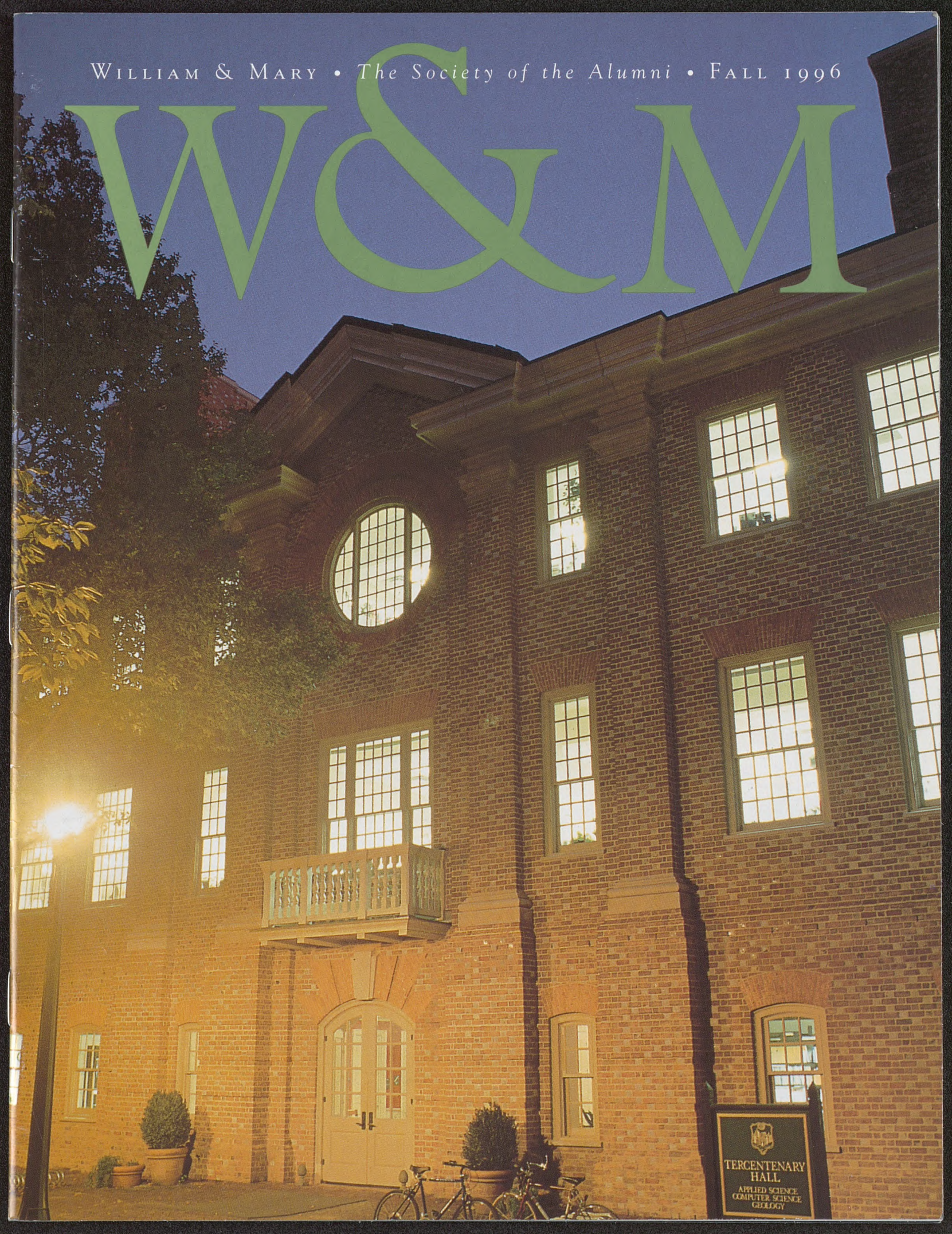



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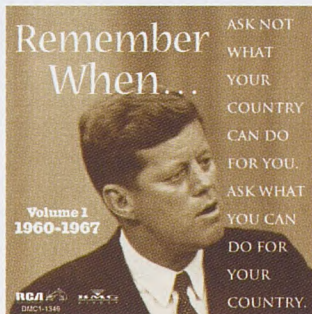
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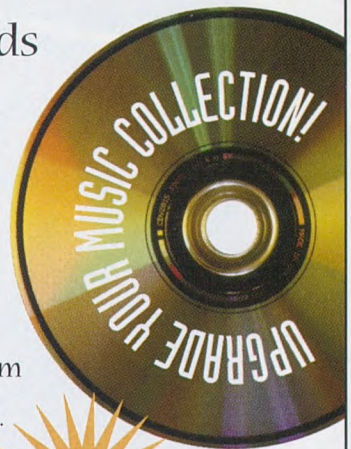
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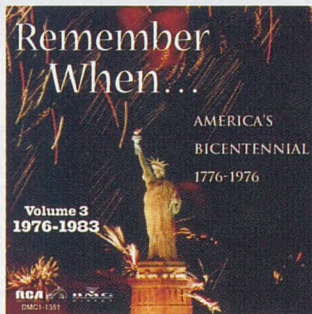


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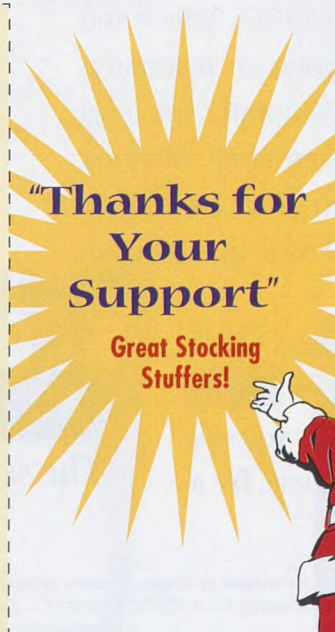
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On the cover: *Night falls on Tercentenary Hall, the campus' newest building. Photo by Steve Morrisette.*



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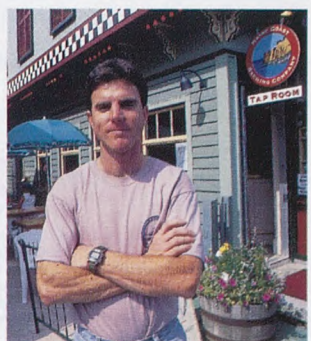
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by *Pam Kirschbaum*

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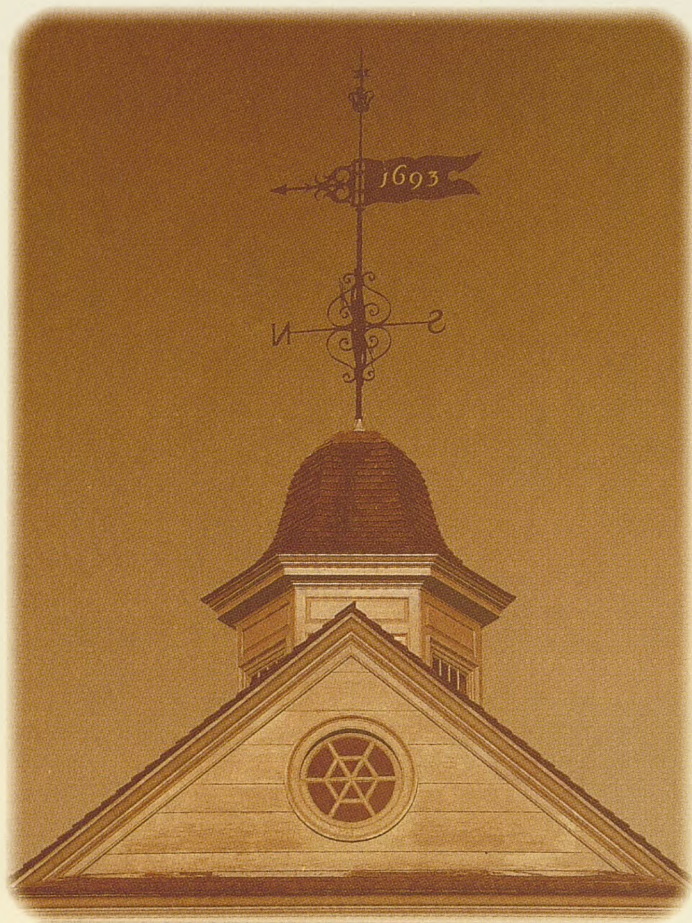
Two alumni authors pen blockbuster novels and find fairy-tale endings.

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Leading the Pack

by *Joe Person '92*

Women's sports at W&M rise to new heights in accomplishment and recognition.



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FRCH

At Peace with a Good Magazine

A friend of mine long ago adopted a response to telephone calls and other inquiries searching for his time when he preferred to simply contemplate life from his easy chair. His wife or children would simply say, "He's at peace with a good book." Enough said. It is hard to improve on the condition that simple sentence conveys.

Except to illuminate special observances like William and Mary's 300th year or to point out changes in magazine format, this column from the publisher hasn't made a nuisance of itself. With this issue, however, I wanted to introduce our new editor and say farewell to Lisa Riess, who has served with exemplary abilities, patience, resolve and creativity for the past three years.

This magazine has been an important publication of the Society of the Alumni since it was incorporated as part of our program nearly 30 years ago. In the past six years, it has demonstrated exceptional effectiveness, first under the nurturing of Virginia Collins '77 and then under the tutelage of Lisa Riess. Lisa somehow magically appeared here when Virginia moved north. Her husband's Air Force transfer to nearby Langley meant that we could take



advantage of her experiences as a daily newspaper reporter, writer for the *Arizona State Magazine* and contributing editor/creator of the University of Utah alumni magazine.

Now as Lisa returns west, thanks to the need for F-16 pilots in Idaho, a new editor has accepted the reins and the challenges that undoubtedly will appear along the trail.

Beginning with the next issues of the *Alumni Gazette* and the magazine (which incidentally is officially the *Alumni Gazette Magazine*) Jacqueline Genovese '87 will take the helm as editor. She appears after moving back to Williamsburg from the West Coast.

"Jackie," as she prefers to be called, graduated from William and Mary in 1987 with a bachelor's in history. For the next six years she was publications assistant and editor for the University of San Diego. Her stints as a celebrity profile writer for an American-Russian newspaper and prospect research assistant at USD give her exceptional credentials for this calling.

As Jackie begins and Lisa departs, it

is a good time to remind ourselves that the magazine is a critical component of the Society's efforts to serve its membership and the College. Rated by alumni in two separate surveys as being exceptional, the magazine fulfills an important niche in the Society's efforts to report on the people, events and places connected with your alma mater. At the fall meeting of the alumni board, which serves as the editorial/advisory board of the magazine, the magazine was unanimously reaffirmed as a Society publication that will continue to be managed and directed by the Society. As one educational editor noted at a professional conference, "The *W&M Magazine* is not simply a spin piece published by a PR department. It is a publication *of* an alumni association, *by* alumni and alumni professionals *for* the alumni and friends of an institution."

When one notes, thanks largely to an energetic and imaginative Society staff, that the printing of the magazine is largely paid for by advertising, it is understandable why subscription rates remain unnecessary.

Thanks Lisa for your hard work and wonderful ideas about how to regularly improve upon what is a highly successful Society tradition. Thanks also to all of our alumni and friends who consistently provide support and encouragement in our endeavor. Welcome Jackie.

We are at peace with a good magazine.

With Best Wishes,

W. Barry Adams
Publisher



Jackie Genovese '87 and Lisa Riess.

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W&M Keeps Peace in the Classroom

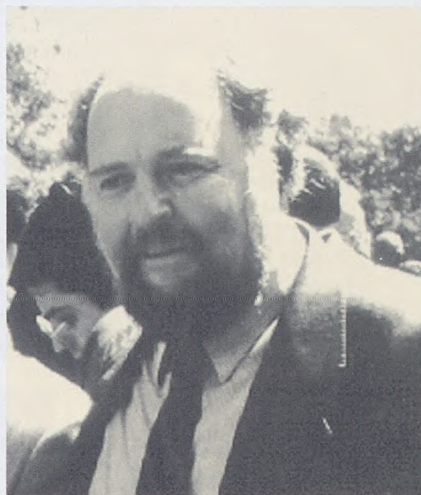
When Reves Center officials went looking last fall for an individual to become the first Borgenicht Visiting Scholar, they wanted someone who had ventured beyond the ivory tower to participate directly in the real issues of peace and war.

In Yair P. Hirschfeld, who created the back channel between Palestinian and Israeli leaders that led to the Middle East Peace Accords, they succeeded even beyond their expectations.

Along with Jim Bill and Michael Clark of the Reves Center, Hirschfeld is leading a groundbreaking course this fall called "Negotiating Middle East Peace" under a new program endowed by a million dollar gift from New Jersey entrepreneur Jack Borgenicht. The program seeks to engage students directly in confronting issues and proposing solutions for the region of conflict from which the visiting scholar comes.

After receiving his Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University in 1977, Hirschfeld taught at the University of Haifa, the Hebrew University and the University of Tel Aviv. In 1990, he established a research foundation with Yossi Beilin, who was to become a high government official under the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. He later established a relationship with a Palestinian official, Abu Alaa, during a visit to London. In London, Hirschfeld had been told by a Norwegian contact, Terje Rod Larsen, that Norway stood ready to play a role in Middle East peacemaking.

Defying an Israeli law that prohibited contact with the Palestine



Yair P. Hirschfeld

Liberation Organization, Hirschfeld created "the Oslo-Channel" and led the Israeli delegation in Norway in reconciliation discussions with the Palestinians. The talks resulted in the Middle East Peace Accords, which was signed at the White House on Sept. 13, 1993, by Yasser Arafat, Rabin and President Clinton.

Clark said the Reves Center spent six months looking for an individual of Hirschfeld's background to serve as the first Borgenicht Scholar. Since Borgenicht holds Israeli citizenship and Bill specializes in Middle East issues, they preferred the first scholar come from that area. Bill and Hirschfeld, both experts on Iran, had met earlier in their careers.

