Cover Image
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Cover Photo & Design by David Stingle

Our Mission
The DSJ is the College’s only monthly newsmagazine and daily online paper. Access us anytime on the web at dogstreetjournal.com. We strive to provide a quality, reliable and thought-provoking media outlet serving the College community with constantly updated coverage of diverse topics. If it happens here, you’ll know.

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Top of the List
>High Marks for W&M
The College continues to receive high marks from The Princeton Review and U.S. News and World Report.

Chill Out
>Meditation Room Opens
Overly stressed? Relax and destress in the new Meditation Room.

Life in the Units
>Not So Bad After All
One staff columnist discusses the pros and cons of less-than-desirable housing.

Upset of the Year
>Tribe 26, Cavaliers 14
An in-depth account of Tribe football’s season-opening win over the University of Virginia.

(what’s inside)
President Reveley Welcomes New Students

After a busy move-in, the College’s newest students and parents were greeted with a speech by President Reveley in William and Mary Hall. In his remarks, Reveley recounted the astounding number of undergraduate applications the college received and how honored the newly admitted should be to have gotten in. After acknowledging the major staff members of The College, he discussed both the responsibilities and privileges a student faces once they become a member of the Tribe.

W&M Faculty Featured on Public Radio

William and Mary professors Silvia Tandeciarz and Jennifer Bickham Mendez were featured on August 27 on the public radio show “With Good Reason.” The segment, Latino in America, addresses the large growth of Latino populations in the United States in the last ten years. This program is heard throughout Virginia as well as around the country on the Internet.

Over 200 Participate in Annual SHOW Day

About 220 students from William and Mary volunteered at participated in the Office of Community Engagement and Scholarship’s annual Students Helping Out Williamsburg (SHOW) Day today. SHOW Day allows William & Mary students to volunteer with nonprofit organizations and community agencies, this year aiding the Blayton Building, Dream Catchers, Head Start, the Committee on Sustainability, and Campus Kitchens.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduced

In the college’s first official greenhouse gas inventory, William & Mary reduced its carbon emissions 16 percent per square foot of building space since 2002. This is a significant step in The College’s many major efforts to become a much more environmentally friendly campus. The largest source of the College’s greenhouse gas emissions came from Scope 2, which contained purchased energy provided by coal-fired power plants.

Law School Dean Discusses New Role

Davison M. Douglas, the Dean of the William and Mary law school since July 1, discussed with the William and Mary Law School his thoughts about his recent appointment as dean. In the interview he compared becoming dean to being point guard on a basketball team, his plans for the upcoming year, growing up in North Carolina, and the challenges facing law schools in this day and age.

Men’s Gymnastics Team Receives Honors

Despite placing second in last year’s National Academic Team title with a 3.335 combined team grade point average, seven William and Mary gymnasts received first-team CGA Academic honors for the 2009 season. Second-team honorees were also awarded to five other gymnasts. The gymnasts also finished 13th in the final NCAA rankings in men’s gymnastics.

(see the date)

September 17

Who: those who wish to give back
What: United Way of Williamsburg’s Day of Caring Project
When: 8 a.m.
Where: TBD
Why: to help make a difference for those in need

September 24

Who: those interested in international peace
What: Forum led by Archbishop Elias Chacour
When: 10 a.m.
Where: Wesley Foundation (526 Jamestown Rd.)
Why: to get a firsthand account of the Israel-Palestine conflict

September 25-27

Who: students missing their families
What: Family Weekend
When: All weekend
Where: Campus-wide
Why: to let your parents see what your college life is like

September 26

Who: students and parents filled with tribe pride
What: Tribe Football
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Zable Stadium
Why: to see your team defeat the Delaware Blue Hens

September 29

Who: art connoisseurs
What: Gallery Talk
When: 5:30 p.m.
Where: Muscarelle Museum of Art
Why: to see works from our studio art faculty
A person unfamiliar with the faculty, students and spirit of William and Mary may have thought this year’s annual Fall Convocation ceremony was doomed to failure. With weather forecasts predicting showers and possible thunderstorms, the picnic following the ceremony was moved from the Sunken Gardens to the Sadler Center and the Commons. With the clouds growing darker by the hour, emails were sent to the student body from Virginia Ambler (Vice President of Student Affairs), discussing the possible relocation and change of date for the ceremony if thunder and lightning were to plague the event. Even as incoming freshmen, transfer students and guests were taking their seats, showers of rain poured down upon them.

However, despite the numerous setbacks, the students and faculty of William and Mary proved their love and respect for the college’s long standing traditions and allowed the Convocation for the Class of 2013 to continue as planned. Held in the customary location of the Wren Courtyard, this long-standing tradition celebrates the start of the academic year as well as the welcoming of the current freshmen class and recently admitted transfer students into the ranks of the William and Mary community.

The evening began with the traditional processional, in which representatives from all aspects of academia, from Agriculture to Theology, regally marched with their ceremonially colored robes down the Wren Courtyard. They were followed by several major members of the faculty, including President Reveley. The members of the processional were accompanied by rousing renditions of both the William and Mary Hymn and the National Anthem by the robed members of the William and Mary Choir. Following the musical introduction, the Provost of the College, Michael R. Halleran, provided the opening words of the evening.

“Tonight we celebrate the start of a new year as well as those who have started their stay at William and Mary,” said Halleran.

He continued by recounting the much distinguished history of the college and offered words of encouragement to the college’s newest admitted students.

“...if you want the best education on the planet,” said Halleran, “you’ve come to the right place.”

Following the Provost’s words, President of the College Taylor Reveley came on to usher in the academic year.

“Neither rain nor snow nor flocks of locusts can stop this convocation,” said Reveley in regards to the aquatic conditions that attendees of the Convocation ceremony faced.

Following this humorous opening, Reveley described the transitions of the school’s academic seasons, from the cold of winter exams to the blazing heat of the end of the year. Despite three school days having already come and gone, Reveley had the honor of declaring the 2009-2010 season and William and Mary’s 317th academic year officially under way.

“Lest there be any confusion,” said Reveley, “I declare that our 2009 to 2010 academic year has begun, and that the fall 2009 season has been unleashed.”

President Reveley then welcomed both the freshmen and the new transfer students into our collegiate community, encouraging them to become fully fledged members of the community.

“New students,” said Reveley, “to each of you I say connect, and stay connected, to everything that is William and Mary.”

The microphone was then passed to Alyssa Wallace, President of the Class of 2010, who ceremoniously presented President Reveley with the banner for the Class of 2013. As it coincides with tradition, the banner will hang in front of the Wren Building for a week, after which it will be moved to its permanent location in the Sadler Center until the graduation ceremony for the class of 2013.

“I hope this banner will be a symbol of [the class of 2013’s] unity as their inclusion as a part of this college,” said Alyssa. Reveley was then brought forward again, this time commenting on the long line of service that William and Mary graduates have provided to the College, America and other nations after graduation. This served as a fitting introduction for the guest speaker for the evening, Class of 1982 graduate James B. Comey. Comey is one of William and Mary’s most distinguished graduates, serving as Deputy Attorney General during George W. Bush’s administration and currently serving as General Council and
Senior Vice President of Lockheed Martin. Comey also received an honorary degree from William and Mary in 2008, which is awarded to very few graduates from this college.

Comey began his speech by recounting a speech he made during his years at William and Mary, in which he tried (and failed) to humorously dismiss his parents’ notion that William and Mary and the college atmosphere in general were not a part of the “real world.” However, upon graduating, he realized that his sophomoric speech still held some truths.

“...my perspective is that William and Mary is still a part of the real world,” said Comey, “but now I realize it is a much more important part of the real world.”

Comey continued by explaining his views that William and Mary is a place where students can pause from the ceaseless commotion of adult life and be allowed to think and reshape their approach to all aspects of life they take for granted.

“[This college] is a place where people have taken the time to think about our government, institutions and nature and to think how we can improve upon them,” said Comey.

