

Volume 3  
Issue 2  
September 19, 2007  
Established 2005

# THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

www.VAInformer.com

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

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

Joe Luppino-Esposito  
Editor in Chief

Provost P. Geoffrey Feiss has been given the power of managing the College's day-to-day operations, a responsibility formerly in the hands of President Gene Nichol. Despite his much larger role in the management of the College, the provost does not see this as a change from the Nichol administration to a new Nichol-Feiss administration.

"This is more of a reorganization of work effort in the Brafferton," said Mr. Feiss in an exclusive interview on September 14. "I think we're looking at what are the most efficient ways to manage some of the day to day operational matters. A lot of the decisions fall directly in the purview of the vice presidents."

Mr. Feiss said that this change is a reflection of the priorities of Mr. Nichol, who wants to work more on external affairs.

"His goal is to be able to do more externally focused work. Spend more time with fundraising, spend more time with the alumni, spend more time when we go into the legislative session in Richmond."

Mr. Nichol will still be involved with some internal affairs, as he enjoys them, according to Mr. Feiss, who believes that his own job, along with the vice presidents, is to relieve the president of day-to-day operational matters, which he believes make up approximately 95% of administrative duties at the College. The president is solely responsible for the remainder of the duties.

Although Mr. Feiss has taken on the duties of the presidency, he would not call this arrangement the dawn of a Nichol-Feiss administration.

"This is still the Nichol administration. Gene Nichol is going to continue to set the agenda, the goals. My job is to help him run this place on a day to day basis" he said.

"I would call it a management organization

**CO-PRESIDENCY?**  
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File Photo

**FEISS**



Ian R. Whiteside

**Flags for the fallen:** College Republicans and Young Democrats placed 3,000 American flags in the Sunken Garden.

## Students mark 9/11 with quiet memorial

Kristin Coyner  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, September 11, 2007 members of the William and Mary student body and the Williamsburg community gathered together in the Wren courtyard to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Approximately 150 students were joined by local police officers, firefighters and emergency responders.

The memorial events featured student speakers and an address from Williamsburg Fire Chief T. K. Weiler. Organizers invited President Gene Nichol, and Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler to speak, but both did not attend. An invitation was also extended to Student Assembly President, Zach Pilchen ('09), who was also absent.

Joey Andrews ('08), organizer of this year's 9/11 memorial, began by

addressing the purpose for holding such an event. Andrews noted that the deaths of nearly 3,000 civilians simply warranted remembrance, equating such a loss as to losing nearly half of the William and Mary student body. He also saw the memorial as a way to help students frame 9/11 in a local light and to further an understanding of terrorism.

The first speaker, Rory Eaton ('10), a New York resident, told of his personal connection to the events surrounding the 9/11 attacks. He recounted stories of classmates whose parents nearly died in the World Trade Center. Eaton's stories demonstrated how substantial the tragedy remains, even six years after its occurrence. He noted that the shared experiences and emotions from that tragedy gave

everyone the common capacity to unite in remembrance. To that end, Eaton said, "We look to the future with hope, but we will always look back to this day, as we should."

After Eaton finished speaking, Fuad Bohsali ('09) discussed how 9/11 had affected him as a Muslim. Bohsali focused on the way his life changed, from his family's

initial reaction to the attacks and up to six years later. Bohsali attempted to demonstrate how we as a people can move forward from September 11, broadly asserting that, "Everyone wants peace, and this understanding will lead to change."

Following Bohsali, a moment of

**9/11 CEREMONY**  
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Just "remembering" is not enough.  
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## Final decision on budget becomes a waiting game

Joe Luppino-Esposito  
Editor in Chief

After being reviewed by a panel of faculty and passing muster with the provost and the president, William and Mary's proposal on budget cuts is now in the hands of Governor Tim Kaine. Mr. Kaine is set to evaluate the numbers and give a final number on how much needs to be cut from the state portion of the College's budget by year's end.

Initially, cuts were expected to be 7.5 percent, but now President Gene Nichol and Provost Geoffrey Feiss say that the cut has dropped to 7 percent.

Mr. Feiss stated that the Faculty University Priorities Committee (FUPC) suggested, naturally, that no cuts should be made. After that, Mr. Feiss would not speculate on what other cuts would be made. He would confirm that

the school underwent a temporary hiring freeze and is now on provisional hiring practices. The freeze, however, will not effect instructional employees.

Deputy Secretary of Education Judy Heiman stated that the proposals from all the state agencies, including institutes of higher education, are now considered part of the governor's working papers and are confidential.

"The secretary of education will be releasing those figures in the next few weeks," said Ms. Heiman.

Delegate Bill Barlow (D-64) made it clear that he will be urging the governor to consider lower the cuts to higher education. "In Virginia, we pride ourselves on our excellent higher education, and we cannot allow it to suffer," he said. "Revenues are down much more than expected this year."

For now, students will have to wait to see how the budget cuts will affect them for this and coming years.

Recycled Percussion coming to campus  
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# SFL speaker challenges status quo feminism

## Does not believe that abortion should be a part of the women's movement

**Rachel Rudebusch**  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, September 5, Students for Life hosted a lecture by Frederica Matthewes-Greene, a self-proclaimed pro-life feminist whose aim is to promote progress by encouraging both pro-choice and pro-life people to find common ground.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines feminism as the belief in the social, political, and economic equality of the sexes. It is a persistent, multifaceted, and ongoing movement whose focuses have undergone shifts over the course of time and in reaction to political progress.

"Somehow, [the issue of abortion] snuck into the middle of feminism. We didn't see it. We didn't know it was happening," said Ms. Matthewes-Greene.

The discussion was based on the assumption that abortion is a political or partisan issue. Ms. Matthewes-Greene argued that the issue has become stagnant because of the approach taken by both the pro-life and pro-choice sides. In order to promote progress, she contended, both sides must adjust their tactics and begin cooperating with one another.

She set up this argument first by stating that the pro-life movement is based entirely on the idea that abortion takes a human life, whereas pro-choice advocates base their arguments on the idea that women deserve the right to make their own decisions. If the two sides do not focus on the same issue,

Ms. Matthewes-Greene asked rhetorically, then how can progress in either direction be made?

In the early 90s, a group called the Common Ground Coalition for Life and Choice introduced this question and began a search for the common ground between these two seemingly opposing viewpoints. Ms. Matthewes-Greene believes in the mission of this group, and is herself trying to bridge the gap between most feminists, who she considers to be stereotypically pro-choice, and those others like her.

"We feminists took the first solution we saw to compete in a man's world... it was a bad solution, a mechanical solution. I think we can do better," she said.

Her justification for this assertion, that

abortion was not a good solution, was organized into three major points. Her first point was that abortion is violence, and that her realization of this fact was the turning point for her as a feminist and was what caused her to reevaluate the pro-choice movement. She was a

liberal, and took for granted that liberals wanted to prevent violence and were interested in protecting the weak and helpless. "It's odd, then, that [liberals] should be for legal abortion," she said.

Her second point was her opinion that women don't want abortions. In research for her book *Real Choices: Listening to Women, Looking for Alternatives to Abortion*, Ms. Matthewes-Greene interviewed many women who had undergone abortions, and reportedly found that they did so because they felt that they had no other options, or because they felt that it was simply the best of their available options.

"Both sides know that no one wants to have an abortion," she said. "No one

would choose that." If women don't want it, she argued, then it can't be considered liberating.

Her third point was an assertion that our society should function without abortion. But she also feels that women need more support--by family, by friends and by society as a whole--in order to make society work successfully without abortion. A reported 88 percent of the women Ms. Matthewes-Greene interviewed had an abortion because someone they loved encouraged it.

She argued that more should be done to prevent the supposed need for abortion. She noted that conservatives and liberals could cooperate on this aspect of the problem as well, with the conservatives advocating an abstinence approach and the liberals advocating a contraception approach.

She also touched on the fact that both sides would like to see the number of abortions, about 47 million since *Roe v. Wade*, go down. Ms. Matthewes-Greene believes that if pro-choice and pro-life activists can work together, this goal can be reached. From there, she said, she and others, as pro-life proponents, would keep pushing for abortion to be made illegal, but until then the effort should be joint.

## Briefly...

Compiled by Adam Boltik, Briefs Editor

### Demolition begins at Sentara hospital for new education school

Workers began tearing down the old Sentara Hospital on Monticello Avenue earlier this month, prepping the site for the construction of the new School of Education. The demolition is slated to be completed sometime in November; Vice President of Student Affairs Sam Sadler said that the process is trying to remain "environmentally friendly," which requires more care in the demolition process. Construction of the actual building is not planned to begin until sometime in the summer of 2008. The new School of Education should be completed and ready to open by the end of the spring 2010 semester. The College is keeping a total of 215 parking spots open at the site which have been reserved as a satellite student parking lot.

### Bomb threats at William and Mary determined to be hoaxes

Anonymous e-mails warning staff and administrators

of bombs on campus have been determined to be hoax e-mails. Though the e-mails were first received on August 28, Sam Sadler, vice president of student affairs, maintains that there is no threat to students. A message regarding the multiple threats was not sent to students until after the first week in September; Sadler stated that releasing information about the hoaxes would "prompt more of this behavior [of sending in fake threats]." Virginia papers, such as the *Virginia Gazette* and the *Daily Press* carried the stories before the college students were notified of the incidents. *The Virginia Informer* has learned that at least one message had a Canadian connection, according to police sources.

### VOX set to disrupt talk on Catholic teachings

Catholic Campus Ministry is hosting a talk given by Vicki Thorn, entitled "What You Didn't Learn in Sex Ed." Ms. Thorn is the founder of Project Rachel, an organization committed to offering religious counseling to women who have received abortions in the United States. She has been invited to the campus to speak about the biochemistry of falling in love, as well as some effects that chemical contraceptives have on the body. Voices for Planned Parenthood recently held an event on the "folly" of abstinence-only education,

and suggested that VOX members should be ready to protest Ms. Thorn's talk.

### Williamsburg plays host to "World Forum on Democracy"

The end of a year-long International Conference Series on the Future of Democracy will be coming to Williamsburg September 16-18. Speakers at the forum include current Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Tim Kaine and College Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor, along with noted scholars, ambassadors, and businessmen. The forum will embrace many topics often discussed with democracy, including international development and minority rights.

### Board of Visitors set to meet at end of September

The Board of Visitors has rescheduled their next meeting to September 27 and 28. The last time the board met was over the summer in a retreat in which they discussed evaluation of President Nichol and themselves. No agenda has been publicly released for the meeting. The board meets in Blow Memorial Hall.

THE VIRGINIA  
INFORMER  
Established 2005

New Student Issue 2007  
Volume 3 Special Edition

The Virginia Informer  
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Williamsburg, VA 23186  
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www.VAInformer.com

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*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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# America's Most Wanted TV segment leads to capture of W&M burglary and fraud ring

Nick Fitzgerald  
Executive Editor

Four former and current William and Mary students have been charged with burglary and fraud after three arrests this month by George Mason University police. Crystal Davis, 21, Jason Cutler ('08), 24, and Curtis White, 23, were all arrested after a string of burglaries at George Mason University and Washington and Lee University which date back over one year.

John McLean, 21, is the fourth individual charged. He is believed to be a fugitive in England. Mr. McLean is also wanted for drug charges.

The ring received national attention when the Fox television program *America's Most Wanted*, hosted by John Walsh, featured a segment on Mr. White which showed him with two accomplices entering a computer lab at GMU as captured by a security camera.

The four are suspected of stealing electronics equipment from GMU and Washington and Lee and then selling it for cash on the Internet and at pawn shops. \$89,000 worth of equipment was allegedly stolen by the four from GMU in February of 2006, and \$44,690 worth from Washington and Lee five months later.

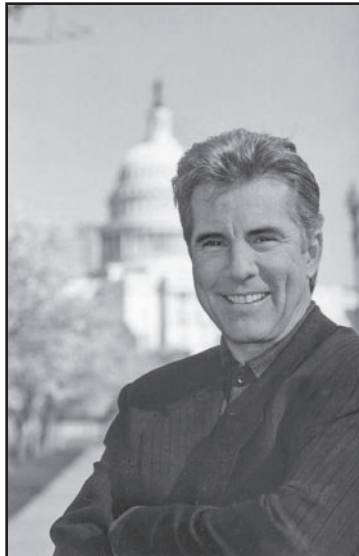
The *America's Most Wanted* Web site also features video of Mr. White being taken into custody by Philadelphia police. He refused to comment as the reporter from *AMW* asked if he had seen the segment they aired on him and his crimes.

Sources tell *The Virginia Informer* that Mr. White was tracked to Philadelphia after police found that a current

student cashed a check that Mr. White obtained from selling the stolen goods at a pawn shop in Baltimore. Mr. White told the dealer that the stolen goods were from his boss and to write the check for payment to that name. When the cash was checked by the current student, authorities questioned him. That student has not been charged.

With the arrests, authorities hope to expand their investigation into incidences of theft at Elon, Duke, and even here at the College. An article in *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, dated September 15, stated that "an ongoing investigation could produce more defendants and bring in merchandise that could reach into the hundreds of thousands of dollars."

A Washington and Lee police officer involved in the investigation said that Mr. White was able to break into the College's servers electronically in order to alter his student account, including his grades and transcripts.



Courtesy of *America's Most Wanted*

**Fugitives caught:** John Walsh's show, *America's Most Wanted*, added four W&M students to its 959 captures.

# Nichol pledges to make a difference in letter sent to parents

Stephanie Long  
News Editor

In late August, President Gene Nichol sent out a letter to parents, alumni and friends of the College of William and Mary, expressing his excitement for the upcoming school year as well as his disappointment with the events of last year.

The letter contained news regarding the class of 2011 and Nichol's enthusiasm to induct them into the Tribe; as well as construction projects, such as the new Mason School of Business and Integrated Science Center building; awards recently bestowed upon William and Mary faculty; and monetary advancements of the College such as the \$12 million gift donated by the Class of 1957. Mr. Nichol also informed the community of the new precautions put in place at William and Mary as a result of the Virginia Tech shootings last April, which includes a new emergency alert system which will be able to contact students about emergencies almost instantaneously.

