Benefactor of Miller Hall discusses healthcare
Alum, healthcare CEO opposes public option

T.D. Crowley
Contributor

Alan B. Miller came out strongly against the prospect of a public option for health-care reform Saturday during a hour-long forum sponsored by Americans For In-formed Democracy and hosted by Miller in the new building that bears his name. Mr. Miller, a William and Mary graduate and CEO of hospital-management firm Health Services In-corporated, emphasized his support for greater government regulation of health-care. But he suggested that the infrastructure and expertise of private insurance companies could not be easily duplicated by the government.

Beginning his remarks by stressing the “extremely complicated” nature of problems within American healthcare, Mr. Mill-er proceeded to speak about the reforms proposed by the Clinton administration in 1994. Under the Clinton plan, the national government would have created its own insurance company to compete with private insurers. Mr. Miller called the public op-tion supported by the Obama administra-tion “very similar, if not exactly the same” as the Clinton plan, which was roundly de-feated in Congress. He expressed concern that with an endless supply of taxpayer revenue to support it, and said that such a plan could undercut private insurers while providing poor service for consumers.

Questioning the statistic that 45.7 mil-lion Americans are without health insur-ance, Mr. Miller said that the number of American citizens who are both uninsured and could not obtain coverage if they so chose is closer to 16 million. He sug-gested that 12-14 million of those could obtain coverage if Congress allowed the purchase of health insurance across state lines, which would substantially increase competition between insurers and could lower premiums.

Mr. Miller also championed a cap on punitive damages in malpractice lawsuits. Not only do high premiums for malprac-tice insurance force doctors to charge a “four person rule is not enough”

DONOR SPEAKS ON HEALTHCARE continued on page ten

Administration makes final speech code change requested by FIRE

Elizabeth Hexter
Contributor

According to the Foundation for Indi-vidual Rights in Education (FIRE), the College is on track for a “green light” designation. The “green light” designa-tion is given to colleges and universities with free-speech-friendly policies. This designation would reflect the recent changes to the College’s speech code for both student and faculty conduct. In a recent news article, FIRE stated that all the College had to do was make a change to its Office of Equal Opportu-nity website and it would be promoted to “green light” status. According to College Spokesman Brian Whitson, the administration has decided to make that change.

“The College’s Office of Equal Op-portunity maintains a page on ‘discrim-ination’ that, according to FIRE, ‘ex- plicitly includes selected expression as examples of harassment.’ FIRE is in complete agreement with the definition of harassment given on the website, but takes issue with the examples of harassment provided on the website, claiming that they do not match the definition. FIRE suggested that the administration leave that definition up, but remove the list of examples of harassment. FIRE did not contact the administra-tion of the College directly about imple-menting the final changes. However, the College was already in the process of reviewing the website prior to FIRE’s suggestion to revise it. According to University Relations, President Reveley asked that this process be expedited and the decision has been made to remove the examples in question from the website.

The administration has already made several changes to policies regarding speech in the code of conduct recently, including eliminating a ban on anonymous postings and modifying an internet usage policy that prohibited any “unsolicited messages which contain profane language or which pander to bigotry, sexism or other forms of discrimination.”

Former Student Assembly Student Repre-sentative Barry Katz ’10 first brought the issue of free-speech-stifling policies to the administration’s attention in the Spring of 2008 after the contro-versy over the Sex Workers’ Art Show. In the aftermath of the show, it became

FINAL FIRE CHANGE MADE continued on page ten

The Informer

www.VAInformer.com

October 7, 2009

Issue 4

Volume 5

Established 2005

An independent publication at the College of William and Mary.

2008 Collegiate Network

Paper of the Year

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Former Rector Powell to kick-off “Ethics Week”

Hart Moore
Assistant News Editor

On Tuesday, November 3rd, Michael Powell (’85) will be returning to his alma mater at the request of the Honor Council to give a speech kicking off the Honor Council’s Ethics Week.

Ethics Week is hosted annually by the Honor Council, and it serves to foster student familiarity with the School’s Honor Council and Honor Code. According to Skyler Halbritter (’11), a member of the Council, “Ethics week is a means of reaching out to the William and Mary community and inducing a dialogue between students and Council members about the College’s honor code.”

A number of other Ethics Week events include a guest author, as well as a mock Honor Council trial, which will serve to familiarize students with Honor Council proceedings.

Mr. Powell, the son of former Secretary of State Colin Powell, graduated in 1985 as a brother of the Theta Delta Chi fraternity. While at William and Mary Mr. Powell participated in ROTC. He served in the military following graduation, and suffered severe injuries from an accident suffered while in Germany. He has served as a member of the Board of Visitors and as Rector of the College, a position he stepped down from this summer. Among other notable achievements, Mr. Powell has chaired the Federal Communications Commission from 2004 to 2005. Most recently, Mr. Powell spoke to students during the 2007 Convocation Ceremony.

Mr. Powell’s tenure as Rector was marked by controversy. Following the resignation of former President Gene Nichol he faced insinuations from some students that he violated the Honor Code by mis-characterizing the Board’s decision not to renew Mr. Nichol’s contract as unanimous.

Mr. Powell addressed two hall events packed with students and faculty after the decision and defended the actions of the Board and his characterization, noting that in the business world such decisions are reached by consensus and without an actual vote. Subsequent visits to campus prompted a handful of students to greet him in protest with signs reading “Fire the liar! No more Powell!”

Under new management, Mr. Routtinen says that the establishment’s quality will increase, prices will drop, and more specials will be added. The result, Mr. Routtinen believes, will be a more “college-friendly” enterprise. Mr. Tsitsidopoulos - known to many students as “Jerry” - owned the Delly for approximately two years. “D-Rey”, the notorious bouncer of The College Delly, will remain on the staff according to Routtinen.

Business School Dedicated

The dedication and grand opening of Alan B. Miller Hall was Friday, October 2. The new home of the Mason School of Business is named in honor of W&M alumnus Mr. Miller – the founder and CEO of Universal Health Services. The healthcare entrepreneur has been a vocal critic about Obama’s proposed healthcare bill.

The $75 million, LEED-certified building represents the entrance to the College's Western Campus. The architectural firm, Robert A.M. Stern, was responsible for construction. The company has completed state-of-the-art projects in the past for Harvard Business School and Georgetown University.

Sustainable Algae Project Underway

The College of William and Mary and The Virginia Institute of Marine Science have teamed with a number of corporate and public enterprises in order to begin The Chesapeake Algae Project. The project is designed to research ways to produce sustainable biofuel from algae by-products. The project aims at reducing harmful “dead zones” of algae blooms that persist in the tidewater area.

