



NEWS

A Newspaper for Faculty, Staff and Students

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VOLUME XXXVI, NUMBER 12
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

Mann is named Andrews Fellow in American Politics

Courtesy of Mann



Mann

Political scientist and author Thomas E. Mann has been named the 2007 Hunter B. Andrews Fellow in American

Politics at the College of William and Mary.

The fellowship, which is being presented for the seventh time, honors the late Virginia state senator for whom it is named. Mann will be on campus March 26-27 to meet with students and faculty. He will participate in a government class and speak at a public forum on Tuesday, March 27, *Continued on page 6.*

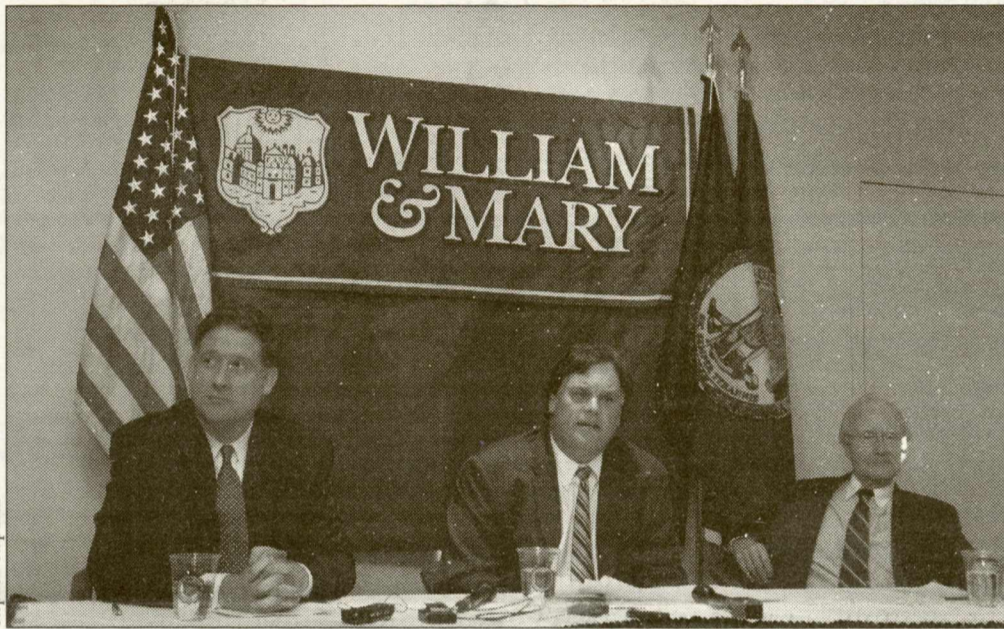
Wendy Reves remembered as a visionary friend

Wendy Reves, a great friend and supporter of the College of William and Mary and benefactor of the endowment establishing the Wendy and Emery Reves Center for International Studies, died on March 13 in a hospital in Europe.

"Wendy Reves and her husband, Emery, inspired an international program at the College whose reach has almost equaled the esteem felt for its namesakes around the world," said William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol. "This is, as she would say, I think, among the greatest of her innumerable legacies. William and Mary was beyond fortunate to have her *Continued on page 3.*

Religion committee makes unanimous recommendation

Nichol accepts cross compromise



Stephen Salpukas

The compromise is announced by (from l) Meese, Nichol and Livingston.

The William and Mary Committee on Religion at a Public University unanimously recommended earlier this month a compromise regarding the placement of the table cross in the Wren Chapel. William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol, with the support of Michael K. Powell ('85), rector of the College Board of Visitors, accepted the recommendation, which will return the cross to permanent, visible display in the chapel.

According to the new policy, the cross will be displayed permanently in a glass case, which will be located prominently inside the chapel and be accompanied by a plaque commemorating the College's Anglican roots and its historic connection to Bruton Parish Church. The Wren sacristy also will be available to house sacred objects of any other religious tradition for use in worship and de-

votion by members of the College community.

"This has been a challenging task for the committee, but it has produced a compromise that allows for permanent display of the cross in the Chapel, while remaining welcoming to all," Nichol said. "I fully embrace it."

The use of the Wren Chapel and the display of the cross has been the topic of passionate debate on and off campus over the past four months. In October,

the decision was made to reserve display of the cross inside the Wren Chapel for appropriate religious services or when requested for individual devotion. At other times, the cross was placed in the chapel's sacristy with other religious items.

In a joint statement, Nichol and Powell said the committee's quick action was unexpected but deeply welcomed. *Continued on page 2.*

Read the joint statement from the president and the BOV on page 2.

Mason School in BusinessWeek's public top 10

In its 2007 ranking of undergraduate business programs, BusinessWeek magazine ranked the Mason School of Business at the College in the top 30 of the 50 best undergraduate business programs in the United States. With an overall ranking of 29th, the Mason School is also among the top 10 business schools at public universities.

