

Contents

News	2
Features	4
Opinion	10

THE VIRGINIA
INFORMER

All that's left



We've all seen the images of the Preston Hall fire as everyone (thankfully) saw it - from the outside. For the first time, these never before seen images from inside the fire-ravaged dormitory.

Page Twelve

Tribe Tonight Speaks!

Below is the exclusive AIM conversation with the elusive Tribe Tonight. Toni discusses the future of his service and rumors about his identity.

Informer: Thanks for agreeing to do the interview with us - we know you're a busy man (?).

Tribe Tonight: No problem. The summer's winding down and the hangover is wearing off. I'm a guy. My stepsister, Tribe Today, is a girl. She's dead though.

Informer: Some people have said you are dead, too.

Tribe Tonight: It seemed like I was there for a while. The problem was created by the combination of a spring party deficit and a suspicious glitch in AIM users' ability to view me on their buddy lists.

Informer: Why suspicious?

Tribe Tonight: Well, it just happened one day - I started disappearing off people's buddy lists. I troubleshot like crazy, called AOL, examined every possibility and I couldn't identify why people couldn't see me on their lists. One farfetched - but plausible - explanation is the W&M administrations' connections to America Online (a Virginia-based company).

Informer: Sounds like a conspiracy theory, no?

Tribe Tonight: Well I don't have any other way to explain it - it doesn't seem to matter as much now. People are seeing me on their lists again, and even if they can't, they can manually look it up by hitting Alt-O and typing my name or going to "People" -> "Get Buddy Info".

Informer: Why was Tribe Tonight created?

Tribe Tonight: I, like many others, was tired of people complaining about the lack of social life and parties at W&M. I knew parties were going on, but that there was no communication vehicle to get party info from one sub-clique of the campus to another. Tribe Tonight was created to inform W&M students about various debauchery happening on and off campus. Keg parties, soirées, dance parties, or anything of interest to those who might attend a party are all fair game. I get the info from people who

Welcome back -- now pay up!

The Virginia Informer investigates the cost of attendance.

Joe Luppino-Esposito

Assistant Editor in Chief

The bill comes once a semester, giving every student (or at least their parents) a few line items that they will have to pay for in order to attend The College of William and Mary for the next few months. They are basic; tuition, room, board, and other fees and fines like room damages.

Yet within that tuition charge there are a slew of fees that are not clearly labeled. Although the school makes no attempt to even hide them, outlining them and really considering all of the fees borders on appalling. In addition, there are some fundamental problems in the system because of the way William and Mary is set up to run.

The Athletic Fee

"Sports are fun and all, but there are more important things that the money should be used for," said sophomore Ian Whiteside, when shown the general fee outline which includes a charge of \$504 per semester for "Intercollegiate Athletics."

An Institution in Debt

"We pledge certain revenues... so we issue bond debt, typically 20 years in length." "The revenues to pay off that debt, in the case of dormitories, are on auxiliaries... student fees in other words." Director of Finance Bert Brummer is well versed in this subject, but students are not. How do construction projects play into the larger cost of the college?

Cost of Getting an Education

William and Mary is one of the best institutions of higher learning in the country. However, it also faces a distinct challenge because it is also a state school. This attributes to the constant, seemingly exponential growth of tuition from year to year. What attributes to the rising cost, especially as classes are cut and less professors are retained from year to year?

ARE THE BRICKS MADE OF GOLD? A look into the rising cost to attend William and Mary.

Part one in a series.

Why can William and Mary not stay competitive on these fronts? What other costs stop us from raising faculty salaries?

Fun and Games Have a Price Too

Most people on this campus are active in one way or another. There are so many clubs, teams, and organizations to choose from that you would be hard-pressed to find out that does not fit your interest. That may be great for us to enjoy when we do not think about the cost. Why do some organizations get more funding than others? What publications give bloated salaries to their employees, who are only students? These are questions that need to be asked.

A State School

Unfortunately, like any government institution, William and Mary is not exempt from the typical bureaucracy that exists on all levels. It also needs to deal with budget cuts and has to be very politically entrenched to ensure that no matter who is in power, the money will still get to Williamsburg every year. Does this link with the state tie down the potential of the College. Could William and Mary prosper if it could break the state's quota for state resident students and include more out of state students? Will the Charter Initiative get us there?

These are only a few of the areas that I will cover as the lead investigator on this case. No other publication has dared to look into the subject in fear that it would be too sensitive and would upset too many people. That is just too bad.

So that is why *The Virginia Informer* must ask the question, "Are the bricks made of gold?" Sometimes, that seems to be the only viable explanation for the rising costs.

There is hope yet - this series will delve into many different areas and try to break down the barriers of communication between the tuition paying students and the administration and Board of Visitors who decide all of these costs.

Don't expect a scandal-but expect good investigative journalism that will reveal some real news for students and families watching their wallets throughout the semester.

TONI EXCLUSIVE

continued on page four

“Tribe” nickname in jeopardy

Amanda J. Yasenchak

Editor in Chief

The National Collegiate Athletic Association is determined to remove Indian mascots from college athletics in any way that it can. In a surprising mandate on August 5, 2005, the NCAA Executive Committee prohibited NCAA colleges and universities from “displaying hostile and abusive racial/ethnic/national origin mascots, nicknames or imagery at any of the 88 NCAA championships.”

Schools who have offensive themes displayed by mascots, uniforms, cheerleaders and dance teams are prohibited from hosting a championship competition, beginning February 1, 2006. By August 2008, schools with such references will be forbidden to wear or display them at any NCAA championship.

This legislation affects the 18 institutions

that have been declared to have hostile and offensive mascots. (See box). In November 2004, 33 schools with Indian-related mascots and/or team nicknames were investigated. William and Mary is currently still under investigation for its “Tribe” nickname. The new legislation will not affect the College until the end of a six-month extension that athletic director Terry Driscoll received due to the transition of power to new president Gene Nichol.

The NCAA hopes that this legislation will encourage more self-study. The 18 schools affected by these guidelines have six months to appeal their status. Myles Brand, NCAA president, admits that not all names may indeed be offensive. “Some American Indian tribes have expressed their approval of the manner in which their names and imagery are used by specific institutions,” Brand said in a press release, specifically citing Florida State University, home of the

Seminoles. William and Mary is another example. Local Indians do not find the name offensive. “When we take care of some of the poverty and crime and drug problems and that sort of thing in this country, then we’ll worry about names,” William P. “Bill” Miles, chief of the Pamunkey Indians, told *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*. Driscoll has not received direct complaints about the name.

The Tribe used to be known as the Indians and the football field used to be referred to as the “Reservation.” The logo, which now features a pair of green and gold feathers, used to be a grinning Indian. Colonel Ebirt is the replacement for a mascot dressed in Indian regalia.

After President Nichol has been in office a few months, this issue will have to be readdressed. The future of Colonel Ebirt hangs in the balance.

Colleges and universities which are subject to the new policy:

Alcorn State U, Mississippi (Braves)
Central Michigan U (Chippewas)
Catawba College, North Carolina (Indians)
Florida State U (Seminoles)
Midwestern State U, Texas (Indians)
U of Utah (Utes)
Indiana U -Pennsylvania (Indians)
Carthage College, Wisconsin (Redmen)
Bradley U, Illinois (Braves)

Arkansas State U (Indians)
Chowan College, North Carolina (Braves)
U of Illinois-Champaign (Illini)
U of Louisiana-Monroe (Indians)
McMurry U, Texas (Indians)
Mississippi College (Choctaws)
Newberry College, South Carolina (Indians)
U of North Dakota (Fighting Sioux)
Southeastern Oklahoma State U (Savages)

Interested in writing for the newest newspaper on campus?

Want to become a part of a publication that holds nothing back?

Fed up with the mainstream news and need a viable alternative?

Well now, you’ve come to the right place.

THE VIRGINIA
INFORMER

First interest meeting:

Monday, August 29

9:00pm

Gooch Hall First

Floor Social

Lounge

GO KARTS PLUS DAY!!!



SPONSORED BY THE CLASS OF 2008

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH

FROM 6-11 PM

- \$5 Wristband for Unlimited Rides
 - DJ and Free Beverages
 - Free Transportaion
 - Arcade at the Site

Lights to become a permanent fixture at Zable

Benjamin Farthing

Staff Writer

On Gene Nichol's first day as president he asked one of the student interns to name something in the school's future that he was excited about.

"The new lights on the football field," came the immediate response. "The night game against JMU last fall was just awesome." (W&M News, 7/11/05)

This fall, that student intern will have good reason to be excited.