Norwegian-based StatoilHydro, an energy company, has taken a prominent lead in the project. Lars Nordli of StatoilHydro’s biofuel division said that “by taking the first step in close cooperation with some of the most skilled researchers the U.S. has to offer in this field, we feel confident that we have the best starting point possible for reaching a successful result and a good basis for attracting new private and public partners in the future.”

Briefly...

Compiled by Kirk Vermeersch, News Editor

Delly returns to previous owner

The Virginia Informer has recently learned that The College Delly will not be shutting down permanently. According to Brian Ruottinen, a cook at the familiar bar and restaurant, the original owner has bought the establishment back from Jerry Tsitsidopoulos over what Mr. Ruottinen described as a disagreement regarding the style of management.

Mr. Routtinen claims that the original owner, local businessman Dean Tsamouras, felt that the “the original concept of the Deli had changed.” Mr. Routtinen says that Tsamouras took over in 1986 before selling it again in 2007. “D-Rey”, the notorious bouncer of The College Delly, will remain on the staff according to Routtinen.

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Greek God and Goddess crowned at all-greek formal

Brittany Lane
Features Editor

On Saturday, members of the Greek community on campus convened in Trinkle Hall for an evening of music and dancing at the second annual All-Greek Formal. As an effort to bolster attendance of the event last year, the three-year contract with Mirapoint involves the use of the company’s ‘Mirapoint Message Server’, a system which received an upgrade in 2002, considered a relatively distant past by industry standards, and offers email systems such as Google’s Gmail, which offers 7.4 GB of email storage, per user as opposed to the often-truncated inboxes in Mirapoint’s system. Another possibility is a “robust system with little downtime” according to William and Mary’s Chief Information Officer, Jim Mancari.

There are few drawbacks to switching away from Mirapoint. It is possible that many older students are more accustomed to the system may be dismayed at the prospect of readjusting to a different email structure. Ultimately it is, despite its downfalls, a “system that has been with us for a long time,” according to William and Mary’s Chief Information Officer, Jim Mancari. Some students frustrated by problems with campus email will be interested to learn that William and Mary’s current responsibilities may be changing hands. The current email system in place for William and Mary is set to expire in June 2010, to be replaced by a new three-year contract. The contract with Mirapoint involves the use of the company’s ‘Mirapoint Message Server’, a system which received an upgrade in 2002, considered a relatively distant past by industry standards, and offers email systems such as Google’s Gmail, which offers 7.4 GB of email storage, per user as opposed to the often-truncated inboxes in Mirapoint’s system. Another possibility is a “robust system with little downtime” according to William and Mary’s Chief Information Officer, Jim Mancari.
In recent years, many students have grown unaware that we even have a campus television station, let alone any programming. However, a group of students is actively attempting to change this perception in a noticeable way.

Many people have seen the Facebook ad campaign and wall-to-wall postings for the new show Crossroads that premiered on October 1st. The Informer caught up with one of the show’s writers, Eamonn Cummings ('12), who had this to say about the structure of the show: “The Show is a news entertainment show. The concept is to showcase professors, events, and all school activities in a humorous manner. We are taking a lot of inspiration from The Daily Show and The Colbert Report.”

According to Mr. Cummings, “Crossroads will have a “Crossfire-like” segment called ‘CrossCheck,’ but that will not be the show’s main focus. The section would feature rapid-fire debate between opponents of diametrically-opposed points of view. Crossroads will discuss William and Mary’s academics, sports, arts, and clubs. We have divided up the show into segments to better cover each of these topics. So far we have ‘Better Know Your Professor,’ ‘CrossCheck,’ ‘Kings of the Hill’ (Student Government), ‘Hark Upon the Fail’ (so we can highlight UVA), ‘The Minority Report’ (to highlight our school’s diversity, and some of the little-known organizations on campus), ‘Cummings and Goings’ (covering campus arts and limited engagements), and ‘TSPN’ (Tribe sports). We are planning to add more as time goes on.”

However, many of the other aspects of the show feature Tribe sports fans and club enthusiasts. Even the art folks are excited because it will be a show that both highlights their events and brings their activities to a wider audience.

Many of the show’s segments have already been filmed, including an interview with SA president Sarah Rojas ('10), a trip to UVA on a fact-finding mission (which, Cummings has informed me, failed), and even a segment on William and Mary’s own production of the classic, Little Shop of Horrors.

The show began on October 1st at 7pm, and it will continue with a new episode every two weeks at the same day and time. Crossroads joins recent addition Everyday Gourmet on William and Mary TV, bringing with it a seeming resurgence for campus broadcasting.

Michael Young
Assistant Features Editor

Go fly a kite.

INGENUITY
Pass It On:
The Foundation For A Better Life
forbetterlife.org
Blame It on the Alcohol

Fat Weasel Ale bores despite alcohol content

When asked if I wanted to be the Virginia Informer’s beer columnist, I was at first a little confused. A columnist whose sole job is to drink and write about beer is already a foreign concept to me, but a female beer columnist is unheard of. I soon realized that I actually am a legitimate candidate for the position and would be an idiot not to accept the offer. Unlike most of my friends, I would take a beer over a fruity cocktail any day, so why not embrace this reality and share my experience? Also, I now always have an excuse to drink. This job is perfect for me!

The first beer that I chose to try is Fat Weasel Ale from Trader Joe’s. I’m a sucker for logos, which explains the impulsive decision to buy this beer in particular. The box features what appears to be a weasel wearing a straw hat, sunglasses, and a purple button down shirt. Not only is the weasel clothed, but he is also drinking beer from a giant silver mug. This combination of the weasel’s clothes and drinking device fascinated me for some reason, and I decided I must try it.

Unfortunately, the box does not give any information as to what type of beer Fat Weasel is, so I was unpleasantly surprised upon opening the first bottle. Fat Weasel is definitely not for weak beer drinkers. It is a very strong ale. Not only is the weasel clothed, but I was unpleasantly surprised upon opening the first bottle. Fat Weasel failed in both of these departments. Going forward in my beer-testing career I know to be more cautious about my trip to the grocery store. I have learned that nothing about Fat Weasel excites me. Perhaps this can be explained by the fact that I bought the beer Friday afternoon with the anticipation of drinking it Saturday night at the dinner party that my housemates and I were hosting. Maybe I hyped it up too much over that 24-hour period, and as a result it never really stood a chance. Regardless of what happened, Fat Weasel did not perform its intended task of enhancing my dining experience on Saturday night, which is a colossal disappointment.

Although Fat Weasel did not make a positive impression on me and can be best described as a generic strong ale, it did teach me a valuable lesson. Just like the age old saying, “Don’t judge a book by its cover” I have learned to never again judge a beer by its logo. For most people I doubt that this is a problem, but evidently it is for me.

