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# THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

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An independent publication at the College of William and Mary.  
*The common sense paper of record on campus.*



File Photo

## Feather in our caps for Homecoming

**Tribe Pride:** Students and alumni alike will still be sporting the College's banned logo at Homecoming as *The Virginia Informer* will be handing out free feathers. Last year, Young Americans for Freedom distributed feathers.

## Newly obtained documents lead to questions in Phil. dept. controversy

**Matthew Sutton**  
Managing Editor

Newly released internal College documents reveal more information on the controversy surrounding the College's decision to place the Philosophy department in receivership and replace its chair. A set of memoranda provided to *The Virginia Informer* appear to show that the administration relied on a flawed external review process to justify the extreme action taken against the department.

This external review of the Philosophy department conducted by a team of four professors from outside of the College—Jodi Magness, Benjamin Wright, Christopher Faraone and Nicholas White—produced a report highly critical of the department. This report identified several problems in the department, including a supposed hostile attitude on the part of Philosophy faculty members towards women and junior faculty. It alleged that “the department’s attitude is particularly hostile to women, and some faculty observed that women seem to be mistreated,” and to remedy these alleged problems, suggested that the department be placed in receivership under the direction of a new chair.

In an April 27 memorandum to the department, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Carl Strikwerda, after conducting his own internal investigation, dismissed many of the problems that the external review had identified on their merits, particularly the department’s alleged hostility towards women. “I do not see that conditions in the department are hostile to woman nor that there is a ‘hostile atmosphere’ that is prejudicial to woman. I do not intend to investigate this matter further.” Mr. Strikwerda further rejected the report’s other findings, including its concerns about the decline in student credit hours, the inaction of the Philosophy Club and the number of honor students in the department. The only issue he thought “merits further investigation” was the supposed hostile climate

for junior faculty members, to which Mr. Strikwerda concluded that he “will decide soon on what actions, if any, need to be taken to deal with it.”

Philosophy department Chair Noah Lemos and Professors James Harris had each produced detailed memoranda in response to the review board’s report, which appear to have convinced Mr. Strikwerda in his April 27 memorandum to reject most of the main charges suggested in the report against the department. Messrs. Lemos and Harris spent most of their memos refuting the report’s allegations, particularly about the mistreatment of women in the department and hostility to junior faculty. It is unclear why Mr. Strikwerda largely accepted the arguments put forth by Messrs. Lemos and Harris in refutation of the review board’s findings, but yet ultimately decided to accept the review board’s suggested conclusion and place the department in receivership approximately one month later.

Mr. Lemos cautioned the dean against resorting to receivership, saying in his April 16 memorandum that it would damage the department’s reputation and its ability to recruit and retain faculty, as well as alienate its senior members. According to Mr. Lemos, the review grossly exaggerated what, in reality, were merely some tensions in the department which would best be “worked out with mediation, dialogue and confidence building measures.” He also solicited the help of Mr. Strikwerda’s office to cooperatively resolve these issues. Mr. Strikwerda ultimately choose not to accept Mr. Lemos’s offer, and instead accepted the review board’s conclusion to place the department in receivership, and, furthermore, to remove Mr. Lemos’ chairmanship.

The internal strife in the department was publicly revealed in a June 9 op-ed which appeared in *The Daily Press*. The piece was composed by two Philosophy professors, Paul Davies and George Harris. Messrs.

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## Lost \$12M pledge known in Dec. '06

**Nichol received letter from McGlothlin months before he claims to have been aware of revocation**

**Joe Luppino-Esposito**  
Editor in Chief

*The Virginia Informer* has learned that President Gene Nichol misrepresented the status of James McGlothlin’s (\$12 million) planned revocation of his \$12 million pledge to the College in December of 2006. Mr. Nichol had explicit knowledge of the revocation almost two months before he prematurely announced to the Board of Visitors, students, faculty, staff and alumni that the Campaign for William and Mary’s \$500 million goal had been met as of December 31, 2006.

Sources indicated that Mr. Nichol did not share the information about the lost donation with Vice President of Development Sean Pieri. In doing this, Mr. Nichol effectively ensured that Mr. McGlothlin’s donation would be counted in the campaign numbers that Mr. Pieri reported. Mr. Nichol allowed those numbers, which he knew were at least \$12 million too high—which, at the time, made the difference between reaching the campaign goal and not—to be reported to the public, and then presented those numbers, which he knew to be false, to the Board of Visitors, students, faculty, staff and alumni of the College in person and in a number of e-mails. When the story about the revoked donation broke in late February, Mr. Nichol stated that he was “heart sick to learn of this [McGlothlin’s] decision.”

*The Informer* has learned that in early December 2006, Mr. McGlothlin spoke with former President Timothy J. Sullivan and informed him that, due to Mr. Nichol’s actions regarding the Wren cross, the donation was no longer on the table. On December 11, 2006, Mr. McGlothlin sent a letter directly to Mr. Nichol, with a copy to Mr. Sullivan, informing Mr. Nichol of his displeasure regarding the Wren cross decision and stating that this would change how he viewed the College in the future—as well as how he viewed Mr. Nichol as the president of the university. Sources also indicate that Mr. Sullivan himself relayed this information, again, to Mr. Nichol.

Despite knowing the \$12 million donation was lost, Mr. Nichol reported the flawed numbers in person to the Board of Visitors and sent an e-mail to students on February 9, 2007. In that e-mail, Mr. Nichol stated: “This morning I had the privilege of informing the Board of Visitors that, with the help of a record \$26 million our steadfast alumni, parents, and friends contributed during the final quarter of 2006, we have surpassed the

**\$12M PLEDGE PULLED IN DECEMBER '06**  
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# Transsexual CodePink activist Midge Potts speaks at the College

**Swetha Sivaram and Steven Nelson**  
Staff Writer and Assistant News Editor

With long blond hair and a frail figure, Midge Potts, an activist for Code Pink, may seem the typical anti-war activist, but she is anything but. Ms. Potts shared her experiences on Thursday, October 18 at an event hosted by William and Mary's Code Pink chapter.

Ms. Potts, a Gulf War veteran who served in the Navy, changed gender identities following the war. She subsequently challenged, in a 2006 primary election, Republican Congressional leader Roy Blunt in his southern Missouri district.

Ms. Potts is extremely critical of the "forced political binary system" in the United States, which she asserts takes power away from individuals by giving all political power to the two major parties. It is her contention that these parties are virtually indistinguishable.

Ms. Potts points out that our politicians rarely listen to citizens, but always have an ear for corporate interests, another byproduct of the binary system.

To illustrate her point, Ms. Potts asked the audience if anyone has ever interacted with their Congressman. All shook their heads, with one exception: a student who told of how the late Representative JoAnn Davis was great at responding to letters and constituent concerns.

Ms. Potts responded: "That's exactly what a representative should be like."

A centerpiece of her campaign in the Republican primary race against Mr. Blunt was a strong stand for participatory democracy and direct action. She pointed out that "you don't need to wear a suit, you don't need a government degree [to be involved]. This is supposed to be a government of the people."

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch wrote that her decision to run as a Republican was due to the fact that Ms. Potts "believes in the party's traditional platform of financial conservatism, states' rights and a strong national defense. She is pushing for term limits, debt reduction and building up the National Guard." Ms. Potts did acknowledge, though, that the decision was also made in order to attract the most media attention to her platform, which had surprisingly little to do with sexual orientation.

Through [opensecrets.org](http://opensecrets.org), Ms. Potts found that Mr. Blunt spent \$3.5 million



**A new kind of hippie:** Midge Potts placed third in her 2006 Republican primary race.

that election cycle. Though she spent very little on her homemade posters and campaign buttons (made from beer caps), she received 7% of the vote.

Overall, Ms. Potts placed third in the primary, only 1.5% behind a relative of the lieutenant governor.

"People thought my candidacy was a joke. I said, the whole system is a joke, I just want to put an exclamation point on it."

Since the election, Ms. Potts has been active in many protests, including time spent at the anti-war Camp Casey near President Bush's ranch in Texas.

When Alberto Gonzales was confirmed as attorney general, she took part in a hooded protest in front of the Supreme Court to highlight his role in writing the "terror memo."

When Mr. Gonzales later testified at a Congressional committee, Ms. Potts held a banner with a text bubble behind him, saying: "I have nothing to hide...but the truth." The picture was printed in The

New York Times. "I wasn't even arrested for that, which was cool, I just went back to my seat," said Ms. Potts.

Ms. Potts has been arrested multiple times, however, including at a protest at the Supreme Court. Recently she barged into a session of Congress and demanded that the troops be brought home from Iraq, then, ceding her time back to Senator Cantwell, was arrested. She has an upcoming jury trial for the incident, which she acknowledges may throw a kink in her tour plans.

Ms. Potts suffers from severe migraines from her days in the Navy, when she claims she was exposed to mercury.

The origins of Code Pink lie in the beginning of the Iraq War. Founded October 2, 2002, on the birth date of Gandhi, a major icon of non violent protest, Code Pink was established as a feminist antiwar organization with the main goal of protesting the Iraq War.

Code Pink protests against Congressmen, senators and other influential representatives who voted for the Iraq War, embarrassing them and giving them a medal of shame, which thereby inducts them into the "hall of shame." They have also "occupied" the offices of various lawmakers. The William and Mary chapter of Code Pink is relatively new, but, as evidenced by their speech, they are interested in action.

## Briefly...

Compiled by Adam Boltik, Briefs Editor

### Estimated 400 students participate in "Make-a-Difference Day"

The Office of Student Volunteer Services organized the ninth annual Make-a-Difference Day, where College students work with local non-profit agencies to participate in many projects in the Williamsburg area. From spending time with children and retired seniors to painting rooms, an estimated 2,000 service hours were donated to the community throughout the day of October 20. Drew Stelljes, director of the Office of Student Volunteer Services, praised the event, saying, "Students take part in meaningful work that truly makes a difference in the lives of our neighbors. They are helping to build a stronger community." The effort is a part of the total amount of service performed by William and Mary students; a 2006 survey indicated that students contribute over 323,000 hours of community service a year.

### College professor honored with highest Spanish culture award

George Greenia, professor of modern languages and literatures, was given the "Cross of Isabel the Catholic"

award from the king of Spain, in honor of his research and dissemination of Spain's cultural heritage. Mr. Greenia has worked at the College for 26 years, and is a specialist in the Spanish Middle Ages; one of the programs he is known for is leading William and Mary undergraduates along the 500-mile Camino de Santiago, a pilgrimage route across northern Spain. He also is the editor of a publication, *La corónica*, which focuses on medieval Iberian history and culture. Mr. Greenia is the first College recipient of the award, which has been awarded for over 200 years. Mr. Greenia was selected by the Spanish ambassador, who had to seek approval from the US and Spanish Departments of State before the award was finally approved by Spain's King Juan Carlos I. Mr. Greenia says that he's still "ten years away from retirement," but that the award will be considered the high point of his career.

### William & Mary begins campaign to fight dating violence

Over the past week, posters and red flags have been popping up on campus as part of a state-wide campaign to raise awareness about dating violence and to encourage students to fight it. William and Mary is one of ten institutions in the Commonwealth of Virginia that is using the red flag campaign; the College was chosen due to its "integral role" in planning the campaign with students, faculty and victim advocates from across Virginia,

according to Trisha Hunsaker, the school's sexual assault educator. The Verizon Foundation is helping to fund the effort, which includes a Web site ([theredflagcampaign.org](http://theredflagcampaign.org)) that offers information for people who are involved in abusive relationships or who know people in them. "Friends have an influential role in intervening in dating violence situations," said Ms. Hunsaker, "[and] the key is helping college students harness their power to change the cultural tolerance of violence in relationships."

### Two W&M professors receive Fulbright grants

College professors Cindy Hahamovich and Timothy Barnard have been awarded Fulbright grants to pursue research in Ireland and France. The US Department of State awards 800 Fulbright grants each year to faculty and professionals, which allow these individuals to lecture or conduct research on specific topics from across a wide variety of academic fields. Ms. Hahamovich will be teaching at University College Cork, as well as researching international labor migration and putting together a collection of historical documents. Mr. Barnard, a visiting professor to the College, will research Franco-American movie relations and history. According to University Relations, Ms. Hahamovich and Mr. Barnard join a group of 36 faculty members that have received Fulbright grants since 1984.

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CSU 7056, P.O. Box 8793  
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[editor@vainformer.com](mailto:editor@vainformer.com)  
[www.VAInformer.com](http://www.VAInformer.com)

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### Mission Statement

*The Virginia Informer* is an independent, non-partisan, student run publication devoted to reporting the news to the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to school sponsored news sources. We do not, and never will, receive any financial support from the College of William and Mary. We will not shy away from controversy or be afraid to challenge the norm. We strive to inform and engage our readers via responsible journalism and in-depth reporting, while fostering and giving voice to opinions that are often shut out by the campus establishment.

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# WMPD activity comparable to larger schools

## Statistics indicate highly active police force on campus

Alex Mayer  
Opinion Editor

In light of the recent focus on the budget of the William and Mary Police Department after significant cuts by the state to the College's funding, there has been much discussion among the William and Mary community over the activity and efficiency of the campus police. There is a widely held belief among students that the campus police is overzealous in its enforcement of the law, especially the College's alcohol policy. *The Informer* investigated this claim, and has uncovered some intriguing statistics.

Using publicly available data from online sources, including the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, *The Informer* looked at William and Mary crime statistics in relation to the number of sworn officers and compared these numbers to those of other major Virginia public schools in 2005. All data in this comparison is from 2005, as that is the latest date for which comprehensive crime and police statistics from all schools are publicly available.

The first relevant statistic in this comparison was the number of students per sworn campus police officer. At William and Mary, that number was 413.12 students per police officer in 2005. Other Virginia public universities with similar student-to-officer ratios were the University of Virginia (384.89), Virginia Commonwealth University (393.10) and Radford University (465.00).