Bill says Hirschfeld has quietly dedicated his professional and political life to "pushing the peace process forward," an endeavor he currently pursues as the senior lecturer in the Department of Middle East History at the University of Haifa.

The class Hirschfeld will teach at William and Mary will be open to some

75 students from any discipline at the College and illustrate the basic goals of the Borgenicht initiative: 1) to focus on concrete problem-solving in areas of active conflict; 2) to attract prominent scholar-activists from a broad range of fields; 3) to involve students in developing practical solutions to conflicts in the region they explore; 4) to build direct human links by bringing students from both sides of a conflict to William and Mary; and 5) to build to a concrete outcome, which this year will be a two-day symposium at the College involving leading figures from the United States, Israel and the Palestinian National Authority.

Clark is particularly excited by this year's symposium, which will be held in late fall after the American presidential election. The students will build to that point by organizing in about 15 groups of five students each, with each group exploring an issue associated with the Middle East conflict. At the symposium, after hearing presentations from the invited guests, the groups will ask questions based on their four months of study. Finally, said Clark, the student teams will be required to offer solutions to the problems they have studied.

"This will serve as a whole new model for the relationship between William and Mary and the outside world, for teaching undergraduates and for undergraduate research," Clark says. "The course will be a symbolic demonstration of the spirit and ambition of the entire Borgenicht program."

—By S. Dean Olson
excerpted from the
William and Mary News



FEL-low Partners

The polyester suit will become the next fashion craze," predicts Ted Zoller, William and Mary's director of Economic Development. No, Zoller's not a fashion consultant, he's just been in close contact with the cutting-edge technology being developed near the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, including a next-generation laser that can make polyester fibers feel like silk.

The landowners of the proposed Jefferson Park for Research and Technology — William and Mary, Jefferson Lab and the city of Newport News — are collaborating with manufacturing companies to build a free-electron laser (FEL). The FEL is a new kind of laser that will not only revolutionize the process of manufacturing, but will also be a common project to link advanced technology businesses, professors and college students.

"Siemens, Motorola and IBM are all building large semiconductor plants in Virginia," says Zoller. "There's considerable interest in the research we are performing, because much of it relates to important processing steps in semiconductor manufacturing."

Once developed, the FEL will miniaturize the scale of manufacturing and introduce new properties to materials. For example, the laser can be used to treat materials, such as polymers, fibers and composites, with ultraviolet light to change the properties of their surfaces and thereby introduce new capabilities to these materials, allowing them to conduct electricity or to reduce friction. The implications of these capabilities for manufacturing is staggering. The laser may be used to develop ultrahigh density



Rendering of the Applied Research Center at the Jefferson Park for Research and Technology.

CD-ROM masters, to build micro-electromechanical systems, to develop the next generation of flat panel displays or photovoltaic cells and to manufacture more efficient fuel injection systems. DuPont, for example, is interested in treating polymers to turn polyester fabric into something that feels like silk.

If people aren't sold on the return of polyester, this new technology can have direct effects upon their safety: the FEL can also evaluate material without penetrating it, checking for cracks in airplane wings or cancer in breast tissue.

Being part of this developing technology provides cutting-edge opportunities for William and Mary students.

"As a result of our extensive collaborations with Jefferson Lab," Zoller says, "we have developed, under the leadership of the College's science faculty, world-class applied science and physics programs. This affords tremendous opportunities for our students in advanced technology."

Applied science students won't be the only ones to benefit from this collaboration; the research park will also enhance the College's business and public policy departments. "There's a

lot of interest in business development," Zoller says. "These new technologies need to be brought to market, and a lot of these technologies will result in new companies." The public policy program has already completed a study on the outcomes of NASA's technology transfer programs.

The College owns a quarter of the proposed 200-acre research park, and construction on the flagship building of the park, the Applied Research Center (ARC), is due to be finished within the year. The ARC will house several laboratories supporting approximately ten applied science faculty members.

—Amanda Roche '97

Dig It?

On the surface, William and Mary may be known for its historical knowledge, but it's unearthing new information about the past below ground as well. Enlisted by the National Park Service to research the archeological history of Jamestown Island, William and Mary's



Center for Archeological Research has found evidence that humans resided at Jamestown more than 11,000 years ago, making the English settlers of 1607 look like newcomers.

Conventional archeological wisdom has taught that Jamestown Island was unsuited for human habitation until 5,000 years ago. "We've found that this is not true," says Dennis Blanton, co-director of the Center. "From this [evidence], we know that Jamestown Island has been utilized as long as people have been in Eastern Virginia, perhaps as long as people have been in North America."

Five years ago, the National Park

project. While the Foundation had colonial expertise, the Center had survey and prehistoric experience. Their complementary strengths got them the job.

"[The Park Service] had previously focused on the settlement, and had ignored the rest of what was out there," says Blanton. "Our expectations were that there were prehistoric sites as well as English sites, and the Park Service wanted to interpret this for the public."

Six months and 6,000 holes later, while Colonial Williamsburg found new evidence at the settlement itself, the Center discovered 60 other sites that should provide a fuller picture of life on Jamestown Island from 10,000 B.C. to the present.

Most of the artifacts they found consisted of prehistoric chips of stone from making a knife or an arrowhead. "These were telltale signs of where people were," Blanton says.

Pursuing a dig is a hard, tedious job, but luckily erosion sometimes does the dirty work, and Blanton made a big prehistoric discovery without lifting a shovel.

"One day when the tide was low, I couldn't resist the temptation to wander out along the sand. I saw something, and I knew exactly what it was: it was an 11,000 year old spearpoint."

New prehistoric evidence has shown that activity was concentrated around the James River more than 5,000 years ago, when freshwater was abundant and the sea level was lower. A gradual rise in sea level caused swamps and made

Jamestown a less favorable place to live. To avoid property wars, England told its settlers not to settle where the Indians were, but there was a reason why the Indians weren't at Jamestown — at the time, it wasn't exactly the best place in the area.

Archaeologists also found evidence of Indian towns upstream and downstream from Jamestown just before the

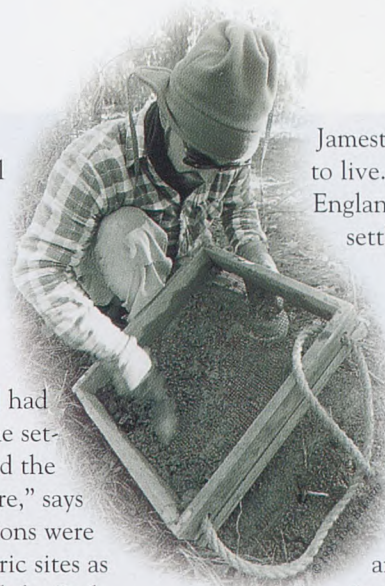
English came.

"Why settle at Jamestown when you can move upstream and be at the junction of the Indian equivalent of interstate highways: the Chickahominy River and the James River?" says Blanton. "Also, why settle at Jamestown when you can move downstream to the Kingsmill area and live at the grocery store — the abundance of oysters ended approximately at College Creek. Chief Powhatan supposedly said that the English had settled on a piece of waste ground."

The Park Service intends to incorporate the Center's and Colonial Williamsburg's reports into its interpretations, and when 2007 rolls around, they'll have a much better idea of what Jamestown was really like. "Enhanced explanation is what we're after," asserts Blanton.

Besides attracting more tourists, the completion of the Center's Jamestown project will also benefit the College. "The field work may be over, but we can utilize the information in student projects, from undergraduate to doctoral research," says Blanton. "Also, this collaboration is a good example of our growing partnership with the National Park Service and Colonial Williamsburg."

—Amanda Roche '97



© 1985 Tony Beckwith

"These were telltale signs of where people were."

Service initiated this comprehensive archeological evaluation of Jamestown Island to enhance their interpretations for the upcoming 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement (2007). As the public service branch of William and Mary's anthropology department, the Center for Archeological Research teamed up with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to bid for the



© Brenda M. Jorgens

New W&M student Anna Martin from Salisbury, N.Y., laughs with her classmates during the Fall '96 Convocation.

Convocation '96 emphasizes (W)renewal

William and Mary is a living organism, and is constantly changing," said Provost Gillian Cell to the Class of 2000. "During your years here, you will do the same."

To illustrate those words at Opening Convocation '96, President Timothy Sullivan '66 announced that after surviving more than 300 years as a symbol of the College's resilience, the Wren building is in serious need of internal renovation. Ponding water at the foundation is destroying the historic bricks and the electrical and mechanical systems need to be replaced.

Although its bricks may not be immortal, William and Mary's committed spirit is, Sullivan said as he announced the anonymous donation of a \$1 million challenge grant towards the total \$4 million restoration cost of the Wren building.

"The Wren building is an emblem of what is best from our past," he said. "This

donation manifests, on our donor's part, the foresight to preserve this structure for future use."

From the decision to admit women and people of color to the renovation of James Blair, Convocation '96 emphasized the College's adaptation to include all those devoted to truth, community and academic excellence. The Wren has stood as a concrete symbol of that commitment.

"This building's history is not one simply of salvage following disaster, but also of renewal and renovation in response to the changing needs of an evolving college," Sullivan said.

While recounting the College's 304-year tradition, Convocation '96 invoked some new traditions of its own. As a symbol of unity, the last classes to graduate in the 20th century presented a class banner to the first to graduate in the 21st. The William and Mary Choir sang as usual, but for the first time under new director Jim Armstrong.

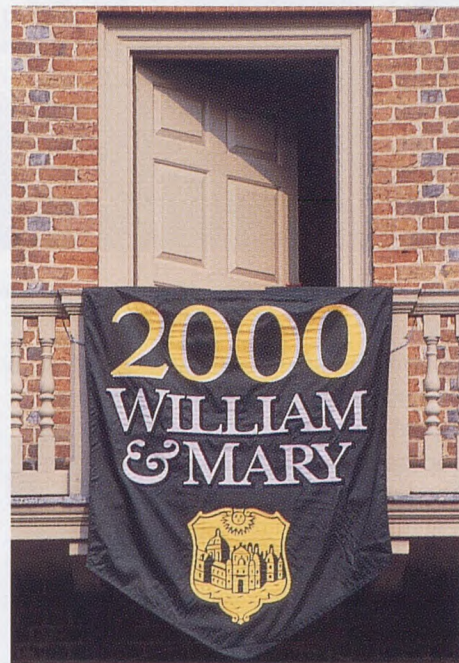
To the Class of 2000, Faculty Assembly president James Moliterno said, "You are extraordinary people coming to an extraordinary place at an extraordinary time. Few other members of your class will attend a college in its 5th century of education."

Father Charles Kelly, former Catholic campus minister and recipient of the 1995 Sullivan Award, paused to ritualize the beginning of the school year for the College's newest initiates. He acknowledged the Wren was indeed a holy place, the traditional setting for student ceremonies from convocations to weddings.

"Don't miss — indeed capture — the richness of the steps in the middle, between convocation and graduation," he said. "This middle is loaded — look around and look deeply."

The freshmen concluded the ceremony by crossing through the Wren portico into a sea of welcoming applause in the front yard. When the Wren bell rings again at Commencement 2000, they will be taking the same steps in reverse.

—Amanda Roche '97



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Austin Roberts '69, Marshall Acuff '62 and Edward Grimsley '51 stand poised to lead the College's Board of Visitors. All three have served as presidents of the Alumni Society's Board of Directors.

Alumni Take the Helm

What do a rector, vice rector and secretary of the college's Board of Visitors have in common?

Besides all three being William and Mary alumni, A. Marshall Acuff Jr. '62, J. Edward Grimsley '51 and Austin L. Roberts III '69, each served as presidents of the Society of the Alumni in the 1980s. All three men were elected to their one-year posts at the board's September meeting.

Acuff, elected the Rector of the College in September, is senior vice president and managing director of Smith Barney Inc. in New York, N.Y. He received his B.A. in economics and earned his master's degree in finance from the University of Michigan.

Acuff, also a trustee emeritus of the William and Mary Endowment Association and board member of the School

of Business Administration Sponsors, was appointed to the board of visitors in 1991. In 1989, he served as president of the Alumni Society's Board of Directors.

Grimsley, a syndicated columnist and former chairman of the editorial board of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, will serve as Vice Rector of the board. Grimsley has worked at the *Times-Dispatch* since 1953. He served as president of the Society of the Alumni in 1987.

Roberts, who received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees at William and Mary, is president and CEO of the Bank of Lancaster in Kilmarnock. He will serve as secretary to the board.

Acuff, Roberts and Grimsley have another thing in common. All three are recipients of the Alumni Medallion, the highest honor the society can bestow on an alumnus.

William and Mary makes the grade

Once again, William and Mary has scored high marks from national magazines that annually rank colleges across the country. In a ratings survey conducted by *U.S. News & World Report*, the College ranked second overall as the most efficient college in the country. Other schools that were ranked lower than W&M included Baylor University, Texas A&M and University of Colorado.

W&M also moved up one notch to 33rd overall among national universities. The College was ranked 29th in best value and 39th for its undergraduate business program.

Barron's College Guide ranked W&M in its "most competitive" categories with other institutions such as Harvard University, Duke University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University. In the annual "How to Get into College" issue, *Newsweek* listed W&M as one of 14 "top colleges with moderate costs." The magazine also cited the College's academic programs and close-knit community as additional incentives for attending W&M.

In the *Fiske Guide to Colleges*, W&M received a five-star rating and was designated as a "best-buy." In *U.S. News and World Report*, the Marshall-Wythe School of Law ranked 30th in the nation, while the M.B.A. program was ranked 49th out of 350 similar programs in the country.



Jitterbugging in Japan?

Yes, the embers of the Olympic torch have barely grown cold in Atlanta, but it's not too soon for competitive athletes to begin training for the 1998 Winter Games: skiers, hockey players, figure skaters and... ballroom dancers? Could be, says David Howland '90, who recently won the "Super Bowl" of ballroom dancing, the British Exhibition Championships in Blackpool, England.

