Goodbye and Good Luck to the Class of ‘09
Reflecting on Four Years at the College

Student Assembly: Year in Review
Important Summer Necessities
Your first news source for stories when they happen. Updated daily.

The DoG Street Journal
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Your first news source for stories when they happen. Updated daily.
Mascot Committee Officially Takes Submissions

The William and Mary Mascot Committee began officially taking submissions on April 1, 2009. Students can submit their ideas with an online submission form or a printable, mail-in form, both of which can be accessed at the Mascot Committee Web site. Drawings, photographs, videos or other visual representations will be accepted. The submission period will end on June 30, 2009.

New Student Officers Inaugurated

The new Student Assembly officers, senators and President Sarah Rojas ('10) and Vice President Ryan Ruzic (J.D. '11) took their oaths of office in the historic Christopher Wren Chapel on April 15. Guest speakers at the event included interim Vice President of Student Affairs Virginia Ambler and Mayor of Williamsburg Jeanne Zeidler. Former President Valerie Hopkins ('09), Class of 2009 President Kevin Dua, and former Chairman of the SA Elections Commission Matt Beato ('09) gave advice to the new officers and welcomed them into office.

Henry Wolf Elected Rector of W&M BOV

Henry C. Wolf ('64, J.D. '66), retired chief financial officer of Norfolk Southern, was unanimously elected to the position of Rector by the William and Mary Board of Visitors. The Rector is the chair of the College’s Board of Visitors. Wolf will succeed Michael K. Powell ('85), who served as rector for three years and was the first African-American to serve in the post in the College’s history. Wolf takes the office on July 1, 2009 and will be the Board’s first Jewish rector.

AP Reporter Niko Price Discusses Journalism

Niko Price, the Latin American Editor for the Associated Press, spoke to students and community members about the current state of the news industry, breaking into journalism after college and his own experiences of reporting from around the world. He answered many questions from the eager audience, discussing the danger he faced when reporting in Iraq and how journalism school is not necessary to break into the news-writing field.

W&M Announces Sustainability Research Grants

William & Mary’s Committee on Sustainability (COS) has awarded four student summer research grants for projects which focus on environmental issues such as campus recycling, geographic information system mapping of campus habitat and ecosystems and a new program to increase the College’s use of locally grown and sustainable food. These grants are funded through the student “Green Fees” and are part of an ongoing effort to advance the College’s sustainability.

Strategic Planning Moves Forward

The William & Mary Board of Visitors approved the first phase of the College’s ongoing strategic planning process. Initial steps of the plan include a comprehensive review of the undergraduate curriculum, expanding annual giving at the College, improving technology options and significantly increasing research funding over the next decade. The next step of the planning process is to develop an implementation plan, which will include providing specific actions and timelines that will be ready in September.
The 2008-2009 school year proved to be a landmark year for William and Mary’s Student Assembly, particularly in terms of relevance. You could not be a William and Mary student or faculty member without hearing of the current plans and exploits of the SA. The controversies were not the only thing that made a buzz throughout campus, as the SA continued its long streak of passing influential bills as well as funding and planning exciting and educational events throughout the year.

Before Valerie Hopkins (’09) could even begin her work as SA President, controversy struck hard at the SA. Zachary Pilchen (’09), elected vice president of the SA, resigned from his position following the revelation that he had spent $138.51 from the SA’s bank account on personal expenses. This continued throughout the year, and in February 2009, Pilchen was charged with a class one misdemeanor of embezzlement by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Within a month of Pilchen’s resignation at the beginning of the school year, Kristin Slawter (’09) was unanimously elected by the SA as its next vice president and activities quickly returned to normal.

As one of the major functions of the SA, the group put to motion many bills which changed the course of student life and the functioning of the college. Among the important bills passed in the first semester include the Student Choice Mascot Committee Act, a bill looking to create a new mascot for the College; the AED Act, which looks to adds 15 new Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) to campus; and the Outdoor Recycling Containers Act, to place 13 new recycling receptacles on campus.

“I am very pleased with the work of the SA,” said senator Caroline Mullis (’09). “I think we could always do more or do something else, but we are only humans. Basically I think the SA needs to continue to listen to the students and remember that they work for them.”

One of the major events planned by the SA was the paintball tournament held in the Sunken Gardens on Veterans’ Day. This event proved to be slightly controversial, as some argued that an event promoting simulated combat on Veteran’s Day may be in bad taste. Those for the event argued that it would allow students to gain a personal understanding of the sacrifices America’s veterans went through in their service to their nation. The event included movies, informational booths from multicultural groups on campus and an all-day series of paintball tournaments in the Sunken Gardens.

One set of bills which was met with universal praise was the SA’s efforts to promote voting during the landmark 2009 Presidential election. First passed was the Presidential Election Day Outreach Act, which authorized the use of $312 for hot apple cider and up to $1000 for stickers (which read “Hark Upon the Ballot Box”) to be given to students, faculty and residents of Williamsburg as they stood in line at the polls on November 4. This coincided with the SA’s voter registration drive, a program started earlier in the semester that encouraged students to register in Williamsburg in order to vote in the presidential election. These efforts proved to be a great success, as the number of freshmen who registered in Williamsburg was significantly larger this fall than last fall. Also passed on was the Election Day Act, which “strongly encouraged” professors at the College to cancel classes on November 4 in order to make it easier for students to vote on Election Day. These efforts by the SA to encourage student voting was hailed by many and considered to be one of this year’s greatest accomplishments from the SA.

“I think one of the major accomplishments this past year was our work to facilitate communication with all students,” said Mullis. “A ton of bills support this initiative. It is definitely something that we will have to continue work on as well, but I think eventually students will be able to utilize the Student Assembly as a resource.”

As the first semester drew to a close and the spring 2009 semester began, the SA continued to be as active and engaged in its work as it had been. Among the bills passed early in the semester include the National Collegiate Readership Pilot Program, which provides free copies of off-campus newspapers to William and Mary students; the William and Mary in Richmond Internship Bill which allocated $940 for twelve students to travel to Richmond several days a week to
work in the offices of various legislators; and the Know What You are Voting For Act, which allocated $109 dollars to print half-page flyers which explained the changes proposed by the 2009 Honor Council referendum.

One of the biggest issues facing the SA’s work, however, was the same weight that was on the mind of the entire college: William and Mary’s ever-dwindling budget. One of the fallouts of the entire economic recession included HB1696, a house bill which would require Virginia public colleges to eventually increase the percentage of in-state students admitted to 80 percent. In direct opposition to the bill, the SA passed a bill officially opposing HB1696 and the SA Public Affairs committee composed a form letter expressing “vigorous opposition” to HB1696, as well as HB2475, which would require that 75 percent of students be in-state, and HB2325, which would require 70 percent of students to be in-state.

The current troubles facing the College were reflected in President Hopkins’s speech to the SA senate in the February 10 meeting, which she aptly titled “State of Your Student Assembly Address.” She acknowledged the difficulties of the past year and thanked Vice President Slawter for all her hard work, before moving into an explanation of some of what the SA has done and also what it still must do.

“One of the biggest challenges facing our school is money,” said Hopkins in her speech. She continued by addressing the importance of looking at the Three Person Rule for off-campus housing, as well as bringing forward environmental issues facing William and Mary.

One of the bigger controversies to hit the SA in the spring semester was their allocating funds to the Sex Workers’ Art Show and Century Project events. Many viewed this as frivolous spending, failing to see the logic of funding entertainment exhibitions while the College was in deep debt. These objections, however, had no impact in the SA’s final decision regarding funding educational exhibitions.