Each WMPD officer was responsible for an average of 24.7 actions in enforcement of the College's alcohol policy in 2005. This is more than eight times higher than the activity level of officers at Virginia universities with comparable student-to-officer ratios. Officers at UVA and VCU each had activity levels of 2.81 and 2.96 alcohol-related actions, respectively. In fact, the WMPD had activity levels on par with large schools such as James Madison University (28.45) and Virginia Tech (20.46), which have student-to-officer ratios of 732.2 and 751.4—nearly double that of William and Mary.

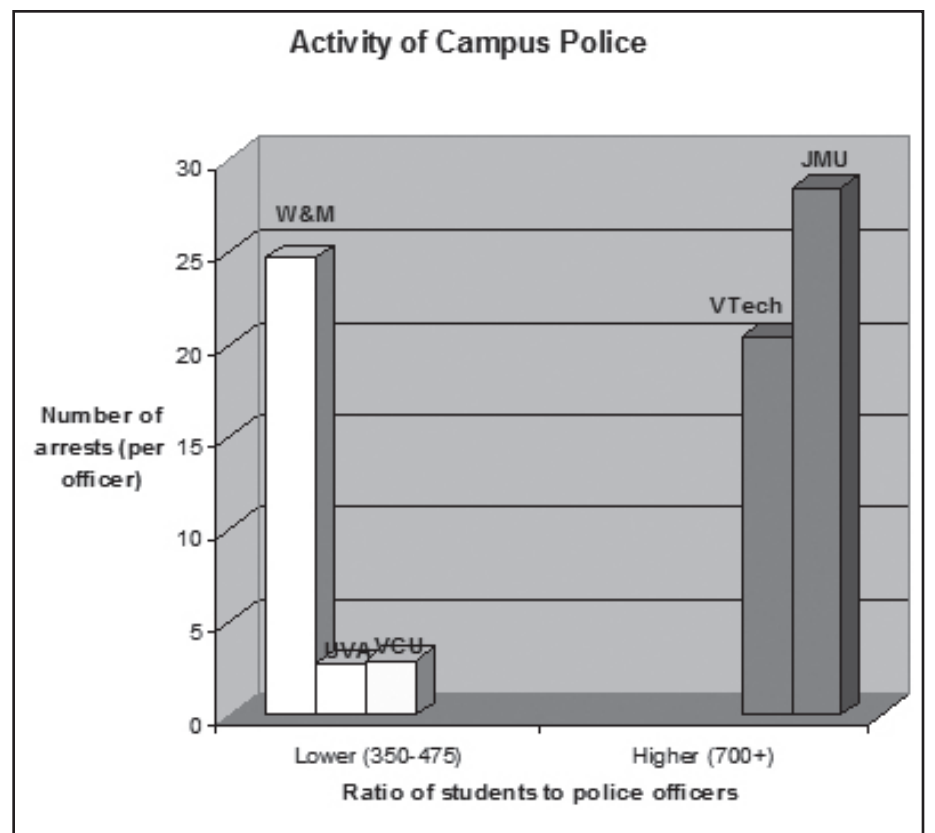
In 2005, the WMPD was responsible for acting on 479 "incidents of crime," defined as the number of

arrests plus the number of citations of code violations. At William and Mary, 87.68% of those incidents (420) were for violations of the alcohol policy.

Of the schools with relevant student-to-officer ratios, only Radford had similar ratios of alcohol policy infractions to total crimes. UVA and VCU had percentages of 45.57% and 34.58%, respectively—far lower than William and Mary. Again, the percentage of alcohol crimes at the College was on par with James Madison University and Virginia Tech, both of which had over 80%.

Even more striking is the difference in the number of alcohol infractions per student at William and Mary. The total number of infractions in 2005 was 420, meaning that as many as 1 in 16 students at the College had been subject to arrest or citation by campus police due to infringement of the alcohol policy—one of the highest rates among Virginia public universities, even those with two to three times the enrollment population of William and Mary.

In our comparison, the only school with the same student-to-officer ratio that rivaled William and Mary's police enforcement statistics was Radford. Since Radford is only slightly larger than William and Mary, the similarity in statistics may be in large part due to the relatively small size of both schools. However, unlike William and Mary, Radford is well-known for its party scene. Responding to the news that the video production team of "Girls Gone Wild" had filmed at Radford, Heather Evans, the Greeklife coordinator, confirmed



that "[t]his definitely perpetuates the stereotype that Radford is a party school, at a time where we are actively trying to change that perception." In addition, William and Mary was listed by CollegeProwler.com as the fourth "cleanest" school in the nation in terms of substance abuse.

With the across-the-board increase in the number of campus police at most Virginia public universities—including William and Mary—following the shootings at Virginia Tech last year, it is reasonable to assume that these statistics will remain relevant. Because it is unlikely that an increase in the number of officers would decrease the efficiency of the WMPD, the controversy over the priorities and activities of the WMPD will no doubt continue.

Staff reporter Stephen Dunford contributed to this report.

## \$12M PLEDGE PULLED IN DECEMBER '06: Nichol aware but OKed false numbers in February reports

continued from page one

Campaign for William and Mary's half-billion-dollar goal with a total of \$502.7 million raised as of December 31, 2006." Mr. Nichol repeated those numbers, which he knew to be false, in the accompanying press release and in his e-mail to alumni later in February.

Mr. McGlothlin sent a letter to a former board member, Linda Arey Skladany, on February 16, 2007, again stating his displeasure regarding Mr. Nichol's actions and stating that he was no longer donating to the College. He also said that a very large contribution—presumably of \$12 million—had been in the works just before Mr. Sullivan retired as president. The news of the lost donation broke in late February, and that letter, obtained by *The Daily Press*, became public

on February 28, 2007. In his statement to the press after the story broke, Mr. Nichol said that he had been "heartsick" to hear about this decision. While Mr. Nichol's feelings at the time cannot be speculated upon with any certainty, it is a fact that Mr. Nichol knew about Mr. McGlothlin's decision for nearly two months.

*The Virginia Informer* reported in its April 2007 edition, in an interview with Mr. Pieri, that the pledge revocation put the Campaign for William and Mary under its \$500 million goal. *The Informer* also reported on September 29, 2007, that Mr. Pieri believed the first time anyone from the College was notified of the loss of funds was in early March when the Skladany-McGlothlin letter became public.

### The \$12 million lie

Nichol's deception yet another disappointing debacle for College

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## Rep. Davis passes away after battle with breast cancer

Nick Hoelker  
Online Editor

On October 7, Republican United States Representative Jo Ann Davis passed away due to breast cancer complications at her home in Gloucester, Virginia.

According to her Web site, Ms. Davis, 57, was first diagnosed with cancer in 2005 and had a re-occurrence earlier this year. She recently had received positive health reports from Duke University, although her condition took a significant turn for the worse in week prior to her death.

Ms. Davis was first elected to Congress in 2000, where she was the ranking member of the Readiness Subcommittee of the House Armed Service Committee. Ms. Davis was an advocate for the armed forces in Congress; her first piece of legislation was a bill to increase "the amount of Servicemember's Group Life Insurance paid to beneficiaries of members of the Armed Forces who died in the performance of their duty."

Ms. Davis represented Virginia's first district, which includes William and Mary and stretches from Newport News along the Northern Neck, up through Fredricksburg and into Prince William County in Northern Virginia. The district is heavily Republican, having voted 65% for Davis in 2006 and over 60% for President George W. Bush in 2004.

Her seat will be filled in an upcoming special election, with the date to be set by Virginia Governor Tim Kaine. At the time of printing, Mr. Kaine had not announced the date but it was widely expected to be set for December 11.

Prior to the election, both parties will need to choose their candidates. According to Communications Director for the Virginia Republican Party Shaun Kenney, the Republicans will not announce a method for selecting a candidate until Mr. Kaine announces the date of the special election. It is widely believed that the Republicans will hold a convention to determine a candidate.

The frontrunner for the Republicans is Ms. Davis' widower, Chuck Davis, a retired firefighter. Thus far, Mr. Davis is the only Republican to announce his candidacy, although several state senators and delegates from Virginia's first district are said to be considering running as well. If Mr. Davis is elected, he would be the first ever widower elected to Congress to follow his wife.

No Democratic candidates have officially announced their candidacy yet, although Phil Forgit, who ran against state Delegate Melanie Rapp in 2003, is rumored to be seeking the seat.



Courtesy Office of Jo Ann Davis

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## Pro-life speaker discusses morality of abortion

Ian A. Kirkpatrick  
Staff Writer

As most of the world is legalizing abortion, Dan Donehey, a William and Mary father and filmmaker, came to speak about the precarious moral predicament that legalized abortion creates for society.

The lecture, on October 10, focused predominantly on value and the moral questions that legalized abortion inspires; as Mr. Donehey said, "When ...certain categories of human life are disposable it is easy to go the next level."

Mr. Donehey takes the example of Nazi Germany, where the government first targeted "useless eaters," the mentally ill and the handicapped, and moved up the ranks to gypsies, homosexuals and Jews (although under the Weimar Republic there was a very conservative abortion policy).

The central theme of value took the discussion into many different realms. Mr. Donehey spoke about "baby Doe," a child (born after *Roe v. Wade*) with some degree of mental retardation and a detached esophagus. The consulted physician recommended either an operation or "as treatment, no food no water, nothing." The parents, two teachers, chose to let their child starve to death with willing adoptees standing by. Mr. Donehey warned that, while one may choose to view such incidents as isolated and unrepresentative of a trend, when encountered with the convenience of abortion, one must realize there are moral costs to society as well.

The presentation spared the attendees graphic depictions of aborted fetuses, but did mention some abortion practices. These include "saline" abortions, where the fetus is literally pickled in the womb. For earlier pregnancies, the fetus can be dismembered with forceps and removed piece by piece, or a simple pill can be used.

A video clip of Brenda Pratt Schafer, an experienced "very pro-choice" nurse was shown, where she described her experience with partial birth abortion. She described how a 26 week-old child with down syndrome—in legal and scientific terms, a "fetus"—was almost completely removed from the womb. When its flailing limbs were outside of its mother, a pair of scissors were inserted inside its brain and opened. She recalls the body becoming extremely tense and going limp after its brains were removed with a vacuum tube. The mother was crying and asked to hold the child, and continued to apologize to her son that had barely lived.

Also included in the discussion was the judicial outcome of *Roe v. Wade*. There are two main positions on the outcome of this judicial decision. As discussed, for some this represents a progressive judicial ruling, but for others it is considered a serious abuse of judicial review.

## Bevy of bills considered in SA Senate

Sarah Nadler  
Staff Writer

Incumbents and newly elected members of the Student Assembly appear to be poised for action and ready to make good on campaign promises. Two academically progressive bills passed in the October 2 session, sponsored by Senator Matt Skibiak ('08), out of the total of 15 bills introduced. Some of these bills were overshadowed, however, by those which seemed more concerned with apologies and jokes than true policy reform.

The Pass/Fail Option for Underclassmen Act would allow underclassmen to take one class with a pass/fail option, which is currently restricted to juniors and seniors only, if the student is currently enrolled in at least 15 credits. Although many senators feared the registrar would not approve such a drastic change, Mr. Skibiak disagreed. He argued that the registrar would be more open to this bill because it prevents students from using a pass/fail class to ease their workload. Mr. Skibiak contended that taking a class with a pass/fail option would actually help widen a student's academic perspective, as many underclassmen are afraid to take classes outside their expertise for fear of a bad grade. Despite the Senate's initial apprehension, the bill passed with an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Skibiak presented a second bill regarding another aspect of a student's academic life: final exams. The Reasonable Exam Time Bill would push the first exam time up to 10:30 am from the originally scheduled 8:30 am exam time. The bill was once again met with a fair amount of skepticism from other senators, but ultimately passed 12-2, with one abstention.

The October 9 meeting also saw Senator Alex Kyrios ('09) introduce several acts, including the introduction of the Support for Athletic Tribe Ride Activities Promotion Act. This bill would give rides for students wishing to see events such as soccer and baseball games. Mr. Kyrios also called for an act to formally end investment in Sudan. Lastly, he introduced the Wake Up

and Smell the Coffee Act, a bill that would put coffee vending machines in dorms. These bills were sent to committee.

Senator Tiseme Zegeye ('09) stated "an apology was not enough" when introducing her Apology for Slavery Act. Ms. Zegeye claimed that merely issuing an apology would be "taking the easy way out," so, to rectify this, her bill calls for a memorial to the slaves who helped build this school. Later on in the meeting, Senator Joe Luppino-Esposito ('08) also called for an apology. His introduction for the Apology for William and Mary Anti-Catholic Act called for the Student Assembly to send an apology to the Vatican for the College's harsh anti-Catholicism under the rule of King William and Queen Mary. Mr. Luppino-Esposito followed this by introducing the Wasting Time on Apology Bills that Accomplish Nothing Act, expressing, through tongue-in-cheek politicking, that although he feels apology bills may be nice, they do not belong in the SA Senate and waste valuable time.

Senator Orlando Watson ('10) introduced the Transition to Combination Locks Act—which would eliminate students' oft-encountered problem of losing their mail key—and the Student Health Options Enhancement Act, which could help those students suffering from anorexia or bulimia acquire a nutritionist through the Student Health Center. Mr. Skibiak also introduced two other bills, including the Ashtrays for Serious Smokers Act, which would provide funds for student ashtrays. Mr. Skibiak's Syllabus Availability Act would allow students to make decisions about coursework with more relevant information by making a full class syllabus available before students officially register. Also in the works is an introductory bill by Senator Sarah Rojas ('10) that would make voter registration drives a monthly event, and a bill introduced by Mr. Luppino-Esposito and the other members of the Internal Affairs committee that calls for research and development on internal affairs reconstruction to find out what students want.

## Admitted Students Day lunch paid for by Bank of America US Senate investigates matter over summer

Chris Davis  
Layout Editor

Over the summer, the College was linked in a US Senate investigation to a growing scandal in the student loan industry. Bank of America, a "preferred lender" for the College, was reported to have paid \$11,414 to sponsor a lunch during the 2006 Admitted Students Day.

