WMPD faces budget crunch

The William and Mary police department (WMPD), which, of late, has become increasingly unpopular among the student body, may be forced to economize in light of expected state budget cuts of approximately 7 percent.

The Virginia Informer has obtained a copy of a Freedom of Information Act request that revealed the full WMPD budget for the 2006-2007 academic year and a projected 2007-2008 budget.

Campus police were, for the 2006-2007 academic year, given a budget of $1,647,441.

A significant amount, $226,189, was spent on “law enforcement supplies” paid to Century Uniforms. According to Mr. Challis, this includes pants, shirts and other items.

Some of the most interesting items, however, were purchases that had no apparent relation to law enforcement. In October

WMPD BUDGET

continued on page ten

W&M alum’s father missing in Iran

Matthew Sutton
Executive Editor

Following the Board of Visitors meeting of September 27-28, Rector Michael Powell announced a comprehensive review of President Gene Nichol’s contract which is currently set to expire in June 2008. In an unprecedented move, a special e-mail address, BOVEvaluation@wm.edu, was established to solicit comments from “alumni, faculty, students and friends of the College” about Mr. Nichol’s future with the College.

In an e-mail sent to faculty, staff and students, Mr. Powell laid out the process that the Board will use in evaluating the possible extension of Mr. Nichol’s contract. “Pursuant to the terms of the President’s contract, the review will examine achievements as measured against goals and objectives presented by the President to the Board as well as other metrics. Additionally, our appraisal will include a 360 degree review, which is a feature of the best appraisal systems.”

Mr. Powell also obliquely

PRES. NICHOL UNDER REVIEW

continued on page three

The BOV will determine Nichol’s future.

W&M alum’s father missing in Iran

Alex Mayer
Opinion Editor

In March 2008, Robert Levinson, an ex-FBI agent working as a private investigator and father to a recent alumnus, traveled to Kish Island off Iran’s southern coast. His trip was reportedly related to his investigation into an international counterfeit cigarette smuggling ring. After taking a flight from Dubai to Kish, Mr. Levinson checked into the Maryam Hotel on the island on March 8, 2007. He has not been heard from since, and six months later, his whereabouts are still unknown.

Since his disappearance, Mr. Levinson’s family, in an effort headed by his wife, are working tirelessly to find him. Working through every available official channel, including the US State Department, letters to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and contact with the Iranian mission to the United Nations, the Levinson family has found few answers as to his fate. On September 7, the Iranian government...
Behind the scenes of the Marketplace accident

Was it a dangerous chemical spill or simple household cleaner?

Steven Nelson
Assistant News Editor

O n the morning of Tuesday, September 18, students received text messages, e-mails and phone calls for the first time via the College’s new emergency alert system. The campus-wide alert read: “There has been a chemical spill in the Marketplace. The building has been evacuated. The Marketplace will not be able to serve food until further notice.” Police responding to the scene believed there was a chemical spill on the Marketplace’s loading dock. Unsure of what chemical reaction had occurred, the building was temporarily evacuated.

Marketplace employees at the time of the “chemical spill” allege, however, that the cause of the alert was no more than Limeaway, which had been poured from a small container into a bucket on the loading dock. Limeaway is commonly used as a dishwasher-cleaning agent because of its ability to remove calcium and hard water minerals.

The Informer contacted Marketplace Director Sharmyce Davis to discuss what exactly occurred. Asked about the chemical spill, Davis adamantly stated, “there was no chemical spill.” Ms. Davis confirmed that the chemical spill was Limeaway and was being used to clean the loading dock’s concrete slab.

After a series of fumes from the Limeaway drained back into the Marketplace from the loading dock, causing some employees to feel nauseous and complain of respiratory difficulty.

The Office of University Relations gave The Informer a different account of events. The Informer was told that employees working at the marketplace inadvertently mixed a cleaning agent—possibly Limeaway—with another chemical—possibly bleach—resulting in the possible creation of chlorine gas.

When asked whether a chemical spill had actually occurred, the College’s public relations contact responded that “there is no information to suggest otherwise.”