To rank the programs, BusinessWeek surveyed students and recruiters, developed an academic quality score and calculated letter grades on teach-

Continued on page 2.

Community is invited to groundbreaking

The College community is invited to attend the March 30 groundbreaking of the new Alan B. Miller Hall at the Mason School of Business.

The groundbreaking will be held at 3:30 p.m. at the building's future home on the site of the Common Glory parking lot between Jamestown Road and Ukrop Way. It officially marks the beginning of a new day at the business school that will bring together all *Continued on page 2.*

Inside W&M News

Ambler earns award

Ginger Ambler has received the NASPA Dissertation of the Year Award for her research on students. —page 3

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Ruth van Baak Griffioen is fostering a timely interest in Colonial music. —page 4

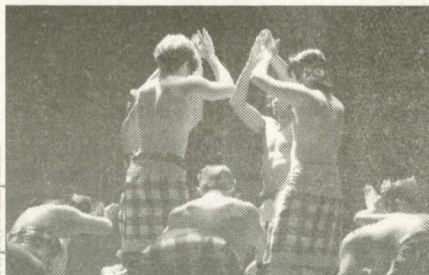
Tennis everyone?

Tom Hawkins is hoping more faculty and staff will use the tennis center. —page 6

'Ramayana La'ar': Tanglao-Aguas presents a play for diversity

Bringing a staged version of a Hindu epic to a theatre audience at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall took some courage, Francis Tanglao-Aguas, assistant professor of theatre, speech and dance at the College, admitted after the successful run of "Ramayana La'ar" ("Rama's Journey") earlier this month. The presentation, a creative combination of dance, multilingual dialogue and evocative scoring, was billed not as a play but as a sacred performance. Judging from the record-setting audiences, the enthusiastic reviews and the lingering discussion generated on campus, the professor's courage was well applied.

When "Ramayana La'ar" was scheduled as a Main Stage performance, there was



Stephen Salpukas

The play was a "sacred" performance.

no precedent nor even a script; there was only actor, screenwriter and filmmaker Tanglao-Aguas gambling that he could bring to fruition an idea he had been researching for 10 years.

"When I proposed it, I did not have the final product," he said. "The rehearsal was the creative process, so it was intense." Thirteen of the students who ultimately appeared in the epic had been enrolled in the professor's Asian performance class. He had to train another 35 theatre and non-theatre majors. Drawing upon relationships he had established with members of the College's multicultural organizations, he assembled both the crew and the cast. Referring to the choreography alone, he said, "People usually take five years to train; I gave it to our students, and they learned it within four and a half weeks." As the cast members *Continued on page 4.*

Committee to move forward on new policy, rest of mission

Continued from front.

"The committee membership recognized that further division among our broad university community is unhealthy, and it worked intensely to come to a unanimous recommendation, having considered the wide range of sincerely held views of alumni, faculty, students and friends of the College," Powell added.

Nichol announced in January that James Livingston, the Walter G. Mason Professor Emeritus of Religion at the College, and Alan J. Meese ('86), the Ball Professor of Law, would co-chair the 14-person religion committee, which includes alumni, faculty, students, staff and friends of the College. The committee quickly developed two missions—address the short-term question of the display of the cross in the Wren Chapel and then examine the long-term question of the role of religion at a public university.

The committee met for several hours on the evening of March 5 and later presented to Nichol the unanimously adopted recommendation. The College will move swiftly to commission the new Wren Chapel display case.

"The committee's recommendation is unanimous. We hope that this policy regarding the display of the Wren cross will put this immediate controversy to rest," Livingston and Meese said in a joint statement. "We knew our short-term mission was



Stephen Salpukas

Nichol prepares to announce his acceptance of the compromise.

to come up with a proposal that would allow this College to come together and move forward as a community. We

The committee membership recognized that further division among our broad university community is unhealthy ...

—Michael Powell

are confident this recommendation accomplishes that goal. We now look forward to examining the broader question of the role of religion at a public university."

The new policy states, "The Wren Chapel Cross shall be returned for permanent display in the chapel in a glass case. The case shall be

located in a prominent, readily visible place, accompanied by a plaque explaining the College's Anglican roots and its historic connection to Bruton Parish Church. The Wren sacristy will also be available to house sacred objects of any religious tradition for use in worship and devotion by members of the College community."

The cross will remain available for use on the altar for appropriate religious services. This practice is similar to policies at other universities with historic chapels, including the University of Virginia. Both the president and the rector praised the committee members for their hard work and dedication.