On June 14, Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass), chairman of the Education Committee, released a report detailing the aggressive marketing practices of student lenders and the gifts received by universities to promote these lenders. Included in this report was a list of Bank of America's marketing expenditures which included the costly lunch. Several prominent schools besides William and Mary were also mentioned, including Johns Hopkins University and the University of Texas at Austin.

The lunch, prepared for admitted students and their families in April of 2006, drew scrutiny because Bank of America is one of three banks on the College's "preferred lender list" for offering loans to students.

"It was the College's decision to allow Bank of America to sponsor these lunches. Bank of America was not reimbursed for their support," said Associate Provost for Enrollment Earl T. Granger III.

The College decided it would be best, in order to follow proper Code of Conduct regulations in the future, to fund the annual lunch itself the following year—which it did this past April in 2007.

"We gave this issue great consideration and engaged in discussions with the College's auditor and legal counsel and determined that while no families or College employees were advantaged by the \$8 boxed lunches, it would be best to use our own resources for this endeavor," said Mr. Granger.

Bank of America's listing on the preferred lender list simply means that they are a recommended choice; the College accepts loans through any bank.

"In the 2006-07 year, for example, we processed loans from 51 lenders other than those on our list," said Director of Financial Aid Edward Smith.

The reasons that Citibank and the Access Group, in addition to Bank of America, make up the preferred lender list include their competitive rates, repayment provisions, quality of customer service and experience in the student loan industry.

"Our preferred lenders are selected through the Commonwealth of Virginia's Procurement Process, which is a highly regulated process monitored by the state," said Mr. Granger. "All submissions from lending institutions are scrutinized to ensure that our students receive the best rates possible."

## PHILOSOPHY DOCS: Memos show professors protested outside group's findings but action still taken against department

continued from page one

Davies and Harris charged Provost Geoffrey Feiss and Mr. Strikwerda with "taking calculated steps to make academic standards subservient to an ideology of sensitivity." They alleged that the College's actions against their department stemmed from a dominant "hospitality norm" on campus, which, essentially, states that "students and faculty must feel, above all else, welcomed" and "protected from the threat of genuine standards."

*The Daily Press* followed up on the story with a June 22 article that reported on the possible political motivation behind the replacement of Mr. Lemos, as department chair, with English professor Terry Meyers. Mr. Lemos was one of two department chairmen who did not support a Faculty Assembly resolution supporting President Nichol during last year's Wren cross controversy, which Mr. Meyers himself had introduced. Messrs. Feiss and Strikwerda denied any political motivation behind their decision, and reiterated their concerns about the department's alleged mistreatment of junior faculty.

## Key card glitch leaves some locked out

**Kristin Coyner**  
Staff Writer

On Friday, October 5, the Office of Residence Life sent out an e-mail to students regarding “isolated, random problems with the residence hall ID access system.”

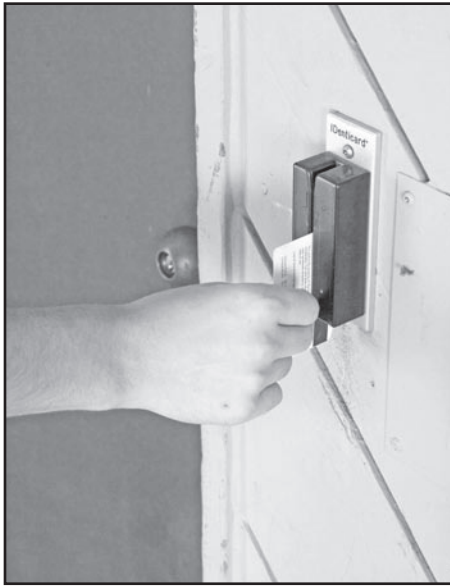
Some students’ ID cards had stopped being read by key card readers, barring access to various buildings over the course of the day. All buildings on campus, from the front of Barrett to the entrance of the WCWM radio studio, were unable to be accessed by some students due to the random nature of the problem.

Residence Life alleges that this potential security risk was fully rectified by nightfall on Friday.

According to Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Residence Life Deb Boykin, “During an update to the ID system database the data was corrupted in some way—not necessarily a virus, but a simple misplaced comma or forward slash that caused the data table to be thrown off.”

The server for the William and Mary student and resident database was, at the time, undergoing expansion to include IT readers and members of VIMS. This main server is located in the campus police building and manages various connecting computer panels in academic and residential buildings throughout campus.

In order to correct the problem, a reload of



Ian R. Whiteside

**Key reader error:** A simple programming error left many students without access.

the system database was preformed. This process required much of the day, as data sets were downloaded to every building across campus, thus involving multiple computer panels.

The College contracts this work out with the company Lundquist and Associates to install campus card readers and server software and also maintains a 24-hour response to problems. On October 5, technicians from Lundquist came out to campus to implement the correction to the system.

Small scale incidences relating to server codes are normally handled on an individual basis by Chris Durden, director of housing operations for Residence Life. The loss of student IDs and the breaks to isolated card readers all require code updates in the system, which Mr. Durden manages.

Ms. Boykin maintains that Residence Life “quickly sent an e-mail to residents because we wanted them to know that it was not a problem with their ID cards—both Residence Life and the ID office had many phone calls—and that we were addressing the problem.” Ultimately, Lundquist and Associates succeeded in loading updates to the final panels early Friday evening.

*The Informer* has been unable to attain confirmation that some buildings, including the Bryan complex dorms, remained unlocked throughout the weekend as a result of the system glitch as some students have claimed.

## Spam continues to infiltrate College e-mail servers

**Michelle Ju**  
Staff Writer

The average college student rarely finds it his or her cup of tea to be bombarded with e-mail ads for penis enlargements or free money offers from the president of Timbuktu. To many, spam messages are invasive, irritating and often offensive. When opened, they potentially usher in viruses, as well as spy programs that attempt to leave codes on computers to obtain personal information, such as credit card account numbers.

The recent deluge of spam has alarmed students, spreading doubt over Information Technology department’s ability to safeguard College servers from potential hazards.

When asked about the causes and whether the College’s network is being targeted with spam, Robert Chris Ward, the director of systems and support at IT, explained that “[the spam] has not been directed to anyone. This goes out to everyone in the world.”

Mr. Ward also divulged some of the benefits of the College’s current server, which was bought several years ago. There are two distinct tools that the server offers. Primarily, the server is designed to catch viruses upon arrival on the network server. The server also uses a product called MailHurdle, a spam and junk mail filtering tool that, once activated, filters

out unwanted messages and can automatically delete them.

For students unaware of this Webmail feature, Mr. Ward recommends visiting the “I Need Help With...” section of the [www.wm.edu/it](http://www.wm.edu/it) Web site for more explicit details about accessing and personalizing the system tool and also to manage one’s junk mail folder.

Online surfing and Internet purchasing contribute to the likelihood of putting a computer at risk. It is important to be cautious and refrain from replying to any unsolicited e-mail. Mr. Ward warns of e-mails that offer “removing” one’s e-mail address from lists. “By simply clicking on the ‘remove’ button, you can get more spam,” he said. Dubious Web sites that host games and other online activities that require e-mail addresses are often in the business of selling these addresses to spam companies.

Most reputable sites state privacy standards, but even that doesn’t secure one from the fraudulent sites that imitate similar pledges of privacy. Sites for which the http address switches to http are fairly secure. Those who are still distrustful are suggested to put the Web address into a search engine to find other online users’ problems with the particular site. Most online users may rest assured that simply visiting a site does not place them at risk of having their e-mail addresses obtained.

## Jumping out a window punished with probation, community service

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

Annually, around 10% of the student body is charged with a judicial violation. On Wednesday September 26, 2007, a sophomore at the College became part of that statistic when he was placed on probation and given 25 hours of community service.

The incident that resulted in judicial action occurred during the first week of school. The student and a few friends had returned from a party and decided to listen to music in a room on the first floor of Jefferson Hall.

An RA heard the music and knocked on the door. One student opened the door, saw the RA, and shut it again. Though alcohol consumption was not occurring in the room, the students had just returned from a party and therefore decided to remove the window’s screen and leave the room rather than face trouble.

The screen was in no way damaged, says the student who was contacted by *The Informer*. Furthermore, he had no part in the screen’s removal. However, he was found responsible for destruction of property for the removal of the room’s screen and also for failure to comply with the RA.

An RA contacted about the story criticized both charges, claiming a good case could be made against either. The RA referred to the “failure to comply” charge as “purposely vague to cover things like this case.”

To ascertain the legitimacy of the property destruction charge in particular *The Informer* contacted the former head of Student Legal Services, Matt Fogue, and the Director of Judicial Affairs Dean Gilbert.

According to Mr. Fogue, who claims no authoritative interpretation of the judicial code, the charge of destruction of campus property indicates that attempted destruction is sufficient for a violation.

“Therefore, the act of kicking out the screen probably counts, regardless of whether the screen was actually damaged or not.”

Mr. Gilbert added, “It is important to note that if a student assists with an act (by any act which furthers the violation), he or she can be held accountable for the act.”

Thus according to Messrs. Fogue’s and Gilbert’s

statements, the act of being an accomplice to the attempted destruction of property—in this case the screen’s removal—can be considered destruction of property.

The *Informer* asked Mr. Gilbert about the seeming severity of punishment. Unable to comment on specific cases, Mr. Gilbert said, “Each case is evaluated individually, and sanctions are levied after a careful review of the student’s prior record, if any, the harm created by the act, the student’s learning from the incident and prior case precedent.”

The student, who did, in fact, receive a warning last year, also claims that lack of knowledge regarding the judicial procedure contributed to his inability to defend himself.

To rectify a situation in which many students know little about the process of defending themselves judicially, the Student Assembly recently proposed, and President Nichol signed into immediate effect, a policy change that will allow graduate students to represent undergrads in judicial proceedings.

Mr. Fogue has been in contact with the leadership of Student Legal Services, which is operated by law school students, and said, “They are prepared for what will hopefully be an influx of students seeking our representation.”

“SLS is forming a committee of volunteers who will take on the duty of providing representation to our clients when they go before the Judicial Board,” said Mr. Fogue.

The student in this one case decided to appeal the sanctions he was given. But, as the student handbook states, “Grounds for appeals of informal resolutions are limited to excessive or inappropriate penalty,” leaving no ability

to challenge the actual charges.

Towards the tail end of *The Informer*’s investigation, Dean of Students Patricia Volp broke with procedure and dropped the charge of property destruction. Ms. Volp acknowledged such an action was “typically a matter outside the bounds of the informal resolution appeal,” but cited a procedural irregularity as the reason for her decision. The sanction of probation stands, with community service reduced to ten hours.

### William & Mary Dining Services

#### Reasons for having Flex Points at all times:

- **Flex Points are tax free.**  
Anytime you use flex points, you save 10%
- **You may use Flex Points to treat your guests and friends to any campus dining location!**
- **Flexibility! You add money as you need it and you don't need to carry cash or visit an ATM every time you need money for a snack or meal. Plus any campus cashier can tell you your balance by simply swiping your card.**
- **Convenience! Flex Points can be used to purchase food & beverage at all campus dining locations. You or your parents can add money anytime online at [www.wm.edu/dining](http://www.wm.edu/dining) or even over the phone. Simply call : 757-221-2110 to add money today.**

#### Just Flex It at any of the following campus dining locations:

Commons Cyber Café  
Swem Café  
The Dodge Room  
Quiznos at Lodge 1  
Freshens at the Rec Center

The Students' X-change  
Starbucks at The Marketplace  
The FFCo. at The Commons  
RFoC Center Court  
The Marketplace Café

## The Throne lets students conduct their business royally

**Jon San**  
Features Editor

If you have ever visited a bathroom in Swem, (and one can assume this includes the vast majority of students here at the College), there are several things you would likely notice. First, the cleanliness of Swem bathrooms is unrivaled across campus. Second, the stall toilets emit an ear-drum shattering roar upon flushing. But, most importantly, Swem bathrooms boast possibly the most widely-read publication at William and Mary: *The Throne*.

*The Throne* was first published in June 2002 after some Swem staff members, while visiting the University of Virginia, noticed that their libraries contained a similar publication called "Stall Talk." *The Informer* was able to speak with Director of Research, Instruction and Outreach Services Patricia Van Zandt at Swem about this beloved bathroom periodical.

"[*The Throne*] seemed a great way to get the word out on happenings and services of the library, so we borrowed the concept [from UVA]," said Ms. Van Zandt.

In addition to keeping students up-to-date on Swem events, *The Throne* also runs short, humorous pieces on seemingly random subjects. The first issue had a story on St. Jerome, the patron saint of librarians, while the most recent issue dealt particularly on the subject of pirates. So how do the brains behind *The Throne* decide on these themes?

"Stories are inspired by events and services in the library, current events and

whatever interests the editor at the moment. Themes aren't always planned but appear magically as the issue comes together. We give a lot of credit to serendipity," said Ms. Van Zandt.

While the stories in *The Throne* are undoubtedly the meat of the publication, the original artwork and graphic designs are also important elements. Such images appear thanks to Karen McCluney, Swem's graphic designer.

It should be noted that *The Throne* is not a monthly or bi-weekly publication; in fact, it is essentially published at random.

"*The Throne* is an irregular publication, put out when the spirit moves the creators and as time allows. Unfortunately, it's not anyone's full-time job, so sometimes other things interfere with a regular publication schedule," said Ms. Van Zandt.

Costing only \$50 per publication cycle, *The Throne* is easily read by hundreds of students on a daily basis. And keep your eyes open; according to

Ms. Van Zandt, the next issue will feature the Colonial Campus," incorporating articles on "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar on iPods into the idea.



Ian R. Whiteside

**Ready to enlighten:** *The Throne* features humorous pieces and original artwork.

## UCAB Music committee tasked with the impossible Limiting choices, many variables must be accounted for in decision

**Jon San**  
Features Editor

For any music group, ranging from small up-and-comers to Dave Matthews, William and Mary Hall is not the most attractive of venues. Seeing as the College only has roughly 5,500 undergraduates and the Williamsburg population is decidedly older than the target audience by several decades, bringing bands to campus is an almost impossible undertaking. And this responsibility rests on the back of the UCAB music committee, a group that is faced with the Herculean task of trying to please everyone.