He then addressed those who view their college experience as simply a jumping point between high school and a career. He expressed his gratitude that William and Mary makes it very hard for students to have this kind of college experience.

“...William and Mary is the alma mater of a nation,” said Comey, “because it turns out people who, when they leave here, they keep learning and keep challenging… and we really need people like that right now.”

Comey then addressed the community aspect of our college, welcoming the new freshmen and transfer students into the family.

“You have now joined a very special family,” stated Comey, “despite whatever path you took to get to this point. You can now add your light to the beacon that has led this country for years. You can look to any corner of American life and find people from our family. Your membership in this family will change your life.”

However, his words of hospitality did not come without a stern reminder of the responsibilities that are entailed with membership.

“You must never fail to help a member of this tribe who is in need,” said Comey. “Secondly, you have a solemn duty to give back what has been given to you. The long line of patriots and servants that stretches out from the college now continues with you.”

Following Comey’s remarks, two very lucrative service awards were presented by President Reveley to two very deserving members of the college community. David P. Ada, Professor of Sociology and American Studies, was presented with the Faculty/Staff award for his service work with the Student Organization for Medical Outreach and Sustainability, an organization promoting the improvement of the standard of health in the Dominican Republic, and with Students for Healthy Communities, who organizes community health projects in several impoverished South American communities. A plaque and a $250 check were awarded to each of the projects.

The Student Award was presented to Mallory A.M. Johnson ('10), who spent the majority of her summer and other school breaks helping college-based charity organizations. She was a particularly important part of Project Phoenix, a student based tutoring organization assisting struggling middle school students. For her immense work, $500 was awarded to Project Phoenix.

Reveley then came forward to discuss the order of events for the rest of the evening. And yet many did not hear his words as the audio equipment’s static whine drowned out the President’s words. This led the president’s frustrated cry of “mutinous audio equipment!” producing many outbursts of laughter amongst the audience. Despite the rebellious technology, the evening was saved by a rousing rendition of the school’s Alma Mater, lead by the choir but performed with ardor by all in attendance, new and old students and alumni alike. Following the Alma Mater, the new students were led through the arch of the Wren Building to the back courtyard. Despite the less than favorable weather conditions, a large number of upperclassmen were still behind the Wren Building to greet the latest members of the Tribe with enthusiastic cheers that lasted the entirety of the recessional. More than any words uttered in the speeches, this aspect of the tradition makes the new students feel like a welcomed and irreplaceable part of the Tribe.

Despite the change in location, the after-ceremony picnic still drew a very large crowd from the majority of those in attendance, as well as upperclassmen who were eager to take advantage of the rare opportunity for free food on campus. While the menu stayed the same (fried chicken, barbeque, burgers, cookies, punch, etc.), the live music performance from a student band was cancelled due to the rain.

All those in attendance could agree that this year’s soggy convocation was a very fitting tribute to the accomplishments of past, present and future alumni. As newly inducted members of the Tribe, this recent crop of freshmen and transfer students can return to their dorms to feel proud to be members of our long-lasting traditions and community.
Students of the College of William and Mary have many reasons to be proud of their school. Besides its prestigious status as the second college established in the United States of America, the College also has several firsts to its name, including having the first and longest lasting honor code and having established the first collegiate Greek letter fraternity (Phi Beta Kappa). Despite the College’s trailblazing history and long-lasting traditions, William and Mary must still prove.

In July and August, William and Mary had the honor of being ranked high in several categories by three of the most respected and most widely read of the college ranking systems: the Princeton Review, Forbes, and U.S. News & World Report.

In just a few short weeks at the College I have already seen why William & Mary’s world-class faculty are so respected,” said William & Mary Provost Michael R. Halleran in the press release. “They care about our students and provide them the kind of individualized education that does not go unnoticed. It’s great to see that students recognize this commitment to teaching…”

“The professors are better than I could have imagined,” said one surveyed student about William and Mary’s faculty. “They are the best teachers I have ever had. They are passionate about what they teach.”

Following several major initiatives in the past couple of years, the college’s green rating score (which calculates how respectful to and active in environmental issues the college is as well as maintaining quality environmental conditions for the students) rose six points from 84 to 90 (out of a 99 point maximum). This is a result of the dedication of both the students and the faculty. In spring 2008, students elected to create the “Green Fee,” which aims to raise over $200,000 annually towards environmental initiatives such as facility improvements and grants for research on environmental issues. In a show of great support, President Reveley appointed a Committee on Sustainability to help administer the fee, and it has become one of the largest committees on campus.

“It’s also satisfying to see recognition of our environmental progress,” said Reveley, “thanks to the green fee and our hard working Sustainability Committee.”
The following month, the website of the famed business magazine Forbes.com issued their list entitled “America’s Best Colleges,” and William and Mary fared well in several categories. The survey, conducted in conjunction with Ohio University economist Richard Vedder and the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, evaluates 600 American colleges on five select criteria: graduation rate; national and global awards by students and faculty; students’ satisfaction with their professors; average debt upon graduation; and postgraduate success.

William & Mary was ranked as the fourth highest public university, placing 48th overall and behind the U.S. Military Academy (first), the U.S. Air Force Academy (seventh) and the U.S. Naval Academy (30th) as one of only four public universities to make the top 50. William and Mary ranked first in the “traditional state university” category and 33rd among the “Best Value” list, which makes the College one of only 23 universities to make the top 100 lists in both quality and value. In the ranking of “Best Business Schools,” William & Mary’s Mason School of Business ranked 49th. William & Mary is also distinguished as one of only two Virginia universities to make the overall top 50 list, with the other being Washington and Lee University, which ranked 34th on the list.

Just two weeks later, the latest undergraduate rankings in the major news magazine U.S. News & World Report were released, and William and Mary continued to rank highly in several major categories. These rankings are based on data which U.S. News collects from each college via an annual survey sent to each school or through the school’s website. These rankings also include statistics from opinion surveys of university faculties and of administrators who do not belong to the schools.

According to the U.S. News Report ranking description, “these ... colleges and universities were singled out most often when experts were asked to identify schools where faculty has an unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching.”

In the rankings, William and Mary placed sixth amongst all public school and 33rd overall amongst all public and private universities, significantly better than the Forbes rankings. The College was also tied for sixth with Brown University in a new national listing of the “Best Colleges for Undergraduate Teaching”, trailing just behind such prestigious universities such as Dartmouth and Yale. These rankings are particularly remarkable given that the College placed 88th for financial resources, the lowest financial ranking of any of the top 50 national universities.

In other categories, the U.S. Colonial History program remained among America’s best and ranked fourth in its field, which was likely due to the college’s historic location. The William & Mary Law School jumped two places among law schools in the United States and tied for 28th in the country while the School of Education’s graduate program appeared at 48th. William & Mary’s Mason School of Business did not fare quite as well, missing the top 50 and tying for 55th amongst graduate business programs.

Many students and faculty view these rankings as testaments to the quality of the school and take pride in these statistics. These ranking systems are a vital means of attracting new students, along with the tuition which is so essential to the institution’s ability to raise funding. Statistics such as these are also crucial in building the college’s reputation. While some might say that gaining bragging rights should not be a priority for an educational institution, an increased reputation gives a college greater opportunity to create new programs and to keep the college functioning at top capacity.

However, others criticize the importance placed on these statistics. Many see them as misleading, emphasizing a university’s fame and exclusivity over more important aspects such as its ability to provide great education and quality of life. Many also think that the emphasis on such statistics lead schools to focus more time and money toward improving their rankings rather than toward factors that will truly benefit the student body and staff.

A general consensus of the student population on the prominence of these statistics seems to be somewhat mixed.

“[The rankings] are important to get donations as far as the budget goes,” said Zach Rice (’10). “At the same time, they’re mostly to get people to come here.”

“The College does a good job and it deserves the rankings,” said Michael Riccard (’12), “but they are framed so any college can do really well in one or two rankings, but that’s not necessarily bad.”