"Under this policy, the Wren Chapel will continue to play its unique historic and affirming role in the life of the College—a place of worship for our students and a site for our most solemn occasions," the joint statement said.

by Brian Whitson

Joint statement from the College's president and its Board of Visitors

Following is the statement issued by President Gene R. Nichol and the William and Mary Board of Visitors. —Ed.

Following its meeting yesterday, the William and Mary Committee on Religion in a Public University unanimously recommended a compromise practice on the display of the table cross in the Wren Chapel. We accept and will immediately begin to implement the committee's recommendations, which we quote in full:

The Wren Chapel cross shall be returned for permanent display in the chapel in a glass case. The case shall be located in a prominent, readily visible place, accompanied by a plaque explaining the College's Anglican roots and its historic connection to Bruton Parish Church. The Wren sacristy shall be available to house sacred objects of any religious tradition for use in worship and devotion by members of the College community.

The cross will still be available, of course, for use on the altar during appropriate religious services. This practice is similar to that used by other universities with historic chapels, including the University of Virginia. Other religious symbols, which may be stored in the sacristy when not in use, will also be welcome during the services for which they are appropriate. Under this policy, the Wren Chapel will continue to play its unique historic and affirming role in the life of the College: a place of worship for our students and a site for our most solemn occasions.

The committee's quick action was unexpected but deeply welcomed. Rector Powell stated, "The committee membership recognized that further division among our broad university community is unhealthy and it worked intensely to come to a unanimous recommendation, having considered the wide range of sincerely held views of alumni, faculty, students and friends of the College." President Nichol added, "This has been a challenging task for the committee, but it has produced a compromise that allows for permanent display of the cross in the chapel, while remaining welcoming to all. I fully embrace it."

We are grateful to the committee, and especially its chairs Professors Alan Meese and Jim Livingston, for earnestly embracing this part of their charge. We look forward, as well, to their coming work on other important challenges.

Community is invited to the business school groundbreaking

Continued from front.

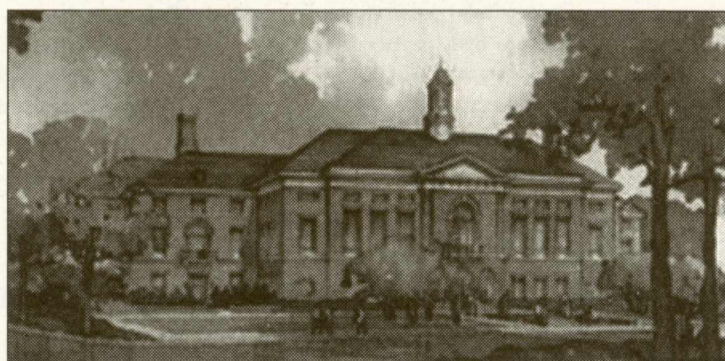
faculty, staff and students at the Mason School under one roof in a state-of-the-art 160,000-square-foot structure. Construction of the 160,000-square-foot structure is expected to begin in May. Scheduled to open in the fall of 2009, the building will be a western gateway to the William and Mary campus.

The building is being designed to achieve LEED certification, a designation for projects that meet certain environmentally friendly guidelines. The three-story structure will serve many on campus. In addition to much-needed multipurpose space, as well as a 50-foot-long atrium and a café that will seat 100, the new building will feature state-of-the-art classroom space, including breakout and project-team rooms, conference rooms and seminar spaces expected of a 21st-century business school. Currently, the business school classes are held in Blow and Tyler halls, and officials are forced to lease space off campus to accommodate administrative and faculty offices.

The groundbreaking ceremony will include remarks from the building's namesake, Alan B. Miller ('58), as well as from College President Gene R. Nichol. Officials also will debut a 3-D virtual tour of the planned building.

by Brian Whitson

Mason school ranked in public top 10 by BusinessWeek



Artist's rendering of the proposed new business school building.

Continued from front. ing quality, facilities and services, and job placement. The ranking is based on an "index number," which represents the sum of all ranking measures. BusinessWeek also calculated letter grades on teaching quality, facilities and services, and job placement based on the student survey. Mason received letter grades of "A" on both teaching quality and facilities and services. Of particular

note in the ranking was the responsiveness of the administration to students' concerns. The magazine's ranking listed The Mason School as 11th among public universities in the category of "Return on Investment."

"The undergraduate business program exemplifies the core strengths of the great tradition of the William and Mary education. Our individualized program of study empowers students in

designing an educational experience that will provide a strong foundation for a personalized, comprehensive path toward fulfilling their aspirations," said Lawrence B. Pulley, dean of the Mason School of Business and T.C. and Elizabeth Clarke Professor of Business.

