

# The Throne

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## Blackbeard—pirate or ninja...?

The Throne suspects that you pretty much live in Facebook, right? And like you, the Throne loves keeping track of our friends in Facebook. So much so that we created a Swem Tools application integrating several library features right into your profile. Use the “Swem Signal” as a beacon to let your friends know where you are in the library. Or add the search feature app to search the library catalog and e-journals while listening to your last.fm station and deciding whether to be a pirate or a ninja! By the way, a number of Swem staff have Facebook profiles, so see if you can find them.

## Got pirattitude?

Inspired by Johnny Depp? Want to be a pirate? Well, we can't all be pirates, but we can talk like them. International Talk Like a Pirate Day (September 19) is the brainchild of a couple of guys playing racquetball who began to talk like pirates (who then decided it would

be great if everybody talked like pirates).

The “holiday” took off when humor columnist Dave Barry wrote about it in 2002. Want more information? Check out [www.talklikeapirate.com](http://www.talklikeapirate.com) for the straight poop (as in information, not deck). Don't worry if you're not up on your pirate lingo: for your convenience, the site includes an English-to-pirate translator.



Films in your room, films in the library—how about films at the Kimball Theatre? Swem Library and the Film Studies program are co-sponsoring a fall series of international and independent films. All showings are at 7 p.m. in the Screening Room of the Kimball and cost only \$1 for W&M students, faculty, and staff. September shows are *The Island*, starring former Russian rock star Pyotr Mamonov as a miracle-working monk (9/13) and *Madeinusa* (9/26), about a remote Peruvian village's unusual observances of Good Friday and Holy Saturday, days when “God is dead.” For more information on the series, see the Swem Media Center's page.

## “Losing his head, he there did die.”

—attr. Ben Franklin

It turns out pirating was an equal opportunity occupation. A search in EBSCOHost's database *LGBT Life With Full Text* (new to Swem this semester) reveals that two of the most famous pirates were women. Anne Bonny and Mary Read, 18th-century



privateers who dressed as men, had a successful career in the Caribbean until they were caught. Mary died of fever in prison, while nobody knows what became of Anne. Another new database, *Academic Search Premier*, provides insight into the life of Edward Teach, known to history as Blackbeard and a contemporary of Anne and Mary. Blackbeard terrorized the Caribbean and coastal North Carolina before representatives of Governor Spotswood killed him in 1718. His skull, on display for many years as a warning to other would-be pirates, was later mounted on silver and made into a drinking cup, which was used for many years in Williamsburg's Raleigh Tavern—undoubtedly just the way Blackbeard would like to be remembered.



## Avast! Thar be movies!

The Throne is happy to announce that almost all DVDs (not just the popular collection in the first floor Read & Relax area) can be checked out beginning now! So now the pirate in you can check

out *Pirates of the Caribbean* from the pop collection, then your inner ninja can choose *Kiru* from the DVD collection on the ground floor. Sorry, but the classic *The Black Pirate* starring Douglas Fairbanks Jr. is only available on laserdisc and VHS, which, like some DVDs (reserves for classes, for example), are for use in the library only. But as we expand our DVD collection, you'll find more and more films available for your at-home or in-dorm enjoyment.