March 2009 proved to be even busier for the SA, as candidates for the 2009-2010 SA were announced and voted on later in the month. As is typical of every election, controversies were abound. Sarah Rojas (‘10) was barely able to replace her former running mate, Austin Wiese (‘10), who withdrew from the election for personal reasons, with graduate student Ryan Ruzic (J.D. ’11) just eight days before the election. An anonymous attack email was sent out to the entire student body just two days before the election condemning presidential candidate Horacio Carreño (‘10) and Vice Presidential candidate Michael Douglass (‘11). The election was also plagued by website technical errors, including a loophole which allowed graduate students to vote in the election. Despite the controversy, the student body voted in great numbers, allowing Rojas and Ruzic to win with 59 percent of the vote, as well as electing many others to their respective offices.

In the midst of the highly publicized election, SA Senator Matt Pinsker (‘09) resigned from his office. While this immediately followed allegations that he used deceptive measures to provide The Flat Hat with the names of students who planned to run for SA president before the allowed date, Pinsker cited health reasons for his resignation, stating that he had been diagnosed with kidney failure and planned his resignation weeks ahead.

Despite the exhausting election, the SA did not slow down their pace at all, continuing their meetings by discussing what went right and what was handled poorly in the past election. They also passed the Constitutionally Accountable Executive Act, which amended the SA’s current constitution to allow the impeachment any SA member (excluding the president) for neglect of duties, and the Abstention Amendment, which would change the SA constitution to require the concurrence of a majority of the senate to be present and voting in order to pass legislation.

On the afternoon of April 15, a peaceful transition of power took place as the newly elected SA officers took their oaths of office and began their long and hard work as the new SA.

Despite remaining in the critical eye of the entire William and Mary campus for a year, many of the outgoing SA officers had positive things to say about their time serving in the SA.

“I think this year’s group was far more motivated on the whole,” said Douglas. “There were a lot of people who really cared, and cared passionately about what they were doing. It was nice to see.”

“The dynamic of the Senate this past year was significantly better than the previous years,” said Mullis. “I think this is because most of the Senators were really energetic and enthusiastic. The Executive and the Senate also got along really well this past year. I think each member cared passionately about what they were doing. It was nice to see.”

Whether next semester’s SA is similar to last year’s or not, the one thing that is guaranteed is that the entire student body will be looking at their work with great interest.
SEARCH FOR NEW VP SWEEPS CAMPUS

William and Mary’s search for a new Vice President of Student Affairs comes to campus in full force following the announcement of the four candidate finalists.

**DANNY MOSIER, DSJ NEWS EDITOR**

In a press release issued on April 1, the Vice President for Student Affairs Search Committee finally announced that it had selected four final candidates to compete for the open position of Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA). The selection of these four finalists is the penultimate step in an extensive search which began nearly a year ago and involved the entire campus staff, student body and Williamsburg community.

The need for a new VPSA arose when Sam Sadler (‘64, M.Ed. ‘71) retired in July 2008 after serving nearly four decades at the College, holding the position of VPSA during his final 18. In the meantime, Virginia Ambler (previously the Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs) took up the position of interim VPSA immediately following Sadler’s retirement. However, this left a huge gap in the William and Mary faculty open that needed to be filled immediately. This led to President Taylor Reveley’s creation of the Vice President for Student Affairs Search Committee and the appointment of Clay Clemens, Chancellor Professor of Government and member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, to hold the weighty position of Chair of the committee.

Clemens described the function of the Vice President for Student Affairs Search Committee and the work that serving on the committee entails.

“I preside over a group of faculty, staff and alumni,” said Clemens. “Starting in the fall, the committee worked out the description of the job, which had never been done before because Sam Sadler was the only person who previously held the job.”

The position of VPSA entails a great number of responsibilities and duties, many of which entail working directly with both the student body and the faculty staff.

“The VPSA reports directly to the President of the College and serves as a member of the senior administrative staff,” states the description of the VPSA on the search committee’s website. “The office oversees the Division of Student Affairs... contributes to student academic and personal success and well-being, foster a sense of community which is intellectually and culturally diverse, and encourages the interaction and integration of student experiences in the classroom and into the community.”

Issues that fall under the VPSA’s responsibilities include student rights and responsibilities, general student counseling, student organizations and activities, community service, student government, the judicial and honor code systems, residence life, and a plethora of other aspects of student life and student education. The VPSA is also the major coordinator three important annual events: Convocation, Family Weekend and Commencement, as well as assisting with other campus-wide special events.

The search committee also laid out several criteria for the position. Candidates must have an advanced degree or a doctorate, at least 15 years professional experience in a university setting, and the ability to work collaboratively with students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors and parents. In addition they must have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and have demonstrated commitment to increasing diversity on campus.

“We posted open applications for the position in the relevant places,” said Clemens, “and got responses from 80 universities. In January, we narrowed the number of candidates down to eight. We met those eight in Richmond, and after interviewing them for several hours, we chose the four strongest candidates to present to the campus and the community.”

Each of the four candidates possesses impressive resumes and equal experience to handle the job. The candidates include Ambler, who has served as the interim VPSA as well as serving from 2001-08 as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and from 1991-2001 as assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs; Dean L. Bresciani, who previously served from 2004-2008 as Vice President for Student Affairs at Texas A&M, as interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the UNC-Chapel Hill from 2002-04, and as Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services at UNC-Chapel Hill from 1998-2002; Margaret A. Jablonski, who has served as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at UNC-Chapel Hill since 2004, previously serving from 2001-04 as Dean for Campus Life at Brown University and from 1999-2001 as Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Connecticut; and Angel Martinez Laredo, who has served as Associate Dean of Students at Maine since 1999 and served from 1995-99 as Director of the Office of Multicultural Services at the University of Houston Clear Lake, and coordinator for support programs and as Hispanic student affairs of the Department of Intercultural Education and Minority Student Affairs at Southern Methodist University from 1990-1995.

During the search, each candidate had an unprecedented opportunity to interact with the student body, the College faculty and the Williamsburg community. Throughout the month of April, each candidate stayed on campus for two days,
meeting privately with a number of small groups across campus and also participating in larger forums for students, faculty and staff.

“We take student input very seriously,” Clemons said. “These forums are a great opportunity to hear from students what the most important issues are for them in student life. It is a vital aspect for the position and for the search to work directly with the students.”

The DoG Street Journal attended one of the forums led by Bresciani, which was held on April 13 (he led another forum on April 14; forums were led for Ambler on April 6 and 7, for Jablonski on April 20 and 21, and for Martínez Loredo on April 27 and 28). The audience was filled with several faculty members and citizens from the Williamsburg community, each eager to ask questions relating to student life and to understand the candidate better.

“When you speak in a forum, you’re either boring or you’re open-book,” said Bresciani. “I want you to know who I am and what I do, and I want you to ask me any questions you may have.”

“How do you personally use technology in your work, and how comfortable are you with it?” one audience member asked.

“Technology allows us to do many jobs exponentially better,” said Bresciani. “It allows us to provide information and resources at an incredibly convenient and efficient way. For example, housing assignments used to be all done by hand, which was horribly inefficient. Now it’s as easy as booking a hotel room.”

“Why William and Mary,” asked an audience member, “and why now?”