“I think they have to be more complex so you can get a real opinion about the school,” said Anca Cretu (’11).

The professors of the college have similarly lukewarm feelings toward the value of such statistics.

“The rankings say something about the general quality of the school as they are consistently high,” said English Professor Monica Potkay. “On the other hand, to move up or down a place in one of these lists really doesn’t have much an impact.”

“Only so much can be boiled down to a school’s test scores and GPA,” said History Professor Lindsay Keiter. “There’s a social aspect of the college experience that can’t be a part of these scores.”

While improvements or inclusions in these ranking statistics are not as much of a cause for celebration as customarily thought, the students and faculty can look at the high marks placed on the school with a moderate sense of school pride and accomplishment.
Local Businesses Devastated by Fire

At 1:09 a.m. Tuesday, July 28, a driver on Richmond Rd. saw fire coming from the corner of the Williamsburg Shopping Center. Although the first unit arrived only four minutes later, the blaze raged for several hours, and a total of 75 firefighters arrived on the scene. It was originally believed that a number of major businesses, including Sal’s and Bloom, were affected.

Although two firefighters were injured and taken to the hospital, both were “released to go back to work full duty the following day,” according to Technical Assistant to the Fire Chief Eric Stone.

With regard to the cause of the fire, said Stone, “the Fire Marshalls are gathering up all the information, and working in conjunction with other agencies to try and come up with a cause and origin of the fire. At this time, they haven’t completed their investigation yet.” The fire originated in the Italian restaurant Sal’s by Victor, but the specific cause is still unknown.

Many businesses in the Williamsburg Shopping Center suffered some minor smoke damage; all but four, however, were largely unharmed. Although the ABC store did not re-open for over two weeks, no structural damage was reported.

“We had smoke damage and we were closed for one day because of a power outage,” said Jonathon Smith, a RadioShack associate. “It didn’t hurt our business very much. We had to have a restoration company come in and clean out our air vents. [The main effect was] a very bad smoke smell for a few days.”

Meghan Murray, an assistant manager at FedEx, reported similar issues.

“We had smoke in our filters, so we were closed for a day,” she explained. “There was a decrease [in business] immediately after. People thought we were closed, and calls came even two weeks later asking if we were closed.” But, she added, after about two weeks, business returned to normal.

Those businesses were the lucky ones. Sal’s by Victor, Hallmark and Kyu Tailoring were completely destroyed by the fire. Stein Mart lost its entire inventory, and has yet to reopen. Although Kyu Tailoring was able to relocate and replace its supply of machines, Sal’s and Hallmark have not yet been so fortunate.

The damage to Sal’s and Hallmark was so severe that the buildings they were housed in have since been completely demolished and cleared out. The concrete below where Sal’s once stood has also been ripped out. The brick archways that used to connect Sal’s to Bloom are still blackened and scorched from the intensity of the fire. There is no word yet on when the businesses will reopen; DLC Management Corporation, a New York-based company that owns the shopping center, will make the next move.

“We’ve just been trying to remain in constant communication [with DLC], urging them to rebuild,” said Michele DeWitt, the Economic Development Director of the City of Williamsburg. “The ball’s really in their court. We [sent] a letter to them that we will expedite every permit, do everything we can to get things going as quickly as possible.”

Victor Minichiello, the owner of Sal’s, has worked at the restaurant for almost twenty-five years. The restaurant has been around since 1974. “It’s a tragedy,” said Minichiello on the loss of his restaurant. “I feel bad for all the people around, the other stores that got affected, my employees, my customers.”

According to Bob Shults, a co-manager at Books-a-Million who spoke to Minichiello shortly after the fire, he “wasn’t worried about the restaurant, wasn’t worried about his own finances. What made him emotional was talking about his employees, wanting them to be taken care of.” Books-a-Million was not damaged, and had reopened by 5 p.m. the day of the fire.

“We set up a fire fund to help some of the employees,” Minichiello explained. “We’ve given checks to some of the employees that are in need. Every two weeks we give some money to them. Everyone has been very generous with us.” The fund, called Sal’s by Victor Fire Fund, is at the Chesapeake Bank Branch and is still accepting donations.

Many members of the community have rallied around the displaced employees. Art Café 26, a café and art gallery located
in New Town, held a benefit lunch for the Fire Fund.

“We are a small community and times are challenging for many – especially if you are in the restaurant service industry,” said Sibilla Dengs, the café owner and a William and Mary alumnus. “A former employee of Sal’s called me, telling me how difficult it has been financially and emotionally for many who worked at Sal’s. We felt we needed to send a signal that we will help and continue to do so.”

Art Café 26 hosted the benefit lunch on August 11, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and donated 20 percent of the proceeds – a total of $637 – to the Fire Fund. Dengs said they plan to continue holding monthly benefits until December. She also mentioned that she may hold a student night to raise a contribution, and welcomes student input.

Minichiello spoke of how grateful he was for the support of the community. “So many people love us,” he said. “It was really wonderful to have so many people support us. We’ve been serving them for many years. We served William and Mary students 25 years ago, 30 years ago, and now they come back with their kids. We’ve grown up together with a lot of them.”

DeWitt also mentioned that the City of Williamsburg has been trying to help some of those who lost their jobs to find new employment. One of the many places where former employees submitted their resumes was Aramark, William and Mary’s dining services company.

Stein Mart, despite taking a good deal of damage itself, has tried to provide for some displaced employees.

“All of our merchandise received heavy soot damage and we had smoke damage,” said the store’s general manager, Gail Harris. “We also had some water damage – the display windows in the back of the store blew out. The sprinklers, of course, came on. They kept the front cool, so the other sprinklers didn’t come on, but the water rushed onto the floor and we had several leaks in different departments. However, we had a salvage company from Mississippi come in and buy everything in the store. When we reopen we’ll be reopening with all brand new merchandise.”

This, she said, is where new employment opportunities came in. “We needed to mark out Stein Mart on our price tags,” Harris explained. “We hired some of the waitresses from Sal’s that we could find, and also some high schoolers that hadn’t been able to find a job during the summer.”

Stein Mart will reopen on Oct. 1. “We’re having a grand opening,” said Harris. “We’ll be having the [Colonial Williamsburg] Fifes and Drums; we’ll be having a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Mayor of Williamsburg and a cake.”

Kate Hoving, the communications specialist for the City of Williamsburg, has said that she hopes the re-opening of Stein Mart will be about more than just the one store. “We want to include the whole shopping center, have exhibits and fun things going on. The purpose is not just to celebrate their re-opening, but to celebrate the whole shopping center.”

Hoving hopes to hold more events as the year continues. “We’re also working… to find a way through Thanksgiving, through the holidays, to do progressive events.”

Harris agreed. “Hopefully, we’re going to get together with some other businesses to do car free shopping nights, progressive shopping nights a few weekends in December.”

The city is concerned about the possible impact of the fire, and the temporary loss of Sal’s, on the shopping center.

“It’s probably too early to see if there’s going to be an impact, but it’s certainly a concern,” said DeWitt. “Sal’s was a high-traffic business there. We haven’t seen the numbers yet for sales tax, but we’re keeping a close eye on it.”

Shaun Cowan, a manager at Bloom, com-
A Different Kind of Semester

Ariel Lewis (’10) spent the 2008-09 school year studying in Montpellier, France, and the experience drastically impacted how she looks at American culture. Photo courtesy of Ariel Lewis.

» LEE DESSER, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

We’ve all thought about going abroad. It seems like everyone is doing it and although study abroad requires precautionary measures, it is definitely worth the price tag.

One thing is undeniable: it changes lives. Be it a new found or reinforced hatred for airlines or an understanding of various cultural, religious and sexual practices, study abroad alters a person’s outlook of the world because it enables one to observe the United States in a new way.

Ariel Lewis (’10) studied abroad in France during the 2008 to 2009 academic year through the UNC Chapel Hill program in Montpellier. The experience had a profound impact on the way she views America.