The College of William and Mary Athletics Department recently received \$650,000 in donations to install lights at Zable Stadium and at the football practice field.

In the past, the College has opted against the installation of lights, to conform to Williamsburg law. Since the College is on state ground, it technically does not need to conform to Williamsburg building regulations. However, Randy Strickland, Construction Manager for the College, stated that "it is the policy of the school to meet the requirements of the City of Williamsburg."

School officials are currently in the process of obtaining a permit for the lighting project. Strickland said that school officials will be meeting with city officials and groups of citizens to discuss the lighting system, and the effect it will have on the city.

The planned systems will provide the necessary light for night games and practices with the least amount of light pollution to the surrounding area. "We're looking at different heights and light configurations to make it as unobtrusive as possible," said Strickland.

The semifinal football game of last season, played under lights brought in by ESPN2, was a nationally televised sellout.

“If all goes smoothly, the excitement of night football can continue on November 5”

The combination of night football, a nationally ranked team, and the leadership of head coach Jimmye Laycock brought students and fans flocking to Zable Stadium.

If all goes smoothly, the excitement of night football can continue on November 5, the first possible night the permitting process will be complete. It will also be the rematch of last year's semifinal game against James Madison University.

On that night, Tribe football fans will find the light they have been searching for, and night football at William and Mary will become a tradition.

Georgia Congressman John Lewis to speak at Convocation

For second straight year choice very political

Nick Fitzgerald

Staff Writer

Congressman John Lewis, who represents Georgia's 5th District in the House of Representatives, has been asked to speak at the College's 2005 convocation on August 27.

Representative Lewis has a very extensive history in the area of civil rights. During the 1960s, at the height of the civil rights movement, Rep. Lewis became chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, also known as SNCC. Additionally, he was named one of the "Big Six" leaders of the civil rights movement, another one of whom was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. At the age of 23, Rep. Lewis was also the chief organizer of, and keynote speaker at, the famous March on Washington in 1963, at which Dr. King gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Because of his work for the civil rights movement, after facing more than 40 arrests, physical injury, and mob violence, Rep. Lewis was awarded the John F. Kennedy "Profiles in Courage" award for lifetime achievement.

The United States Congress is not the first governing body to which Rep. Lewis has been elected. Elected to the Atlanta City Council in 1981, Lewis focused on ethics in government and neighborhood preservation. After that, Rep. Lewis campaigned for a seat on the House of Representatives, and, in 1986, was elected to Congress. He has served as a lawmaker for 18 years.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), regarded universally as a liberal organization, gave Congressman Lewis a 98% lifetime rating—meaning, Congressman Lewis voted in sync with the ACLU's position on a number of key issues 98% of the time over his 18-year career. By contrast, the American Conservative Union gave Congressman Lewis a 2% lifetime rating.

As for some examples of the Rep. Lewis' voting record, when President Bush asked the Congress in fall of 2003 for an additional \$87 billion to finance the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Rep. Lewis voted definitively against it. On October 16, 2003, on the floor of the House, Rep. Lewis had the following to say: "Mr. Speaker, in good conscience—I cannot and will not support President Bush's misled, failed policy....[The Bush Administration] deceived Members of Congress, the American people, and the community of nations....It is time to hold President Bush accountable for his words and his deeds. I cannot and will not vote for \$87

billion for more killing and for war." In comparison, fellow Democratic counterparts in the Senate such as former presidential candidate John Kerry (MA) and Edward Kennedy (MA) also voted against the bill.

On March 18, 2004, Rep. Lewis made a speech to the House on the eve of the one-year anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. "The dead and wounded," he said, "are not the only casualties of the President's decision to invade Iraq....Something else has been lost. Truth. Honesty. Integrity." He also warned both the Congress and the American people that "we cannot believe a word they [members of the Bush Administration] say....And it's not

just Iraq, it's almost every issue—every comment—every deed. We cannot believe a word they say," he reiterated. Although originally the CIA supplied the Bush Administration with intelligence concerning weapons of mass destruction, Congressman Lewis has made no remarks concerning government accountability to this effect.

More recently, Rep. Lewis participated in a Jesse Jackson-sponsored march and rally in Atlanta on August 6, in an effort to support congressional renewal of all provisions of the Voting Rights Act. This act, which abolished literacy tests, grandfather clauses, and poll taxes during the civil rights era, is set to expire in 2007. This event was also in protest of a new Georgia law, which requires a photo I.D. from an individual before he is allowed to vote. Entertainer Harry Belafonte and Judge Greg Mathis were also present at the rally with Lewis, both of whom had harsh criticism of the president. "Bush is a tyrant," Belafonte said. "He gathers around him black tyrants." Mathis, in protesting the photo I.D. requirement, said: "As a judge I'm not going to stand back here and watch and not speak up against this injustice. They all need to be locked up because they're all criminals and thieves." Congressman Lewis has not commented on these remarks in any open forum, neither denouncing them nor agreeing with them, and has done nothing whatsoever to distance himself from such radical commentary.

Rep. Lewis' speech on August 27 follows that of Sarah Brady's, who was the speaker at last year's convocation in 2004. Sarah Brady is the wife of James Brady, former Secret Service agent who was shot during an assassination attempt on the President Reagan, and, because of her husband's ordeal, has become a strong advocate of strict gun control.

The College has, again, selectively requested what some may call a "liberal" speaker for its opening ceremony.

Convocation

When: August 26, 4:30pm

Where: Wren Courtyard

What: Ceremony officially welcoming the Class of 2009

Do You Love to Sing?

Come try out for
The Accidentals

All-Female A Cappella

Sign-up and Audition on
Friday, August 26th in Ewell Hall.

Contact Elizabeth Materese (ermate@wm.edu) for further details.

WCWM 90.9 FM



wants you to become a DJ!
music meetings are every friday from 4-5 pm
in the campus center basement
everyone is welcome

To learn more :
-Visit www.wcwm.org
-Email wcwmxx@wm.edu
-Come to a music meeting!

William and Mary

◆ STUDENTS FOR LIFE ◆



A campus organization
Committed to the pro-life movement

Come to an interest meeting!
Wednesday, August 3rd, 8PM in Blair 201
Refreshments will be served! ☺

- Hear from exciting speakers
- Attend pro-life conferences
- Learn about current life issues
- Participate in pro-life week on campus
- Volunteer at the local Pregnancy Care Center
- Come to the annual March for Life in Washington DC
- Have fun!

Regular Meetings: Wednesdays at 8pm in Blair 201
sflife@wm.edu • <http://sflife.people.wm.edu/>

TONI EXCLUSIVE: On the record

continued from page one

know about the parties and email me (tribetonight@gmail.com) or IM me with the details.

Informer: Doesn't that open the door for low-key parties to get invaded by random people from AIM?

Tribe Tonight: People bitch at me all the time about this. My answer is: probably not. Listen, if you see something on my away message at a house or room that doesn't look at least somewhat familiar, what are the odds you'll actually show up? Let's pretend you do, and you walk into someone's dimly lit house where in the living room 8 people you've never met are sitting on couches, sipping Pinot Noir, wearing berets and listening to jazz, you're probably going to want to get the fuck out of there because it'll be an awkward social situation. I'll take down any party listing if the host is overly concerned, but people with several kegs who open up their houses to everyone but still want to keep some level of exclusivity – I have no tolerance for those people and they need to shut the fuck up. If you don't like who shows up, tell them to leave. End of story. A party is a party. Life is short; college life is much shorter. Get over yourself and start experimenting.

Informer: Don't the cops know about you? Doesn't the away message give them a nice cheat sheet on Friday night?

Tribe Tonight: If you're having a party off campus that's large enough, it will probably get busted anyway, but it is a

real concern. Wow can we have an open form of communicating entertainment on campus while protecting the privacy of party hosts? I personally know that I've been to enormous keggers listed on Tribe Tonight that were never busted.

Scapegoating Tribe Tonight as the source of the bust doesn't address the real problem going on here: the city of Williamsburg is tightening its rules to make it almost impossible for students to have fun off-campus.

Informer: You created a political agenda with Tribe Tonight – you even endorsed candidates for the SA elections, which got a lot of criticism. Aren't you selling out?

Tribe Tonight: No. We, as students, can no longer afford to neglect the reality that our social well-being and the decisions of those we elect are intimately intertwined. It is a fact that arrests for minor alcohol related offenses and noise violations have skyrocketed. It is a fact that city council members, such as Professor Clyde Haulman have pushed for laws defining a gathering of 10 people or more as a "large party."