“William and Mary is a college environment that all colleges would want if they could be perfect,” said Bresciani. “William and Mary has kept its values together in a way that is very unique. If you’re in a career in higher education, you would not want to turn William and Mary down. I would be kidding to say that I expect to get to know a lot of students on a personal basis. Why most of us get into these affairs is to be a mentor and a role model. When your student count gets up to 20,000, the level of personalization is impersonal. When you get to no more than 10,000, however, it can be magical.”

Bresciani continued by answering questions about the role of human resources in the functioning of a college and the way he connects with the faculty and the students.

“One of the major problems of William and Mary for underage students is that there are not many options in the town of Williamsburg for an exciting after-school life,” said Bresciani. “Part of our job is to help students connect to an organization which fits their needs. For example, freshmen outlets need to be very different from senior outlets. What we need to think is ‘what can a college environment provide that is not at home?’”

Bresciani then answered a question about the role of the Honor Council and the Honor Code in the student’s college life and continued by discussing the reason free speech and particularly protest should be allowed on campuses.

“When you stop at the point of shouting,” said Bresciani, “you rarely have intelligent academic discourse. There’s absolutely nothing wrong with disagreement. The pit preacher rarely has any real volume in the protest; it’s the sideline conversations that occur after the event which are exciting and educational. It is best when you can form your own opinions based on hearing the opposing opinions.”

An audience member then raised a weighty question: why should students care about the current search for the VPSA?

“If you look all of the admins at William and Mary,” said Bresciani, “there’s only one with ‘student’ in the title. I’m responsible for the student experience at the college. The job is not in education and scholarship, it’s that students come together and walk out as one of the most educated people in the country. There’s not one student I shouldn’t have touched in way or another on a daily basis.”

The discussion went on as Bresciani discussed his view on diversity in the university and what he thought about “controversial” material such as the Sex Worker’s Art Show being presented on campus. The forum was then drawn to a close and the audience left with a better idea of the candidate’s views, work ethics and personality.

After the feedback from the candidate’s visit comes in, President Reville will make the final choice and the new candidate will begin work on July 1, exactly one year after Sam Sadler retired. Whether or not the new VPSA becomes another College icon akin to Sam Sadler, the second VPSA in William and Mary history will be an essential addition to the College’s staff and one who will shape the future of our student experience.
Subtitulando Filmes Cubano

» KELLY POWELL, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Have you ever seen a Cuban film? Do you even know what qualifies something to be Cuban cinema? Bearded men with cigars... right?

These are some questions and problems that students at the College are trying to solve, and as typical here, it’s through a course that are expressed through the films. Stock has recently released a book on her research, On Location in Cuba: Street Film Making During Times of Transition. Her book specifically examines what it means to be Cuban and takes an introspective look into what is known as the ‘special’ period.

In a documentary made of the course itself (accessible at www.wm.edu/news), Professor Stock comments on the course itself: “This is a new media research workshop designed to engage students in subtitling Cuban documentaries and reflecting on that process by making a video. At the same time, we’re looking to build their skills, their independent research skills and their new media literacy skills.”

In the student documentary about the course, Davis comments, “I was approached by professor Stock and she had a great idea for a course. She had just finished writing a book on Cuban cinema, specifically on street filmmaking in Cuba, which I though was very fascinating.”

The problem is that most Cuban films are in Spanish and, coincidentally for Stock and her students, in need of transition.

“A lot of Cuban films do not necessarily get out of Cuba,” Jessica Boten (’10), a student in Stock’s class, said of the problem. “It’s not like a Hollywood film or even like a European film where there is a lot of access. The Cuban-associated film organization helps produce the films and promote them within Cuba.”

In the same documentary, Hispanic Studies major Todd Corillo (’11) said, “By subtitling these works it opens up to a broad category of people to be able to view them and to be able to engage in that same type of experience that the Cuban people did.”

Cuban film in general is very difficult to access in the U.S. and hence Cuban history and culture becomes difficult to understand. However, the types of films the students translate vary.

“Some of them are very old, like from the 1960’s and 70’s, but we also have one that we’re currently working on from a current film maker,” Boten said. “He just finished this film and he wanted the film to be translated so he could take it to foreign film festivals. But for that to happen he needed the English subtitles. That’s another current project that we’ve been working on.”

“Obviously,” continued Boten, “relationships with the United States and what not have not been as strong, so a lot of the films don’t get past Cuba. That being said, Professor Stock has visited Cuba many, many times legally and has made a lot of connections with individual filmmakers who have given Professor Stock permission to help subtitle these films so they can get out into the world of academics and along with just the greater United States and other English-speaking countries so that Cuban film is more well-known and understood.”

To translate the films, the students in the class work in groups of four to five and

Students working together to translate Cuban films to English. All photos courtesy Ann Marie Stock.
split up the script of the movie. Then, they come back together for a revision of the script as a whole.

“They come back and will work together to make sure, ‘Well, is this really what the director was trying to illustrate to his viewers,’” Boten said.

In translating the scripts, we can have a better understanding of Cuban culture; this understanding can even come from translating the text itself.

In the documentary film, Team Wonder ful, the translation team for the Cuban movie Zona de Silencio (Zone of Silence) comments on the process of how they go about translating the film.

“We’ve split [the script] into three pieces initially and we’re working on the literal or preliminary translation of it as individuals,” Alex Wright said of the process. “Now, we’re sort of at the point where we are collaborating to edit it and make sure it’s in a similar style and that is makes sense essentially when connected to the other pieces.”

In the documentary, a student commented, “It’s more than just trying to find the literal translation; you want to find the words that really capture the meaning.”

This class shows how truly spectacular and world-changing undergraduate research can be here at the College. In bringing the undergraduate research into the classroom, students in turn send those results outside in the world and give something to future classes as they shed some much needed light on Cuban culture and cinema.

Please join us in congratulating the Residence Life Student Staff
2009-2010


The summer: a time of beach-bumming, road-tripping and house-partying, all without the responsibilities of syllabi or impending exams. False. While such an idyllic summer may apply to an elite few, the majority of our College students return to their homes with the future on their minds, working to save some cash, toiling away at an internship or taking summer classes. One opportunity often overlooked, however, is summer research.

If you have ever navigated your way through our school’s website, you can clearly see that the College prides itself on its efforts in promoting research opportunities to all students, regardless of interests, class standing or experience. It revels in its ability to break down the “artificial barriers between teaching and research.”

The absolute plethora of students engaged in such research exemplifies its success.

The avenues for an interested student are numerous. The starting point is finding a topic, which are as infinite as the interests within the student body. Math, film, geology, you name it! With unlimited passion, any topic can be explored. The more difficult task, however, is locating a professor who will sponsor you and said passion.

Once these obstacles are overcome however, the actual application process, with slight variations amongst departments, is relatively painless.

David Gould (‘09), a graduating senior partaking in research this upcoming summer, revealed that “the application process entailed an essay on your intended research, your GPA and academic transcript, and knowing who you wanted to work with. Overall, it wasn’t very strenuous to complete.”

Gould is a math and theatre double major, as well as a veteran researcher. He has spent the past summer at the College, researching the impact of local hunting on the Virginian Black Bear population. He intends to continue his research over the next few months.

“Originally, I admit that I was motivated by the pursuit of knowledge in the area of mathematics,” Gould said. “I wanted to expand my mathematical ‘tool kit’ in order to better understand ecological systems. As I worked on the problem, I realized that there could be more widespread implications to my research.”

Gould used the collected data as the foundation for his senior thesis, for which he was awarded Highest Honors within the math department. The uncluttered time and attention that Gould devoted over the summer played a most beneficial role to his thesis.