According to Howland and his partner, Vivienne Ramsey, both from Charlottesville, Va., competitive ballroom dancing is nothing

like the simple sway and slide of Victorian-era films. It takes real athleticism, and keen artistic sensibilities. "We would like the art form to become an Olympic sport, and we'd like to make a living by it," Howland says.

Despite the fact that seven out of the eight competitors at Blackpool were from the U.S., Americans are not the only ones taking this sport seriously. Judging from the number of ballroom dancing competitions cropping up around the world and the standardization of dancing styles, this new competitive art form, like ballet and figure skating, lends itself well to recitals and rankings.

Ballroom dancing has been granted provisional Olympic status for the Winter Games, and if it does make it, Howland is hopeful that his category of theatrical ballroom dancing will be among those accepted.

Internationally, there are three categories of ballroom dancing: smooth, Latin and exhibition. In smooth ballroom, a la Fred Astaire, dancers in tuxes and gowns incorporate dances like the foxtrot and the waltz. Latin ballroom is spicier than smooth; the dancers wear slim fitting costumes and incorporate dances like the samba and

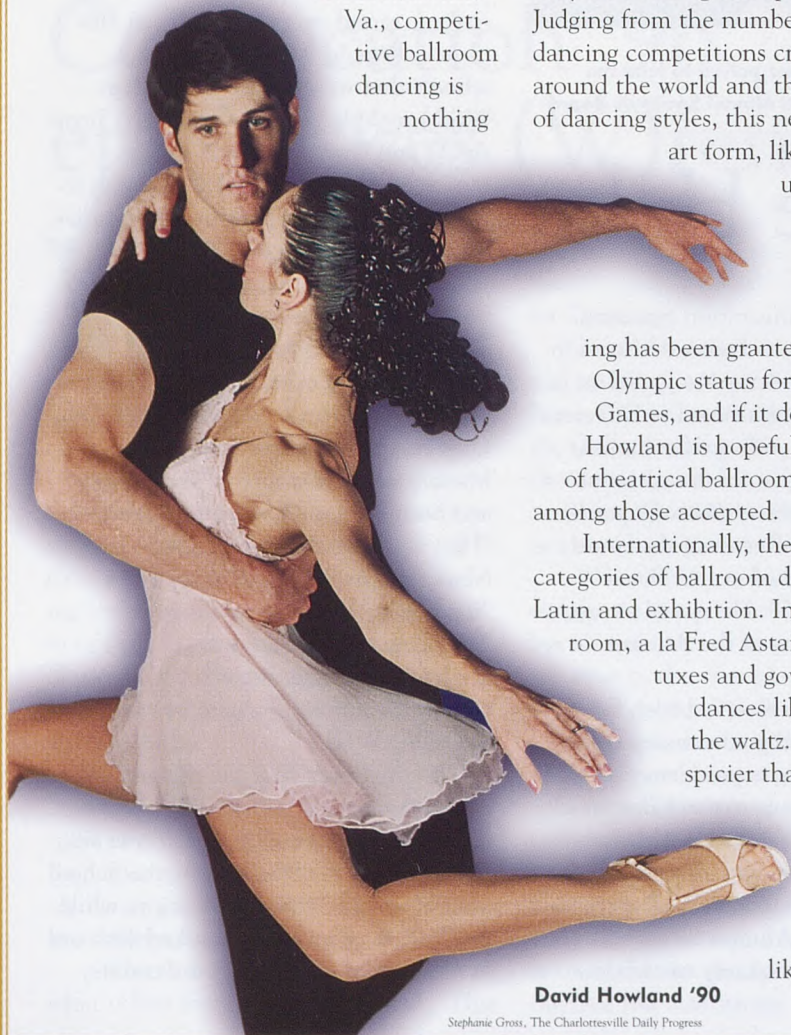
the rumba. Because of the level of difficulty, fewer people compete in Howland and Ramsey's category of exhibition ballroom dancing, which is also called cabaret or theatrical ballroom.

Exhibition performances consist of one choreographed routine no more than 4 minutes long. Beyond that, there are no rules or required moves, but theatrical ballroom characteristically incorporates high, sweeping lifts similar to figure skating or *pas de deux*. As the name suggests, theatrical dancers focus upon the audience's response. "We perform for the audience, and we want to move them emotionally — that's how we psych ourselves up," Howland says. "We want the people to be pleased with what they see."

Howland became interested in ballroom dancing quite by chance. Five years ago, the dance studio where they worked put Howland and Ramsey together to dance a theatrical number that she choreographed. "We really liked it," says Howland. "When we heard it was a category of competition, we went to the Virginia State Championships, and after that, we were addicted."

With only five years experience, Howland and Ramsey are overwhelmingly good. They performed their winning performance at Blackwood to Bette Midler's "The Rose," and moved the audience to tears. "It was a touching, romantic, soft number," says Howland. "In that piece, we want them to think we're in love."

—Amanda Roche '97



David Howland '90

Stephanie Gross, The Charlottesville Daily Progress



Stuffing the Ballot Box, W&M Style

What do Ross Perot and Miss America have in common? At first blush, the answer is “probably not much.” But for political consultant and attorney Sam Lanham Jr. '75 and reigning Miss Virginia Michelle Kang '96, getting out the vote and getting the vote, respectively, have become their greatest challenges.

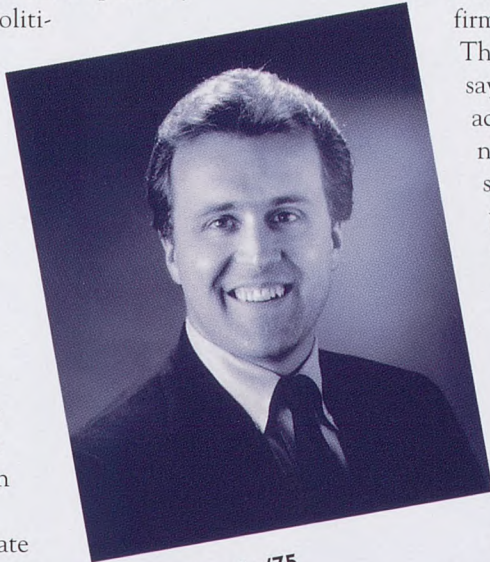
Since December 1995, Lanham's time and energy have been directed at putting Reform Party candidate Ross Perot's name on the national ballot. Although the average voter may take his ballot choices for granted, Lanham's efforts have been an enlightening, if at times frustrating, chore.

“It's very difficult — it's a momentous task,” Lanham says. “There is no national law to make a new political party. You have to establish the party in all 50 states.”

The connections to American history that the former government major made during his years in Williamsburg still inform his career and life. “If you're a William and Mary student with one sensitive bone in your body then you can't help but feel keenly aware of the part you play in the continuing evolution of American politics. You say with enthusiasm, ‘I

am a part of American history.’”

Lanham has scored numerous victories for the Reform Party, with the



Sam Lanham Jr. '75

Bangor, Maine, law firm he co-founded. The firm, Lanham says, serves clients across the state and nation. “I've done some work over the years in areas of constitutional litigation,” he says. Lanham was contacted by Perot last December to assist him and the Reform Party in its effort to

become qualified as a new political party in Maine. When Maine's Secretary of State rejected the Reform Party's petition for access to the ballot, Lanham was hired to file a lawsuit contesting the rejection in U.S. District Court.

“The bottom line is, we were successful,” he says. Today, the Perot-supported third party has secured ballot access in all 50 states for the November election. Lanham continues to work with the Reform Party, serving as a legal “troubleshooter” whenever political obstacles arise. (Lanham was part of the legal team that argued in Washington, D.C. for Perot's inclusion in the Presidential debates).

While Lanham prepares for Perot to become our next president, Miss Virginia Michelle Kang pondered her one in 50 chance of becoming the next Miss

America. Since her graduation from the College in the spring of this year, Kang's life has taken a turn for the tiara, as it were.

Kang was crowned Miss Virginia on June 29, amid hopes that she would go on to become the state's first Miss America in 18 years. A classically trained pianist, Kang was poised to impress with her confidence, a platform of child abuse prevention and rendition of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody #2 in C# minor.

For many students at the College, Kang was already the winner, crown or no crown. John Laino '97, chair of the Student Alumni Liaison Council, of which Kang was an undergraduate member, voiced a common sentiment. “As far as we're concerned, Michelle should have been crowned Miss America the day she became Miss Apple Blossom Festival — she's great, she deserves it.”

Armchair judges across the country were allowed, for the first time, to call a special set of “1-900” numbers to vote for this year's Miss America. Only residents of those states without semifinalist contestants were allowed to call-in however — an “improvement” Lanham sees as exclusionary. “In my work, I strive for political inclusion. If the residents of Rhode Island and those of California are voting for their Miss America contestants, of course we know what will happen. The fact of the matter was that Virginians were never allowed to vote for their contestant. Common sense says that the public's vote should be tallied based on the number of votes as a percentage of the state's population.” Unfortunately, Kang wasn't selected as Miss America, but will continue to serve as Miss Virginia until next year.

Come election night, ironically, Perot will find himself in a similar American spotlight — vying for the grandest title of them all, Mister President.

—Sean Steele '97



code of HONOR

BY PAMELA R. KIRSCHBAUM

PHOTOS BY STEVE MORRISETTE

IS HONOR RELEVANT TODAY?

In a society where cheating on exams by college students is widespread, where a university student can earn big bucks publishing an 87-page guide to “earning” an A the easy way, where it is as easy to download someone else’s ideas from a computer as it is to copy their software, where people accused of dishonorable conduct hire a lawyer and sue the plaintiff, what does honor mean?

In a society where able-bodied people park in slots for the disabled, where competition for the best graduate schools, important internships, jobs, even for economic security is rife, does honor have a definition?

At a time when politicians and lawyers, priests and professors, and celebrities of all stripes are as likely to be known for what they haven’t told or what they haven’t earned as for their candor and compassion, is a code of conduct, whatever the specifics, old-fashioned and impossibly retrograde?

Sometime between the days when William and Mary women had to sign

in by 10 p.m. and couldn’t ride in automobiles, when “gentlemen” never questioned the unwritten rules and no one had any money. Sometime between then and now the world changed. Astronauts walked on the moon, and the birth control pill caused a revolution. The Vietnam War produced fissures, then fault lines, and scars with rampant adhesions. Leaders lied about the “body count” and the strength of the enemy, and the media responded with doctored documentaries of its own.

Assassinations shook America. The Kennedys. Martin Luther King Jr. Was there a conspiracy? A sitting president was unseated, and another so distrusted that he declined to try for re-election. Never trust anyone over thirty seemed to evolve into never trust anyone.

Students in this decade alone have seen their athletes recruited despite questionable conduct, their universities sanctioned for NCAA infractions, their pop movie and singing stars sued, or suing, for plagiarism, and cultural icons toppled. Headlines have chronicled the painful investigation of more than 100



midshipmen involved in a cheating scandal at the Naval Academy and the on-again, off-again expulsion of a University of Virginia student accused of cheating on an exam. Most recently, the Navy's chief admiral, under fire from the media for wearing service medals recognizing valor during combat that he was perhaps not entitled to, committed suicide and left a note citing the dishonor of making an "honest mistake." Reports cited the ongoing pressures on the admiral from the Academy and Tailhook crises, jet crashes and drug problems of sailors. Regardless, the notion and nature of honor was prominent.

**DON'T LIE, CHEAT OR STEAL.
IT SEEMS SIMPLE. IS IT?**

The College of William and Mary, the second-oldest university in the United States, was the first to have an honor code, for which, among other firsts, it is famous. The code, an unwritten "gentlemen's agreement" until the 20th century, has evolved into detailed written regulations administered by

the same idea of what honor is," says Honor Council Chair Marla Diaz '97. "We don't all agree when we enter the school about what our beliefs and our standards are when it comes to honor. The good thing about our code is it states for the community — at the very beginning when you come in — 'This is what we have agreed to as a community and will be our minimum standard of honor.' That's what people are asked to live up to. It's a guideline, and it's a good guideline.

"People will argue with small parts of it, with the details of it, but I think they support strongly the concept of having a code." Evidence of students' commitment to honor is clear from their conduct, President of the College Timothy J. Sullivan thinks. "The concept of honor in the honor code defines who we are.

students elected for that purpose, but the underlying principles remain the same. And yes, say a number of people, despite changes in society, despite difficulties of definition and administration, the concept of honor has value and meaning.

"All students do not enter William and Mary having

Without the principles of the code, William and Mary wouldn't be William and Mary. I do believe students share that view," he says.

"The code reflects who we're called to be as members of a learning community," notes Professor Hans Tefel, chairman of the religion department and a specialist in bioethics. "I think people here are clear, or clear enough, about what kind of community they want. The code is only a minimal reflection of what we are. It indicates a certain kind of integrity, a certain kind of trust."

Trust is a fundamental part of William and Mary, says the professor, who has given students unmonitored take-home exams. "We become what we do. Practices shape our identity. If we have a code of trust, we may in fact become trustworthy," he says.

Without some kind of standards of conduct for interaction, explains Wayne Kernodle, professor emeritus of sociology, a lack of freedom results for anyone in a group. "Freedom is a function of the kind of social structure," he says, "with despotism

at one end and anarchy at the other." In an increasingly heterogeneous community such as William and Mary, students bring with them a wide variety of perceptions and standards, often deeply ingrained from home, church and other experiences. Thus, clashes with the College's concept of honor are likely.

"People may think they're doing the right thing or being moral," he notes, "and may need time to work out the differences."

To set the standards of honorable behavior in the particular community of William and Mary is the essence of its code, and all students when they accept entrance must pledge their agreement to

"People will argue with small parts of it, with the details of it, but I think they support strongly the concept of having a code."

