

# THE BOMB

At 10:36 a.m. local time, Oct. 9, 2006,  
the North Korean government  
detonated its first nuclear device.

In an instant, decades of  
nuclear fears resurfaced,  
with one question emerging:  
What are we going to do now?  
The Lawrence Livermore National  
Laboratory in California  
is devoted to using science  
and technology to  
keep America's  
nuclear arsenal safe  
and reliable.

George Miller '67,  
M.S. '69, Ph.D. '72  
leads the way.

# W&M

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WINTER 2006/2007 — VOL. 72, NO. 2

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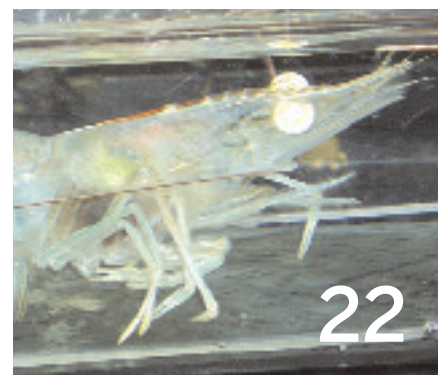
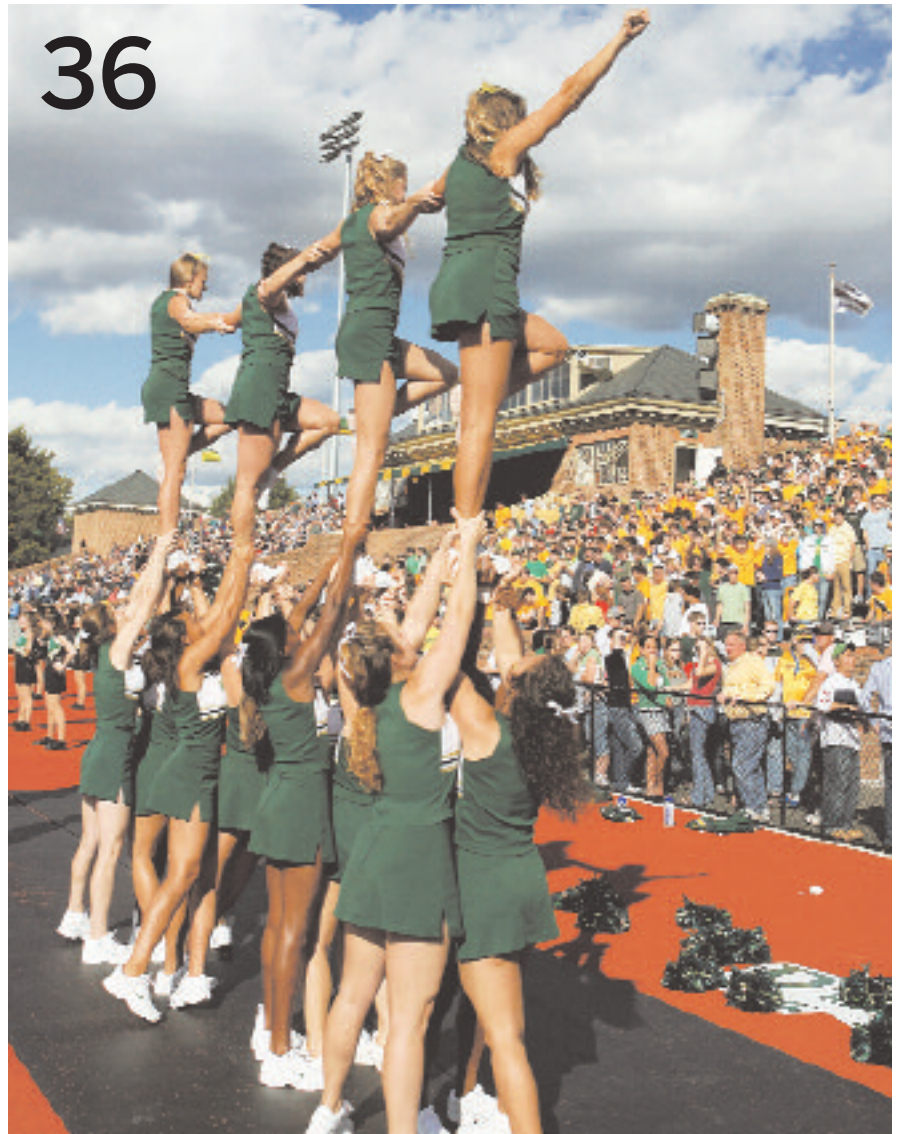
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COVER DESIGN: B&G DESIGN STUDIOS; THIS PAGE — TOP PHOTO: SKIP ROWLAND '83; BOTTOM LEFT ILLUSTRATION: MICHAEL SLOAN; BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO COURTESY OF LOU BURNETT '73



## Celebrating Community at William and Mary

**W**hile 2006 was a great year for the Alumni Association, we're planning for an even better 2007. As students begin to arrive for the new semester, the excitement on campus is building — the energy is contagious.

We're continuing to enrich our services to William and Mary's alumni community: everything from a Web site redesign to plans for Homecoming 2007, Oct. 25-28. Watch for more details in the Spring issue of the *Alumni Magazine* and throughout the year.

In February, William and Mary will celebrate its 314th Charter Day, a commemoration that showcases the College's very best. As I wrote in the Fall issue of the *Alumni Magazine*, on Feb. 9, the Alumni Association will present its highest honor to five exemplary graduates. I hope you will take the time to get to know the Alumni Medallion recipients, whose profiles begin on page 40 of this issue. I also invite you to join the entire College community on Feb. 10 for the full Charter Day celebration. It truly is an unrivaled tradition here in Williamsburg.

Later in the spring, the Alumni Association will host many of our most treasured alumni for a number of exciting events. For members of the Class of 1956 and better, the Olde Guard Celebration will be held at the Alumni House on April 29, followed by Olde Guard Day on April 30. Throughout the weekend, from April 27-29, the Class of 1957 will celebrate its 50th Reunion with characteristic enthusiasm, as they are inducted into the Olde Guard.

No matter how far away you are, or however long it's been, I encourage you to keep in contact with your William and Mary Alumni Association. Please send me an e-mail to [evp@wm.edu](mailto:evp@wm.edu) — I look forward to hearing from you.

KAREN R. COTTRELL '66, M.ED. '69, ED.D. '84  
*Executive Vice President*  
*William and Mary Alumni Association*

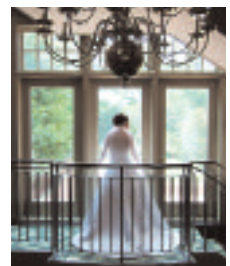
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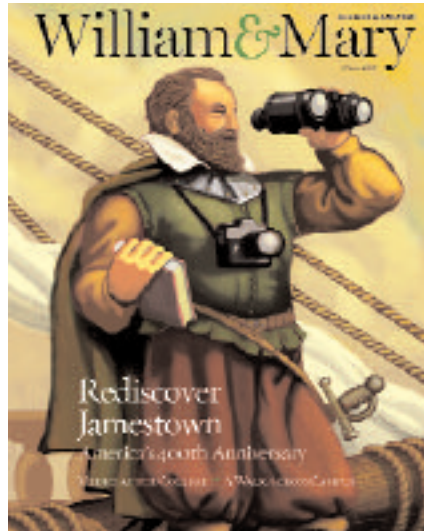
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## CIRCA REVISITED

What a great photo in your Mailbox [Fall 2006 issue]! Was it taken on the Colonial Parkway? My biology major at W&M developed into structural biochemistry, but I've had a lifelong interest in automotive history, particularly Packards and Fords. My '51 may have been the last Packard on campus, '70-'71 (at first illegally, of course). At least, there were no other student Packards from '67-'71, and I only knew of two others in town.

I agree with Riley Johnson's opinion that it is a pre-WWII shot — all the cars are indeed prewar. From left, the first one, barely visible, has elements of a '36 Ford. Next I'd go for a '35 Pontiac, based on what appears to be the famed Silver Streak (a Pontiac hallmark from '35 through '56) going down the grill. And that smart coupe trying to escape the shutter is without question a '37 Lincoln Zephyr V-12 (no coupes in '36, and the front fenders had a different contour in '38). Rare (just 5,199 coupes produced in '37) and now sought-after, its whitewalls also provide the key to the prewar dating. Back then, tires didn't last as long, and were rationed during the war when whitewalls were unavailable. They did not immediately become available at war's end, and when they did it's doubtful that many would have put whitewalls on what by then would have been regarded as an old car.

The right-hand half gets even better. First is one of the five million Model A Fords pro-

duced between 1928-31, probably a '30 or '31. (Barely visible above it are parts of a typical mid-'30s sedan of some sort, probably GM.) Next is the real knockout: an Eleventh Series (1934) Packard Standard Eight. Particularly when parked next to a Model A, it's hard to imagine that this was the least expensive series (vs. the Super Eight and Twelve), one of just 8,000 total Packards produced in 1934 and, in the estimation of many, the prettiest Packard ever designed. Plus, it's an open car, and looks like a convertible sedan (vs. coupe), similar to one I'm well acquainted with that was bought by the Swedish department-store magnate J.P. Ahlen at the 1933 Chicago World's Fair and shipped to Stockholm, where it still resides. Like that one, there's a good chance this one is still around — survival of classic-era Packards is very good. Finally, at far right is a '39 Ford Deluxe — another beautiful organic design! This was the last year for non-sealed beam headlights at Ford and most other manufacturers.

JOHN HEMPEL '71  
*Pittsburgh, Pa.*

## TRIBE FEATHERS

I support the College's decision not to appeal the NCAA ruling against the logo with eagle feathers ("NCAA Rules Against

*Mailbox continued on page III*

*The William and Mary Alumni Magazine welcomes letters from its readers. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Brevity is encouraged. Please send correspondence to Melissa V. Pinard, Editor, William and Mary Alumni Magazine, P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187 or alumni.magazine@wm.edu.*

## CORRECTION

On page 25 of the Fall 2006 *Alumni Magazine*, author Lyman Richard Comey's first name was incorrectly spelled as "Lynne." His book, *A Legacy of Valor: The Memoirs and Letters of Captain Henry Newton Comey, 2nd Massachusetts Infantry*, was reviewed in the Book Notes section.

# W&M

## AROUND THE WREN



Robert Gates '65, L.H.D. '98 is the new U.S. Secretary of Defense, replacing Donald Rumsfeld (background).

## Gates '65 Confirmed as Defense Secretary

Former CIA Director will Lead Pentagon ~ W&M NEWS, WITH ADDITIONS BY BEN KENNEDY '05

**A**s the new U.S. Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates '65, L.H.D. '98 will continue William and Mary's long tradition of producing public servants of quality and distinction. In November, Gates was nominated by President George W. Bush and later confirmed to replace outgoing Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. ~ Gates, who was a history major at the College, most recently served as president of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. He headed the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) from 1991 to 1993 as part of his 40 years in public service. ~ "Bob Gates will very soon remind the country that his life and work reflect his alma mater's tradition of engaged, ennobling public service," said William and Mary President Gene R. Nichol. "His service will add much to the considerable debt the College, and some of our friends in Texas, already owe for his fine leadership." ~ During his December confirmation hearings, Gates fielded questions from the Armed Services Committee. When Sen. Carl Levin (D.-Mich.) asked Gates whether he believed the U.S. was winning the war in Iraq, Gates said "No, sir." That characteristic frankness is

hoped to bring a breath of fresh air to the Pentagon.

Sen. John Warner (R-Va.), reiterating his comments from the 1991 CIA directorship hearings, said “Bob Gates is a very thoughtful man, an honest man, an experienced official, a good analyst, a no-nonsense manager, and a man with a vision of the future direction of the role of U.S. intelligence.”

Bush introduced Gates on Nov. 8 as his nominee to replace Rumsfeld, who stepped down after serving as defense secretary since 2001. Gates brings to Washington a wealth of experience in working with presidential administrations and in international affairs. From 1966 to 1993, Gates served in a variety of positions within the CIA and the National Security Council. He worked with six presidential administrations in various intelligence posts.

“Bob Gates is a very thoughtful man, an honest man, an experienced official, a good analyst, a no-nonsense manager, and a man with a vision of the future direction of the role of U.S. intelligence.”

Gates was dedicated to service as an undergraduate at William and Mary. He was an active member of Alpha Phi Omega, which is a service-oriented organization, and he was elected the group’s president during his senior year. He also served as a dormitory manager — now known as resident advisers — and helped entering students become acquainted with the College as an orientation aide. Gates was active in Young Republicans and served as the business manager of the *William and Mary Review*, a literary and art magazine.

During his graduation ceremony, Gates received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, which is given each year during the College’s commencement exercises. Recipients are selected based on characteristics of heart, mind and helpfulness to others. In 1998, Gates received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from William and Mary. Two years later, the Alumni Association awarded him the Alumni Medallion.

# [NEWSBRIEFS]



## Campus Drive Renamed for Longtime College Benefactors

During a Nov. 18 ceremony, Campus Drive, was renamed for Jim '60, L.H.D. '99 and Bobbie Ukrop '61, in honor of their long history of supporting and leading the College. Ukrop Way will be the new name for the route that winds through the west side of campus, from College Terrace to Jamestown Road, near William and Mary Hall and the Commons dining facility. In addition to his service and presidency on the Alumni Association’s Board of Directors, Jim Ukrop served on the College’s Board of Visitors for eight years. Bobbie was named to the Board of Visitors in 2002.

## \$9.6 Million Given Anonymously to Visual Arts

William and Mary announced Nov. 14 that \$9.6 million dollars had been anonymously donated to its visual arts programs. The same donor had also given \$5 million to the Lake Matoaka Amphitheatre renovations. The gift is intended to provide the visual arts with the necessary resources for their students and faculty.

## Renovated Law Library Named in Wolf’s Honor

The library at the William and Mary School of Law, currently under construction, will be named for Henry C. Wolf '64, J.D. '66, as announced by Dean Taylor W. Reveley III on Nov. 10. Wolf, vice chairman and chief financial officer of Norfolk Southern Corp., is currently vice rector of the Board of Visitors.



## Sledge Named Assistant Director of Economic Development

Leonard Sledge has been appointed the College’s new assistant director of economic development. He assumed the responsibilities of the position in January and will play a lead role in managing projects and identifying grant opportunities. His responsibilities will also include working with faculty and local companies in the areas of manufacturing and workforce development. Sledge will report to Jim Golden, associate vice president of economic development.

TOP PHOTO: STEPHEN SALPUKAS AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY; BOTTOM PHOTO COURTESY OF LEONARD SLEDGE

# Buck Welcomes New Students at Opening Convocation

Though delayed by a tropical storm, Opening Convocation 2010 had been running smoothly before hitting a minor setback: the door to the Wren building wouldn't budge for the thousand-plus freshmen trying to process through. Their walk was an important part of the much-loved Convocation ceremony, and now William and Mary faced the ultimate College dilemma: tradition vs. tradition. Hold the procession and save the Wren building, or let the new students bust through?