I would like for the next beer I try to make my evening better, not worse and even make me want to drink it again. Fat Weasel failed in both of these departments. Going forward in my beer-testing career I know to be more cautious about what I buy. I know that logos are not indicative of how a beer tastes and that it might be in my best interest to do a little research prior to my trip to the grocery store. I have faith that the next beer I drink will be exponentially better than Fat Weasel, and I can’t wait to discover it. I might even find a really good beer with a horribly boring logo.

Editors Note: The Virginia Informer encourages its readers to please drink responsibly, and in accordance with local, state and federal law.

Professor served as an international observer in Afghan election

Julia Riesenberg
Editor at Large

William and Mary assistant professor Rani Mullen acted as an international observer to the presidential election in Afghanistan this past August. The election process has been stagnated by widespread allegations of voter fraud, an ongoing controversy that poses a serious threat to the future of the nascent democracy. Ms. Mullen spent a week stationed in Kabul as one of 80 participants of Democracy International’s Election Observation Mission in Afghanistan, one of the global organizations responsible for monitoring the election process.

Ms. Mullen reports that she did not personally witness significant signs of fraud, though states in her blog that colleagues stationed in the insecure areas of southern Afghanistan gave accounts of “stuffed ballot boxes early in the morning when observers showed up, political pressures exerted by government officials to favor President Karzai, and no sign of the mandatory tally sheet posted on polling center doors.”

In her most recent posting, Ms. Mullen concludes “Afghanistan had two elections on August 20th, 2009.”

On September 8, the Afghan Independent Election Commission announced that preliminary vote results gave President Hamid Karzai a second consecutive victory, claiming the majority by 54.1 percent. Yet international election officials and observers continue to challenge the legitimacy of these results, criticizing the IEC for refusing to implement stricter safeguards that would discount a significant number of ballot boxes, enough to force President Karzai into a second election against his closest opponent, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah.

This criticism follows statements from the heads of the European Union’s election monitoring commission determining that as many as one third of the ballots cast in favor of President Karzai are suspect, and in need of further investigation.

Ms. Mullen co-authored an article published in the September 18 issue of Foreign Policy along with fellow election observers William Maley and Marvin Weinbaum, which analyzes the long-term ramifications of an unsettled election.

“It will likely take weeks to determine whether President Karzai…can avoid a runoff election,” write the authors. Due to the testimonies of international observers, the United Nations-backed Electoral Complaints Commission, an Afghan and international panel, has called for a recount of ballot boxes in insecure areas. The ECC has the ultimate authority to determine the authenticity of election results, though Western officials worry that President Karzai’s supporters could accuse the commission of attempting to disenfranchise Afghans. Furthermore, if the recount “invalidates enough votes to trigger a re-election,” write Maley and Weinbaum, “the onset of winter by late October and the resulting inaccessibility of remote areas would mean that such an election would have to wait until spring. This long delay, with Karzai continuing to hold the presidency, would trigger a constitutional crisis, and possibly an outbreak of serious violence in Kabul.”

“If a decision is made to investigate all electoral fraud complaints and a runoff election is required in the spring,” the authors call for “an interim government...authorized by the country’s Supreme Court and the Afghan National Assembly.”

The election controversy in Afghanistan could seriously affect international and domestic support for the Obama administration’s decision to expand the war in the country. As Maley and Weinbaum write, “a nightmare scenario is one in which the United States is expected to partner with a government legitimized by the very process by which it has hung onto power.”

Far and away: Rani Mullen observed the Afghan election first-hand as an international observer. The election has been the subject of intense scrutiny due to claims of electoral manipulation by the Karzai government.
I’m not the biggest football fan. I have problems sticking around to watch games past halftime, and last February, I chose to take a well-needed nap instead of watching the Super Bowl. Even still, I am jumping up and down at our football team’s success so far this season. I know I’m not the only one. Tickets to the game against Delaware sold out, I’ve never seen so many over-sized yellow “Tribe Pride” t-shirts worn at once before, and the newly formed Tribal Fever has been stirring up an incredible energy on campus.

Decades ago, the College only dreamed of success like this, and in 1946, the Board of Visitors decided to do something about it. Departing from traditional matters of budget management and long-term planning, the Board mandated that the College make it a top priority for the school “to win more contests than we lose.” In other words, the College’s football, basketball, and baseball teams needed to step it up and start winning big.

In the forties, the athletic department dominated the school’s budget. It encompassed not only all of the school’s varsity teams, but it also acted as an academic department, since the College stipulated that all students fulfill a physical education requirement. Rube McCray, the head football coach, headed this department. Once President Pomfret informed Mr. McCray of the Board’s instructions, he knew he needed to take drastic measures. The football team, as well as the basketball and baseball teams, was far from winning a majority of its games.

By 1951, scandal engulfed the College. It turned out that Mr. McCray believed the best way to improve the quality of the athletics department was to manipulate the grades of student athletes. Mr. McCray coerced professors into raising the grades of poor performers and he gave athletes credits for courses they never attended. Mr. McCray even pressured three female students that worked in the athletic department office to alter the grades on high school transcripts of potential College athletes before the transcripts were given to the admissions office.

One of these students, the president of the Women’s Honor Council, was particularly devastated about the pressure Mr. McCray put on her to break the Honor Code in order to help the athletics department. In an interesting twist, the scandal was only discovered because of the school’s lack of technology; all altered transcripts contained smudged ‘e’s thanks to a faulty typewriter in the athletics department office. That spring, the College’s administration confronted Mr. McCray about the altered transcripts that the admissions office had discovered. Mr. McCray not only denied the allegations, but blamed them on Alfred Vandeweghe, an assistant football coach. Mr. Vandeweghe was fired immediately.

But the accusations kept coming. That summer a faculty committee, led by the very extraordinary Richard Morton, endured the intense Williamsburg summer heat to seek out the truth. Rube McCray’s actions were brought to light, and he, along with the head basketball coach, resigned that August. After Mr. McCray left, the College divided the athletics department into a smaller athletics department and a separate physical education department. The administration reduced funding to the athletics department, and the College once again began striving for football victory.
Physics professor wins raft debate

Jordan Bloom
Arts and Culture Editor

Amidst rousing cheers from a jam-packed Commonwealth Auditorium, a William & Mary tradition continued last Wednesday. This year, physics professor David Armstrong won the debate and the last boat off the island, supported by an enthusiastic audience of aspiring scientists.

The Raft Debate pits three professors representing the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities against each other, each arguing that, in the hypothetical event that they were stranded on an island, they deserve saving more than the others.