Informer: And we have to ask: Are you Luther Lowe?

Tribe Tonight: No. We're friends, and Luther has helped it get off the ground, but no.

Informer: When will you reveal your identity?

Tribe Tonight: Probably never. It will be passed on and kept alive as long as possible. The principle of promoting openness and fun at college is the point, and the people behind it are irrelevant.

Student group of the month: Army ROTC

Marching to the beat of a military drum

Mandie Constanzer

Staff Writer

For the better part of three centuries, ambitious students at William & Mary have said, "Today: college, tomorrow: the world." For one particular group of students, the promise of seeing the world – and defending freedom – is a reality for tomorrow. Today these students are the cadets of the Revolutionary Guard Battalion's Army ROTC unit.

ROTC stands for Reserve Officers' Training Corps, a college academic department offered at universities across the United States to produce officers for the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. At W&M, ROTC students study military science, an academic discipline, coupled with a major field of study at the college designed by the United States Army that combines leadership and management skills with military knowledge. Students also participate in fitness programs designed to keep cadets within the Army's demanding physical fitness regulations. This unique course of study instills self-discipline and character, provides leadership opportunities and builds confidence in each cadet's own ability to succeed; this cultivates useful skills in the Army upon graduation and later in the civilian life.

Courses instructed by active duty military personnel provide valuable training for cadets not only to become outstanding Army officers, but also gain tools for success in life outside the military. While course work teaches military science, the presentations and public speaking, research and teamwork required to complete class projects build confident, strong adults. Says sophomore Nick Faulkner, "The confidence and high standards developed by ROTC create strong leaders in the military and corporate world.

Our instructors are outstanding models; they teach valuable communication and people skills through their presentation of information in accurate and understandable ways."

These respected instructors are active duty officers, Captain thru Lieutenant Colonel, and are supplemented by other insightful Army staff, such as veteran enlisted personnel. In addition to teaching courses at W&M, instructors teach ROTC cadets at Christopher Newport University



Photo courtesy of CPT. Matthew Lutz

TRUE LEADERS: W&M Army ROTC teaches unique leadership skills needed in battle.

and organize and evaluate weekly labs and monthly physical tests.

Both labs and physical training (PT) are designed to promote combat readiness in future officers. Labs are held every week for 2 hours, often along the Matoaka trails at the College. Combat drills, planned ambushes, paintball battle engagements, and simulated POW experiences, including detainment, searches, questioning and transport during labs teach practical lessons that cannot be absorbed from a textbook. Similarly, PT sessions add to the comprehensive education that ROTC offers. Each week, three early morning PT sessions help cadets prepare for monthly Army Physical Fitness Tests (APFT). The mandatory number of PT sessions per week depends on the level of study of the cadet. Senior cadets are required to attend all three weekly sessions, whereas freshmen cadets need only attend one, so long as they are able to meet the APFT criteria. The main focus of PT is not just physical fitness, but also cultivating camaraderie and teamwork that builds a cohesive unit.

Achievement in academic and physical tasks in ROTC during their freshman and sophomore years can have added benefit for cadets. At the beginning of their junior year, cadets must commit to service upon graduation in exchange for a scholarship that pays for most of tuition and books and provides a monthly living stipend. To remain on scholarship, cadets must uphold a minimum 2.5 GPA and follow all guidelines for their chosen major. After completing their junior year, cadets attend a summer officer training course at an active Army base, such as Fort Lewis, WA. This course tests officer readiness – how prepared a cadet is to become an officer – through night time and daytime land navigation, hikes in fully-equipped battle dress, simulated combat situations and other scenarios. The strength and determination necessary to overcome the many challenges of ROTC comes not only from the incentive of a college scholarship (up to \$20,000 per year plus \$900 book allowance), but also from the unique benefits of military service.

ROTC scholarship winners agree to repay the US Government for their education through military service. Currently, Congress mandates that Army ROTC scholarship winners must serve either four years of active duty and four years on reserve status or eight years on reserve status. The benefits of this service and ROTC training for cadets are numerous. Upon completion of study and graduation, ROTC scholarship winners have a guaranteed job, an accomplishment that not many of their civilian classmates can boast. As an officer, today's cadets will find themselves in many unique situations that require quick adaptation to changing surroundings and abstract problem solving to maneuver the situation safely. By far, though, W&M ROTC cadets feel that overcoming the challenges of battle in their future careers, when faced with saving their fellow man, puts the world into perspective and justifies the time they invest in ROTC. Sasha Eckstein, W&M sophomore, aptly states, "The most rewarding part of being in ROTC for me, and my motivating factor, is serving my country and knowing that one day the person standing beside me will need me and I'll be able to be there for him or her." ROTC is not just a college course – for its cadets, ROTC is a journey of self-determination that culminates in the satisfaction of serving and protecting a truly grateful nation. If you have the desire to join a winning team at The College of William and Mary please contact Captain Matthew Lutz, 221-3611, for information regarding our leadership training and scholarship availability.

Welcome!

From
Residence Life



Wishing you a great year!

<http://www.wm.edu/reslife/>

living@wm.edu

1-4314

Bored in the 'Burg?

Catch a movie at the Kimball Theatre

Joe Pirro

Staff Writer

For all its eclectic nooks and unique restaurants, there is one immutable fact about our dear home: Williamsburg is not your typical college town. True, there are the theme parks that we hardly attend and the stores and restaurants at the other end of Richmond Road; but for those of us without a car, the options are even more limited. In the past, to catch the latest blockbuster we had to hop on a bus to the movie theatre. It'll be easier to catch your favorite movies once the new Consolidated Theatre opens up, but there's a special place nearby that is unknown to many students.

A great entertainment venue, the Kimball Theatre lies right in the middle of Merchant Square in Colonial Williamsburg. From live "history interpreters" portraying Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry, to symphony performances and great independent movies, the Kimball might be my favorite place in Williamsburg. It might be difficult to convince anyone but a film fanatic of this fact, but the Kimball Theatre does indeed offer an incredible array of choices.

The theatre's history is richly tied to that of the College. The first performance held at the renovated Kimball in 1933 was a student production of "The Recruiting Officer." Theatre is still alive and well at the Kimball. Last year, I attended an impressive

production of Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Later in the year, William and Mary students put on *Into the Woods*. Outside of PBK Hall, the Kimball is the best place to catch a student production.

If you're not a lover of the stage, have no fear. The Kimball shows a fair number of movies over the course of the year. However, the Kimball mostly showcases smaller, independent productions. Last year the Kimball screened *The Door in the Floor*, *We Don't Live Here Anymore*, *Garden State*, and *Sideways*, just to name a few. In addition, the Kimball holds occasional film festivals and hosts directors such as Ross McElwee, an acclaimed documentarian. The Theatre has even begun branching out this summer, showing more commercial fare, such as Ridley Scott's *Kingdom of Heaven* (which was better than expected) and *Crash* (the best movie I've seen so far this year).

For those of us who love our big explosions and flashy movie stars, the Kimball may prove disappointing. However, it's a great opportunity to realize the true scope that film has. This year, whether you're a new or returning student, expand your cinematic horizons. Grab some coffee from Aroma's and immerse yourself in the provocative world of film provided by the Kimball Theatre.

The Kimball Theatre's box office opens daily at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5.50 for students, and Monroe Scholars can get an extra discount by purchasing tickets at the Charles Center.

Right where you belong: 3 Doors Down comes to Virginia

Amanda J. Yasenchak

Editor-in-Chief

July 16, 2005

Hartford, Connecticut

In a world where rock stars believe that selling millions of albums gives them the authority to lecture the world on foreign and domestic policy, 3 Doors Down is a breath of fresh air. Rather than using their captive audience as a test group for liberal or anti-American theories, the group simply does what it is paid to do: sing.

On July 16, the Dodge Music Center in Hartford, Connecticut, was filled to capacity with an eclectic mix of fans.

Each of the three opening acts had an increasingly loud following, although the combination of No Address, Breaking Benjamin and Staind fell squarely in the hard-rock genre, unlike the headliners. No Address was a typical first opener, virtually unknown to most of the audience, with none of the handful of songs in their repertoire recognizable as anything more than a spin-off of a similar song by a more famous band.

Breaking Benjamin, however, proved themselves worthy of the radio play they currently enjoy. Most of the songs they played were high energy hard rock songs, but the group's best piece was the slightly more melodic and less intense radio hit, "Sooner or Later."