Due to the vapor inhalation, whether or not a combination of chemicals, four employees were transported to the hospital. All complained of respiratory issues and were released from the hospital the same day.

According to a material safety data sheet for Limeaway, it is used for household cleaning. Limeaway contains no ammonia, therefore it is impossible to mix it with bleach to create chlorine gas. According to some Chemistry department members, however, it is possible for there to be hazardous vapors emitted through the combination of any phosphoric acid—Limeaway is 30% phosphoric acid—and bleach.

The Office of University Relations has been unable to pinpoint the three ingredients combined on the loading dock, but speculate that bleach and a cleaner were involved, resulting in toxic fumes. Taliaferro Hall was not officially evacuated, but the cause of the “chemical spill” was Housing 51 residents, Taliaferro is just feet from the Marketplace’s loading dock. Open windows and doors were being used as ventilation units in Taliaferro face the Marketplace’s loading dock, where the College asserts the possible creation of chlorine gas occurred.

According to freshman Sarah Peyton, who lives in Taliaferro, “our cleaning lady and one of the transfers started feeling bad... we all left because they told us it would be a good idea.”

The College’s public relations office was not aware that Taliaferro was evacuated, despite their concern that chlorine gas was created. The Office of University Relations denied that this first run of the emergency alert system—less than a week before the scheduled tests—was, in fact, the unnecessary occasion to test out the new system.

New Town’s first “William and Mary Night,” held on September 20, was hailed as a success, as many undergraduate students made their way to the shopping center to take advantage of special events and sales. The owners of the stores in New Town planned the night with the goal of showing students what the outdoor shopping center has to offer. Establishments such as Undergraduate students made their way to the shopping center to take advantage of special events and sales. The owners of the stores in New Town planned the night with the goal of showing students what the outdoor shopping center has to offer. Establishments such as New Town’s “success”

“William and Mary Night” at New Town a “success”

Established 2005

The Virginia Informer is a student-funded publication that is owned and operated by students at the College of William and Mary. The Informer is the official student newspaper of the College of William and Mary and is published weekly during the academic year. The Informer is an independent, non-partisan, student-run publication. The Informer is available online at www.VAInformer.com and is available in print for the benefit of students at the College and is available to all citizens of the greater Williamsburg community. However, the Informer is not responsible for the opinions expressed in articles, columns, or letters to the editor, and is not responsible for the content of any advertising. The Informer is not responsible for the accuracy of any advertising. The Informer is not responsible for the content of any advertising.

Mission Statement

The Virginia Informer is an independent, non-partisan, student-run publication devoted to reporting the news to the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community. We exist to provide an alternative to the campus newspaper and provide a voice for our readers and for the William and Mary community.

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Virginia Informer

Volume 3 Issue 3
October 3, 2007

THE VIRGINIA INFORMER

Established 2005

The Virginia Informer

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Alarming silence
New alert system now fully operational following several glitches in tests

Kristin Coyner
Staff Writer

After numerous tests during the week of September 24, the Emergency Management Team has confirmed that the new emergency notification system is now fully operational.

“The world changed after the Virginia Tech shootings, so that what people want is instantaneous communication,” said Sam Sadler, chair of the Emergency Management Team, in an interview with The Virginia Informer. Mr. Sadler’s remark reflects the extent to which last spring’s events continue to influence emergency response procedures at the College.

Over the past few months, universities and colleges across the Commonwealth have increased their efforts to install comprehensive emergency alert systems. This past week marked the formal attempt of the school to test its newly installed Emergency Notification System. Beginning on Monday, September 24, William and Mary was to test a newly-installed synchronized alarm system for a period of one minute. At 10:30 am, the appointed time of the test, the sirens across campus uniformly failed to sound. Sirens located in the Marshall-Wythe School of Law were able to be manually overridden and activated. Those located on top of the Integrated Science Center, which is presently under construction, were incapable of being overridden.

This was the first attempt to test the sirens. Prior to this attempt, the system appeared to be functioning normally. SimplexGrinnell, the company responsible for installing the sirens, had utilized a mode in the system which allowed for testing without sound, which gave officials a false impression that the sirens were functioning properly. In reality, Monday’s test revealed that wiring and relay controls of the alarm system were not working properly. Frank Kleczewski, a Norfolk-area building sales engineer for Simplex, explained the failure was due solely to “technical difficulties.”