The fourth, education professor Jeremy Stoddard, plays the devil’s advocate, arguing that none of them deserves saving.

Each man is given ten minutes of speaking time, including a seven-minute expository argument and a three-minute rebuttal.

Mr. Armstrong, coolly confident in a Hawaiian shirt, led off with a metaphor comparing academia to Gilligan’s Island. Ginger represents the humanities, nice to look at but mostly impractical, and the bumbling, useless Gilligan is, of course, sociology. The savior of the island – and by implication, academia – is the preciosous Professor, the natural scientist.

Economics professor David Feldman followed. Arguably, he had the toughest job of the night, trying to convince the audience of his discipline’s superiority in the midst of the current economic climate. His argument was apologetic, contending that the social sciences “answer human questions” and “work with issues” rather than figures and so couldn’t be counted on for precise predictions.

Dr. Giulia Pacini went for the throat early during her expository time, addressing the irony of seeing an economist submerged or stranded like so many mortgage foreclosures. She railed against the failings of science, citing the 1999 crash of a NASA orbiter due to a unit conversion error. She didn’t shy away from cheap shots, either; she asked who was more likely to procreate, “the inventor, the number cruncher, or the storyteller?”

Props figured into the devil’s advocate’s time, and he ridiculed the very premise of setting a nuclear physicist, an economist, and a scholar of French culture against one another. “It reads like a bad joke,” Mr. Stoddard said. He poked holes in Mr. Armstrong’s metaphor, noting that Gilligan actually got them off the island and that the Professor never did anything useful. Addressing Ms. Pacini, he handled her a graph predicting a world with more French scholars; it showed higher STD’s and lower productivity, if you couldn’t guess.

Despite some modest ribaldry, the tone remained friendly. Mr. Feldman even offered several high-fives to his competitors. After winning over the crowd, Mr. Armstrong graciously commented, “I attribute my modest success in the debate to my adoption of the classic technique of “proof by obfuscation,” and the audience being stacked with physics grad students!” He also made sure to mention his “great respect and affection for the humanities and the social sciences.”

There really isn’t a more unique tradition than the Raft Debate; it’s part lecture, part absurd intellectual exercise, part comedy. It lets us take pride in our chosen disciplines, cheering along while our professors engage in some good-natured rhetoric, and we get to see our professors out of the classroom, accessible and having fun. Totally frivolous, but a damned good time.

And there was cake after.
A history of disasters at the College of William and Mary

The Sir Christopher Wren Building

The Wren Building itself has suffered its fair share of fires. In 1705, the uncompleted main building of the College burned for the first time. While the actual cause of the fire is still undetermined, historians theorize that ash spilling from the fireplaces may have been the catalyst. Originally designed to burn coal, the fireplaces were built smaller like in England. But in Virginia, where wood was more profuse than coal, the ashes from the large logs spilled onto the hearth and may have likely started the first fire. In 1859, another fire demolished the building. The cause of this fire is also undetermined, but it is thought to have started in the chemistry laboratory. In 1862, the third fire struck the College Building. This last fire was started by the Fifth Pennsylvania cavalry, who were stationed in Williamsburg during the Civil War. The soldiers started the fire in retaliation for an attack on the town by the Confederate Cavalry.

The President’s House

Like the Wren Building, the President’s House has also seen three fires. In 1781, during the Siege of Yorktown in the American Revolution, the President’s House was converted into a hospital for French soldiers and was accidentally set on fire during the process. In 1834, a tornado came through the area and did some damage to the roof. In 1879, another fire caught at the President’s House, this time due to a faulty chimney. In 1922, a third fire gutted the third floor and the center halls.

Ewell Hall

Before it housed the music department and dean of undergraduate studies, Ewell Hall was the original Phi Beta Kappa auditorium. In 1950, the ceiling caved in under the north balcony, partially destroying the auditorium. On December 29, 1953, the auditorium was completely destroyed by a fire. It was rebuilt, thanks to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who gave the College $250,000 for the reconstruction of the Phi Beta Kappa auditorium. After the fire, the College decided to build a new structure, thus moving PBK from its home in Ewell to its current location.

Storms

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<th>Hurricane</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Isabel</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>A major ice storm struck Virginia, knocking off power for days and stranding people in their homes. The ice became so heavy and thick on trees that branches began falling off under the weight. With students on Christmas break, no students were harmed or injured, and the campus buildings suffered only minor damages. Colonial Williamsburg, however, did close its gates to visitors for a short time after several guests were nearly injured by falling branches.</td>
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<td>Ernesto</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2006 was witness to yet another summer storm. What began as Hurricane Ernesto was downgraded to a tropical storm by the time it arrived in Virginia. However, the storm did cause a significant amount of flooding on the campus, and resulted in the postponement of the 2006 Convocation ceremonies. Convocation was not held until mid-September.</td>
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The “Christmas Ice Storm”

Beginning on December 23, 1998, a major ice storm struck Virginia, knocking off power for days and stranding people in their homes. The ice became so heavy and thick on trees that branches began falling off under the weight. With students on Christmas break, no students were harmed or injured, and the campus buildings suffered only minor damages. Colonial Williamsburg, however, did close its gates to visitors for a short time after several guests were nearly injured by falling branches.

Timeline of natural disasters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1693</td>
<td>Incomplete Wren building burns down for the first time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1781</td>
<td>President’s House has roof damaged by a tornado.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1859</td>
<td>Wren Building burns down for the third time. The fire was started by the occupying Union army in retaliation for a Confederate assault on the town.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td>President’s House catches on fire for the third time. The fire destroyed the interior of the third floor and the center halls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Jefferson Hall dormitory is completely gutted by a fire which began in the middle of the night and was started by faulty refrigerator wiring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Complete gutting of the Chi Omega house in Sorority House for the third time. The fire destroyed the interior of the third floor and the center halls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>In response to Hurricane Isabel, the College evacuated the campus. Fortunately, no buildings were seriously damaged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>The Chi Omega house in Sorority House sustained minor damage from a kitchen fire.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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on the other side:

College of William and Mary

Jefferson Hall

In 1983, Jefferson Hall dormitory was almost completely gutted by fire in the middle of the night. Faulty wiring in a new refrigerator on the first floor started the fire, forcing students out into a freezing January night, where the temperature outside was around 14°F. Reports from the event recall the firefighters’ gloves freezing to the water hoses as they put out the fire. Fortunately, no students were killed or injured in the fire, but Jefferson Hall was closed until it reopened in 1985.

Sorority Court - Chi Omega House

With fire being the most common disaster at the College, it makes sense that the most recent disaster was a minor kitchen fire at the Chi Omega house in March 2008. The fire occurred over spring break, so most students were away from the campus. The residents who remained in the house got out in time, and the house suffered only minor damages.