Any spectators who arrived late to skip the opening acts still made sure to arrive by 9:30 when Staind took the stage before a filled amphitheatre. The band's hour long

set proved they were strong enough to hold their own before the headliners. The songs that got the warmest receptions were the old mellow favorites such as "So Far Away" and "It's Been A While." The harder rock selections from the new album were shocking to those who associate Staind with a bald guitarist sitting on a stool.

3 Doors Down was truly worthy of the coveted position of headliner. Their hour and a half set was a well-crafted play list of old and new. While covering new hits off this spring's album, *Seventeen Days*, such as "Right where I belong" and "Let me go," the band paid tribute to the old favorites that put them on the map, especially 2000's

"Kryptonite" and several hits from their successful sophomore album, *Away From The Sun*.

The set perfectly complemented the music. A set of giant wheels which turned, lit, and sparked were used to accent certain songs along with lights, fire, and fireworks. Despite its dazzle, the set was low key enough to not take away from lead singer Brad Arnold's

vocals and guitarist Matt Roberts's solos.

A truly All-American band, 3 Doors Down goes beyond the glitter and fireworks to recognize real stars. While playing "When I'm Gone," the band offered a stunning tribute to our men and women in uniform, and ended the night by shouting, "God Bless America." Although it was one of the lesser publicized tours of the summer, 3 Doors Down is a concert you don't want to miss.

Concert Info

**3 Doors Down with
Staind, Breaking
Benjamin and No
Address:**

Wednesday August 31:
Roanoke Civic Center,
Roanoke, VA
Thursday, September 1:
Verizon Wireless, Virginia
Beach, VA



Steeps Tea Tavern & Elixer Bar

Eat. Steep. And be Merry.

Shelbi Wilson

Staff Writer

Everyone seems to have his or her own special place to study on campus. Whether it is a dorm room, Swem, an academic building, or a café, students will soon be filling familiar places with the start of fall classes. What better way to start a new year, than with a new place to study in a place that may be unfamiliar to you... until now?

Many of you may have seen the sign for Steeps Tea Tavern & Elixer Bar in Colonial Williamsburg. Steeps is a restaurant managed by the same individuals that run Aroma's on Prince George Street. This tavern is a wonderful addition to the numerous places for students to study, as well as socialize. Within the restaurant, there is internet access and music playing quietly in the background. The atmosphere is inviting, with numerous tables for seating inside as well as outside.

Steeps carries over sixty different varieties of tea, including white, green, black, and herbal. The flavors range from citrus to

the every day Earl Grey and English Breakfast. They even carry a red tea from South Africa – Rooibos. Another feature of Steeps is their elixirs. There are several varieties; Liquid Yoga, Depth Recharger, Power Plant, and Mind over Muddle, just to name a few. Other drink options include a variety of specialty coffees, bubble tea, fruit smoothies, and bottled drinks. Within the next few weeks, Steeps will begin to offer alcoholic beverages, such as martinis in flavors like peppermint and chocolate.

Steeps also provides a small food menu with healthy options, including wraps, salads, and light breakfast items. In the tradition of Aroma's, they also have a variety of desserts, candy, cookies, muffins, and chocolates.

Steeps Tea Tavern & Elixer Bar is great for students. It has all the benefits of your favorite study locations without the crowds. Steeps is located at 110 South Henry Street in the Henry Street Shops of Merchant Square and is open 9:00am to 9:00pm Monday through Saturday, and 10:00am to 6:00pm on Sundays.

Baskin 31 Robbins®

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

10% Off Any Order with this Ad!

416 Prince George Street
Located in Merchant's Square

229-6385

Things to take advantage of while you're here...

Most of us spend at least four years in this bustling little town... try out some of these places on and off campus to make your free time more enjoyable.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG: also known as our Cbackyard. We are fortunate enough to be living in the cradle of American History, and William and Mary students get to take advantage of it for free. If history interests you, you can get into any of the historic buildings as well as the DeWitt Wallace Museum of Decorative Arts by flashing your student I.D. (just make sure you have the 05-06 sticker on the back). There are a variety of shows and educational programs (try Cry Witch at the Capitol building, a live action recreation of a witch trial) throughout the year, and CW usually offers discounted tickets for students (visit www.history.org for more details). Duke of Gloucester street (Dog Street) is popular for running, jogging or strolling. On a nice day CW has plenty of places to study: on any of the benches lining Dog Street, the Governor's Palace lawn, or the Governor's Palace gardens.

FITWELL CLASSES: Offered by Rec Sports, these are Fhour long classes in the FitWell Studio of William and Mary Hall. Choose from a variety of classes such as kickboxing, yoga and spinning. Each class costs \$3, but you can purchase a semester pass (\$45) or a yearly pass (\$70) at the front desk at the Rec Center. Visit www.wm.edu/recsports for schedule and more information.

CAREER CENTER: Located in the basement of Blow CHall (Room 124) the Career Center is a useful source of guidance and information. You can call ahead to make an appointment with a Career Counselor to discuss anything from graduate schools to internships to long term career goals. They are also available for resume critiques. Feel free to visit their library to peruse materials on the same subjects. The Career Center runs several programs throughout the year, including a Local Internship Program, Resume and Interview workshops and career fairs. Sign up for their listserv to receive updates of jobs and internships in the area. Visit www.wm.edu/career for more information.

BARNES & NOBLE CAFE: The bookstore has more Bthan just textbooks and there's more than one place to get a cup of coffee in town. Visit the Barnes & Noble Cafe on the second floor of the Bookstore on Dog Street. They serve Starbucks products and a selection of light fare and snacks. It's also a great place to study, especially in the mornings and afternoons on weekdays when there are fewer tourists. Bring your laptop and enjoy the wireless access; just make sure you have a full battery, as sometimes finding an outlet can be tricky.

BUSCH GARDENS: This theme park is only miles from Bcampus and features recreated European villages, shows, and of course rides, including the world famous roller coasters, Apollo's Chariot and Alpengeist. Most students make an annual pilgrimage in the fall on William and Mary Day, where students can purchase tickets on campus at a fifty percent discount or more. On William and Mary Day, buses to and from the park are provided by the Student Assembly. On all other days, if you don't have a car, you can take the Williamsburg Area Transport bus (Gray line).

During your time here, you will be bound to find more fun, exciting and interesting places to frequent on your own.

WELCOME TO WILLIAM & MARY



Lovers' mark on campus: A tree by the Crim Dell is etched with romance.

Tribe love...

Now that you've met all those new people, here are some suggestions if things turn toward the romantic

Walk around Colonial Williamsburg. Dog Street is the perfect place to kindle romance with lantern lit streets and quaint benches along the bricks.

Aroma's Coffee Shop on Prince George Street has a large selection of specialty coffees and other drinks, along with many desserts to share. Try the chocolate fondue or S'Mores for two.

Have dinner at Sal's by Victor. Located in the Williamsburg Shopping Center on Richmond Road (by Food Lion) this restaurant offers good Italian food within walking distance of campus, and perfect for students on a budget.

Shield's Tavern, Christiana Campbell's Tavern and the other restaurants in Colonial Williamsburg offer great ambiance. The tables are lit by candlelight and the menus are delectable. They are a bit pricey for a student's budget, but have great food in a historic and quaint atmosphere.

Go to the Trellis Restaurant on Dog Street for their infamous decadent dessert, Death by Chocolate. It's definitely big enough to share.

Rent a canoe on Lake Matoaka, it's free with your student ID.

Go to a movie at the Kimball Theatre on Dog Street. Two tickets and some popcorn will run you less than twenty dollars, and they often show date friendly Indie flicks.

And if you're really into each other, walk across the Crim Dell Bridge...

TRIATHLON

tips from the veterans...



Jump the wall at the Governor's Palace



Swim in the Crim Dell



Streak the Sunken Gardens

- 1) It's much more fun with your friends - plus how else can you prove you did it?
- 2) The Crim Dell is always cold - and always disgusting. Wear shoes.
- 3) Be advised that due to the strange sleep schedules of college students it's difficult to find a good time to streak the Sunken Gardens. You will most likely be spotted at any hour in any season.
- 4) Have someone guard your clothes at the Sunken Gardens.
- 5) Technically you're supposed to run the length of the Gardens, not the width.
- 6) William and Mary has an anything goes attitude about the Triathlon. Do some of it, all of it, or none at all! Just have fun!