The undergraduate business major is the largest on the William and Mary campus with roughly one-sixth of the student population pursuing it. Students are accepted at the beginning of the third year of their undergraduate study. At the core of the undergraduate business program is the commitment to a customized experience that incorporates a multidisciplinary approach with an emphasis on leadership opportunities and experience gained through study abroad, live cases, as well as faculty and executive mentoring.

by Andrea Sardone

Ambler receives NASPA Dissertation of the Year Award

As William and Mary's assistant vice president for student affairs, Ginger Ambler has a passion for students, so when she began working toward her doctorate about eight years ago, she focused her research on learning more about college students and what factors are related to their ability to thrive on campus. Now her passion and hard work are being rewarded with national recognition.

Ambler recently was named the winner of the Melvene D. Hardee Dissertation of the Year Award by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), the largest professional association for student affairs administrators, faculty and graduate students with more than 11,000 members.

"This is such a well-deserved reward for many reasons," said Sam Sadler, vice president for student affairs. "It is a stunning piece of research

that deepens our understanding of what contributes to students' success in college. That she could produce a dissertation of such significance while working full-time and doing all of the other things she does is a reflection of Ginger's extraordinary talent and of the high standards with which she approaches everything she does. She richly deserves the recognition this award gives to her work. We in student affairs are very proud of her."

Ambler received her doctorate in educational policy, planning and leadership from William and Mary in 2006, and she was awarded the College's Thatcher

Prize for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Study at commencement. Her dissertation, titled "Who Flourishes in College? Using Positive Psychology and Student Involvement Theory to Explore Mental Health Among Traditionally Aged Undergraduates," explores the relationship between students' subjective sense of well-being and their level of engagement in the educational experience both inside and outside the classroom.

"The most exciting part about doing this dissertation for me was that I was studying college students," she said. "They're the reason I do what I do. I have a passion for working with college students, and I was intensely interested in what I was going to learn about them through my research."

'The most exciting part about doing this dissertation for me was that I was studying college students.'

—Ginger Ambler

Ambler grew interested in the topic when a vibrant and highly involved William and Mary student she had befriended became

mysteriously ill. Despite the student's illness, the undergraduate and her family decided that it would be best to keep her near the College and as involved in classes and activities as possible.

"It made me wonder what it was about being in this environment that led her and her family to believe that it was important to her well-being," said Ambler.

Ambler looked at five variables that could contribute to an undergraduate student's overall social, emotional and psychological well-being: level of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, interaction between students and



Courtesy of Ambler

Ginger Ambler

faculty, enriching educational experiences and supportive campus environment.

She found that students' mental health was significantly related to all five of the engagement variables and a supportive campus environment was the most predictive of optimal mental health.

"It reinforced for me what I always hoped was the case—that relationships are really important," said Ambler. "The work that we do in student affairs is very much about creating a campus environment that will be supportive of students in their learning and in their personal growth. In that sense, the results of my study reaffirmed the value of what my colleagues and I do in student affairs and what faculty and others throughout the university do to meaningfully engage students in their educational experience."

As someone who works full-time at the College and as a wife and mother of three, Ambler earned her degree over more than seven years. She said that feat

was possible only through the support and understanding of her family, colleagues and professors.

"The fact that I was able to do this is a testament to the fact that I had incredible support structures in all aspects of my life," said Ambler.

Ambler presented the findings of her dissertation at the Virginia Student Services Conference last fall and more recently at the Virginia Council of Graduate School Second Annual Graduate Student Research Forum. As the Hardee Award winner, she will present her findings at NASPA's national conference in Orlando, Fla. in April, and she was recently invited to write a chapter for a positive psychology perspective series on the topic of human flourishing.

"Her dissertation research was elegantly conceived, insightfully designed, carefully conducted and responsibly interpreted," said David Leslie, William and Mary's Chancellor Professor of Education and chair of Ambler's dissertation committee. "Ginger handled this the same way she handles herself in all situations—elegantly, insightfully, carefully and responsibly. She is a consummate professional, and I can think of no one who more richly deserves this once-in-a-lifetime honor."

Despite the national recognition, it is her everyday interaction with students that Ambler finds most rewarding. "I have known so many amazing and inspirational students throughout my years at William and Mary, and they teach us as much as we teach them," she said. "I just feel so honored to be working here with them."

Ambler's dissertation can be viewed on-line at www.wm.edu/studentaffairs/amblerdissertation/FINAL.pdf.

by Erin Zagursky

College mourns the loss of friend and benefactor, Wendy Reves

Continued from front.

friendship and will literally never forget her."

The Reves Center for International Studies was endowed by Wendy Reves in 1989 in honor of her late husband, Emery, who devoted his life to the cause of world peace. The Center was established to educate students and prepare them for careers in international affairs and positions of global leadership in a constantly changing world.

Reves, a resident of Switzerland, died in a hospital in Europe, according to the Associated Press. She will be buried in the College cemetery at William and Mary.