Mr. Nichol then concluded by expressing his hope that this year will be an improvement over his last year as president. He wrote, "We also begin the 2007-2008 session cognizant, as always, that we are a Tribe." Mr. Nichol continued, "Mindful that the year just past would not be, in every detail, one to repeat—and, at least for my own part, determined to put its lessons to work renewing our powerful sense of common purpose."

Mr. Nichol did not explicitly state to which events he was referring, but one event absent from the letter was the removal of the Wren cross and the divisive effect it had on the William and Mary community. Throughout the letter, Mr. Nichol clearly emphasized the importance of the Tribe as a symbol of inclusion within the William and Mary community and, in his final paragraph, promises to better strive towards such unity.

This confession and goal for improvement may be taken into consideration by the Board of Visitors along with the costs of Mr. Nichol's lesson when they meet to decide on the renewal of his contract this year.

# Panel discusses Duke lacrosse case

## Author blasts DA Mike Nifong and Duke faculty

Matthew Sutton  
Managing Editor

On September 14, the Institute of Bill of Rights Law sponsored a panel discussion in the Hennage Auditorium located in Colonial Williamsburg on the topic of "Prosecutorial Abuse and the Duke Lacrosse Case."

The panelists included a journalist and several prominent Duke law professors. In front of a nearly packed audience, they debated topics including the culpability of Durham District Attorney Mike Nifong, the role of the media in the controversy and, in the most heated part of the program, the behavior of Duke faculty members, including the controversial advertisement by a group of 88 professors.

The discussion was moderated by former acting solicitor general and current Duke law professor Walter Dellinger, and the panelists included Erwin Chemerinsky, a prominent Constitutional law scholar and professor at Duke law,

James Coleman, a law professor at Duke who chaired a committee that investigated the lacrosse team for the university, and journalist Stuart Taylor. Mr. Taylor, a columnist for the *National Journal* and contributing editor to *Newsweek*, co-wrote a book with K.C. Johnson, a Brooklyn College professor, entitled *Until Proven Innocent: Political Correctness and the Shameful Injustices of the Duke Lacrosse Rape Case*. It was this book that provided the impetus for the discussion.

Mr. Taylor opened the event by quoting the late Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes' famous quip, "I always say the chief end of man is to form general propositions—adding that no general proposition is worth a damn." Listing four of his general propositions that he saw in the case, he specifically highlighted the prosecutorial misconduct of Mike Nifong, the flawed local and national media coverage of the story, the shameful reaction of the Duke faculty and the broader societal problem of substituting

ideological posturing for a careful attention to the facts.

Mr. Taylor had harsh words for Mr. Nifong, calling him "a rogue prosecutor" and that his conduct was "the worst case of prosecutorial misconduct that this

nation has seen unfold in real time," and his "enablers" in the media and in the Duke faculty. He singled out the coverage of *The New York Times*, calling it "full of errors, bias and misleading facts," and the group of 88 faculty members whose controversial advertisement supported the actions of protestors who carried signs reading "Castrate" and posted fliers bearing pictures of team members with a "Wanted" headline.

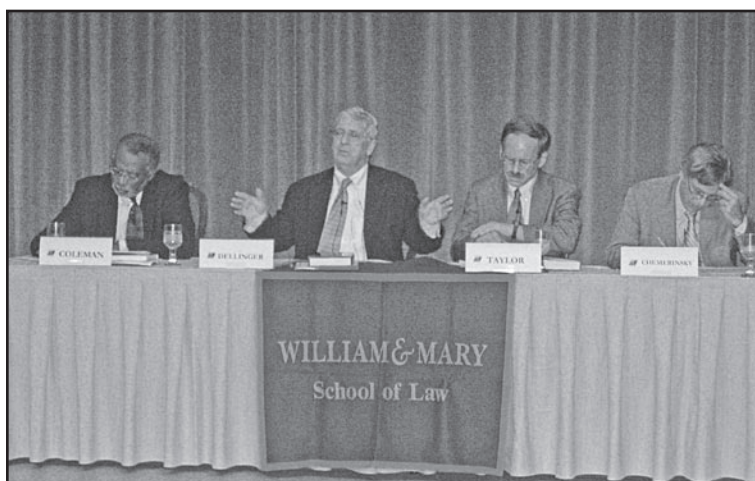
After his opening remarks, Mr. Dellinger led the panelists in discussing the impact of this case on the criminal justice system and the larger problems in the media and Duke faculty. Both Messrs. Coleman and Chemerinsky harshly criticized Mr. Nifong's handling of the case, and suggested the problems revealed in the case are unfortunately common throughout the American legal system.

The most heated part of the discussion concerned Mr. Taylor's attack on Duke faculty. Messrs. Chemerinsky and Coleman disputed Mr. Taylor's criticism by claiming that they played only a minor role in the controversy, and the major issue in the case was simply gross prosecutorial misconduct and not rampant political correctness. Mr. Taylor fired back at both of his critics, citing several passages in his book and emphasizing the rush to judgment by some extreme left-wing faculty. He also added that neither he nor his co-author are conservatives, citing their support for Barack Obama.

The controversial legal case began in March 2006, after a stripper accused members of the Duke men's lacrosse

team of raping her at a team party in an off-campus house. Mr. Nifong ultimately indicted three members of the team on charges of rape, sexual offense and kidnapping. The prosecution's case quickly began to unravel as the DNA testing revealed no link to the indicted players or any members of the team, and the alleged victim recanted part of her story, both of which led to the dropping of the rape charge.

In January, Mr. Nifong, embattled by charges of ethical and prosecutorial misconduct, turned the case over to the North Carolina attorney general's office. After a review of the evidence, the attorney general dropped all charges against the students and declared them innocent. Mr. Nifong was disbarred by the North Carolina state bar due to his unethical conduct in the handling of this case. In addition to disbarment, Mr. Nifong was found guilty of criminal contempt and was sentenced to one day in jail. He could face continuing legal battles in the future, including personal litigation from the falsely accused lacrosse players, for his actions during the investigation.



Matthew Sutton

**The continuing controversy:** The four panelists debated the legal and social issues of the infamous Duke case.

# SA Senate kicks off new school year with first two meetings

## Issues include budget cut, Enhanced Student Representation Act

**Bryan Alphin**  
Staff Writer

The Student Assembly Senate opened its fall session two weeks ago, with the confirmation of several executive appointees from President Zach Pilchen, discussion on Governor Tim Kaine's proposed budget cuts and the sponsorship of a climate change petition.

The first meeting on September 4 dealt with issues such as the governor's 7.5 percent budget cut from the College and its potential effects on services within the institution. Proposals that Mr. Pilchen conveyed to the Senate from the faculty committee included limiting Swem library hours on weekdays, or attaching a surcharge to each students' spring semester bill. Mr. Pilchen said that he hoped to get input from members of the SA, and that the Senate

and the SA Executive will deliberate further on the Richmond cutbacks until the College administration announces what belt-tightening will be made.

A number of confirmations were made in the SA Executive and the Review Board, SA's judicial branch. All but one of Mr. Pilchen's nominees were confirmed by the Senate to serve

in their appointed positions. The one student who did not receive the Senate's approval was Will Angley ('08) who was nominated to chair the SA Review Board. As a result, the board is without an official leader. Therefore, under Review Board rules, the board will be presided over by the most senior justice, which happens to be Mr. Angley. Until either

the Senate confirms his appointment or Mr. Pilchen finds someone else for the position, the student body may have to cope with a vacant seat for a position that little have even heard of. Mr. Angley stated that he hoped that the visibility of the board is something that would improve in the future.

Alan Kennedy-Schaffer, a law school student, explained the reason for his lawsuit against the Senate and graduate student governing bodies, which is currently before the Review Board. Mr. Kennedy-Schaffer argues that the current system of graduate senators being appointed rather than elected defies the SA constitution, which holds the Senate responsible for recognizing the individuals as members of the Senate.

The Senate delayed the start of its second meeting in order to allow people to attend the school's memorial service.

On September 11, the Senate considered a bill to sponsor a national petition for climate awareness, supported by the Student Environment Action Committee (SEAC). The petition, sponsored by Senator Caroline Mullis ('09), would push the College administration to educate students and faculty about alleged dangers of climate change and how the College can take initiative in doing

its fair share for this environmental cause. The nation-wide proposal, known as the President's Climate Commitment (PCC), provides bench markers for colleges and universities to contribute to lowering greenhouse gases by 80 percent by 2050 at the latest. Some points in the PCC petition include restrictions on carbon offsets, energy efficiency, and

the mandatory construction of "green" buildings on campus that meet the LEED silver-star rating. The Senate voted 14-1 to sponsor the petition. Now that the petition will hit the ground running, SEAC will be collecting signatures from students and faculty within the upcoming weeks.

The other legislation passed at this meeting included the Enhanced Student Representation Act, sponsored by Senator Devan Barber ('08), which called for the administration to eliminate the provision in the Student Handbook that requires any student taken as counsel in a judicial case could only come from the same school.

Senator Walter McClean introduced the Finance Omnibus Bill which codified many of the changes in finance code that had not taken place in recent years. More importantly, the SA formed a new system of financing College events that did not include the College administration. Prior to this change, administrators had a role in the review process. At the request of the Student Affairs Division of the College, that role was written out. The expected result is that on controversial issues of funding events, such as the Sex Workers' Art Show, the administration could escape



Kristine Mosnala

**Paying attention:** The opening Senate session saw both new and familiar faces for members of the Student Assembly as the body handled appointments of the executive.

blame. After a long presentation, the bill passed and will take effect immediately.

Another bill proposed was the Insurance of Student Safety and Freedom of Assembly Act (ISSFA). The act, jointly sponsored by senators Matt Skibiak ('08) and Orlando Watson ('10), officially responds to the increased crackdown on drinking and "dry" social events by the William and Mary Police Department. Though the legislative body is reacting to the bewilderment of the general student body, the bill does not go as far as threatening the police with legal action. The issues will be debated further in committee.

### SA Senate Meetings

**Tuesdays**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Tyler Hall 102**

All meetings of the Senate are open to the public under the law of the Commonwealth of Virginia

## Pilchen changes how executive meetings are run

**Bryan Alphin**  
Staff Writer

Students of the College are back into the swing of things and so is the Student Assembly under the College's new SA President, Zach Pilchen ('09).

On a Wednesday evening, members of Mr. Pilchen's cabinet and staff gathered for their first meeting of the school year and complained about how classes had already become a stressful pain. Mr. Pilchen introduced his staff to each other—newcomers and veterans to SA alike.

The main issue of concern throughout the meeting was Governor Tim Kaine's announcement that as much as 7.5 percent of state funding to the College could be cut. Many expressed alarm and deliberated on how the budget cuts could cause repercussions for the Student Assembly and its funding of clubs and campus events for the year.

Mr. Pilchen interjected at one point, "If Richmond had passed the gas tax hike, we wouldn't have this problem."

Other issues on the agenda included questions on parking permits to rescheduling the annual Mosaic Festival from the fall to the spring semester. Other matters included the delay for the enactment of the laundry reform that was relentlessly advertised to students last year. Secretary of Student Life Liz Thomas ('09), asked Mr. Pilchen's Secretary of Finance Andrew Blasi ('10), whether or not the SA would meet its promise to give free

### SA Executive Secretaries

**Finance:**  
Andrew B. Blasi, Jr.

**Student Rights:**  
Athena Parker

**College Policy:**  
Samantha Besora

**Health and Safety:**  
Alex Nikolov

**Diversity Initiatives:**  
Nimish Shukula

**Public Affairs:**  
Ryan Jackson

**Student Life:**  
Liz Thomas

laundry service to students. "It should at least be initiated by winter, otherwise it will be something that will need to be fixed," said Blasi.

However, the most noteworthy issue at the table was the reorganization of the SA executive. Under the previous Scofield-Norris administration, meetings were long and found to be rather cumbersome with secretaries managing broad and equivocal duties. For example, the secretary of student life had to manage a wide array of policies concerning the likes of student parking to Residence Life, from dining service relations to the presence of the Greek community. Then-President Ryan Scofield ('07) seemed to place a burdensome weight on his cabinet members. Mr. Pilchen has changed the order of responsibilities. The order of policymaking has been converted from a top-to-bottom administration to bottom-to-top. The detail-oriented

meetings are now held at the department level. This change, according to Mr. Pilchen, has made the job easier for everybody on his staff—maintaining efficiency and making cabinet meetings briefer and more productive.

The brevity of the meeting was quite evident. The SA, stereotyped by many students as a body of time-consuming nitpickers focusing on semantics rather than policy, may be on the road to improvement.

*Editor's Note: Andrew Blasi is the Business Editor of The Virginia Informer.*

## 9/11 CEREMONY: service held but poorly attended by students

continued from page one

silence was held. The William and Mary Choir then sang in remembrance.

Mr. Weiler, the Williamsburg fire chief, then spoke on the attacks from the perspective of emergency responders. He chronologically described the carnage of the airlines hitting New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania six years ago. Mr. Weiler, who has served as a firefighter for over 35 years, somberly noted how 343 of his fellow firefighters died in rescue efforts on that day.

Mr. Weiler also discussed changes that have been made to the protocol of emergency responders. He noted how different firefighting departments no longer face the communication problems that they did when responding to the terrorist attacks. Mr. Weiler also noted new programs used locally following 9/11. He told of how walk-in access to the fire station is no longer allowed, as the door to the station remains locked. These realities prompted him to observe that "this is the life we live in since 9/11... For those who were murdered on 9/11, we must never forget."

After the conclusion of Mr. Weiler's speech, Mr. Andrews presented him with a banner reading "Thank You." This banner had hung all day in the University Center for students to sign and was filled with hundreds of students' signatures.

# New SHC videos promote healthy lifestyles

## Health education explores new outlets to reach student body

**Mike Crump**  
Staff Writer

Students at University Center Activities Board's semiannual Screen on the Green this semester got a first look at a new student-run health initiative. Before screening its double feature of *Shrek the Third* and *Knocked Up*, UCAB presented several short commercials backed by the Office of Health Education and Student Health Center on "making Tribe Choices."

Tribe Choices, a preventative education program backed by both the College and the NCAA, aims to reduce alcohol abuse and contribute to healthy lifestyles on campus. Through the videos, it hopes to raise awareness of several key health topics.

