What is Tribe Pride?

Many students first heard the phrase when touring the school. And freshmen entering the College were given a shirt proclaiming “Tribe Pride: Get Some” to wear to sport events. The phrase was used so often that its exact meaning became confusing for some. How did the Tribe put their “Pride” into words?

Kobie Gordon, the President of the Class of 2012, described it as support for the College’s accomplishments. “In my opinion, Tribe Pride is when the student body and faculty, as a community, have a strong appreciation for the achievements made by the people around us. We take pride in the fact that we are all working together to reach our goals and make a difference in our community here at the College,” Gordon said.

Students showed their support for the Tribe in a variety of ways. Many students chose to cheer on the sports teams by getting dressed up in green and yellow or painting their faces to attend the major sporting events each week. From the Homecoming football game in the fall to the Greek Pride basketball game in the winter, students could be found cheering on Tribe athletes in both varsity and intramural sports.

Other students celebrated their “Pride” by joining activities that would help promote the Tribe, such as becoming Tour Guides, members of the Student Assembly, or Tribe Ambassadors. Some even chose to show their Tribe Pride by giving back to the community by going on service trips, raising money for those less fortunate, or tutoring local students. Yet most students chose a simpler path, representing their “Pride” by finding classes and organizations that helped them to shine personally and further the collective achievements of the Tribe.

The abstract feeling of satisfaction that came from being a student at William & Mary ultimately helped the College act as a cohesive community. “Tribe Pride, I believe, is what has kept this spirited, strong-minded, and supportive community together in the past, and it will continue to do so for many years to come,” Gordon said.