Gould spoke about his time with research, “The most rewarding experience is learning that a thesis is not written overnight. That is
to say, researching takes a lot of trial and error - it takes time. I never considered that professors (etc.) didn’t sit down and just crank out the research in an hour or two. Realizing that everyone goes through this trial and error process was encouraging.”

For those in love with the College and fearful of the unknown following graduation, summer research provides you with a final shot at focused study. Seniors need not leave so soon! Even as a graduating senior, summer research opportunities are open for you the summer following graduation.

Moreover, summer research is available to undergraduates, regardless of age or past experience. On the opposite end of the spectrum, Sarah Kim (‘12) is also taking part in research at the College this upcoming summer.

“I’m looking into the effects of choline and neonatal ethanol exposure on response habituation,” Kim stated. “Basically, it’s to see how alcohol and choline administration to developing rats will affect their learning.”

Kim, interested in summer research opportunities, applied to work immediately with Dr. Pam Hunt, even though her research is not intended to supplement a thesis. After discovering that these opportunities also included funding for research, Kim said that she did not hesitate.

Unfortunately, the most difficult aspect of summer research is not the actual work, but rather locating funds to support the work. While summer research housing is provided by the College, there are additional living and research expenses. Consequently, the College provides scholarships for these purposes.

Kim received the Chappell Fellowship, one of the more popular sources of funding for undergraduate research. This summer, 16 out of 41 College students who applied for this fellowship received sponsorship for their summer projects.

The Charles Center for undergraduate resource is also an excellent funding outlet for students. Not only does the Charles Center offer support to students researching on American soil, but they provide funding opportunities for those planning on researching abroad. This year alone, the Charles Center granted 23 scholarships to undergraduates interested in summer research.

And, as always, there are many further outlets for money. Caitlin Bovery (‘10) received the Charles Center US Research Scholarship for this upcoming summer, yet the allocated amount may not cover the cost of her research. Intending to research the

“habitat preferences of a soft shell clam in the Lynnhaven River system,” Bovery relies upon her lab to cover the additional costs.

Like Gould, Bovery hopes to focus her summer research into an honors thesis. “Average American.” Unlike most researchers, however, Chessman will not devote her findings to data tables or a written thesis; she hopes to present her discoveries into a short animated film.

Chessman received her summer funding through a $1000 Freshman Monroe scholar grant which will be used to cover both living expenses and the costs of the film production.

“The Monroe program got me excited about the prospect of undergraduate research, and I wanted to give research a “test run” with a freshman project before I conduct my main Monroe research project,” Chessman said. “I have also wanted to obtain and learn to use Final Cut Pro for quite a while. The Monroe research project and associated grant would allow me to do so, while also giving me the chance to explore a question I find fascinating.”

Clearly, the motivations for conducting summer research vary greatly. For all the students that intend to catalog their finding into a thesis, there are an equivalent amount of students simply hoping to explore their interests.

Similarly, while there is no stock research motivation, there is also no stock summer researcher. The ages, interests and methods of each student researcher alter with each project.

Having done previous work with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), Bovery has decided to continue her work with the institute.

“I’ve always been interested in doing field research and I especially wanted to gain experience organizing my own research,” said Bovery.

Contrary to popular belief, research is not only for scientists! While all of the previous examples of summer research have been science-related, there are a plenty of opportunities for the liberal artisans.

Madeline Chessman (‘12) intends to spend her summer exploring the concept of the

Summer research, above all else, exists as a link between two school years, a chance to stay on campus and a way to hone your brain for the courses to come.

“I am very much looking forward to the experience of residing on a college campus during the summer, surrounded by other highly motivated students and fellow researchers,” Chessman said. “Not only will I grow academically, but I think I will mature as a person as a result of the opportunity to conduct independent undergraduate research.”

So next year, forget the beach. Give old Colonial Williamsburg a summer go!
A Random Assortment of Five Best Things

**FIVE BEST THINGS ABOUT THE ECONOMIC DEPRESSION**

> FRANCESCA CHILCOTE, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

**Your Liberal Arts Degree is just as Lucrative as a Business School Degree**

Yeah, your cousin Stewart might be getting his business degree from Harvard, but what will he do after he graduates? Go to Wall Street? The liberal arts, though sometimes considered frivolous learning, are at least intellectually stimulating.

**Bragging Rights**

Your grandparents might have had it a little rougher in the 1930s, but at least you now have your own arsenal of bitter grumblings and guilt to dole out to your own children and grandchildren. Coupled with having grown up during the Bush presidency, you’ve can complain about your life for years to come!

**Sleeping on Your Parent’s, Sister’s, Uncle’s, Grandma’s, or Rich Friend’s Couch**

You know that one person in your extended family who will put you up for a night as you try to find permanent housing? And another night? And another night? And another night…

**Hobbies**

So what if you can’t find a summer job? Now you get to do things that really matter: cuddling up in your Snuggie, knitting, rewatching every episode of Lost, giving yourself cornrows, or doing all of the above simultaneously.

**Cheap Flights**

If all else fails, flee the country. The Bahamas, Japan, Mexico, even Canada sounds great right now. A good website for tickets is, http://www.igougo.com, where you can compare prices on multiple flights.

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**AN AWESOME SUMMER**

> HEBBA YOUSSEF, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

**A Summer Soundtrack**

Download songs. Add to iPod. Hit repeat. All summer long.

**A Good Place to Hangout**

The beach, the mall, Starbucks or the movies, everyone needs a hangout spot, whether it be a place where “everyone knows your name” or a place to escape.

**A Roadtrip**

The economy may suck but the gas prices have decreased, so take advantage while you can! Fill up your tank and hit the road. Planned or spontaneous, road trips can make anyone’s boring summer a little more interesting.

**Ridiculous Sunglasses**

Whether or not they are actually effective in keeping out the sun, ridiculous sunglasses are a must-have accessory. They come in all shapes and sizes and make all outfits more exciting.

**A Good Friend**

Never underestimate the power of a good friend. Someone to have by your side, to apply sunscreen to your back, to road trip with to any and all locations—a good friend can make any situation better.
FIVE BEST MOVIES TO SEE THIS SUMMER
» HEBBA YOUSSEF, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Star Trek
Not a fan of the original Star Trek? Doesn’t matter! This J.J. Abrams flick (Lost, anyone?) is supposed to be amazing, so start brushing up on your Klingon. Terminator Salvation: Christian Bale. Need I say more?

Night at the Museum 2: Battle of the Smithsonian
A movie that not only teaches you about history, but makes you laugh in the process. Great combo.

Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen
The first Transformer movie was a box office hit and this one will be no different. Who could resist Optimus Prime, or better yet, Megan Fox?

Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince
Ever since the date on this release was pushed back from November to this summer, the hype has been intense. Promised to be the “darkest” Harry Potter movie yet. Are you ready to see Dumbledore die?

FIVE BEST NEGLECTED KITCHEN APPLIANCES
» KYLE DOOLEY, MARY VANN, TODD CORILLO AND DAVID WITKOSKY, DSJ STAFF REPORTERS

Bread Makers
Everyone loves bread. It’s a staple to your diet, but everyone also happens to forget that they have that bread maker stored in the back of the pantry. Break it out, please. Leave the Wonder for the amateurs.

Turkey Basters
You store this sucker in your top drawer for 364 days out of the year and forget about it until Thanksgiving. Use it more often! Make every day a Turkey Day!