These videos, all student produced, range in topics from dealing with stress to a short infomercial on the importance of the HPV vaccine for women. Six videos exist in total, though more may appear, covering new topics. Though they largely contain information more relevant to new students, these "health commercials" were aimed at the entire student body.

These commercials marked a major deviation from typical health education practices, as they were

created with Internet-based video services such as YouTube in mind. "We are always looking for creative ways to reach our student body," said Sarah Irwin, health educator with the OHE. "Students utilize technology so much that the OHE hopes to use technology to get health messages out to students," she continued. Features such as video commenting could potentially allow for a more interactive experience for students, helping with the absorption and retention of crucial information. The Web site currently housing the six videos can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/user/tribechoices>.

Student interest and reaction varies greatly from video to video. The REST commercial, promoting healthy sleep patterns, has been viewed only 13 times total compared to over 400 hits on a video which gives a surprising statistic regarding the sexual habits of students at the College. The video displays survey information that



Office of Health Education

**Generation Y:** By posting the "Health Commercials" on Youtube, the OHE hopes to better match student interests.

found that 50.4 percent of William and Mary students have never had vaginal intercourse.

## McGlothlin \$12M pledge revocation never confirmed

### VP of Development claims office only knows through media reports

**Joe Luppino-Esposito**  
Editor in Chief

According to accounts in the media, William and Mary alum James McGlothlin ('62, J.D. '64) is widely considered the donor who revoked a multi-million dollar pledge to the College following the Wren cross controversy, which resulted in the Campaign for William and Mary having to dip back below the figure of \$500 million announced in February.

Yet Sean Pieri, vice president of development, recently confirmed that the campaign total was reduced, even though no one from the College ever spoke directly to the unnamed donor about the withdrawal. "The College never directly received notification from the donor that the pledge was no longer valid... It wasn't as if the president had a conversation or I had a conversation or anybody had a conversation with the donor."

Mr. Pieri said he found out about the withdrawn pledge in the media. "No one employed by the institution was directly contacted by the donor."

"Typically we have a discussion about it... somehow those conversations didn't happen. I'll take responsibility for it," he said.

"This is an unfortunate situation. The donor feels strongly about decisions that were made at the College and decided to make some changes with their estate plans. At the end of the day- it's their money. I understand why they did it."

President Nichol and the Board of Visitors issued a press release and e-mailed all students and alumni on February 9 about reaching the \$500 million Campaign goal. A few short weeks later, this number dipped back below \$500 million.

At press time, we have not been able to verify exactly when the donor communicated his intention to withdraw the pledge, and to whom it was communicated, and whether this communication about the withdrawn pledge occurred prior to the February 9 e-mail about reaching the \$500 million campaign goal. Mr. Pieri's comments suggest the donor communicated to someone well known to him, although not employed by the College. In turn, this communication by the donor apparently triggered the reduction of the campaign total and eventually found its way to the media at the end of February.

## W&M Washington Program prepares for spring 2008 semester

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

Applications are currently being accepted for the spring 2008 W&M in Washington program. The application process is expected to be the most competitive so far since the program's inception in fall 2006.

The upcoming semester will likely top off at around 18 students. According to Project Director Roxane Adler, "over 20 students have already begun applications for the spring 2008 semester... and the deadline is not until October 1 at 5:00 p.m."

"Interest in the program has been strong from our first semester in the fall of 2006 and clearly continues to attract students with each changing theme," Adler explained.

The upcoming semester's theme is "U.S. National Security in the 21st century." Amy Oakes, a professor of Government at the College, will teach two classes for the program: "U.S. National Security: Causes and Consequences" and "New and Future Threats to U.S. National Security."

Government Professor Paula Pickering, who is slotted to be the professor for the fall 2008 semester, notes that "the high level of involvement of D.C.-based organizations and the high profile of such efforts create a pool of experienced guest speakers for a seminar."

In addition to taking two seminar courses with frequent guest speakers, W&M in Washington students will also take an interdisciplinary independent study on the practice of U.S. national security policy.

Other than earning 12 college credits, the essence of the experience is characterized by a full-time internship and life in the nation's capital, with its many social, political, artistic, and entertainment outlets.

At an informational session for the W&M in Washington program, five students presented their experiences from past semesters. The reviews were overwhelmingly positive; students found their classes, the peer bonding, the social scene and especially their internships extremely rewarding.

Of the students who shared their experiences, one interned in the office of Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), one at a Smithsonian museum on the Mall, one in Karl Rove's office in the White House, another at

NPR for the program "All Things Considered" and one at the American Bar Association.

Ms. Adler pointed out that "once students select internships to apply for, we help them prepare applications, cover letters, resumes, personal statements, recommendations and more." She continued, "sadly, we cannot accommodate all of the institutions who would like to host a W&M in Washington intern."

The William and Mary program has many outstanding relationships with institutions which have previously taken William and Mary students as interns. One example is the Heritage Foundation, which hired two students in fall 2006 and one in fall 2007.

"The Heritage Foundation raved about the quality of the fall 2006 students... there are many organizations like Heritage who are thrilled to work with William and Mary in Washington students, so the opportunities are seemingly endless," said Ms. Adler.

Another key resource to students is the alumni network in the Washington area, totaling approximately 3,000. Many alumni are also willing to create internships for the program. Last year the alumni network hosted an event at the Egyptian Embassy, during which President Nichol presented each student to a crowd of alumni.

According to an informational video produced by the W&M in Washington program, after being presented by Mr. Nichol, students had alumni swarming around them, giving out business cards and offering jobs.

The costs of the semester are very close to those of attending William and Mary, with the addition of a \$500 program fee plus the higher costs of housing in Washington.

The due date to apply is October 1. Students who are offered interviews will be contacted by October 5. Interviews will be conducted soon thereafter and by October 12 acceptance notices will be sent out. Following acceptance notices, students will immediately start applying for internships.

David Husband, the current chief of staff to Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen ('09), was one of the first to take advantage of the W&M in Washington program in fall 2006. He reiterates the glowing reviews of his peers, feeling it was a highly rewarding experience; he recommends it to anyone interested.

### W&M in Washington

Deadline to apply:  
**October 5**

Acceptances sent out:  
**October 12**



Courtesy of Doug Bunch

**Distinguished alum a jack of all trades:** Recent graduate Doug Bunch represents both the College and Law School in his job at a Washington law firm in his efforts for Global Playground.

Alumni Spotlight:

## The story behind former Dupont Hall fixture Doug Bunch

Nick Hoelker  
Online Editor

From keeping order for three years in Dupont Hall, to “suing evil corporations,” to building schools in third world countries, alumnus Doug Bunch ('02) has certainly maintained an interesting and important life.

Mr. Bunch received his B.A. from the College in 2002, majoring in Government and Latin. After graduating from Harvard University with a master's degree in Education, Mr. Bunch returned to William and Mary a year later to graduate with a J.D. in 2006. “Harvard might have a Latin motto and a few more books in its library,” said Mr. Bunch, “but my heart is still green and gold.”

While at the law school, Mr. Bunch was Dupont's hall director. He got the job by “sheer coincidence,” he said. “The hall director before me resigned mid-year, and Residence Life was looking for someone else to take the job. I had a degree and a strong interest in higher education, so I applied and was hired.” Mr. Bunch said that he “wouldn't trade the experience for anything.”

“Honey Bunches of Doug,” as he was affectionately called by some residents and staff alike, recounted a few of his favorite knocks he received at the door of his cushy apartment in Dupont. These included everything from students telling him “that someone had shot an orange at the back of the building with a three-man slingshot” to someone asking “where [he] could store his unicycle.”

Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Bunch entered the professional legal world. He is currently employed by Cohen Milstein in Washington, DC. The firm is responsible for enforcing federal securities laws and they sue corporations that try to defraud investors. While Mr. Bunch says that the job is “fast-paced and stressful at times,” he says that it is “incredibly satisfying to know that [he is] helping thousands of people who, on an individual basis, would be powerless against the Enrons and Arthur Andersens of the world.”

When he is not protecting innocent investors from shady businessmen, Mr. Bunch devotes his time to his charity, the Global Playground. Founded by Mr. Bunch and Edward Branagan ('03) in 2006, the Global Playground constructs schools in developing countries throughout the world. This month, the non-profit organization will break ground on their first school, located in Uganda. Mr. Bunch added that they will be announcing their new project soon, which will be located in Southeast Asia.

In order to make the Global Playground more successful, Mr. Bunch has visited Uganda, Cambodia and Thailand to see other schools and educational organizations. On these visits, Mr. Bunch brought school supplies to children who have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS or violence. Mr. Bunch recalled that at the close of this trip, the children he visited danced for him to show thanks. Mr. Bunch called this one of the most moving experiences of his life. This, he said, caused him to truly realized how genuine the world's poor are, and also to realize how much we take for granted in our own lives. For more information about the Global Playground, please visit <http://www.globalplayground.com>.

Common sense for students:

## Credit cards: A student's worst friend?

College students simply don't get it when it comes to credit cards. According to Nellie Mae, the nation's largest maker of student loans, the average undergraduate student today has over \$2,200 in credit card debt. This number more than doubles for graduate students, who average over \$5,800 in credit card debt. The bottom line is that as students continue to put off payment while simultaneously charging even more to their piece of plastic, the larger their debt grows and the more difficult it becomes to get out.

There are a few items that students often fail to realize in their attempt to pay off credit card debt. For instance, one should always make sure to include late and over-the-limit fees when making payment on their credit card debt. For example, if you owe \$500 in credit card debt (and are late in making a payment), chances are that if you send your credit card company a \$500 check to pay it off, a large chunk of it will be applied towards fees you have incurred rather than your actual debt (depending on how late you are). You may not even realize that you still owe



Andrew B. Blasi, Jr.  
Business Editor

your credit card company more money, which is now itself accumulating additional late fees. Furthermore, credit card debt may also lead to an increase in your student loan repayments as well as any other debt you may hold (understand that as your credit score suffers it can impact you in many more ways than one).

Considering some of these potential consequences for accumulating credit card debt, here are a few helpful tips. First, as a student you really should only have one credit card. If you indeed have more than one and are not a conservative spender, you may want to consider cutting back and cancelling your extras. Second, be on time in making your credit card payments and know the limit your credit card company has imposed upon you to avoid those outrageous

credit card fees. Third, set a regular budget for yourself and your credit card. This way you won't have any surprises come your next statement in the mail. And forth, if you have credit card debt, do the very best to follow these tips as well as pay off your debt as soon and as much as readily possible. Credit card debt resulting from overspending is one thing, but out-of-control credit card debt resulting from accumulating and compounding fees can be a nightmare that has been known to stick with some students until their 30s and 40s. Your credit card debt will never disappear by itself; you must face it sooner or later. And while sooner may seem more difficult than later, later may result in bankruptcy, a position in which you will never want to find yourself.

*Editor's Note: The information in the article is for informational purposes only and neither The Virginia Informer nor the author of this article provided certified financial advice. Please consider speaking with a financial advisor or another trusted individual before making any financial decision.*

## William & Mary fundraising 101

### The intricate system of private donations and pledges that keep the College running

Joe Luppino-Esposito  
Editor in Chief

There are many ways in which William and Mary draws in its funding, allowing students, alumni and community members alike to contribute to the College.

**The many ways to give**

The first, lowest level donations come from the phone-a-thon. Several students make calls on behalf of the Fund for William and Mary every evening in their office underneath Old Dominion Hall. Each night, the callers are assigned a certain list of names and the calls are made with an automatic computer dialer. These groups include specific alumni classes, to those more interested in sports, as well as many other categories. The student callers strike up a conversation and, at the end of the call, ask for a donation ranging from \$25 to \$1,000. If a prospective donor agrees to contribute, they can either pay directly by credit card or they will be sent a pledge form in the mail.

If the pledge is not fulfilled after several letters, the pledge is taken off the books. Sean Pieri, vice president of development, explained that the College will take the word of a donor if the amount is under a few thousand dollars.

Once the pledge reaches a higher dollar amount, more official practices are put into action. In order for a pledge to be counted in the College's records, the donor must sign a pledge form, outlining the way in which they are paying for the pledged amount. “Anything over a couple thousand dollars, we will need something in writing. Without a written document, the pledge isn't counted,” said Mr. Pieri.

When it comes to revoking a pledge, the process is not very simple. “It's not unusual to have someone want to rework their pledge,” Mr. Pieri said. He stressed that in almost all cases, there is a strong personal relationship between the donor and the development office, which often means that something can be worked out. Mr. Pieri said that there are a number of questions to be

asked in order to accommodate a donor. “Do you want to stretch it out? Do you want to delay a payment?... Usually you come out with some type of agreement,” he said.

In the event a donor wants to completely revoke a pledge, the pledged amount is simply written off.

Those high-dollar donors were the most important contributors to the campaign. In the seven years of the Campaign for William and Mary, over 60,000 gifts were made or pledged. Of that, 256 gifts made up 76 percent of the total.

**Private giving at W&M**

**The Campaign for William and Mary:**  
\$517 million raised in seven years

**The College of William & Mary Foundation (endowment):**  
\$491 million

**What's in a pledge?**

In order to know how to give to the school, it is important to know some of the basic terms.

The endowment, now known as the College of William & Mary Foundation, is at nearly \$500 million. The only money the College can spend from this amount is the interest, which is 10.6% according to a College press release. Much of this spending is restricted.

The Campaign for William and Mary, which ran from 2000 to June of this year, was simply a marketing strategy. All money raised by the College in that time went towards the drive. Much of that went towards the Fund for William and Mary, the largest

collection of unrestricted funds for the College. At the campaign's end, the College netted \$517 million, a significant portion of which was raised, not in direct funds, but in pledges. A pledge is simply a promise to donate funding in the future.

This was the situation that came before the College when dealing with James McGlothlin. He decided to revoke his multimillion dollar pledge, meaning that it could not be counted towards the campaign total. The possibility of losing funds like this could be alarming to many students.

“Any gift that isn't received is revocable,” said Mr. Pieri. He estimated 65 percent of the campaign funds have already been received, leaving 35 percent still in pledges. Yet Mr. Pieri made it clear: “I don't lose sleep at night worrying that those pledges will be revoked.”