“When you go to France, America’s Puritan roots are more obvious to you than ever,” she said. “I learned more about the U.S. in France than I did living in the U.S.”

Many aspects of life, such as social practices, vary in France. Consider, for example, that while in office, Nicolas Sarkozy, the current President of France, divorced his second wife and married former model-turned-pop-singer girlfriend nearly four months later.

“The French don’t give a damn about the personal lives of their politicians,” she said. “We make sex such a big deal in the U.S. because we’re such a conservative country but in France it’s like whatever. A lot of people aren’t married or don’t want to get married.”

In France, 52 percent of newborns in 2008 were born to unmarried couples. Approximately 40 percent of births in the United States were to unwed mothers in 2007. However, in the United States, the birth rate of children to unwed mothers concerns more experts since America does not provide the same government support for children as other socialized countries such as France.

For example, the American Public Media claims that France offers “three-year paid parental leave with guaranteed job protection upon returning to the workforce” as well as “universal, full-time preschool starting at age three” and “monthly childcare allowances that increase with the number of children per family.”

According to Lewis, the willingness to freely discuss sex and its repercussions curbs teen pregnancy.

“You don’t hear about teen pregnancies in France. They talk about sex and birth control. Here they preach abstinence,” she said. Yet, teen pregnancy is “a huge problem in the United States and England.”

Whitney Elton (’10) studied abroad in England through The University of Nottingham tuition exchange program during the spring 2009 semester. She describes the differences in sexual attitudes between British and American students.

“As far as the Freshers [freshman] I lived with, for guys it was a badge of honor to be sexually active. Among the girls, they were more conservative. If they said they got with someone, it just meant they made out with them. Unless they had a boyfriend or girlfriend, it wasn’t that acceptable for girls...”
to be having sex,” Elton said.

Yet, ironically, British students seem to be more comfortable with nonsexual physical affection and intimacy.

“One major cultural difference was the level of physical intimacy with boys and girls. They are really comfortable just being cuddly with each other, but platonically,” she says.

Heterosexual men could also dress stylishly without others perceiving them as homosexual.

“One time I was talking to this guy in a park and I told him that if guys [in America] were wearing the same shorts they [the British guys] were wearing, then people would think they were gay,” she said. “He said, ‘That’s rubbish.’”

Style also varies tremendously. What passes as American style, jeans and a t-shirt, is too casual in Britain.

“Just looking at people, the style is so different. Guys put way more effort into how they dress. Guys wore button up shirts and do their hair everyday and the girls always look really nice. Leggings are a big deal. They don’t just wear jeans,” Elton said.

Lindsey Reeves (‘10), who studied abroad through the William and Mary Galway program in Ireland, made similar comments regarding dress.

“Going out at night, they are all pretty stylish. They were donning their heels and shirts. I just imagined Ireland having a lot of red heads and most girls had very dark or bleached blonde hair and wore New York urban looking clothing. America is very big on jeans,” she says.

As well as different attitudes towards appearance, she also felt the stark cultural differences regarding availability and consumption of alcohol.

“In Ireland, alcohol is a lot more liberal. The drinking age is younger and you can walk into their equivalent of a 7-Eleven and buy [hard liquor]. People would sit on the river and drink beer. Here you’re not supposed to take beer to a river,” she said. “It’s a lot more relaxed atmosphere. It made me realize how conservative Virginia is.”

Both Reeves and Elton mentioned the role alcohol plays into the social scene.

“I definitely think the cultural difference regarding alcohol is huge. The pub is just an establishment that anyone would go to. Here it’s taboo,” Lindsey says.

One element that Lewis, Elton and Reeves all commented on was the differences in education. According to Reeves, in Ireland, one does not have to pay to go to college. She mentioned that it did not seem too difficult to get in if one makes high marks in high school. The atmosphere felt calmer to her.

“The way of life seemed more relaxed to me. I didn’t feel the ‘strive to be’ vibe like I do at William and Mary. If you are [striving to excel]... you do it because you want to do it and not because you feel you have to.”

Lewis mentioned that since France is a socialized government, they pay for tuition and even provide a small stipend for living expenses. However, many students drop out.

“There’s a few really good schools in France. [But in general] students actually have an 80 percent failure rate [20 percent retention rate] their freshman year. A lot of students can go [to school], but they have no incentive to succeed because they can basically stay there regardless if they fail.”

However, according to Lewis, Sarkozy is trying, in part, to “Americanize” French schools.

“France believes education should be accessible to everyone. In the U.S., we make cost a huge restriction and make it competitive to get into school. [Sarkozy] was trying to make professors held accountable for lack of research or teaching.”

Partly in response to these restrictions, students and professors started to strike. At the hardest hit point, Ariel did not have any classes for eight weeks. According to her, the students barricaded the entrance of all of the school buildings and didn’t allow them to go into the classrooms, making it impossible to go to class.

Elton also faced problems—not with the University but with the airlines. She was supposed to be in Britain for the academic year but when she arrived in England in September, they told her she didn’t have the correct Visa and was sent back the same day. She had to pay for both flights and a new ticket to return in the spring semester. After she came back to the United States, the College’s add/drop period had passed, so she spent her semester working in customer service.

“I ended up spending the semester working at Kohl’s and saving up to go back in the spring,” she said. “I really had my heart set on going back so, even though it was a bad situation, I couldn’t wait to go back again.”

All three young women highly recommend the experience as an occasion to grow socially, and in addition to experiencing a new culture, non-College affiliated study abroad grades do not count towards a person’s undergraduate G.P.A.

In the words of Elton, in summing up her grades, “The grading system, I still don’t understand. I don’t know if the grades I got were good or passable. Okay, I know they’re not as good as if I were at William and Mary.” Wink.
A Random Assortment of Five Best Things

FIVE BEST WAYS TO SAVE MONEY

THIS SEMESTER

» KATHERINE PERKINS, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Sell your old textbooks online. Most students know they can order used textbooks (for prices much cheaper than at the bookstore), but don’t forget that you can sell online, too. Websites like Half.com and Amazon make it easy to list your old books. If your textbooks are at home, wait to sell them until the end of the semester, when college students will be looking to buy for the spring.

Eat out less often. This can really have a positive impact on your bank account. Although it’s tempting to indulge in frequent trips to the Cheese Shop or Panera, try to take advantage of all those unused swipes on your meal plan. You can also make a meal to share and have your friends pitch in $$ for groceries.

Wear your underwear inside out. Well, think about it. Wear them twice, do half as many loads of laundry. Kidding. Don’t do this.

Get a job in Colonial Williamsburg. If you find yourself with a few flexible hours in a week, why not put them to good use? Many shops in Merchant Square hire students for part time work. Scooping ice cream at Baskin Robbins or stocking shelves at the bookstore can be a nice way to mix up your routine as well as earning a little extra spending money.

Be really nice to your parents. If you happen to mention (very sweetly) in your next call home that you’re worried about the nutritional repercussions of all that budget-friendly ramen you’ve been eating lately, don’t be surprised if you get a check in the mail, and then don’t forget to let your parents know how lucky you are to have them. Because it’s true, isn’t it?

FIVE BEST VAMPIRES

» JUSTINA MICHELS, DSJ STAFF REPORTER

Lestat de Lioncourt
If you have read a vampire novel or watched a vampire movie in the past thirty-five years, you have this unapologetically vain, rebellious character to thank. Originally brought to life, so to speak, in Anne Rice’s 1976 novel, Interview with the Vampire, Lestat reinvented the standards for vampires, questioning their purpose and existence even as they revel in their immortality. Sound familiar? Lestat is the archetype for modern vampire lore.

True Blood
Yes, everyone talks about True Blood, but there are reasons for all this chatter. This series is saucy and sexy—a nighttime soap opera at its best. The story focuses on Sookie Stackhouse, a telepathic Louisiana waitress who falls in love with a vampire, Bill. Each of the characters is an aggressive, perverse, and broken individual who, even without the “outed” vampire premise, stands completely on his or her own. The skill with which the screenwriters portray the characters’ idiocy is pure genius. Never have vampires been so much fun to watch.