The hundreds of upperclassmen waiting outside to congratulate the incoming Class of 2010 chanted their answer in unison:

"Break that door! Break that door!"

The door eventually opened without a hitch — to thunderous applause — but the students weren't the only ones willing to turn the usual reverence for the Wren on its head. Earlier in the afternoon, Convocation speaker Warren W. Buck III M.S. '70, Ph.D. '76 urged incoming students to look past the Wren and recognize its most important parts:

"Make no mistake: it is just a building. It is you who keep it alive. ... It is you, our next generation, who must take the baton we pass and make something of it — make it better, make it healthier, make it more inclusive," he said.

**"It is you, our next generation, who must take the baton we pass and make something of it — make it better, make it healthier, make it more inclusive."**

President Gene Nichol, speaking earlier, said that the College had "struck gold, or perhaps green and gold," in selecting Buck for this year's speaker. Nichol credited Buck with starting the Black Student Organization, pioneering Hampton University's doctoral program in physics and eventually transforming the University of Washington-Bothell from an idea to a real campus. If the students' applause was any indication, though, his most important accomplishment is having been named "Way Cool Scientist" by 1990's educational TV hero Bill Nye the Science Guy.

The Class of 2010's Convocation had been delayed from Friday, Sept. 1, to the following Tuesday, Sept. 5, due to Tropical Storm Ernesto sweeping through campus and canceling classes. Like anyone from the Seattle area, Warren Buck would not be deterred by a little precipitation. He stuck around his *alma mater* for an additional four days to be able to speak at the rescheduled ceremony. President Nichol put the storm into perspective for the incoming students, saying "Ernesto was potent; he left his mark. So, I predict, will the class of 2010."

Later, Nichol presented his President's Awards for Service to two exceptional members of the William and Mary community. Jessica "Efe" Foster '07 and Karen Berquist '83 received the student and faculty/staff honors, respectively.

Nichol offered further encouragement to campus newcomers. "The College of William and Mary was a national treasure even before there was a nation to treasure it," he said. "It cannot be happenstance that for well over three centuries this College has lifted the sights, emboldened the spirits, honed the skills, fashioned the character and opened the heart of generations of the most gifted young Americans. That tradition, visible in your eyes, continues this afternoon."

The journey of the Class of 2010, however, was only just beginning.

— Ben Kennedy '05



Warren W. Buck III M.S. '70, Ph.D. '76 (above left) speaks to the incoming Class of 2010 at Opening Convocation in September. Despite minor setbacks, including a tropical storm and a stuck door, the new freshmen came in droves to celebrate the beginning of their college career.

## Display of Cross Altered in Wren Chapel

In November, President Gene R. Nichol discussed with the Board of Visitors his decision to reserve display of the Wren Chapel cross for religious gatherings, or by request, for moments of personal reflection. The display of the cross at other times, Nichol told board members on Nov. 16, sends an “unmistakable message” that there are “insiders and outsiders” at William and Mary, “those for whom our most revered place is meant to be keenly welcoming and those for whom presence is only tolerated.”

Nichol explained that because the Wren Chapel becomes part of the William and Mary experience for every student who enrolls, it is “essential it belong to everyone.” Acknowledging the profound feelings many students, faculty, staff and alumni have expressed both in support of and in opposition to the decision, Nichol said, “The emotions and values touched by this dispute are deeply felt — but difficult issues are the grist of great universities.”

In months past, the cross’s display has been discussed by faculty and student groups. The Student Senate considered and defeated by a 14-4 margin a resolution requesting the decision be reversed. In

addition, a group of students and alumni opposed to the decision have created a Web site ([www.savethewrencross.org](http://www.savethewrencross.org)). Prior to the November board meeting, participants in that effort presented board members with copies of an online petition seeking to rescind the president’s order.

President Nichol has also, as he outlined in an e-mail to the campus community on Dec. 20, searched for ways to “commemorate the Chapel’s origins as an Anglican place of worship and symbol of the Christian beginnings of the College.” After hearing from and talking with countless students, faculty, staff and alumni, Nichol commissioned a permanent plaque recognizing the Chapel’s history as a place of Christian worship. He also asked that the cross be displayed on the altar throughout newly expanded hours on Sundays.

Acknowledging that the issues touched by the question of the cross’s display are “powerful, heartfelt, and close to the core,” Nichol expressed hope that these measures will both honor “the storied traditions of the College” and “offer the inspiration of the Wren to all.”

— *W&M News*



## Students Recognized by Kofi Annan for Model UN Wins

Five members of the College’s International Relations Club were recognized recently in New York by Kofi Annan, former secretary general of the United Nations, for their winning three consecutive Model UN championships. Team members were accompanied by Vice Provost for International Affairs Mitchell Reiss, who arranged the ceremony. The group was treated to lunch with the South Korean ambassador to the UN and had the opportunity to meet with other officials while there.

After handshakes and questions from Annan concerning their plans after college, the team members asked a few questions, including what Annan plans to do following his stint as head of the UN. He replied that he “wants to go on holiday for a long, long time,” according to club president Kendra Wergin ’07.

Each of the five students were chosen for the trip from the executive board of the College’s International Relations Club. They were Christine Daya ’08, secretary general of the William and Mary Middle School Model United Nations Conference; Summers Marion ’07, vice president for campus affairs; Brandon Smith ’08, director of finance; Alan Wehler ’07, director of communication, and Wergin. All five regularly compete in Model UN conferences.

Team members are concentrating on winning their fourth consecutive Model UN championship in Geneva this year. “All of us will definitely feel pressure not to break our winning streak,” Wergin said. “For the many international relations majors on our team, it’s an unbeatable way to put into practice the ideas we discuss in the classroom and learn more about the many issues facing the UN today.”

PHOTO: BEN KENNEDY '05



## Chancellor O'Connor Speaks with Students, Experts

Religious freedom and judicial independence dominated two talks given by William and Mary chancellor and retired associate Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor during a visit to campus in October.

O'Connor spoke during a panel discussion on religious rights and freedom. The event was sponsored by William and Mary Law School's Institute of Bill of Rights Law.

During the seminar, O'Connor gave opening remarks and then participated in a panel discussion that included *USA Today* journalist Joan Biskupic, who wrote a biography of O'Connor; Marci Hamilton, law professor at Yeshiva University's Cardozo School of Law and former law clerk to Justice O'Connor; and David Holmes, a noted religious studies author and Mason Professor of Religion at William and Mary.

Also on Oct. 8, O'Connor gave the keynote speech at the Conference on the Future of Democracy, an event sponsored by the College's department of philosophy. The two-day conference gathered some of the country's most acclaimed

philosophers, historians, lawyers, social scientists and public leaders to address this year's theme of "Human Development, Religion and Cultural Values."

The chancellor's speeches were part of a three-day visit to campus where O'Connor, who was invested as the College's 23rd chancellor last April, participated in two academic seminars in addition to meeting with students and taking part in a conversation with the campus community, including answering questions from a student panel.

During her visit, an audience gathered in the University Center to

hear the College's 23rd chancellor talk about her career and the judicial branch of government. Some 200 students and community members filled the center's atrium — overflowing up the stairs and around the balcony — for the event that was bookended by standing ovations. She voiced her own pleasure at having time to spend with the students.

"I've looked forward to meeting with you," she said, then added, "to get an idea what you really look like."

— *W&M News*



Retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor meets with College students during her visit.

## School of Education to Get New Facility on Hospital Site

William and Mary will move forward with plans to build a state-of-the-art facility for the school of education at the site of the former Williamsburg Sentara Hospital, President Gene R. Nichol told members of the Board of Visitors during a meeting held Nov. 16-17.

After reviewing separate independent studies, in addition to the recommendations of several architectural firms, Nichol said the decision became obvious. The cost to build a new state-of-the-art facility was essentially the same as the cost to renovate the existing structure. A new structure would be significantly more cost-efficient in terms of long-term maintenance, and it would be designed specifically for the school of education.

"Our goal is to provide the best possible facility for a world-class school of education," Nichol told board members. "It's well known within the board that I was skeptical about the possibility of new construction. I have slowly and reluctantly, but now strong-

ly, become convinced by the facts that we ought to construct a new facility."

Virginia McLaughlin '71 (pictured below), dean of the school of education, explained to board members why a new facility would best meet the growing needs and outreach services provided by the school's students, faculty and staff. A new facility would enable the school to expand its programs in the region and Williamsburg community, McLaughlin said. For example,



she said the popular Saturday and summer enrichment programs, which are operated by the school's Center for Gifted Education, would have needed classroom space. The new facility would include a state-of-the-art professional development center for practicing educators as well as expanded space for the New Horizons Family

Counseling Center, which serves at-risk children and their families in the Williamsburg area.

Anna Martin, vice president for administration, said the College has hired Sasaki Associates, Inc., to design the new facility. That firm designed the two Jamestown residence halls that opened this fall, as well as a 2002 master plan for the campus.

Board members agreed that new construction made the most sense. "I think this is a no-brainer," said board member Sarah Gore '56. "This is a fabulous opportunity and we need to move on it."

"We're tremendously proud of our centers and our faculty," said McLaughlin, adding that the school's faculty are among the College's top producers each year in terms of research grants, which total between \$5 million and \$8 million annually. "Just think about what we can do when our environment enables, rather than impedes, our progress."

— *Brian Whitson, W&M News*

# JUST OFF DOG STREET



## From the Bedroom to the Classroom

Eric Garrison M.Ed. '94 Seeks Better Sex Education for All ~ BRITTNEY PESCATORE '07

**L**et's talk about sex.

It's a topic that **Eric Garrison M.Ed. '94** knows very well; Garrison is a clinical sexologist who lectures around the country, consults for universities and works with private clients to educate people about what goes on between the sheets.

He has brought his knowledge to the halls of academia, lecturing at universities, high schools and middle schools. The recent

emergence of social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace and Craigslist has also led him to speak out on the health and safety issues surrounding sex and relationships on the Internet.

Garrison is currently directing the university health education program at The New School in New York City, where he is also getting a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, which he hopes will help him as he moves in the direction of sex therapy.

While college students represent a sizeable portion of his audience, Garrison says his traveling lectures allow him to talk to a wide variety of people, including everyone from kindergarteners to nonagenarians. He has also spoken to more clinically inclined audiences at Emory School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Garrison has even taken his message overseas, lecturing for doctors and psychologists

at English universities and delivering the commencement speech for two years in a row at the University of London.

His career has not been without controversy. Growing up in Virginia, he learned early that his field of study was a taboo subject in some places. "People aren't learning what they should be learning," Garrison says. "If we treated driving like this, no one would drive."

While at the College, Garrison served as a peer sex educator and fielded controversy when he put together a program called "William & Mary and You: A Dangerous Menage-a-trois." He says his boss and mentor Cynthia Burwell provided him with advice he has taken to heart.

Burwell was the College's health education coordinator from 1987 to 2001. She is now on the faculty at Norfolk State University as a health, physical education, and exercise science teacher. She remembers Garrison as being "very passionate about making sure students know what they need to know." Burwell encouraged Garrison to go through with his workshop.

**"People aren't learning what they should be learning," Garrison says. "If we treated driving like this, no one would drive."**

"Cynthia called me and said, 'If you ever do a workshop and it doesn't offend at least one person, it means you've covered this subject up,'" says Garrison.

Burwell remembers the incident well; she recalls the event was held "very tastefully" and that students enjoyed the presentation. Of Garrison, she says he was "a very ambitious, very thorough, very ecstatic, very conscientious young man ... who loved what he did."

The episode at William and Mary was only one of many such encounters. He recalls giving a presentation at one university where a religious group filled up the middle row and timed a walkout 15 minutes into the event.

Garrison began his academic career inspired by German-born sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer. He enrolled in Virginia Commonwealth University as a German

major, because many sex therapists at the time were German. After getting his undergraduate degree from VCU, he then went to William and Mary for a master's in education.

In the United States, Garrison could not find legitimate postgraduate programs in sex education, leading him to travel overseas to the University of London, where he received a master's in clinical sexology.

Since his return to the U.S., he finds himself heartened by society's increased willingness to talk about sex, saying that he finds himself having to turn down clients due to sheer volume. Despite the improvement, Garrison believes there is still much work to be done.

"My job is to provide everybody with as much education as possible," he says. He is careful to warn that good sex education does not lead people in any one direction, but instead provides the positives and negatives while leaving the decision-making up to the individual.

For Garrison, sexology is about more than just the stuff fifth-graders everywhere giggle about in health class. It's a cultural and medical area of study, requiring him to know "the Bible, Torah and Qu'ran" as well as "what aspects of human sexuality are being displayed on *Family Guy*." He also worries that too many people pigeonhole his career as being about intercourse, saying that he deals with all aspects of sexuality, including eating disorders and images of masculinity.

Garrison has been all over the country and the world, hoping to cure what he calls "poor education" about sex. His work has led him to be included in a British documentary on American sex beliefs that may air at the Sundance Film Festival.

One university he keeps coming back to is William and Mary, where he has presented well over a dozen times. At each of his presentations, he passes out index cards so people can write down their sex questions. He is planning on exploring those questions and their answers in his book, *Sex to the Next Degree: What College Students Ask Me About Sex*.

"Once it is picked up," he says, "I would love to do a book-signing at the school that contributed so many questions to the piece."

We'll have to wait until the book comes out to read those questions, but chances are they prove that some people in Virginia aren't so afraid to talk about sex.

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*Brittney Pescatore '07 has been interning in the Alumni Communications office since June 2005. She will be graduating in May with a double major in English and government, but wishes the College offered a degree in sexology.*



Garrison is currently directing the health education program at The New School.

# W&M

## ALUMNI SPIRIT



## Green and Gold Tailgating

Food, Friends and Football at the Alumni House ~ MELISSA V. PINARD

**T**ailgating — it's one of America's favorite pastimes and this year the Alumni Association has implemented a few changes to this time-honored tradition. For starters the tailgating now takes place on our front circle. There are places to sit and stand all in view of the House and Zable Stadium, under a lighted tent. Although there may not actually be any automobile tailgates present, there weren't any at the first tailgate either: According to some sources, [www.tailgating.com](http://www.tailgating.com) and *The Tailgaters Cookbook* by David Joachim, before the first football game in New Brunswick, N.J., between Rutgers and Princeton in 1869, students gathered to drink, eat and socialize in what many consider the first tailgate party in America. Who knows — maybe William and Mary has its own tailgating history that dates back even further. If you have any photos or stories of a favorite Green and Gold tailgating experience, please send them to [alumni.magazine@wm.edu](mailto:alumni.magazine@wm.edu).

## 2006 Fall Awards

The Alumni Association honored some of William and Mary's finest faculty, staff and coaches during its Fall Awards Banquet on Sept. 21.

Among honorees were Robb Dunn (pictured below left), associate athletic director, and Dr. James I. Armstrong (below right), director of choirs, who received Faculty and Staff Service awards.

Dunn is in his sixth year with the College and oversees the facilities and operations for W&M Athletics. During his tenure, he has played an instrumental role in a number of high-profile projects, including functions during the gubernatorial inauguration and improvements to Zable Stadium and Kaplan Arena.

