest.

In an act of civility, I'll grant you this much, ABC: it has not all been your fault. I'm willing to acknowledge that last season of "Lost" was, well, anything but stellar, from the headache that was Ana Lucia (Michelle Rodriguez, "S.W.A.T.") to the whole unresolved Walt-and-Michael (Malcolm David Kelley, "Antwone Fisher;" Harold Perrineau, "The Matrix Reloaded") plotline and let's not forget about the menacing black cloud (?) that lurks in the jungle. Truth be told, last season's "Lost" was a little light on the "oohs!" and a little heavy on the "what the fucks." But "Lost" wasn't your only show going through the sophomore slump. Those crazy wives over on Wysteria Lane had that

bizarro human-chained-in-a-basement plotline that went nowhere and yet you (unfortunately) didn't take them off the air.

Whatever your reasons, I'm glad to hear that you've slowly started to come to your senses. Announcing that the next season of "Lost" will be aired without interruption is a step in the right direction. The next step would be to realize that the show will never have the audience numbers of "Grey's" or "CSI." Shows like "Lost" are designed for a very specific demographic; most people interested in watching doctors sleep with each other and cry (like, a lot) before sleeping with each other again aren't going to be drawn to a show about a group of survivors stranded on an island.

As a last point, I've got to say I'm not particularly pleased about the show's new hour (10 p.m.) but I'll let it slide (for now) because I've read that the newest episode is

See 'LOST' page B6



SINGLED OUT
Panda Bear — "Bros"
From the band's *Person Pitch* LP

This season's hottest name in the indie scene is Panda Bear, whose new album "Person Pitch" (set for release March 20) mixes airy My Morning Jacket style driving tunes with straight-up 60's sun pop. It sounds amazing.

— compiled by *Conor McKay*

iTunes TOP 10 ALBUMS

1. *Not Too Late* — Norah Jones
2. *Katherine McPhee* — Katherine McPhee
3. *Winning the Night Away* — The Shins
4. *Daughtry* — Daughtry
5. *These Streets* — Paolo Nutini
6. *Corinne Bailey Rae* — Corinne Bailey Rae
7. *We Were Dead Before The Ship Even Sank* — Modest Mouse
8. *Alright, Still* — Lily Allen
9. *Some Loud Thunder* — Clap Your Hands Say Yeah!
10. *The Confessions Tour (Live)* — Madonna

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Bend it like Ozzy?

English Soccer hunk David Beckham and his former-Spice Girl wife may be looking to spice up their lives: Ozzy Osbourne style. The couple is moving to Los Angeles, with Beckham having signed a multi-million dollar deal with the L.A. Galaxy soccer team. If the Beckhams accept a recent offer, cameras may show it all as they adjust to American life. Like the reality show "The Osbournes," the tentatively titled "Living With the Beckhams," will help the two Brits gain fame in America.



Abdul, out?

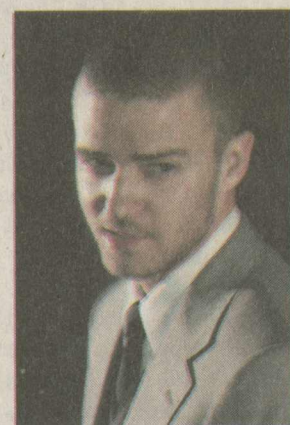
Will Courtney Love, named "the most controversial woman in the history of rock," by Rolling Stone, soon become American Idol's biggest controversy? Love launched rumors that Idol is looking to replace Paula Abdul, saying that executive producer Nigel Lythgoe called her. "He was wondering if I was interested. I thought it was kind of weird but brilliant," Love told USMagazine.com. With Abdul's drug use in question, Love seems a fitting replacement, ensuring the controversies will continue.



Tabloid Talk: Tubby Tyra

Tyra Banks was shocked by tabloid headlines mocking her slightly fuller frame. Having gained 30 pounds since her runway days, the 33-year-old stands behind her healthier physique. Though tabloids captured unflattering pictures of her on holiday in Sydney, Australia last month, Banks insists that it was simply a poor angle. In fact, the talk show host intends to host another "reveal" show as she did last year, featuring her in the bathing suit from her holiday snapshots.

— compiled by *Megan Doyle*



Jessica: Justified?

A few weeks after ending his relationship with Cameron Diaz, Justin Timberlake can't seem to get enough of Jessica Biel. The two are in 7th Heaven, having spent hours together at Prince's Golden Globe party. Though it may just be an illusion, it seems there's something about Justin and Jessica, especially after Biel flew to the Sundance Film Festival to be with Timberlake. Perhaps Diaz, who has confronted Timberlake about his new relationship, wishes she were still in Biel's shoes.



'Mikado' succeeds in all facets

'MIKADO' from page B5

the more operatic demands of the musical with graceful ease, they also have a great sense of comedy. More than anything, this production is hilarious. Director senior Cheryl Gnerlich and choreographer senior Evan M. Cook do a fantastic job blending refinement with unabashed slapstick savvy.