*The Informer* was able to correspond with two members of this committee: Chair Jeanna Occhiogrosso and committee member Dan

Irish. Both acknowledged that it is truly impossible to bring a band to campus that *everyone* likes.

"First off, the music tastes on this campus are extremely diverse," said Ms. Occhiogrosso. "In a world where money was no object, what would happen if Madonna showed up? Would the male population on campus be happy? What if Ludacris arrived? Would the Indie fans show up? What if Kenny Chesney played here? Would he be boycotted because he is a country artist? There's a lot to take into account here."

Many students unhappy with concert selections use the same criticism: why not use a survey; wouldn't that be the most democratic of means?

and would take away from contacting bands, booking bands, and planning events. Getting [students] to come to events is hard enough."

That is not to say that UCAB blindly choose bands without doing any sort of research. UCAB has a subscription to PollstarOnline which gives details about many bands currently on tour and helps in the decision making process. After narrowing down the list to *only* 20-30 bands, the music committee submits this list to Joe Crowder, the assistant director of student activities, and Patrick Ross, the graduate assistant.

If this seems complicated, it's just the beginning. Both Mr. Irish and Ms. Occhiogrosso agreed that finding a date (on a night when William and Mary Hall is not otherwise occupied) for a currently touring band that meets a majority of students' interests cuts down the list of possible groups substantially. The committee then takes into account the tour schedule of the band.

"If [the band is] playing in London the night before, obviously they won't be coming to Williamsburg to play for us," said Ms. Occhiogrosso. "This is where it gets really frustrating, because the decision almost gets made for us based on these tight constraints. We're lucky if we

can find one band on our list of 20 or more that fits all of these specifications." It is also important to remember that the Student Assembly only gives the committee \$35,000 for the big spring show.

Last spring, the rock groups My Chemical Romance and Muse attracted about 7,000 people, "the largest crowd we've had at a college music event in years" according to Ms. Occhiogrosso. This fall, for Homecoming, Guster is playing a free show.

"[The decision] came down to two feasible options for Homecoming: Guster and The Used," said Ms. Occhiogrosso. "Because we try so hard to bring a wide array of acts to campus, we turned to Guster because we thought The Used was too similar to My Chemical Romance."

And while many students are salivating over the recent announcement that Led Zeppelin will be performing a concert in London, Mr. Irish made the point that in the past, it would not be ridiculous to ask these Gods of Rock to play at William and Mary Hall.

"No joke, William and Mary has had The Clash, Nirvana, the Grateful Dead, Cat Stevens and Led Zeppelin perform on campus in the past," he said.



Ian R. Whiteside

**Past acts:** My Chemical Romance performed on campus last year, joining the list of other big name acts that have performed at the College, including Nirvana.

## Washington Office proves an invaluable asset

**Andrew Blasi**  
Business Editor

The William and Mary Office in Washington, DC, is an incredible asset to students undertaking a summer internship in our nation's capital. In addition to the excellent Washington semester program that the office provides for William and Mary students, its prime location in the center of the city and special summer intern events make it a true treasure for all of us at the College. Led by Adam Anthony ('87) and Meghan Comey ('03), the Washington Intern Summer Program is loaded with opportunities that every William and Mary student spending their summer in Washington should take full advantage of. Consisting of numerous career networking seminars, VIP insider tours, cultural and entertainment events, this program allows current students to meet one-on-one with many William and Mary alumni while also having a lot of fun.

The networking seminars this past summer included the attendance of top alumni within the federal government, think tanks, interest groups, journalism and field of international relations. The insider advice they provided to students for advancing in their respective fields in addition to their willingness to stay in touch was universal. Furthermore, the food provided for those in attendance was also huge plus (as any past DC intern can appreciate).

The office, through their alumni connections, also provided remarkable insider tours this past summer as well. Students went behind the scenes in such places as the Pentagon (including the Army Operations Center), the White House, National Archives and the CBS Washington studios, where members of the general public would certainly be unable to venture. In addition, other events hosted by the DC office this summer included nighttime movie screenings on the Washington Mall and tailgating before a Washington Nationals baseball game.

Beyond all of these benefits the office provides, it also serves as a home for William and Mary students in DC. It is a place where both during the academic year as well as during the summer, students can go if they ever have any particular needs, be they academic or otherwise. It is an asset that the college cannot afford to lose and all students should have the opportunity to fully utilize for years into the future.

# Oktoberfest: Das bier ist gut



Matt Keck

**Beer or treat:** Prost (cheers) to those who enjoy the brew of October.

**Matthew Sutton**  
Managing Editor

Well, it's that time again. No, not time to stress over the midterms or complain about *The Informer*: it's Oktoberfest. Germany's greatest gift to the world, Oktoberfest is a 16 day festival celebrated in Munich, featuring Bavarian specialties and traditional peasant clothing. In honor of this festival, I decided to focus on two fine American beers which offer seasonal brews for this magical time of the year: Samuel Adams and Blue Moon. Although these are both domestic brews, these beers represent

an easy way for beginners to broaden their beer palates and celebrate with our German brothers.

### Blue Moon Harvest Moon

An offering from the Blue Moon seasonal collection, Harvest Moon screams Oktoberfest from its label alone. Depicting a field of pumpkins with the trademark blue moon in the background against a backdrop of Halloween orange, the bottle appears to promise an interesting, festive taste.

Harvest Moon pours a rich amber color into the glass and has a quickly dissipating, thin head. This beer is marked by a spicy initial taste,

highlighted by traces of cinnamon and pumpkin. It finishes with a particularly strong aftertaste. Its nutty blend—which smacks of acorns and the smell of dry leaves—and warm flavor may be overpowering for those whose palate is normally more accustomed to beers of a lighter hue.

*5 out of 10 pumpkins*

### Samuel Adams Oktoberfest

Samuel Adams seasonal brews are known for their high quality, and the Oktoberfest is no exception. With a more restrained fall feel to its bottle, it promises a serious, less in-your-face autumnal experience. Sam Oktober pours a darker amber, and has a thicker, longer-lasting head as compared with the Harvest Moon. Its taste is complex, marked by strong overtones of the noble hops which are featured prominently on its label. It is clearly superior to the Harvest Moon and I highly recommend it to those interested in an American interpretation of a German classic.

*8 out of 10 pumpkins*

If you can't spare the money for tickets to Munich, don't worry, just buy a case of Samuel Adams Oktoberfest and enjoy the festivities here in the good ole USA.

In accordance with the regulations set forth by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Cheers, *Salute!*, *L'Chaim* and *Sláinte* to you (legal) imbibers at William and Mary.

Wes Edwards' Drink of the Week

## Slurry

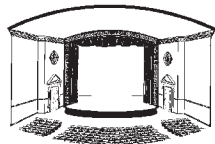
2 handles Aristocrat Gin  
2 cases Natural Light  
2 gallons Tropicana Orange Juice  
2 gallons Sprite

**Kick: 4 out of 5 Taste: 3 out of 5**

This week I had the pleasure, yet again, to write about a highly alcoholic drink. This week's drink is a bit more complex, but putting in the effort to concoct it is well worth it—especially if you're the alcoholic who enjoys a drunken stupor that will leave you naked and asking questions hours later. Slurry, as it is known around Williamsburg, has been given its name for its ability to make you slur your words after only several cups. Don't take this drink for granted because it will take you by surprise. Jungle Juice is like mineral water in comparison. Despite the surprise kick, Slurry is chuggable and has a refreshing aftertaste—surprising for a beverage involving both Aristocrat Gin and Natural Light. In the case of Slurry, its greatest strength is its greatest weakness. It will take you for a wild ride, but, then again, isn't that what college *should* be all about?

Slurry has changed my life, will it change yours?

*Editor's Note:* The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly and in accordance with university, state and federal law.



*Kimball Theatre*

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

## Movies

### Mother of Mine (Not rated)

Wed., Oct. 31 at 7 p.m.  
Tickets: \$3, William and Mary ID \$1

### Rescue Dawn (PG-13)

Fri., Oct. 19-Sun., Oct. 28  
6:30 and 8:50 p.m.  
Oct. 20-26 screening room (35 seats)

### My Best Friend (PG-13)

Fri., Oct. 26-Thurs., Nov. 1  
7 and 8:45 p.m.  
Oct. 27-30, Nov. 1 screening room (35 seats)

### My Best Friend (PG-13)

Thurs., Nov. 1  
7 and 8:45 p.m. Screening room (35 seats)

### Film Movement: 2007 Independent and International Film Series

**Viva Cuba** Not rated  
Fri., Nov. 2  
7 and 9 p.m.

### Becoming Jane (PG)

Fri., Nov. 2-Thurs., Nov. 8  
6:30 and 8:45 p.m.  
Nov. 5-8 screening room (35 seats)

### In The Shadow of the Moon (PG)

Fri., Nov. 9-Sun., Nov. 18  
6:30 and 8:30 p.m.  
Nov. 10-13, 15-17 screening room (35 seats)

### The Virginia Peninsula Jewish Film Festival on Merchants Square

**The Year My Parents Went on Vacation** Not rated

Sat., Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.

**To Die in Jerusalem** Not rated

Sun., Nov. 11 at 2 p.m.

**Souvenirs** Not rated

Sun., Nov. 11 at 7 p.m.

### Moliere (PG-13)

Sat., Nov. 17-Sat., Nov. 24  
6:45 and 9 p.m.  
Nov. 18-19, 22-24 screening room (35 seats)

### Rocket Science (R)

Sun., Nov. 25-Tues., Dec. 4  
6:45 and 8:30 p.m.  
Nov. 25-Dec. 2, Dec. 4 screening room (35 seats)

# October/November Schedule

## Live Performances

### The Williamsburg Symphonia presents Subscription Concert #2

Tues., Nov. 6 and Wed., Nov. 7 at 8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$42, \$30. Advance tickets are available through the Symphonia; call (757) 229-9857

### 2007 Jamestown Lecture Series A Special Lecture presented by Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz, NASA Astronaut

Tues., Nov. 13 at 7 p.m.  
All seats \$10

### The College of William and Mary Jazz Ensemble presents An Evening of Jazz

Wed., Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.  
General admission \$8, Seniors/Students \$5

### The Graduate Center of the College of William and Mary presents International Music and Dance Showcase

Fri., Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.  
General admission \$5, W&M ID \$3, children under 10 free

### Christmas With the Coyotes: Coyote Run in Concert

Fri., Nov. 23-Sun., Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$18, Seniors/Students \$15

### Virginia Premiere Theatre presents Gift of the Magi

Preview performances: Nov. 27-28 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$12, Seniors/Students \$7  
Opening Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.  
General admission \$18 Seniors/Students \$15

# Tour de Delis

## An experience and comparison of the Green Leafe, Paul's, the College Delly and Mama Mia's



Ian R. Whiteside

### Paul's Deli

Paul's Deli is my favorite of the three traditional delis. It has a great sports-centered atmosphere, complete with all of the paraphernalia, pictures on the walls and televisions all around which make it a great place to catch a game; it keeps itself, however, from crossing the line to becoming a sports bar. I asked for their signature item, and they recommended the Holly (\$9.03). For the unfamiliar, a Holly is a sub with turkey, roast beef, cheese, mayo, bacon, pickle, lettuce and tomato. The Holly was served at the perfect temperature and was absolutely delicious. Although they obviously prided themselves on their subs and sandwiches, they also had an excellent variety of soups, salads, appetizers, pizza, Italian and Greek foods. Their gyros are also some of the tastiest around, and the stromboli looked better than any I have ever had anywhere. If you are looking for a deli that has a fun social atmosphere and is a great place to spend time, then you will want to go to Paul's.



Ian R. Whiteside

### The College Delly

The College Delly is smaller than either Paul's or the Leafe, but it still has its own, although not as well defined, atmosphere. It has less variety than the other two and is more strictly a sandwich and sub shop. Here they also named the Holly as their signature item. It was \$2 cheaper than Paul's (\$7) and came on a Styrofoam plate, indicative of its casual environment. It was the same size as Paul's although not as good, but it was still a well made sandwich. The College Delly is more of a come-and-go place where one comes to eat, then leaves. It does not cater to a social scene the way Paul's and the Leafe do. If you are just looking for good food on a poor college student's budget, then the College Delly is the place to be.



Ian R. Whiteside

### The Green Leafe

Of the delis, the Green Leafe is the only traditional restaurant where one is seated and has an order taken by a server. It has an excellent ambiance and a menu with a huge variety which will suit anyone looking for anything, ranging from a light (and cheap) snack, to appetizers with friends, sandwiches with the family or an elegant meal. All of the food is absolutely delicious. My selection of the entrée chicken marsala (\$16) looked and tasted as if it came from a black-tie kitchen. The variety offered was not just limited to the food, but the prices as well. One can eat inexpensively by selecting one of their wraps, sandwiches or appetizers. On the other hand, if looking to burn some dough you can order one of the entrées. The very atmosphere of the Green Leafe is conducive to socializing with your friends over a platter of delicious appetizers. Whatever your occasion is, the Green Leafe will satisfy.

- 1. Paul's Deli
- 2. Green Leafe
- 3. College Delly
- 4. Mama Mia's

### Mama Mia's

Mama Mia's was my final and least favorite place. It had no real atmosphere and is strictly a place to get sandwiches and subs. My first impressions upon walking inside were quite negative. The place looked in need of a good cleaning, and I could see dirty dishes as well as rust on some of the cooking materials; it was very depressing. There was an original arcade and juke box in the eating area, possibly vestiges of Mama Mia's better days. What was noticeably absent was any pictures or paraphernalia of William and Mary that all of the other locations had. The menu was almost the same as the College Delly's, except smaller. It, too, is strictly a sandwich and sub shop. I ordered a Holly (\$7) which came on a Styrofoam plate. It was with low expectations that I bit into the Holly, and it was absolutely delicious. It was superior to the Holly at the College Delly, and was almost as good as Paul's. I left feeling very satisfied, and would recommend Mama Mia's strictly as a near campus location to grab an inexpensive sandwich.