Following is an article by Virginia Gazette columnist Frank Shatz, a friend of Reves and the College, that highlights her life and her contributions to society, including William and Mary. It is reprinted with the permission of the Virginia Gazette and with many thanks to Frank.—Ed.

Wendy Reves' goal was world peace

Wendy Russell Reves, 91, died on Tuesday, March 13, at Princess Grace Hospital in Monte Carlo. By the time of her death, she had fulfilled the role she had chosen for herself, namely, to be the disseminator of the intellectual legacy of her late husband, Emery Reves. Mr. Reves, author of *The Anatomy of Peace*, devoted his life to the goal of world peace based on justice and universal law.

Wendy wanted to found a "magical, marvelous" faculty that would provide a venue for the vision of her husband. Her legacy in Williamsburg stands as the Reves Center for International Studies, which hosts speakers from around the world and offers students study-abroad opportunities.

"Wendy Reves was a true American original, a larger-than-life character who bestrode the world of fashion, art and politics with a singular grace and style," said Mitchell Reiss, vice provost for international affairs at the College. "She cared deeply about William and Mary and especially her cherished Reves Center, which she saw as a living monument to the ideas and ideals of her husband, Emery. Few things pleased her more than hearing about all the innovative and exciting opportunities the center was creating for our students



File photo

Wendy Reves is shown during a recent campus visit.

and faculty."

The center came into being almost by coincidence. On the same day that the College of William and Mary made public its decision to establish a world-class Center for International Studies, I received a letter from Wendy asking for help in finding the right vehicle to accomplish her goal. My wife and I recommended William and Mary as the recipient of her endowment. The local press reported how the deal was closed: "What do you want?" she asked Paul R. Verkuil, the president of William and Mary at that time. He took a piece of paper and wrote down "\$3 million." Wendy glanced at what he had written and almost instantly replied: "Okay, Now we can order lunch." Her endowment of \$3 million was the largest private contribution in the College's history at that time. James A. Bill, William and Mary professor emeritus and founding director of the Reves Center, remarked, "Wendy Reves was an unforgettable woman who invested her time, energy and resources in promoting the arts and higher education. She loved the College of William and Mary and left the Reves Center as a monument to history.

The essence of Wendy's life has been encapsulated in newspa-

pers around the world. The headlines chronicled her rise from poverty in Marshall, Texas, to a top model in New York City, to one of the world's great hostesses, and finally, to a renowned philanthropist.

Inspired mainly by his wife, Emery Reves was a world-class art collector. From their palatial villa on the French Cote d'Azur, they entertained the illustrious personages of the day, including Winston Churchill, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, the Duke of Windsor and his wife, Greta Garbo, Charles de Gaulle and many others.

I first met Wendy in the early 1970s at the Hotel de Paris in Monte Carlo. She and Emery arrived in their vintage Rolls-Royce. She was attired in a silk evening gown and white mink cape and sported her signature bejeweled headband. Wendy talked with a perfect Oxford accent. I asked her how a Texas girl had acquired such an accent. "Sir Winston made me learn it," she replied with a hearty laugh. "He pestered me until I had it right."

Churchill was a frequent guest at the Villa La Pausa. His long stays and frequent public appearances in the company of Wendy generated malicious gossip. According to Churchill's secretary, the heiress of the Singer sewing machine fortune once made some poisonous remarks about Wendy. Churchill retorted, "Wendy is young, she is beautiful and she is kind. All of which you are not."

After the death of Emery in 1984, Wendy became a philanthropist of renown. She bestowed on the Dallas Museum of Art a trove of art treasures that doubled its holdings in French impressionist paintings. Soon after, she endowed the Reves Center.

During Wendy's last stay in Williamsburg, she reiterated her wish to provide the center with financial support. She wrote a letter to the director and trustees of the Reves Foundation instructing them to provide the center with "40% of the income of the original invested capital."

"Wendy Reves was a remarkable and most benevolent force of nature," said Timothy Sullivan, former William and Mary president. "She was also an extraordinary and generous friend of the College of William and Mary. The international outreach that William and Mary enjoys today owes its inception to her vision."

There is no doubt in my mind that Wendy Reves really meant it when she said, "I consider Williamsburg a place I can call home, and William and Mary my family."

Mann to serve as Andrews Fellow at William and Mary

Continued from front.

at 7:30 p.m. in room 120 at the Tucker Hall Theatre. The forum is free and open to the public; a book signing will follow.

"Tom Mann represents the very best of what we mean when we speak of the 'public intellectual,'" said Gene R. Nichol, president of the College. "His belief in the promise of American democracy—and his efforts to ensure that it is fulfilled—make him a perfect Andrews Fellow. We're looking forward to welcoming him to William and Mary."