Underworld
Not just a dude flick, this brings vampires to the big screen with style and substance. The story centers around a millennium-old war between lycans and vampires. However, both sides have a few modern tricks up their sleeves. The action, plot, sets and effects immerse the viewer in the dark, brooding world of the supernatural. The movie isn’t as tiring as one might expect from a “Matrix-y” vamp flick because Underworld does not rely on clichés to propel the story.

The Lost Boys
The Lost Boys is an 80s classic. Long before Kiefer Sutherland tortured terrorists, he fanged unsuspecting teens on the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. The vampires in the movie aren’t belabored by serious attitudes of moral concerns often seen in supernatural characterization. This movie is a silly romp through horror, complete with a few scares and splatters.

Sunshine
While Sunshine is not a vampire book, vampires do play an important role in the story. Set in a forgotten suburb after a magical holocaust, Sunshine explores the changing nuances of life after the American landscape has been reshaped by war. The vampires in the novel read like an homage to Nosferatu and Dracula; they are emphatically not human. Vampires have a menacing presence that is fresh in a sub-genre that has become clouded by supernatural melodrama.
Photography
This is probably one of the most common hobbies among adolescents yet it is still great to pick up! Everywhere you go, you can see people’s personal photography displayed as works of art. It is especially useful if you intend to travel or take mini-adventures around the Colonial Williamsburg area. Editing your pictures on your computer afterwards is also entertaining, especially if you take the realistic route and make it “artsy”.

Cooking
We all have to eat. It’s just a fact of life. So why not make it a passion? Even if you’re currently not the greatest chef, all it takes is a bit of practice and patience to master the basic skills of the kitchen. It also helps if your roommate, best friend or significant other enjoys cooking too, because they can be your biggest source of encouragement.

Watch Movies
Not all of us can be a Film Studies major, but that does not mean we can’t rent from Swem, grab a few friends, snag some popcorn and make a night of it. Choose a film genre; for example, a Brad Pitt marathon.

Music
Even if you’ve never played a note in your life, there must be musical talent deep down inside of you somewhere. Singing or playing around on a keyboard or guitar is a great place to start if it’s new to you. If you think you’re progressing with this new found passion, take a class in the Music Department. It offers everything from group guitar and piano to ensembles like the Middle Eastern Ensemble or Early Music Ensemble.

Intramural Sports (IM)
Meet up with your hall or an organization to sign up for an IM sports team. Just check the Recreation Sports website to keep track of what sports are offered. It’s a good way to socialize and serves as an upbeat break from studying.

Air Conditioning
If you’re a freshman thinking the heat and humidity isn’t too bad, think again. This oppressive, thick air sticks around with us until mid to late October and, by that point, you’ll be sick of it. Fans can only do so much, so pick up an “allergy” and get an AC, unless you want to continue feeling like you’re melting every time you walk into your room.

Refrigerator
Not only do hall refrigerators tend to fill up quickly (especially once you’re an upperclassman), but the Honor Code seems to go out the window when it comes to food. People “borrow” food without asking and next thing you know, that Ben and Jerry’s you bought to reward yourself after an intense study session is gone. To keep a close watch on the things you want to consume, you have to get your own storage for it.

Old School N64
Bring your childhood with you to the College! No one here will judge you for wanting to play Mario Kart or Super Smash Brothers. In fact, you will even find tournaments on campus specifically for these games. Enjoy it while you’re still in college because the real world will eventually hit and you may no longer have time for the simple pleasures of life.

A Good Roommate
Nothing ruins a college experience like being mismatched with your roommate, so think wisely before deciding to shack up with your BFF. While the decision may not be yours freshman year, know that Residence Life is always helpful if it’s just not working out.
Times, they are a-changing! For those returning students living in ignorance or locked in their dorm-caves, this past summer introduced many alterations to our campus: wooden steps to the Sadler Center, the opening of Miller Hall, the closing of Tucker Hall, and more. Beyond the physical differences of the campus, however, there have been many internal changes to our College, one of which is the opening of the Center for Student Diversity (CSD), formerly known as the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Along with the CSD is its new Meditation Room.

The CSD has been working diligently to create a more welcoming campus for our growing student body. Diversity is a prominent issue at the College, which is evident through the many freshman orientation sessions. CSD strives to support every form of diversity, thus the change in name.

“Our new name reflects an expanded perspective that the College has on diversity,” explained Vernon Hurte, Director of the CSD. “It goes beyond racial or ethnic diversity.”

Hurte further asserted his desire for an office both supported by and supporting the whole campus community.

“Historically, the Office has focused on supporting students of color,” stated Hurte. “We now intend to expand onto religious diversity as well as diversity in sexual orientation.”

Along with these broadened intentions, the Office also required larger quarters. Consequently, for those of you familiar with the location of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the CSD is now housed across the hall in Campus Center Room 159 (formerly the Office of Student Volunteer Services). This bigger space accommodates expanded resources and provides a much more welcoming environment for the community.

Perhaps the biggest splash the CSD has created so far is opening the Meditation Room, an accomplishment which has been in the works for the past few years.

The intention of the Meditation Room is to provide a space where students, regardless of religious affiliation, can come to meditate on their own terms in a private setting. According to Hurte, there is a growing group of non-Christians on campus who must be supported, as well as an increased number of nonbelievers and freethinkers.

“This is why it’s not called a ‘prayer room,’” explained Hurte. “It’s not solely for religious prayer. I hope it’s a welcoming place for everyone.”

The Meditation Room, located in the Campus Center next to the ID Office (formerly W&M TV), is a small, serene room that allows for endless options. The minimal white sign on the door reflects the simplicity inside and with white walls, two small couches, two lamps and a plant, the room conforms to any and all persons. If you have any ideas for improvement, however, the CSD is ready to hear them.

Valerie Brown, the Interim Assistant Director for the CSD, stresses the student’s role in formation of the room. Brown explained that, as of now, the room is an empty space where students can come to relax and calm themselves. In fact, she hopes for student advice.

“The room is for the students, so students need to create it, giving us their input and desires,” said Brown. “I’m really excited. There are a lot of possibilities!”

The room was prepared this past summer, ready for Ramadan, which began with the start of the school year on August 22. Though it provides an ideal location for daily prayers and meditations, Brown stressed the importance of it as an “interfaith meditation space” with surroundings conducive to each individual faith.

Brown further explained that the CSD hopes to provide pamphlets on specific faiths within the meditation room so students can explore and educate themselves on religious diversity.

While various diversity organizations have been pushing for the creation of the Meditation Room over the past few years, the success of the room depends solely upon the interest of the Campus community. Al-
The Center for Student Diversity is seeking to go beyond simply racial diversity and to focus on religious diversity as well.

Nakul Kadaba (’11) secretary of the Hindu Student Association, participated in the College’s Interfaith Council last year as part of a student led panel discussing religious issues on campus, including the formation of a Meditation Room.

“It [the Interfaith Council] dealt with religious issues, handling them in a secular manner regardless of religious denomination,” Kadaba explained.

“All religious groups who were interested could attend…the Sikhs went, the Muslims went, Hillel went, a number of Christian groups. It was chaired by the Student Assembly (SA) who could moderate the discussion.”

As for the dialogue on the Meditation Room, the Council met the idea with enthusiasm, though the need was not undisputed.

“The support was not necessarily unanimous but it was an overwhelming majority. While the Christian groups may not use it, since they have their own places of worship, they saw the need for it.” Kadaba continued, “Many, many people will use it, however. The minority groups will certainly use it because they have no places of worship nearby.”

Accompanying its expansive outlook, the primary focus of the CSD this year is campus outreach. Brown stressed that the CSD is a resource for the student body; therefore, it should adjust itself to the needs and desires of the community. The CSD wants to create a dialogue with students to find out what they need.