Aileen Judd

# New Food Critic Matt Pinsker rates the delis

# College in limbo Student A all American Homecoming

Nick Hoelker Online Editor

Gone for good are the days when Tribe had any symbolic connection to American Indians. In two e-mails to the Greek community, sororities were warned that any unit of a Native American or Native American-themed organization would not be allowed to participate. The units were rejected and the unit will not be able to walk the parade route. The same email was sent out from the Student Activities office to all registered groups on campus. It is unclear whether this decision is related to the NCAA ruling last year that found the Tribe's logo of two feathers "hostile and abusive." Inquiries to members of the homecoming committee were not returned.

# Want to give? Consider donating to The Virginia Informer

Looking to make an impact on campus? You should consider donating to *The Virginia Informer*, an independent student newspaper at the College of William and Mary.

We print the stories that other campus newspapers never dare cover. We ask the toughest questions and are committed to being the primary outlet for hitting campus journalism around.

Entirely student-run, *The Informer* does not receive a cent from our school administration. We are funded, raised, through donations, advertising and subscriptions.

# Get The Virginia Informer

Volume 3 Issue 2 September 19, 2007 Founding 1988 www.VAInformer.com

**Provost Feiss takes over day-to-day operations of College**  
Nichol will focus on "external matters"

**Students mark 9/11 with quiet memorial**

**Final decision on budget becomes a warring game**



# ge logo still bo?

## activities orders ban on ean Indian imagery at ing parade

returned.

In light of restrictions against American Indian-related symbols, it is perhaps surprising that posters for Sigma Pi fraternity's Fall Fest displayed the Tribe's former logo, two feathers, and were not censored by the school.

The school's new logo, which is certain to be of a non-American Indian nature, may be revealed at homecoming.

Vice President of Student Affairs and Logo Committee Chairman Sam Sadler stated that "[the committee is] on schedule to supply the president with a logo design that could be unveiled at Homecoming if he desires. The committee is meeting but... [at this] stage...our meetings are not open to the public."

Despite this ban, *The Virginia Informer* intends to hand out free green and gold feathers at Saturday's football game.



# ive back to W&M?

## The Virginia Informer

campus? If so, you *Virginia Informer*, the only College of William publications would questions, and are for the most hard- does not take a single All funds are privately and subscriptions, and

the administration cannot censor or direct our content. Producing one issue of *The Informer* costs approximately \$800. This \$800 provides readers with a biweekly, 16-page edition, featuring four pages of color. Stories range from the latest and greatest breaking news on campus, to intriguing exposes on the College's arts and entertainment, to wide ranging pieces on student opinion. Want to give back to the College in a big way? Consider a contribution or a subscription to *The Virginia Informer*, the common sense paper of record at the College of William and Mary.

# Inside the hoagie A history of the College's beloved Wawa reveals a modern tradition

Steven Nelson  
Assistant News Editor

Current students may find it difficult to imagine surviving William and Mary without frequent late-night, or daytime, trips to our local Wawa—the only 24-hour business within walking distance of campus.

A mere six years ago, in the fall of 2001, Wawa opened for the first time at its location on Richmond Road, replacing a Sentry food mart and a Subway.

A longtime Williamsburg resident was able to confirm that neither Sentry nor Subway were open 24-hours. Furthermore, the selection of food at Sentry roughly compared to that of a 7-11.

Few alums had much knowledge of the existence of these establishments. According to Patrick Thompson ('03), "the fact that neither Jeremy nor I can remember much about Sentry speaks a thousand words." Jeremy Utt ('03) agreed.

"I never had any reason to go by that area before Wawa showed up. I remember very little as to what was there beforehand, but I remember being very happy hearing that a Wawa was moving in," said Mr. Thompson.

Many students find a Wawa "built-to-order" hoagie the perfect early-morning snack; customers place their order via touch-screen computer and watch the sandwich being made before their eyes.

According to Wawa Fresh Food Manager Aurora Banks, 3854 sandwiches were made



Kristine Mosuela

**Tasty:** Wawa's computerized system quickly produces great sandwiches. Almost 4,000 sandwiches were made in just one week earlier this year.

and sold in the week of September 23-29 alone. That figure averages to slightly less than one per student over the course of a week.

Wawa also has had many popular promotions, according to Ms. Banks, including a deal where a Ciattata sandwich came with a drink of any size for free. Earlier in the semester, Wawa gave away free coffee between 4 pm and 7 pm.

*The Informer* was unable to acquire confirmation by print time regarding whether the Williamsburg Wawa is indeed among the top-grossing in the state. Though rumored to be so, such information is only readily available to stockholders.

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Professor Profile

# Brett Wilson, British literature aficionado, charms and inspires

**Michelle Ju**  
Staff Writer

Brett Wilson, dashing and strikingly youthful, sits astutely poised in his office chair, clad in a lavender button-up shirt and gray slacks. In his third year as an English professor at the College, he has taught various period literature courses that range between the 17th to 19th centuries, one of which is his popular British Literature II course. Mr. Wilson holds an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College ('92) and a PhD in comparative literature from the University of Pennsylvania, where he attended graduate school. His distinguished academic studies range from political literature to Spanish.

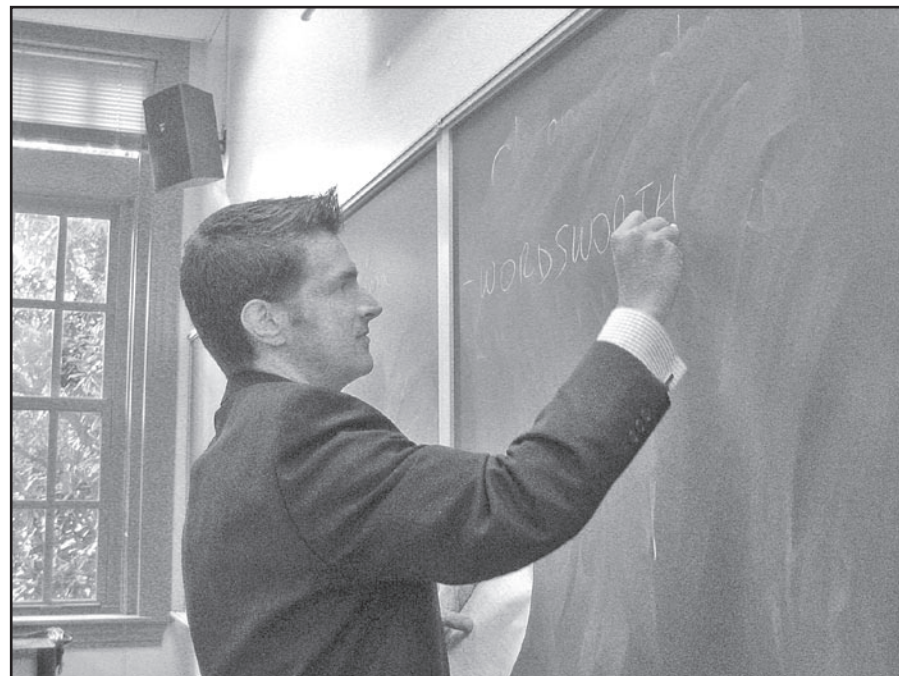
Mr. Wilson's scholarly expertise as a British literature devotee is as far ranging as it is eclectic. Stimulated by the political climate surrounding historical literature, he is partial to studying tragedies from the early 18th century. He is a cultured Renaissance man in every sense of the word—and enthusiast of political blogs, studying 18th century theater and the origin of party politics.

Reminiscing of his undergraduate days at Dartmouth, Mr. Wilson recalled most famously his experience as a disc jockey for his college radio station during "the grunge era of Nirvana" and, most importantly, the methodology of constantly speaking on the air, which profoundly pervades his current, energetic lecture persona. "It was AM radio. We couldn't ever have silence, because people would pass on hearing dead air, which is why I got used to constantly speaking," explained Mr. Wilson, who is notable for his contemporary savvy, biting wit and high-energy lectures.

Mr. Wilson expressed pleasure in being a professor at a college that prides itself of such a "strong, academic profile," attributing this to the uniquely different sense of self-improvement in the student body and its rhetoric of trying harder. "Across the board, students here are really eager to do better. Students here are so committed to doing great work and lack a sense of entitlement I've found on other campuses, which is what I find most charming."

Mr. Wilson also ascribed his attraction to the intimate atmosphere that other universities lack to "the electricity of a [small] classroom experience," found only in small college settings. "I really like teaching English 204. It functions as a gateway course for people considering English as a major. It helps represent the department and catch people's interests, like 'hey, it's kind of fun to be an English major'—at least the part that is stimulating, intellectually."

In his spare time, Mr. Wilson reads political satire blogs, studies tragedies and enjoys lighthearted contemporary works as well as nonfiction, including AJ Jacobs's *The-*



Michelle Ju

**Hot for teacher?:** Brett Wilson is a young, up and coming professor at the College. He is known for a new, fresh method of teaching old classics.

Know-It-All. Having attended graduate school in Pennsylvania, he pledged undying passion for the Phillies, hailing all things baseball, although he claimed that he himself is not an athlete. He also comically mused of his studiously high-reaching high school experience in Marlboro, New Jersey. "I was a huge nerd," he joked.

Swemming off the deep end:

## Sebastian Bach or the Flaming Lips? You decide.

Well, we've finally come to the conclusion that our beloved William and Mary campus—a place devoted to history, tradition and, of course, the music of Brohann Sebastian Bach—has gone the way of the dodo. No longer is it fashionable to care about a civil exchange of views through the marketplace of ideas that our university setting is supposed to provide, or to respectfully disagree with another's opinion while still defending his right to say it. As our friends over at the Mason School of Business—whose new building is already in the process of being transformed into the Center for the Three Ms (Marxism, Multiculturalism and the trendy hit band Muse)—would say, it's time for a little rebranding.

To acquaint ourselves with what the young hipsters have in store for the future of our college—taking a break from our second job of co-hosting the hit NBC show *To Catch a Predator*—we turned to Facebook for some primary market research in an effort to reinvent our image.

It appears as if the new majority

demographic on this campus can be identified by several key factors. These include, but are certainly not limited to: drinking chai lattes made fresh from the Daily Grind; discussing the latest Icelandic Indie rock sensation, and how it will impact the future of the music scene in Williamsburg; trolling Dis-N-That thrift store for the latest vintage fashions, including odd glasses, tight-ass jeans and other accoutrement of a typical hipster-doofer; and, finally, constantly complaining about President Bush's upcoming draft that MoveOn.org told them about—(Editor's Note: No, there is no actual draft in the works, this is just a figment of an overly active liberal imagination—not to mention, carrying an M16 around your 115 pound frame is in the best interests of neither the United States nor you.)

In addition, this group of individuals has also been known to use its sources



**Nick Fitzgerald & Matthew Sutton**  
Humor Columnists

of fire in a somewhat creative manner. We know you're angry that Phish broke up, but it would appear that these self-appointed hipsters, despite Al Gore's recent Nobel prize win, are more interested in increasing carbon emissions than reducing them. No, we're not talking about Gene Nichol's Nero-esque dream of keeping the campus lit at night using the College's most plentiful renewable resource—Christians—we're thinking more along the lines of a certain campus publication that, apparently, is more fit for the funeral pyre. And no, we're not talking about our red-headed stepsister publication, the far flimsier *Flat Hat* (which we don't by any means advocate torching, as we have found it is insufficient in keeping one warm on a cold winter night—no, we're kidding, we would never burn your publication because we don't advocate Hitleresque

techniques at squashing free speech, this is merely our obligatory jab at you; let's be friends, can we get coffee sometime?), we're talking about our very own, 100% trans-fat free *Virginia Informer*.

In order to avoid the very sticky legal mess of arson, we tried to push for changing our paper's name to *The Emo Informer*, but, unfortunately, our application to do so was rejected by one of Sam Sadler's two secretaries—we aren't sure which. So, you can't say we didn't try to fit in with the new norm. Well—on second thought, maybe we don't want to appeal to this increasingly unsavory group of petulant three year olds. It looks like we'll have to stick with our traditional, old fashioned, free-trade blend of unbiased, factual, hard-hitting investigative journalism... paired with the impeccable stylings of Arts & Entertainment Editor R.C. Rasmus, and topped off with a hefty dose of kid-tested, mother-approved satire.

Enjoy. We're going to be here for a while.

Dollars and sense for students

## The inside story on college endowments

College endowments in the United States are big business. According to the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO), the top 765 universities nationwide currently have over \$340 billion in total assets. This chunk of change is greater than the combined total value of Wal-Mart and Apple (by market capitalization). However, these assets are not evenly distributed as one might expect by school size and the number of students; private university assets far outsize



**Andrew B. Blasi, Jr.**  
Business Editor

those of public university assets. Harvard University's endowment alone (nearly \$35 billion) is larger than the endowments of the University of California and Texas system as well as the University of Virginia, University of Michigan and University of North Carolina combined.

William and Mary's endowment, although impressive in total size (currently standing at nearly \$586 million) is much smaller in comparison to many other public universities when considering per student enrollment, at just over \$76,100. The University of Virginia's endowment, totaling nearly \$4.6 billion, stands at \$226,700 per enrolled student.

In light of the state budget crunch now facing

William and Mary and other Virginia universities, many students have been asking if the College can utilize its endowment to curb any potential cuts. Unfortunately, college endowments come with a great deal of restrictions on their use, unlike state funds which are usually less restrictive.

In the case of our endowment, administered by the William and Mary Foundation, it appears that they will not use a part of their holdings to offset the cuts. The foundation which administers our endowment should not be confused with the Fund for William and Mary, which rose over \$5 million over the past year and is entirely unrestricted in its use.

Film review:

## In defense of Wes Anderson

I am not ashamed, nor will I be made to feel so, for what I am about to admit: I am an unabashed fan of Wes Anderson's films. I eagerly search out the first available screenings of his movies and make sure to watch online every commercial he makes, before it hits television screens.



Joe Pirro  
Film Critic

At the moment, a lot is being written in the film world right now, with critics taking stabs at his style as his new film, *The Darjeeling Limited*, rolls into theatres across the country.