Mann began working in Washington, D.C., in 1969 as a Congressional Fellow in the offices of Sen. Philip A. Hart and Rep. James G. O'Hara. He has taught at Princeton University, Johns Hopkins University, Georgetown University, the University of Virginia and American University, conducted polls for congressional candidates, worked as a consultant to IBM and the Public Broadcasting Service, chaired the National Election Studies Board of Overseers and served as an expert witness in the constitutional defense of the McCain-Feingold campaign finance bill.

Mann is currently the W. Averell Harriman Chair and Senior Fellow in Governance Studies at The Brookings Institution, a private nonprofit organization devoted to independent research and innovative policy solutions. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Mann is the author of many books, scholarly articles and opinion pieces on various aspects of American politics. He is currently working on projects about districting, election reform and party polarization. With Norman Ornstein, he wrote *The Broken Branch: How Congress is Failing America and How to Get It Back on Track* (2006).

Mann received a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Florida and a master's and a doctorate from the University of Michigan.

The Hunter B. Andrews Fellowship was established in 1998 by friends of the former state senator and William and Mary alumnus ('42), who passed away in 2005. The fellowship program brings notable journalists, politicians and academicians to campus each year to interact with students and faculty. Previous fellows have included Washington Post columnist David Broder, who was the inaugural fellow; Samuel R. Berger, the national-security adviser to President Bill Clinton; Tom Foley, 57th speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; U.S. Congressman and noted civil-rights leader John Lewis; New York Times columnist and author David Brooks and journalist, editor and author Walter Isaacson.

by Erin Zagursky

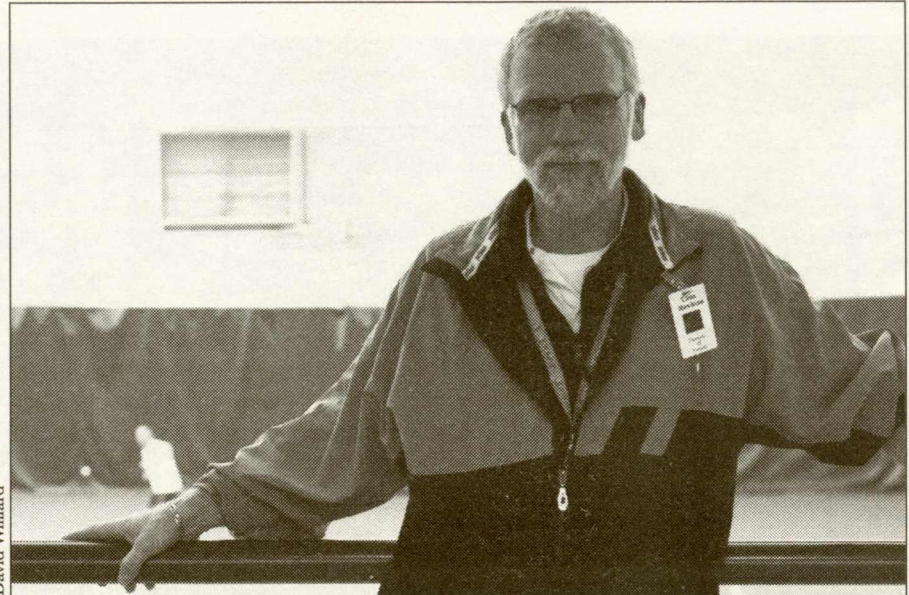
Hawkins envisions a more welcoming tennis center

When it comes to work, everyone knows that the College's staff and faculty do more with less. When it comes to recreational tennis, Tom Hawkins would like to see them do more with more.

Toward that end, Hawkins, the College's new director of tennis at the McCormack-Nagelsen Tennis Center, has announced a first-ever faculty and staff tennis tournament that began on March 19. A subsequent "Tennis Get-Together" on Saturday, April 28, is another event geared toward reviving interest among members of the College community in using the state-of-the-art facility.

Hawkins, who came to the College after serving for 26 years as a corporate director of tennis in the Washington, D.C., area, has been a longtime fan of the College's indoor tennis complex. He had visited several times when the complex hosted conventions for the United States Tennis Association (USTA), which maintains its Intercollegiate Tennis Association Women's Hall of Fame in the building. "I always loved the facilities, and I just feel fortunate to be here," he said. At the same time, he cannot believe that the facility seems to be underutilized by staff and faculty members of the College who, as employees of William and Mary, are, in fact, members.

The apparent disconnect has Hawkins scrambling. "We are wrestling with changing the image of the center toward being more friendly and outgoing, a place where people can come to relax and have a good time," he explained. Although the center has the basic elements in place—six well-maintained, well-lit courts along with locker room and shower facilities—other touches will contribute to a social atmosphere. A new projection screen is on tap to enable patrons to watch tennis tournaments and tennis videos; an expanded pro shop is envisioned. Hawkins, who, as director, is responsible for managing the staff, teaching some lessons and greeting the members, even promised to begin serving coffee in the mornings.