The CSD will also continue to promote and support the programs previously provided by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. As a branch of Student Affairs, the CSD provides several programs throughout the year including participating in cultural observances (i.e. Hispanic Heritage Month, Women’s History Month, etc.) and overseeing the cultural organizations on campus and their programs. For a complete list of the cultural organizations on campus and the programs provided by the CSD, visit the website at www.wm.edu/offices/studentdiversity.

In the College’s endless strife for diversity education, the CSD takes a strong step in opening itself to the variety of beliefs (religious or not), orientations and cultures of its students. Its new and expanded perspective creates endless opportunities for every student on campus. The Meditation Room alone is proof that student voices can prevail.

As for the Center for Student Diversity, its ability to flourish lies in the amount of student involvement. Hurte praised, “It’s a great resource for the entire campus,” but what you receive from it depends upon what you invest in it.
A Helping Hand

DUSTIN CRUMMETT, DSJ STAFF COLUMNIST

Even those among us who are not Christians are likely familiar with the Parable of the Good Samaritan. In Luke’s gospel, a lawyer asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. When Jesus asks him what he thinks, the lawyer, quoting the Torah, answers, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind,’ and ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.”’ When Jesus agrees, the lawyer, hoping to find out that he is already meeting these commandments, asks Jesus who, exactly, his neighbor is supposed to be.

Jesus tells him about an Israelite man who is attacked by highwaymen and left to die by the side of the road. Two of his fellow countrymen—members of the clergy, to boot—see him there, but each passes by without so much as another glance. Then a Samaritan—a man from Israel’s hated northern neighbor—sees the man, bandages him up, takes him to an inn and pays the innkeeper to look after him. If the story were set in the modern United States, the victim and the passersby would certainly be upstanding WASPs, and the part of the Samaritan might be played by an illegal immigrant, or perhaps a transsexual.

Now a curious thing is that Jesus does not tell us why the first two men walked on without helping; another curious thing is that, popular as this story is, I have never heard anyone ask. Helping the man was, after all, a burdensome thing, and it’s not difficult to imagine nontrivial extenuating circumstances that could make it more so. I think we fail to search for their reasons because we do not particularly care what they were, and I think we do not care because we think, barring something rather implausible, that their reasons simply could not have been good enough—that whatever their excuses, they should have been overridden by their obligation to help a dying innocent. So, when the lawyer says that the traveler’s neighbor was the one who showed mercy on him and when Jesus tells us, “Go, and do thou likewise,” we find these statements pretty uncontroversial.

Now then, every 30 seconds a child in Africa dies of malaria, even though a family of four can be largely protected by a $10 bed net (nothingbutnets.net). Someone dies every second from hunger—that equals 100,000 a day; 36 million a year— even though the world has plenty of food and organizations like Heifer Project (heifer.org) can, for a few tens of dollars, help families in need become agriculturally self-sufficient. The list goes on.

Perhaps some of us really are already doing everything we can, but I think most of us reading this could do a lot more and simply choose not to. Of course, not one of us will solve all the world’s problems, but each of us can make a very substantial difference in the lives of a great many individuals. A billion people live on less than a dollar a day, and a paltry effort from us can quite literally make the difference between a fulfilled life and an agonizing death for them. We, even as “broke” college students are, by virtue of our educations and our wallets, among the most powerful and privileged human beings ever to walk the Earth, and yet we all too often fail to act. We condemned this behavior when we saw it in the parable’s characters, yet I have trouble seeing how the fact that the people we let die in streets, which happen to be rather far off, does much in the way of exonerating us.

If we believe that everyone has a more or less equal right to life’s necessities, then it is difficult not to at least sympathize with the words of the fourth century father of the Christian Church, Basil of Caesarea: “When someone strips a man of his clothes, we call him a thief. And one who might clothe the naked but does not—should he not be given the same name?” And yet we ourselves often make things worse by, despite the presence of ethical alternatives, supporting corporations who exploit the labor and resources of the developing world, wreaking havoc on the environment with our lifestyles, purchasing electronics containing metals whose sale funds civil wars, and so on.

The upshot of these thoughts will not be an easy teaching. I do not live up to it myself. Yet, some people do, and I think all of us are in a position to do so need to at least try. It seems rather clear that, in a world with such horrors as ours, we cannot live our lives in anything remotely resembling the same way we would in a world without them—or at least, we cannot unless we are willing to abandon both our most cherished principles and our brothers and sisters in need.

Dustin Crummett is a staff columnist for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.
As a person who does not drink and dances like a dying goat, I am not what one would call a "party guy." Thus, when I selected housing in the second-to-last slot nearly five months ago, the revelation that I would be living in the Units for a year was met with little rejoicing. True, it was the non-fraternity Unit H, but it was still leagues away from my early classes on Old Campus, had a serious roach problem and smelled like moldy bread; furthermore, simply being independent does not guarantee freedom from rowdiness and partying.

In any case, I completely forgot about my downgrade in housing once finals rolled around and did not consider it again until August. Remembering that I was living in Unit H was quite like remembering how difficult a distant final project will be whenever you glance at a syllabus (back a week and I'm already using school-related similes—Heavens, help me); it left a sense of vague dread that felt more like a passing annoyance. I was not thrilled, but my teeth went un-gnashed.

So, by now you may be thinking I am going to write about how very wrong I was and how wonderful it is to live in the Units, that there is really a secret path to Old Campus, the roaches died out and the whole thing smells like vanilla. However, while they certainly are not as heinous as my pessimistic freshman self assumed, the infamy of the Units is not without several grains of truth.

The "Not Great, But Not Unbearable" Things
Most of the positive things about the Units are not "good" so much as "not bad." I have yet to hear a single noise in the hallway after dinner, let alone late at night, which is enough to make me ecstatic. There are no sinks in the rooms, but the bathroom sinks are close enough they cause no a hassle; plus, their absence means my room is colossal compared to my old one in Barrett. The smell I had come to associate with the Units was probably thanks to my rare visits that were restricted to weekends, which came mostly from the vomit. In any case, the Units have not given off unfriendly odors as of yet.

The "Just As Terrible As Feared" Things
Some negative aspects are exactly what I predicted; chiefly, being very inconveniently placed for somebody with a full roster in Old Campus. This qualm is probably the least general one that I have, since many other students have classes closer to the Units or are not too lazy to get a bike for their commute. The kitchen is wonderful, the kitchenette is enjoyable, and the waters are warm, but the bathroom sinks are close enough they cause no hassle; plus, their absence means my room is colossal compared to my old one in Barrett. The smell I had come to associate with the Units was probably thanks to my rare visits that were restricted to weekends, which came mostly from the vomit. In any case, the Units have not given off unfriendly odors as of yet.

The "Bad Things I Did Not See Coming"
There are some difficulties that I did not anticipate and, while most of them are too minor to be taken seriously, there is one that I simply can't ignore: the showers. Maybe it is part of the colonial vibe to have sadistic sanitation, but I find it hard to believe that John Smith survived showers worse than these. The stalls are miniscule, the water rarely gets warmer than soft serve, there is no place to hang a towel, and one of the four living cockroaches I counted was wading in a tile puddle.

But there are actually good things about the Units! However, there are far more unexpected benefits than disappointments. The lounges will be fantastic once it cools down, and its closer proximity to Bloom allowed me to pick up the many essentials I forgot to pack. The kitchen is wonderful, with its twin microwaves perfect for heating hotcakes and syrup simultaneously. Taking out the trash is no longer an epic voyage, and Wawa runs are significantly shorter as well.

I almost feel like I am doing a disservice, though, writing anything good. My favorite of Murphy's sub-Laws is that the optimist is never pleasantly surprised; expecting the worst certainly helped me appreciate the Units. I may not settle down here but, for now, it works for me.

Jay Lyon is a staff columnist for The DSJ. His views do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff.
Disbelief is one of the few words that accurately describes the faces of both Tribe and Wahoo fans at the football game between William and Mary and UVA. Standing on the Hill in the UVA student section, I was clad uncomfortably in a collared green shirt and absolutely preposterous yellow shorts—I will rant further about proper spectator attire later, I promise—and an increasingly large halo of untred grass formed around our contingent of Tribe fans.