President Timothy J. Sullivan '66

abide by it. But beyond their years in school, the code often continues to reverberate. "I think what people take with them is an appreciation for the kind of life permitted under such a system," explains Brooks Preuher '93, "for being in an environment of honor. It's not the details of how many reps you have on a council, it's the trust you have among one another and the responsibility you feel for your actions." A member of the Young Guard Council and a former Honor Council member, Preuher says she saw difficulties in administering the code, but was "extremely impressed by the level of integrity at William and Mary" and found that students believed in the values of the honor system.

Former Honor Council Chair Laura Edge '96 thinks the ideals of honor at William and Mary create a lasting series of expectations for behavior in society and help people develop or strengthen a personal honor code. In some cases, she says, their experience at the College is the first time students are confronted with expectations. "It is better," Edge believes, "to have a less-than-perfect code than no code."

College is a training ground, says Mark Washko '90, and it's "not what your grades are, but who you become through those four years of study, how your character develops, that will carry you through life." A member of the Graduate Alumni Council, Washko earned a master's in public policy at the College in 1994 and is now a third-year law student at the University of Vermont. "Some see honor as an anachronism," he says. "As students have gotten more competitive, there's pressure to say or do whatever it

takes to achieve your goals. 'Why should I play by the rules when others don't?' they ask. But without honor, what does a person have?"

OF PARAMETERS AND SANCTIONS

Defining the parameters of behavior and the penalties for infractions is — perhaps quite naturally in an intellectual community that values individuality and debate — a sticking point. William and Mary now enrolls 8,000 students in six separate schools — not the 2,000 of earlier eras — and the community is far more heterogeneous. Should changes in the particular, and the greater, society be reflected in the code?

"I understand that people and society change," alumnus Robert T. Hewitt '40 says. "But one thing that does not change is honor. I have friends who say that many people don't understand the concept of honor now because the conditions of their lives are different, that the world is so different, it [a code] won't work." Life was simpler, he says, and the College considerably smaller when he was a member and then vice chair of the Honor Council at William and Mary. And he was "lucky not to be brought up in a way that forces you to learn to lie to avoid trouble," notes the retired Navy

Department administrator. He adds that does not rule out the expectation, regardless of people's backgrounds, that "they can understand and uphold a code of honor."

Some alumni have wondered aloud if the concept of honor has been "deteriorating" and has become too "relative." Hewitt, who notes that expulsion —

which to make some judgment. Are there two or 20 cases a year, and do they result in expulsion or an oral reprimand?

During spring semester 1996, Diaz reports, the Honor Council dealt with 23 cases, primarily initiated by professors. Thirteen involved cheating on tests or computer science projects and plagiarism, and 10 were cases of lying, which includes forgery. The normal penalty is suspension for a semester. Other "creative" penalties, often given in addition to suspension, include probation, required attendance of a stress-management or study-skills course and writing letters to the academic department and council explaining how and why the infraction occurred.

During her term as council chair from February 1995–96, Edge said a number of cases arose from students' use of fake IDs. A "big push" to educate students about fake ID violations has reduced the number of cases, Diaz says. Most people who break the code are "just not thinking," Edge explains. "They were not thinking of the consequences. The punishment for a violation lets a person recognize, at this stage, what could be far more disastrous and serious consequences." And in some cases is.

Says Diaz: "Most offenders are not bad kids but have been in a really tough situation and made a bad decision and are not likely to do it again. It's not that you make the right decision when it's easy, but when it's hard. And some people just don't do that."

Alumnus Jack Garrett '40, a member of the Olde Guard Council and a former president of the Alumni Society, says in a quiet but definite way, "I think a sense of honor is fundamental to our concept of Western civilization. The honor code at William and Mary is a reflection of that — it separates man and the rest of the animals. It's a disappointment to me that we slipped a notch somewhere along the line and give people a second chance." He recalls the president of the student

"We become what we do. Practices shape our identity. If we have a code of trust, we may in fact become trustworthy."

Professor Hans Tefel,
religion department chair

not suspension or lesser penalties — was standard in his day, asks for statistics on

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My special thanks to Robert and his staff.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Jimmye Laycock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Jimmye Laycock
Head Football Coach

body, found guilty of cheating during finals shortly before commencement, required to leave immediately. He does not want to see in his alma mater the erosion of standards he sees in society in general.

The College's code has remained the same since the 1940s, when it moved away from a single-sanction system such as that at the University of Virginia and several other Virginia schools. Some schools have changed more recently. In 1989, West Point, for example, amended part of its code to read "and will not tolerate such acts by other cadets" to allow remedies other than expulsion for infractions. In a single-sanction system, a student who commits a violation is assumed to no longer desire to be part of the community. Says Diaz: "The school is saying, 'That's fine, we're not going to penalize you for not living up to our standard, we're merely going to send you to another school where the standard of honor is something that's equal to your standard.' The problem with that is it does not teach, it does not educate. We say, 'You are human, you made a bad decision, you're getting penalized, and we want you back.'" Garrett believes, on the other hand, that it is "kind of late" educating students in honorable behavior at nineteen or twenty years old.

"There's not a shred of evidence," the president of the College responds, "that the quality of our graduates has deteriorated in matters of their conduct. Yes, the code has changed, a sign of progress in thinking and understanding that reflects a need to distinguish among violations," he says. The equivalent in legal terms would be like "giving the death penalty for traffic violations and murder."

"TOLERATION" AND TECHNOLOGY

William and Mary undergraduates do not have a "toleration" clause, a clause that reads "and will not tolerate anyone who does [lie, cheat, steal]" that requires them to report an honor violation or be charged with a violation themselves. "They're one hundred percent

against it," the Honor Council chair says emphatically. "They don't like the obligation that you have to report someone."

An erosion of support for such a system

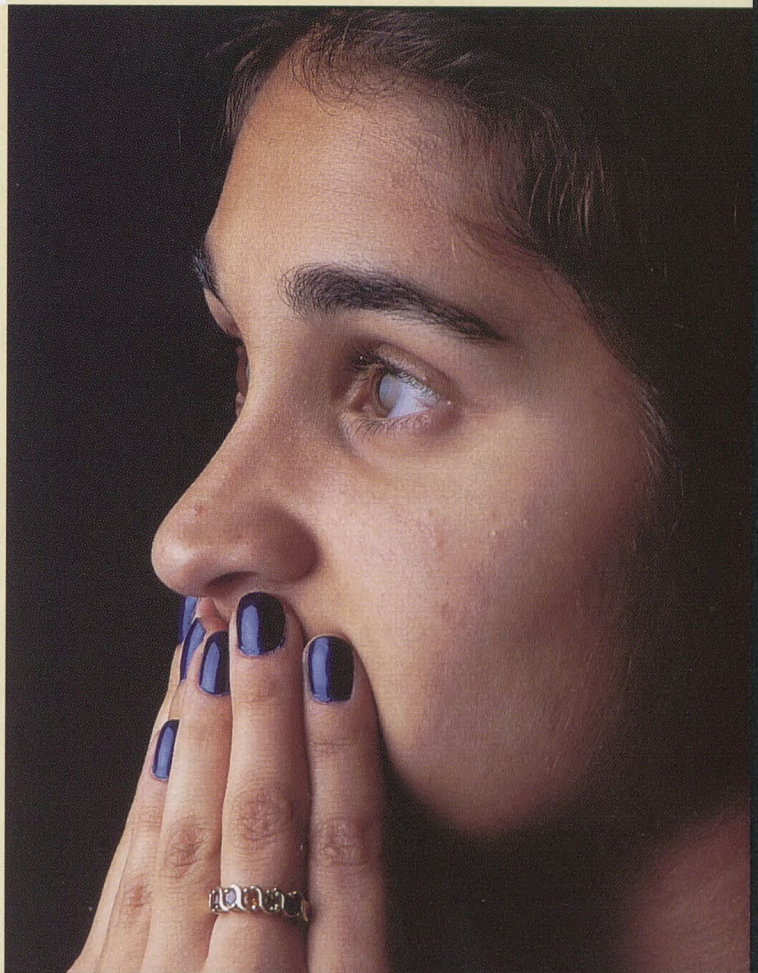
person to report him or herself, or do nothing. The professor found that the closer respondents were in intimacy to the person, the more likely they were to do something, but that did not include reporting someone. "That is generally a pattern that holds up and a reflection of society in general," he says.

For those going into self-policing professions such as law and business, a toleration clause is considerably more palatable since it will become part of their coming professional obligations. In current discussions on campus about a unified code, one possibility is that individual schools will decide whether to include such a clause, Diaz says. Mainly, the sense among undergraduates at least is that the code and penalties are stringent, that honor is taken seriously.

"Many students don't want to be regarded as dishonorable because they don't squeal on someone."

Wayne Kernodle, professor emeritus, sociology

has occurred, Kernodle notes. "Many students don't want to be regarded as dishonorable because they don't squeal on someone." A study he did on honor and friendship a while ago asked respondents if they observed an honor violation by a person they didn't know, a person from their hometown, a sorority or fraternity friend, a roommate, or a significant other, whether they would report the person, tell the



"Times do change, and while the meaning of honor remains the same, the application has to change just as the application of any kind of rule of law changes over time," *Flat Hat* editor-in-chief Samantha Levine contends. "That it should be unchanging, I think, is counter to what an honor code should be, which is to deal effectively with whatever violations might occur. The violations in 1940 are not all the same as those that occur now."

Cheating on exams and lying to school authorities may be the same, but lifting someone's work from the Internet and stealing computer program codes are clearly not. Collaboration and "getting help," especially in computer science, is now presenting more problems. "The line between acceptable and unacceptable collaboration is getting fuzzier," Laura Edge says. "A lot of times students don't understand what the professors have stipulated." In addition, faculty are not bound by the code or obligated to report offenders, which can add another twist, she explains. And students are bombarded with messages from the business world that place a high premium on the ability to work as part of a team.

If students don't understand the boundaries of collaboration, Hewitt argues, they should "go immediately to the professor and find out the ground rules" rather than possibly committing an infraction.

Likewise, information and research on the Internet, on the World Wide Web, should not pose a problem, ethics professor Tefel asserts. "We have certain values we agree on as human beings and then we try to extend them to new situations. In principle, we apply academic integrity in new settings, and I'm

confident we can do that," Tefel says. "If people work in the new media, then the line has to be drawn clearly. Ethics is about drawing the line — it's not black and white.

"The honorable thing is to cite the source, the spirit is that we acknowledge where we have gotten our ideas," he says, "whether electronic or verbal or print. Why should this new medium disable us morally?"

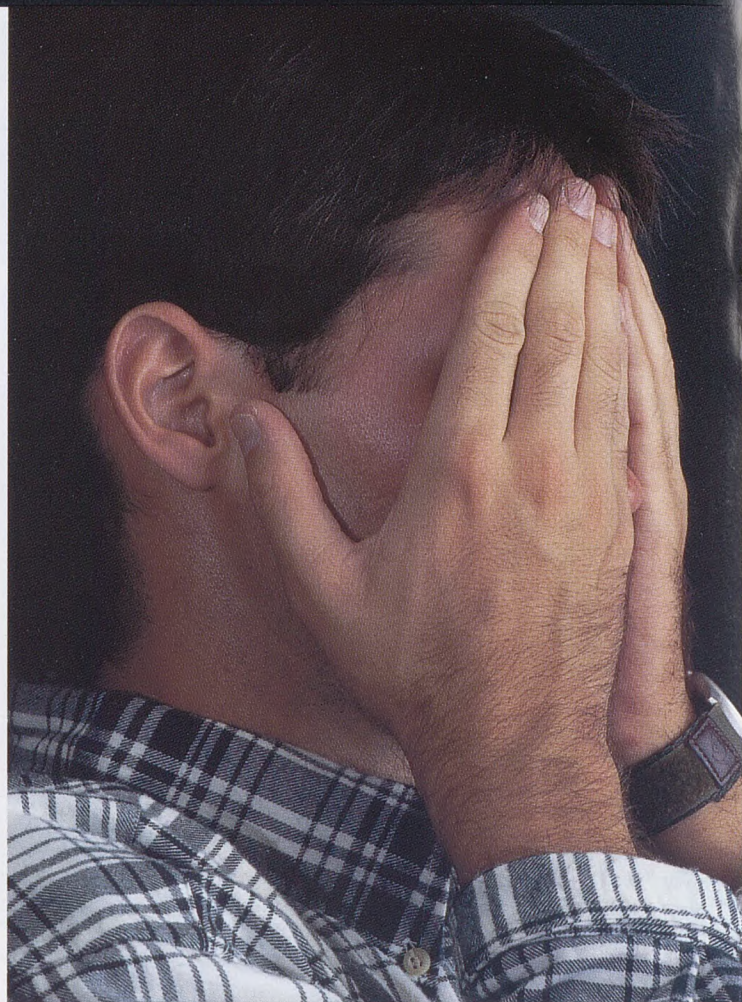
"If the honor code sat in a book and got dusty, and nothing ever happened to it for centuries, that's all it would be — a dusty old rule."

Samantha Levine '97 *Flat Hat* editor

A CASE IN POINT

Presumably, computer science students are allowed to help each other with specific homework assignments, but not allowed to collaborate on writing programs or on tests. Notes Diaz: "We've had problems with students collaborating when it's clear they shouldn't, and we've also had some cases where they just don't understand when they can get help from each other."

One computer science major, who prefers not to be identified, speaks forthrightly about an honor offense and subsequent council hearing during his freshman year. He and a friend worked



together to solve a programming problem, had the same errors in their programs, and were told by the professor that they had probably committed a violation and should turn themselves in. They did. "At the time," he says, "we kind of knew we were skirting a gray area." The professor in fact attended the hearing, said they were "good kids" who were new, and asked for leniency. His punishment included suspension, which meant the loss of that semester's work and credits, and although he appealed the decision to the dean, it was denied. "In the grand scheme of what goes on here," he says, "I don't think it was that bad. We had not stolen code or broken into somebody's account or stolen the answer key." Collaboration — "Well, I tried this, you may want to look at that" — is fairly prevalent on campus, he claims, and people tend to look the other way.