Preston Hall

2005 witnessed another fire in a dormitory, this time at Preston Hall in the Randolph Complex. A faulty exhaust fan in the attic of Preston Hall started a fire that greatly damaged the top floors and left smoke damage towards the lower floors. The fire occurred at the end of August, just as students were beginning to move into the dorm. The 70 students assigned to live in Preston instead moved into the Governor's Inn, where the College arranged housing. Fortunately, no students were injured during the fire, but the third floor was badly damaged. The second and first floors sustained extensive smoke damage.

Locations of Fires on Campus
DONOR SPEAKS ON HEALTHCARE: Alumnus namesake of Miller Hall opposes public option

continued from page one

more, Mr. Miller said, but the prospect of costly malpractice judgments also encourages the practice of “defensive medicine”, in which doctors order unnecessary tests to appear thorough in the event of a lawsuit. He estimated that defensive medicine wastes upwards of $125 billion every year.

During a question and answer session, Mr. Miller disputed the claim that government-run healthcare in Europe provides better care than the American system. Citing Health Services’ experience managing hospitals in Britain, he called British healthcare “deficient” in comparison to the United States, due to long waits for routine care and in-demand procedures, poor maintenance of public hospitals, and the unavailability of certain drugs and procedures which the government has not determined to be cost-effective. Health Services also manages hospitals in France and Canada, Mr. Miller said that those countries face similar problems.

Alan B. Miller graduated from William and Mary in 1958 and obtained his MBA from the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School. He is the chairman, founder, and CEO of Health Services Incorporated and has received a lifetime achievement award from the American Hospital Federation. In addition to his work in the healthcare field, Mr. Miller is a trustee of and donor to the College, and is a retired US Army Captain. The Alan B. Miller Hall, new home to the Mason School of Business, opened this fall and was dedicated on October 24.

REVELEY DISCUSSES FINANCES: President expresses little hope of future state aid

continued from page one

Visitors meets in November. “We’re looking at some really tough choices,” Mr. Reveley said. The President emphasized that his intention was to avoid raising tuition if at all possible. He noted that alumni donations, always important, are becoming even more essential to the College as state support diminishes. “We are working very, very hard to raise more money each year,” Mr. Reveley said, noting that the College has received record donations from alumni. “Last year we raised more money than the College has ever raised in its history,” he said.

Nevertheless, the possibility of a tuition increase is very real, even for the second semester of the current academic year. Since the budget cuts were announced after the beginning of the semester, any tuition hike intended to compensate for the financial loss that state is unable to support our operating budget the way it used to...then we really need the free-dom to support ourselves,” he said.

But while Mr. Reveley lamented the drop in state support for the operating budget, he emphasized that Richmond continues to support the College’s building projects liberally. “They’ve been very generous,” Mr. Reveley said. He also stressed that William and Mary’s financial troubles are by no means unique. “This is happening to everybody over the country,” he said. “We’re not alone in it.”

The Board of Visitors will decide the College’s response to the state of its financial resources at its meeting on November 19 and 20.

FINALE FIRE CHANGES MADE: College institutes final revisions recommended by

continued from page one

apparent to Mr. Katz “just how unaware students are as to the full extent of their First Amendment rights.” This realization was a catalyst for his new mission: “I decided that I wanted to educate fellow students about free speech and work proactively to make the College a more free-speech friendly campus.” As part of that mission, Mr. Katz says, “I sat down with the code of conduct and rewrote the policies in such a way to make them constitutionally acceptable.” Mr. Katz then presented his revised versions of the code of conduct policies to the administration. Mr. Katz’s action, combined with the pressure placed on the administration by FIRE, played a large role in their ultimate decision to revise the code of conduct.
Movie Review:

The Invention of Lying falls just short of excellence

Justin Duke
Staff Writer

Imagine, like the writer-director duo of Matthew Robinson and Ricky Gervais does in Invention of Lying, a world where dishonesty isn't just frowned upon but is non-existent.

In his directorial debut, Gervais presents a fantastic premise – as one might surmise from the title, a world in which truth is the norm and lying does not exist – that produces solid laughter for the first fifty minutes. Ultimately, though, the premise alone could not sustain the movie: the plot graduated from quips and clever commentary to a portfolio of romantic comedy tropes and pseudo-pedagogy.

There isn’t much to be said about the comedy that the film eschews: fans of The Office and Extras will feel right at home with Ricky Gervais’s performance, which he delivers with characteristic aplomb. Tina Fey and Louis C.K.’s performances also stand out, they cope well with the swiftly dwindling material they are dealt.

The script, co-written by Gervais and Robinson, shows a strong effort to maximize the potential of the clearly fertile concept of truth. Sadly, it is constantly hobbled by being pulled too many places at once. The writers did not play to their strengths; Gervais and Garner grow, we lose track of who they are, and the thematic structure of the plot, an interesting idea centered around the championing of amorality, descends from social commentary to heavy-handed prose, Invention borces.

Religion is presented as an outright sham in the film. This is an interesting idea, but the humor falls flat faster than the main character’s elaborate lies. Gervais can present atheism as he wants, but when he doesn’t make it funny, the film suffers.

Invention cannot decide the breadth with which it wants to present its novel take on dishonesty. It tries to both quietly present the offbeat temperatures of an uncomfortable romance and satirize society at large, specifically religion. And when it tries to do both with humorless wit and witless humor, it fails miserably.

That being said, the movie is laudable for the audacity with which it perpetrates its good spirits and the charisma of the universally talented set of leads and cameos. It has its funny moments, its charming moments, and its ‘awwwww’ moments. All of these work very well to win you over. They just never present themselves with enough rapidity or simultaneity for the movie to be fantastic.

All things considered, the presentation of a relatively novel concept and a talented cast elevates The Invention of Lying to a solid romantic-comedy. But, truth be told, it’s still a romantic-comedy and that fact prevents it from being spectacular.

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Restaurant Review:

Baker’s Crust offers trendy ambiance, memorable desserts

Chelsea Sisson
Contributor

Anytime something new opens in a town, people talk about it. Having just opened, Baker’s Crust, located on Monticello Avenue, already had this in its favor, and I was curious to check out this new addition to Williamsburg. With a name like Baker’s Crust, I was expecting a very casual sandwich deli. This was not what I found.

Baker’s Crust has a great atmosphere. I did not walk into the deli-like atmosphere that I expected, but a place with an artsy feel. Beads hung above some of the booths, and the lights were dimmed just enough to give it a cosmopolitan air. In addition, the restaurant also had a full bar in back, further shaking the preconceived image I held based on its name.