Armstrong arrived at William and Mary in 1996 and has since come to lead the choir at many of the College's most significant occasions. Dr. Armstrong was praised for his talent, professionalism and poise during the choir's many performances each year.

Also recognized at the ceremony were winners of the Alumni Fellowship Award: Alison Beach, associate professor of religious studies; Rachel DiNitto, associate professor of modern languages and literatures; Mark H. Forsyth, associate professor of biology; Robert L. Hicks, associate professor of economics; and Ram K. Ganeshan, associate professor of business. For more on these professors, please see the story on page 55 of the Fall 2006 *Alumni Magazine*.

The Coach of the Year Award was presented to Debbie Taylor '86. For the full story, please see page 29 of the Fall 2006 *Alumni Magazine*.

— Ben Kennedy '05



## Order of the White Jacket

In 2001, the Order of the White Jacket board decided to create an award in appreciation of people dedicated to the organization, naming it in honor of the late Jim Seu '53. During the annual reception on Oct. 26, 2006, John "Jack" H. Garrett Jr. '40 (above left, pictured left) presented the surprised Jim Anthony '52 (pictured right) with this year's Jim Seu Award. Later in the evening Anthony led the crowd in a rendition of the "Alma Mater." Don '64 and Susie Beck (honorary alumna) hosted the event at their Williamsburg home. The president of OWJ, Robert B. Goetz Jr. '80 introduced two of the scholarship recipients (pictured above right) Austin J. Dronkers '08 and Blair Ashley '08, who attended the event.

### Call for Alumni Board Nominations

Do you know of a dedicated alumnus or alumna who might be interested in serving on the Alumni Board? March 1 is the deadline to nominate candidates to be considered for placement on the Alumni Board of Directors ballot. The bylaws require all Board members to be alumni and active donors to any recognized fund of the Alumni Association or the College of William and Mary. Members serve as the corporate board for the Alumni Association and, by the Board policy, must be willing to attend semiannual meetings. The election process runs from May through September, and nomination forms can be obtained from the Alumni Association Web site at [www.wmalumni.com](http://www.wmalumni.com) or by calling 757.221.7855.

### Pesola Hired as Web Author



In October, Eric Pesola joined the Alumni Association as Web author with the Alumni Communications office. His duties include

maintenance of the Alumni Association's Web site, writing press releases and articles for the Web site and the *Alumni Magazine* as needed. He will also work on the *eConnection*, the Alumni Association's monthly Internet newsletter.

Pesola graduated from Christopher Newport University in 1998 with a B.A. in communications. Since then, he has worked for Thomas Nelson Community College, WAVY TV-10, *The Flagship* military newspaper, the Norfolk Nighthawks arena football team and the monthly magazine *Racing Milestones*.

Born in Brunswick, Maine, he currently lives with his wife Melanie, and 3-year-old son Alec in Norfolk, Va.

# New Alumni Association Board Members



**Susan Arnot-Heaney '79** of New York, N.Y., serves two roles at Avon: director of communications for the Avon Foundation focused on domestic violence and breast

cancer and director of corporate responsibility for Avon Products, Inc. She is currently on the Cosmetic Executive Women board of governors.

Heaney was president of the New York Alumni Chapter for four years and served on the chapter board that created the New York Auction in the 1980s. She was on the committees for the 2004 and 2006 auctions and served on her 25th Reunion activities committee and 20th Reunion gift committee.

As an undergraduate, Heaney was senior class publicity chair, an orientation aide, and a member of Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, the History Students Organization and Phi Mu sorority.

Heaney is a lecturer for Cause Marketing Forum and judge for Cause Marketing Halo Awards, and earned a certificate of excellence from *Inside PR* magazine. She is married to Kevin Barry Heaney.



Incumbent **William "Billy" Barnes '82** of Williamsburg is managing director of Wachovia Securities. Previously, he was senior vice president of First Union Securities.

Barnes is a member of Wachovia's Premier Advisors Circle of Excellence.

As an alumnus, Barnes, a member of the Fast Break Club, has been an Athletic Educational Foundation/Tribe Club trustee and a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, currently chair of the college relations and communications committee, and past member of the nominating committee. He has served on the Athletic Hall of Fame selection committee as well as the Athletics Campaign committee. A frequent contributor to the College's Career Services office, he has served as a

presenter in their Life After DoG Street and Beyond the 'Burg programs for graduating seniors.

As a student, Barnes was captain of the William and Mary varsity basketball team and was inducted into the William and Mary Hall of Fame in 1997. He currently lends his athletic talents as a coach to the Walsingham Academy varsity basketball team.

Barnes and wife LeeAnn '87 are the parents of son William and daughter Ashley.



After naval service, **James "Jim" Dillard II '59** was a teacher/administrator with Fairfax public schools for 30 years, retiring in 1989. Elected to the House of Delegates in

1972, he served for 32 years, resigning in September 2005 to accept appointment to the College's Board of Visitors, serving for five months.

Dillard was chairman of the House Education Committee. He served as a member of the Privileges and Elections Committee, as well as chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittees on K-12 Education and Natural Resources.

A Williamsburg native, Dillard has strong W&M ties. One grandfather chaired the chemistry department. The other was rector for 22 years. Dillard is active in his community, including serving as chairman of the Northern Virginia Mediation Service, and as a member of the advisory board for Gunston Hall and other organizations.

Dillard has a master's in political science from American University. He and wife Joyce Woods Butt '58 have four daughters.

**Nancy Wonnell Mathews '76** has been a member of the Williamsburg and Richmond, Va., alumni chapters. She is a member of the Athletics Campaign Committee and the Tribe Club, has served on the Lord Botetourt Auction committee since its inception in 1990, and has chaired it three times.

Mathews served on the Fund for William and Mary board for four years. She served on the activities and gift committees for her



25th and 30th Reunions. She received the Alumni Service Award in 2005.

Mathews and her husband Hal (Honorary Alumnus) were married in the Wren

Chapel in 1978. They are members of the National Campaign Committee, the James Blair Society, the Chancellor's Circle, the Fourth Century Club, and the Alumni Center Green Circle of Friends. They support a Mathews Family Athletic Scholarship Endowment.

Currently, she volunteers as a board member of the Greater Williamsburg Community Trust, a philanthropic community foundation. The Mathews have two daughters, Emily and Julie.



Incumbent **Sharon Elizabeth Pandak '75, J.D. '78** of Woodbridge, Va., is counsel with Sands Anderson Marks & Miller, P.C., in the law firm's Fredericksburg, Va., office.

Prior to that, she served as county attorney for Prince William County, Va., for 15 years. She serves on committees of the Local Government of Attorneys of Virginia, Inc. Pandak is currently a member of the Virginia Law Foundation's Fellows Council.

As an alumna, Pandak served the William and Mary Law School Association in several capacities, including as its president. At Commencement 2003, she received the Law School Association's Citizen-Lawyer Award. Pandak is a former board member of the Greater Metro/Washington, D.C. Alumni Chapter and served on her 30th Reunion gift committee in 2005.

Among her community involvement, Pandak is on the board of directors of the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate, the Prince William Symphony Orchestra, and other community groups.

Pandak's brother, Dr. Hilary Keith Pandak '80 and sister Valerie Pandak Anderson '84 are also William and Mary alumni.

## Alumni Board of Directors Fall Meeting Update

The semiannual meeting of the William and Mary Alumni Association Board of Directors was held in Williamsburg on Sept. 20-22, 2006.

During the meeting, Susan Pettyjohn M.Ed. '95, associate vice president for development, provided an overview of the campaign progress to date, indicating \$474 million was raised by June 30 towards the \$500 million goal. She then reviewed the Development Office plan for the Alumni Association, outlining several endowment areas.

Other guests included Rob Shea of Partner Advisors, who presented on the possibilities and issues surrounding our pending credit card affinity contract renewal in June 2007, and Robin Wilcox, vice president of investments, and R. Bryce Lee '01, M.B.A. '03, institutional consulting analyst of Wachovia, who reviewed the investment portfolio. The Wachovia representatives recommended that the Alumni Association rebalance the portfolio now rather than during April 2007 due to market conditions.

The Association received a "clean" audit opinion from Mitch Bean '97 and Kevin Carpenter of Goodman and Sons. They recommended that the inventory material reconciliation be performed quarterly rather than annually and the Association has implemented this recommendation.

In further action, the Board:

- Moved the Honorary Alumni ceremony to coincide with the Alumni Induction ceremony in May. This will change the Board approval process from the fall to the spring meeting.
- Established a new venue for Homecoming 2007 — *The Williamsburg Lodge*, Oct. 25-28.
- Named the 2006 Outstanding Chapter Awards recipients and the 2006 Alumni and Young Alumni Service Award recipients. (See below.)
- Selected the following retiring faculty and staff into associate membership in the Alumni Association: *Della Harris, Adolph A. Hight, Charles M. Howle, Frederick L. Mason M.B.A. '97, Pamela A. Owen, Barbara Randall, Larry D. Richards, Joseph H. Simons, Addison Taliferro, William T. Walker Jr., Margaret Womack and L. Donelson Wright.*
- Approved the recommendations submitted by University Development for the Association's annual giving awards. (See below.)
- Authorized a one-time withdrawal of up to \$100,000 from the Wachovia Investment account for immediate maintenance and repairs.
- The spring Board meeting will be held in Williamsburg, March 14-16.

— Melissa V. Pinard

### ANNUAL GIVING AWARDS

**Class of 1925 Trophy** (recognizing the class with the most outstanding increase in giving to the Fund for William and Mary) — *Class of 2001*

**Class of 1954 Trophy** (recognizing the class with the highest class member participation in the Fund for William and Mary) — *Class of 1941*

**Baltimore/Annapolis Trophy** (recognizing an individual who provided outstanding efforts or support for the Fund for William and Mary) — *Ashok Subramanian '91*

**Board of Directors Cup** (recognizing an individual for the best all-around support of the Fund for William and Mary) — *W. Samuel Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71*

### OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARDS

**Tier I, Outstanding Chapter** — *Charlottesville/Highlands*

**Tier II, Outstanding Chapter** — *Charleston*  
**Most Improved** — *South Hampton Roads*

### ALUMNI AND YOUNG ALUMNI SERVICE AWARDS

**Alumni Service Award** — *Keith R. Carlson '83*

**Alumni Service Award** — *Mark Romano '90 and Angela Evans Romano '91*

**Alumni Service Award** — *Howard Straughan Jr. '52*

**Young Alumni Service Award** — *Daniel B. Maxey '02*

**Young Alumni Service Award** — *Kevin "KT" J. Turner '95*

### Alumni Service Award

At the Grand Illumination reception held by the South Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter on Dec. 3, Keith Carlson '83 (pictured right, with clock) was presented with the Alumni Service Award. Carlson was honored for his years of dedicated support of the Alumni Association, in particular his service to the South Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter.

After joining the chapter in 1990, Carlson joined its board in 1998 before serving as president from 2000-01. He also chaired the Chapter President's Council from 2004-06.

Carlson is a partner at ID America, a Chesapeake, Va., promotional marketing firm he started while a student at the College. He lives in Virginia Beach, Va., with his wife Grace and children Claire and Caroline, pictured here among the whole Carlson family at the Wren.



PHOTO: BEN KENNEDY '05

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# W&M

## ARTS AND SCIENCES

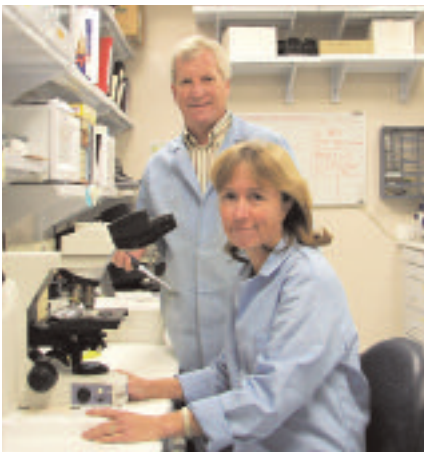


## Keeping Shrimp in Shape

Research Team Puts Seafood on Treadmill to Fight Disease ~ PRIYANKA TANDON '07

**Y**ou've seen it in the lobby of seafood restaurants: the lobsters lazily hanging around in the tank, claws subdued by heavy-duty rubber bands. Their fellow crustaceans the shrimp, however, have been picking up the pace by running on treadmills in a science lab. ~ This isn't some circus sideshow: It's a real science experiment conducted by three William and Mary alumni. Lou Burnett '73, wife Karen Burnett '72 and their colleague David Scholnick M.A. '89 decided to put shrimp on tiny treadmills to keep them swimming because they wanted the research to mimic their natural habitat. In the summer of 2005, Scholnick began working with the Burnetts at their lab at the College of Charleston on a project to see how marine organisms fight diseases. ~ "David was the one who was crazy enough to think it would actually work," says

Lou. "We wanted to see how disease affected organisms in their natural environment and, in their natural environment, these animals are always moving. David came up with the treadmill idea and actually built a tiny treadmill for the shrimp; the shrimp ended up loving it and swimming for hours." ~ For Lou, having Scholnick as a colleague was especially exciting. Lou taught Scholnick at the University of San Diego as an undergraduate, and then Scholnick went on to the College to pursue a master of science under the direction of Lou's undergraduate mentor and close friend at the College, Dr. Charlotte P. Mangum. ~ The idea for the shrimp study started with a project Karen was working on regarding human immunology, using fish to study immune systems. Lou began asking Karen some questions about physiology, since she



**Then and Now: Lou '73 and Karen Burnett '72 in their student days (above); the Burnetts today (left) in the lab.**

approached the study from the immunology perspective. The two realized they could combine their viewpoints to build a model of how animals respond and handle certain diseases.

“Very positive successes have come

from our, at times, difficult intellectual interactions,” Karen comments on working together.

They started with shrimp because it’s a popular food item and because they knew oxygen level fluctuation especially gave marine animals difficulty. The eventual findings of the study may build a model to reveal the relationships of oxygen levels and marine animals. So the basic research question became: How do low oxygen levels affect marine organisms’ ability to resist disease?

“We found what we expected. Low oxygen levels greatly inhibit the ability to fight disease; an organism doesn’t have to die to be affected by disease,” says Lou. “When the animal is sick it becomes an easy target

for predators. This affects the food chain as well as shrimp cultivators.”

Studying what happens to animals when they get sick is a unique aspect of the Burnetts’ work.

“We want to study the marginal zones, things that go on all the time that affect the environment and the animals in it,” says Karen.

The Burnetts get most of their funding from the National Science Foundation. They are currently awaiting approval for an additional grant to continue their research. The next step in their work is to stress test other animals on the treadmills with different variables, like more variances of low oxygen levels. They want to use modern genomic tools to probe into the role an animal’s genetic code has on its ability to fight disease.

“With some of the modern tools, we can see which genes are turned on/off in the animals at different times,” says Lou.