Many of the arguments begin just as mine does, with the exception that the film critics say they are not fans of Wes Anderson. These critics continue to explain why they don't appreciate his films, arguing that there is little growth or maturity in his films and that he hasn't really shown any improvement from *Rushmore* to his new movie. They say that his style is getting old and tired, that deadpan humor has overstayed its welcome and that it's time he started working with new actors who could inject new life into his movie. I say they're all wrong.

There is much to praise about the fact that Mr. Anderson makes films within the studios of Hollywood, but is still able to retain creative control over his movies and their styles, even though his films are financial cash cows. There are very few directors left who don't compromise their artistic flair for a hefty paycheck to direct the next installment of whatever the "it" franchise of the moment may be. Mr. Anderson's style, while similar in all his films, is more than simple visual toys- they add to the story. In *The Royal Tenenbaums*, the family's house is a character and Mr. Anderson makes it come alive with a unique layout, odd wall-hangings and Dalmatian mice that are just like the Tenenbaum children. They are unique and special, but nothing really comes of their lives because they can't escape from that house.

Mr. Anderson is one of the few true amateurs working in Hollywood today. His films are brimming with style and full of substance. They have a sense of nostalgia without ever becoming overly sentimental. They deal with isolation in the most unique ways since Michelangelo Antonioni burst onto the scene almost five decades ago. In the end they are about the human need for inclusion, whether it's at a private boarding school, in a torn-up family or on a boat searching for a jaguar shark. Because of this, Mr. Anderson's films call to each and every one of us. They are about us, they are about our families and they are about the people we know. For that, we are lucky to have Wes Anderson and his phenomenal works of art.

## Alternative band Guster set to rock the Sunken Garden for Homecoming concert

Megan Locke  
Asst. A&E Editor

This year's homecoming concert will feature the alternative rock band Guster. Guster has steadily risen from an underground college band to an internationally touring act, and now they are coming to rock at William and Mary.

Founding members Adam Gardner, Ryan Miller and Brian Rosenworcel all hail from the Boston area and met each other at their Tufts University freshman orientation in 1991. All three became friends because of their mutual interest in music, and they originally planned to perform cover songs together. However, they could not agree on what music to cover, and began to write their own songs and play gigs on campus. Thus a band was born.

Guster's original name was actually Gus. There are several stories about how the band members chose this name. The most often repeated story is that the band named themselves after the movie *Gus*, a film about a football-kicking mule. Several other bands already used the name Gus however, and the band wanted to distinguish themselves. Inspired by a friend, they renamed themselves Guster, which remains their name today.

Guster released their first full-length album *Parachute* in 1994, but they remained under the radar until 1999, the



**Rockin' out:** Upbeat Indie group Guster scheduled to visit Williamsburg and perform show for students and alumni.

Courtesy Warner Brothers Records

debut year for their third album, *Lost and Gone Forever*. This album featured their breakout hit "Fa Fa," which charted on the Adult Top 40. New member Joe Pisapia joined after Guster's release of a fourth album. Their most recent album, 2006's *Ganging Up On The Sun*, includes the singles "Manifest Destiny," "Satellite," and "One Man Wrecking Machine."

The band's tour schedule has reflected their steadily growing popularity. In their early days, Guster performed in venues in the surrounding area of Tufts University, but soon their act was touring across the United States. In 1999 they made their international debut in Canada, and in 2004 they did a tour in England.

Guster's music has also been used in movies and television shows such as *Disturbia*, *Wedding Crashers*, *The OC* and *Life as a House*.

According to fan Web site "gusterography" (<http://www.vividgreen.net/guster/>), Guster's sound is "wuss ro(c)k built around soaring harmonies, inventive guitar riffs, and infectious hand-percussion beats, all of which make for a unique and amazing musical experience." Guster's live shows are regarded to be the best display of their talent, and they love playing wacky cover songs and instantly improvising tunes during their concerts. Don't miss your chance to see Guster live on Saturday, October 27 at 8 p.m. in the Sunken Garden.

## Stealing the time to read

Let's face it: most of us just don't have the time to read for fun. Even if we did, how many of us would want to? We read so many bone-dry textbooks and unintelligible treatises for class that when it comes to free time the last thing that anyone wants to do is more page-crawling. However, it seems like such a shame to let the tradition of reading for fun die out now that we're away from home. It's a practice that many of us grew up with: a few pages before bed at night, a book in the car or on the plane, a few novels over the summer. How can we keep it up here at William and Mary? Personally, I've come up with a few strategies that help me to keep reading even in the dark heart of midterm season. If you take up a few of them yourself, you might be surprised at how much pleasure-reading ends up fitting comfortably into your busy schedule.

First, you might want to reconsider the kinds of books you're reading now that your time has become so precious. What you're after are things that are at once fun, fascinating and easy to pick up and put down. This rules out most best-selling novels, Pulitzer prize-winners and heady non-fiction exposes. They're all great, but they just aren't practical for the College schedule. Instead, you might want to consider what some people call "low reading." This means comedy, pop lit, kids' books and graphic novels. Why these? Well, a couple of reasons. First, they're amazingly easy



R.C. Rasmus  
Arts & Entertainment  
Editor

to start and stop, which is great when you only have a few minutes to spare. Also, they're light. You don't need to grapple with too many plot elements or characters and you don't have to wait too long for dramatic payoff. Finally, they're just plain fun. These books are often written to hook people that don't do a whole lot of reading, so they are, by necessity, a lot spunkier than heavier "writerly" novels, which expect their readers to invest a good deal of time and energy in their interpretation. If you want a few recommendations, a few of the best low books that I've read here at the College are *The Only Bush I Trust is My Own* by Periel Aschenbrand, Neil Gaiman's *Sandman* graphic novels, Frank Miller's *Sin City* books, Black and DiTerlizzi's *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and Spinelli's *Stargirl*. There are many more, but you'll have to do a bit of searching at Barnes & Noble, the ComicCube or Swem's children's section to find the one that's just right for you.

"Okay, R.C., now that I've got my new, trashy *Gossip Girls* novel tucked under my arm, when the hell am I going to have time to read it?" Well, laugh if you like, but I've found that the best first stop is often

the bathroom. Look, you're not really doing anything with that time anyways, why not put it to good use? Bring your book with you down the hall and read a page or two while you're in there. Another great time-stealing strategy comes from the master of low reading himself, the great Stephen King: always keep your book with you. How many times have you been waiting for five or ten minutes outside a professor's office while they finish up with someone else, or had to wait in line forever for cheeseburgers at the Caf? If you've got your book in your purse or backpack, you can just pull it out and simultaneously make good use of your time and keep yourself entertained while you wait. Finally, if you have a car, the best invention since sliced bread is the audio book. Children's novels on tape are especially good, as they're meant to keep the munchkins interested. They're the perfect thing either for a quick ride out to the grocery store or the long ride back home and can be checked out for nothing from the Williamsburg City Library.

So, there you have it, a few hints and tricks about how a busy student can steal the time read for fun here at the College. Whether it's a graphic novel in the bathroom, a kid's book in the lunch line or some pop lit between classes, you can rest assured in knowing that you're making stellar use of your time and having fun while you do it.

## Nooks and Crannies of William and Mary

# Frankenhooker: The truth behind the Tucker Hall Ghost

R.C. Rasmus

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Everyone at William and Mary knows that the ghost of a suicidal girl haunts the third floor of St. George Tucker Hall. English majors talk about her as if she were a troubled classmate. At least one campus fraternity has an initiation ritual associated with the ghost: pledges are sent up to the third floor men's bathroom and told to yell "Frankenhooker!" three times at the tops of their voices. Tucker is a regular stop on campus ghost tours, and even the bravest students routinely opt to give the building wide berth after dark. She's a part of campus culture, it's true, but where did the story of the crudely-titled "Frankenhooker" come from? Did a girl really once take her own life in the English building only to leave something of herself behind? Yes, she did. Her real name was Cynthia Diane Anderson, and on March 31, 1987, at 5:00 pm, she went to the third floor of Tucker Hall and shot herself in the head with a .38 caliber revolver. She was 20 years old when she died.

Cynthia was a Tri-Delt and a sophomore at the College. Those close to her were genuinely shocked when they found out about her suicide. Her friends described her to *The Flat Hat* as a "quietly pensive person," someone who could come across as "funny and bubbly," but who had a genuine "sadness" to her that she "masked by an outwardly joyful personality." Sam Sadler and other College administrators in place at the time expressed sadness at Cynthia's passing and urged students to utilize on-campus counseling services to talk about their feelings with regards to her death.

It is perhaps interesting to note that

this young woman, whose specter later became one of the most celebrated at the College, did not actually die on campus. In reality, Cynthia was found unconscious by campus police shortly after she shot herself. She was rushed to the Williamsburg Community Hospital where her condition was stabilized before being transferred to Riverside Hospital in Newport News. It was there that Cynthia was later taken off of life support without ever having regained consciousness. Hers was the first suicide to occur at the College since a student named William M. Boden from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, killed himself in a ditch not far from campus over 30 years before in October of 1951 (strangely, his death was reported matter-of-factly in a miniscule, out-of-the-way article

devoid of sympathy for the deceased).

While the timing and circumstances of Cynthia's death point to her being the basis of the now-famous Frankenhooker legend, a few aspects of the myth don't seem to line up with the facts of her case. For example, one of the most persistent campus legends associated with the Tucker Hall ghost is that she took her life in the third-floor girls' bathroom of Tucker Hall. None of the records on file in the College archives give any indication as to where Cynthia's incident took place. It also seems bizarre that the ghost of a girl who was generally regarded as kind and shy has so often been associated with noise and pain (one popular story holds that shortly after the ghost's first appearance in Tucker Hall, she began to scratch and yell at the women who attempted to use the third-floor girls' bathroom, frightening them so much that the lavatory soon fell into general disuse, which forced the College to change it into a men's toilet). Aside from these few inconsistencies, the majority of the facts seem to point to the Frankenhooker and Cynthia Diane Anderson's ghost as being one and the same entity.

Some cynics may brush this story off entirely, maintaining that the whole ghostly affair is nonsense, just superstition and hokum. Whether you're a believer or not, the fact remains that even today students continue to report strange goings-on in Tucker Hall. Are these happenings just figments of overactive young adult imaginations? Maybe, but then again...maybe not. William and Mary alumna Kate Ketchum may have the best philosophy when it comes to dealing with haunts at the College: "I don't really believe in ghosts," she told *The Virginian-Pilot* in 2005, "but I don't want to test it."

*Rest in peace Cynthia, wherever you are.*



Ian R. Whiteside

**The reality:** A girl actually did shoot herself on the third floor of Tucker Hall in 1987.

## Nooses in creaky attics make for thrilling and interactive student-led ghost tours

Michelle Ju  
Staff Writer

Deeply seated within the alcoves of the College is a group of young enthusiasts who are familiar with the undisclosed, best-kept tales and locations of Colonial Williamsburg that will keep visitors shivering for days—even more than the official town tours. The unofficial, student-led ghost tours convene by word-of-mouth referral from individuals or campus organizations that hear about and contact them to set up dates and times. The tours are in high demand during Halloween, pledge season and new student orientation, and the frequency of the tours varies seasonally.

Adam Stackhouse, a graduate student at the College, led the first tours. Following, Greg Teich ('07) and Marion Abbott ('07) led the tours, which are now being run by Emily Newhook ('09). "We have had groups of three and groups of 50 – it's really quite variable. Smaller groups usually consisted of a few friends who felt like going out for a haunting," said Ms. Abbott.

The intimacy of the student-led ghost tours makes for a distinctly thrilling, interactive bonding experience. "Students prefer taking our tours rather than the 'official' CW tours because we are very flexible with scheduling. It's much more personal to have a tour led by a fellow student. And of course, it's less expensive," said Ms. Newhook. The cost is two dollars per person.

The fright fest commences at the

infamously haunted sectors of the campus. "We always started at Tucker Hall, a central location for students to meet up. I made the groups run up to the attic and sit in the haunted study room in the dark while I told the story. That's something CW could never have done with their tours that only stay on the beaten paths," said Ms. Abbott. After passing through Tucker and the ancient campus, the tour heads into Colonial Williamsburg and visits the main attractions - Bruton Parish Church, Lady Skipwyth, the boxwood hedges, the Payton Randolph House, the Governor's Palace and Matthew Whaley Elementary School.

"Matthew Whaley is definitely where I've seen the most haunts. Although seeing a noose swinging from the attic rafters was disconcerting, nothing is quite as eerie as the Payton Randolph house and the odd noises and lights emanating from it at night. The entire building just gives me the heebie-jeebies," explained Ms. Abbott. "I certainly experienced several things during my couple years as a tour guide that I cannot quite explain."

Official ghost tours sanctioned by Colonial Williamsburg include Tavern Ghost Tours, Ghost and Legends Tours that takes spectators to three locations, and Witch Trails, "a re-enactment play that takes place in the Capitol courtroom or county courthouse," according to Liz Hedgepeth, an owner of a private ghost tour service Ghostly Lantern Tours. The costs of these tours range from nine to 12 dollars.

## "Ghost Hunters" appear at College in search of spirits

Alex Mayer  
Opinions Editor

On October 23, the duo that hosts the Sci-Fi channel's popular *Ghost Hunters* show arrived at William and Mary. The *Ghost Hunters* team, Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson, came to the College to "showcase their talents," and found ample targets for their ghoul-seeking abilities on an ancient campus known for its numerous legendary ghost tales.