Electric Blankets
Even before Snuggies rolled into fashion, people have been ignoring the electric blanket. Make it a necessity! Have you seen The Brave Little Toaster? They wouldn’t have gotten anywhere without that electric blanket.

Dehumidifiers
I see lots of babies with humidifiers, but nobody seems to want to use a dehumidifier. It keeps out the mold. It has three affixes. It is loud. Use one soon.

Night Lights
You know you’re still afraid of the dark. Night lights may come in many shapes and sizes, but regardless of their appearance, they all manage to guide us to the doorway and protect us from monsters. So zip up your footy pajamas, because you’ll make it through the night.
Three Seniors Reflect on Their College Experiences

Scott Thomas ('09) did not share Voges’ appreciation for student organizations or freshman orientation.

“It was awful,” he said, remembering orientation. “It was like Christian camp on crack. We were sitting around in circles singing ‘Kumbaya.’”

Born and raised in Lynchburg, Virginia, Thomas came to the College from a small boarding school. He chose to attend William and Mary because of its size and in-state tuition, but felt apprehensive about enrolling at what he had heard was a “nerd school.”

“I was mildly cool in high school,” Thomas said. “I’ve evolved into a nerd.”

After a high school experience full of extracurricular activities, Thomas decided to take a break in college, filling his freshman year with classes, Ultimate Frisbee, friends and Texas Hold 'Em. He became a freshman Resident Advisor during the 2008 fall semester.

“I’ve enjoyed getting to know my residents and getting to work with them,” Thomas said, “but I don’t enjoy the bureaucracy involved with Residence Life.”

He explained that of the three main responsibilities of an RA – programming, policy enforcement, and mentoring – “It’s programming that’s the best part. We played putt-putt golf last night.”

Thomas is graduating a year early with degrees in history and government. His decision to finish his undergraduate education in three years stemmed from his desire to enter a combination PhD and JD graduate program, which requires seven or eight years to complete. Graduating early required Thomas to take one semester of summer school, an experience he recommends for all William and Mary students.

“Summer school is amazing,” he said. “I would recommend taking one session of summer school each summer and taking a lighter load during the year. Even if it’s a big lecture class you have only eight kids in your class.”

For Andy DeSoto ('09), summarizing his college career required a great deal of contemplation, though he seemed grateful for the opportunity to take a break from writing his psychology thesis. A technology enthusiast, DeSoto felt the College needed a new media source and created a podcast called the Powwow during his sophomore year.

“I really like being part of new initiatives and ‘first-evers’ and getting things off the ground,” he said. “When I was a sophomore, I discovered podcasting. I really valued the casual conversational and innovative format.

The podcasting process involved finding an interesting student to interview, preparing a show, producing it, and then publishing it.”

“Having a foundation of knowledge that you gleaned from your classes is important, but it’s also important to be able to supplement that with real world experiences.”

-- Andy DeSoto ('09)
online. Though responses to the Powwow were mixed, DeSoto received positive feedback from prospective students.

"Try a class in every department. You need to be able to take fun and interesting classes because you want to. Don’t be so competitive; life isn’t that serious." -- Scott Thomas ('09)

“I got an email from a high school junior who said, ‘I’m really interested in William and Mary and I’ve been listening to all your shows and I have a few questions for you,’” DeSoto said. “It opened the door for a great conversation about the College.”

DeSoto is the current president of the Wind Symphony and has enjoyed his four years in the ensemble.

“It’s meant more to me each year,” he said. “It’s good to be part of a team. College can feel like such an independent experience sometimes that uniting under a common cause is valuable.”

DeSoto will attend graduate school for psychology next year at Washington University in St. Louis. He cites attending his first professional psychology conference as one of the highlights of his time at William and Mary.

“Having a foundation of knowledge that you gleaned from your classes is important but it’s also important to be able to supplement that with real world experiences,” DeSoto said. “I saw my advisor there, who was presenting with one of his honors students that year. It was kind of a way to see legitimately academic applications of our undergraduate research.”

It’s easy to get caught up in the excitement of graduation, but preparing to bid friends farewell naturally inspires seniors to reflect on the people they’ve met here. Their reviews were mixed.

“I think William and Mary is full of very awkward but nice people,” Voges said. “I always feel very safe here. Everyone has a little bit of a T.W.A.M.P. [typical William and Mary person] in them.”

“William and Mary students use their work as an excuse not to socialize,” Thomas said. “And they also use their cell phones or the path in front of them to avoid eye contact.”

The most important thing they’ve learned in college?

“Just get involved,” Voges said. “Don’t live in Swem. You’re only in college once; take advantage of it while you have it.”

“I feel like William and Mary is undervalued in public opinion,” Thomas said. “I feel like the education that we get, having visited friends at other prestigious universities, is unique in the way that you form relationships with professors and other students. There’s a real academic and professional camaraderie here.”

For students with more time left at William and Mary, the advice offered by graduating seniors is invaluable. They have learned how to negotiate with college system to make the most of the opportunities offered at the College, even their regrets have lessons to teach.

“I’m pretty shy,” Voges said, “so I wish I had gotten to know my professors better.” After thinking for a moment, she laughed. “I wish I had done the triathlon sooner instead of leaving that for the last two weeks of school.”

“Try a class in every department,” Thomas advised. “You need to be able to take fun and interesting classes because you want to. Don’t be so competitive; life isn’t that serious.”

The Residence Life wishes you the best on your final exams!

Have a safe and relaxing summer!
In November, I wrote an article for The DoG Street Journal expressing my feelings of goodwill and support for Barack Obama, even though I am a conservative Republican sorely disappointed with the outcome of the election.

I wrote that even though I did not agree with most of Mr. Obama’s policies or beliefs, I would still respect and admire him as my president; I would be a true patriot and proponent of democracy even when I thought the people voted the wrong way.

Two days after that article was published on the DSJ Web site, I received an e-mail message from an alumnus of the College who expressed his disdain for President Bush and his optimistic feelings toward the Obama administration.

He stated that he had been one of the individuals I disapproved of in my article for stooping to the level of calling President Bush “stupid,” saying, “While you may not feel President Obama has listened to you, I assure you that he will not publicly diss your opinions the way President Bush did mine.”

Well Mr. Alumnus, I think that the past few months have shown that President Obama, our Congress and the entire Democratic Party have done just that.

Every Republican member of Congress voted against the stimulus bill. They repeatedly stated their opposition to the bill and the reasons they felt it was wrong for the country and their constituents, but the Democrats passed the bill anyway.

Why shouldn’t they? They have control of Congress; they have the power. Never mind the fact that the people elected Democrats on a platform of change and bipartisanship. Change and bipartisanship flew out the window of the White House and Capitol when the Democrats moved in, but Nancy Pelosi and other Democratic leaders have the gall to go on national television and say that the Republicans are the ones resisting bipartisanship. They need to get a clue—just because Republicans oppose a policy or ask a question does not mean that they are using underhanded partisan politics. They are simply representing those Americans who put them in office.

When did that become against the rules in Washington?

The reality is that the Democrats now have no reason to act on the bipartisan promises which got them elected. They can do and get away with whatever they want because the opposition has no grasp on the votes in Washington.

To use my e-mail friend’s words, the Democrats have “dissed” the opinions of the Republican Party and the millions of Americans who voted them into office.

Contrary to popular belief held about conservatives, I do not hang on every word that comes out of Rush Limbaugh’s mouth. Actually, I am the rare conservative who thinks that he sometimes needs to just shut up.