Although the Burnetts spend their days at the lab and Lou additionally teaches students at the College of Charleston, they are still very much connected to the College. Circle K brought the couple together in 1970, and they developed their friendship and relationship through community service and their work at the biology lab on campus. Now, they return for Homecoming every year and are active members of their local alumni chapter in Charleston.

“We’re hosting Yule Log at our house this year,” says Lou. “It’s almost like college all over again.”

## Truth is in the Eyes of the Beholder

The portrait of Federico II, Duke of Mantua, which Muscarelle Museum director Aaron De Groft '88 has labored to prove is a genuine work of Titian, is now hanging at an exhibition of the Venetian painter’s works in the Musée du Luxembourg in Paris.

While not all are convinced the painting is a Titian, a recent visitor to the observed that the similarities of the Federico portrait to the other paintings were striking: “Look at the way the duke’s head is turned at a 30-degree angle. The heads of most of the paintings in this room are turned precisely the same. Just as in the other paintings, the

head appears somewhat small for the body. And the eyes and eyebrows of the subject are eerily similar to those of the other Titians.”



**Aaron De Groft '88 examines the portrait he believes is a genuine work of the Venetian master Titian.**

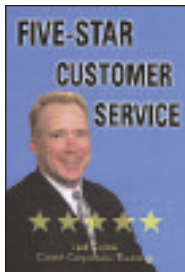
“It needs to be seen in the context of other Titian works,” said De Groft some months ago when asked what the decisive factor in proving his case would be. Just as the Muscarelle director expected, most of those who attend the exhibition, where the painting is surrounded by more than 30 other Titian canvases, will know that the work belongs in the Titian canon.

— William T. Walker Jr.,  
W&M News

## [BOOKNOTES]

## BUSINESS

Drawing on his experiences ranging from teaching English as a Second Language to the people skills picked up during his college bartending days, **Ted Coiné '91**, of Coiné Corporate Training, has put together a manual intended for anyone who works with the public. In *Five Star Customer Service* (iUniverse, 2005), Coiné employs



a conversational writing style to impart his theory on the “Customer Service Ethic.” Starting each chapter with an inspiring quote, he details the ins and outs of customer service. Coiné takes George Boldt, the 19th-century manager of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, as his professional model. Boldt’s example is referenced throughout the book, accompanied by many other real-world examples and discussion questions.

## COMPUTERS

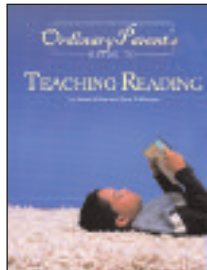
As BSD operating systems increase in popularity for organizations and corporations due to their security advantages over Linux, the need for an in-depth look at the security-related features of FreeBSD and OpenBSD has also increased. Software security consultant **Paco Hope '94**, along with coauthors and fellow security professionals Yanek Korff and Bruce Potter, has put together an application-specific approach to help administrators improve their server’s security. A more extensive look at security than usually found in books on BSD operating systems, *Mastering FreeBSD and OpenBSD Security* (O’Reilly Media, 2005) provides more than just basic functionality and will leave readers with a thorough understanding of BSD systems security.



## EDUCATION

Bringing together research from both education and psychology, **Allyson L. Kett '00**, along with coauthors Dr. Robert Seidel and Kathy C. Perencevich, explores the intersection of theory and practice in instructional design. Their book, *From Principle of Learning to Strategies for Instruction: Empirically Based Ingredients to Guide Instructional Development* (Springer Science+Business Media Inc., 2005), serves as a guide for teachers, education students, and instructional developers on how to improve the quality of instruction by applying various theoretical principles of learning to a practical framework for instruction.

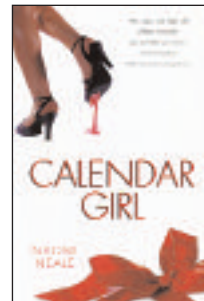
A comprehensive new tool for parents, *The Ordinary Parent’s Guide to Teaching Reading* (Peace Hill Press, 2005) is a clear, direct phonics program that seeks to make the daunting task of teaching a child to read one that any parent can achieve. The primer is free from the usual gimmicks and supplements and provides straightforward lesson plans to help guide parents and their children through the process of learning to read. Coauthored by **Sara Watkinson Buffington '00** and Jessie Wise, both of whom have teaching experience, the book makes reading instruction less intimidating and puts the ability to teach a child to read into the confident hands of the ordinary parent.



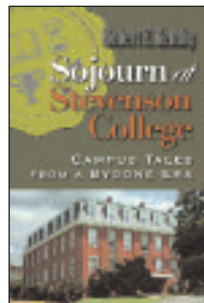
## FICTION

From teenage girls to 20-something women, **Vance Briceland '85** has used his novels to explore the sometimes complicated, often hilarious inner workings of the female mind. In *Beaner O’Brian’s Absolutely Ginormous Guidebook to Guys* (SMOOCHE, Dorchester Publishing Co., 2004), a young adult novel written under the pen name Naomi Nash, Briceland weaves a humorous story of a

tomboy’s attempts to write a how-to-manual on the opposite sex together with the same heroine’s struggles to manage her complicated relationships with her family. For an adult audience, Briceland has written *Calendar Girl* (Dorchester Publishing, 2005) under the pen name Naomi Neale. In this novel, a young woman in her 20s tries to get her life on track after having spent most of her adulthood holding down seasonal jobs like “Easter Egg-Carrying Girl in Bunny Suit.”



A humorous look at a fictional college campus, *Sojourn at Stevenson College: Campus Tales from a Bygone Era* (Winoca Press, 2005) follows a new young history professor around the amusing — and somewhat familiar — landscape. **Robert E. Kendig '39** writes of his imaginary campus, “Nowhere was there any relief from the tedium of red brick.” While his *alma mater* may or may not have been the inspiration for the novel, Kendig’s book inspires nostalgia that anyone from a small town or small college can feel. The novel, subtitled as “a compendium of whimsical events that actually did occur; modestly embellished,” is structured as a series of witty essays that make up as a whole an amusing campus comedy.



## JEWISH STUDIES

The culinary ways of Jewish culture and the American South may seem unlikely to ever complement each other. The temptation of Southern staples such as pork and shellfish has put Jews at odds with traditional reli-

gious dietary laws. In *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South* (University of North Carolina Press, 2005), **Marcie Cohen Ferris M.A. '85** explores the role of food in



Southern Jewish life. Her book includes everything from anecdotes and oral histories to recipes to try at home. Simultaneously a glimpse into Jewish culture and a tale of culinary identity, *Matzoh Ball Gumbo* is a delicious tour of Southern Jewish eating.

## PHILOSOPHY

The original and influential philosophies of 17th-century French Cartesian Gerauld de Cordemoy are articulated and explained in the first book-length treatment in English of his work, *Gerauld de Cordemoy: Atomist, Occasionalist, Cartesian* (Marquette University Press, 2005). The author, **Fred Ablondi '87**, shows how Cordemoy's unorthodox embrace of occasionalism, the doctrine that all cause and effect relationships originate with God, stems from principles consistent with his Cartesianism. Ablondi similarly deconstructs the process that led Cordemoy to atomism, the belief that the physical world can be broken down into tiny, indestructible pieces. Although Cordemoy's atomism is a direct rejection of some of Descartes' theories, Ablondi explores in his final chapter the elements of Cordemoy's philosophy that allow him to retain the label "Cartesian." Ultimately, the book concludes that Cordemoy is an important, and very original, Cartesian thinker.



## PSYCHOLOGY

A licensed professional counselor and substance abuse treatment practitioner, **Nancy Johnston '74** has written down her own experiences and thoughts to help educate

about codependent relationships, their hazards, and how to break free. Her book, *Disentangle: When You Have Lost Yourself in Someone Else* (1stBooks, 2004), offers 50 specific ideas on how to overcome self-destructive entanglements and break free from the process that leads to codependency. The book is intended as a useful tool for those seeking to create an independent identity, as well as for counselors, like Johnston, who help treat addictions. Rather than emphasize ending codependent relationships, *Disentangle* encourages people to create enough emotional space to allow them to make their own healthy decisions as strong individuals.



Research and clinical psychologist **Lawrence LeShan '42** explores the patterns of thinking of Nazi soldiers during the Holocaust in an attempt to learn how to prevent a recurrence. *The Pattern of Evil: Myth, Social Perception and the Holocaust* (Xlibris, 2006) discusses the effect of applying a "mythic" worldview as opposed to a "sensory" worldview when attempting to address social problems. LeShan argues that mythic thinking opens up the possibility of what Immanuel Kant called "radical evil." LeShan's analysis is ultimately used to identify possible signs and signals that concentration camps could become a reality in a society.



## SELF-IMPROVEMENT

The interests of **Andrea Shaw Rains Waggener '82, J.D. '85** are many and varied. The author of three very different books, Waggener's common theme is her goal of inspiring people to improve their lives. In *Dog Parenting: How to Have an Outrageously Happy, Well-Adjusted Canine* (Adams Media, 2006), Waggener isn't just trying to help people, but their four-legged companions as well. Co-authored by veterinarian Patti Schaefer, the guide to parenting a canine

encourages dog-owners to treat their dog like they would a child. Waggener turns to the world of humans in her dystopian look at a world where current beauty standards are reversed. In *Alternate Beauty* (Bantam, 2005), a size-28 would-be fashion designer wakes up in a world where fat is beautiful, only to discover that her perfect world is not as perfect as she thought. Waggener also explores life lessons in nonfiction by turning to a founding father in *Healthy, Wealthy & Wise: 52 Life-Changing Lessons for the 21st Century*, an advice book inspired by the virtues of Benjamin Franklin. Waggener, a former newspaper columnist, uses all of these works to inspire the same confidence in others that she has achieved in her own life.



## CD Review

**Greg Greenway's '75** recent live album (appropriately titled *Live*) captures his highly-regarded talent for intricate guitar work and clear, stirring vocals. Although rooted in the folk tradition, Greenway draws on styles as diverse as rock, blues, gospel and jazz. This wide array of genres is evident on *Live*, where each song tells a story. The inspiring "A Road Worth Walking Down" opens the album,



which closes with an interpretation of U2's "Pride/In The Name of Love." For

those who can't make it to Massachusetts for a show, Greenway brings his performance to the world — showing that the folk tradition is alive, well and relevant.

## A Research Revolution

### Research at W&M Flourishes Thanks to Private Support

**W**illiam and Mary students and faculty possess no shortage of great ideas. And with assistance from private support, many of these ideas turn into original discoveries.

As a case in point, the Roy R. Charles Center hosted the Summer Research Showcase on Sept. 16, 2006, featuring the work of more than 70 students, many of whom had used private funding to complete research projects over the summer. These projects ran the gamut from an examination of Civil War letters that had

been archived across Virginia, to the discovery of practical applications for silver and palladium polymer composites.

Among the many projects on display was the work of geology major Erin Fenlon '07, who is researching the evolutionary history of the bivalve clade of planicostid venericardids — a type of clam that is now extinct. Venericardia existed during the Paleocene and Eocene epochs of 34-65 million years ago, which included a period of global warming that occurred 55 million years ago.

“I am working to reconstruct the phyloge-

ny of venericardia and compile a more accurate record of climate change,” she says.

Fenlon, who is continuing the work this year as her senior honors thesis, used resources and borrowed venericardia specimens from the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History and the Virginia Museum of Natural History. Over the summer, she and her adviser, Rowan Lockwood, assistant professor of geology, spent a week in Alabama and Mississippi collecting venericardia fossils, which they brought back to the lab.

Fenlon's research is also complementing the efforts of Syracuse University professor Linda Ivany and several students there who are researching how climate changed during the Paleocene and Eocene epochs. Fenlon is currently preparing samples and analyzing data, which she will share with Ivany during a trip to Syracuse in January.

“As geologists, we read scientific papers and think about how things occur, but this was a chance to experience the whole process,” says Fenlon, a recipient of the Chappell Fellowship and Class of 1943 Scholarship. “Private funding was really key in allowing me to dedicate my summer to the research. Without it, I wouldn't have had what I needed to do the analysis.”

Not all research at William and Mary takes place in the lab. Last summer, Michael Woolsey '08, a history and international relations major who is also a Monroe Scholarship recipient, spent 12 weeks in London, England, studying British legislative responses to terrorism. Given the opportunity to work with the Hansard Society, a think tank that seeks to strengthen democracy, Woolsey pursued an internship with Parliament that gave him first-hand insight into the British political system. He also enrolled in the London School of Economics and Political Science, where he took two courses on British Parliament and public policy.

Woolsey's time in England resulted in a comparative study between the United Kingdom's response to terrorism in the



Erin Fenlon '07 (left) and Rowan Lockwood, assistant professor of geology, examine venericardia specimens they collected during the summer.



1970s and 1980s and its response to terrorism today. He is currently conducting research with Hamilton Professor of Government Clay Clemens '80 that could become the focus of his senior honors thesis.

"This experience has made me much more attuned to research opportunities as opposed to classroom learning," he says. "And without the Monroe Research Grant, I would not have had this chance."

And although Woolslayer traveled far to conduct research, Holly Packard '07 stayed in Williamsburg to complete research that could have global impact. Working with Matthew Evans, assistant professor of geology, Packard used funds from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to study heavy metal concentrations in local mill ponds. What she discovered was a much heavier lead concentration in areas with more developed watersheds.

Next year she will take the expertise she has cultivated in Williamsburg to West Africa where she will provide environmental education for the Peace Corps.

"When they heard about my research during the interview process, they were excited," Packard says. "They want me to do the same type of work there."

Joel Schwartz, director of the Charles Center, says private support now enables students to be involved with research throughout their undergraduate years at William and Mary.

"I see the freshman seminar, which is



**Above left: Eric Sandridge '08 (right) explains his research project about establishing and running a business. Above: Holly Packard '07 collects sediment samples from Lake Matoaka with geology professor Matthew Evans.**

now a required class, and the senior honors thesis as bookends," he says. "It's a moving picture. Undergraduates begin research first semester and continue to do research all the way through senior year."

Schwartz says that this represents progress in recent years because research projects were previously undertaken mostly during the summer. Today, research is a more integrated and continuous part of the curriculum. Consequently, students acquire substantial research capabilities that prepare them well for graduate studies or, as in Packard's case, lead to new experiences that have an immediate impact on the lives of others.

— *John T. Wallace, with Peggy Hotchkiss '07 and Bramble Klipple '88 contributing*

## Faculty and Student Research Fund

In recent years the College of William and Mary has been at the forefront of higher education in collaborative research between its faculty and its undergraduate students.

To perpetuate and expand the College's commitment to this essential research component of many of its programs, President Gene R. Nichol announced during the All College Faculty Meeting on Sept. 13 that the College is establishing the Faculty and Student Research Fund, an endowment to support expanded faculty and student research opportunities.

With an initial goal of securing \$25 million, the Faculty and Student Research Fund will support start-up packages, and provide travel funds, conference support and more generous graduate student stipends. In addition, the fund will support technology expenditures, exhibitions in the arts, stipends for undergraduate student projects, faculty research development and many other scholarly activities.