What your OA forgot to tell you...

words of wisdom from The Virginia Informer

- Don't worry so much about your grades your first year; some places give you the option of removing your freshman year from your GPA when you apply for jobs and internships.
- Don't be afraid to speak up in class, even if you disagree with the professor.
- You were the best and the brightest in your high school class, just like everyone else here. This idea takes some getting used to.
- Organize study groups: not only are they helpful to prepare for tests but you'll meet great people where you least expect to.
- You'll fill all those GER's... eventually.
- Don't underestimate the breadth of your interests; you'll never know if you like something until you try it.
- Take advantage of the Add/Drop period. Register for more credits than you want to take, go to all the classes and then decide which you want to take.
- Be more concerned with your classes than your schedule; don't take a bunch of boring classes just to have Fridays off.
- Avoid Morton and Small if possible.
- Try to take a class in Wren for history's sake.
- Blair is the nicest academic building and it has the best bathrooms.
- If you expect nothing less than A's you'll be sorely disappointed.
- The bus goes to more places than just Target (but it doesn't run on Sundays).

“Try new things... don't just do everything that you were good at in high school.”

- William and Mary might seem like a big campus, but do something embarrassing and you'll find out how small it really is.
- Don't stay home when you can go out, even if it's just to meet a friend at the Daily Grind.
- You can always join a frat/sorority later on in the year or next year.
- Unless you want everyone to know that you're freshmen, don't head to the frats in large packs.
- Wren 10 is a great way to spend a Wednesday night.
- Don't get so caught up in the beauty of campus that you trip on the bricks.
- GIRLS: stiletto or kitten heels on the brick... not the brightest idea.
- When they're showing a film on the Sunken Gardens go even if you don't like the movie, it has an old school drive-in feel.
- The campus movie station has some good movies on it and they replay them over and over again.
- Bond with your hallmates, many of them will be your closest friends.
- You will see the same people on your way to class every day, smile to them. They'll smile back.
- Take advantage of as many free or inexpensive events on campus as possible. You will never have access to as many films, dances, workshops, parties and cultural events again.
- Interpret the "Work hard, play hard" ethic however you like. Just remember, this is college, and you're supposed to have fun.

Looking For Guidance?

A sample of religious groups on campus

The Alternative Spirituality Association

A forum for students interested in non-mainstream religious paths (wicca, paganism, reconstruction, etc.) to express themselves and explore their beliefs free from ridicule. All paths and all experience levels are invited, but an open mind is a must. Planned activities include a Samhain Festival, open rituals, visits to metaphysical shops, and meetings with other pagan groups. Meeting topics include: divination workshops, theological discussions, movie viewings, and pumpkin carving. We also have a book group.

Meetings: Every Tuesday at 8:00pm in Tucker Hall Room 202
Contact: altspi@wm.edu
Questions welcome!

Balfour Hillel, Jewish Student Organization

Balfour Hillel serves the Jewish student body by providing social, educational, cultural and religious programming throughout the school year. A typical week of activities may include a midday Lunch & Learn on a variety of Jewish thematic topics, Paul's Deli night social,

CHOOSE PEACE presentation (Our Israel program arm), and a Friday Evening Shabbat Dinner/Social/Service get together.

Weekly programs, meetings, lunches, and socials are communicated via email, phone, facebook and website. (We are all over campus!) Friday evening programs will be held at 100 Chandler Court, across from PBK at the corner of Jamestown Road and Chandler Court.)

Contact: Geoffrey Brown, Director, Balfour Hillel; email: gbrownmj@cox.net; IM screenname: ABBARISHON; phone: 757-344-3402; Gina Sobel, President: grsobe@wm.edu; Sara Slater, VP Programming: srslat@wm.edu

Baptist Student Union

The Baptist Student Union is a place of fun and fellowship! We have a weekly program: dinner home cooked by local churches, followed by worship and a speaker. You do not want to miss that! There are also many opportunities to get involved, through creative ministries, small groups, service projects, or socials. Because we are a small organization, there is a place for everyone. Come check us out! We are located on South Boundary Street past Hunt and the Meridian!

Sundays 5-7pm
Contact: baptis@wm.edu

Campus Crusade for Christ

God Rules! And we believe it. Campus Crusade for Christ is a worldwide, interdenominational Christian ministry committed to showing people how they can know God personally, experiencing His love in a dynamic relationship. At William and Mary, Campus Crusade accomplishes this task through a weekly large group meeting (cru), discipleship groups, fun activities and campus-wide events. It's a great place to be, to laugh, to grow, to learn. Join us.

Little Theater, Campus Center – Tuesdays 8:00 PM
www.wmcru.com
info@wmcru.com
757-570-3142

Canterbury Association

An organization that provides a witness to the Christian faith within the tradition of the Episcopal Church through spiritual, social and liturgical services; builds among the students, faculty, and administrators at the College a community of sharing, support and prayer based on the Christian faith; and provides for the spiritual

growth and nurturing of all persons within the College community.

Meeting times:
Sundays, 5:30pm service in Bruton Parish Church
Tuesdays, 5:00pm service in the Wren Chapel
Contact: canter@wm.edu

Catholic Campus Ministries

Catholic Campus Ministry is a community that shares, laughs and prays together, trying to live beyond ourselves. The words "whatever you do for the least, you do for Me" are so simple, yet they are the words we try to live by. As ordinary people doing ordinary things, we have an opportunity to meld our own ideas with others to expand our minds and our faith, to open our hearts and to share joys with our friends through the CCM community.

Sunday Masses 11 am. and 5 p.m. in the CCM Chapel, 500 Richmond Road. MANY activities happening in a variety of locations!

continued on page 9

Places of Worship in Williamsburg

Bruton Parish Church
331 Duke of Gloucester Street
College Service: 5:30 pm Sunday
Holy Eucharist: 5 pm Tuesday (Wren Chapel, Old Campus)
(229-2891)
www.brutonparish.org



Bruton Parish: in addition to a historic place of worship, Bruton Parish is a quaint fixture along DoG Street which also features choral concerts and recitals throughout the year.

Catholic Campus Ministries Chapel
500 Richmond Road
Mass: 11 am & 5 pm Sunday

Christian Life Center
4451 Longhill Road
Worship: 8:45 am & 10:45 am Sunday; 7 pm Wednesday
(220-2100)
www.clc.vg

Church of Christ At Williamsburg
227 Merrimac Trail
Worship: 9:30 am Sunday
Bible Study: 10:30 am Sunday
On-Campus Bible Study: 6:30 pm Sunday
(253-5662)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
2017 Lightfoot Road
(564-1933)

Colonial Baptist Church
100 Carrs Hill Road
Worship: 11 am Sunday & 7 pm Wednesday
Bible Study: 6 pm Sunday
(229-4744)

Faith Baptist Church
4107 Rochambeau Drive
Worship: 11 am Sunday
(566-0456)

First Church of Christian Science
620 Jamestown Road
Worship: 11 am Sunday, 7:30 pm Wednesday
(229-3820)

King of Glory Lutheran Church
4897 Longhill Road
Worship: 8 am & 10:30 am Sunday
(258-9701)

Liberty Worship Center
113 Palace Lane Suite J
Worship: 10 am & 6 pm Sunday, 7 pm Wednesday
Spanish Ministry: 7 pm Tuesday & Saturday
(565-7597)
www.libertyworship.net

Salvation Army
151 Kristiansand Drive #109
Worship: 11 am Sunday
(229-6651)

Temple Beth El
600 Jamestown Road
(220-1205)

Walnut Hills Baptist Church
1014 Jamestown Road
Worship: 8:30 am & 11 am Sunday
(220-5900)

Williamsburg Baptist Church
227 Richmond Road
Informal Worship: 8:30 am Sunday (Social Hall)
Traditional Worship: 11 am (Sanctuary)
Student Bible Study: 7 pm Wednesday
(229-1217)
www.williamsburgbaptist.com

Williamsburg Community Chapel
3899 John Tyler Highway
Worship: 9 am & 10:15 am Sunday
(229-7152)
www.wcchapel.org

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church
215 Richmond Road
Worship: 5:30 pm Saturday, 8 am, 9:30 am & 11 am Sunday
(229-4235)

Williamsburg United Methodist Church
514 Jamestown Road
Worship: 8:15 am & 11 am Sunday
(229-1771)

The Virginia Informer has found, to the best of its ability, a complete list of places of worship for the Williamsburg area. We apologize if we have omitted any parish or congregation.