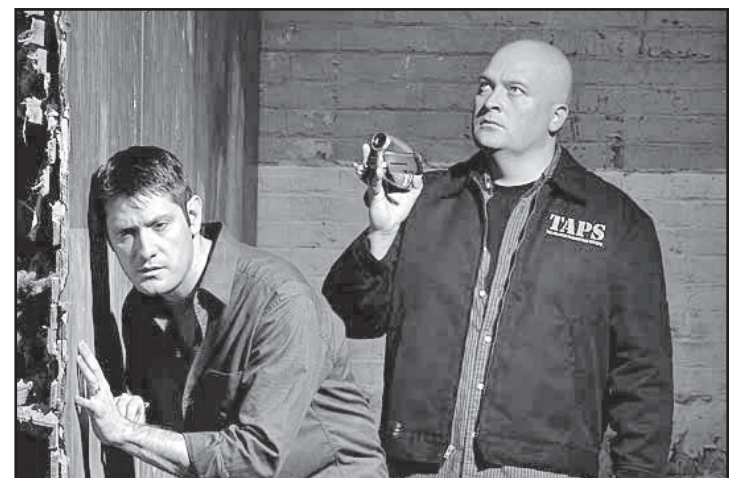
Messrs. Hawes and Wilson are the leaders of the Atlantic Paranormal Society, also known as TAPS. According to the *Ghost Hunters* Web site, the society is a "close-knit group of paranormal researchers," and most hail from a small, "blue-collar" Rhode Island community. Although most of the society also hold more ordinary jobs—Messrs. Hawes and Wilson are both plumbers by trade—they

are committed to "getting to the bottom of everyday, paranormal occurrences."

The pair was brought together after experiencing their own "highly personal paranormal experiences," and began researching similar unexplained occurrences. After finding similar interested

parties, they formed TAPS and began handling phone calls, e-mails and other requests from people who claimed to have "a nonphysical entity interfering with their lives." TAPS researchers inspect each suspected site with sophisticated equipment including infrared cameras, night-vision goggles and other high-tech gadgets. Despite the cost in money and time off from their real jobs, TAPS never charges for their services, knowing that to do so "would make them much more likely to be labeled charlatans."

After being picked up by the Sci-Fi channel, Messrs. Hawes' and Wilson's group's investigations have been incorporated into a "docu-soap" produced by Tom Thayer and Craig Piligian of *American Chopper*. *Ghost Hunters* airs weekly on Wednesday nights at 9:00 pm, and is currently in its third season.



**Who you gonna call?:** The Ghost Hunters team investigates paranormal phenomenon.

# History comes alive at night in CW

Megan Locke

Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Many William and Mary students assume that Colonial Williamsburg simply shuts down once the sun sets. However, there are actually a multitude of intriguing evening programs that offer a chance to see CW in a whole new light – that is, in the dark. Even those reluctant to learn a little history once classes are done for the day will enjoy a range of events that encourage participants to not only observe history, but to interact with it as well.

The most popular Williamsburg evening programs are the dramatic recreations of trials based on actual events that occurred during colonial times. In the “Cry Witch” program, charges of witchcraft are brought up against the supposed “Virginia Witch.” “To Go A’Pirating” re-enacts the trial of two accused pirates brought to Williamsburg from the colony of North Carolina. “Williamsburg’s Most Wanted” features the cases of 18th-century accused murderers. All of these trials rely heavily upon audience interaction. Audience members are briefed on colonial court room procedures before the trial starts, then act as jury members during the trial. The jury members can question the witnesses like colonial jury members did, and then vote on the guilt or innocence of the accused. At the end, the real outcomes of these historical trials are revealed.

Students interested in further exploring the legal ongoings of Colonial Williamsburg can take the evening “Crime and Punishment” tour that examines the system of English Common Law and the laws of the colony of Virginia. The tour explains how

colonial legal practices shaped the American justice system in effect today. On the tour, participants meet actor-interpreters who share their knowledge of 18th-century crimes and how they were penalized.

For a glimpse into the life of a revolutionary soldier, students can sign up for the “In Defense of Our Liberty” evening program. Participants play the part of new recruits and go through activities that help them understand the hardships of military duty during the Revolutionary War. In “The Gunpowder Plot” evening event, audience members take on the role of townspeople who witness the attempted removal of gunpowder from the Magazine and the riots that ensue. Those interested in more genteel activities can try “Dance, Our Dearest Diversion,” which gives participants an opportunity to learn popular 18th-century dance steps.

Finally, there are several musical programs perfect for capping off an evening in Williamsburg. Students can attend one of the “Palace Concerts” and listen to chamber music by candlelight. “From Ear to Ear” showcases 18th-century African-American songs and allows audience members to play along with instruments that are provided.

All of these Williamsburg evening events are offered on a nightly rotating basis, so check the website at <http://www.history.org/visit/eventsAndExhibits/calendar>. Tickets for the events must be reserved in advance and usually range from \$10 to \$15. Spaces are limited, so buy them as early as possible at any ticket location in CW, or by calling 1-800-HISTORY.



Ian R. Whiteside

**History in action:** CW offers many lively programs day and night.

## Book review

### A mosaic of laughter and tears: Frank Warren presents *A Lifetime of Secrets*

R.C. Rasmus

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Sitting down to write this article, I found it amazingly difficult to begin. How exactly does one go about reviewing *A Lifetime of Secrets*, Frank Warren’s fourth collection of PostSecret cards? There isn’t really an author, at least not in the traditional sense. The concept, while still fascinating, isn’t exactly a new one. There’s no plot, no setting and no continuous style. What you get in this book is a series of character snapshots, brief flashes of emotion: pain, joy, anger, despair. Some relate to each other, although most don’t. The reader is confronted with a mosaic of human emotion, hundreds of voices that cry out through words and pictures for recognition and comfort. A standard art book it is not. These poignant snippets are real secrets from real people, and they hit us right where it hurts the most.

As always, the PostSecret cards themselves are breathtaking. They run the gamut from laughable (“I am fifty years old and piss in hotel sinks”) to tragic (“I wish you hadn’t been my first kiss”) to heartbreaking (“I handed the most important person in my life the drugs that killed him”).

Each one is its own unique and beautiful work of art, a tiny testament to a single red-hot needlepoint of emotion, and oddly, the most specific of these confessions are often the most touching (“Right now a client is paying me \$225/hour for me to think about how beautiful you are and how much I love you!”). However, even the briefest and most general (“I wish I could be someone’s hero”) are touching in their unabashed simplicity. Every page of the collection contains a surprise and a treasure.

Perhaps the only disappointing aspect of this book is the failed attempt to give it an underlying structure. The “gimmick” for *A Lifetime of Secrets* comes from the idea that submissions to the PostSecret project can collectively represent the hidden thoughts of an entire lifetime. As such, the cards in this book have been roughly organized by author and subject into a sequence that tries to trace the hopes and fears of children (a scrawling child’s handwriting on an index card that reads “Dad, I can do anything...as long as you’re working by me...”) to the bubbling secrets of the very old (“My husband and I celebrated our golden wedding anniversary and everyone tells us we are the ‘perfect couple’

but I am gay”). The problem is that the determination to maintain this theme seems forced upon a medium that is, by its very nature, wild, disparate and formless; some postcards are written by the elderly about childhood experiences, others are timeless expressions of regret or longing, and still others defy categorization altogether (“I’m trying so hard to remember that life is beautiful”). Also, continuous attempts to juxtapose cards with similar subject matter or styles often fall flat. Somehow, these superficial orderings and groupings make this book and the secrets it contains feel managed and less spontaneous than they otherwise could be.

Despite these few superficial and negligible flaws, *A Lifetime of Secrets* is an artistic triumph and another feather in the PostSecret project’s cap. Perhaps the book’s greatest accomplishment is the inspiration of a feeling that is beautifully and simply expressed on one of the most moving cards in the collection, which reads: “I wish I could help those who send in their secrets. I want to make all the pain go away for them. I am your friend even if you never meet me.”

## Ultraviolet Ballet:

When *Purple Rain* falls on Williamsburg

Jon San

Features Editor

Ultraviolet Ballet (UVB) is a campus favorite that has been known to have an infectious, dance-rock sound, whose members, collectively, are disciples of classic rock acts such as Prince, Led Zeppelin and Toto. On an individual basis, however, the five-member group has a varied and eclectic taste in music.

“I used to be really into progressive power metal,” said bassist Matt Kauper, who performed in the band Sexy By Default prior to UVB. “Of course I grew out of that. I would say that now I’m into any kind of music really—well, except for a *cappella*.”

Coincidentally, vocalist Victoria Ryan, when not sharing singing duties with fellow UVB-er Galen Curry, is involved with the co-ed *a cappella* group DoubleTake. “I would say that my [musical] interests range from jazz to indie-folk,” said Ms. Ryan.

Guitarist Jesse DelGizzi, a Music major along with Mr. Curry, has perhaps the most divergent of musical tastes. As student director of the Middle Eastern Music Ensemble, he plays the *oud*, which he described as an Arabic lute, and the Moog Synthesizer in addition to guitar.

Somehow, these wide-ranging tastes come together to produce a sound that is simply, in one word, danceable. “I’ve noticed that people like to dance at our shows...a lot,” remarked Mr. Curry. Ms. Ryan added, “If we see people dancing to our music, we consider it a big success.”

“The sound [of UVB] has a definite blues feel, in terms of progression,” said Mr. Kauper. “And Victoria and Galen both have such soulful voices that it really meshes well. However, we’ve been trying to incorporate more funk and reggae into our sound recently.”

This new sound is soon to be complemented by a whole slew of new songs as well. “After living and working in Williamsburg the entire summer, my creative energies were so bottled up that when we all got back to school I just had to release them somehow,” said Mr. Kauper excitedly. “So we went on a kind of songwriting blitzkrieg.”

“The songwriting process varies from song to song, there isn’t really a set routine,” said Mr. Curry. “I know that Matt and Jesse have been working on some new funk stuff which you can hear in the song ‘Reciprocity.’”

While two of UVB’s songs can be heard on their MySpace page, the group hopes to record new material as soon as possible.

“We really want to take advantage of the recording facilities at Swem,” said Mr. DelGizzi. “The equipment set up there is so nice and convenient that it’s obviously the best option.”

UVB consists of four seniors—Mr. Gill is a junior—and their future, like that of most campus bands, is uncertain.

Both Messrs. DelGizzi and Curry have musical pursuits after graduating from the College. Mr. DelGizzi, who applied to receive a Fulbright scholarship, plans on spending a year in the Middle East studying the influence of Arabic music on American music, and vice-versa. Mr. Curry, who recently shot a music video in Los Angeles with his hometown band The Beds, would like to pursue touring in some capacity. “I just want to continue making music because that’s what really makes me happy,” said Mr. Curry.

Mr. Kauper, a Philosophy major, has similar aspirations. “My ideal job would be something music-oriented with maybe some creative writing involved,” he said.

“I plan on teaching English as a second language in either the US or in Latin American,” said Ms. Ryan. “And if that doesn’t work out, I’ll probably get involved in some non-profit organization.”

UVB will be performing at a Homebrew concert on December 6.



Ian R. Whiteside

**Student music:** Campus bands like UVB show off the College’s musical talent.

Staff Editorials:

# Importance of alumni cannot be overstated

As the College prepares for another great Homecoming weekend, and in light of some other recent events, we believe that there is no better time than the present to repair and restore the relationships between our university and its alumni. Over the course of the last two years, there have been some serious divisions between these two groups, which appears to have led to an inappropriate and, more importantly, inaccurate perception of the alumni from our students' perspective.

We believe it's time to set the record straight. The alumni of the College of William and Mary include men and women who have reached the heights of their professions in law, science, business and entertainment. Alumni are one of the most valuable resources this college has, and should be treated as such. In a time when we are faced with declining state funding, we need to maximize all other potential sources of cash flow. These alumni, who have already given so much to the College and have a vested interest in its success, constitute one of the most obvious places to search for much needed funds, given their previous and generous financial contributions.

These alumni do not only represent a source of funding, but also a source for networking, internships, job opportunities and, not to mention, a richness of culture for William and Mary. For example, in Steven Nelson's interview in this issue with Scrubs creator and producer Bill Lawrence, Mr. Lawrence expressed a strong desire to return to the College to speak or to visit for an event, but said he had never been asked to do so. This, unfortunately, is indicative and emblematic of the current administration's—President Gene Nichol and others,

particular senior staff in University Development and University Relations—relationship with alumni.

The idea that alumni don't really matter, or are inconsequential in terms of the College's future success, is preposterous. These are people who have contributed so much to our university, and to take an attitude that disregards and marginalizes their commitment and love for William and Mary—particularly in a time of financial stress—is not only poor public relations, but just doesn't make common sense. And yet, this is what those in the current administration have stuck hard and fast to when discussing alumni relations.

Another aspect of this poor attitude is the fact that it negatively affects student perception of alumni, as evidenced by Facebook groups such as "Rename McGlothlin-Sreet Hall!" Apparently, this group's 50+ members believe that because alumnus James McGlothlin revoked his \$12 million pledge as a result of Mr. Nichol's botched handling of the Wren cross controversy, Mr. McGlothlin's money is "dirty money, and we do not need it," in addition to the fact that "his decision to rescind... [the \$12 million] is evidence of a prioritization of divisive issues that are inconsequential to the quality of education provided by the College..."

precisely because our college's excellence is a priority, the administration—which has proven itself more than willing to casually discard decades of William and Mary tradition and values, and has further proven itself tone deaf to legitimate alumni concerns—needs to be more willing to take into consideration the needs of alumni, who do and ought to have a hand in shaping their alma mater's future.



David Clifford

# The \$12 million lie

## Nichol's deception yet another disappointing debacle for College

By now, most everyone knows of the James McGlothlin story. What our front page reveals is a president who has lied; not only to the Board of Visitors, our governing body, but also to students, staff, faculty and alumni.

Most importantly, Mr. Nichol's actions are of the lowest moral caliber and represent conduct unbecoming of a university president. His actions are truly shocking, and now it is strikingly apparent that he is not fit for the position of the president of the College of William and Mary. He is a divisive leader who has driven a wedge between segments of the student body, he has insulted and marginalized the importance of our esteemed alumni and he has perverted his position of power by using it as nothing more than a vehicle for his self-serving, self-aggrandizing political agenda. This is evidenced by the institution

of the Gateway Program, the former William and Mary logo debacle, the Wren cross controversy, the Sex Workers' Art Show, the removal of Philosophy Chair Noah Lemos (see page 1) and now this. The overall ramifications of Mr. Nichol's actions call into question his character, his competency in his position and, now, his seemingly skewed moral compass.