# Homecoming Reflects Campaign Impact

Homecomings conjure up thoughts of floats, fun and football but also bring to mind school spirit in the form of philanthropic generosity. At Homecoming 2006, a number of commitments to the Campaign for William and Mary were announced or celebrated.

"Homecoming was a wonderful demonstration of the intense loyalty that alumni have for the College," said Sean Pieri, vice president for university development. "The many gifts that were announced demon-

strate that momentum for the Campaign for William and Mary is strong as we prepare to reach and exceed our goal of half a billion dollars in the coming months."

At the chemistry department's annual reception, for instance, Gary Rice, department chair, announced that Marshall '61 and Patricia Pound Barry '63 had established an endowment to fund annual scholarships to academically distinguished undergraduates majoring in chemistry.

And at a late afternoon ceremony, President Gene R. Nichol officially dedicated the Eileen and Terry Glenn Garden at the President's House. Combining a desire to do something for the College with a love of gardening, Eileen and Terry '63 established an endowment in 2003 to support the general purposes of the College, including the maintenance of the President's House Garden.

Other commitments were announced at the annual meeting of The College of William & Mary Foundation (formerly the Endowment Association). Among them were a number of academic and athletic scholarships, an endowment that provides support for Swem Library's most pressing needs,

memorial endowments, program endowments, a student-faculty research fund and professorships. The foundation also recognized significant gifts from A. Marshall Acuff Jr. '62 and G. Hartwell Hylton '72 who, respectively, established endowments for a varsity golf scholarship and a professorship in international relations within the government department.

And it would not be Homecoming without class reunions. Not only did thousands return to campus to meet up with fellow classmates and friends, but nine reunion classes from 1961 through 2001 made an overall commitment of \$20.5 million in support of all areas of the College. Included in the commitment was \$4.36 million to the Fund for William and Mary, the College's largest source of expendable monies.

"What an enormous contribution this gift means to this institution," said Provost Geoffrey Feiss when class chairs presented him with the \$4.36 million check. "There is a phenomenal, tangible, real affection and caring for this place that comes from the alumni that permeates the campus."

— David F. Morrill M.A. '87



Patricia '63 and Marshall Barry '61 are joined by the first recipient of their scholarship, Rebecca S. Plummer '10.

## GALA Celebrates 20 Years and Fully Funded Library Endowment

The annual Homecoming dinner for the College's Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae Inc. (GALA) organization was an evening to remember for several reasons. First, the group celebrated its 20th anniversary with a record attendance of approximately 65 alumni, students, faculty and guests.

The event also coincided with the fulfillment of a \$100,000 goal for the Richard Cornish Endowment Fund, which GALA established in 1993 to provide Swem Library with gay and lesbian resources. The fund is named in honor of Richard Cornish, believed to be the first person in North America executed for homosexuality.

Stephen H. Snell '66 announced that the fundraising goal had been reached and acknowledged members of the college administration and Swem Library for their support and thanked the many donors who have made the fund a success.

"It was a special evening," says Jeffrey Trammell '73, a member of both GALA and the College's Board of Visitors. "GALA is an important source of support for William and Mary, and the success of the dinner during Homecoming weekend indicates that it's going to be a more vital group in years to come."



Mark Murtagh '89, Michael Rogan '81 and Karen Keely '89 gather for a film screening sponsored by GALA during Homecoming weekend.

Guest speaker Gene R. Nichol challenged the group to become an even more important part of the future of the College. According to Wayne Curtis '82, president of GALA, the group is doing just that.

"GALA is reaching out and contacting people to encourage their participation at the College and ask them for their help," Curtis says. "I think you're going to find alumni who are members of GALA becoming more strongly involved at the College. GALA is going to be a vehicle for keeping people connected."

— John T. Wallace

# W&M

## TRIBE SPORTS



## Sustained Pressure

Moulton-Levy '07 Rises to the Top of Her Game — BEN KENNEDY '05

**M**egan Moulton-Levy '07 will be the first to tell you — she's a "scrapper." Her opponents have spent the last few years trying to beat her as she runs from one end of the court to the other, and have met with little success. Her coach calls her style "sustained pressure" — she describes it as "scampering" — and it involves a fanatical knack for finding the ball and sending it screaming back over the net with her racket. She is a fearsome force to be reckoned with, but only recently has she gained some much-deserved respect.

"I've always been the underdog; now I'm moving into the position where people don't think they can beat me," she says.

She's right, but it wasn't always this way. By November, Moulton-Levy and doubles partner Katarina Zoricic '10 had been playing together for years at a high level, but had never quite reached their full potential. At the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's National Indoor Doubles Championship, though, potential became reality.

"Something clicked and it was working. ... We were pretty much unstoppable," says Moulton-Levy. On Nov. 5, she and Zoricic plowed through four opponents and brought the ITA doubles championship to Williamsburg for the first time in history. All of a sudden, Megan became the favorite.

Moulton-Levy seems to think that doesn't matter. She still approaches each game as if the odds were against her, to mentally save herself from "unnecessary pressure."



"It's all about mental strength," she says. "If you can't outlast your opponent mentally, it doesn't matter how good you look on the court."

During her tennis career at the College, Moulton-Levy has been extremely good: she collected two Colonial Athletic Association Player of the Year awards (sharing one of them), traveled to the semifinals of the NCAA tournament and was named to the All-CAA First Team two years running — for both singles and doubles play. Those are only a few of her many accolades, so it's understandable that she might not be able to call herself the "underdog" any longer.

That said, she credits much of her success to the women's tennis staff, head coach Kevin Epley and assistant coach Matt Halfpenny. "We have superb coaches," says

Moulton-Levy. "Not only are they great coaches, they're great people. You're going to get better, whether you like it or not."

She singles out Halfpenny for his unique approach to her game: "Matt's a men's coach and ... I want to play like a man, quite honestly."

Unfortunately, her style of play — whether "sustained pressure," "scrappy" or "men's" — is wearing her out. Playing through nagging injuries hasn't slowed Moulton-Levy down yet, but she knows she won't be able to continue the same level of play using her "scampering" style.

"My strength is my volley, and I don't volley in singles play," she says. She and her coaches hope that by streamlining her game and winning points faster, she won't wear her body out by running all over the court as

much. She had foot surgery in December and spent the winter break recovering and preparing for spring.

"Hopefully by the end of the year you'll see a transformation," she says, and that will provide another aspect to her already-intense tennis game: the element of surprise. No longer the underdog while playing her original style, Moulton-Levy will come to the court this spring with new features incorporated into her play that opponents won't be expecting. Maybe then, this champion will feel like an underdog again — the only difference being her increasing confidence and poise both on and off the court.

"I'll be back and ready to rock," says the "scrapper," and there's no reason not to believe her.

# [2007SPORTSCAMPS]

## COLONIAL FIELD HOCKEY CAMPS

### Tentative Dates:

**Session I: June 16-19**

**Session II: June 20-23**

Beginner, Intermediate, Elite levels

+ Specialized Goalkeeping

Overnight camp/commuter

Applications and information available at:

[www.TribeAthletics.com](http://www.TribeAthletics.com). E-mail:

[qcnimx@wm.edu](mailto:qcnimx@wm.edu) or call Coach Peel

Hawthorne at 757.221.3390 or Coach

Quan Nim-Anderson at 757.221.1594

## FRANK LEONI BASEBALL CAMP

**Session I: June 18-21**

**Session II: June 25-28**

**Session III: July 9-13**

For more information visit our Web site at

[www.TribeAthletics.com](http://www.TribeAthletics.com) or contact Coach

Adam Taylor at 757.221.3475 or

[amtayl@wm.edu](mailto:amtayl@wm.edu).

## GYMNASTICS SUMMER PROGRAM

**June 18-Aug. 10, 4 p.m.-5:20 p.m.**

Ages: Kindergarten and up

Cost is \$55 per session per student.

Students can sign up for multiple sessions.

Register by calling 757.564.0694.

## PEAK PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENTAL TENNIS CAMP

**Session I: June 20-24**

**Session II: June 28-July 2**

A resident junior tennis camp for boys and girls ages 9-18.

Resident camper: \$668

Extended-day camper: \$499

Day camper: \$399

Half-day camper: \$264

For more information or to register, visit our

Web site: [www.ppanddtenniscamp.com](http://www.ppanddtenniscamp.com)

or contact: Coach Marcos Asse at

757.221.7375 or [maasse@wm.edu](mailto:maasse@wm.edu).

## 14TH ANNUAL COLONIAL ALL-PRO FOOTBALL CAMP

**June 24-27**

Specialized instruction from the W&M

coaching staff and NFL superstars.

Ages: 8 thru rising seniors

Overnight camper: \$395

Day camper: \$295

To register or for more information contact:

Coach Bob Solderitch; W&M Football;

P.O. Box 399; Williamsburg, VA 23187;

757.221.3379. Camp information available

online at: [www.TribeAthletics.com](http://www.TribeAthletics.com)

## JOHN DALY WOMEN'S SOCCER CAMP

**Session I: June 24-28**

**Session II: July 15-19**

**Session III: July 22-26**

For more information or to register, e-mail:

[jbdaly@wm.edu](mailto:jbdaly@wm.edu) or visit our Web site:

[www.JohnDalySoccerCamp.com](http://www.JohnDalySoccerCamp.com).

## NIKE TENNIS CAMP

**Session I: June 24-28**

**Session II: July 8-12**

**Session III: July 15-19**

The Nike tennis campers will use the College's truly incredible tennis facilities, including 21 outdoor courts, lighted courts, with eight at the Busch tennis complex. For more information contact Coach Kevin Epley at 757.221.3384. Brochure and camp information available online at: [www.ussportscamps.com](http://www.ussportscamps.com)

## GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

**June 25-28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Please contact Coach Kia Butts at

757.221.1595, e-mail: [klbutt@wm.edu](mailto:klbutt@wm.edu),

or check out our Web site at:

[www.TribeAthletics.com](http://www.TribeAthletics.com)

## COLONIAL GIRLS' LACROSSE CAMP

**July 5-7**

An overnight camp for girls in grades 9-12.

For more information contact Coach

Christine Halfpenny, Head Women's

Lacrosse Coach, P.O. Box 399; Williams-

burg, VA 23187 or call 757.221.3389 or

e-mail: [cmhalf@wm.edu](mailto:cmhalf@wm.edu).

## 34TH ANNUAL TIDEWATER SOCCER CAMP

**July 8-12**

For a brochure, write Soccer, P.O. Box 399,

Williamsburg, VA 23187 or call

757.221.3438 or e-mail: [afalbe@wm.edu](mailto:afalbe@wm.edu).

# [SPORTS BRIEFS]



**Daly Selected as the Mid-Atlantic Region Coach of the Year**

After leading the William and Mary

women's soccer team to one of its best seasons in the program's history, Head Coach John Daly has been selected as the Mid-Atlantic Region Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. The honor marks the fifth time during his 20-year career that he has garnered the accolade, previously earning the distinction in 1997, 1992, 1990 and 1989.

**Barrett Captains Team to MLS Cup**

Wade Barrett '98 captained the Houston Dynamo to the Major League Soccer (MLS) Cup Championship. The Dynamo defeated the New England



Revolution in penalty kicks to claim the title on Nov. 12. During the playoffs, Barrett started all four contests and

played all 390 minutes at his position.

It marked the second time in his MLS career that Barrett won a MLS Cup Championship. He accomplished the feat in 2001 as well, as a member of the San Jose Earthquakes.



**Ward Wins Pro Tennis Event**

Stephen Ward '06 captured his first win, the Laguna Niguel Pro

Futures Classic on Oct. 8. Ward and his teammate defeated the top-seeded team to claim the crown after earning a spot in the main draw as a wild card.

Ward finished his W&M tennis career ranked in the top 10 in career singles winning percentage, singles and career doubles wins.

**Cross Country Teams Sweep Titles**

The Tribe swept the 2006 CAA Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships for the fourth straight year at White Clay Creek State Park in Newark, Del. The men tallied a team score of 32 behind five top 10 runners to claim their seventh straight title and 14th in the last 17 years. They went on to take 8th at the NCAA Championships held at Indiana State University.

On the women's side, the Tribe had six of the top nine finishers and captured their fourth straight CAA championship and their 14th all-time with a team score of 25.

## BASKETBALL GAMES TO WATCH:

All eyes will be on the Colonial Athletic Association this season after the George Mason University men ascended to the NCAA's Final Four in 2006. The Patriots played the Tribe earlier this season, allowing both the men's and women's teams to focus on other key matchups down the stretch. Here are three opposing squads to keep an eye on in the run-up to the CAA tournament in Richmond:

### [Men's]

**Old Dominion University: Feb. 24 (home)**

The Monarchs are again one of the most dangerous teams in the CAA, underscored by a big win over then-No. 8 Georgetown in November. Look for strong three-point shooting and offensive rebounds galore.



**University of North Carolina-Wilmington: Feb. 3 (home), Feb. 10 (at UNCW)**

The Seahawks have a brand-new coach and will face the Tribe twice within a week. An experienced group of solid scorers will make the team tough to defend, but inconsistent play plagued UNCW early in the season.



**James Madison University: Jan. 31 (home), Feb. 7 (at JMU)**

High-scoring Juwann James, last season's CAA Rookie of the Year, leads the long-suffering Dukes' attack in 2007. They kept up with Wake Forest early in the year before losing a close one — can they keep it up all season?



### [Women's]

**Old Dominion University: Feb. 18 (home)**

The Lady Monarchs are undefeated in tournament play since joining the CAA and will continue their push for a 16th consecutive CAA championship. The Tribe women got a faster start out of the gate than they did, which may translate to a challenge for ODU at the top of the conference.

**University of North Carolina-Wilmington: Feb. 11 (at UNCW)**

Wilmington's young women's team excels at defense in the paint, but has had trouble converting it into wins. The Tribe has had success with its three-point game, and may be able to avoid some clashes below the basket with its sharpshooters.

**James Madison University: Feb. 4 (home)**

The Dukes return this year with an experienced squad known for balanced play on both ends of the court. Three starters earned All-CAA honors, each averaging more than 10 points per game. It will be up to the Tribe to wear the Dukes down and force some turnovers.

LEFT AND MIDDLE BOTTOM PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION; TOP MIDDLE PHOTO: THOMAS SHEA/HOUSTON DYNAMO

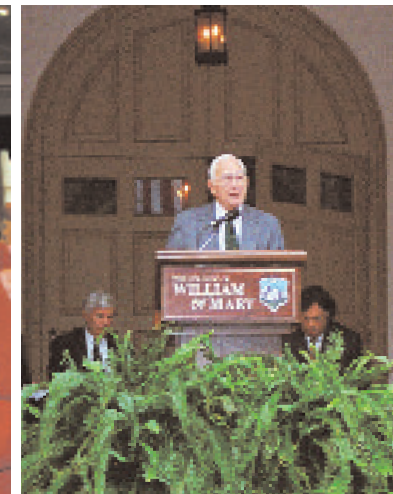
# HOMECOMING 2006

## The Weekend in Photos

Once again Homecoming kicked off on Thursday with the Order of the White Jacket reception, this year hosted at the home of Don '64 and Susie Beck (Honorary Alumna), pictured this page top right. One can only hope for good weather and, although the rain came in on Friday, it did not stop the golfers and tennis players from finishing their tournaments. The Academic Symposium was held inside the University Center and despite the rain, the Sunset Ceremony was still held outside the Wren, allowing alumni, family and friends to remember and honor their classmates who have gone before them. On Friday night the Alumni House was hopping with a live band performing on Clarke Plaza and people of all ages dancing under the tent.