Contact Mary Ellen Pitard mepitard@bedeva.org or Karen Hahn kahahn@bedeva.org

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes of the College of William and Mary is a fellowship that seeks to serve any and all students by helping them investigate and enrich a faith in Jesus Christ. Through weekly worship and teaching, small group Bible studies, and fun social activities including sports events, cookouts and parties we aim to grow in a life-changing relationship with God, within a fun and loving atmosphere. FCA is a place for everyone (not just athletes) no matter where they may be on their spiritual journeys, a place where people love God, life, and others.

Meetings: Thursday Nights at 8:00pm in the UC - Chesapeake Please contact us at fellow@wm.edu or check us out on the groups page on myWM.

Generation Church

Generation Church is a campus ministry of Christian Life Center, a local interdenominational church. Generation Church's goals are to reach the campus, strengthen believers, equip passionate disciples of Christ and release leaders to touch their generation. We do this through outreach, small group generators and leadership equipping.

Meetings: Wednesday at 9:00pm in Millington 150 for Remix, a worship service for all college students and young adults. Contact Matt Goodman at mgoodman@w-clc.com for more information.

Latter-Day Saints Student Association

An organization that assists students in balancing their academic, social, cultural, and religious education; motivates LDS students to become an influence for good on the William and Mary campus; and reaches out to all LDS students to help keep them closely affiliated with the church while they are on campus.

Scripture study meetings are held in the Kimball Theatre, 215 in Colonial Williamsburg every Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Contact: Adam Hancock, latday@wm.edu

Lutheran Student Association

The Lutheran Student Association is based at St. Stephen Lutheran Church on Jamestown Road, right across the street from the Muscarelle Art Museum. At the church is the College Room, available to us 24/7, a comfortable place for getting away, engaging in conversation, eating and sleeping. We gather

for dinner each Sunday at 5:00pm, and for a "study break" each Wednesday at 9:00pm in the College Room. During our programs and less formal conversations, we remember that God is full of grace, and our value as God's children is not measured by our GPAs! Contact Pastor Andy Ballentine at 229-6688 or pastor@saintstephenlutheran.net — or just show up on a Sunday or Wednesday night! You don't have to be Lutheran!

Muslim Students Association

William and Mary's MSA is a student-run organization dedicated to promoting awareness of Islam and meeting the religious needs of area Muslims through MSA-sponsored lectures, social gatherings, religious celebrations, and other activities.

First meeting: Saturday, September 3rd, 7:00pm @ the UC couches E-mail: muslim@wm.edu; AIM: WMMSAEVENTS

Quaker Student Organization

The QSO exists to provide a Quaker style of worship for students on campus. We have a small meeting for worship across the street from campus on Wednesdays, and we provide transportation to the local Meeting on Sunday mornings. We occasionally host special student events, and we hope to become more active in campus life as our membership grows.

Meetings: Wednesdays at 6:00pm; the small chapel behind the sanctuary in the Methodist church across the road from Barksdale Sundays at 9:45am; transportation provided at the corner of Campus Drive and Jamestown Road Contact: Eli Courtwright, quaker@wm.edu

Wesley Foundation

Wesley is the United Methodist campus ministry. We have dinner and a program every Sunday, which might be a speaker, discussion, or fun activity. We also have lots of opportunities for worship, small groups, service, outreach, and fellowship. We try to provide new and varied opportunities for spiritual growth so that everybody feels at home. Sunday dinners are \$2 donation, but free if you're there for the first time.

Meeting time and place: 5:00pm -7:30pm Sundays 526 Jamestown Rd, across from Barksdale and next to the Methodist church Contact: Allie Rosner, agrosn@wm.edu

The Virginia Informer apologizes for any religious groups that were not included. Every known religious group on campus was contacted more than once but not all replied. Thank you to all who contributed. For more information, consult the Student Directory or the Student Activities Office.

Scofield vows "to unite the Student Assembly"

Shariff Tanious

Business Manager

Gene Nichol isn't the only new president at the College. Junior Ryan Scofield was elected Student Assembly President last April. He now begins a new year with a full agenda.

One of the most widely discussed issues on campus at the end of last year was diversity within the student body. The Senate passed a bill that created a Department of Diversity Initiatives as a part of the Executive. President Scofield wants to see this department become an integral part of the Student Assembly: "I see it continuing to grow and mature as a part of the Student Assembly. They have big goals of advocating for the students and I hope they are successful with their strong leadership." The new Secretary of Diversity Initiatives, Lydia Bailey, was instrumental in creating and passing the bill. Because of her intimate knowledge of the bill's purpose, Scofield plans to defer most internal decisions to her. The new president would like to work with admissions to attract more diverse students to William and Mary.

One of the controversies surrounding the establishment of the Department of Diversity Initiatives was whether to include political minorities. Many students, namely conservatives, argued that they were victims of discrimination in the classroom due to differences of opinion with the professors. Scofield tackled this issue immediately upon his inauguration. "We made the decision for the beginning of this year to tackle this [Political Diversity] from the perspective of academic policy because we felt big that the biggest complaints dealt with in class experiences. We named an Assistant Secretary of Academic Diversity (Part of the Dept. of Academic Policy) whose job would be to examine the situation with respect to types of academic diversity."

Many class officers are curious to see how the new administration will work with other branches of student government, particularly the Senate. Scofield doubts that there will be any conflicts. "Amanda [Norris] and I came into office wanting more communication and we want to unite the Student Assembly first. I don't want to, plan



Standing for equality: Scofield is the first president with a position for academic diversity.

to, or hope to find conflict with the Senate." When asked about newly elected Senate Chairman, Luther Lowe, Scofield answered, "Luther has a lot of experience in the Student Assembly and I hope he'll be able to lead the Senate morally and work towards the same goals I have of uniting the Student Assembly as one."

As SA President, Scofield will be able to meet often with the new president of the College, Gene Nichol. The SA President had a chance to speak with President Nichol about some of his thoughts and plans. He feels that many of the traditions that returning students cherish, and new students will come to love, will remain in place. Scofield feels that he has an adequate forum with the new president and that the Student Assembly will be able to communicate with and cooperate with the new administration on many projects, such as recycling.

All in all Scofield is looking forward to his tenure as Student Assembly president. We can expect energetic leadership. Scofield claims that he likes to have fun. Scofield encourages students to bring their ideas and concerns forward and wants to point out that the Student Assembly is here to represent and advocate for the students of the College.

SA begins new year with new goals

Seth Levey

Staff Writer

August 24 will see the beginning of classes as well as the beginning of a new year in the annals of Student Assembly history. This school year in particular will be a turning point as the Student Assembly begins business with a new College president for the first time since 1992. How President Gene R. Nichol will work with the SA is yet to be seen, but if he follows in the footsteps of his predecessor, a bright new future for the students is in the horizon.

As the transition from Timothy J. Sullivan to Gene R. Nichol has taken place there have also been major changes in the Student Assembly. At the end of last semester Ryan Scofield and Amanda Norris took office as Student Assembly President and Vice President. Both Scofield and Norris spent the last weeks of the semester preparing their administration for the new academic year. Included in their agenda are the possible inclusion of WM Express and Flex Points at more locations and a look at the growing issue of diversity on campus. Two other

promising projects include campus beautification and office hours, where students can speak and discuss important issues with the president and vice president. An ongoing major act of the new administration was the creation of the Executive cabinet, most of which is in place for the new academic year.

While the executive branch goes through the almost routine yearly transition from president to president, the SA Senate will also have some different faces this year. The Senate has both a new Chairman, senior senator Luther Lowe, and a new Secretary, sophomore senator Joe Luppino-Esposito. The senate will most surely have a full docket this year as both the senators and executive branch work with President Nichol to establish a relationship that will benefit all students.

During the summer there was a major breakthrough on an ongoing campus issue: recycling. For the past two years Kay Floyd, now an alumnus, has been heading the project to develop the program and expand

SA Preview

continued on page twelve

Letter from the editor

Introducing...