Swemming off the deep end:

# The Nichol interviews: lost in translation

Once again, we mount our *rostrum* (it's Latin) to deal with those scoundrels at our sister paper, *The Flat Hat*. Apparently unaware of the fact that hats are will never come back in style, they continues their noble task of enlightening the simple folk of the College of William and Mary. Judging by his interview with President Nichol dated August 31, *that Flat Hat* reporter must have had an arduous trek down Mount Sinai after his Nicholophany (it's the Bible). Reaching a height of obsequiousness and servility rivaled only by the court of the Sun King, this interview displays



**Nick Fitzgerald & Matthew Sutton**  
Humor Columnists

not only poor editing—as the article seems to be nothing more than a typed up transcript of Nichol's self-righteous babblings—but also seems to abandon all standards of journalistic ethics. This is so typical of the paper that broke the story of Starbucks' triumphant replacement of the College Delly (Wait, this didn't happen? But I read about it three times in the—oh. Wait.)

As a service not only to our (extensive) readership, but also for those who were left scratching their heads at the end of the Nichol's *Flat Hat* interview, provided below is an edited translation of the dialogue between *The Flat Hat* and our president. The actual printed questions and responses are found below in italics, with their appropriate translations beneath.

**What they asked:** *"In your first year as College president, you brought Sandra Day O'Connor to campus. In your second*

*year, we got a visit from the Queen of England. How do you plan to top that this year?"*

**What they meant:** "So, would you say you are a great president, or the greatest president?"

**What he said:** *"I don't know if you can top the Queen. Justice O'Connor, thankfully, she set a great pattern, and I think she's going to be here a lot. She was here a ton last year, if you remember... I don't know, I mean, you know, to me if Bruce Springsteen or Mick Jagger would come that would—but I don't know how you top the Queen. I'm not looking to actually top the Queen."*

**What he meant:** "Yes."

**What they asked:** *"The College fell this year from 31st to 33rd in U.S. News and World Report's annual college rankings.... How much value do you place on College rankings and what will the college do to improve in the future?"*

**What they meant:** "You know that we at *The Flat Hat* don't care about the rankings drop, we just felt like we had to ask this question. But don't worry, I'll believe anything you tell me."

**What he said:** *"I do think they're important because people pay attention to them — people watch them. I was disappointed in this modest dropping from ... 31st to 33rd. Now, I should point out that the College remains the sixth-best public university in the United States ... If you study*



**That's what he said:** Like the consummate politician, Nichol's weighty rhetoric sometimes obscures his true message.

*those rankings, they give a hard time — perhaps intentionally, perhaps unintentionally — to public universities."*

**What he meant:** "This is a sinking ship, every man for himself—get out while you still can. I have no idea what I'm doing."

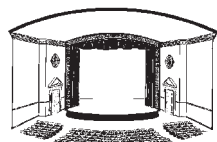
**What they asked:** *"How else do you plan to reach out to minority students?"*

**What they meant:** "We know this is the only thing you actually care about when it comes to this College, so go nuts."

**What he said:** *"I think you reach out to the entire community in the most powerful ways that we can. ... Some of this is reaching beyond expectations which get in the way of us having a more diverse institution."*

**What he meant:** "By now, it should be obvious to everyone that my racial bean counting trumps any academic standards we try to set as an institution of higher learning."

This eye-opening glimpse into *Flat Hat* journalism is provided free of charge and as a public service by your fearless columnists. If you would like further translational assistance with any other *Flat Hat* articles, please do not hesitate to contact us at [www.VAInformer.com](http://www.VAInformer.com).



*Kimball Theatre*

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

## September/October Schedule

### Movies

**Sicko (PG-13)**

Sat., Sept. 15-Fri., Sept. 28  
6:30 and 8:45 p.m.

Sept. 16, 18-22, 27-28 screening room (35 seats)

**Sponsored by the Historic Triangle Substance Abuse Coalition:**

**Freedom Writers (PG-13)**

Thurs., Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.

This screening is free but tickets are required. Donations are welcome

**Manufacturing Dissent Not rated**

Fri., Sept. 28-Wed., Oct. 3

7 and 9 p.m.

Sept. 29, Oct. 1-2 screening room (35 seats)

**Casi Casi (PG-13)**

Tues., Oct. 2-Sun., Oct. 7

6:45 and 8:30 p.m.

Oct. 3-4, 6 screening room (35 seats)

**The Devil Came on Horseback (Not rated)**

Sun., Oct. 7-Sun., Oct. 14

7 and 8:45 p.m.

Oct. 7-9, 11, 13 screening room (35 seats)

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

**The Bothersome Man (Not rated)**

Wed., Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.

**Mother of Mine (Not rated)**

Wed., Oct. 31 at 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$3, William and Mary ID \$1

**Lady Chatterley (Not rated)**

Sun., Oct. 14-Sun., Oct. 21

6 and 9 p.m.

Oct. 14-19 screening room (35 seats)

**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)

### Live Performances

**Virginia Premiere Theatre presents The K of D**

A Supernatural Thriller by Laura Schellhardt

Plays Sept. 18-22 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 16 and 23 at 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$18, \$16 students/seniors/military

**The Kimball Theatre presents**

The Second City Touring Company: One Nation, Under Blog

Sat., Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m.

General admission \$25, Seniors/Students \$20

**The College of William and Mary Sinfonicon Light Opera Company presents: An Onward Spectacle: Gala 2007**

Sat., Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

All seats \$15

**Preservation & Exploration in the Shadow of John Smith 2007 Jamestown Lecture Series**

All lectures begin at 7 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 9 – Jamestown, More Buried Truth

Tues., Oct. 30 – From Goats to Griffins: Animals, Real and Imaginary, at Jamestown

Tues., Nov. 13 – A Special Lecture presented by Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz, NASA Astronaut

Tickets for individual lectures are \$10

**Laughing Redhead presents**

**Clean Comedy Night**

Featuring Bone Hampton and Donna East

Sat., Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

General admission \$15, Seniors/Students \$12

**The Williamsburg Symphonia presents**

**Subscription Concert #1**

Tues., Oct. 16 and Wed., Oct. 17 at 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$42, \$30. Advance tickets are available through the Williamsburg Symphonia; please call (757) 229-9857

**New Kent High School and Astor College present West Side Story**

Book by Arthur Laurents

Music by Leonard Bernstein, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Tues., Oct. 23 and Wed., Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

Adults \$7, Students \$5

# Former Middlebury College president leads nationwide movement to lower drinking age

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

John McCardell served as president of Middlebury College from 1991-2004. After leaving the job, in 2005, Mr. McCardell wrote an op-ed in *The New York Times*, in which he criticized the national drinking age of 21 as “terrible law and bad policy.”

Mr. McCardell has since founded an advocacy group, ChooseResponsibility, to contribute sound facts and logical arguments for the overturn of Legal Age 21. *The Virginia Informer* contacted Mr. McCardell, who still teaches history at Middlebury, to learn more.

**The Virginia Informer:** Can you please tell readers a little about ChooseResponsibility, why you founded the organization and what you hope to achieve?

**McCardell:** I had long been concerned, as a president and as a parent, by the unintended consequences of Legal Age 21: one either looked the other way, knowing the law was being violated, which did not reflect good parenting or governance, or one enforced the law, which made you feel virtuous but simply sent drinking into less controllable, and more risky, settings. Unless you believe you can in fact prohibit alcohol use among those under the age of 18 (and on this simple count the law has been an abysmal failure), then your goal should be to create the safest possible environment for the reality of alcohol use. Legal Age 21 does neither: it does not prohibit use, and it does not create safe environments. Congress needs to lift the condition that any state setting the age lower than 18 forfeits 10% of its federal highway appropriation. This “incentive” effectively thwarts creative policymaking on the state level. If MADD is correct that the public overwhelmingly supports



File Photo  
**McCARDELL**

Legal Age 21, then this condition should not be necessary; and if MADD is wrong, then maybe the law can at last come to reflect social reality as well as public preference.

**VAI:** Did you find it difficult, as president of Middlebury College for 13 years, to uphold the punishment of students who were violating what you consider “bad policy and terrible law?”

**McCardell:** Yes. See above. Middlebury adopted, as have most institutions that have not gone “dry” (and that works real well), a graduated system of penalties. Please understand. Choose Responsibility is not “for” drunk driving. Penalties for drunk driving should be swift and sure. But simply holding a cup of beer is very different from drunk driving.

**VAI:** Do you feel that MADD misrepresents figures that indicate thousands of lives are saved each year from having a higher drinking age? How did you come to this conclusion?

**McCardell:** Fewer than half of all the articles on the subject have shown *any* relationship between Legal Age 21 and alcohol-related traffic fatalities. I smile whenever I hear of “estimates” of 23,733 lives saved—pretty precise estimate!--MADD completely overlooks another peer-reviewed statistic: that more than 1,000 18-24 year-old lives are lost each year to alcohol other than on the roads, and this number is going *up* rapidly. These lost lives are no less precious, and at least some are traceable to the dark corners into which Legal Age 21 has forced them.

**VAI:** Would you agree with MADD founder and ex-member Candy Lightner that the organization has shifted its purpose from preventing drunk driving to pursuing a neo-prohibitionist agenda?

**McCardell:** Yes. Look at their Web site and judge for yourself. That said, MADD’s advocacy of the ignition interlock is promising and positive and actually addresses the specific problem of drunken driving. We would support them on this issue.

**VAI:** How would you summarize the research of: “The Effects of the 21 Year-Old Drinking Age: A White Paper,” which was assembled by ChooseResponsibility?

**McCardell:** Legal Age 21 has not succeeded in its goal of eliminating drinking by those under the age of 21. Its effect on the reduction in the number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities has been exaggerated. And its unintended consequences have cost, and is costing in increasing numbers, young lives. Legal Age 21 abridges the age of majority; it disenfranchises families from helping sons and daughters learn about alcohol; and it has led to binge drinking and all the attendant risks. We can’t be selective in defining cause-and-effect relationships where the law is concerned.

**VAI:** What success have you had in convincing fellow college leaders of the need for a lower drinking age?

**McCardell:** Considerable. Most presidents and deans know the reality, and many remember what it was like when the age was lower and alcohol was out in the open and adults could model responsible behavior.

**VAI:** What plans do you have for the upcoming election cycle? Are there any candidates that you believe may be won over by your argument?

**McCardell:** We hope this will become an issue in the coming election cycle. No candidates, to my knowledge, have spoken out on the subject; I’d love to know their views.

**VAI:** What advice would you have for college administrators in enforcing Legal Age 21?

**McCardell:** That this is an impossible question. What other laws ought college administrators to be enforcing, and where do those enforcement expectations stop? An interesting enforcement statistic: for every 1,000 violations of Legal Age 21, two – that’s right, two – result in arrest or citation. What amount of money and manpower ought we spend and deploy in order to get that rate up to, say four, or even ten. The answer is self-evident: respect for this law is so low, and observance of it so infrequent, that enforcement is impossible. Just like the national speed limit of 55 turned out to be when Congress finally turned that decision back to the states.

**VAI:** What would you want an average 18-21 year old, who defies Age 21 regularly, to know? Are reform and true adulthood close at hand, or is this an uphill battle that may never be won?

**McCardell:** That in many states a fake ID is regarded as forgery and can result in a felony charge. That drinking and driving don’t mix. That irresponsible behavior will make it more difficult than ever to get the law changed. And that there are more adults out there than they may think who believe that they and their fellow young adults most of the time, will, in fact, given the chance, behave responsibly. Changing the age is an uphill battle. But so was repealing Prohibition: that took 36 states. This change can happen.

## ○ Canada! Beers from the Great White North

**Matthew Sutton**  
Managing Editor

Diversity is now the new buzzword at the College and it is almost impossible to escape hearing about its wonders, from the long-winded speeches of President Nichol to the newly launched crack Bias Response Team. But as some voices in this humble paper have suggested, diversity should encompass more than a single minded focus on skin color. While these larger issues may be out of this column’s purview, I write today to call for an appreciation and celebration of the beers from our cousins to the north.

That’s right--Canada--where the humble beaver lays down with the majestic moose and hockey is king. No longer the sole dominion of savvy fur traders and intrepid dog-sledders, Canada now offers a rich variety of brews that can both break the monotony of American macros and give you a sophisticated and cosmopolitan air. Unfortunately, students at William and Mary are again limited by parochial Williamsburg. Only three Canadian beers are readily available for purchase in nearby grocery stores: Labatt Blue, Moosehead Lager and Molson Ice. Yet these three standards are a worthy addition to any beer fridge.

### Labatt Blue

The distinctive bottle of Labatt Blue promises a truly Canadian experience with its prominent maple leaf and blue background reminiscent of the Canadian Rockies. Blue is the best selling Canadian beer in the world, and it is not hard to see why. This light yellow has a very light head which dissipates quickly and the first sip is refreshing and clean. Noticeably

carbonated, Labatt has an interesting taste that is not too complex.

**How Canadian?:** 6 beavers out of 10

### Moosehead

Canada’s oldest independent brewery Moosehead has been family owned and operated by the Olands since it was founded in 1867. A large, majestic moose is profiled on the distinctive green bottle to remind drinkers that they are about to experience true Canadian beer.

A light golden lager, Moosehead offers a complex taste from the very first sip. Mostly sweet, although there is a definite sharpness to the hops that is a pleasant surprise in contrast to the bland American standards. Some bitterness is also present but the Moose does finish crisp and clean.

**How Canadian?:** 8 beavers out of 10

### Molson

Famous in Canada for their clever advertising, Molson has several brands within their brewing empire. Molson Canadian is the premier brand, while Molson Ice claims to offer an ice-brewed refreshing taste, a tactic used by Natural Ice to great success.

I was disappointed with Molson Ice as it had a similar taste to the American standard, Budweiser, with just a touch of more bitterness. It is definitely an improvement over Natty Ice as the heavy alcohol content is not the noticeable and lacks the taste of stale corn of its American cousin.

**How Canadian?:** 5 beavers out of 10



Matthew Sutton

**Tasty:** Moosehead Lager is as Canadian as maple syrup, and nearly as sweet.. The beverage scored highest thanks to its complex taste.

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.