Saturday morning brought remnants of rain, but by the time the Homecoming Parade began the sun was shining with Grand Marshal Joe Plumeri '66 leading the pack. The day was beautiful and although the Tribe lost to Villanova in a close match, 35-31, spirits were still high for the evening's activities. The Alumni Association hosted a postgame

tailgate, as did the Hulon Willis Association. Reunions for class year's ending in "1" and "6" took place at the Alumni House and throughout the 'Burg as classmates reminisced about days gone by. Look for additional photos on our Web site at [www.wmalumni.com](http://www.wmalumni.com). Don't forget to mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2007, Oct. 25-28. ■



PHOTOS: JESSICA S. GRIMES, ERIC W. PESOLA, MELISSA V. PINARD, SKIP ROWLAND '88, JOHN T. WALLACE



### HOMECOMING 2007

Mark your calendars for Oct. 25-28! This year we're planning to make Homecoming even better, so don't miss it. Special room rates are available at the Williamsburg Lodge by calling 800.261.9530 or visiting [www.williamsburglodge.com](http://www.williamsburglodge.com). As always, visit the Alumni Association's Web site at [www.wmalumni.com](http://www.wmalumni.com) for all the latest news and information.

PHOTOS: ERIC W. PESOLA, MELISSA V. PINARD, SKIP ROWLAND '88, STRICTLY CLASSIC PHOTOGRAPHY



# SPOTLIGHT

## on the Alumni Medallion Recipients

The Alumni Medallion is the highest award the William and Mary Alumni Association can bestow on a graduate of the College of William and Mary. In 2007, the Association will celebrate the recipients in a Feb. 9 ceremony at the University Center. The honorees will also process during Charter Day exercises on Feb. 10 in front of classmates, family, faculty and the College community and be recognized for their professional accomplishments, leadership, dedication to the community, and commitment to their *alma mater*.

This year the Alumni Association honors five esteemed leaders, individuals who represent the ideals of William and Mary's founders — leadership, service and charity — Constance Warren Desaulniers '75, Thomas P. Hollowell '65, J.D. '68, M.L.T. '69; Susan Aheron Magill '72, Theresa Thompson '67 and Winfred O. Ward '54. The recipients have distinguished themselves in their respective careers and communities and have remained dedicated and proud alumni of their *alma mater*, the College of William and Mary.

BY MELISSA V. PINARD

PHOTOGRAPHY BY STEVEN BIVER



## Constance Warren Desaulniers '75

Constance Desaulniers has something most artists don't — business savvy. Her many years in marketing and advertising have trained her well for her current profession as full-time artist as she nearly sells out of her pieces at every show.

After finishing high school in Indiana, Desaulniers and her family moved to Williamsburg because her father, Dr. William H. Warren, accepted a teaching position in the College's business school. Although her desire was to be an artist and go to an art school, she followed her father's advice and enrolled at William and Mary where she could take business courses in marketing and advertising alongside her fine arts classes.

While at the College, Desaulniers juggled several jobs at once in addition to her studies. One of those jobs included serving as eating club director of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. As part of her duties, Desaulniers attended local food service exhibits to get ideas. It was at one of these events she met her husband, Chef Marcel Desaulniers, whom she married in 1977. The couple has remained in Williamsburg ever since, while their daughter Danielle '92, who majored in art at the College, lives in Seattle with her family.

For over 14 years Desaulniers worked for Anheuser-Busch in various aspects of marketing for their Busch Gardens theme park in Williamsburg. Then in 1989 she left Busch to start her own company, By Design. "I was getting itchy to start my own business so I took the plunge," she says.

Her friend Joe Montgomery '74 convinced her to join the Athletic Educational Foundation, now known as the Tribe Club, as a way of getting involved with the William and Mary community. She served three terms and became the "first chick chairman" as she calls it. In the past she has also served on the Alumni Board of Directors as well as the Endowment Association Board. Currently, she serves on the board of the Muscarelle Museum of Art.

Desaulniers' interest in art began when she was 10 years old. "I guess I liked the attention I received from my painting." She painted in college but once her busy career started at Anheuser-Busch she had to put it on the back burner. Until one day, as Desaulniers puts it, when her grandmother tried "to strike the fear of God in her."

"My grandma said 'If you don't use it, He will take it away from you.'" She started painting again, and beginning in 1993 she took a weekly art class, while running her marketing business. "I justified it as mental therapy or coming up for air," she says.

With the pending sale of the Ganache Hill Gallery in Williamsburg, Desaulniers is now exploring other galleries to showcase her work. In November she was part of a show at the Zenith Gallery in Washington, D.C., called "Food Glorious Food."

"The nice thing about being a painter is that you never have to retire," she says. "If I am a success it will be a twofold reason — I'm a good artist and a good businessperson. I thank my experience at William and Mary for that." ■

"THE NICE THING  
ABOUT BEING A  
PAINTER IS THAT YOU  
NEVER HAVE TO RETIRE."



## Thomas P. Hollowell '65, J.D. '68, M.L.T. '69

**T**om Hollowell spent much of his early career working 12-hour days, seven days a week. “If our business was going to make it, that’s what we had to do,” he says. Most people don’t have that type of drive and determination and many businesses fail — but not the company that Hollowell and his partners started.

Perhaps it was his accounting professor, John Quinn, who prepared him for the task. “Quinn was a major influence on my academic life,” he says. When Hollowell received a 33 on his first accounting test, he was ready to change his major. Quinn talked him out of it.

Growing up in Iowa, most of Hollowell’s friends chose to attend the iconic Big University. He forged a different path by applying to schools in Chicago and the East. After visiting William and Mary while on vacation with his parents, he knew it was the school for him.

Hollowell stayed in the 'Burg for eight years finishing his law degree as well as a master of tax law. After graduation, he worked for the tax department of Arthur Andersen in Charlotte, N.C. In one job at Interstate Securities, he met Erskine Bowles who would become his business partner. The two of them ventured out in 1975 and formed their own investment-banking firm — Bowles Hollowell Conner & Co. (BHC).

“We knew we wanted control over our destinies,” says Hollowell. By the time the partners decided to sell the business in 1998, it had grown to 150 professionals.

“I LEARNED FROM MY PARENTS A TREMENDOUS SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING INVOLVED.”

Hollowell tried retirement, but in 2004, he joined up with some other ex-BHC partners and helped start a new firm called Fidus Partners. Nowadays he doesn’t spend quite as much time at work and has more time to travel. He and his wife, Lyttleton, spent three weeks this past fall in South Africa and Kenya.

He also has more time to serve the College. “When I first got out of school,” he says, “I worked tirelessly on my career and raised my sons. I had less time to devote to the community.” Since reconnecting with the College in 1990 during his 25th Reunion, he has been deeply involved. He has served on the Campaign for William and Mary Committee and the Foundation for William and Mary and has worked on his class’s reunion gift committees since his 25th.

Hollowell has four sons, two stepdaughters, and three grandchildren. His youngest son, Nick, has Down’s syndrome. Over the years, he has devoted a great deal of time to a number of nonprofits including ones that serve developmentally challenged and disabled youth. He has chaired the United Methodist Agency for the Retarded and served on the boards of United Family Services and the Mecklenburg County Mental Health Authority.

“I learned from my parents a tremendous sense of responsibility and the importance of being involved,” Hollowell says. “The College gave me so much during my eight years on campus and has had a tremendous impact on my life. I’m glad that I now have an opportunity to give something back.” ■



## Susan Aheron Magill '72

**S**usan Magill, a native of Roanoke, Va., entered William and Mary in 1968 as a government major — a time when Americans were keenly aware of politics. Despite her love of Williamsburg and the College or perhaps because of it, she knew that if she didn’t move to Washington, D.C., right away after graduation she might never leave.

First working for her local congressmen Caldwell Butler, she then took a position with the late Gov. John Dalton '53, LL.D. '79 running the D.C. Office of the Governor. With the changing of governors, Magill found herself looking for another job, until one day Sen. John Warner handed her a piece of paper where he had jotted a few projects. He asked if she could take care of them while she looked for work — that request led to a 24-year career with Warner.

At a time when there were not many women chiefs of staff, Warner promoted her to that position while she was pregnant. “It was a very family-friendly office and not all of them were that way,” she says. “My children look to him as a grandfather.” Magill’s husband, John, was also a chief of staff. Their daughter Beth '06 graduated from the College, while son Jay currently attends James Madison University.

A highlight of her career with Warner was running the inauguration ceremonies for President Clinton in 1996 — she even was able to get the William and Mary Choir to perform for the event. Always on top of the details, Magill went to the Capitol at 3 a.m. to ensure that the carpet

was being laid down and vacuumed. A friend advised her to practice the walk-through that she would have to make with President Clinton the morning of the inauguration. And she did, every day for a month leading up to the event. “I didn’t want to be known as the woman who tripped in front of the President,” she says.

Some of her duties as chief of staff included managing a staff of over 25 in various locations. She also dealt with constituent requests.

“Most constituents who contact the Senator’s office are either desperate to get help from the federal government or extremely committed to a particular point of view on legislation,” says Magill. “You also have the Virginians with bizarre questions — ‘Where does the Senator get his hair piece?’” By the way — it is his hair.

But it was her exposure to higher education policy and the non-profit sector, while serving on the Board of Visitors (BOV) at William and Mary, that led to her new career as the managing director of donor and government relations at Pew Charitable Trusts.

While rector of the BOV, Magill took on some huge responsibilities, including leading the search for a new College president in 2004. She praised the College family on how they worked together during this process. “I was inspired by the respect, devotion and interest that such a wide variety of committed people have for William and Mary,” says Magill. “No one I asked for help with the search said, ‘no.’”

Maybe that’s because of the person who was asking. ■

“I WAS INSPIRED BY THE RESPECT, DEVOTION AND INTEREST THAT SUCH A WIDE VARIETY OF COMMITTED PEOPLE HAVE FOR WILLIAM AND MARY.”



## Theresa Thompson '67

When Terry Thompson was a senior at her Bedford, Va., high school, two thoughts changed her intentions to attend Randolph-Macon Women's College — Lynchburg was far too close to home and it was a *women's* college. So Thompson searched for small, coed liberal arts colleges and discovered William and Mary.

While most women during that era were encouraged to claim majors where they knew they could get jobs, Thompson sought the classic education that she knew would prepare her for any path she chose upon graduation. After taking Philosophy 101 she was hooked. The professor asked her to join an advanced class the following semester. "That seminar opened my eyes to completely different ways of thinking," says Thompson.

Finding someone with an open mind about liberal arts to hire her after graduation proved a bit of a challenge. She worked for a while and then went on to earn a master's in philosophy from the University of Tennessee in 1972. During an American Philosophical Association conference she realized that there were 100 candidates for every professorship and so she decided not to get her Ph.D. Instead she went to Washington, D.C., and found a job at a research firm that laid the groundwork for her future career.

She was assigned to work on labor policy, which changed drastically in 1974 with the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

"I did a lot of speaking and writing about this law," says Thompson. "It was my job to follow the legislation and regularly report to clients about what was going on."

This experience led to a position with the Department of Labor where she worked on some of the earliest ERISA regulations. From there she joined Towers Perrin, a human resources consulting firm, and later Hewitt Associates LLC, another leading HR consulting firm. She moved to Chicago, then New York City, and finally back to Washington, D.C., in the early 1990s to open Hewitt's D.C. consulting office.

During the early '90s Thompson also returned to her *alma mater* for the first time. "I got out of college believing that I should always be connected financially," says Thompson, "But I didn't return to the campus until my 25th Reunion." Classmate Larry White '67 asked her to join the gift committee. "I remember that January day, I walked into the room for our first meeting and was greeted as if I had just left the College yesterday," she says. "I will never forget that feeling."

Since that reunion Thompson has been very involved. In addition to many William and Mary Alumni Association activities, she has chaired both the board of the Fund for William and Mary and the

board of trustees of the William and Mary Foundation. She currently is a member of the Campaign Steering Committee and the Muscarelle Museum's board and chairs the President's Council.

"My most important contribution to the College," she says, "I hope, will be getting others connected and involved." ■

"MY MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE COLLEGE, I HOPE, WILL BE GETTING OTHERS CONNECTED AND INVOLVED."



## Winfred O'Neil Ward '54

Not many William and Mary alumni can claim to have graduated high school when they were 16 years old, but not all alumni are like Fred Ward.

Growing up on a farm on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Ward knew he wanted to be a doctor at age 6 when he received a physician's kit for Christmas. He didn't know he wanted to attend William and Mary though until he was 12, when he picked up a catalog off his middle school English teacher's desk.

At the College, Ward helped start the Pre-Med Club, serving as president. He kept busy with jobs as a server at the King's Arms and as a lab assistant and tutor. Although there was no official gymnastics team at the time, Ward belonged to a club where they would tumble as well as practice on the rings and high bar.

Although Ward had come back to campus to teach courses, it was in 1985 that he began working with the gymnastics team on a regular basis. "It's one of my all-time favorite things to do," says Ward, "and has led to some very nice long-term relationships." In fact he and his wife, Anne, recently hosted two former W&M gymnasts at their Richmond, Va., home while they were passing through the area. It is this type of bond, which keeps him coming back as well as his respect for Coach Cliff Gauthier. "The coach and I see eye to eye in that scholastics come first."

After graduation, Ward went to a "farm hospital" under Ohio State for his internship and then joined the Navy, eventually transferring to the

Marines. "I always felt that I should join. It was really an honor to give something back to repay the opportunity to be able to do so much," he says.

Ward's dream was to be a plastic surgeon, but after an accident left him temporarily paralyzed in his left arm, he had to follow a different course. In 1961, he started a family medicine practice, which he had for nine years. "I got to know families and watch them grow." At the same time he and Anne had three of their own children, daughters, Anne and Susan and son Oma.

A man of a variety of interests, including painting, sculpting and writing, Ward over the years retrained in psychosomatic medicine and later infectious diseases. His experience in psychiatry led him to write his case study, *The Healing of Lia*. He is currently writing his second fiction book in the medical mystery genre.

In 1999, he retired and began medical mission work with various organizations, including Physicians for Peace, which has taken him to 15 countries all over the world. "We have the best healthcare system in the world, but we still need to make progress taking care of the indigent," he says.

Although technically retired, Ward remains very active in both

Richmond and Williamsburg, working part time for the State of Virginia Health Department and helping with the College's gymnastics team. "My wife says, 'you only come home to eat,'" he says and adds with a smile, "I cannot help it — I turn my car on and it keeps bringing me to Williamsburg." ■

"I CANNOT HELP IT — I TURN MY CAR ON AND IT KEEPS BRINGING ME TO WILLIAMSBURG."