I found the service very satisfactory at Baker’s Crust. The waitress for my table seemed determined to keep the bread basket full and the drinks replenished. She even took the time to talk to my group for a bit. She informed us that she was from Poland and asked how we liked school. This politeness added to the pleasant and welcoming atmosphere around us.

I ordered the baked goat cheese appetizer and the Cajun jambalaya pasta. I was not dissatisfied with either choice, but, truth be told, it’s still a romantic-comedy. But, truth be told, it’s still a romantic-comedy and that fact prevents it from being spectacular.

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The Finer Side:
How to walk in heels through life

I have a very favorite pair of shoes. They're a pair of black, patent leather, pointed-toe, sling-back pumps, with a perilously high stiletto heel. They're what I automatically wear when I need to feel powerful or successful. But walking in these heels isn't something that most people are automatically good at. It takes practice. Learning how to strut your stuff in a killer pair of pumps, however, isn't the only thing you have to practice. Life takes practice. Living, just getting through the day, takes some skill. Life is stressful right now; as a senior, I am personally inundated with the daily stresses of finding a job, studying for the LSAT, keeping up with coursework, and doing it all while trying to maintain a happy, polished image. It's something that takes practice. And like walking in heels, it's something that can only be done one day, one step at a time.

Walking in heels is like going through life. You have to put your heel down and take a step. There's always a risk that you may stumble or trip, fall or even break an ankle, but you just have to keep walking gracefully on. You have to take the risk and keep walking. Life without risk is no life at all. Every time you put on the strappy sandals, there's a possibility that you'll trip on the cobble stone (which, at William and Mary, is no laughing matter, as I recently discovered!). You have to take the chance that you'll be rejected, turned down, or that life won't turn out the way you thought it would. Sometimes the perfect pair of peep-toes just doesn't fit your feet the way you hoped. But sometimes everything does work out. Sometimes the job offer comes through, the acceptance letter from grad school arrives, and the glass slipper fits.

To successfully walk in heels, you have to have confidence. You have to stand tall with your shoulders back. You have to put one foot in front of the other and not stare at the ground in front of you, wondering when you'll fall next. You can't tiptoe your way through life. If you tiptoe in heels, you look timid and awkward. If you tiptoe through life, you miss the chance to make a difference. You can't run in heels. Ever seen someone try to sprint in 3-inch wedges? Not a pretty sight. You can't run through life either. Walking in heels forces you to take your time, to look where you're going, to see the world around you. If you're so focused on falling on the sidewalk in front of you, you'll miss the scenery around you. You'll miss the people next to you. Don't be so concentrated on what's beneath your soles that you miss what's right in front of you.

When you walk in heels, you are in control. You are graceful, you are beautiful. You are in charge of your life. Only you can put on the Strappy Sandals in the morning. When you walk in heels, you make the decisions; you don't just let stuff happen to you. Life is what you make of it, and you only get the chance to do this once. And if you do trip or fall, as you're bound to do, you pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and keep going. You steady your ankle and keep walking. You may limp for a bit, you may get a bruise or a blister. There will be people who will kick a rock into your shoe. They will do things that will cause you pain. So you stop and shake the rock out of your shoe and go on. But you take the next step. You don't take off the shoe and give up. You keep walking. You stand tall, you throw your shoulders back, and look life in the eye. You keep living.
Music Review:

A Brief History of Love frontloaded but fun

Jack Evans
Music Critic

There’s this guy Tucker Max I keep hearing about recently. He’s an admitted sleaze who wrote a New York Times Bestseller about his drunken escapades and now has written and produced a semi-autobiographical movie, which is apparently out now in limited release.

My point is: I am one hundred percent positive that Tucker Max would love the hell out of The Big Pink (ugh, that name). This is a band who, in the hype-filled months right before A Brief History of Love was released, came across like the embodiment of everything missing from indie rock nowadays: the kind of brush, hook-driven, hypermasculine and a little bit misogynistic rock and roll from the 90’s, before grunge and Britpop starting sucking. In short, they looked like they could be the drinking man’s MGMT.

A Brief History of Love is pretty good for essentially the first six songs, but this album is ridiculously frontloaded. Around the two-minute mark, opener “Crystal Visions” snaps into this amazing spaced-out chorus completely out of nowhere. They are singing, “Do you know the way to the silver covered roads?” But it really doesn’t matter what the lyrics are.

Well, that’s not entirely true. The stupidly catchy last single “Dominos,” has this for a chorus: “These girls fall like dominos.” It’s a bizarre, vaguely sexist, non-sequitur of a lyric and they sing it clearly and triumphantly, like it’s the best lyric they’ve ever written, which it’s definitely not. That honor goes to “If you really love him/ Tell me that you love him again,” which sounds like what Phil Spector used to write for the Ronettes’ songs.

The more I think about it, the second half of the album might not be as bad per se, just not memorable in any way, although the album closer “Countdown to Ten” will probably grow on me. But, wow, they should have put “Velvet” there instead.

Musically, it’s an epic crescendo of pulsating synth and bastardized shoegaze guitar. Lyrically, it goes from regretful (“I’m not looking for love but it’s hard to resist”) to sneering (“These arms of mine don’t care about you who they hold”). It perfectly encapsulates every good thing about The Big Pink (besides The Band reference it has to be a euphemism for…umm, well...) speaking of which, I hope you like pretentious, would-be artsy pictures of naked chicks on your rock albums covers!

Told you Tucker Max would love this band.

Theater Review:

Jean Brodie enthralls as it appalls

Travis Jones
Contributor

We’ve all—if we’re lucky—had teachers who have changed our lives, whose boundless energy and dedication inspires universal admiration and respect from their pupils. But what happens when one of these teachers become lost in this admiration, no longer able to differentiate between their own desires and the needs of their students? This is the question raised by the William and Mary Theatre production of The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, which ran October 1 through October 4 on the Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall Mainstage.

Set in Edinburgh during the early 1930s, the play revolves around Miss Jean Brodie (Zoe Speas ’12), whose unconventional teaching methods and unorthodoxy of her character. Miss Brodie and trying to win her approval, to a young woman whose in- terest in the arts, who is determined to force her resignation. Miss Brodie avoids this possibility, keeping her love affairs with the art teacher Teddy Lloyd (Greg Benson, ’11) and music teacher Gordon Lowther (CJ Bergin ’11) well under wraps and remaining otherwise above reproach.

Remaining at Marcia Blaine, Miss Brodie continues to take particular interest in her favorite girls, even as they move to the upper school and are no longer under her tutelage, all of whom continue to strive for her approval. In her recognition of the girls’ talents, however, it becomes increasingly clear that her encouragement is in no means selfless. As the girls mature, Miss Brodie begins to see not only the girls’ talents, but also how she can use them for her own purposes. She sees in Jenny (Maggie Seegers ’11) the potential to disentangle herself from Lloyd, by putting Jenny in Lloyd’s bed instead. She creates a loyal following and personality cult, backdropped by fascism’s spread across Europe. Finally, McKay forces Brodie from the school.