# Wren cross controversy continues to reverberate

## Millington cross available by request only if scheduled

**Matthew Sutton**  
Managing Editor

The Wren cross is no longer available for private student devotion in an apparent policy change that was not publicly reported by President Nichol's handpicked Committee on Religion in a Public University.

Prior to Mr. Nichol's unilateral decision to remove the cross from the Wren Chapel, the previous policy which governed its display allowed students who wished to use the chapel for private prayer the option of placing the cross on the altar. The committee overturned Nichol's original decision and crafted a compromise that saw the permanent installation of the cross in a glass display case, paired with a plaque explaining its historic significance and Anglican heritage of the College.

In a press release announcing their decision last March, the committee made no mention of

altering this previous policy, saying that "the cross will still be available, of course, for use on the altar during appropriate religious services.... Under this policy, the Wren Chapel will continue to play its unique historic and affirming role in the life of the College: a place of worship for our students and a site for our most solemn occasions."

This development was reported to *The Virginia Informer* by a student who wishes to remain anonymous: "I headed to the Wren Chapel to sit quietly for a few minutes and spend some time on personal devotion. Before heading into the chapel itself, however, I stopped by Louise Kale's office in the Wren building. I asked the student working the desk what I needed to do to move the cross from the display case to the altar for a period of no more than ten or fifteen minutes. She replied that that was no longer an option to students looking to worship privately, and that the cross can only be placed on the altar for a specifically registered and predetermined event, cleared in advance. I asked to speak to Ms. Kale, who the student said was not in. I returned, disappointed, to the Wren Chapel, when Louis Kale came in and asked if I had been looking for her. I told her I had indeed, and expressed my situation to her. She explained to me that, per the committee's decision, the cross was no longer available for private worship."

Professor Alan Meese, the Ball professor of law at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law and co-chair of the committee, could not be reached for comment before the printing of this issue.



**The soft sell:** W&M guides now incorporate the controversy into their tours.

Aileen Judd

## Official tour guide book provides a script on how to explain the issue

**Matthew Sutton**  
Managing Editor

The controversy over the removal and then subsequent return of the Wren Chapel Cross continues to reverberate in the College community, this time in the new manual for tour guides. Often the most public face of William and Mary for prospective students, student tour guides now have official guidance on how to explain the conflict.

In a section titled "Additional Information about Ancient campus", the manual contains information about the history of the Wren Chapel and the controversy over the Wren cross. The statement from the Board of Visitors from March of 2007, which announced the return of the Cross in a glass display case, is excerpted.

In a chronology of the College, which

traces the school's history from 1691 to the present day, the entry for 2007 singles out two events, the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in May and the nearly year-long clash over the Wren Cross.

It reads, "In an effort to make the Wren Chapel more welcome to members of all faiths, President Nichol was challenged by alumni, students, staff and members of the public when he made the decision to remove the historic cross which has been part of the Chapel for 80 years. The William and Mary Committee on Religion at a Public University was formed and included faculty, staff, alumni, and current students as a result. They made the final decision to reinstate the Cross in the Chapel. Today it sits in a glass case which includes a plaque that commemorates the College's Anglican roots and its historic connection to Bruton Parish Church."



File Photo

**Case closed but not forgotten:**  
The Wren cross affecting the campus community.

# Nichol gives speech on personal religious beliefs

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

Earlier this year, campus ministers received a letter from President Gene Nichol who offered to come speak to their groups.

The Wesley Foundation took him up on the offer and on Sunday, September 9, Mr. Nichol visited Wesley House for dinner and to give a talk entitled "What does it mean to love God with your mind?"

*The Virginia Informer* was told of the event, expecting it to be open to the public, but soon found out via Wesley Pastor David Hindman that note-taking was forbidden.

Rev. Hindman, who was later contacted by *The Informer*, says that student leaders of the Wesley Foundation had themselves decided not to publicize the event, except for to other religious organizations.

Student leaders feared, according to Rev. Hindman, that should the event be broadcast to the wider community there would be unrelated connections made to the Wren cross controversy.

Mr. Nichol's speech was part of the Wesley Foundation's weekly Sunday get-together of dinner and an event.

On occasion, Wesley House events are publicized and press releases sent out, such as an event where Nelson Mandela's personal chaplain came to speak years ago.

There was no prior discussion between group and Nichol on whether there would be press members

present, but Wesley leaders, according to Rev. Hindman, were taken aback by the presence of a reporter in the audience.

Mr. Nichol was contacted to determine whether there was opposition to press coverage of the speech. He responded, "I assume everything I say is public - even if I'm talking about private matters, like I was Sunday night."

The speech itself focused rather little on how to "love God with your mind" and was more of a personal revelation of the faith experiences of Mr. Nichol.

He reminisced about his days as an altar boy, growing up in a devoutly Catholic family. The skills learned at that young age had been employed earlier that night to

light the dinner candles.

President Nichol continued that he considered himself so religiously inclined that he wanted to be a priest for some time. The career outlook changed, however, when, at 13 he was told about celibacy.

In college, Mr. Nichol acknowledged he went through a phase of natural doubt, coinciding with intense philosophical study.

While at college, he decided to investigate other religious denominations, asking questions of priests and pastors in the vicinity of his college, Oklahoma State. Oklahoma he recalls as not being the most diverse of places.

At the tail end of his college experience, Mr. Nichol explored eastern religions, reading many eastern works.

He became very into Hinduism and afterwards spent ten years as a strict vegetarian.

"My coach was shocked senior year when I was a vegetarian and wanted to do yoga."

Mr. Nichol has been married for nearly 25 years to his wife, Glenn George, who is from a strictly Southern Baptist family. Chuckling about the vast differences, Mr. Nichol said, as a result, a middle-ground compromise has been necessary. The couple most often attends Episcopal services.

Mr. Nichol stated his love of attending African-American churches, saying that they are enjoyable. He recounted campaigning for a United States Senate seat from Colorado in such churches and how he felt like a far inferior speaker while sharing the stage with the pastor.

Drawing on his Colorado political experiences, Mr. Nichol shared his personal opinion that the Ten Commandments should not be posted in public buildings.

Instead, Mr. Nichol stated, if anything, the Sermon on the Mount displayed.

He refers to the Sermon on the Mount as "the most beautiful, moving speech of all time." Reading to the audience a passage from the Bible, Mr. Nichol pointed out how much he liked the New Testament orientation of the story, and found his political opponents to characterize the "Old Testament" way of thinking.

Nichol also shared his personal beliefs about church openness, quoting Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "In God's family, there are no outsiders, no enemies. Black and white, rich and poor, gay and straight, Jew and Arab, Muslim and Christian...all belong."

Nooks and Crannies of William and Mary

## The Ku Klux Klan's mark on William and Mary History has nearly forgotten the College's most controversial gift

R.C. Rasmus

Arts &amp; Entertainment Editor

Less than a century ago, a president of this institution stood at the intersection of Jamestown Road and South Boundary Street and, with a white-robed band playing behind him, accepted a gift from the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan on behalf of the College of William and Mary. It sounds like fiction, something to be scoffed at and put down as an urban legend; however, on September 26, 1926 in front of more than 5,000 spectators, Dr. Julian Alvin Carroll Chandler tied the College's name forever to one of the most odious organizations in American history.

The Klan's gift to William and Mary was a flagpole which stood a stunning 70 feet high, taller than the Wren Building. Made of steel sunk in a base of red English brick to match the architecture of the College, the flag pole towered over all of the buildings. According to the Richmond Times-Dispatch, Klansmen from every part of Virginia were in attendance at its presentation ceremony, along with almost every one of the College's 1,000 students and more members of the general public than could be counted. A parade of plainclothes Klansman down Duke of Gloucester Street was originally meant to precede the presentation, but due to hectic traffic, the band that was to have accompanied the marchers was held up coming from Richmond. Instead, the spectators gathered near the flagpole and received programs that featured a picture of the Klan's gift, a photo of their leader, Hiram Wesley Evans, who spoke at the event, and the Klan's motto: "Non Silba Sed Anthar" – "Not for one's self, but for others."

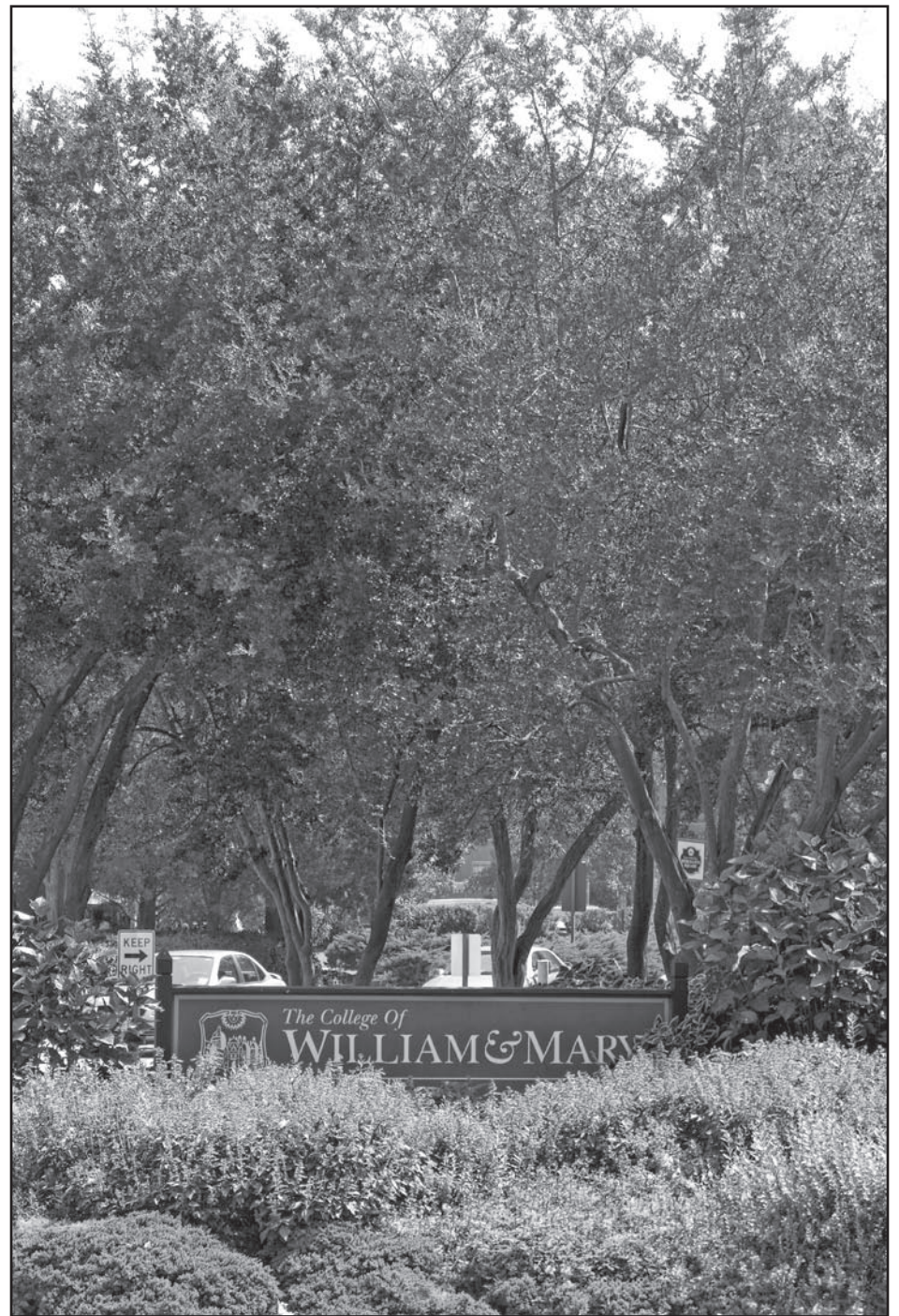
One of these programs is preserved in the College archives, and it is covered with the flowing script of an unnamed student who jotted down his observations about the ceremony. He describes the massive crowd of Klansmen's appearance as "typical po' white[s]," but writes that all the same the whole spectacle "was glorious!" He goes on to remark that "the Grand Dragon who introduced the speeches [J.L. Baskin] was hypnotical [sic]," and also notes that the Grand Wizard who later took the stage (after being presented with a "fiery cross watch charm" by the assembled Virginia Klansmen) was a surprisingly impressive speaker.

However, the student reserves his greatest praise for President Chandler, whom he refers to fondly as J.A.C., calling his speech "a marvel of adroitness

and diplomacy." Contrary to the student's views, President Chandler's words were not quite so highly praised by Dr. William W. Alexander, Director of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in Atlanta, GA. In a letter to a friend written a few weeks after the presentation, Dr. Alexander states that Chandler's speech "in a very subtle way gave the Klan his official recognition and approval." He also wrote that he had "heard no protests from anyone in Virginia against the alignment of the president of the College of William and Mary with the Klan," and calls the whole affair a "keen disappointmen[t] to the friends of decency all over the country." It is easy to understand how two so disparate reactions to the president's speech could be provoked. One passage, reprinted in the Times-Dispatch on July 27, 1926, runs: "So often, when men do not agree with us, we heap abuse upon their heads and interfere with their pursuit of happiness... constantly attributing sinister motives to one another without foundation." With this degree of doublespeak pervading the speech it is no wonder that Chandler was both reviled and praised for his handling of the affair.

Public opinion was divided about whether the College should have accepted the Klan's gift to begin with. The unnamed student observer writes that "most of the faculty were opposed to the acceptance," and a Norfolk Virginian-Pilot editorial stated that the presentation was slightly sickening. However, the Williamsburg Daily Press responded to this editorial by stating that "it was in the spirit of American liberalism, of catholicity, of Christian charity that the president received the flag from the hands of the KKK... Chandler may have caused bigots to have a sense of nausea, but he gained the plaudits of all who have in them the spirit of Americanism."