Hawkins wants to see more faculty and staff members use the College's facility.

The faculty-staff tennis tournament is scheduled to run March 19 through April 30. Late registrations will be accommodated, Hawkins said. There will

'If you can't laugh and have fun, then you're taking your tennis far too seriously.'

—Tom Hawkins

be both singles and doubles divisions. All matches will be two sets, and, if needed, a 12-point tiebreaker will determine the winner of the third set. All participants are guaranteed at least two matches. Registration is \$20 for individuals and for doubles teams.

Hawkins, who was ranked as high as sixth in the region by the USTA, offers some simple advice for those who are seeking to improve their games. "Make sure you get a shoulder turn to distribute the weight, make sure the racquet is in good position when you're ready to strike

the ball and make sure you're following through," he said. "But the main thing is to get out, get some exercise and really have some fun, because tennis is fun. If you can't laugh and have fun, then you're taking your tennis far too seriously."

Hawkins envisions that the tournament will evolve into a routine event at the College. He also would like to start what amounts to a team-tennis season pitting players from various departments against those of other departments on campus.

The McCormack-Nagelsen Tennis Center is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. The slowest hours for court use at present are between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. People wishing to play are encouraged to call in advance. Leagues and special coaching sessions are ongoing. Anyone who is interested can go to the center, which is located adjacent to the Marshall-Wythe School of Law on South Henry Street, can call 221-7378 to register for the tournament or obtain other information or can visit the tennis center's Web site at www.wm.edu/mntc.

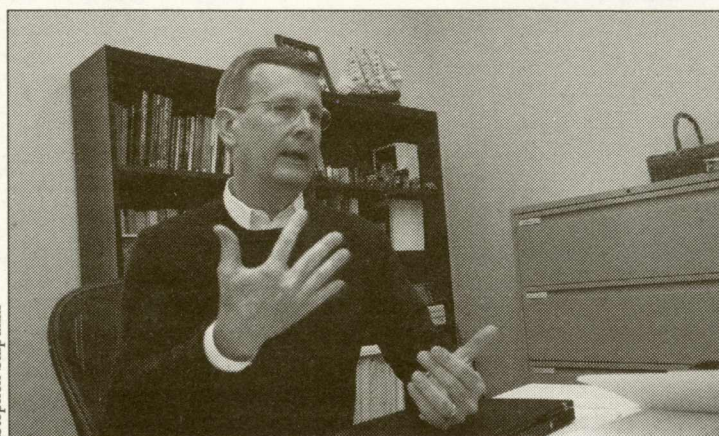
by David Williard

College's Schroeder Center to study healthcare needs of Virginia's veterans

For the next six months, researchers at the Schroeder Center for Healthcare Policy at the College will be focusing their attention on the health services required by Virginia's nearly 740,000 veterans.

The center, contracted by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, will study current and projected care needs of veterans in Virginia. Virginia's population of veterans currently is the 11th largest in the nation. The study, already under way, is expected to be completed in August.

Virginia provides care directly at its Virginia Veterans Care Center in Roanoke (VVCC). Much of the care is for long-term illness and injuries, including brain injury and Alzheimer's disease. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs spending in Virginia is significant. In federal fiscal year 2004-05, that spending totaled almost \$1.8 billion, the 10th largest in



Rossiter will be leading the study at the College.

the nation. While the Roanoke VVCC is the only long-term care center in current operation, a similar facility is under construction in Richmond, and the possibility of constructing a third facility in the Hampton area is receiving consideration.

"Our mission is to serve Virginia's veterans and their beneficiaries by ensuring that they receive the benefits, sup-

port, quality care and recognition they have earned through service and sacrifice," said Vincent M. Burgess, commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. "This study should help us start a discussion with veteran groups about the future of veterans' services in the Commonwealth."

The new study, which was planned before the recent

reports of unacceptable care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, is intended to consider all aspects of care given in state-operated facilities in Virginia and how best to configure that care for the future.

Louis F. Rossiter, director of the Schroeder Center for Healthcare Policy, and Cristine Jensen, a researcher there, will lead the study.

"We will be looking at veterans by age group and where they live in Virginia, military bases, and labor-market conditions to make recommendations," said Rossiter. "The role of institutional vs. home- and community-based care is evolving. Automated monitoring devices are opening new opportunities for veterans to allow them to stay at home or in home-like settings," said Rossiter. "Above all, the quality of care for veterans will be a major factor in any recommendations developed."

by Suzanne Seurattan

Physics professor gets \$500,000 from DOD

A physics professor at the College of William and Mary recently was awarded \$500,000 to buy a new computer cluster to study the qualities of piezoelectrics, materials that convert energy from one form to another.