Upcoming Theater Productions:

- Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde
  - Director: Kristen Pilgrim
  - October 15-17 PBK Lab Theater
- Little Shop of Horrors
  - Directors: Christopher Owens and Gary Green
  - November 13-15 PBK Mainstage
  - November 19-22 PBK Studio Theater

WANTED: Students who want to make an IMPACT on campus

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

Meetings on Mondays, 7:30pm in Blow 331
**Spend my money or lose it**

While the rest of the College and its students are tightening their belts in these tough economic times, there is one area of the school that just keeps getting fatter: the consolidated reserve of the Student Assembly. The consolidated reserve is an account held by student government that is comprised of the rollover budgets accrued each year. The balance of this account is quite large, standing today around $180,000. This figure is constantly on the rise because each student pays around $200 a year in student fees and unused money “rolls over” into the account. This is simply ridiculous.

While the SA sits on a large pile of ever-growing cash, members of the student body are forced to shell out even more of our (or our family’s) hard-earned cash. Though $100 a semester might not seem like a lot each year, that extra money would go a long way in a student’s budget. To put it in the terms of a recent campus event, $100 a semester is almost five trips to Busch Gardens on student day. The SA cannot in good conscience and should not, being elected to be careful stewards of student money, allow student fees to go up one cent while the consolidated reserve continues to grow. If this happens under the SA’s watch, every student must throw every senator that allowed it into the CR.

The consolidated reserve still stands, each one of us should be ashamed. The consolidated reserve must be spent to make the College better. On that note, recently the SA has introduced or passed two bills that I support on the principle of improving student life. One is very helpful and could stand to do some good. The other is rather silly, but I am sure many students will enjoy and benefit from it. The first is the allocation of $13,000 of the consolidated reserve to health services. This money will provide free or subsidized STI testing. This bill not only spends the CR but could very well protect a good number of students. That we did not already have free or cheap testing (a full battery of tests could cost over $200) on a sexually active campus is alarming, but that is an issue for another article. The SA is putting the CR to good use in this case, and I applaud them.

The second bill is one that would provide a ping pong ball dispenser in the UC, so students may enjoy a wholesome game of ping pong in their residences. Perhaps some of the more pious among us would raise an eyebrow, but that is an issue for another article. The SA is putting the CR to good use in this case, and I applaud them. The second bill is one that would provide a ping pong ball dispenser in the UC, so students may enjoy a wholesome game of ping pong in their residences. Perhaps some of the more pious among us would raise an eyebrow, but that is an issue for another article. The SA is putting the CR to good use in this case, and I applaud them.

While the consolidated reserve still stands and grows, each one of us is being cheated. There is no good reason the SA needs such a large stockpile of cash. We, in one voice, must demand that the CR is spent to better the school and improve our lives. If the Student Assembly approves raising student fees while the CR increases, they have failed in their duty and are no better than common thieves.

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**Staff Editorial:**

**Switch our e-mail to Gmail**

The Informer is pleased to learn that the College is changing switching from its current email service provider to a system powered by Gmail. Gmail is reliable, broadly used and more easily navigable than the current Mirapoint set-up. As the contract with the current provider is set to expire in the near future, we feel almost any change would be an improvement. While in the process of switching email service providers, we recommend that the school also look into changing from Blackboard to one of its competitors. Although Blackboard has been essentially leading the option available in the field of virtual learning environments, there are now competitors with products that are more user friendly than the clunky design of Blackboard. Cornell recently experimented with Moodle, another virtual learning environment, and had very positive results. Colorado State University and Arizona State University switched to Kuali in 2009. In turn, a number of open-source programs have sprang up as colleges have found better ways to provide course information to students. According to Inside Higher Education magazine, an online news source dedicated to higher education news, colleges can save “many millions” by switching to an open-source alternative. This would surely be a benefit to the school.

Another large and somewhat bothersome problem that would be fixed by switching is the issue of space. Many students find their in boxes quickly filled to the brim with mail from clubs, classes and class mates. If one has to peer review others papers they had better become acquainted with the delete button. With a full box important emails can be lost and wreak havoc on a student’s life. The Mirapoint set up is just too small. The WM email service has only 50 MB of storage. Gmail has 7376 MB. The two aren’t even in the same league. The fact that the College expects the average student to make due with a limit that would be laughable in the late 90’s is down right absurd. Students receive more email than the current system allows and the limit is just a frustrating and easily solved problem. With a switch to Gmail never again would students of the college see that frustrating ‘your mailbox is full’ email.

Although The Informer does not know whether ending the college’s relationship with Blackboard is the best option, we can be sure that looking at other options cannot hurt. We hope that the college spends some time looking at open source options and more user friendly alternatives to Blackboard.

In a year ridden with the ill-tidings of state funding cuts, we can at least take heart that our email experience will improve. Although the changeover to Gmail will make a relatively small difference in the lives of students in the long run, we feel it is worthwhile to highlight this good news. It is our belief that a change to a Gmail-powered email service would be a substantial improvement over our current system, which is riddled with dubiously reliable and shoddy design. Google may be taking over, but for the time being, we kind of like it.
About 17 years ago, the City of Williamsburg passed a law preventing more than three unrelated people from living in the same place together. This law is the infamous “three-person-rule.” Since 2003, an ever-growing student movement has developed to oppose this and other Williamsburg laws that make life hard for students.

At the end of the spring, Williamsburg Planning Commission was asked to advise the City Council on the future of this rule. Just this past week, the Planning Commission essentially agreed to veto the four-person proposal. Though the City Council can still pass this proposal over the Planning Commission’s objections, they should veto this proposal as it stands. Contrary to what you might think, this plan is no improvement at all.

Here’s what the “four-person-proposal” is all about. It would create a special permit to allow for a fourth resident to live in certain houses. Landlords would have to apply for this permit at a public meeting in which town residents could voice their complaints, and the overall process would take several months from start to finish. It would also cost the landlord $800 to apply, a cost which would be handed down directly to students.

In order to apply, the house has to be over 2,000 square feet in size. Many of the houses in which students are currently living with four or five people – breaking the law – are far smaller, and yet can clearly fit more than three people. Many of the houses in which three students are currently living – legally – are far smaller as well, but can handle more than three residents all the same.

An eligible house must also have four large parking spaces. If you agree to live under this special permit, you cannot sublet your house, which drives up the price for students, who typically only live in Williamsburg for nine months of the year.