Neither do I follow every policy held by Michael Steele or Newt Gingrich—I am simply a guy looking for representatives who will listen to my concerns and not be afraid to voice them after Election Day. Therefore, I am by no means saying that Republicans have everything right. In fact, I believe there is a lot of room for improvement in the party. Nevertheless, I do applaud Republicans for not backing down and for continuing to fight for our country and the people they represent.

I encourage our representation in Congress to be a thorn in President Obama’s side. I encourage them to challenge him every step of the way, to ask questions, demand answers, to vote for what is right, and not be afraid to stand against the majority when the majority is wrong.

All I can say for now is, I will be proud to say that when this “band-aid” fix of a stimulus package cracks and the country’s deficit is in the toilet, at least the Republicans did not do it— at least we can say we tried to stop it. I hope that we will get good, moral, strong leadership in Washington to get things back on track. It is time for our party to stop licking our wounds, stop whining about the last election and start working on getting governors, representatives and Senators with “R’s” beside their names in the hot seats in 2010. One day, I hope we will find leaders that will not “publicly diss” my opinions as it seems President Obama and the Democratic Party have.

Seth Drewry is a staff columnist for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.
A few weeks ago, there was a group of evangelists by the Crim Dell. As an Episcopalian, I took issue with much of what they said—their ideas about eternal punishment, their disbelief in evolution, their condemnation of homosexuality—but I think I was most irked by their unwillingness to assume good faith on the part of those who disagreed with them.

Whenever an atheist spoke up, they would inform him that the only reason he didn’t believe in God was that he was unwilling to, that he was practicing self-deception so as to continue his sinful lifestyle in peace.

Not only were the evangelists’ arguments right, they were so obviously right that honest disagreement was impossible for anyone who understood them.

It would be tempting to attribute the evangelists’ attitude to a certain religious frame of mind, but it is just as evident among many militant atheists.

This hearkens the message of astronomer Neil deGrasse Tyson, who in November 2006 told fellow atheist Richard Dawkins, “Persuasion isn’t always: ‘Here are the facts—you’re an idiot or you are not.’ It’s: ‘here are the facts, and here is a sensitivity to your state of mind’… I worry that your methods, how articulately barbed you can be, end up simply being ineffective.

“Taking another step back, it seems clear that this unwillingness to acknowledge that the opposition might have justifiable reasons for their beliefs extends to nearly every area in which human opinion differs, from politics to morality to the pointlessly trivial.

I demonstrated this myself the other day, when I was responsible for a rather heated argument with a girl in my dorm over, of all things, a model we had learned in psychology class.

(I was, by the way, completely wrong. Sorry, Eleanor.)

On a personal level, this attitude makes the holder look like an ass, but when held on a larger scale about more serious issues, the results can be devastating. It makes a meaningful, mutually respectful dialogue impossible.

For the participants, the communal search for truth is replaced by a self-serving desire to win a debate. Worse still, since those who disagree with us only do so because they have ulterior motives—and with dialogue having broken down and sides having become polarized to the point of non-communication—we may use any available means to impose our will, humility be damned.

We are right beyond all doubt; they are evil beyond all redemption.

It is this attitude that fuels the attempts of the religious right to pervert the American government into a pseudo-theocracy.

It is this attitude that leads best-selling atheist author Christopher Hitchens to state that, in order to prevent the spread of Christianity in first century Palestine, “There should have been a thorough Roman cleansing of all that, and a Hellenization of the Jews.”

It is this attitude that justifies abortion clinic bombings, that three years ago lead to the physical assault against a female student handing out pro-life pamphlets by the Crim Dell.

I’m not claiming that all truth is relative; rather, I’m claiming that, where truth is objective, we should do everything we can to find it.

I’m not suggesting that we should refrain from holding strong convictions; rather, I’m suggesting that we should strive to make sure our convictions fall on the right side of any issue.

I’m not trying to make us reluctant in speaking out for those who need help; rather, I’m trying to make sure that we always take pains to guarantee, as far as possible, that our positions do not inadvertently make those people, or others, worse off.

Of course, there will always be people who refuse to engage in such an honest discourse. Perhaps, even, some opinions are so blatantly odious and insupportable—say, holocaust denial—that the holder, just by adopting them, removes himself from the group of those with whom one can rationally dialogue.

But so long as the chance for such a mutually respectful discussion is available, we must take it. Writing our opponents off makes getting them to rethink their positions much more difficult and is liable, in the long run, to lead to our thinking that any opposition to our beliefs is due to willful dishonesty.

And that will lead us places we do not wish to go.

Dustin Crummet is a staff columnist for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.
**Men’s Track and Field**
The William and Mary men’s track and field team performed well in the Colonial Athletic Association Championships at Towson. For the third year in a row, the Tribe finished in second place. UNC Wilmington beat out the Tribe by 26 points, 184-158. Third place was given to VCU, who accumulated 145 points.

The team performed particularly well in the 1500-meter run, placing four runners in the top five, and the 5000-meter run, placing five runners in the top eight. The Tribe picked up a total of 45 points in these two events.

In addition to a strong team performance, the Tribe boasted many individual accomplishments, specifically those of Jon Grey (‘11). After winning both the 5000m and 10000m titles, he was deservedly awarded the conference’s Most Outstanding Track Athlete, an award voted on by the conference’s coaches.

**Men’s Golf**
The William and Mary Tribe men’s golf team ended its season with a pleasing third place finish at the CAA Championship at the Callaway Gardens Mountain View Course. The team finished with a score of 884 (+20). VCU won the championship after beating Georgia State on the first playoff hole. Each team finished with scores of 877 (+13).

The Tribe received great individual performances from Brandon Parker and Scott Saal, who tied for 10th place in the Championship with final scores of 222 (+6).

Seniors Brent Palandino (All-CAA first team) and Doug Hurson finished their careers strong, finishing in 13th and 27th places, respectively.

Jason Chun finished the tournament in a tie for 41st with a score of 236 (+20).

With the conclusion of the CAA Championship, the 2008-09 season is now complete for the William and Mary Tribe men’s golf team.

**Men’s Tennis**
The men’s tennis team opened the CAA Championship in a quarterfinal matchup against the James Madison Dukes, a team that the Tribe had already beaten in the regular season. The Tribe continued its success against the Rams, prevailing with a 4-1 victory. The Dukes got off to a quick start, winning 2 out of the 3 doubles matches and capturing the doubles point. However, the Tribe rallied to win its first four singles matches, leading to the dual-match victory. No. 3 Sebastien Vidal, No. 4 Richard Wardell, No. 5 Varun Pandit and No. 6 Ilja Orre all tallied singles victories.

After winning their quarterfinals match, the Tribe was pitted against the VCU Rams, seeded second in the CAA tournament and ranked 45th in the nation. The top two doubles pairs got the Tribe off to a quick start with wins, giving William & Mary the doubles point and a 1-0 lead. After Vidal won for the second day in a row; Wardell, Marwan Ramadan and Dominic Pagon lost in order, giving the Rams a 3-2 advantage. However, top-seed Keziel Juneau made it interesting by winning and knotting the match at 3. The final point came down to Pandit, who lost his match in the third set (1-6, 6-3, 6-2), leaving the Tribe
Men’s Gymnastics

William and Mary’s men’s gymnastics squad finished its 2009 competitive schedule at the NCAA Championships in the University of Minnesota. Eight Tribe gymnasts competed in the qualifying round. While none of the College’s individuals advanced through the day’s competition, there were some strong individual performances.