Now a senior, he is critical not of an honor system but of its application. "They say there's a range of penalties, but really suspension is the normal 'rubber-stamp' punishment. That's not

made clear when you enter. In my four years, I've noticed the honor code used only as a punitive measure. It's never used to assume that students do have any sort of honor. The big argument against self-scheduled exams here at William and Mary is that one student will take an exam and go tell all his friends what the answers are." The assumption that students are honorable should be the basis for a code, he contends.

Despite his very upsetting experience, the senior "loves William and Mary" and is glad he chose it. "The honor code concept *per se* is a really good idea and something that's needed in society," he says. "And yes, if you do something to break your honor, you should be punished. But the way the system is now it's political, it doesn't take into account that students have any honor, and it doesn't take into account varying degrees of offenses.

"If the honor code were returned to the state it's supposed to be — which is students will not lie, cheat or steal, period, and we trust you not to do that, but if we find out you do we will punish you — I think it would be a very good system."

In an ideal world the code should be that simple, say the '90s council members. But in practice, "it won't fly," Edge observes. "If you set the standards too stringently, and go after really trivial infractions, people will not respect the standards." She offers an example: taking an apple from the cafeteria for a snack later, which is technically stealing. "I don't agree with that at all," Bob Hewitt answers. "Today it's an apple, tomorrow it's my Cadillac — if I had a Cadillac." And Jack Garrett asserts, "It's not a complicated code for anyone with intelligence to understand: you don't lie, you don't cheat, you don't steal."

Brooks Preuher says thoughtfully, "To a certain extent, the code should reflect how the students want to live. It's walking the line between reflecting the

students' view of integrity, which changes, and an absolute concept of honor, and that's really tough to do."

Yet another point of view, sociologist Wayne Kernodle notes, is that it's up to an individual to act honorably without enforced rules and only to the person's detriment if he or she chooses otherwise. He cites a professor at another institution who tells students, "If you want to look at old exams, if you want to cheat, be my guest. You're the loser."

He himself believes in a professional obligation to transmit some values. "A set of expectations is a good thing to have, but it may not be eternal. A 1693 set of standards may not fit the situation of the students of 1996. Whose criteria of honor are being held up to be enforced?" he asks. "You need a general consensus that this is the way we ought to operate and you may have to re-examine [criteria] from time to time."

Kernodle and Hans Tefel testify to the integrity of their students at William and Mary over the years. Preuher, whose mother, Class of 1968, served on the Honor Council, doesn't think the "feelings of honor" students have almost thirty years later are different. Perhaps what is most important is the great interest, the talk on campus, about the code. An eighteenth-century gentleman of the College might be stunned and bewildered by the complexity and pace of life on the verge of the twenty-first century, but surely his heart would be warmed by the continued willingness at his alma mater to grapple with what it means to live honorably.

"If students were totally apathetic and not interested in any discussion about changing the honor code," Samantha Levine asserts, "then that would show they may not respect it or look to it as any kind of guide for their behavior. If the honor code sat in a book and got dusty, and nothing ever happened to it for centuries, that's all it would be — a dusty old rule.

"That it's a high-profile campus issue means the code is still a very important part of life here at the College."

"It's not a complicated code for anyone with intelligence to understand: you don't lie, you don't cheat, you don't steal."

Jack Garrett '40, Olde Guard Council member and former president of the Alumni Society

CITATIONS

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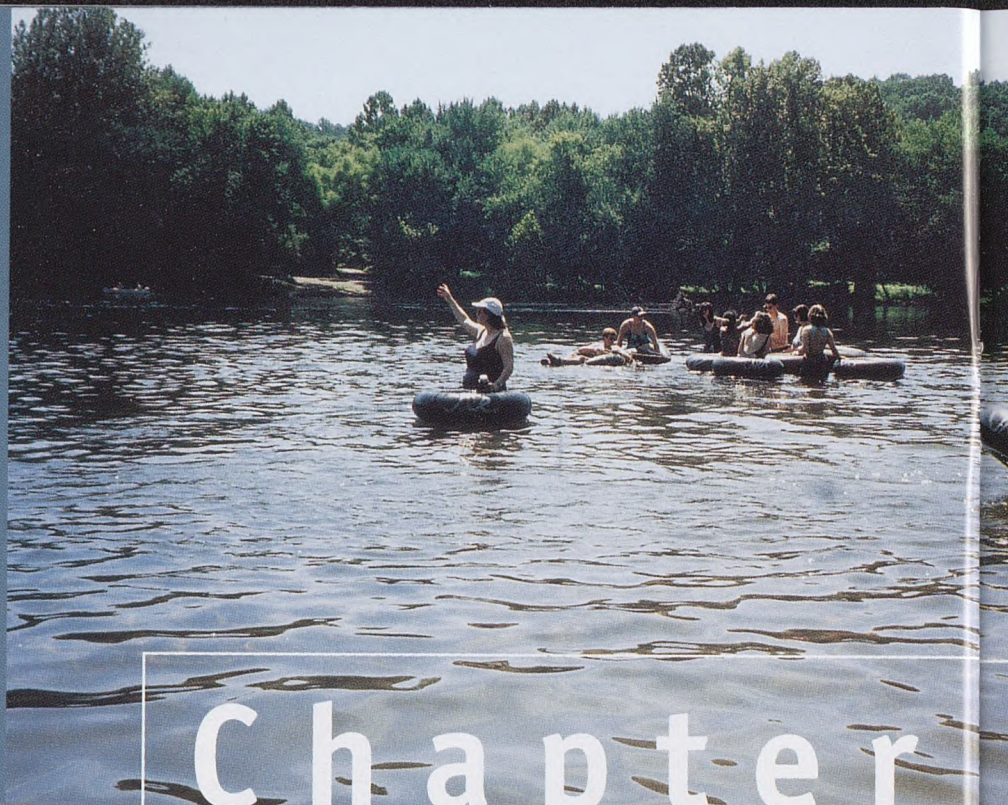
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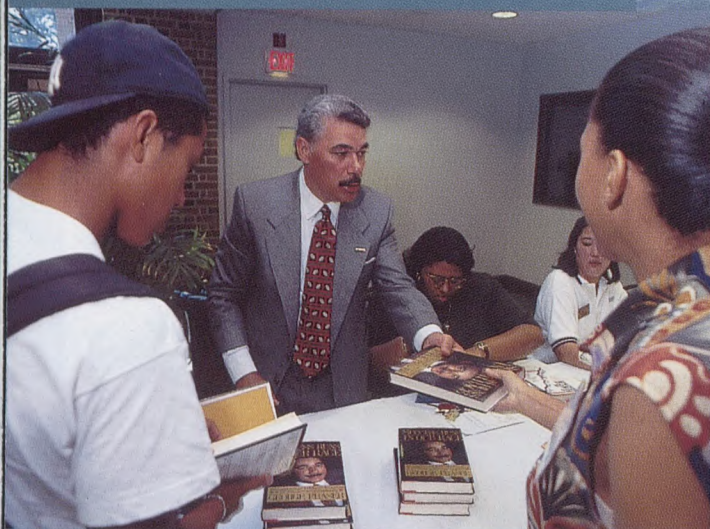
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Alumni begin their trek down the James River in Scottsville during the Young Guarde Tubing Trip on Sept. 1.



Chapter

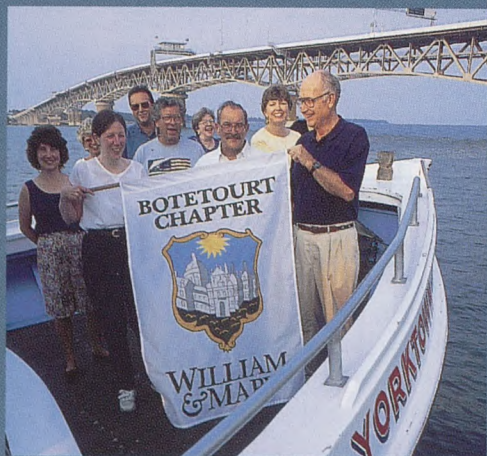


George Fraser, center, a noted author and speaker, talks with students during the Black Alumni and Student Day on Sept. 7. Over 150 students, alumni and business representatives attended the day-long event, sponsored by the Hulon Willis Association, the Office of Career Services and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

A member of the William and Mary Pep Band gets ready to march out onto the field after a pregame tailgate sponsored by the Alumni Board Organization at the Alumni Society during the first W&M home football game on Sept. 14. The Tribe beat Virginia Military Institute 40-21.



Photo by Steve Maricetta



Members of the Botetourt Alumni Chapter visit aboard the *Miss Yorktown* during the chapter's August meeting.

photo by Steve Mermantz

Whether it's a benefit to help others, an educational program to expand their minds or a social gathering, alumni from all walks of life find common ground in the Alumni Society's 80 chapters and constituent groups.

Members of the Association of 1775 pose before the aircraft carrier the *USS John Stennis* during a tour of the ship last April at the Norfolk Naval Base.



Photo Album



Janet West '94, left, and A. Brooks Prueher '93, chair of the Young Guard Council, speak with Alvin P. Anderson '70, JD '72, president of the board of directors of the Society of the Alumni, at a continental breakfast hosted by the Young Guard Council during the board's regular fall meeting.

Members of the Young Guard are (front row, from left to right) Janet L. West '94, Nicole M. Kraemer '95, A. Brooks Prueher '93, Tim Kelly '94 (back row) Chris Lloyd '93 and Mike Mitchell '93.



photo by Steve Mermantz

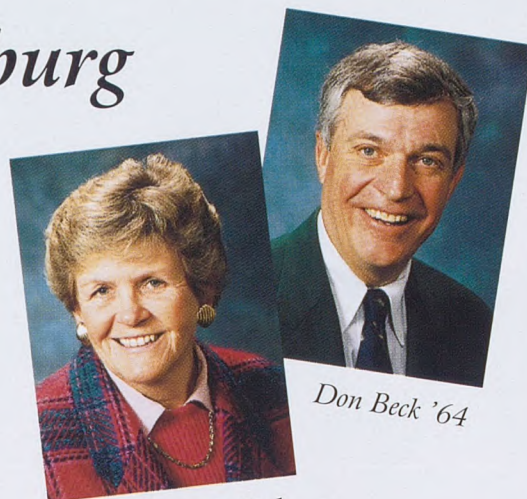


Nearly 30 members of the New York City Chapter put their best foot forward to benefit AIDS Walk New York, raising over \$6000 for the cause. This is the fifth year the chapter has been involved.

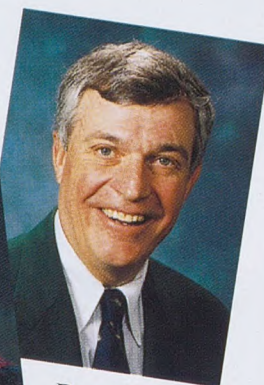
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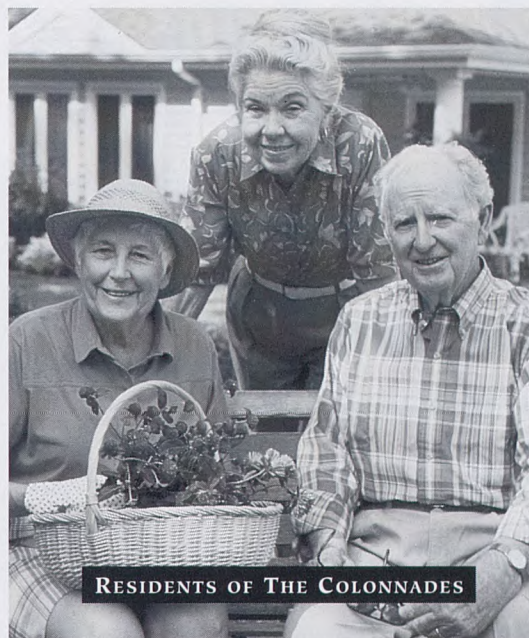
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The Writ

This is the tale of two authors. One seasoned, one fresh on the publishing scene. E

Photo courtesy of HarperCollins/Pedestal



John Gilstrap '79 can't forget "that amazing moment" in March of 1995, when his new literary agent called him on the telephone.

Gilstrap, then an unknown American writer, says he'll always remember how he snapped to quivering attention, as a voice barked from New York: "John? This is Molly Friedrich. HarperCollins just offered you a two-book, \$300,000 deal for *Nathan's Run*. But don't worry, John — I

turned 'em down!"

A suddenly woozy John Gilstrap toppled into the nearest chair, questioning his agent, "You say you turned 'em down?"

A long pause on the line was followed by a fiendish, sadistic chuckle. "It's all right, John — I got you \$400,000, instead. When do you want to sign the contracts?"

Gilstrap felt the blood rushing to his head. Was all of this really happening? A \$400,000 book deal for an unpublished writer who'd dreamed up his "story concept" while killing time on a boring auto trip? And for a book that had been turned down by 28

previous literary agents?

Yes, it was really happening. John Gilstrap was about to hit publishing big time.

"I took some notes during that phone conversation," the successful author told *W&M Magazine* from his home in Woodbridge, Va., "but later I couldn't read them. My hands were shaking so badly that they were completely unintelligible.

"I do remember sitting there, just

numb with shock. And I'm sure I did a whole lot of drooling into the phone."

But Gilstrap's close encounter with the moguls of the publishing industry wasn't over yet. Incredible as it may seem, the next day he was *back* on the phone, and gaping frantically, as his ruthless agent turned down even bigger movie deals.

"She told me, 'John, the movie studios are all going nuts! We've got Disney, Fox and Warner Brothers all bidding against each other.' And it was true. A few minutes later, honest to God, this guy calls from Hollywood, Matt Snyder (a movie agent) and he says, 'You've got an offer from Disney for \$500,000 — but it's only good for ten minutes! Do you want to take it or not?'"

In the end, the team of Friedrich and Snyder nailed down a \$525,000 payoff for the movie rights from the producers of "Lethal Weapon" fame.