The consequence of all these rules is to limit the number of houses which can apply to hold just one extra person.

I've spoken to several landlords, and they don't see this proposal as a valuable investment. Why should a landlord spend a lot of money applying for a permit, which is not guaranteed, when students have no problem breaking the law and living four, five, or six to a house already?

The success of this four-person proposal, if passed, will perhaps depend on landlords taking action. If they have no incentive to apply for a four-person permit, then students won’t ever see the benefits of this proposal.

But even if landlords do decide that these four-person permits are good investments, how many houses will this proposal actually affect?

Twelve. That’s right, only 12 rental houses in Williamsburg would become eligible to handle an additional fourth resident under the provisions contained in this proposal. That’s only 12 more spots for students to live off campus. The four-person proposal hardly solves our housing problems.

Some folks may point out that there are about 450 total houses which meet the criteria outlined in the proposal. Unfortunately, only 12 of them are rentals, many of them far away from campus, and for the same reasons landlords don’t like this plan, it is unlikely that this plan as it stands will encourage significantly more people to start renting.

This proposal is a band-aid on a gunshot wound. It’s a token measure that does very little to address students’ housing concerns. Many City Council members have expressed frustration at the Planning Commission’s voting down of the bill, claiming that this proposal is a necessary step along the way to an ultimate solution. They claim that change to the three-person rule must be incremental.

But how long do we want to wait until we get the next, small, incremental step towards change? In two years, is the City Council going to offer up another 12 houses just to calm the waters? Will it take longer than two years for the next proposal? Or will Williamsburg residents use this fractional step as a reason not to allow any more change at all?

Instead of accepting immediate reform that lacks teeth, we should fight for a legitimate and actual fix to the broken three-person rule. Accepting the four-person rule as it stands is not a change from the status quo. Instead, now is the time that we let the City Council know how we feel about the lack of off-campus housing. Now is the time that we register to vote in Williamsburg elections and then vote for people who have long-term, creative solutions for student concerns.

Now is the time for students to stand up for a new housing policy that doesn’t disadvantage our own ranks. Now is the time that we should make our voices heard.

Joshua Karp is the co-founder of Students for a Better Williamsburg (www.studentsforabetterwilliamsburg.com), a student-run Political Action Committee focusing on student issues.

City needs comprehensive housing reform

College right for investing in business school

On Friday, September 25th, alumni and students converged on Miller Hall to participate in the “Dog Street to Wall Street” symposium. This event was designed to introduce students to Wall Street and help them network with alumni from impressive firms such as Morgan Stanley, UBS, JP Morgan, etc. But the alums were not the stars at this event; the real star of the show was the new building, Miller Hall. The building is wildly ostentatious. Fireplaces? Yes, it is nice. But amidst all these distractions is a real plan that involves the future of Williamsburg and Mary as a premier learning institution.

Cut to the alumni brunch held on September 27th, during Parent’s Weekend. At this brunch, President Reaney answered questions regarding the future of state funding to the school. His speech was short and to the point: there is a steady stream of income to the school. It’s a nice symbiotic relationship.

He stated that we will have to fend for ourselves and that, generally speaking, we should think of ourselves as self-sufficient, ie. private. That begs the question, where should the school go for alternate funds? Easy answer: Wall Street.

Although this may seem laughable at the current time, in the long-term, this makes perfect sense. The market will not tank forever. The administration made an investment in the new business school because it believes that this is where the College can make up for lost financial ground. There aren’t many alternate sources of funding, and rich Wall Street alumni could provide a steady stream of income to the College which is well cultivated. More over, strengthening the department will help students who will in turn help the school. It’s a nice symbiotic relationship.

Yes, other departments are crying foul over the extra- gancies. Yes, the school is blatantly suckling at the teat of Wall Street. But really, until sociology majors start bringing home the bacon, it probably doesn’t matter too much to the powers that be. On a side note, perhaps the school should consider building a new government building, next on the agenda. Morton really isn’t cutting it and we don’t want spirituous government majors working to regulate these new enterprising business majors out of existence...

Thank you from all of us at The Virginia Informer

The Informer is an independent publication and does not receive any public funding, unlike other publications at William and Mary.

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

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The College Network The Patrick Henry Center The Leadership Institute

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The end of September was a busy time for the Student Assembly. A bill allocating $13,000 from the SA’s consolidated reserve to fund STI testing passed during the Senate’s September 29 meeting. Students who visit the Student Health Center will now be able to receive testing for Sexually Transmitted Infections for free. Sponsors of the bill intend to put a referendum question on the Spring Student Assembly ballot to ask students whether they would like to increase their annual student fees to pay for continued testing.

Freshmen SA elections were held on October 1. All other undergraduate classes also voted in the election, though competition was sparse to fill the various class officer positions. The election experienced a setback when the school’s email server prevented a mass email sent by polling service eBallot from reaching many students. The issue was resolved before noon on the day of voting and voting hours were extended from 8pm to 10pm to compensate for the glitch. By the end of the night all positions were filled by new representatives, who celebrated with current SA members at the Library Tavern, following a traditional “kidnapping” of freshmen victors by their upperclass counterparts.

One referendum question was also voted on by underclassmen, requesting student input on reform of the Honor Council’s nominating committee. The nominating committee has the power to exclude candidates from running for the Council. By a resounding 38-point margin students indicated their preference for the committee to reach a unanimous decision before removing candidates, rather than continue using a 4/5 majority.

### Student Assembly election results

#### Class of 2013 SA Senate

- **Topher Fond**
  - # of votes: 115
  - % of Total: 34.5%
- **Jessica Pierson**
  - # of votes: 112
  - % of Total: 33.6%
- **Thomas Rogers**
  - # of votes: 78
  - % of Total: 23.4%
- **Write-in**
  - # of votes: 28
  - % of Total: 8.4%

#### Class of 2013 VP for Advocacy

- **Erin Mee**
  - # of votes: 183
  - % of Total: 62.7%
- **Chris Valeska**
  - # of votes: 83
  - % of Total: 28.4%
- **Write-in**
  - # of votes: 26
  - % of Total: 8.9%

#### Class of 2013 President

- **Sarah Nadler**
  - # of votes: 101
- **Alec McKinley**
  - # of votes: 91
- **Alex Bradford**
  - # of votes: 69
- **Avery Stachu**
  - # of votes: 49
- **Justine Daley**
  - # of votes: 30

#### Class of 2013 Secretary

- **Mireille Sharp**
  - # of votes: 187
  - % of Total: 82.7%
- **Write-in**
  - # of votes: 39
  - % of Total: 17.3%

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**Managing Editor**

Sarah Nadler