There is no clear record of why the Klan decided to present a gift to the College, but Dr. Alexander suspected that the organization had hidden intentions. A short time before the presentation was announced, a group of robed and hooded men assaulted a Catholic priest just a few miles away in Norfolk. Alexander speculated that the public pageantry of the flagpole presentation was really just a ploy to draw attention from this outbreak of Klan violence in Virginia. Every time violence was attributed to the KKK around the turn of the century, the doctor noted that the Klan leadership often happened to show up just weeks later to give "a pocketbook to a preacher



Ian R. Whiteside

**Tainted legacy:** This was the site of the Klan's gift of a 70 foot flagpole until it was quietly removed in the 1960s.

or present somebody with a flag." If this truly was the reason for the gift to the College, Alexander argued that it only served to make the whole affair more disappointing.

Perhaps because of its controversial nature, the giant flagpole's use was suspended in 1941. Peggy Wells, a Flat Hat reporter, criticized this policy in 1951, stating that many students and faculty members that wanted the College flag to be flown from the long-bare KKK monument. However, interested parties were repeatedly told by College administrators that "the halyards on the mast" of the pole were broken, making it

impossible to fly any standard from it at all. In 1959, the flagpole's height was cut down by nearly a third and the structure was moved to the Marshal-Wythe parking lot to fly the Virginia State flag alongside a preexisting pole that flew the American flag. Here, the record of the flagpole becomes hazy. Anonymous oral sources state that it was quietly moved to a nearby Confederate cemetery and replaced with a new pole at the College, but this cannot be confirmed by material evidence. For now, the ultimate fate of the KKK flagpole must be consigned, along with so much else at our ancient institution, to the hazy realms of speculation and mystery.

## John Locke Society advocates classical liberalism

John R. Kennedy

Staff Writer

The John Locke Society is a conservative and classically liberal philosophical group that has recently become more active on campus. The group's mission is to inform political debate on campus and present a conservative and classically liberal philosophy in the day-to-day activities of the College.

JLS is run by a board of trustees, including Chairman Adam Boltik ('08), Vice-Chairman Steven Nelson ('10), Member of the Board Lydia Mashburn ('08), and Alumni Advisor Jeremy B. Utt ('03).

President Cliff Dunn ('09), Secretary Latoya Gray (Law '09), and Treasurer Trey Comstock ('09) round out the list of officers.

Among the activities of the organization, JLS hosted a World War II veteran last year to commemorate and give his memories of Pearl Harbor. The group continues to meet regularly and maintains a relatively large Facebook group of roughly 140 members.

More will come from JLS as the year goes on, but the open nature of the group ensures it to be welcoming for conservatives of all stripes. Mr. Utt has said that the group includes classical liberals, traditionalist conservatives and libertarians. Joining

the shared purpose of those movements is a unifying mission of the John Locke Society.

Currently, Chairman Adam Boltik runs the *Freeman-Standard*, a publication annexed by the group that will serve as its newspaper. The *Standard* was formerly run separately from JLS and was annexed with the permission of that group's leadership.

All students interested in joining the John Locke Society are encouraged to email President Cliff Dunn at [wcdnn@wm.edu](mailto:wcdnn@wm.edu) with questions.

*Editor's Note: Steven Nelson is the Assistant News Editor of The Informer.*

## Food Review:

# Ichiban's atmosphere makes up for average food

**Matt Pinsker**  
Staff Writer

Ichiban, one of the newest restaurants to open in New Town, transports you into a completely different environment as soon as you enter its heavy, ornate doorway. With a patio and contemporary sushi bar,

traditional tables and booths, and a semi-private room, any diner will be able to find a satisfactory arrangement. The inner dining area is quite graceful, with soft lighting and contemporary Asian decorations that create a very pleasant and relaxing environment. The tables are also splendidly decorated with lit candle globes and live carnations. Silverware, glasses, plates and napkins are

in place. Upon entering, I was immediately seated in a comfortable chair and given an elegant menu and wine list. Both of these lists have numerous options at reasonable prices. The menu contains both standard Chinese dishes and many which are new and unfamiliar; it also includes an exceptionally large selection of sushi. The average cost of an entree was about \$13.

The attentive staff filled the water glasses as soon as I was seated and never allowed them to get even half empty. Soon we were brought warm and moist washcloths for our hands. After a short but perfectly timed wait, the server took our orders; I ordered the \$11.99 sesame chicken, which came with white rice and my choice of a soup or salad. Again with perfect timing, my egg drop soup was brought out; it was very tasty and just the right temperature. The different soups and salads my dining companion received also looked quite good. After just the right amount of time, the entrees were brought out with fantastic, high-class presentation.

However, for all the impressive appearances and fine service, the food was somewhat lacking. The dishes contained an abundance of the specific food that had been ordered, but they did not have any vegetables or other accompanying sides. The bite-sized glazed chicken pieces looked very delicious and were served at just the right temperature, but they tasted as any ordinary sesame chicken would. The same can be said of my companion's tofu. This plainness was perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the meal. With appropriate timing the dishes were cleared and the bill was brought out.

Ichiban gives diners the impression of being in a very upscale restaurant without the prohibitive cost. The ambiance is perfectly balanced and very relaxing; with the right partner it could very easily be romantic. The service is practically flawless, and the always-friendly staff make guests feel like royalty. The food is decent, but here Ichiban offers nothing spectacular.

**Ambiance: A**

**Service: A**

**Food: C**



Aileen Judd

**Konichiwa:** Ichiban brings traditional Japanese hospitality to New Town, but the food falls short of other Williamsburg sushi bars.

## Muscarelle plays educational role in community through art awareness

Involvement makes it distinct emblem in Williamsburg and on College campus

**Michelle Ju**  
Staff Writer

The Muscarelle Museum of Art, compactly centered between Morton Hall and Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall, summons the images of paintings that adorn dark walls, golden trinkets and fixtures that illuminate the refined entrance and the obscurely decorative, colored wall that lights up the night on Jamestown Road. However, many still remain unaware of the countless educational programs and activities that have continued to occur within the Muscarelle's enigmatic edifice, 25 years since its inception.

The Muscarelle's education department is significant because of its attempts to raise awareness of art among a younger audience. Amy Gorman, the curator of Education, oversees all activities at the Muscarelle and enthusiastically details the benefits of joining such activities. "The Education Department is very exciting. We have many different opportunities to offer."

"Art Makes You Smart," a monthly program that runs during the spring and fall seasons, encourages preschoolers to explore skills and themes of art. Preschoolers are taught art through interactive learning, activities, stories, music and tours of museum galleries. In addition, the children's programs include one that is inspired by "Building a College: The Colonial Revival Campus," in which children look at exhibitions,

architecture and sculpting and learn to apply concepts in the real world

Also noteworthy is the "Youth Art Series," designed for elementary school students to enrich their prior concepts of art through sequential activities and a curriculum developed by area artists, art educators, and college students. Students are encouraged to explore creativity through media and the enriched environment that is Williamsburg.

In addition to educational programs, the Muscarelle hosts "Gallery Talks." The last event on September 7 featured Clyde Butcher, renowned environmental photographer.

Ms. Gorman adds, "Gallery Talks premieres documentary films on photographers and different environmental artists, Clyde being one of them."

The Muscarelle explores literary criticism through artistic readership in its book club which meets on Tuesdays four to five times a year to focus on different books inspired by exhibitions. The current book of discussion is *Peace Like A River* by Leif Enger. The next meeting for its discussion will be held on Oct. 2 at 5:30 pm. "We announce the book, read it, and then have a session on it. How many books a year depends on the exhibitions," explains Ms. Gorman.

A fan-favorite is the guided docent tours for the public that are arranged by reservation through the museum. The tours are free for the public and school-aged children, but students' visits must

be scheduled ahead of time. A simple call must be made to the Museum to schedule for an available docent.

The Muscarelle is proud of the immense volunteer work that is instrumental in propagating its growing reputation. "Friends of the Muscarelle Museum of Art" is a group of member volunteers that support the museum by implementing tours, hosting exhibition receptions and working to increase membership. "By supporting the Museum, they get benefits — added bonuses, field trips to other museums, social events, admission to

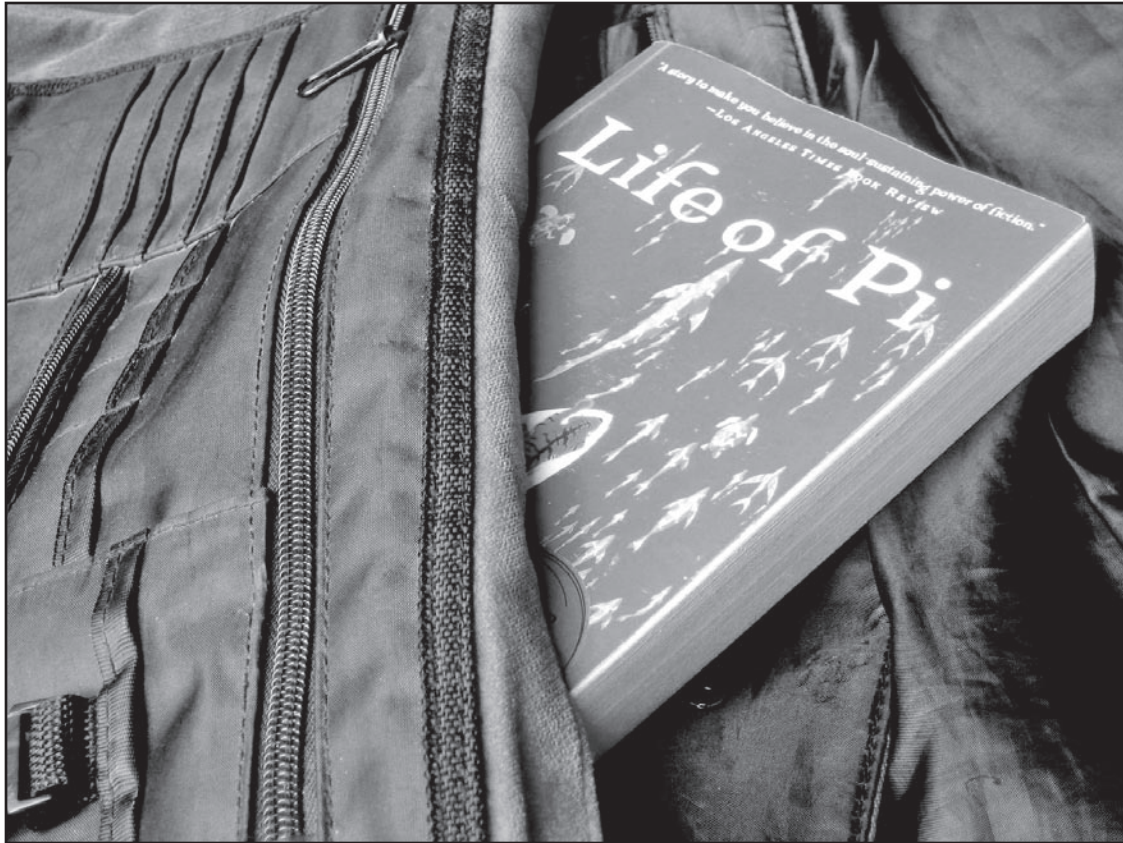
lectures, and tours," notes Ms. Gorman.

The Muscarelle is well known to harbor priceless collections of art, but it is also evident that the Muscarelle's involvement in community efforts, outreach and art awareness makes it a distinctive emblem in the College campus as well as the Williamsburg community. Promising educational programs directed at children and adults alike makes the museum a strong advocate for artistic concern, curiosity and creativity — not to mention environmental awareness.



Ian R. Whiteside

**A variety of options:** Located between Phi Beta Kappa Hall and Morton Hall, the Muscarelle Museum of Art offers literary talks and films in addition to traditional art pieces, making it a unique venue on campus.



Kristine Mosuela

**A bold tale:** Yann Martel's award-winning novel explores complex themes such as comparative religion and the lives of animals.

## A story about a boy, a tiger and the sea *The Life of Pi*

**Swetha Sivaram**  
Staff Writer

Pi Patel might seem, at first glance, like an average college student who double-majors in Zoology and Religious Studies, but such a perception would be far from the truth. First, he believes simultaneously in three world religions – Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam. Even stranger, a few years ago he was onboard a ship which sank, leaving him stranded on a boat in the Pacific Ocean with a Royal Bengali tiger for a companion - as well as a zebra, an orangutan, and a hyena.

It would belittle Yann Martel's *The Life of Pi* to label it an adventure novel, because it succeeds as much more – an allegory, a story about religion, animals, and the cruelty and imagination of the human mind. It displays a keen understanding of the lives of animals, and is one of the rare fictions that justifies zoos - in this sense a response to Daniel Quinn's *Ishmael*.

The book shuffles with time, despite its division into three parts: Pi's time in India, his voyage and adventure in the sea and the aftermath. Shifts of consciousness between the past and present are frequent – time seems to be an eternal dimension where the past profoundly influences the present. Though the book grows a bit dour in the middle, its beginning and end are riveting enough to tolerate the lulls in the middle.

One reason for reading *The Life of Pi* is that it never ceases to be funny. Packed with sparse,

witty prose, even the gravest situations of death and fear are written with humor, without being shallow. Among the most poignant scenes in the novel is the confrontation between the Hindu pundit, the Christian priest, and the Muslim imam - or the "three wise men" as Pi puts it - who debate whether Pi is a Christian, a Muslim, or a Hindu. To their chagrin, he claimed to be all three. Reasons for centuries of inter-religious conflict can be understood in this poignantly funny yet touching scene as the "three wise men" unwillingly resign themselves to Pi's childish assertion, "Gandhi said all religions are true." Another hilarious scene is when Ravi, Pi's brother, hearing of Pi's conversion to three religions, says to Pi, "At the rate you are going, if you go to the temple on Thursday, mosque on Friday, synagogue on Saturday and church on Sunday, you only need to convert to three more religions to be on holiday for the rest of your life."

Though the book deals mostly with religion, it is a book that can be read by everyone. Most of us, as students and scholars, are encountering challenges and new meanings to our understanding of the world, and are exploring a world that can be even more prodigious than a Bengali tiger. All of us are somewhat like Pi, in search of meaning for our lives and inventing stories to explain our present. That the book is written with wit and great depth only enhances our experience of exploring the meaning of being alive.