During the first half, when UVA appeared to be in control and moving towards an unimpressive but imminent victory, raucous and unrelenting Cavalier fans encompassed the few Tribe faithful the Hill. However, after two field goals pulled the College within a point at the close of the first half, the orange polo shirts and sundresses which had surrounded our green and gold enclave progressively retreated.

By the time the quarter ended, the Tribe led 16-14. Parody ensued. Tribe fans taunted UVA fans in their own student section. Across the stadium, for the first time all game, the WM pep band could be heard over the otherwise hushed crowd. Chants of “hoos” turned to boos. And slowly, the stadium emptied as UVA fans abandoned boos for booze.
By the time Tribe redshirt freshman B.W. Webb intercepted Jameel Sewell and returned the pick 50 yards for the game-cementing touchdown, Tribe fans on the Hill were surrounded by grass for at least 15 feet in every direction. As Webb crossed the goal line, putting an emphatic punctuation mark on the biggest win in recent football history at The College, the small but boisterous group of Tribe fans were, to say the very least, jubilant. I myself recall being hoisted into the air, amid euphoric but otherwise incomprehensible shrieks.

Our joy and surprise were so great that words failed to express either emotion. As I walked away from the stadium, locked arm-in-arm with several other William and Mary comrades, I heard a fan in green sum up the evening of football brilliantly. “Hey, where are you guys going?” he shouted at the dejected Hoos all around him. “You got all dressed up and you’re going home already?”

**The Game**

The name of the game was turnovers. The Tribe had seven takeaways—that’s right, seven. Hands down, the defensive player of the game for the College was B.W. Webb. Webb had three interceptions for 68 yards and a touchdown. With those numbers, he would have been UVA’s leading wide receiver.

Senior Adrian Tracy was all over the field, as would be expected, for the Tribe as well. His 10 tackles were second best on the team. Tracy, the CAA’s Preseason Co-Defensive Player of the Year, was near the ball on every play and was clearly a force on the defensive line.

Redshirt sophomore Jake Trantin also had an impressive stat-line. He had 11 tackles, 3 of which were for a loss, a sack and a fumble recovery. The linebacker’s heads-up recovery of a bad snap allowed the Tribe to regain possession at the end of the first half. That drive ended in the field goal that put the Tribe within one. The impact of turnovers on the game cannot be emphasized enough. All five of the Tribe scores were the results of takeaways, the final touchdown being scored by the defense on an interception. The seven total turnovers allowed the College to dominate time of possession and helped them hold UVA scoreless in the second half.

One of the more major plays the defense had was a big stop on a fourth-and-one play in the fourth quarter. Senior defensive end Sean Lissemore stopped UVA quarterback Marc Verica for no gain on the play. UVA, because of their offensive struggles, played three different quarterbacks. Combined, the three only accrued 137 yards passing. Jameel Sewell’s three interceptions exceeded fellow QB Vic Hall’s two completions.

Offensively, the Tribe struggled for the most part to establish a rhythm. The College appeared to be overmatched on the offensive line, where sophomore running back Jonathan Grimes didn’t have a lot of room to run. Grimes had 19 carries for 46 yards, with a long run of only nine yards.

Senior quarterback R.J. Archer had more success when he ran, mostly on QB scrambles, but almost half of his 50 yards came on one play, a 23-yard rush that set up a Tribe field goal. Archer had only limited success in the passing game. He was able to complete over half of his passes, and by only turning the ball over once he did not hurt the Tribe cause much. However, he missed several open wide receivers for would-be touchdowns and never developed any tempo. Given, he was playing in a larger stadium than he will face at any time in
CAA play and he was up against an ACC defense. He should have a much better stat line against Central Connecticut. Finally, kicker Brian Pate shook off a rough start to the game to finish with three consecutive converted field goal attempts. His 12 points were the difference for the Tribe, and it’s worth noting that all the kicks he missed were attempts over 40 yards, one of which hit off the left upright. With all of that said and done, it was all about Tribe turnovers. If the Tribe defense continues to play like they did against UVA, there will be little opposing teams can do to stop them. Their execution was near perfect.

Post-Game Implications

One question I struggled with during my drive home from Charlottesville was, “How historic/significant of a victory was this for the Tribe?” My internal quandary began at around 4 AM after the game, when I finally got onto ESPN.com to read about the massive upset that I had just witnessed. As I scanned the home page, I saw no mention, not even a note, of the FCS Tribe bested a well-respected Division I-A program. I continued to the NCAA football homepage, and once again found no mention of the game.

After some more in-depth searching, I finally found a recap from the AP that ESPN ran and a blog entry about how embarrassing of a loss the game was for UVA. No real compliments for the Tribe though, which was bothersome. Since then, most coverage I’ve read about the game from the national media has approached it from the same lens: UVA lost the game more than the Tribe won. A lot of the commentary focuses on Al Groh, the head coach for the Hoos whose job is now immediately in jeopardy following the loss. Neither ESPN nor The Washington Post took the time to note the significance for the Tribe, for example the fact that it was our first win against a Division 1-A Opponent since beating Temple in 1998. This win, because of its state-wide implications, will bring to the field this season. Many have speculated that UVA was looking past the Tribe to next week’s opponent, 17th ranked Texas Christian. No FCS program will make that mistake.
On Tailgating...

Tailgating, for realsies, is amazing. That’s really all that anyone could say about it. There were crabcakes. And delicious wings. And, for those of age, lots of beer. While I know we try to tailgate here at William and Mary, we need to take a page out of UVA’s book on this one. We need to tailgate harder. And sooner.

On the W&M-UVA Rivalry...

I was surprised by several other of my observations while at the game. For example, I have felt that, during my four years here at the College, it had been instilled that we are in the midst of a tremendous ongoing rivalry with the residents of Charlottesville. From the way those at the College, from President Revely all the way down, speak about the University of Virginia, I always got the sense that some animosity lingered between, as the President recently put it, “Thomas Jefferson’s first and second schools.”

News flash, Tribe, no one at UVA feels this way. I was shocked, absolutely shocked, at how little anyone in Charlottesville cared about this game or William and Mary. While there was a very notable air of superiority among Hoo fans, it was not in any way directed at William and Mary. Instead, it was aimed at the world in general. But that trait aside, my post game taunts about how anyone in Charlottesville cared about this game or William and Mary, it was not in any way directed at William and Mary.

Jefferson’s first and second schools.

For starters, it could establish a rivalry. If, by some form of divine intervention, the Tribe could go little-bighorn on UVA once again next year, there would be legitimate grounds for some bad blood between the two on the gridiron. That rivalry, between FCS William and Mary and Division 1-A ACC Conference members UVA, would go along way towards establishing the College as a more legitimate football school and would provide much needed fuel to the fire among Tribe fans.

As I lamented earlier, Tribe tailgating needs to take it up a notch. A rivalry with UVA, and the confidence boost that would come from such an entity, would almost certainly provide added “Tribe Pride” and foster more fanaticism among fans here, something that is severely lacking.

After the game, I am both proud and disappointed to note that I was unable to avoid any skirmishes with UVA fans. A group of friends from whom I departed after the game, however, were not so lucky. They stepped between UVA alumni who were throwing bottles at Tribe fans, and ended up in a bit of a rumble. The closest yours truly came to dropping the proverbial gloves was when I confronted a bow-tie wearing buffoon who was continually “flattiring” my flip-flops.

Overly intoxicated, he continually congratulated me on a game, but lamented my decision to leave the stadium with UVA fans. I don’t know how else he would have proposed for me to leave, but he was pretty concerned about it. After some chest bumping and a shove, things settled and ultimately my UVA counterpart comiserated over an ex-girlfriend who attends the College, whom he was obviously not over, who had dumped him for neuroscience when he was a “first year.” So to one of you ladies out there, you’re a heartbreaker.