When working correctly, the sirens will emit the alarm for 3 minutes, serving as an alert to students, faculty and staff of an imminent emergency situation. Text messages, phone calls and e-mails will also be utilized to inform the campus of the specific nature of the emergency.

The message component of the school’s emergency notification was successful, unlike the alarm system. In an e-mail sent to students after the attempt on September 24, Mr. Sadler noted that, “slightly over 98% of 9,549 individuals registered in the system were reached.” Mr. Sadler pointed out this success in Maryland’s test by saying, “We learned a lot about how to use the telecommunications system from the Marketplace spill…” and succeeded in reducing the time of message response from 3 hours to 15 minutes.”

Additionally, officials were able to replace the Williams and Mary web page with a “static web page,” which displayed the same information sent in the messages to the campus community. On Tuesday, September 25, Mr. Sadler rescheduled a smaller scale-diagnostic test to review the sirens and alarm, which led to the rescheduling of another full one minute siren test. Several short bursts of the alarms were successfully sounded at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, prompting a scheduling of a full test for 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 26. This test, as expected, resulted in the sounding of the alarm siren for a full minute.

In review of all the week’s events, Mr. Sadler indicated that every test and system utilization will reveal further changes and improvements that need to be made. A full three minute test, which is the actual length of the alarm sounding in an emergency, will likely occur in October over fall break and once more later in the fall semester. Mr. Sadler expressed concern over certain “dead spots” that exist in the messaging system, preventing a small number of individuals from receiving messages. Mr. Sadler proposed calling with cell phone carriers to rectify this problem.

In response to the suggestion that Monday’s failure could have occurred during a real emergency, Mr. Sadler clarified that the system is filled with, “backups for backups.” The sirens are able to be manually overridden as a first backup. Furthermore, building managers in residence halls across campus, and eventually in the academic halls as well, are equipped with mobile devices which would allow the word to be spread. “Word of mouth will help, though it is not the sole reliance in this situation,” Mr. Sadler explained. Ultimately, Mr. Sadler wants to create greater consistency in the entire emergency notification system so that in every situation information will still be available to students.

Pres. Nichol under review:
Rector Powell asks for public input in full review of Nichol’s presidency as contract expires

Nick Hoelker
Online Editor

In the midst of the fight over contract renewal for William and Mary President Gene Nichol, one aspect of Mr. Nichol’s contract has been largely ignored. According to the Web-site www.ShouldNicholBeRenewed.org, Mr. Nichol’s contract requires him to “submit to the Board of Visitors a written statement of his goals and objectives for the upcoming academic year.” This excerpt is factually correct according to Director of University Relations Michael Connolly. Mr. Connolly added that Mr. Nichol has indeed submitted his list of “goals and objectives” to the Board of Visitors. Mr. Connolly stated that, according to Rector Michael Powell, the report contained information about personnel matters which is not available for public record according to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Inquiries to Mr. Connolly regarding the availability of the rest of the contract as public record were not immediately returned.

Details on Nichol’s contract emerge

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Student Assembly leads voter registration drive

Ian A. Kirkpatrick
Staff Writer

Due to recent changes in Williamsburg city politics, students now have the opportunity to vote in town, and the Student Assembly is encouraging them to do so.

The Student Assembly is now making a substantial effort to register William and Mary students. Representatives have been campaigning through freshman dorms and campus organizations and have operated tables at many events this year, including the freshman activities fair and Fall Fest.

As a result of these efforts, several hundred students have been registered since the last week of August. The Flat Hat quoted the official numbers from the new registrar, Winifred Sowder, but according to Mr. Beato, “We did not want The Flat Hat to release that information because [it] could antagonize the community: [townspeople could] get the impression that they are being inundated." Such sentiments are understandable; 6,000 Williamsburg community members are registered to vote, and the student body of William and Mary includes 5,700 undergraduates. About 1,000 Williamsburg registered voters participate in each local election, thus, with enough effort, students could overwhelm the community members at the polls.