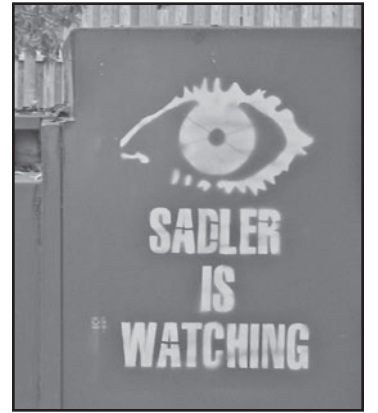
## Art or Crime?



**R.C. Rasmus**  
Arts & Entertainment  
Editor

Almost everyone at the College has seen at least one work by the so-called "Serial Stenciler." Giant eyes emblazoned with the words "SADLER IS WATCHING" and drunken stick figures cavorting under the slogan "DON'T GO TO CLASS" adorn dumpsters, electrical boxes and building signs all over the campus. Some students chuckle when they see these spray-painted quips on their ways to and from classes, while others shake their heads, considering the Stenciler a censurable delinquent. So who's right?

At first glance, it would appear that those who seek blood are justified in asking for the Stenciler's head. After all, Section 18.2-137 of the Virginia State Code declares vandalism to be illegal, defining it as the "intentional damaging or defacing of any property, memorial or monument," and sanctioning a fine of \$2,500 and up to five years in prison for those found guilty of committing vandalism. In addition, the Student



File Photo

Handbook states that no student shall "destroy, damage, or litter...any property of the College." So technically, the Stenciler is twice a criminal, guilty of crimes against both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the College of William and Mary. He or she should be locked up, fined and maybe even expelled as an example to other graffiti-mongering students.

However, when one stops to think about it, can the work of the Stenciler be considered vandalism? Are the ugly green trash bins and blocky boxes that are the Stenciler's canvases really any the worse for wear after they've been spray-painted? They certainly aren't damaged, at least not in the most basic sense. Neither are these objects destroyed; they stand as heavy and blocky as ever after the Stenciler is through with them. Some might make a case that these utilitarian objects are "littered" or "defaced," but they have a shaky argument at best. The reality is that these necessary campus eyesores are greatly improved by the wit and artistic talent that is applied to them.

I see the Stenciler not as a fiend, but as an artist, and a brave one at that. At great personal risk, the Stenciler takes things that are dull and makes them vibrant. Of course, if the Stenciler were painting his work onto the walls of the Wren building, marring the marble base of Lord Botetourt's statue, or even if he were simply spraying his initials onto anything that caught his fancy, my opinion would certainly be different. However, this is not the case; the Stenciler is an artist, not a vandal. He does not mar what makes this College beautiful, he beautifies that which mars it, making the industrial and the non-descript eye-catching and noteworthy. Let the law say what it might; in this editor's opinion, the Stenciler is a talented artist, most worthy of praise. Far from condemning him, this College should thank the Serial Stenciler for what he does to bring cleverness and panache to our campus.

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

## Film Review:

### *Yuma* revives a genre



**Joe Pirro**  
Film Critic

The genre of the Western seems virtually ignored by filmmakers these days, so James Mangold's new film, *3:10 to Yuma*, is a refreshing change of pace, even if the genre itself feels dated.

*Yuma* is a remake of an earlier 1957 film with the same name which was based off an Elmore Leonard short story. It tells the story of Dan Evans (Christian Bale) and Ben Wade (Russell Crowe), two men whose fates become intertwined. Evans is a family man, looking for nothing more than safety and comfort for his wife and two children, who

are beginning to have their doubts about their father's capabilities. Ben Wade, however, is a ruthless criminal running about the American West, hijacking stagecoaches and dispatching anyone who stands in his way. Following an encounter in a saloon, Evans takes the job of accompanying Wade to the train that will take him to prison. From this point on, it is a nonstop game of cat-and-mouse, as Wade waits for a chance to escape and Evans tries to prove himself to his family.

Mangold directs the film with a loving appreciation of past Westerns. There are nods

to Sergio Leone from the opening credits on, and the music itself has hints of the scores of Ennio Morricone. However, the directing is just one pleasant facet of the film. The acting is superb, and watching Crowe and Bale together on screen just shows how talented the two are.

*3:10 to Yuma* is an excellent start to the fall film season and shows that even a near-dead genre such as the Western can be revived by capable hands. *The Virginia Informer* gives *3:10 to Yuma* an A-.

# Recycled Percussion to bring unique, high-intensity sound to campus on September 22

**Steven Nelson**  
Assistant News Editor

Recycled Percussion, described as “powerful industrial drumming backed by metal grinding guitar and hip-hop/funk” on their Myspace page, is coming to William and Mary on Saturday, September 22.

Heavy percussion is the band’s trademark, performed mostly on recycled products. Musical instruments include ladders, buckets and plastic 50-gallon drums.

According to UCAB member Margaret Collerd (’08), “the group has been rated the best high-energy show on college campuses for the past few years according to NACA [National Association of Campus Activities].”

Ms. Collerd adds, “the show is amazing, I suggest you check out their videos on YouTube.”

The industrial-sounding “recycled” percussion is not of the sort introduced by elementary school music

teachers. The percussion performances are intense, highly entertaining and accompanied by equally hardcore guitar accompaniment and the vocals of DJ Pharaoh.

Tickets for the show are \$3 for students. “The show will be in combination with the Fall Fest that Ian Keene-Babcock is planning,” says Ms. Collerd.

Keene-Babcock (’09), who is co-

organizing a corresponding festival in the Sunken Garden, calls Recycled Percussion “an awesome blend of visual and audio performing, a show not to be missed.”



Courtesy of UCAB

**Proud to be “garbage music”:** Recycled Percussion brings a high-intensity show with green themes. The group is currently touring college campuses across the nation.

Ms. Collerd also notes that if students purchase a \$5 wristband to attend the Fall Fest concerts and events in the Sunken Garden, which includes a beer/wine garden for those of age, they will also be admitted to the Recycled Percussion show free of charge.

The band is in high demand, especially on college campuses. Between September 11 and the time they perform at the College, they are booked at seven other colleges, and are playing two private shows.

The show at the College will be outdoors at the Matoaka Amphitheater and will start at 8:00 p.m. Pyrotechnics, including fireworks, are expected to be a major part of the performance.

## It’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s a Superman musical coming to W&M!

**Megan Locke**  
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Are you a die-hard superhero fan who dresses up as your favorite comic book character for every Halloween? Or do you cringe at thought of men in tights and spandex uniforms? William and Mary’s fall production of the musical *It’s a Bird...It’s a Plane... It’s Superman!* provides entertainment for the scores of superhero wannabes, while also poking fun at itself and the entire superhero genre in a way that all audiences are sure to enjoy.

*It’s a Bird...It’s a Plane... It’s Superman!* is a 1966 Broadway musical centered on Superman’s struggle against the mad scientist Dr. Abner Sedgwick. Superman must also face romantic entanglements with Lois Lane and the jealousy of a *Daily Planet* reporter named Max Mencken.

Director Gary Green chose to direct *Superman* because it became one of his favorite shows after he saw his own college theater department perform the musical. He describes the musical as “light and fluffy fun” featuring an “American iconic hero.” The original *Superman* musical was considered a flop on Broadway, but he points out that many of its reviews were positive and believes that the show is under-appreciated.

Mr. Green’s favorite song in the musical, “Meanwhile,” takes full advantage of the show’s comic book roots. The actors are positioned in a life-size double-layer comic book frame on stage, and as each character sings his or her part, the musical number progresses from one panel to the next.

Parallels can also be drawn between *Superman* and to the current state of our world, said Mr. Green. In both the musical and today’s society, people fear the worst and long for somebody they can trust. Ultimately, the musical reflects a hopeful 1960s sentiment that the problems of the world can eventually be solved and that “Superman won’t let us down.”

Mr. Green admits that the College’s production of *Superman* ties in with the recent superhero craze sweeping America, evident in summer movie blockbusters like *Spiderman* and the latest *Superman* movie. “All of us have this kid in us that wants to believe in super powers or a superhero,” Mr. Green said. He said students should come to the show because a lot of their friends will appear in it, and it’s a “good date show.”

Tommy Gillespie (’09) plays the role Superman/Clark Kent. Mr. Gillespie stresses the ensemble focus

of the show, and is happy that the cast can have more fun performing it because the “musical doesn’t take itself too seriously.” He is excited that his character will be flying with the aid of special effects. He thought he had missed his chance to fly onstage once he became too old to perform the role of Peter in *Peter Pan*.

As Superman’s love interest, Lois Lane, Maura Roche (’08) is well prepared for her role. Her brother is a huge Superman fan, and she herself grew up watching the *Lois & Clark* TV show and Superman movies on TV. Roche admires Lois’s “spunk and sass” and enjoys singing her “Superman” ballad in which Lois longs for a normal life and wishes she was not in love with a superhero.

Other cast members also have praise for the show. Ensemble member Kristin Boos (’08) calls the musical “campy glory,” while fellow ensemble member Mary Myers (’10) urges everyone “to come and laugh their asses off.”

Kelsey Meiklejohn (’09), who is an ensemble member as well as the dance captain and publicity director, calls *Superman* “a celebration of the comic brought to life.” She is glad to have a musical on the lighter side to kick off this year’s theater season at the College, as in previous years the theater department has put on darker musicals, including last fall’s *Gypsy*. All of the classic 60s moves in the show, such as the swim, the pony, and the twist, “make you want to start dancing,” she said.

Lead set designer Michael Mehler plans to have the show’s design colors pay homage to the old Superman comics. “We’re creating an act drop that will look like large comic book pages. Each of the panels will reference a key moment of action, such as Superman rescuing



Courtesy of Gary Green

**Getting in tune and in character:** The cast of *It’s a Bird...It’s a Plane... It’s Superman!* are busy rehearsing for what promises to be a musical providing lots of campy fun.

Lois,” he says. Lead costume designer Patricia Wesp also plans to use older superhero comics and TV shows such as the 1960s *Batman* series as inspiration for the costumes. Students eager to buy their tickets for *Superman* will be happy to know that the PBK ticket distribution system is undergoing some major changes. An online ticket buying option will soon be available that will allow students to purchase their tickets with a credit card at home and print it out from their computer. Students with pre-printed tickets can then bypass the lines at the box office on the night of a show, and have their ticket quickly scanned instead. Online ticket buyers can either choose their own seats or select the “best seats available” option. There will be a \$1.50 surcharge for tickets bought online.

PBK box office manager Amy Brabrand says an online ticket system will “expedite the process for consumers and cuts costs on printing tickets for the College.” The online ticket Web address is not available at the moment, but the site is expected to go live September 24, so stay tuned to *The Informer* for more details. Students can still buy their tickets at the regular box office as well, which will have regular hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Show dates for *It’s a Bird...It’s a Plane... It’s Superman!* will be on October 11-13 and 18-20 at 8 p.m. There will also be a Sunday matinee on October 21 at 2pm. Tickets are \$12 for general admission and \$8 for students. Take a break from your studies and go enjoy some “super” entertainment that is cheesy but classic in every good way.

Staff Editorial:

# Time to face financial realities

## The failure of "great and public"

After some years of relative quiet, the College again faces the prospect of a deep cut in state funding. This troubling development can yet yield positive results if it provides an opportunity for the campus community to honestly discuss our budget priorities and future fundraising goals.

President Nichol has built his presidency around the simplistic and inane phrase that the College should be "great and public." Unfortunately, empty rhetoric will not pay professor salaries or fund the construction of new campus buildings.

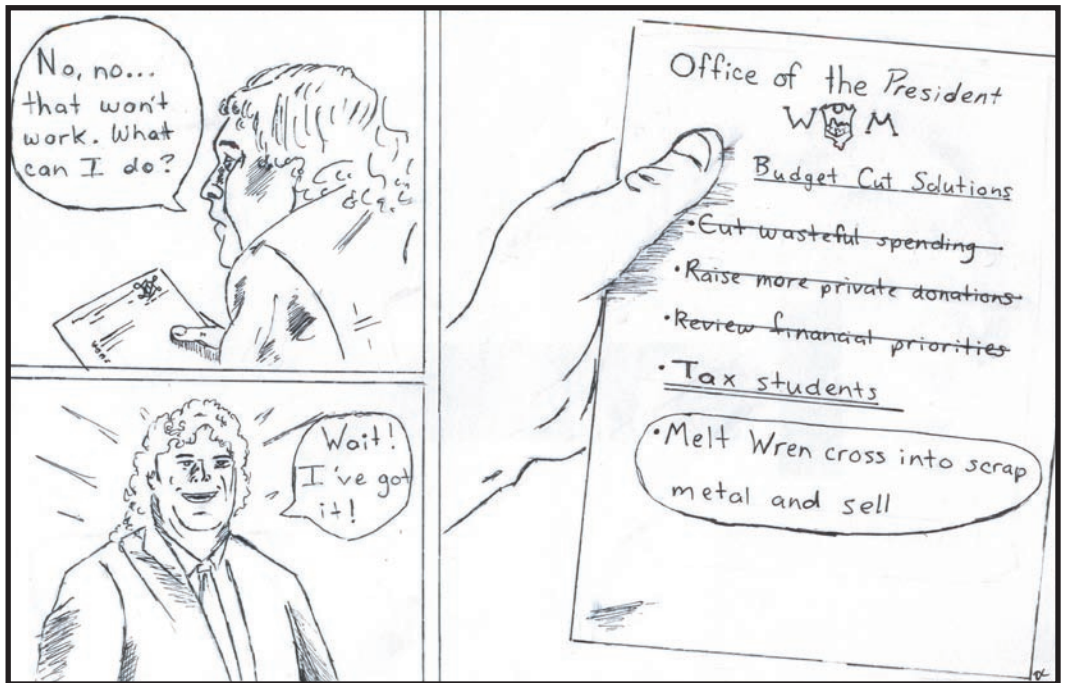
His predecessor, President Timothy J. Sullivan, had a much wiser approach to the College's financial future. Mr. Sullivan was instrumental in lobbying for the bill that allowed the College, along with University of Virginia and Virginia Tech, to restructure their relationship with the state, recognizing the diminishing percentage of state funds provided to these universities. This honest assessment of the College's need to increase our private fundraising gave William and Mary the flexibility to explore a path to greater financial health. Mr. Nichol has closed the door to these solutions, and now his foolish choice to emphasize the "public" nature of this school could reverse the progress that the College began to make in the 1990s. We should seriously consider to what extent William and Mary's dependence on public funding leaves us vulnerable to cuts in Virginia's state budget—as we have seen this year. Exploring alternative and private sources of fundraising should be something that deserves an open and serious dialogue within the College community.