The money will be used to install a high-performance computer cluster at the Center for Piezoelectrics by Design (CPD), a multi-institution collaborative based at William and Mary. Henry Krakauer, professor of physics at the College, is director of the CPD. Krakauer's funding was part of a slate of \$41.2 million in research-equipment grants announced by the U.S. Department of Defense under its Defense University Research Instrumentation Program.

Piezoelectrics compose common components in military applications, such as transducers for naval sonar systems, in which the piezoelectric properties of the materials convert sound waves into electricity and vice versa. Civilian uses of piezoelectrics include transducers for medical ultrasound, acousto-optic modulators in telecommunications lasers, sensors in automobile engines and auto-focus piezoelectric motors in cameras.



Courtesy of Krakauer

Krakauer

A vast number of alloys, ceramics and other materials exhibit piezoelectric properties, but some work better than others in various applications. Traditional evaluations of piezoelectric materials have been based on time-consuming and inefficient trial-and-error processes, but the mission of CPD researchers has been to develop highly efficient computational techniques for evaluating piezoelectric materials. Krakauer and his co-workers have received significant amounts of defense funding since 2001 to develop computational methods for designing advanced materials.

The science and math developed by CPD researchers and others are advanced enough to give researchers the ability to predict the performance of materials. The recent \$500,000 grant, awarded by the Office of Naval Research, will allow the CPD researchers to install a specialized computer cluster to implement testing methods. The new equipment will increase the CPD's computing power tenfold.

"We were delighted to hear the news from the Department of Defense," said Dennis Manos, vice provost for research and graduate professional studies, CSX Professor of Applied Science and professor of physics. "The infrastructure for Henry's important work, which has generated more than \$7 million in funding over the past five years for the College, will now be renewed and improved, so that he and his colleagues can press the boundaries of computation even further."

Some of the immediate technological challenges being tackled at the CPD by its highly trained graduate and postdoctoral researchers are aimed at increasing the performance, effectiveness and longevity of naval electronics.

by Joe McClain

Norfolk Southern gift helps VIMS look at food webs

Norfolk Southern Corporation, through its foundation, has committed \$150,000 to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to help purchase a state-of-the-art laboratory instrument that will provide exciting new opportunities for addressing important questions in marine ecology and conservation.

The high-tech instrument, known as an isotope ratio mass spectrometer, will enable faculty and students at VIMS to unravel marine food webs based on the principle that "you are what you eat." Knowledge of food-web structure is important for effective management of fisheries, tracking of migratory patterns and predicting how pollutants move through ecosystems.

"With Norfolk Southern's headquarters located only a few miles from the mouth of the Chesapeake, we are acutely aware of the great need to improve water quality throughout the Bay watershed," said Kathryn B. McQuade, Norfolk Southern's executive vice president for planning and chief information officer and a member of the VIMS Council. "With this seed money for new analytical equipment, we can help VIMS upgrade its research capabilities and provide greater assistance to environmental groups throughout the region."

Rebecca Dickhut, chair of the physical sci-

ences department and professor of marine science at VIMS, noted that the institute currently owns and operates several types of mass spectrometers, but none of the new generation of instruments that allow scientists to unravel food webs based on analysis of isotopic ratios. "The Norfolk Southern gift will help resolve this deficiency and bring us to the forefront of the analytical field," said Dickhut.

VIMS dean and director John Wells, professor of marine science, added, "We're deeply grateful to Norfolk Southern for their continuing support of VIMS and its programs. This generous gift allows us to further enhance our efforts to provide the best science for effective management of Virginia's marine resources."

Not having the latest mass spectroscopy equipment previously forced researchers to ship samples as far away as California for analysis and precluded hands-on training on the latest equipment for VIMS graduate students.

Norfolk Southern Corporation is a company based in Norfolk, Va., that controls a major freight railroad, the Norfolk Southern Railway Company. The company has a 20-year history of support for VIMS, including a \$150,000 gift in 2003 to support the institute's submerged aquatic vegetation program.

by Dave Malmquist

Graves gets IGFA award for work with billfish and tuna

The International Game Fish Association (IGFA) has honored John Graves, professor of marine science at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), with its individual Conservation Award for 2006. Jason Schratwieser, director of conservation for the association, said that Graves was recognized for his ground-breaking research and management efforts regarding billfish and tuna.

Graves is a leader in the application of modern genetic



Courtesy of VIMS

Graves

techniques to billfish research and has served as chair of the advisory committee to the U.S. Section of the International

Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas for the past 10 years. His use of pop-up tags in the catch-and-release marlin fishery has provided direct conservation benefits.

John Wells, dean and director at VIMS and professor of marine science, said that Graves' receipt of the award "highlights the important role that VIMS plays in addressing issues that are of direct significance to recreational and commercial fishing communities around the globe."



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