"The entire process was utterly insane," Gilstrap says today. "And every time I tried to recover, something even crazier would happen. Like, the next morning after we made the movie deal, I got another call: it was a Dutch publishing company on the horn, and they want to give me \$50,000 for the book. I mean, how many times in your life does the phone ring because a guy wants to hand

W & M ALUMNI HIT HOLLYWOOD
WITH BLOCKBUSTER NOVELS

te Stuff

By Tom Nugent

See. Both parents of blockbuster releases. Both William and Mary graduates, who took two different roads to publishing fame...

Once upon a time, there was a little girl from the "tobacco country" of south-central Virginia who fell in love with writing at the age of 7, and who seemed to have a powerful knack for creating vivid, believable dialogue.

Her name was Karen Hall, and she grew up in tiny Chatham, Va. (near Danville), where her father worked at a local printing company and her mother in a downtown dress shop. It was a quiet, smalltown life... and Karen Hall spent a lot of time dreaming about how she would someday grow up and leave to seek her fortune.

But it wouldn't be easy.

First, she'd have to find a writing program where she could devote several years endlessly crafting and recrafting the dramatic scenes that she loved to compose.

Hall found that program at William and Mary, where she enrolled in the fall of 1974 and almost immediately decided to major in English. It wasn't long before she found herself sitting in a playwriting class run by a writing professor named Lou Catron.

"We had to write all these 'one-acts,'" Hall says. "And believe me, he was a tough teacher! We'd read them out loud in class, and everybody would make

comments. And then we'd re-write them, and re-read them, on and on and on... Really, it was a lot like working on a TV-show — we'd all yell at each other for two hours, and then go out for coffee."

The years passed slowly, and she struggled, writing and rewriting... and then finally graduated (1978), and went on to earn a master's in the craft at the University of Virginia. In the fall of 1979, she took what was probably the bravest single step of her life.

"I got on a plane," says Hall. "I had \$800, a suitcase and a one-way plane ticket to Los Angeles. But I got on that plane — because they don't hire you to write for television if you're living in Virginia."

The struggle began in earnest.

"I got a job as a temporary typist, and I moved into an apartment with two roommates. And we were very poor. We made soup on Monday — and added water to it as the week went on."

An adventure! Hall remembers her first day in Los Angeles: "I walked into the famous Art's Deli, located near one of the big TV studios, and everybody in

there was speaking a foreign language. And I'd come from this little town of 1,200. But that's probably what saved me — the fact that I really didn't know any better. If I'd known what I was up against, I'd have probably stayed in Virginia."

She hung on. She re-wrote some more, and endured what she describes as "the struggle to find my true themes." And then, in 1980, she finally got a major break. After having assembled a



Photo courtesy of Random House Publishing

John Gilstrap

you \$50,000 out of the blue?"

When the smoke finally cleared, the former William and Mary history major was a millionaire. He'd gone from being anonymous in the publishing world to being the author of a blockbuster novel — and a "bankable" author with great future potential novels (he's already halfway through his next thriller).

A delicious footnote to this "Believe It Or Not" saga of the Instant Millionaire: When Gilstrap was an undergrad at William and Mary in the late 1970s, his creative writing instructor advised him to "find some other way to make a living."

And when the hopeful writer asked the prof to elaborate, he was told: "You simply don't have enough talent."

In spite of this discouraging assessment, however, Gilstrap says that he still has "a great deal of respect and affection" for his former teacher, Avram Davidson (now deceased): "He was a caring, dedicated teacher — and he worked very hard to help each one of us as much as he could."

Gilstrap says as much, on the "Acknowledgments" page of *Nathan's Run*. While thanking his wife, Joy, for putting up with him "in spite of my obsessions"... and while saluting the indefatigable Molly Friedrich for her agenting "miracle," Gilstrap saluted the former William and Mary teacher thus: "I want to thank Avram Davidson, God rest his soul, who gave me something to prove."

A safety and environmental engineering consultant who has also been a dedicated fire department volunteer for the past 15 years, Gilstrap seemed an unlikely candidate for the role of Great American Novelist.

After leaving William and Mary in 1979, he'd worked briefly as an \$8,000-a-year magazine editor before going on to

earn a master's degree in safety engineering from the University of Southern California in 1983.

During the next decade, Gilstrap concentrated on building up his consulting business in northern Virginia (he advises garbage-haulers and other contractors on safety and environmental regulations) — and on raising his young son, Christopher, now 10 years old.

But in 1991, Gilstrap got a very interesting call from a former William and Mary classmate — Brie Combs — who'd been part of the creative writing program, and a "real pal" during Gilstrap's years in Williamsburg.

Soon the two of them were sitting down over coffee at a "creative writing reunion" they staged — and the hard-

"A breakthrough like this is as good as it gets."

charging Brie urged Gilstrap to "get back into the writing game." After cranking out three or four first attempts, he hit upon the idea for a thriller that would be based on an incident he'd observed while attending William and Mary.

"We went to visit a mental hospital [Eastern State] near Williamsburg," he remembers. "It was for a psychology course, and our assignment was to tour the juvenile wing and observe what was going on."

"Well, I was really hit hard by what I saw — the tragedy and the waste of it. Here were all these 11- and 12-year-olds under lock and key. I wrote a short story — called 'Building 27' — about that place, and then forgot all about it. In 1994, it all started coming back to me. And I'd be driving down the highway on these long business trips, and I just started to spontaneously plot out a story about a boy who's accused of murder."

In Gilstrap's thriller, which superficially resembles the John Grisham hit, "The Client," 12-year-old Nathan Bailey

escapes from a juvenile detention center outside Washington, kills a guard in self-defense, then becomes a national hero by pleading his case on a popular radio talk show. Then, while scrambling to avoid the closing police dragnet, Nathan must somehow prove his innocence.... A combination too enticing for Hollywood producers to pass up.

Says Gilstrap in explaining the book's enormous appeal: "It's a story of desperation. It's about love, loss, and about the human capacity for survival. I guess it's touched a chord, out there — because I've been getting some marvelous letters from people who say they've been moved, deeply touched by the book."

It's no surprise Gilstrap's own life has also been deeply touched by *Nathan's Run*, and especially by the runaway success of the new novel. "A

breakthrough like this is as good as it gets," he says with a wry chuckle. "And I'm very, very aware of just how lucky I've been."

"This kind of sudden success has an amazing impact on your life, let me tell you. You know, we're all pretty well prepared to deal with the setbacks of life, in this culture. We're taught a lot about how to deal with the tragedies and the failures. But there's very little in American life that prepares you psychologically for hitting a home run."

Halfway through his next thriller, Gilstrap remains grateful for his good fortune, and grateful for the years of "non-stop writing" that he was able to enjoy at William and Mary. "It's been a wonderful ride," he says. "It's all been quite thrilling — but also rather discombobulating. You know, you wake up one morning and see a picture of you and your whole family in *People* — why, that's just a remarkable experience."

"Right now, I'm just doing my best to keep my feet on the ground."

Karen Hall

foot-high stack of rejection slips, Hall sold her first TV script, an episode of "M*A*S*H".

What followed was pure Hollywood magic. During the next decade, Hall would write for some of the top TV shows in America, including "Hill Street Blues," "Moonlighting," "The Women of Brewster Place," "Roseanne" and "Northern Exposure."

Frequently described as a "superstar among television writers," Hall would teach herself how to live with the "ferocious pressure" and the "horrendous deadlines" that leave most TV-writers with raging ulcers and jumbo-sized migraines. "It's a very stressful business," she concedes. "Sure, we get paid a lot of money — but that can be deceptive. As a TV-writer, I've always said that if you think you're getting paid for the hours you work, you're overpaid. But if you think they're paying you for the aggravation — your wages are way too low!"

After receiving several Emmy nominations for her screenplays, Hall finally decided to take a break and work on a full-length novel. "I was tired of television," she said recently in a telephone interview from her home in California, "and I wanted to find a way to work at home.

"I had a friend whose mother was convinced that there was a demonic curse on her family. And I found that interesting. And I started fiddling with it ... asking myself: 'What would happen if she turned out to be *right* about that?'"

Hall spent the next five years (sandwiched around doing a couple of "TV movies") researching and writing *Dark Debts* — a provocative-sounding new release from Random House in which a tormented family struggles against a devilish curse... while Satan cracks end-

less one-liners and Jesus shows up in a tacky flannel shirt to provide some elevated commentary.

According to early reports, the just-published (August) novel is made up of equal parts "horror, southern gothic, romantic comedy and theological mystery." The story-line also features, in no particular order:

- Michael, a "sexy Jesuit priest" who is having an affair with a "beautiful *New Yorker* editor";

- Cam, a "reclusive southern writer" who has survived a murderous family — "only to leap to his death under mysterious circumstances";

- Randa, an obsessive newspaper reporter who's on the trail of the family's "dark secret";

- Jack, a lost soul who finds the love of his life just as realizes that he's losing his mind.

Hall says one of the great pleasures of researching *Dark Debts* was the opportunity it afforded the author to "hang around with some very intelligent Jesuits for a while — these are smart guys, extremely esoteric, with fascinating brains."

Already being compared to several other family-based thrillers, such as *The Prince of Tides* and *The Exorcist*, Hall's

"They didn't teach us 'facts,' during most of those classes I took in Williamsburg. They taught us how to learn. They taught us to dig into a book — or a story — and to get an overview, to figure out how it was structured."

new novel made headlines a few months ago, when the movie rights were snapped up, for a cool \$800,000 by Paramount producer David Brown.

Will Karen Hall now live happily ever after, as the bestselling American author she once dreamed of becoming?

Says the 40-year-old millionaire, who's already halfway through the process of writing the filmscript

for *Dark Debts*, while also pounding away at the research for her next novel: "The sales figures are only beginning to trickle in, but the book looks like it's holding its own so far. I feel like I'm extremely fortunate to have come this far. And part of it, obviously, I owe to William and Mary. They didn't teach us 'facts,' during most of those classes I took in Williamsburg. They taught us *how* to learn. They taught us to dig into a book — or a story — and to get an overview, to figure out how it was structured. That's been an enormously helpful lesson, in all my work since."

"I had \$800, a suitcase and a one-way plane ticket to Los Angeles. But I got on that plane — because they don't hire you to write for television if you're living in Virginia."



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Leading the Pack

LONG BEFORE TITLE IX, W&M'S FEMALE ATHLETES HAVE EXCELLED IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE FIELD.

BY JOE PERSON '92

Photos courtesy of W&M Sports Information



As anyone who either watched or attended the Olympics in Atlanta this summer will attest, the '96 Games were highlighted by some impressive performances by women: Ireland's Michelle Smith dominating the swimming competition, Mia Hamm leading the U.S. soccer team to gold, and Dot Richardson doing the same for the Americans at the popular softball venue.

But the dousing of the Olympic flame in August did not dampen the worldwide enthusiasm for women's sports. A new women's professional basketball league kicked off in the U.S. in October and interest in women's intercollegiate sports continues to soar.

After William and Mary opened its doors to women in 1918, it took only two years for the school to organize women's

athletics. Millie West, arguably the most influential figure in women's sports at W&M, finds that fact remarkable. West says that many collegiate athletic departments went without women's programs until the mid-1970s, shortly after the passing of the Title IX legislation.

But at W&M, there were five teams in existence by 1929, including basketball, field hockey and tennis. While the interest was there, collegiate opponents were not, and many of the first women's teams combed area high schools, country clubs and rec leagues looking for a game. Says West: "The women were good, but they had to pick up games where they could because there was no national organization."

West arrived in Williamsburg in 1959, fresh from graduate school, and within six years was the head coach for

both the women's tennis and swimming teams. West says the '60s were marked by huge numbers of female competitors, requiring three and sometimes four different teams per sport. According to West, the field hockey team once fielded four squads: a varsity, junior varsity and two freshmen teams. But money for women was scarce, and not until 1972, with the advent of Title IX, did real opportunities develop for female athletes.

"Title IX was what really made a great, vast difference in women's athletics," says West, who was the women's athletic director from 1969 to 1985. "Before that time, there were no scholarships and no recruiting." Calling for equal representation in men's and women's sports, Title IX finally brought financial backing to a women's program that had existed for more than 50 years.



West says the women's athletic budget in 1969 was \$19,000; by 1985 it was more than \$1 million. Coaches would not always have to double as physical education professors; female athletes would no longer have to pay their own way. Because of the groundbreaking legislation, "all of the other developments happened," West says. "The most important thing was the opportunities it created for women and the funding it made possible."

Today, women compete in 12 varsity sports at W&M, encompassing everything from gymnastics to indoor track. A few of the women's teams have challenged for a national title, something that has eluded the women's program since the golf team won the Division II crown in the early '80s. Coaches and administrators point to a number of factors to explain the emergence of women's sports, including outstanding coaches, resources and facilities. But most vital to the women's teams are the women themselves, who

schools following a successful prep tennis career in Lancaster, Pa. "I wanted to go somewhere where tennis and academics were balanced," she recalls. After visiting both Villanova and Princeton, Nikolaus chose William and Mary. "To me, William and Mary had everything I wanted — the small community, just about 4 1/2 hours away [from home], and academics that I felt were just as good as Princeton and better than Villanova." Equally important, Nikolaus points out, "The tennis, I think, is 100 percent better than both schools." Now a junior and two-time All-American, Nikolaus is just one reason

why the Tribe has advanced to round 16 in the last two NCAA tournaments. Thanks to the largesse of Mark McCormack '51, the team now practices in a multi-million dollar indoor facility dubbed "the Taj Mahal" by the other coaches.

The tennis center undoubtedly will become a regular stop for women's coach Brian Kalbas when he hosts tennis

recruits. But Kalbas stressed that success breeds success, saying, "The better you do, the more recognition you get and the more interest you have in prospective student-athletes."