# THE ULTIMATE CONUNDRUM

NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN AN AGE OF TERRORISM

BY BEN KENNEDY '05

**W**hen the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, America's conflict with its only major nuclear rival dissolved with it. When the dust settled, only a handful of nations were known to have nuclear capabilities, and in the new world community, none posed an immediate threat to the United States. The U.S. responded to the new paradigm by stopping development of new weapons and shrinking the size of its arsenal. Moratoriums on nuclear testing, both formal and informal, were put in place in nations all over the globe, including the United States. With few exceptions, the nuclear question largely dropped off the radar screen.

Things changed when terrorists struck on Sept. 11, 2001. Among the myriad new threats occupying the minds of Americans was an old one: The Bomb.

## Multifaceted Research

**W**ith more than 8,000 employees, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., carries as its foremost responsibility the research and development of the United States' nuclear arsenal. The man running the lab is George Miller '67, M.S. '69, Ph.D. '72, and his job is extremely complex. While the lab's focus is primarily on national security, he is quick to point out that 80 percent of the work done at Lawrence Livermore is unclassified.

"The science and technology we pursue help to meet societal needs that are far broader than just the national security arena," says Dr. Miller. For example, in the 1970s the lab developed "cell sorters" and other technologies that helped make the Human Genome Project possible. Lawrence Livermore participated in this international effort, and now genomics expertise is being applied to develop biological agent detectors for homeland security.

Currently the lab's largest single project is construction of the massive National Ignition Facility (NIF), a stadium-sized structure with 192 powerful lasers. The lasers will be aimed at a single small target to create a miniature star, burning at nearly 100 million degrees due to nuclear fusion. In addition to its utility in testing weapon simulation codes, the NIF will play a major role in the development of nuclear fusion energy as well as the study of stellar evolution.

Miller is as multifaceted as the NIF, a project he directed before being selected to lead the Lawrence Livermore Lab. He credits his William and Mary liberal arts education with giving him a wider focus than just nuclear physics.

"It's a very different set of skills than what you learn as a physics student at grad school," he says. "Some of the things I find curious and interesting — because I spend a lot of time on airplanes — are reading history, biographies, economics and sociology instead of technical stuff. I attribute that to the liberal arts exposure at William and Mary. That education benefited me personally, even though they're not topics I deal with on a regular basis."

The bulk of his work at Lawrence Livermore remains centered on sustaining the nation's nuclear arsenal. George Miller's current job makes him responsible for the most destructive offensive weapons in human history — with the goal that they never be used.

**In 1995, France resumed nuclear testing for several months to verify the safety of its weapons. This 1971 test (pictured opposite) took place in French Polynesia. The United States discontinued using nuclear detonations for testing in 1992.**

PHOTO: ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Deterrence

**S**ince the end of World War II, the American nuclear arsenal has had one primary purpose: deterrence. Theoretically, no nation would strike with nuclear weapons knowing they'd immediately become the target of nuclear retaliation. The mere existence of such weapons, then, acts as a safeguard against nuclear attack.

"They're as much instruments of international diplomacy as they are technological objects," Miller states, and there is hardly a better example of that than the Cold War.

For more than seven decades, the U.S. and Soviet arsenals sat (mostly) dormant in a silent, ominous standoff. Each side knew two things: the potency of the opposition's weapons and their willingness to retaliate if provoked. Despite a handful of crisis situations, the Cold War came to a close without a single hostile nuclear explosion.

"Nuclear deterrence has worked extremely well. It's been one of the most stable periods in history, as measured by the lack of major conflicts and loss of lives," says Miller of the Cold War. "Nuclear weapons did that."

The Cold War, however, is over. Nuclear weapons remain. Only this time, no one thinks they will come from Soviet ballistic missiles — they are afraid of a terrorist obtaining a weapon and detonating it amidst an unsuspecting populace.

## Testing Without Testing

**T**he North Korean government had worked for years to construct a weapon still less powerful than the bombs dropped on Japan in 1945. Marked as a "rogue state" member of the Axis of Evil, Pyongyang backed out of the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 2003 and was no longer bound by testing bans. North Korea acted as if it were free to test their weapon at will, and did.

The United States, on the other hand, has to set an example. Since 1992, the U.S. has maintained a moratorium on nuclear testing, whether above or underground. Regardless, the U.S. must ensure the safety, security and reliability of its weapons in order to possess a smaller-sized, effective deterrent — without actually testing a weapon of its own.

Possessing that deterrent remains a cornerstone of U.S. national security policy. "It is a very important and very complicated technical challenge, to be able to maintain something as complicated as a





George Miller '67, M.S. '69, Ph.D. '72, third from left, directs the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. The Lab's work focuses mostly on national security applications.

nuclear weapon without doing nuclear testing," says Miller. "The way we have approached that problem is to combine exquisite calculations ... with exquisite experiments."

Exquisite calculations aren't the half of it. "The promise of science and technology advances to better understand weapons performance is what allowed President Clinton to go forward with the cessation of nuclear testing," Miller states. With the help of the world's most powerful computer, IBM's Blue Gene/L, the Lawrence Livermore lab can ensure a working weapon without any nuclear detonations taking place. Using a process known as "massively parallel computing," 100,000 processors work in concert to simulate a functioning nuclear weapon. Simulations are millions of times faster and more detailed than what had been possible. And the simulation models benefit from greatly improved data from non-nuclear tests.

North Korea's real-world test itself took only a fraction of a second, but it was a failure — at least on some counts. The U.S. confirmed the October test with air samples of radiation and determined that the weapon resulted in significantly less than the intended yield. The North Koreans had a bomb, after years of diplomatic tug-of-war, but how much of a bomb was it?

"I would submit that the North Korean regime got what they wanted," Miller says. "The fact that they got the reaction is more important than the yield of the bomb. If used in anger, it'd certainly be a big problem."

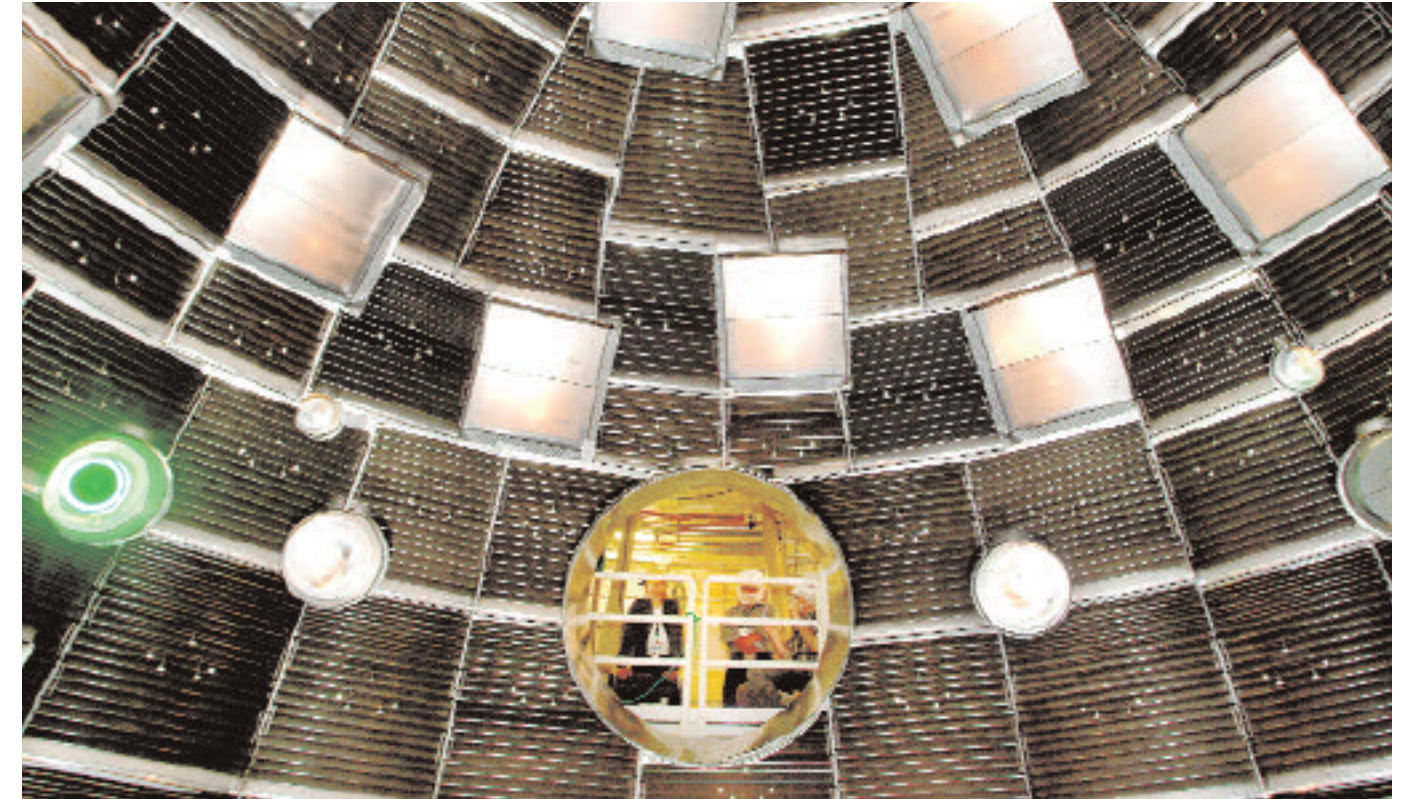
## A Big Problem

One of the central challenges of the War on Terror has been the elusiveness of terrorist groups: they have no country to invade, nor must they abide by the conventions of war. Mutually assured nuclear destruction can't apply to a small group of well-financed and determined terrorists; what good is deterrence if the aggressor can't easily face retaliation?

So what if Pyongyang sells one of their handful of nuclear weapons to a terrorist organization? According to Amy Oakes, assistant professor of government at William and Mary, North Korea has a history of dabbling in the arms trade.

"Every military technology they've had, they've sold," says Oakes, but only to other governments, not terrorists. With no known ties between North Korea and terrorist organizations, sale of a nuclear weapon to such a non-state actor is "not a likely scenario," says Oakes.

Preparing for terrorism, though, requires readiness for all scenarios, regardless of likelihood. While ensuring the safety and reliability of the nation's own nuclear weapons arsenal will remain the



Inside the National Ignition Facility (NIF): Featuring 192 powerful lasers, the NIF has a diverse array of applications. When complete, it will be used to test weapons simulation codes, help study the evolution of stars, and research nuclear fusion energy.

Lab's top mission, Lawrence Livermore has also developed a number of additional focuses to fit the changing world order.

"It's a very different emphasis from what we focused on, dealing with the U.S.S.R.," Miller states. "There's a very significant national program associated with non-state actors and smaller states that might wish to cause the country problems."

One aspect of that program is what Miller calls "nuclear forensics," which is what it sounds like: a way to find the culprit from the evidence left behind. It would be fair to say, though, it's somewhat more intricate than that.

"There are subtle signatures in all the different materials: how it was made, how it was processed," Miller says. "We do spend research dollars on how to improve those techniques."

The federal government invests \$200 million dollars a year at the lab on homeland security, nonproliferation and intelligence research. Nuclear forensics amounts to a sort of radioactive CSI, and it doesn't come cheaply. It is, however, immensely valuable.

Hypothetically, if North Korea sold a nuclear weapon to a terrorist and that terrorist used it against American interests at home or abroad, "nuclear forensics" could make a big difference in national policy.

According to Professor Oakes, this could mean retaliation against the supplying nation as if they had set off the bomb themselves. She puts it in no uncertain terms:

"I don't think it's an exaggeration to say it would be suicidal for the supplier."

## 21st Century Deterrence

The chain of responsibility, made possible by nuclear forensics, puts a new sort of deterrence back into effect. Nowadays, it's not thousands of warheads poised to devastate an entire country. It's the confidence to know that the appropriate response could be meted out, thanks in part to the work of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

"Should something unthinkable happen, we would at least be in a position to say who did it and where it came from," says Miller.

He considers his work a way to benefit the United States as a whole.

"Nuclear weapons and nonproliferation are incredibly complex and difficult technical problems; to work on something that is very important and highly technically challenging is certainly very rewarding," he says.

That said, Miller recognizes that Lawrence Livermore's work with nuclear weapons is inherently controversial. Protestors are part of the deal when it comes to nonproliferation and weapons of mass destruction.

"We're doing something that I feel is really important, that has benefited the security of the country. That has been the foremost motivation in my mind."

Miller knows the value of his work, and it's not as simple as building and testing weapons. The lab he directs at Lawrence Livermore is capable of maintaining our nuclear capability while simultaneously fostering technology that discourages a new roster of potential enemies with old-fashioned deterrence.

Thanks to George Miller and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, America's best offense remains its best defense — and not a single weapon has to explode. ■

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY

**"We're doing something that I feel is really important, that has benefited the security of the country. That has been the foremost motivation in my mind." — George Miller '67, M.S. '69, Ph.D. '72**

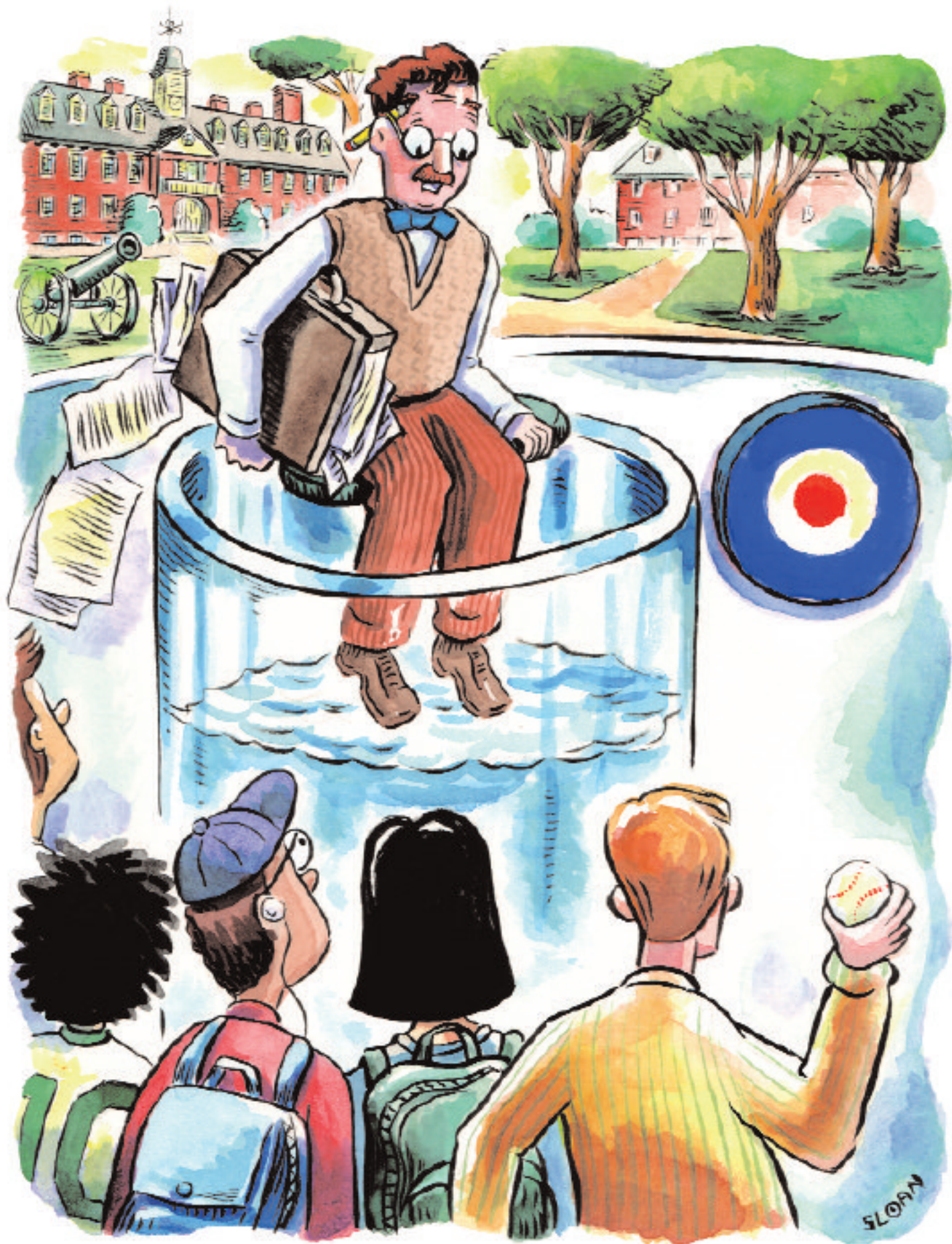


ILLUSTRATION: MICHAEL SLOAN

# Hot on the Seat

EVALUATE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

“At the College, Teaching Evaluations are an Essential Element of the Classroom Experience”

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- No Opinion
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

BY JAY BUSBEE '90

It's a tradition as time-honored as the first Frisbees on the Sunken Garden heralding the arrival of spring. In the waning days of every semester, professors close off one class a few minutes early, pass out evaluation forms, and leave their fates in the hands of students with No. 2 pencils — but hopefully not grudges.