The budget priorities of the College also deserve serious

consideration through honest, candid conversation, as proposals have now been crafted to make up the deficit in state funds. Our suggestion to Mr. Nichol is to begin by cutting out the waste and fat in the College's budget, starting with the extensive and ever-expanding campus bureaucracy. Considering William and Mary's ostensible commitment to academic excellence, we do not believe it is too much to ask that our limited resources be devoted primarily to actually furthering these scholarly aims.

The launch of the College's new diversity Web site, [www.wm.edu/diversity](http://www.wm.edu/diversity), shows the misplaced priorities of this administration. It is hard to defend the creation of a "Bias Reporting System"—which the site claims has been devised and implemented to "assist members of the William and Mary community who have been affected by incidents involving bias related to race, gender, sexual orientation, religion or other protected conditions—amidst serious cuts to William and Mary's operating budget.

The administration needs to put the most crucial needs of the College at the forefront of their funding priorities—teacher salaries, for instance, are abysmally low at William and Mary, resulting in the needless loss of many of our best and brightest professors to other, better paying institutions. This is a serious financial deficiency which the College could remedy, simply by spending less money on frivolous and wasteful programs for our already bloated bureaucracy. At such a critical moment for the future of William and Mary, this administration would do well to reassess its priorities and implement a sensible spending policy to cope with today's budget realities.



David Clifford

## The dawn of the Nichol-Feiss era

Our front page story on Provost Geoffrey Feiss should be alarming to President Nichol's dwindling number of supporters. Entrusting Mr. Feiss with the day-to-day operations of the College is a direct result of the president's botched handling on a number of issues. The Tribe feathers, Wren cross, Sex Workers' Art Show, his abysmal fundraising record, and—the ultimate result of the sum total of these—our two-spot drop in rankings, have assuredly contributed to Mr. Nichol's decision to unload some of his presidential responsibilities, the whole of which he obviously cannot handle.



File Photo

File Photo

NICHOL

FEISS

Three years ago, Mr. Nichol came to this college on a wave of good feelings, promising to continue the successful legacy of his predecessor, President Timothy Sullivan. Here we stand three years later, and, with issue after issue, Mr. Nichol has proven himself limited by his own incompetence and, worse, tone deaf to the suggestions and advice of the college community and alumni.

With the advent of the new Nichol-Feiss Administration, our president has effectively

removed himself—or, rather, abandoned—the aspects and roles of his job that make him most visible and open to students. During a time when our school faces a number of challenges—particularly paralyzing

budget cuts, whose effects are exacerbated by Mr. Nichol's unsatisfactory push for private fundraising in an attempt to further his inane concept of "great and public"—this college should demand a president who can fulfill, with deft confidence, the entirety of the executive role; not a president weakened from, and encumbered by, personal and political baggage.

Messrs. Nichol and Feiss need to realize that this comes not as a step forward, but as a self-inflicted blow to the solidarity of the president. Not only does this unprecedented shift in the balance of power call into question the president's own competency, it also makes suspect his ability to manipulate political capital, an aspect of Mr. Nichol's job that—due only to his own failings—is in nonexistent supply.

We would especially like to thank

# Mr. Robert Beck

who is the first member of the

## Founder's Circle

Mr. Beck made the printing of this, and many other past issues, possible.

**Love us? Hate us?**

**Please send letters to the editor.**

**We will print them... probably.**

## A thank you from all of us at The Virginia Informer

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**We would like to especially recognize some of our private supporters.**

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# Just remembering is not enough



Alex Mayer  
Opinion Editor

I didn't think it would happen this quickly. Six years after the terrorist attacks of September 11, America has already forgotten. Not only have we forgotten, but it seems that we want to forget.

William and Mary provides a perfect lens through which to observe this peculiar amnesia. Yes, the College Republicans and Young Democrats dutifully set up hundreds of small American flags in the Sunken Gardens to commemorate those lost on that Tuesday morning, as they have in years past. Yes, the Queen's Guard stood in silent vigil with their wreath, just as they did last year. Yes, there was even a low-key, sparsely-attended memorial in the Wren Courtyard, as per tradition.

But among students and faculty around campus, the 9/11 attacks

were hardly mentioned. Nobody brought it up in conversation; few people reminisced aloud or asked, "Where were you when you heard?" I got the impression that people were consciously trying to put it behind them.

And maybe that's not such a bad thing. President Bush told us in the weeks following the attacks that it was important to "go back to normal," to go about our daily lives as usual in order to show the terrorists that they hadn't won. This seems to paint our behavior in the best possible light, however—I can think of far better ways to show defiance in the face of terrorism than, in essence, pretending like it doesn't exist.

It is hardly shocking that the emotion surrounding September 11, although still present, has faded bit by bit with the passing of the years. This phenomenon is not surprising—the farther we get from such a traumatic and world-changing event, the less we will be affected by it emotionally. The sadness and shock we felt on that horrific day has grown fainter and fainter with each subsequent memorial service.

Except we've gotten it all wrong. Placing flags to commemorate victims, vigils at symbolic wreaths, memorial services—these are all positive things in their own right. But they are all focused on *grief*, an echo of the sadness we felt at the loss of

so many innocent countrymen. Grief is a very temporary emotion. Even in response to a catastrophic event like September 11, shared feelings of sorrow cannot be seriously expected to sustain America's commitment to "Never Forget."

There was another emotion we felt six years ago, maybe not on September 11, but perhaps the day after. September 12 was the day that America started feeling anger. Filled with rage at the barbarity of these cowardly butchers, we swore that the jihadists would face America's wrath for what they had done. Although al-Qaeda declared war on America long before the 9/11 attacks, September 12 was the day America started fighting back.

The problem with the phrase "Never Forget" is that it takes the attacks of September 11 out of context.

“Filled with rage at the barbarity of these cowardly butchers, we swore that the jihadists would face America's wrath for what they had done.”

By encouraging Americans to "remember," it puts the events firmly in the past tense. It focuses on the sorrow for those lost but essentially ignores why we are still fighting.

"Remembering" is not enough. We must *act* on that memory. "Remember the Alamo!" for example, was a clear call to arms. "Remember 9/11!" has no such clear correlation with taking action, for several reasons. The most important of these is the perception that mentioning the 9/11 attacks is a weapon wielded in the name of partisan causes. Both Republicans and Democrats shoulder equal responsibility for this, but the end result has been to shy away from mentioning 9/11 for fear of "abusing the memory" of the victims. This is a shame.

September 11 was not an isolated attack. It was an act of war, and that war continues today. From Kabul to London, from Baghdad to Manila, the global war against the jihadist ideology espoused by al-Qaeda and like-minded groups rages on, whether we would have it or not.

So let us remember that day, but not the sadness of it. Let us remember the resolve, the passion we all felt for the need to fight to defeat the twisted, hate-filled ideology that killed innocents in the name of a peaceful religion. September 11 should serve as a chance to renew our commitment to win this long and difficult struggle. Our enemy is unrelenting, uncompromising and fanatically committed to our destruction. We should be just as steadfast in our passion to defeat them.

## THE REMNANT

Vol. IX No. 1

If you have to ask, you're not in it.

March 2005

### LEGALIZE IT!



File Photo

**Legalize us!** The Remnany, in attempting to return to campus, has been denied the right to become an official campus organization because of its constitution.

## Shutting down dissent with red tape loopholes

John R. Kennedy  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday September 5, I had the pleasure of meeting with Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Constantine. It's not every day you get to sit down and have a pow-wow with the main arbiter of student justice. After all, Mr. Constantine has the power to deny basic rights of assembly to student groups that he does not approve of. How, you ask?

He called me in to discuss the constitution of the newspaper *The Remnant*. *The Remnant* is the right-wing newspaper of William and Mary and it has been inactive for some time. Your humble writer is the editor in chief of *The Remnant* this year, and we applied to become an official student organization at William and Mary again. This includes sending the Student Activities office a copy of the group's constitution. To put it simply, included in *The Remnant's* constitution is a clause saying that *The Remnant's* alumni board has the right and duty to elect the editor in chief.

Constantine denied our constitution and claimed that we could not become a student organization if alumni elected the editor in chief. He attempted to explain to me why former alumni have no vote in a student group's elections, which I doubt he would ever say in the presence of actual alumni. After all, alumni were a part of student groups and have an interest in continuing them in the way they originated. They are a part of the William and Mary community because their degrees retain the current image of the College. Why must they be ignored?

Of course, with the general sentiment of this administration being anti-alumni, we can understand why Constantine feels this way. After all, President Nichol found nothing wrong with thumbing his nose at a withdrawn \$12 million donation by James McGlothlin over the Wren Cross issue. This, while the college

struggles to find sources of funding.

Also, why must students be forced to elect the editor in chief in the "democratic process" that Constantine envisions? Constantine claimed that our constitution was not "open" enough... not "democratic" enough. What if we are philosophically opposed to that jargon? Our own views be damned, Constantine says jump and we must say, "How high?" I suppose that a group that is philosophically opposed to liberal democracy has no right to organize at William and Mary, because all of our student groups must operate in lockstep with Constantine's demands.

Though democracy may run our government as well as can be hoped, democratic principles do not always provide the best way to run an organization. Corporations run efficiently and frequently have a small board of directors that vote on the officers who will run the company. The board of directors are a relatively elite group who determine the chief executive officer, among others. Most employees certainly do not get a vote on who the CEO will be, and yet they continue to work for successful corporations. The constitution of *The Remnant* seeks to mirror this common and effective type of organization, but Mark Constantine's reaction? "Denied."

The most damning part of Constantine's refusal to accept our constitution is that he claimed it would require legal action for him to accept it. A blatant admission that his actions might not even be legal, Constantine stated that he would not accept our constitution unless legally forced to do so. *The Remnant* is being denied the right to freedom of assembly at a public college. It is entirely composed of students and yet we cannot contact the scheduling office to use classrooms for meetings.

It comes as no surprise that this administration seeks to shut out *The Remnant*. One would hope they would be a little more discreet about it, though.

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-Writing -Editing -Photography -Web design -Podcasting -Advertising

**Meetings on Mondays, 7:30pm in Blair 223**

# CO-PRESIDENCY?:

## College's Provost taking on responsibilities once entrusted to President Nichol in "management organization issue"

continued from page one

issue," continued Mr. Feiss, avoiding any mention of a co-presidency. He stressed how important consultation was amongst the vice presidents and his office, and that Mr. Nichol still entrusts the vice presidents to do their jobs.

When asked of how long this structure would be in effect, Mr. Feiss simply stated: "I think it's permanent. It's certainly permanent for this president and his work style."

Mr. Feiss claims that in the Board of Visitors bylaws, the governing rules of the College, that the provost is the "chief academic officer and responsible for the operations. [...] This isn't a change in

structure but a change in how people work together."

However, the BOV bylaws indicate that Mr. Feiss' new role was intended to be used only during emergencies. The bylaws state that the provost "shall administer the affairs of the College during the temporary absence or disability of the President, except as otherwise directed by the Board."

Delegate Bob Marshall (R-13) scoffed at the idea of Mr. Nichol's change of focus on external matters, such as his relationship with Richmond. "It is so he can try to rebuild all the bridges he's burned?" asked Del. Marshall. "Allowing the university to be open to tawdry sex workers does little to inspire confidence

of the legislators."

The Williamsburg representative to the General Assembly, Delegate Bill Barlow (D-64), disagreed, saying that he believes Mr. Nichol is well respected at the state level. "He's highly thought of," said Del. Barlow.

Del. Marshall countered based on evidence from the legislative record. "This year we had 36 members [of the General Assembly] vote to strip him completely of his state salary, and that's unprecedented," he said. In the end, Del. Marshall said that the structural change is up to Mr. Nichol to decide. "All I know is that his actions have inspired annoyance and certainly not confidence."

Mr. Feiss maintains that it is a positive change and says that this is a reflection of the role of the modern university presidency. He believes the culture of the academy is behind the times in adjusting to what the president today has to handle.

"One of the strange things about the academy is that people in the positions like I am never went to business school, never had a course in management. We sort of learn on the job, which is both challenging and a little bit weird," he said.

So what does this mean for students? "My guess is that students would not notice a difference," Feiss said.

## College Delly keeps old menu, but changes are on the way

### Ladies' Night among specials to come to revitalized bar

Chris Davis  
Layout Editor

Sporting a t-shirt with a crossed-through Starbucks logo on the back, the son of Jerry Tsitsidopoulos, the new owner of the College Delly, makes it clear that the feared takeover of the longstanding and beloved restaurant by the Seattle coffee conglomerate did not take place.

"We saved the business for William and Mary students, so we are open to suggestions on how to make it a better place," said Mr. Tsitsidopoulos.

Mr. Tsitsidopoulos officially took the reins of the historic establishment on August 10, after long nursing a desire to own and operate a restaurant. Before the Delly, he worked for his own painting company, Jerry's Painting, Inc.

Working alongside Mr. Tsitsidopoulos are three of his four sons—those old enough to work for him. "They'll help me in here when they can," he said.

Most features of the College Delly will remain the same, but Tsitsidopoulos does have a few improvements in mind. "Thursday night will be Ladies' Night, meaning

that from nine to 12 that night they will be able to purchase drafts for a dollar a piece."

Other changes in store for the near future include the addition of new Greek food to the menu, a pizza delivery service and exterior renovations, including a new paint job and landscaping. The meatball subs, however, have not changed; they are as good as ever, according to Mr. Tsitsidopoulos.

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**What is Twitter?**  
Twitter, is a part of the internet social networking scene that allows you to receive information and follow other twitter users.

You get to select how you wish to receive your updated messages on the web, by text message (SMS), RSS (Rich Site Summary) information feeds, or over IM (instant messenger).

Twitter automatically handles sending the update made by one user (your dining account in this case) to you in whichever method you prefer, in your own twitter profile.

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Ian R. Whiteside

**No thanks:** Despite reports, the popular chain Starbucks is not welcome at the College Delly.

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