We condemn Mr. Nichol's actions. We call on him to come clean and apologize to the campus community for lying to the public by misleading and misrepresenting "facts" he knew to be inaccurate.

And to those who wish to give Mr. Nichol yet another free pass—to those who do nothing but rationalize and make outrageous excuses for a man who so clearly deserves none—we ask you: where are you willing to draw the line?

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## The state giveth, and the state taketh away

Reading about the recent news that the state finally decided on a 6.25% cut in public funding for William and Mary, a friend of mine remarked at how surprised he was at seeing the statistic that “only 18 percent” of William and Mary’s total budget comes from the state. To him, this percentage seemed lower than he had imagined it—or, rather, lower than it ideally should be.



**Alex Mayer**  
Opinion Editor

In a year when William and Mary is suffering from a \$3 million budget shortfall, it is, of course, natural to feel that the state should be providing more money to the college. Before the cuts, William and Mary was to receive \$48 million dollars in public funds. Once the state corrects its budget situation and has the ability

to increase funding for William and Mary, why shouldn’t the College wish for more of its budget to be provided by the state? After all, the percentage of state funding for the College was once much higher—it made up 42.8 percent of William and Mary’s total operating budget in 1980.

The answer should be obvious: An ultimate reliance on state funding is dangerous because it leaves the College vulnerable when the state is forced to enact budget cuts. The more the state gives the College in terms of public funding, the more it will hurt when that funding is taken away.

Instead, William and Mary should continue on the course it has been following in recent years—diversifying its sources of funding. A good example is the recent Campaign for William and Mary,

begun during the tenure of President Sullivan, which this June finished its seven-year fundraising campaign with a healthy total of \$517.5 million in endowments. Another recent highlight is the 19.2 percent increase in total endowments this year (\$595.9 million) after the William and Mary investment trust delivered a fantastic 19.5 percent return on the College’s investments this year—due to positive national economic growth—bringing the trust’s total to \$383 million.

Seeking out new—and, more importantly, private—sources of funding for the College should continue to be a top priority, especially in light of our embarrassing financial situation. It is a well-known fact among students that although William and Mary continues to rank among the top national universities—6th among

public schools—our rank in terms of financial resources is an abysmal 106th. That is a vast improvement, however, from our even lower ranking of 124th just a few years ago.

It is in our best interest as a university to discover and cultivate non-state sources of funding. It is only by doing so that William and Mary can secure its financial independence and ensure that future generations of students will be less affected by similar cuts in the state budget.

Other Virginia schools are doing the same. Just this month, the University of Virginia announced continuing success in its \$3 billion capital campaign, the largest of any public university in America. Obviously, such a goal is out of reach for a school of our size, but the attitude is certainly not. We, too, should wholeheartedly commit our intellect, energies and creativity—characteristics which we are by no means lacking—to securing William and Mary’s financial future.

## College should give full credit for ROTC

### Why does William and Mary discriminate against our cadets?

**Matt Pinsker**  
Guest Columnist

Behind closed doors, in a meeting closed to any students or reporters, the faculty of the College of William and Mary ignored a resolution passed unanimously by the Student Assembly Senate, and, instead, voted against full credit for ROTC cadets. In doing so, the faculty is allowing the continuation of discrimination against cadets by an academic system that which chooses to punish those who wish to serve in our nation’s armed services.

The College has singled out its Army ROTC program as the only department on campus where not all credits earned count towards graduation, nor can cadets earn a William and Mary degree (major or minor) in Military Science. This is in direct contrast to the policy of every other academic department at the college, as well as the policies of Virginia’s other state schools.

Faculty members at the College have expressed concern that the ROTC curriculum does not meet the academic standards of the College, however other top schools such as Duke and Vanderbilt give full credit to their ROTC programs. A look through the text book for Military Science reveals a curriculum which is both academically strenuous and mentally challenging.

ROTC cadets at the College do not spend their time marching like high school junior ROTC, but instead learn and practice the academic discipline of leadership so that upon graduation they will be able to lead a platoon of 20+ soldiers into combat. Furthermore, the College offers credits for many courses of dubious academic merit such as yoga and Tai Chi.

This summer, friends of mine got an easy, six-credit A in their anthropology class for basically digging a hole in front of the Wren building. It was tiring work in the hot sun, but there was nothing overtly academic or intellectually challenging about it.

And perhaps the most ridiculous reason given by the faculty for not granting full credit for ROTC courses is that the instructors lack PhDs and are not regular faculty. This argument does not make any sense, as our college has numerous professors who do not have PhDs, yet they are still teaching three-credit courses. Furthermore, the instructors for ROTC are some of the best teachers at this school and are highly knowledgeable about their subject matter, having significant professional experience in the field. Finally,

the rubbish about the instructors lacking PhDs does not have anything to do with the time commitments and work load ROTC imposes upon cadets, which should be the determining factor for credits.

This issue, which has gained much attention throughout the College community, arose last spring when the Student Assembly voted unanimously in favor of a resolution which urged full credit for ROTC Military Science courses (24 credits over eight semesters) and that all of the credits earned were to count toward the 120 credits that all students need to graduate. They also pressed for the changes to be made retroactively, as it would be unfair for upperclassmen to be worse off than the underclassmen in the program who will be doing the same work.

The faculty completely ignored the student government, and, rather than voting for 24 credits, they voted for just eight credits for four years of hard work. This is just insulting to the cadets at the college. The faculty is telling them that the eight-plus hours per week they spend learning how to defend this nation is less important and less difficult than yoga or manual labor.

Currently, William and Mary only allows six Military Science credits to count for graduation, and, starting next year, the College will count eight (rather than six) credits to graduation, but this still falls far short of the 24 that cadets and the student government have been asking for. Furthermore, cadets graduating this year will be unaffected by the changes, nor are there any plans to retroactively implement these changes. This discriminatory treatment of the military is an embarrassment to the College and must be changed.



**Learning to lead:** In addition to a rigorous academic curriculum, ROTC cadets also spend time building leadership skills in challenging outdoor exercises.

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## Alumni Spotlights:

# From Scotland Street to Hollywood Boulevard

## Green Leafe owner Gormley rose from student to entrepreneur

**John R. Kennedy**  
Staff Writer

Alumnus Glen Gormley ('84) might be one of the most energetic and interesting alumni that one could choose to spotlight in *The Virginia Informer*. He is the owner of the Green Leafe and a twice graduate of the College of William and Mary. Mr. Gormley majored in business for both his undergraduate and graduate degrees at the College. He acquired the Green Leafe after his graduation from the MBA program at William and Mary and has been a local businessman ever since.

Mr. Gormley's broad range of experience with William and Mary and the town of Williamsburg gives him a unique perspective on college events. He had much to say about the administration, issues affecting students and the business of running a successful and popular restaurant in Williamsburg.

Mr. Gormley voices strong support for students' rights in Williamsburg. Ranging from unfair parking treatment to voting disenfranchisement, Mr. Gormley talked about the many ways students are poorly received by the town of Williamsburg. Noting alumni visits to football games, Mr. Gormley said the alumni tend to cause more trouble than the students. He went on to discuss the problems with students receiving no representation in Williamsburg even though they are taxed locally. Mr. Gormley suggested that students should not just wait for social outlets



Courtesy Glen Gormley

**Groudbreaking:** Gormley pioneered new beginnings for the Green Leafe at New Town.

an alumnus, donor and regular football fan.

Mr. Gormley made sure to point out that he voted for Reagan twice as a student and describes himself as "very conservative." During his years as a student, he recollected that "the general view of the professors at the William and Mary School of Business was that the Soviet Union could not be defeated," he chuckles, "so not a lot's changed since then." Mr. Gormley said fondly that "the greatest thing I learned at William

and Mary was how to *think*. That is why there is no place for 'thought police' at college campuses. You can't lose free thought to political correctness."

The Green Leafe is popular among students for its food and, for those who are of age, for its drink specials. The Leafe's draft selection of 30 different beers cannot be beat. Mug Night on Sundays, Virginia Beer Night on Tuesdays (Pint Night), Wine Night on Wednesdays and Cocktail Night on Thursdays give the connoisseur of fine alcohol many opportunities to enjoy some of the best beverages in town.

Mr. Gormley had many positive things to say about his experiences running the Leafe and he hopes to have just as many at the new location in New Town. The new location will have just as many draft choices, drink specials and menu prices as the original Leafe. The expansion of his operations brings many new facets to his business, including four sales people to run the catering side of the Leafe's business. "We hope that New Town is a rising tide for the Leafe in the years to come," he said.

He also discussed his experience with college wrestling during his undergraduate years and the coaching he did after graduation. A fan of University of Tennessee, Mr. Gormley kidded about the supposed football skills of a young Mr. Nichol. "What type of offense would work at Oklahoma State if he was the quarterback?"

Perhaps Mr. Nichol could discuss this next Sunday at Mug Night? We'll see you there.

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## Lawrence, creator of *Scrubs*, looks to return to alma mater

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

Bill Lawrence is one of William and Mary's most accomplished alumni. Graduating from the College in 1990, Mr. Lawrence has since written for and created many TV programs, including the show *Scrubs*, a popular medical comedy which has been running on NBC primetime since 2001.

*The Informer* contacted Mr. Lawrence's office, and was given a phone interview. Mr. Lawrence generously answered questions and chatted about William and Mary, sharing college memories, career advice and his desire to return.

Mr. Lawrence has profoundly incorporated William and Mary into *Scrubs*. Main character JD (John Dorian) is modeled after college friend JD (Jon Doris). *Scrubs'* JD and best friend Turk are also William and Mary alumni.

Websitetv.com describes Mr. Lawrence as "one of Hollywood's funniest and most successful television Writer/Executive Producers working in the industry today. He's also one of the busiest." Mr. Lawrence is currently working on the last season of *Scrubs*, premiering on October 25.

**VAI:** How would you describe your time at William and Mary? Too much fun or too much work?

**Lawrence:** I had way too much fun and rarely went to non-writing classes. I was usually at Paul's Delly four days a week and was also in Kappa Alpha fraternity, which was a great social experience. Kappa Alpha used to be tied in with people at Paul's, and Paul's almost entirely employed Kappa Alpha members. We used to be able to put an "x" on our hand with a permanent marker and get drinks from freshman year on, I imagine things have changed a lot since then. Paul's had this great sandwich called the Chandler which I always used to get. I am still good friends with people from college, a few

of us are going to Las Vegas soon.

**VAI:** Did your time at William and Mary provide you with material that you were able to use in your career in television?

**Lawrence:** Without a doubt. The main character of *Scrubs* is based on the ex-president of my fraternity, Kappa Alpha. Jonathan Doris, from New Jersey, is portrayed by Zach Braff as John Dorian. JD has been one of best friends since college. After college he became a cardiologist in California and is now the medical adviser on *Scrubs*. He tries to avoid being called JD, though, because he hates it when people call him "the real JD." I also based a lot of characters in *Spin City* on college friends.

**VAI:** Where did you live while at College?

**Lawrence:** Freshman year I lived in Dupont hall; sophomore and junior years in the KA fraternity unit, which was a hell hole. Senior year I lived at Governor's Square.

**VAI:** Do you feel that the College prepared you well for your subsequent career? Is there a particular professor you credit as a major influence?

**Lawrence:** Aside from class, at a liberal arts school you grow up and become an independent person, which is a major transition. At college I did have an old, advanced creative writing teacher, Professor Jenkins, who convinced me that I could have a career in writing. I'm not from a Hollywood family, my dad worked in same company all his life, so this guy was a big influence on me. He gave me the confidence to pack up my car and go to California.



Courtesy Bill Lawrence

**Williamsburg inspiration:** Lawrence cites his friends and classmates as being ideas for characters in *Scrubs*.

serious, but I remember my friends as goofy, fun idiots, and I wasn't seeing that on TV. There is also a dark sense of humor doctors use to cope and there are a thousand easy stories. All the stories on *Scrubs* are true; we take them from the experiences of actual doctors.

**VAI:** As you may expect, William and Mary students, especially *Scrubs* fans, were thrilled to hear that JD and Turk went to William and Mary. Was this your call?

**Lawrence:** Without a doubt I had a hand in it. I thought it would be fun to throw in some William and Mary references. Not many William and Mary people came to Hollywood. In fact, JD only came to mind by coincidence since he married a doctor from California.

**VAI:** There is a rumor among alumni that the posters in the episode that featured JD and Turk attending William and Mary intentionally included the old feather logo to protest the then-recent decision to remove the logo. Is this true?

**Lawrence:** When we get props, we use whatever we can get our hands on. I saw the William and Mary posters with the feathers on them and I didn't care. I had heard of the feather decision and thought it was a little PC-ish to remove them in

the first place, but I couldn't care less one way or another on the issue.

**VAI:** Who do you consider *Scrubs* viewers' favorite character? And do you have a favorite?

**Lawrence:** Preferences line up with personality. I hope everyone sees a little of themselves in all of the characters. People struggling through life tend to see JD in themselves, women struggling with themselves relate to Eliot. Stoners see the janitor in themselves. I really enjoy writing for the old doctor, Dr. Kelso, played by Ken Jenkins, because he is a great guy in real life.

**VAI:** Are you working on any other projects or will you be in the near future?

**Lawrence:** I am currently finishing *Scrubs*, which is in its last season. I am contracted to work for Disney another four years, so I have to do another TV show, possibly along the lines of a funky cartoon I used to work on, *Clone High*, which ran on MTV for a year. You should check it out on YouTube.

**VAI:** Is there any advice, whether on college life or post-college careers, that you have for William and Mary students?

**Lawrence:** The best advice I can give anyone coming out of William and Mary is: when you are trying to pick what to do with your life, you don't have to do what you think you have to, you should do what you enjoy.

**VAI:** Do you visit William and Mary often?

**Lawrence:** I haven't been back for a while. I have never been contacted to speak, maybe because I wasn't the most academically oriented student. Randomly, a little while ago, a buddy sent me an admissions packet with my picture on it, which surprised me. If I was ever invited to, I would come back to speak or to teach a TV writing seminar in a second.