Local politics have a profound influence over student lives, and the Student Assembly feels that it is of tantamount importance that everyone has the opportunity to register.

In many college towns across the country, the question of student participation in local politics has been very contentious. Recently, Williamsburg has experienced its own political drama. In 2006, about half way through his four year term, Williamsburg Registrar Dave Andrews was removed from office. William and Mary students could easily be registered to vote, but before Mr. Andrews took office, local congressmen, who were amazed that the town "where American democracy began, and the World Forum on Democracy was held, was literally cherry picking voters." Mr. Pilchen responded that this summer he had testified on these events at a Congressional hearing on youth voter suppression “because a panel of members of Congress, the ACLU, Lawyer’s Committee on Civil Rights, [and the] NAACP.” He described the shock of the congressmen, who were amazed that the town where American democracy began, and the World Forum on Democracy was held, was literally cherry picking voters.

Senate debates WMPD tactics, responds with resolution
Bryan Alphin
Staff Writer

The Student Assembly Senate commenced their September 25 meeting with the Baha Men hit, “Who Let the Dogs Out?” Though the song quickly lost its appeal—just as it had when the song was released in 2001—the topic of the Insurance of Student Safety and Freedom of Assembly Act (ISSFA) did not lose its luster, as it resulted in heated debate on the Senate floor on Tuesday.

Senators Orlando Watson (’10) and Matt Skibiak (’08), co-sponsors of ISSFA, staunchly defended their proposal. The bill, which responds to the seemingly evident cases of the Williamsburg and Mary police interrupting break-up parties on campus (specifically at the Units), states that the student body is not pleased with these arbitrary intrusions and are protesting the actions as unfair and unreasonable to the law abiding students who do attend the parties.

The bill received criticism from Senators Walter McLean (’09) and Joe Luppino-Esposito (’08), who cited the facts behind the bill. They stated that judicial referrals and interruption of campus parties are on the rise, and these facts were contested by Messrs. McLean and Luppino-Esposito. The judicial referral records do not take into account the occasional referrals made by RA’s across campus, which, when added into the total number, inflate the numbers of referrals made by police. The other evidence-related issue with the bill included the complete lack of recording of how many parties on campus were shut down or uninvited, and for what purposes. Eventually, Messrs. McLean and Luppino-Esposito forced the ISSFA sponsors into a corner by attacking the legitimacy of the bill. “I am concerned that when we present this bill before [the administration], we will not have enough evidence behind our words,” Mr. McLean pronounced.

Behind all the rhetoric, the bill passed 9-2 with three senators abstaining. Now the bill

New Student Assembly executive appointees impress
Sarah Nadler
Staff Writer

President Zach Pilchen’s weekly cabinet meeting was an exhibition of efficient and energized dedication from his appointees. Hearing reports from the new cabinet secretaries and undersecretaries it appears that each department seems to be making progress in their respective domains with many new programs.

After fall break there will be red posters around campus to promote healthy relationships. The cabinet was informed that testing for sexually transmitted infections is available at the Student Health Center, but each STI test costs a different amount, so more information is needed in order to find out the cost for a student to be tested for every STI simultaneously.

Changes about Busch Gardens day were discussed by the Student Life department. On October 5, students can only obtain one ticket with an ID card. Public Affairs reported that the voter registration drive has been making progress, and Vice President Valerie Hopkins commented that “the RA of Lambda Chi asked her to do a registration hall program.” On the College Policy front, it was noted there was a meeting with the police chief and Dean Gilbert to confirm that everyone on the police force understands the Medical Amnesty Act, a facet of campus policy that allows students to pursue medical attention for themselves or a friend without judicial sanctions. It was also made known that money for the police cards identifying student rights was received. Religious affairs were also discussed, along with a possibility for an interfaith meditation room on campus; however, leaders of the Diversity Department have not yet talked to the administration about this. Also in the works are diversity activities, such as a program about Asian American identity, and a show about sexuality called “I Heart Female Orgasms.”