A dull moment is never allowed, as something is always going on — actors make the most of their humorous lyrics, Japanese gentlemen pirouette across the stage, sly officials give the audience knowing looks. The costumes also provide a constant source of eye candy. The flow of humor and lightheartedness proves continuous and near-perfect. The performances are so tight that there are never any of those moments in which a line seems to have been dropped, or the chemistry between two characters has temporarily faded.

While a show will likely fail without a great crew, it will definitely fall without a great cast. And this one more than delivers the goods. After the performance, the lobby was filled with plenty of high praise like, "I can't believe what talent we have at William and Mary." This couldn't be more true. Let's just say that the quality of the show could have merited far

more expensive tickets than what were (thankfully) available.

Junior Bethany Bagley and Freshman Ben McVety shine as Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo, the leading love interests. Bagley's voice possesses the strength and clarity necessary to carry her spunky role, and McVety's tenor is sweet and dreamy. Especially impressive is his "A Wand'ring

in dialogue, these two are side-splittingly funny. They possess great chemistry, and Williams especially keeps the audience rolling. His character may be the comic relief in what is already a very funny show, but he goes above and beyond the call of comedy, summoning a variety of very expressive gestures and vocal inflections. Senior Amy Wisley plays the evil Katisha who loves Nanki-Poo and schemes to marry him. Never breaking character, she does a phenomenal job vivifying the least funny character in the play. Her voice is beautiful and truly operatic — so beautiful, in fact, that it's hard to see Katisha as a villain. Happily, there is no weak link in the play.



COURTESY PHOTO • SINFONICRON
Kanene Donehey, Maurene Comey and Sara Black show off the superior work of Sinfonicon's costume design team for "The Mikado."

Minstrel, I," in which he performs a succession of difficult scales with his amazing range. The two bring a measure of depth to their stock roles.

Also possessing impressive pairs of vocal chords are freshman Thomas Brigham, who plays Ko-Ko, the Lord High Executioner, and his government official (in many capacities), Poo-Bah, played by senior Brandon Williams. They, however, are probably most notable for their acting performances. Whether singing or

The "minor" characters such as Pitti-Sing (sophomore Sara Black), Peep-Bo (freshman Maurene Comey), Pish-Tush (sophomore Dan Plehal), and the Mikado himself (senior Tom Bambara) all perform their parts to the fullest and prove decidedly wonderful. It's so rare to see a production in which not one of the players manifests some sort of noticeable weakness, but this is one of them. All in all, Sinfonicon's "The Mikado" is a splendid, admirable piece of theater.



COURTESY PHOTO • LOST-MEDIA.COM
Jack (Matthew Fox) and Kate (Evangeline Lilly) star in ABC's "Lost," now in its third season.

'Lost' direction

'LOST' from page B5

mind-blowing and delivers in a way only a show like "Lost" can. So just, please, ABC, promise to take better care of the show from now on because — not to sound scary or threatening — there are a lot more people out there like me who aren't really happy with you right now.

Thanks for being such a great sport, ABC. I'm really looking forward to all your latest programming (except According to Jim) this semester.

Oh, and ABC, one last thing: Please just fire Isaiah Washington already.

Sincerely,
Your loyal viewer
Alejandro is a senior at the College. He still insists that "Lost" is better than "Grey's Anatomy."

Del Toro's 'Labyrinth' dazzles

'LABYRINTH' from page B5

Ironically, this movie almost didn't get made. Del Toro tells the story of how he lost the majority of his notes and pictures for the film in a cab and thought he would never find them again. Fortunately, the driver who found the materials

realized their importance and worked diligently to return them to del Toro — leaving the director even more determined to make the film.

"Pan's Labyrinth" is the rare foreign film that has been able to break the language barrier and appeal to American audiences,

possessing a unique universal appeal. Del Toro's ability to tell a story that can connect with any audience, young or old (though, believe me, the gore warrants the 'R' rating) allows it to succeed. The film works on every level. "Pan's Labyrinth" is not just an adult fairy tale — it is a masterpiece.

Top albums of 2006 stand tall

ALBUMS from page B5

convince anyone. Taking listeners on an eleven-track aural journey, Tool consistently turns out brilliant, nuanced records and "10,000 Days" falls right in line. Continuing the band's progression from "Lateralus," Maynard Keenan and company create an inspired piece of art that spans the musical gamut from the muscular "Vicarious" to the epic "Wings for Marie/10,000 Days." Plus — just take a look at the packaging.

2. "Continuum," John Mayer
John Mayer shuts up critics across the country with his latest studio offering. On "Heavier Things," it was clear Mayer was taking his music somewhere new, but hardly anyone could have predicted his sound would evolve so rapidly. Simply put, this album is

nearly flawless and, along with the excellent live album "Try!", establishes Mayer as this generation's Clapton. (Yes — I did just say that.)

1. "Game Theory," The Roots
And now, the number one album on this list comes from hip-hop veteran The Roots. In a genre where this week's hit is found in next week's bargain bin, this type of staying power is nothing short of miraculous. In the band's darkest and most political offering to date, The Roots proves, without a doubt, that it isn't going anywhere. A sonic companion piece to 2002's "Phrenology," this album further exhibits the technical and creative skills of band leader ?uestlove and emcee Black Thought. With a poignant nine-minute tribute to departed producer J Dilla closing the disc, "Game Theory" stands as the high point of 2006.

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