Tribe all-arounder Derek Gygas just missed qualifying in the all-around, posting the session’s fourth best six-event total. Josh Fried also narrowly missed qualifying in a great floor exercise, missing the top three by one tenth of a point.

Several seniors also finished their careers with the Tribe in a respectable fashion. James Prim participated in rings, pommel horse and parallel bars. He finished sixth in all three events. Co-captain Sloan Crawford placed seventh in high bars while Richard Pearson and Jay Hilburn also completed their collegiate careers, competing on the pommel horse and vault, respectively.

Women’s Track and Field

The William and Mary women’s track and field team traveled to Towson University for the Colonial Athletic Association Championship to end their season. For the ninth time in the past 11 years, the Tribe walked away with the title after accumulating 181 points. This was 59 points more than second-place finisher UNC Wilmington. Conference coaches voted Tribe All-American Emily Anderson as the Championship’s Most Outstanding Performer after winning both the 1500- meter and the 5000-meter run. These races proved to be an all-around strong point for the Tribe: four out of the top five finishers in the 1500-meter run were from William and Mary, and three Tribe runners received points for their performance in the 5000-meter run. In the field events, William and Mary was well represented in the shot put and hammer throw, accumulating a total of 41 points in the two events.

Women’s Golf

The William and Mary Tribe women’s golf team finished season in Pine Mountain, Georgia at the CAA Championship. The College finished the tournament in fifth place with a team score of 928 (+88), Georgia State won the championship, besting UNC Wilmington by one stroke with a score 920 (+50).

The William and Mary team had some outstanding performances. Sarah Whitney finished the Championship tied for fifth place with a 54-hole score of 225 (+15), just days after being named to the All-CAA second team. Her performance in the Championship put her on the All-Tournament team for the first time.

Caroline Sweet also played well, especially considering that it was her first time at the CAA Championship. She finished with a score of 233 (+23), placing her in a tie for 15th. Morgan Stepanek, who was also named to the All-CAA second team on Friday, finished three strokes behind Sweet with a score of 234 (+24).

Rounding out the team were Katie Murphy with a score of 245 (+35) and Kelsey Conway with a score of 248 (+38).

Women’s Tennis

The William and Mary women’s tennis team opened the CAA Championships in the quarterfinals against the Delaware Blue Hens. The Tribe quickly captured the doubles point with wins from their top two pairs. The top three singles pairs all won in straight sets, leading the Tribe to a 4-0 victory and a spot in the semifinals against the VCU Rams.

In the matchup, the Tribe lost the doubles point by defaulting the No. 3 pairs match and losing the No. 2 pairs match. The Rams and Tribe split the first two singles matches, with Carmen Pop winning her singles match and a point for the Tribe. Unfortunately, it was only point that the Tribe got, as William and Mary dropped its next two singles matches and lost the dual-match by a score of 4-1.

Women’s Gymnastics

The William and Mary women’s gymnastics team finished its season in New Haven, Connecticut at the USAG Collegiate Nationals.

The Tribe finished in 3rd place in the team finals, finishing behind Cornell and Bridgeport, who tied for 1st place.

The Tribe sent Kristin Milardo (’12), Karla Bercaw (’11) and Jen Stack (’10) to complete in the individual competition. Both Bercaw and Milardo earned first-team All-America honors on vault with 7th and 11th place finishes, respectively.

Stack earned first-team All-America honors on bars, placing 8th. Milardo finish a very strong freshman season by also earning All-America honors on floor after another 11th place finish.
Tribe Women: Eat, Sleep, Live Lacrosse

MARK JORDAN, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Coming off a season in 2008 that most teams would consider very successful, the 2009 William and Mary women’s lacrosse team was looking for more. As the No. 1 seed and host of the Colonial Athletic Association’s tournament a year ago, the Tribe fell to Towson to end their season. Losing only two starters off that team, the 2009 season looked very promising. But a vaunted schedule, including three top ten teams (Duke, Virginia and Boston), as well as a very young starting lineup, created early roadblocks for the Tribe. As the team now goes into the CAA tournament once more, they are looking to build from the lessons learned last year, as well as the improvements made during the course of this year.

With just one game left in regular season play against Old Dominion, the Tribe has already clinched a bid to play in the CAA tournament. After thrilling victories against James Madison and George Mason in the past two weeks, the Tribe’s record sits at 9-6. However, this 9-6 record is deceiving if you look at some of the heart-breaking losses William and Mary suffered throughout the year, to top-notch programs. The only loss that came to a team not currently ranked in the top 25 was to Delaware, who sits in the 26th spot in the polls according to LaxPower.com.

So what separates this year’s team from the one a year ago? Coach Christine Halfpenny believes it is confidence in what they are capable of achieving, having played against such difficult competition. “We are constantly trying to get better. We have learned from both our wins and our losses early on, which helped us in conference play,” she said.

As a self-proclaimed “second mom” of the members of her team, Coach Halfpenny says this team “has ‘wowed’ me from day one” but, she says, she knew they had it in them. Having been at successful programs as a player and coach, Halfpenny saw that this team had very special, but raw, talent. Her job this year was to convince them of how good they could be.

Glimpses of that greatness came very early in the season against perennial powerhouse Duke down in Durham, North Carolina. On the road in a tough environment, the Tribe found themselves up by three goals in the first half. Duke would rally in that game to defeat the Tribe, but Coach Halfpenny believes the flame had been lit. The Tribe would face No. 10 Boston University in Boston, a team against which William and Mary was not expected to compete.

“We are constantly trying to get better. We have learned from both our wins and our losses early on, which helped us in conference play.”

The Duke and Boston games allowed us to realize how talented we were. So when the Virginia game came around, we knew we just had to put it together. Though that game didn’t go our way, it was much different than the Boston game, because we didn’t stop fighting and didn’t stop competing. It just didn’t happen for us that night,” Halfpenny said. Coach Halfpenny said the lessons learned from such a difficult non-conference schedule are infinite. “That’s why we play the schedule we do. It helps us understand the level at which we need to play every day at practice and in every game. It allows us to be better prepared for our conference games.”

Practices for the William and Mary team
do not go to waste. The Tribe is constantly working on game situations, and competing against one another so that when they get to the games, they know exactly what it takes. “At the end of the JMU game, I looked out onto the field and everyone was excited to be in this pressure situation. They experienced similar circumstances in practice, so they knew the right places to be,” said Halfpenny of her team’s stellar poise and determination. Coach Halfpenny has also utilized a very young lineup, which she says requires maturity and understanding from her upperclassmen. There is no “hierarchy” on this team, she says. “They are all out there with a common goal in mind; each one is excited to see someone else do well, regardless of age.”

Statistically, this team is led by a very strong sophomore class. After being named Freshman of the Year in the CAA in 2008, Grace Golden has led the Tribe from the midfield position on her way to leading the team in goals. Maybe more impressive in Golden’s numbers is that she started the year injured and has only recently become 100 percent. Complementing her from attack has been sophomore Ashley Holofcen er, who leads the team in total points (goals and assists). In goal, all year is another sophomore standout, who also started as a freshman, Emily Geary. Coming into the season with high expectations, Geary has performed well, with great help from her surrounding defenders. Possibly most impressive to the Tribe’s attack is in their great balance and team philosophy. Each game has presented a different threat to opposing teams’ defense, with no clear sign of who to stop. Eight players on the team have at least 24 points, and three have over 35. This balanced attack has been the team’s approach since their fall practices. Coach Halfpenny said, “We realized in the fall that we had a lot more scorers than we originally thought. We had to adjust our style to account for this, and the team embraced it from the beginning, because the girls noticed a balanced approach is the most effective approach.”