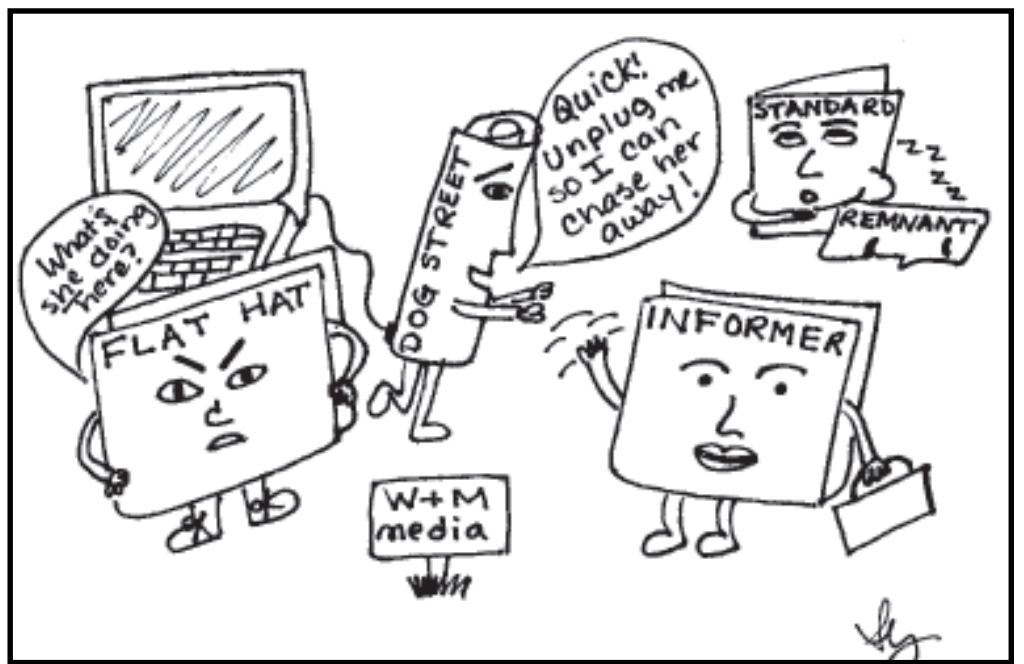
Welcome to The Virginia Informer, the newest monthly newspaper at the College of William and Mary. Although there are other publications at the College, so much important news goes unreported. It is nearly impossible for one paper to cover every single news item on a college campus, but we will fill in the gaps other news outlets have neglected and ignored. Our mission is to inform students of the stories that are important to them and to do so with quality journalism that is often lacking throughout modern media in Williamsburg and beyond.

While we are student run and produced, we have no loyalty to the administration: we aim to report the news that students need to know.

We vow to not take student funds to produce the paper; if you support us, do so independently. You may not always agree with us, and if you do not, we encourage you to let us know through letters to the editor. But please take the time to read what you see here and open your mind to new ideas. Be sure to challenge yourself and confront the issues as we present them.

Most importantly, we, of The Virginia Informer, vow to give you the best common sense news at the College of William and Mary since 1693.

Amanda J. Yasenchak
Editor-in-Chief



How great a legacy?

The last word on Timmy J

President Sullivan left office this summer credited with transforming William and Mary into a world class university. Many of the statistics are in his favor; on paper William and Mary seems to have improved by leaps and bounds. The College now draws brighter and more accomplished students, the percent of students in the top ten percent of their graduating classes rose from 73% to 85% during Sullivan's tenure. We send more students to study abroad and we have more international students (although fewer nations represented). Our U.S. News and World Report ranking has risen from 41st in 1992 to 31st in 2004, and we now rank 6th among public universities. If you peruse Sullivan's list of accomplishments you will find a long list of additions to the campus that occurred on Sullivan's watch, including the University Center, McLothlin-Street Hall, and several of the statues that line our gardens and courtyards. For most students at the College, we cannot fathom what it was like before the UC, just as it is difficult for us to gauge Sullivan's improvement: we weren't here in 1992 to see how bad it might have been.

What we do know is that there is still plenty to be done. We rank 31st in the US News and World Report Rankings, which is an improvement over 41st, but still a long way from 1st. 6 out of the top 10 schools are Ivy Leagues, and all of the top 10 schools have endowments in the billions while ours

is a meager \$401.5 million in comparison. As a public school we could never hope to have the financial resources to truly compete with the top schools. President Sullivan wanted to make William and Mary a world class university, and perhaps we are well on our way, but we still have plenty of public school problems. For those of us who chose William and Mary over a private school, oftentimes a highly selective or even an Ivy League school, how many times have we had a brief pang of regret as we see classes we want to take cut and professors we adore leave for other schools and better salaries. How many times in a semester, in a month, in a week do we mumble to ourselves, if only we (the College) had more money, and if only the College spent what they did have wisely.

President Sullivan, or as students affectionately called him, "Timmy J," was beloved at the College. As much as we all complain most of us love William and Mary, and it's easier to blame all of the problems on an unknown number of faceless administrators rather than the man who danced with us at King and Queens Ball and walked around campus in the early mornings and usually had a minute of his time for a word with a concerned student.

William and Mary has a long way to go before we can rightfully call ourselves world class, but "Timmy J" has at least earned his legacy as a nice guy.

Face the strange changes

For those of us coming back to Williamsburg after a long summer break elsewhere, it seems like the College has changed overnight. A school that usually dawdles on the one or two construction projects it runs at a time is now actually making progress on repairing a fire-destroyed dorm, building another dorm from the foundation up, building a parking garage and renovating the Rec Sports facility. More projects were completed over the summer.

Furthermore, it seems like William and Mary is finally trying to crawl out from under Colonial Williamsburg's shadow. Now that we have a football team that has played on national television, we can shirk CW's building codes and have stadium lights.

Last spring Residence Life shuffled around gender and class housing assignments. Suddenly Jefferson is both upperclassmen and freshmen, Dinwiddie is home to females, and Nicholson is the new all girls' dorm (unfortunately for those young ladies who sought to ensure premium housing by

requesting single sex assignment). And many past residents of Barrett sniffled last Friday on move-in day, acknowledging the fall of Barrett, as hoards of sweaty freshmen boys moved in. Perhaps the College anticipated the new male residents' apprehension at the ultra feminine parlors and clearly recently women's bathrooms, the College has decided to install a wireless tower on top of the building, a subtle phallic symbol.

President Sullivan is out but new President Nichol is in. Former Student Assembly President Ned Rice is out but new SA President Ryan Scofield is in. The Mexican counter at Lodge 1 is out but Quizno's is in.

The point is, so much is changing, but so much will stay the same. With new times comes new questions. Where is the money for all of these building projects coming from? Where does our tuition money go? What will President Nichol do for William and Mary?

These are all good questions, and expect to find the answers in the Virginia Informer next month.

Until then...

THE VIRGINIA
INFORMER

CSU 2364, P.O. Box 8793
Williamsburg, VA 23186

Amanda J. Yasenchak, **Editor in Chief**
Joe Luppino-Esposito, **Assistant Editor in Chief**
Shariff Tanious, **Business Manager**
Laura Tornello, **Copy Editor**

Staff

Mandie Constanzer • Benjamin Farthing • Nick Fitzgerald
John R. Kennedy • Seth Levey • Joe Pirro • Shelbi Wilson

Agree? Disagree? Let us know!

The Virginia Informer accepts Letters to the Editor. Letters can be on anything that has been in the paper, or even on something that we may have missed. We appreciate reader feedback!

Letters may be printed anonymously, although we ask that the writer puts his/her name in the correspondence with the promise that it will not be printed. Letters should be approximately 100-300 words in length, concise and clear.

Email letters to VAInfo@wm.edu.

The Virginia Informer is produced by students at the College of William and Mary. The opinions expressed in articles, photos, cartoons, or ads are those of the writer(s) or sponsor(s). The College is not responsible for the content of The Virginia Informer. The first copy of this newspaper is free, all subsequent copies are \$15.00.

All minorities are not created equal

Recognition of diversity on campus for only a select group of special interests

John R. Kennedy

Staff Writer

Niccolo Machiavelli once said, "Men rise from one ambition to another: first, they seek to secure themselves against attack, and then they attack others." Today, the liberals who so often preached tolerance of *their* views now use the classroom as engines of political coercion, growing increasingly intolerant of opposing viewpoints. To them, diversity and affirmative action are the only answers to minority issues; free speech, so long as it is liberal speech, is encouraged.

At William and Mary, diversity and affirmative action could be considered quite volatile issues. Considerable disagreements are present between many student groups and this is no more evident than in the Student Assembly (SA). In an attempt to address diversity concerns, in February 2005 the SA voted to create a Department of Diversity Initiatives. One of the goals of this department is to hear complaints from students who believe they have been victims of discrimination because of their gender, culture, religion, international background or sexual orientation.