Also, that reminds me, why the hell can’t they just call their social classes “freshmen, sophomore, junior, senior,” like the rest of the world. I was fed some malarkey about you’re never senior in learning or something—I stopped listening every time they tried to rationalize—because the answer was always patronizing.

Other Thoughts...

If I were the athletic director for the College, I know I would be on the phone as soon as possible with my counterpart at UVA. After our victory over the Wahoos, there are a lot of reasons I’m sure that they will not want to play the Tribe again next season. But I would press the issue; if there is any way that W&M can rematch UVA, it would be extremely worthwhile for the College.

For starters, it could establish a rivalry. If, by some form of divine intervention, the Tribe could go little-bighorn on UVA once again next year, there would be legitimate grounds for some bad blood between the two on the gridiron. That rivalry, between FCS William and Mary and Division 1-A ACC Conference members UVA, would go along way towards establishing the College as a more legitimate football school and would provide much needed fuel to the fire among Tribe fans.

As I lamented earlier, Tribe tailgating needs to take it up a notch. A rivalry with UVA, and the confidence boost that would come from such an entity, would almost certainly provide added “Tribe Pride” and foster more fanaticism among fans here, something that is severely lacking.

After the game, I am both proud and disappointed to note that I was unable to avoid any skirmishes with UVA fans. A group of friends from whom I departed after the game, however, were not so lucky. They stepped between UVA alumni who were throwing bottles at Tribe fans, and ended up in a bit of a rumble. The closest yours truly came to dropping the proverbial gloves was when I confronted a bow-tie wearing buffoon who was continually “flattiring” my flip-flops.

Overly intoxicated, he continually congratulated me on a game, but lamented my decision to leave the stadium with UVA fans. I don’t know how else he would have proposed for me to leave, but he was pretty concerned about it. After some chest bumping and a shove, things settled and ultimately my UVA counterpart comiserated over an ex-girlfriend who attends the College, whom he was obviously not over, who had dumped him for neuroscience when he was a “first year.” So to one of you ladies out there, you’re a heartbreaker.

Also, that reminds me, why the hell can’t they just call their social classes “freshmen, sophomore, junior, senior,” like the rest of the world. I was fed some malarkey about you’re never senior in learning or something—I stopped listening every time they tried to rationalize—because the answer was always patronizing.

On the Dress Code...

Among the many, many things I wish to address after my weekend at UVA, one that you may have noticed I am rather passionate about is the game-day attire of students in Charlottesville. Before making the trip, I inquired with a friend at UVA about the rumors I had heard. She confirmed that yes, they did indeed wear dresses, oxford shirts and ties—all in outrageous shades of orange—to every game. I met a gentleman in a nickelodeon-colored blazer on the hill. I asked him where he bought it. He told me at a gentleman’s hunting shop and seemed disgusted that I was unaware of the existence of such an establishment. That moment sums up my reaction to the dress code at UVA. I do not understand the necessity, on a day when the temperature is above 85 degrees, to wear long sleeves, to wear a tie, to wear dress clothes in general, when the activity in which you are about to partake involves standing or sitting outdoors for the next three to four hours. It is mind boggling to me. Maybe I am just a dumb Yankee (being from New York and what not), but I prefer to dress comfortably for football games. The fact that I watched girls slide down the Hill because their heels provided inadequate footing, and that somehow I was out of place for not understanding this phenomenon, is rather distressing.

On the W&M-UVA Rivalry...
A couple of weeks ago, I was watching the bottom line on ESPN and a story caught my eye. Some unidentified players on the Minnesota Vikings claimed that Brett Favre would soon be their new teammate. A few days later, their words came true as the future Hall of Famer was shown holding up a purple Vikings jersey with his number 4 printed in it.

I, like the rest of America, watched without any surprise as Favre waltzed right past training camp and back into the NFL, ending yet another retirement early. While I am quite annoyed with Favre’s in-and-out-of-the-NFL game, I am more bothered that he would join a team that will not challenge his or her old one, such as Bruce Smith did when he left the AFC’s Buffalo Bills for the NFC’s Washington Redskins. Favre could have been like Smith if he stopped with the New York Jets, leaving for a team in the opposite division where he would rarely play against his former team and even more rarely have to challenge them for a playoff spot.

Looking back on the last two decades, Brett Favre and the Green Bay Packers were synonymous. Brett Favre still is the first thing that pops in my mind when I hear someone mention the Green Bay Packers. More importantly, with the Jets, I saw no harm in it. He was already past his prime and I did not see how he could hurt the Packers in the NFC North by playing with an AFC East team.

I find it insulting and disrespectful to the Green Bay Packers and their fans to think that Favre would join a team in the NFC North, the same conference as the team where he played most of his remarkable career, the Green Bay Packers. While I am quite annoyed with Favre’s in-and-out-of-the-NFL game, I am more bothered that he would join a team in the NFC North, the same conference as the team where he played most of his remarkable career, the Green Bay Packers.
Four Years, One Tribe

Everyone says that college is the best four years of your life. Although it’s definitely a cliche, and they may not be the best years of your entire life (because let’s face it—you’re only in your early 20s and you’ll likely live for another 60+ years), they certainly rank pretty high on the list.

Each of your four years as a member of the Tribe is unique, and each is essential to the William and Mary experience. You’ll have firsts in each of these years. Every year you’ll be frustrated with classes and Swem and you’ll also burst with pride at how much you love The College. Whatever year you’re starting, take full advantage of all that William and Mary has to offer.

Freshmen, come in with a completely blank canvas and the opportunity to become a part of William and Mary. Embrace it! Meet new people, try new things, and in the words of Miss Frizzle from The Magic School Bus, your four years at William and Mary are your time to take chances, make mistakes, and get messy! To throw another platitude in, it doesn’t seem like it now, but the next four years are going to fly by. There’s no better time than now to dive in and just go for it.

Sophomores, take this year at the College to really come into your own. You have a year under your belt, you know your way around campus, and you have the privilege of calling yourself an upper-classman. So you don’t have your friends from you freshman hall two doors down or you live in the Units. Make the most of this adjustment year! Meet your new hallmates, or try getting involved in a new club or organization.

Juniors, start holding on to your time at William and Mary while you can! Really take advantage of everything the school has to offer, from traditions like Yule Log to services like the Career Center. Become more involved in what you already know and love. Enjoy the brunt of your major classes and try something in which you may be interested—and try taking it pass/fail.

Seniors. You finally got here, and now it’s hard to believe that this is the beginning of year four. You know the drill of what happens at William and Mary, but don’t let it pass you by. Go to everything you can, from Free Week at the Rec to Charter Day in February. If you’ve never done it before, give it a shot—this is your time to try it. It’s terrifying (at least for many) to think about grad schools or job searches and leaving the safe confines of Williamsburg. But don’t get too ahead of yourself, and really enjoy this year—and every Mug Night that goes along with it.

Each year at The College is different, but no William and Mary experience is complete without one. No matter how long you’ve been here, do what it takes to be a member of the Tribe. Join Tribal Fever and go to football games completely decked in green and gold. Get excited for our mascot to finally be announced. Represent William and Mary in Model Congress. Host prospective students. No matter how you do it, use your enthusiasm and Tribe Pride in whatever you do.

Though we’ve made up of four very distinct years, we’re one Tribe. Be a big part of that Tribe, and you’ll be sure to have a great year—and make it one of the best years of your life. ■

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Career Fair
Friday, September 18, 2009
12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.
Sadler Center, 3rd Floor
Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to talk with employers
regarding jobs and internships. Don’t forget to
dress professionally and bring copies of your résumé.

&
Career Fair Networking Reception
Thursday, September 17, 2009
Student Briefing 6:00pm – 6:30pm
Reception 6:30pm-8:00pm
Phi Beta Kappa Hall, Dodge Room
Get an edge on your career search, meet and network with
Employers interested in talking with you about jobs and
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