Kalbas has a lot of company when

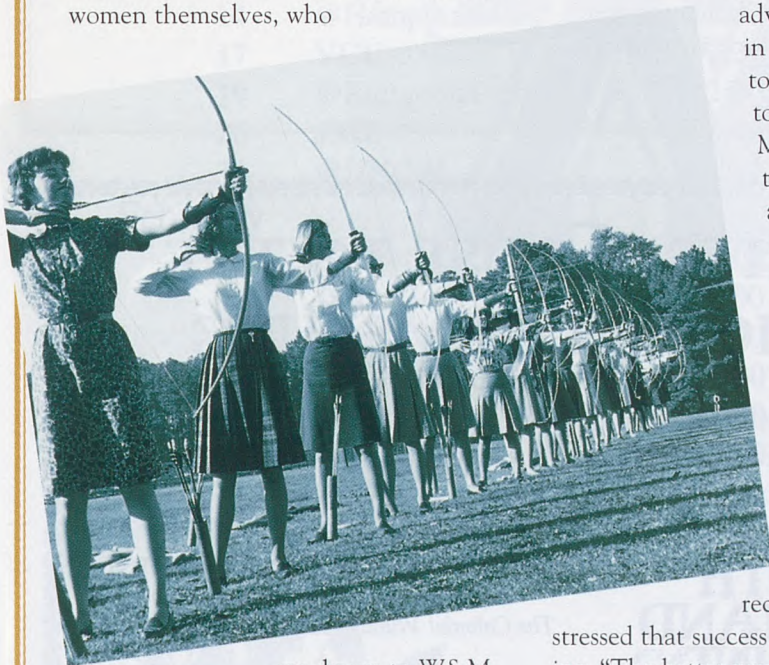
it comes to successful women's programs. Under John Daly, the soccer team has ranked in the nation's Top 10 the last eight years running, peaking at No. 3. The Tribe has been a mainstay in the NCAA tournament, advancing to the quarterfinals in both 1989 and 1994. Daly says the program has enjoyed a natural progression since its inception in 1982:

"Where we're concerned, the program was being nurtured and then in the last several years it's really blossomed."

The same could be said for the volleyball team, which has won 65 percent of its matches the last 14 years. The Tribe won the Colonial Athletic Association title each year from 1985 to 1991; unfortunately, the first year the team didn't win it (1992) was the first time the conference received an automatic bid to the NCAA title. Like Nikolaus, Amy McGuire, a senior volleyball player, believes the success begins with the type of student-athlete W&M attracts. "In general, most of the athletes here are pretty capable," she says. "Most of them have been balancing sports and academics for a long time."

If recent performance is any indication, the lacrosse team is also on the verge of a national breakthrough, having qualified for NAAs last season. The women's track and cross country teams have traditionally been strong, and the basketball program appears ready to contend for the CAA crown.

But the most telling statistic concerning a women's team may be the one volleyball coach Debbie Hill provides on her squad: A graduation rate of 100 percent. "It's the first thing that we talk



are drawn to W&M by the opportunity to have both their sports and their brains taken seriously.

Lauren Nikolaus had her pick of

...continued on page 34

...continued from Women's Sports article



about and it's the reason we get some of these elite athletes away from programs with stronger athletic programs," she says. Hill believes that W&M provides a unique setting for the female athlete, who unlike her male counterpart, generally harbors few dreams of moving on to professional sports. With that in mind, Hill and her colleagues try to capitalize on the complete undergraduate experience in their recruiting pitches. "The typical female athlete is far more interested in academics," Hill says, "and that's the main draw for William and Mary."

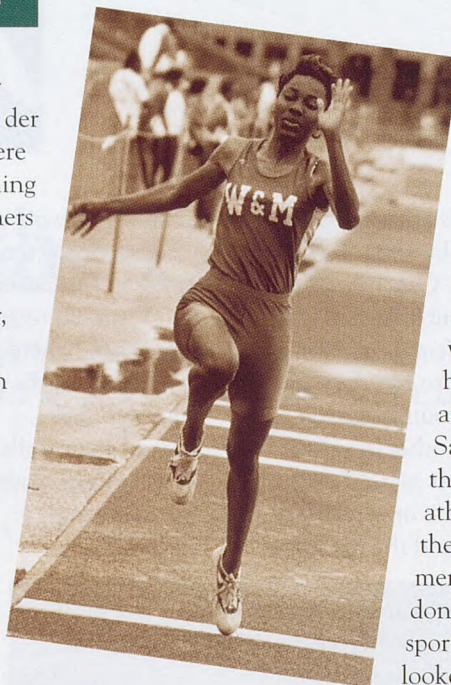
Of course, there have been exceptions. Karen van der Merwe has earned a computer ranking on the pro tennis tour and has won a few \$25,000 Challenger events. Natalie Neaton, a spring graduate, is playing for a professional soccer



league in Japan. But for every graduate like van der Merwe and Neaton, there are hundreds more earning livings as doctors, teachers and executives.

Anna Finley '94, a former volleyball player, recently began her second year at Georgetown University's medical school. Finley credited the entire athletic department with creating an atmosphere that allowed women to be successful. "I think it's a perspective, a philosophy," she says. "Most of the coaches there know that we're there to be competitive, but at the same time, they gave us the opportunity to explore our academic abilities and other aspects of our life, as well."

West, now semi-retired in a fund-raising role, says the goal of the women's department has never been solely about wins and losses. "Winning championships was never the ultimate goal of the program, whether that's right or wrong," she says. "It was to provide an adjunct to



the academic program, to round out the program, and that's still the case."

Most of the former and current athletes agree that women's sports are held in high regard at William and Mary. Says Nikolaus: "I think that the women athletes here feel that they're equal to the men athletes. They don't feel that their sport isn't as good or not looked upon like, say, football."

McGuire says she felt the same sentiment on campus. "I feel like there's a lot more interest, or at least equal interest, in some of our sports," she says. "I get a sense that women's sports are being more appreciated and I see a rising interest in women's sports, in general." But none of this should come as too much of a surprise. After all, the school's been at it long enough.

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'96/97 Tribe

BASKETBALL

Women's Schedule

November		
23	@ UNC - Chapel Hill	TBA
27	LAFAYETTE COLLEGE	5:00
December		
1	HOFSTRA	2:00
5	WINGATE COLLEGE	7:30
22	WINTHROP COLLEGE	2:00
29-30	@ Georgia Tech Tournament	
January		
3	@East Carolina	7:00
5	GEORGE MASON	2:00
8	@ Monmouth College	7:00
10	AMERICAN	7:30
12	@ODU	2:00
14	@Hampton	7:00
17	VCU	7:30
19	@Richmond	2:00
26	JMU	2:00
31	@UNCW	TBA
February		
7	ECU	7:00
9	@ JMU	2:00
11	@ VCU	2:00
14	RICHMOND	7:30
16	ODU	2:00
18	UNCW	7:30
21	@ George Mason	TBA
23	@ American	2:00

Men's Schedule

November		
23	UNC-G	7:30
25	@Hampton	7:30
27	@Stetson	7:30
30	CITADEL	7:30
December		
2	CATHOLIC U.	7:30
4	UVA	7:30
27-28	@ Arizona State Tournament	
January		
2	@ECU	7:00
4	JMU	7:30
6	VCU	7:30
9	@ VA Tech	7:30
11	Richmond	7:30
13	@Navy	7:30
16	UNCW	7:30
22	@ ODU	7:35
25	@ George Mason	7:30
29	@UNCW	7:30
February		
1	@VCU	7:00
5	ODU	7:30
8	RICHMOND	2:00
10	AMERICAN	7:30
15	GEORGE MASON	7:30
19	@JMU	7:35
22	@ American	2:00
24	EAST CAROLINA	7:30



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A Tale of Trails and Ales

BY PAUL PEGHER

When Tom St. Germain '89, a Tribe cross country runner, first came to coastal Maine's Mount Desert Island in the summer of 1987, it was simply to train on the trails of Acadia National Park. Enslaved by the island's beauty, St. Germain vowed to return after graduation. When he did, it wasn't long before the resourceful economics major realized this perennially popular vacation site was a land of opportunity.

Or rather, opportunities. In the last six years, Tom has authored several printings of a trail guide and a book about the millennium-long history of the trails, establishing himself as the "trail guru" of Acadia National Park (an area that covers roughly two-thirds of the island). In 1995, the part-time brewer forged a second career path, opening the Maine Coast Brewing Company in the small town of Bar Harbor.

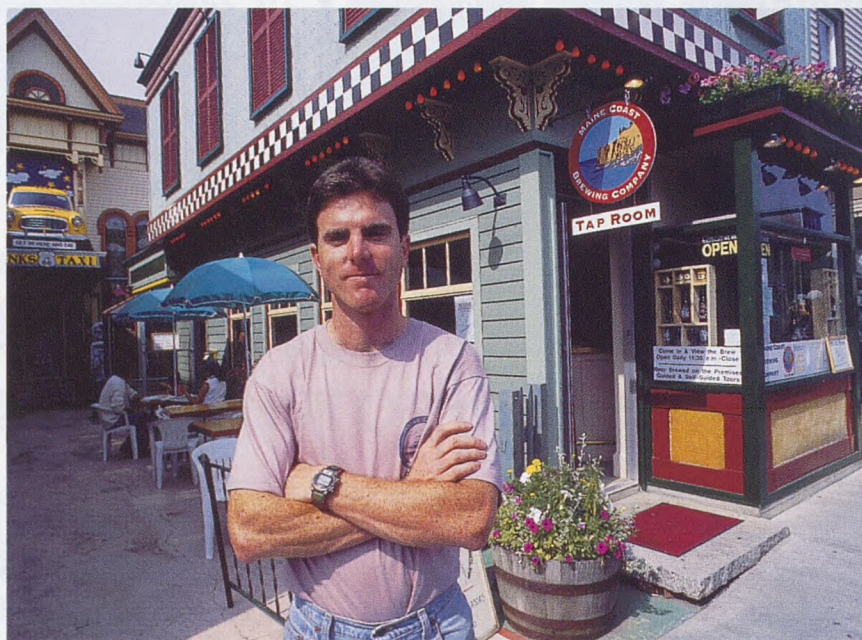
A conservationist and capitalist wrapped in one, St. Germain has a knack

for making a living out of having fun. Who could argue when research and development means running, biking and kayaking or sampling recipes and attending beer festivals?

"You might call it fitting square pegs into round holes," he says. "But I've found that if you see what you want, force it and it will work."

the youngster how to read maps. Years later, he discovered cross country running as a means to incorporate the outdoors into his everyday life. He became hooked on the "sensation of cascading down mountain ridges or knifing along a tight woodland path," as he describes in the introduction to the book, *Trails of History*.

When a fellow harrier from the University of Maine told St. Germain of the 140-plus miles of Acadia National Park, it sounded like the ideal training ground. "The only problem was, once I got here I couldn't find any comprehensive trail guide to show me where I could go running each day," he says. Nonetheless, he headed out and formed his own base of knowledge — sometimes by getting lucky, sometimes by getting lost.



© 1996 Peter Travers

FINDING THE WAY

St. Germain caught the outdoors bug at an early age, spending many weekends exploring New Hampshire's White Mountains with his father, who taught

While working as a bartender during 1989 and 1990, St. Germain founded a small desktop publishing company and began to write the first edition of *A Walk in the Park*. More than 25,000 copies



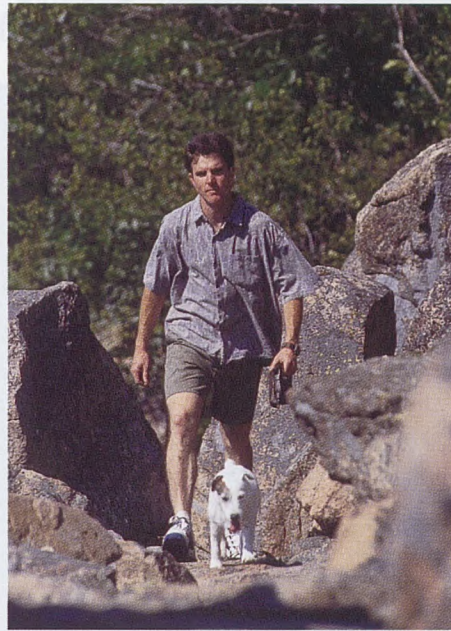
later (and growing every day), the book has become the all-time best selling trail guide at Acadia National Park.

In 1992, St. Germain began work on *Trails of History*, the first ever history of the island's complex trail system. His previous research for the hiking guide helped; he had already inventoried the entire hiking system (past and present trails), counted stairs and steps, measured the dimensions of retaining and supporting walls and spoke to many current and former trail workers. Off the trail, St. Germain and Jay Saunders '92 researched information at local libraries as well as the Rockefeller Archive Center, Harvard University, the Library of Congress and the National Archives.

In the spring of 1993, *A Walk in the Park's* third edition was published along with *Trails of History*, which tells the story of Mount Desert Island's paths from the time of the Abnaki tribe, 3,000 years ago, to the present. The latter was credited with a forward by then-governor of Maine John R. Mckernan Jr., who wrote: "Through extraordinary research and a heightened understanding of [MDI] itself, *Trails of History* presents a compelling argument for protecting this national treasure so that Acadia can continue to grow despite pressures for greater use."

Today, "Tom is known by park officials as the trails guru, especially when it comes to the history of the trails," says Heidi Beal, director of programs for Friends of Acadia, a non-profit group committed to the preservation of Acadia National Park. "He has been a valuable ally in all our efforts."

Shortly after the books' publication, Saunders left Maine to pursue additional career interests. St. Germain continues to run Parkman Publications, however, producing new maps, writing journal articles for Friends of Acadia and speaking at park events. This year he published a new path map along with a reproduction of Mount Desert Island's first ever path



St. Germain with his dog Tuckerman who has a "nose for trails, anything edible and, much to his chagrin, porcupines."

map, originally published in 1896. St. Germain and his brother, Dan, are currently compiling a 50-year commemorative book of the "Great Fire of '47," which engulfed 105 mansions on the island and captured headlines worldwide.



AND AFTER THE HIKE...

It may come as no surprise that while in College, St. Germain enjoyed an occasional beer. But it was production, not consumption, that he really fancied, and he learned the art of homebrewing during his undergrad years.