“We realized in the fall that we had a lot more scorers than we originally thought. We had to adjust our style to account for this, and the team embraced it from the beginning, because the girls noticed a balanced approach is the most effective approach.”

Though most of the stat sheet is filled by younger players, the upperclassmen are still the driving force and the leaders of the team. Coach Halfpenny believes the seniors and juniors understand the importance of the team concept. There are times when she realizes how much of a “family” they have both on and off the field and no individuals see themselves above the rest. Each player helps the others get better, and the upperclassmen have really created this mentality, allowing the team to work together to reach a common goal. “These seniors and juniors have been in tough situations before, and have seen difficult losses before. They know what it takes to make that next step. They have been the guiding force for the young players all year.”

As the Tribe moves into postseason play, when one bad day can end the season, Coach Halfpenny says she is just trying to be a calming influence on the girls, stressing fundamentals, and allowing the natural leaders to be her eyes on the field. “I’ve become more relaxed with the last couple years, allowing the girls to have more responsibility on the field.”

Maybe most important in the team’s chances for success is their ability to remain cohesive. The coaches have stressed all year to stick together through easy wins, and heartbreaking losses, and learn equally from the two. As a team that may be much underrated due to their record, look for the balanced offense, and a stingy defense to be a possible Cinderella in the tournament. ■

Editorial Note: This article was written prior to the CAA women’s lacrosse tournament.
WM Cornerback Derek Cox to Play for Jacksonville Jaguars

JOHN BRENT HILL, DSJ SPORTS EDITOR

“When the 73rd overall selection in the 2009 NFL draft, the Jacksonville Jaguars select Derek Cox, from the College of William and Mary.”

While those words were not actually spoken by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell—after the first two rounds, only the first five selections of the NFL draft are announced by the commissioner—Tribe fans and Derek Cox needn’t feel snubbed. When, on ESPN’s coverage of the NFL draft, the bottom of the screen indicated the Cox was the selection, this amateur sports journalist and avid Tribe football fan was overcome by nothing short of euphoria. While the line between fan and reporter is an important one to maintain, I would not be doing the Tribe football program or Derek Cox justice if I portrayed this event from an entirely unbiased perspective.

For the average public college, the announcement that a member of the football team has been drafted, while exciting, is not in and of itself noteworthy. William and Mary’s esteemed in-state companion, the University of Virginia, had four players drafted, including two in the draft’s first two rounds.

However, William and Mary has not had a player drafted since Darren Sharper was selected in the second round of the 1997 NFL Draft. That fact alone may not have been enough to warrant my elated cheers from the balcony of the hotel I was staying in when I learned that Cox had been drafted.

But, when combined with the fact that Cox went in the third round, with the 73rd overall selection, then my actions gain merit. To put the significance in context, Cox was only the second player taken who was not invited to the NFL combine. He was also originally projected, before his impressive pro-day, to be a very late round pick or, more likely, an undrafted free agent. The main knock on Cox, which analysts today reiterated even after his selection, is the level of skill of his opponents.

Essentially, Cox’s lone flaw was going to William and Mary. But, ask any wide receiver who has clashed with Darren Sharper for the past ten years, and it seems unlikely that they would discount the two-time pro bowler’s abilities in coverage. Derek Cox, while playing at corner back rather than safety, has similar skills Sharper’s.

He possesses a nose for the ball, is elusive every time he touches the pigskin, be it on an interception or punt, and he shies from no one. Cox was avoided repeatedly by opposing offenses, who chose to throw to the entire other side of the field rather than test Cox. As a safety, Sharper avoided such treatment.

Cox, as a Jacksonville Jaguar, will have the opportunity to come in and at least compete to start right away. The team was weak at best in their defensive secondary last year; they were in the bottom 10 teams in the league in passing yards allowed, passing touchdowns allowed and completion percentage allowed.

Cox will have every opportunity to thrive in Jacksonville, considering the defensive situation. His success will be based entirely on his ability to establish himself, something that he has excelled at since coming to William and Mary.

He will also likely get attempts as a punt returner and kick returner for the Jaguars. Cox was one of the elite return men in the Football Championship Subdivision; he was statistically one of the Tribe’s leading offensive producers despite taking snaps with the return unit and not the offense.

Derek Cox, in being drafted by the Jacksonville Jaguars in the third round, wrought immense personal victory. He overcame the adversity of going to a small school, of being overlooked continually despite elite play, and has given himself the opportunity to do something that every college athlete dreams of: to play professionally.

But on an even larger scale, Derek Cox has given the College of William and Mary’s football program its biggest victory in this Tribe fan’s tenure at the College. He has proven us legitimate, and proven that this program, like Cox, can succeed against even the most unappealing odds.
Thank You, Class of 2009!

May somehow sneaks up on us every year.

It seems that one minute we’re counting down to spring break, pulling all-nighters in Swem and wading our way through midterms. Then, all of a sudden, we find ourselves in the final stretch: term papers, finals, end-of-year celebrations and graduation.

As hard as it is to say goodbye, there are several people graduating in a couple of weeks that deserve thanks. The Class of 2009 has shown unceasing leadership for the College, and their influence will be felt on campus for years to come.

Outgoing SA President Valerie Hopkins has done an exceptional job leading the Tribe for the last two years. She has seen the Student Assembly through two presidents, ensuring a smooth transition, and she has been a wonderful representative of the College to the rest of the school and the state.

Outgoing President of the Class of 2009 Kevin Dua’s enthusiasm and Tribe pride has led the senior class over the past three years, ultimately with the senior class gift. And of course, we owe the Tribe’s newest record to him: we’ve now made our way into the Guinness Book of World Records with the largest number of people performing Michael Jackson’s “Thriller.”

We at The DSJ must thank our outgoing seniors for the dedication and vision they’ve shared over their time with us. The DoG Street Journal has made huge strides under Carrie Daut and Jonna Knappenberger, and we can’t thank them enough for their leadership. Jonna’s recruiting efforts have brought in a ton of fresh new staff members, and she has also successfully revitalized the Publications Council.

Carrie has taken on business and organizational aspects of The DSJ, and under her guidance, we’ve reached financial stability. Also, we owe a huge thank you to Marina Stranieri and Pooja Gupta for their work on our editorial board and to all of the writers, photographers, layout staff and copy editors that have dedicated their time to The DoG Street Journal.

As we say thank you and goodbye to the Class of 2009, we must look ahead optimistically toward next year. With Michael Halleran as our new provost, Henry Wolf as the newly elected Rector of the Board of Visitors and a new Vice President of Student Affairs, the leadership of the College is sure to move us forward. Sarah Rojas, Ryan Ruzic and the newly elected Student Assembly will also help welcome the Class of 2013 to our historic College and continue to lead. The long-awaited announcement of our mascot will further help the current members of the Tribe define their College experience.

Good luck next year, Class of 2009. You’ll be greatly missed at The College. As Dr. Seuss wisely said, “You’re off to great places! You’re off and away! You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.”

Use the brains you’ve gathered from your time at William and Mary to steer yourself out in the real world, and remember that you can always steer yourself back to Williamsburg for a visit. We wish you all the best, and we know that you’ll continue to make William and Mary proud of all the wonderful things you accomplish.

Have a wonderful summer!

Stacey Marin
Editor in Chief, DoG Street Journal
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