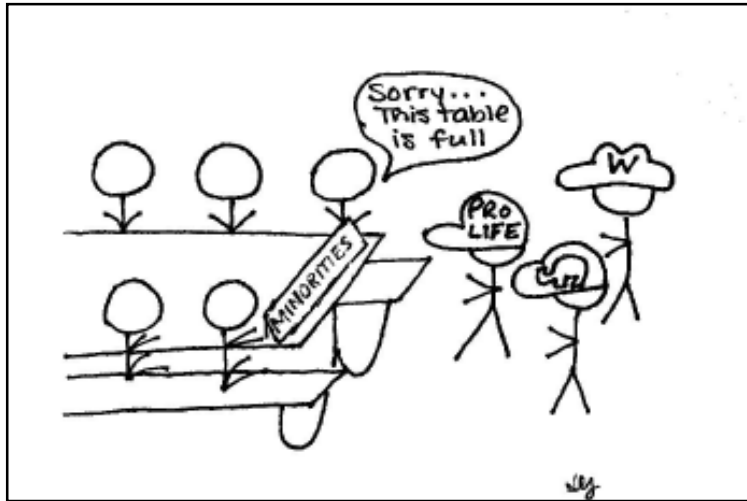
At first glance the goal of this department is perfectly decent. Upon further examination, though, there certainly are problems. Sadly, the department fails to address the concerns of one group on campus that is being discriminated against quite frequently, a group that is victimized in and out of the classroom by the faculty and administration.

Political minorities, consisting largely of conservatives and libertarians, are frequently discriminated against and they still have no place to voice their concerns. With the establishment of this new department, the most frequently discriminated-against group on campus is being shut out of discussion once again.

In classrooms, professors often allow their personal beliefs to mix with their curriculum. Many examples of professor bias favoring liberalism have been noted by conservative groups on campus. In classes like these, conservatives are shut out. They are not encouraged to speak their views because their professors teach that secular humanism is the only true belief system – other systems of thought are out of line or oppressive. As a result, a very important segment of the community is silenced in order to support the views

of another group and thus discrimination occurs.

It would be unwise to make such claims without providing some evidence, of course. Drawing from my own experiences, in a history class my professor allowed a member of the William and Mary chapter of NAACP to speak. This woman spoke about the need to support diversity and called on us to sign a petition favoring diversity that would be sent to the new president. The NAACP representative held a captive audience for over 15 minutes and asked each of us to sign her petition – this would be for the good of the school, supposedly.



There were those students who disagreed with her claims and we did not sign the petition. Many students believe diversity and affirmative action are discriminatory. But to consider the main point, how is the professor discriminating against conservatives by allowing the NAACP member to speak?

The professor allowed the guest speaker to present her views in a didactic fashion. Rather than present the issue as a debatable one, students were left with the implication that diversity is an inherently "good" thing; something as good as, for example, consuming plenty of vitamins and minerals every day. In addition, there was no time left in the class for any conservatives to speak against the signing of the petition. Discrimination occurs in classroom situations like these when a particular group (such as conservatives in my case) is unfairly denied an opportunity to speak their beliefs. In

American colleges and universities, every effort should be made to present all sides of the argument so that students can make informed choices about issues that directly affect them – especially issues like diversity.

To consider a well-known example of bias, The Sons of Liberty (SoL) were also directly discriminated against by the administration of William and Mary. Their protest of affirmative action came in the form of a bake sale where minorities received discounted prices for the same items, while whites (and those who refused to be judged by their race) received higher prices. This was symbolic of how minorities are often given an advantage in the college admissions process solely because of their race. The administration came down on the innocent protest, saying that the SoL would regret what they did. The administration claimed that the protest was "hurtful" to minority students. Yet they ignored the fact that all races could pay the same price if they chose. Meanwhile, the administration ignores many other demonstrations that occur on campus throughout the year, mainly because they either agree with those protests or the message those protests espouse is not as incisive as that of the SoL protest. Instead of allowing students to debate the issue as a community, the administration felt compelled to intrude and teach a "lesson" of sorts. "Certain students may feel *this* way, but the *president* of the college feels *this* way." Furthermore, the former president, Tim Sullivan, patted himself on the back for even allowing the protest to occur in the first place, a disgraceful attitude

to have regarding the free speech of students.

Discrimination is occurring at William and Mary and it needs to be addressed. Machiavelli would have perfectly understood what the liberals have done: in securing themselves from attack in the past, liberals guaranteed themselves the ability to attack others in the future. Unfortunately, they bastardized tolerance into an exceedingly *intolerant* institution and went on the attack just as Machiavelli would have predicted. Machiavelli lived in a very different time, but his statement outlines the path that liberal professors and administrations have taken across the country. If such movements toward conformity are not undermined by opposing viewpoints, the intellectual freedom of American universities could become that of Fidel Castro's Cuba.

Join us now or work for us later.

Your choice.

- Writing
- Layout
- Fundraising
- Editing

THE VIRGINIA
INFORMER

Come to an interest meeting
Monday August 29 at 9 pm
Gooch Hall Social Lounge
Email VAInfo@wm.edu and check
out www.VAInformer.com
for more details.

Got an opinion? Share it!

We also accept full-length opinion
pieces for this page.

The Virginia Informer reserves the right not to print all submitted
pieces. Selections chosen at the discretion of the editor.

**Good luck,
Virginia Informer,
on your first issue.**

**The
Luppino-Esposito
Family of New Jersey**



(Above) The culprit: Exhaust fan in the attic of Preston Hall which caused the May 3, 2005 fire. (Right) The fire's aftermath: Many rooms on the third floor were destroyed. Note the students' belongings among the wreckage.

Up In Smoke



Inside the fire at Preston Hall



Fire Safety Tips DO NOT:

- ◆ Place combustible materials, such as clothing or paper, on lamps or light bulbs.
- ◆ Store any flammable liquids in Building.
- ◆ Use extension cords as permanent wiring.
- ◆ Use candles.
- ◆ Block or store **ANYTHING** in hallway and stairways.
- ◆ Place combustible materials, such as clothing or paper, on lamps or light bulbs.
- ◆ Overload electrical circuits
- ◆ Disturb ceiling tiles or penetrate ceilings.

Tips and pictures courtesy of the William and Mary Fire Safety Department

SA Preview: "Recycling" some ideas

continued from page nine

it throughout the campus. Several members of the school administration including Dave Shepard, Deb Boykin, and Anna Martin also worked with the SA to develop a plan deemed fair to both the students and administration. Floyd says that the recycling program should be up and running

in September.

This year should also see a new chapter in the relationship between the College and the City. The Public Affairs Department and its new chief, Jhett Nelson, have several important issues to deal with this year. Of main importance are student voting issues, businesses that are tailored towards students, and greater dialogue between city officials and students of the college. Several meetings have already been held between members of the SA and Williamsburg City officials.

With the many new developments in the Student Assembly, many freshman and maybe some upperclassmen may be wondering how they can become involved with their student government. One great way to get involved is through elected office. This year's freshman elections are being held on September 15. If running for office isn't your thing then the class councils, especially First Year Council, are highly recommended. First Year Council is an independent agency that helps the newly elected freshman class officers run the many events and fundraisers throughout freshman year. For more information on this and any other student government topic please go to: <http://sa.wm.edu>.



Reduce, reuse: Recycling on campus will not only improve environment but it will also save school money.

Rec Center getting into shape for 2006

Benjamin Farthing

Staff Writer

During the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 semesters, the William and Mary Sports and Recreational Facility will be under major renovations. The main entrance will be on the Compton Road side of the building, said Linda Knight, director of the facility.

Although the entire renovated facility will not be open until Fall 2006, much of the current building will still be accessible. The pool and two basketball courts will remain open, along with cardiovascular equipment on the third basketball court, and the weight room downstairs. The racquetball courts will be closed until next fall.

Activities will also take place in other areas of campus, including the Fitwell Studio in William and Mary Hall.

When the new facility is complete, using the Sports and Recreational Facility will be an entirely new experience. There will be two multipurpose

rooms for various classes. A multi-activity court will be available, made ready for indoor soccer, volleyball, and basketball. The three existing basketball courts will continue to serve the student population. A 3,000 sq. foot weight room will replace the existing one. There will be three racquetball courts and one squash court, completely renovated and with back walls made entirely of glass.

Three new additions will revolutionize the facility. The first is a juice bar to serve the students who use the facility. The second is a massage therapy and fitness training room. This will give students the opportunity to measure their fitness level before and after training. The third exciting new addition will be a 23-foot rock-climbing wall, spread over two walls and able to hold ten climbers at a time.

After the renovations of the 2005-2006 school year, the Sports and Recreational Facility will become an entirely new place to get fit.

Grounds have a workout: The Rec Center will be under renovation until next fall, but will still be operational with limited services.