Understanding brewing processes and the characteristics of various beer styles came in handy when he began his job hunt in Maine, the state that leads the nation in breweries per capita.

St. Germain's first job in Bar Harbor, bartending, soon gave way to applying his skills as a brewer at the Sweet Waters of Acadia Ale Co. Then it was on to the more widely known Gritty McDuff's Brewing Co. in Portland, Maine, where he worked as a sales rep. By 1994, he was ready to pursue the dream he had entertained for many years: open up his

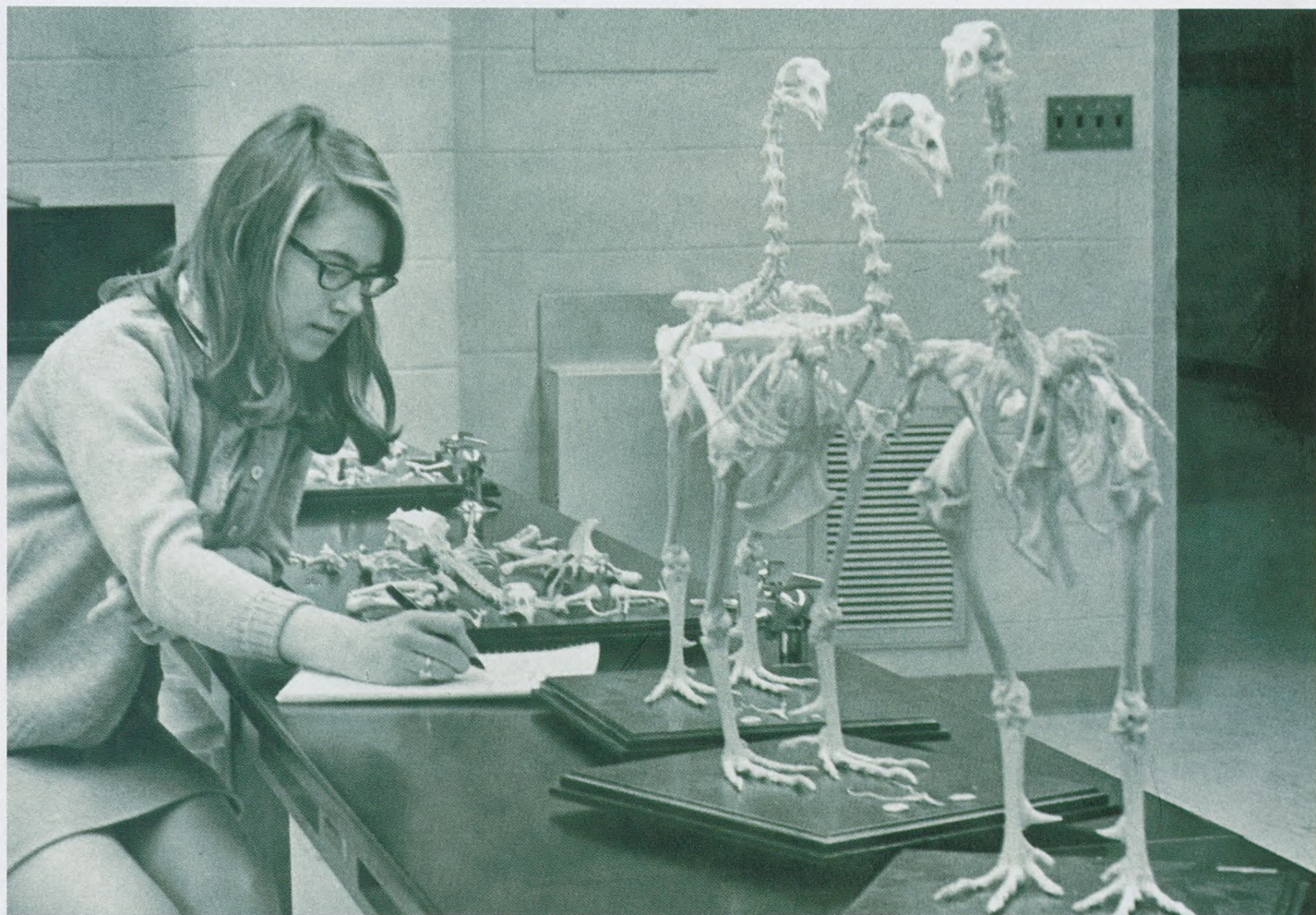
own brewery.

"I returned to Bar Harbor and began what turned out to be a grueling process," he explains, involving hours of hammering out lease contracts, planning and revising plans, allocating equipment and four *very* long months of construction in the subzero temperatures of a Maine winter. "I'd be out there in four layers of clothes, hands and feet numb, asking myself why in the world I was doing this, but I was determined to make it work."

Advice from his contacts in the brewing industry offered some help, but much of the work was left to improvisation. "In some regards, the way we put this together is unorthodox," says brewer Nate Hills, "but that's the attraction of the microbrew industry — it's a business of individual creativity."

Preparations were complete by May 1995 and the Maine Coast Brewing Co., Bar Harbor's third brewery, opened its doors in the center of town to greet the onslaught of summer vacationers. For the first year, it was all St. Germain and Hills could do to keep up with the demands of on-premise service — an assuring sign that they offered a quality product. By October, they had nine original ales on the brew menu and were ready for expansion. The following winter, the MCBC staff increased production capacity, acquired bottling equipment and began off-premise distribution, landing over a dozen accounts that stretched as far as Portland. This summer, St. Germain and Hills introduced a Brew School to Bar Harbor, which takes in one tuition-paying apprentice each week and teaches the student the craft brewing process, top to bottom.

For St. Germain, who ran the Boston Marathon this year despite a series of stress fractures in his leg, and who is planning another pub in Bar Harbor, taking it easy may be the biggest challenge of all.



Circa 19??

Test your William and Mary trivia, and your memory. Tell us what this student is studying, and we'll give you a free Homecoming T-shirt. Tell us who she is and we'll add to your reward a 1997 William and Mary Calendar. For those folks who are not of this era, don't despair, in the future we'll try to offer as many well-rounded trivia contests for alumni of all generations as possible. Send your answers to Gazette Trivia Contest, P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187. Or e-mail us at gazett@facstaff.wm.edu. We'll publish the results in the next publication.

Have a photograph that captures a special moment in time at W&M? Want to share those memories with your former classmates? Send the information for consideration for an upcoming issue to Editor, William and Mary Magazine, P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2100.

Also, if you have historical items of significance to the College that you would like to donate to the College Archives, you can do so by sending them to Archives, College of William and Mary, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795.

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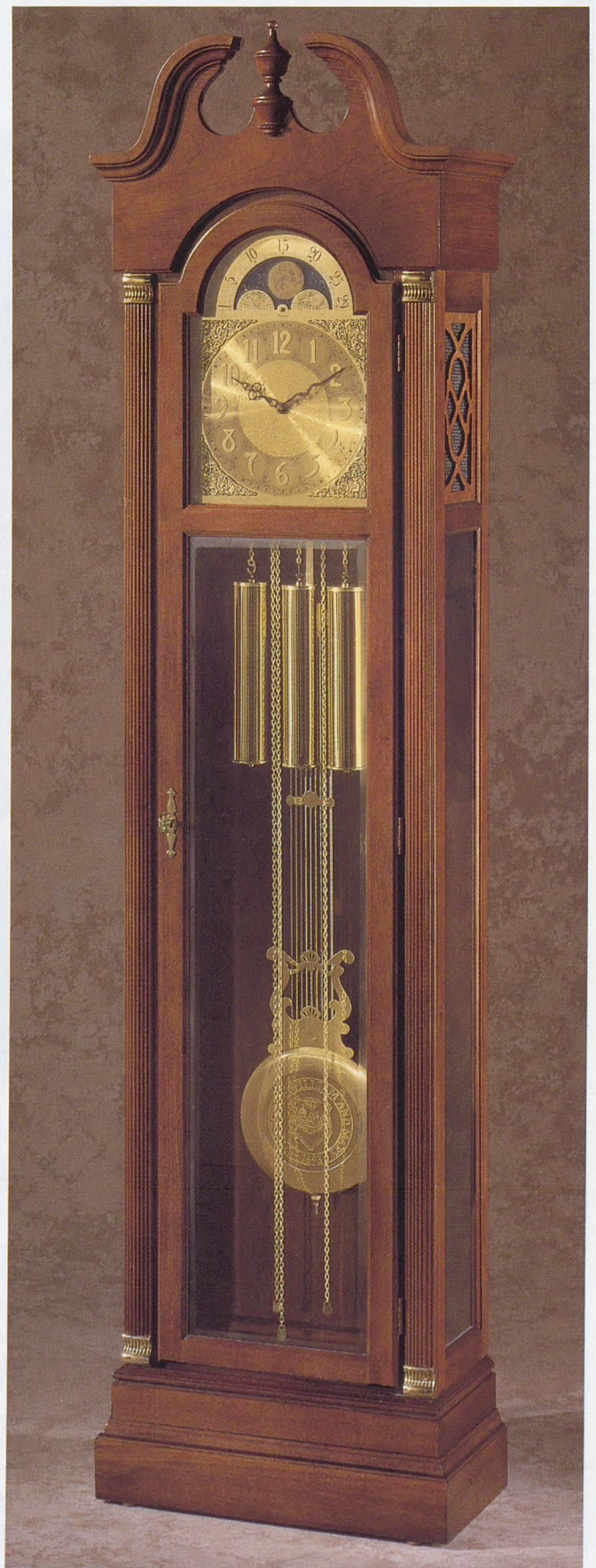
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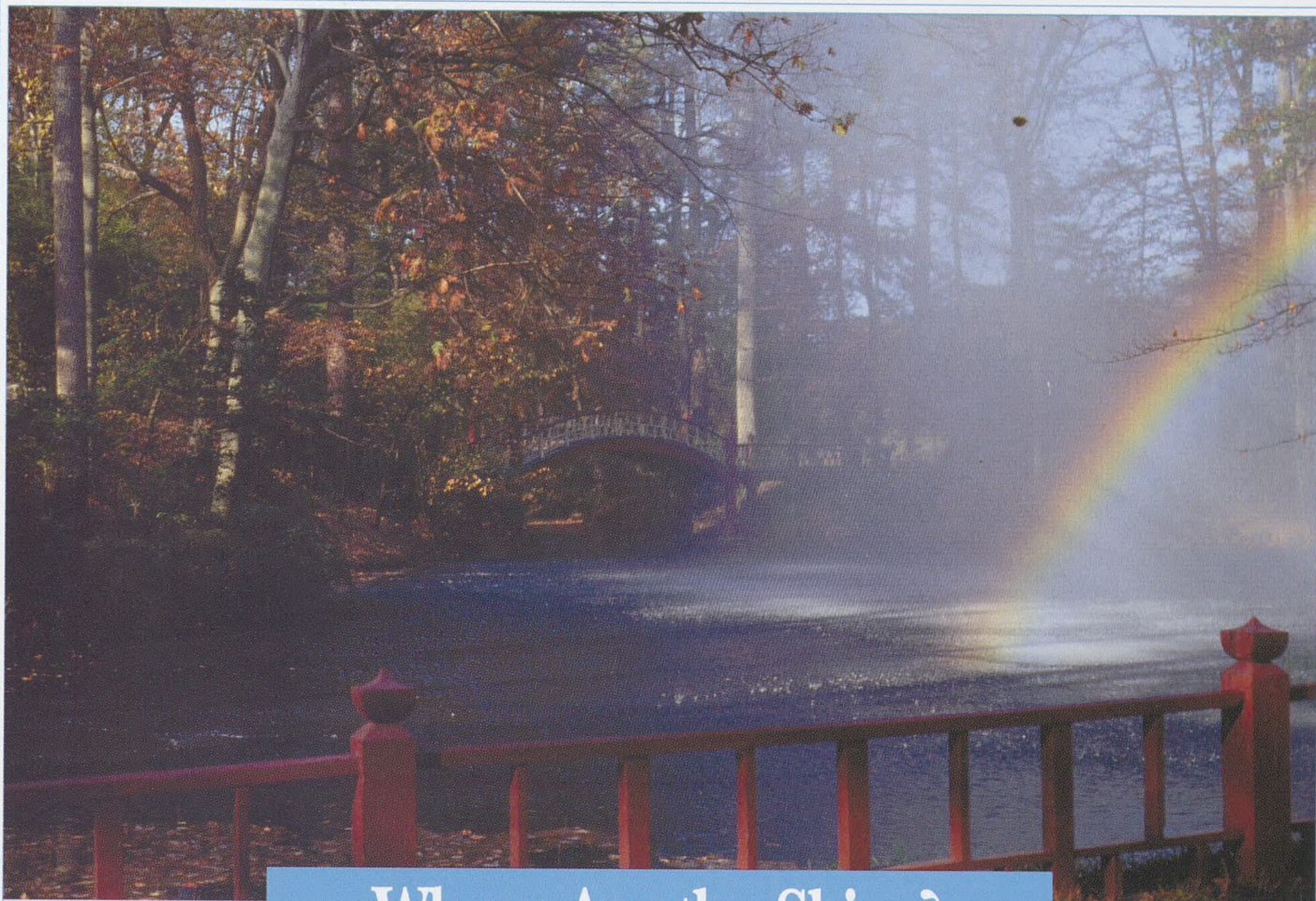


PHOTO BY STAN HOEGERMAN

Where Are the Ships?

YOU WON'T FIND ANY SHIPS ON THE POND AT CRIM DELL, but ships are everywhere at William and Mary: professorships, scholarships, fellowships, and other "ships," all bearing witness to lives enriched by this wonderful College. These commemorative ships are enduring testimony to warm memories recalled, lasting friendships formed, and special ties bound across generations.

Commemorative giving is an appropriate and meaningful way to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one, express thanks for a scholarship received, or pay tribute to a favorite professor. Many choose to remember their parents who encouraged and supported their education. Others are simply inspired by the opportunity to perpetuate their family name at one of the oldest and most distinguished colleges in America.

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