And year after year, as the students color in bubbles and scratch out a pithy comment or two, the same questions run through their minds: *Does anybody really look at these evaluations? Do they have an impact? Is anything going to change because of what I write here?*

The answers, students will be pleased to learn, are yes; yes; and absolutely, yes.

The format of the student evaluation has remained largely unchanged for the last few decades, combining both rational evaluations (a front page of questions featuring bubble-in “Strongly Agree” to “Strongly Disagree” judgments) and emotional assessments (a back-page write-in comment section). Each serves an essential function in and of itself, but each has limited use on its own.

“The numerical value [derived from the bubble-in section] is very easily misused,” notes Dr. Ronald St. Onge, chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. “You can become nothing but a number. That’s why we always take into account other measure-

ments — syllabi, exams, visitations by colleagues to supplement the bare number. It’s very convenient to have a number, but sometimes it misrepresents the individual.”

By the same token, the comments must be taken with a healthy serving of salt. A professor can rank highly on student satisfaction because she is challenging and thought-provoking, or because she runs a “gut” class that’s an easy A. Back-page comments can run from ego-boosting but empty (“I hated [subject] before this class, now I love it!”) to deflating (“doesn’t know as much as he seems to think he does”) to, well, less than relevant (“Sexy! Sexy! Sexy!”).

Student evaluations have been a component of college teaching since the 1960s. The College’s Arts & Sciences department began using evaluations in the late 1970s, according to Dr. St. Onge, and implemented standardized bubble-in “Scantron” forms a few years later. Former dean David Lutzer (Honorary Alumnus) streamlined the numerical-value segment of the test, and current Provost Geoff Feiss, in his previous capacity as dean of arts and sciences, required all departments to include some version of the question “How do you rate the overall performance of this instructor?”

The idea behind evaluations, first and foremost, is to improve the learning experience, year after year. A professor teaching, say, eight classes a year with 15 students per class will receive 120 opinions on

his performance each year — a large enough sample to be a statistically valid judgment of a professor's style. Thus, professors can get a semester-by-semester snapshot of how well various teaching techniques function in the classroom. Students can opine on the usefulness of new textbooks, new methodologies, and new outside assignments, allowing the professor to determine how well they service the goals of the overall class.

"When I hand out evaluations, I tell the students, 'Here are some new things we did in class, some new cases, some new ways of judging participation. What did you think of them?'" says Dr. Julie Agnew '91 of the Mason School of Business. "It's nice to see the relative scale that they bubble in, but the comments are what really drive me. I've gotten amazing suggestions that I never would have thought of, and then adjusted the way I teach accordingly."

Agnew is one of many professors who have found that resistance to new teaching methods doesn't necessarily equate to poor teaching, an axiom well known to the administration.

"There's a very solid literature base that shows faculty who tend to be innovative often get down-graded in student evaluations," says Feiss. "Things don't always work perfectly the first time you try to introduce new technology or new teaching methods. There's an inherent conservatism to student evaluations, [and professors can read them and say] *I'm doing this well, why change it?*"

The reason, of course, is because the professors themselves aren't the only ones reading the evaluations. The College's emphasis on professors actually teaching their students, rather than focusing on research, means that evaluations play a significant role in the upward mobility of those professors. A professor who publishes cutting-edge theories but cannot relate to students in the classroom will find at least some impediments to his progress toward tenure at the College.

Departments review evaluations each year for deviations from the mean of the department as a whole. When a professor seeks an increase in rank — applying for tenure, say — he or she must submit copies of all evaluations received. "We take evaluations very seriously, because we take teaching very seriously," says Carl Strikwerda, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "We'd never deny someone tenure simply because of evaluations, but it's a factor."

"My sense is that the College is no more or less stringent than other places when it comes to including these evaluations in the total profile of the faculty whom they consider for tenure or promotion in rank," St. Onge says. "At William and Mary, teaching is one of three

components considered essential in a faculty member's accomplishments, the other two being scholarship and professional service."

"We look for evidence that someone has inspired students to go beyond even what the course gives them," adds Dr. Suzanne Raitt, director of the Women's Studies Department and a member of the College's retention, promotion and tenure committee. "That's what we're seeking — we want to see that students have been inspired to take their learning even farther than they would otherwise."

Their value in promotion decisions notwithstanding, in many corners of academia, student evaluations have a poor reputation; some observers feel that professors rely too heavily on them for the management and preparation of their classes, and thus transform the classroom environment into a perpetual popularity contest, desperate to always please the student. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, for instance, runs several articles a year decrying the role that evaluations have on the teaching profession — sometimes written by the evaluated profes-

sors themselves, who admit to an all-too-human need to please their students as well as teach them.

Critics of the student evaluation see them as a key factor in the growth of the idea that if the student is paying the bills, the professor should — like any good service provider — do her best to fulfill the needs and wants of the student.

Needless to say, it's a philosophy that doesn't get a whole lot of traction at William and Mary, where students understand that there's a larger goal at work than a simple cost-

benefit analysis could account for. As a result, Feiss notes, students can separate personal prejudices and concerns from an assessment of the class and professor as a whole.

"There have been instances in which an instructor's condescending attitude towards the students became evident from multiple, consistent remarks to that effect made by the students in their written comments," St. Onge says. "In fact, it is probably true that the written comments that the students are invited to submit provide a far greater insight into the classroom experience than do the numerical values given for various items on the evaluation form."

"Students tend to take these seriously, and make very constructive and perceptive comments," he says. "On the occasions when I've taught here, I'll read their comments and say, 'That's right. I do need to work on that.' They comment not only summatively — *is this person good or bad?* — but also formatively — *can we do something about this for next semester?'*"



ILLUSTRATION: MICHAEL SLOAN

"In most instances, we discount the frequent comment: 'He/She knows the material,'" St. Onge says. "A respectable department would not assign a person to teach a course in which he or she had no command of the material."

Of course, the in-class evaluation isn't the only recourse for students looking to offer up some sage advice on their professors. One need look no farther than RateMyProfessors.com, a Web site that does exactly what its name states, to see what current and former students really think of their instructors. Nearly 750 William and Mary professors have ratings on the site, a significant majority of which are positive. Many posts are of the typical black-and-white "Great/Stinks" variety, but many more are honest and balanced. For instance, one professor received the following review: "Likes to joke around with students but in a way that makes some feel bullied — he WILL make fun of you. Tough grader. He knows his \*\*\*\*, you will learn from him." Rare indeed is the professor who hasn't snuck a look at RateMyProfessors to check up on his own "Hot" ranking.

Still, like the simple numerical value before it, the Internet's snap judgment of professors has the potential to unnecessarily simplify the evaluation process, boiling professors down to "Hot or Not" ratings more worthy of *American Idol* than an institution of higher learning.

Dean Strikwerda recalls an anecdote about one of the early champions of the student evaluation program, a professor who "spent the majority of the '50s and '60s driving around the country telling colleges and universities to take student evaluations more seriously. Then he spent the majority of the '70s and '80s driving around the country telling colleges not to misuse student evaluations. In other words, they're one source, they're one slice, and students sometimes do them quickly, so we shouldn't rely on them as the one source for evaluating a professor."

The primary flaw with the current evaluation system as it stands is that at its heart, it relies on students being forthcoming and thoughtful to give a true picture of a given class. But, like Churchill's assessment of democracy, it's the worst form of evaluation except for

all others tried. The anonymity of the evaluation gives students the freedom to speak (or write) their minds about the class and the professor. The combination of comments and data gives two separate and, in theory, complementary pictures of a class. And the fact that the evaluations must be done in class gives as broad a sample size as possible, moreso than expecting students to, say, log onto a Web site outside the class.

Some institutions have experimented with other forms of evaluation, including "exit interviews," in which graduating students give candid reviews of their past professors. "One of the problems with

evaluations is that you may have a student who only took this one course in, say, sociology, and they're judging mainly on the clarity of the course," Dean Strikwerda says. "But if you have a student who's taken 10 classes in this department, who knows what to expect going into the class, it may make more sense to ask them to do a one- or two-page letter."

Departments also use peer evaluations as a means of assessing professor performance, but concede that they have limitations as well. While a peer observer can judge the pedagogical strengths of a professor for a given session, he can't necessarily judge how such strengths play out over the course of an entire semester.

By and large, however, William and Mary administrators have expressed satisfaction with the reliability and focus of the College's students when filling out evaluations. And every so often, the students unearth a deeper truth than they even expected:

"What I find revealing at William and Mary in this process are the comments where students say, 'I never worked so hard, but this was the greatest course I ever took, and it changed my life,'" Feiss says. "When you read these comments about transformations, you just say to yourself, 'Oh, *now* I remember why we do this.'" ■

*Jay Busbee '90 is the president of the Atlanta Chapter of the William and Mary Alumni Association. He writes for ESPN.com, Atlanta magazine and many other publications.*

## Rate My Professor

*RateMyProfessors.com is a popular, anonymous but unofficial way for students to comment on an instructor's performance at the end of the semester. Here are a few comments we found about William and Mary professors, for better or for worse. The names were removed to protect the innocent ... and the guilty.*

### GOOD:

○ His classes are challenging but he's a great teacher and a really friendly person outside of class — always willing to help. Plus he hangs out at the Leafe. How cool can you be?

○ Official hottie.

### FAIR:

○ Ok, so she may appear a little bit ... way out there. And, yes, sometimes she does lose herself in a place all her own, but that only makes her more interesting, right?

○ Totally insane in a lovable sort of way and the nicest guy ever. Subject can be boring but his own enthusiasm rubs off.

### POOR:

○ The lectures were fulfilling in a charming, disembowel-yourself-or-else sort of way. The only way to avoid asphyxiation was to watch others' elbows slowly fail to prop them up, hurtling their head directly into the desk.

○ If she decides she doesn't like you (meaning you are a student in her class) she will eat your soul. Ruins a potentially interesting subject. Stay away.

# CLASSNOTES



## EDITOR'S NOTE ~ MELISSA V. PINARD

Economics 101 — nothing is free in this world. Sure, some false advertisements claim items are free, like those annoying pop-up windows suggest anytime you log onto the Internet. Don't believe them. If this adage is true of trivial products, it is even truer of something of lifelong value such as education. Politicians like to talk about free education — don't believe them either. While writing the Medallion profiles on page 40, I realized most graduates I have ever interviewed share something in common — the desire to give back to their *alma mater*. Tuition alone does not pay for the entire package a university provides for its students. Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, many students today benefit from gifts in ways they do not even realize. I bet if we saw the actual costs to educate a student it would astonish us — everything from salaries, buildings, maintenance and insurance, to educational equipment, energy and security. What students pay in tuition and fees is the price of the education, but the cost is often much greater. Percentages vary across the board from one university to the next, but no student ever pays for 100 percent of his or her education. Let's not forget that someone out there, whether taxpayer or generous donor, helped us get where we are today.

Did your mom and dad ever drag you to a college reunion? Despite the abundance of soda in front of this young man, pictured above in 1987 during Homecoming, he does not appear too pleased. Of course those were the days before Game Boy. Homecoming has changed at William and Mary and now we offer a more family-friendly environment, including the Children's Carnival and Friday Night Fest, where there were as many kids dancing as adults. I have to admit I tried the ring toss and it's addictive. Enjoy the photos from Homecoming 2006 on page 36 and for more visit our Web site at [www.wmalumni.com](http://www.wmalumni.com) and look for links to purchase pictures from your Class Reunion.



## JAMESTOWN CELEBRATION ~ WILL MOLINEUX '56

*[Editor's Note: In honor of America's 400th Anniversary we will feature images from Jamestown's history in Circa throughout 2007. This first image is from the book Jamestown by Will Molineux '56. He has written the following caption for the photo. If you have interesting images from Jamestown, please send them to us at alumni.magazine@wm.edu or c/o Melissa Pinard, editor, William and Mary Alumni Magazine, P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187.]*

On May 15, 1895, College President Lyon Gardiner Tyler LL.D. 1919 sat at ease with his legs crossed on the crowded outdoor stage on Jamestown Island to celebrate the landing of the first English settlers in 1607. Tyler is credited with initiating the annual observance of Jamestown after the revival of the College in 1888. Each year, Tyler, along with faculty members such as John Lesslie Hall LL.D. 1921 (center), joined students and citizens from all over Virginia at Jamestown to pay homage to the first Virginians and the patriots who established the United States and its representative democracy. Portraits of two of them — Gen. George Washing-

ton on horseback and Capt. John Smith — are displayed at the left beneath the pine boughs and between the red, white and blue bunting. While lengthy history-laden oratory was the feature of the holiday, celebrants also enjoyed socializing around picnic baskets and roaming around the brick tower of the 1647 church acquired three years earlier by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

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*Molineux retired from the Newport News, Va., Daily Press in 1999 after 36 years as reporter; Williamsburg bureau manager and editorial page editor.*