Finances were also discussed. The cabinet was happy to hear that the budget ended up being higher than originally anticipated, including budgeting for unforeseen or unplanned events. Also, the Senate has reauthorized executive authority over the off-campus account, meaning the executive branch will be able to provide organizations with money.
Campus Kitchens Project comes to the College
Mike Crump
Staff Writer

The Campus Kitchens Project (CKP), an anti-hunger program operating from within the dining halls of colleges from across the nation, recently expanded to include the William and Mary campus.

Campus Kitchens Project, now operating under its fifth year, seeks to help our impoverished communities. They do this by recycling surplus food from member kitchens and donors into healthy, prepackaged meals to be given out by student volunteers. In 2006, 11 other schools from around the country operate chapters of Campus Kitchens, including Northwestern University, Washington and Lee, The College of William and Mary, Wake Forest University, among others. All of these schools produce nearly 2,500 meals each month. To date, CKP has provided more than 360,000 meals.

Robert Egger, founder of CKP and the DC Central Kitchen, came to the College last October to speak with students, catching the interest of Julie Price (’07) and Jessica Kim (’10). The two students spent most of the semester planning the paperwork, and the organization was able to launch its William and Mary chapter this year.

While the program is set up on a loose “come when you can” policy, officially the CKP spends about eight hours per week in food preparation and delivery. After a dining hall’s open hours, students are able to come in for two hour shifts to prepare meals with the donated food. In addition to the College, which allows use of the Commons for cooking Mondays and Thursdays, local food donors include Trader Joe’s in Newport News, Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula and A Gift from Ben, a local food pantry. The first official “meeting” took place Monday, September 24. Students were able to make 69 meals.

Currently the group is scheduled to deliver meals to Avalon, the battered women and children’s shelter, the Bayton building, a senior citizens’ residence and other low-income housing.

Assistance for low-income families is surprisingly hard to come by in the area. The 2004 census states thatWilliamsburg’s population below the poverty line sits at 17.2 percent, nearly double the state average. Ms. Kim maintains that the problem is that not enough people know about the problem or the solutions that exist. She said that “since Williamsburg is a tourist town, these problems are very much glossed over sometimes, so the more people know about the problems the faster it can be resolved.”

So far, student support and interest in CKP has been great. Any interested student is encouraged to get involved by e-mailing kitchens@wm.edu, or simply showing up. Cooking shifts last from 8-10 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, and deliveries from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 3-5 p.m. Fridays.

Despite its early stages, Ms. Kim remains confident that they can bring in anything but good coming out of residents and students working side by side to fight hunger in the area, “she said it. “We let the community know that we are passionate about helping others and giving back to the community that has given us so much.”

www.VAInformer.com
All the news that’s fit to go online.
Unique sleep schedules could lead to extra ZZZs

**Opinion Editor**

Alex Mayer

What would you do with an extra six hours every day? The possibility of such an opportunity no doubt seems tantalizing to most students at William and Mary.

But how does it work? Ordinary “monophasic” sleep consists of multiple stages, many of which theorists believe may not necessarily need to be as long as they normally are. The theory holds that after undergoing systematic sleep deprivation, the brain will eventually begin entering the more essential phases of sleep (such as REM, or rapid eye movement) more quickly as a survival strategy.

REM is the period of sleep in which you experience dreams, and is the most important phase of sleep. When deprived of REM for too long, a person suffers serious negative consequences. Polyphasic sleep conditions your body to learn to enter REM sleep immediately when you begin sleeping instead of much later in the sleep cycle, as is the case with monophasic sleep. After an initial adjustment period, one should theoretically be able to settle into a “comfortable and sustainable equilibrium” with no negative impact on cognitive function.

The Uberman sleep schedule has been successfully tested in several cases. The most successful and well-documented of these was Steve Pavlina, who in 2005 successfully adapted to polyphasic sleep and continued to use the Uberman schedule for five and a half months.

The possibilities of something like this working were obviously exciting. With my encouragement, Stephen decided that the benefits of such a system were worth trying it out. He carefully planned out his naps for the week, scheduling them around classes and activities. He expected to be tired for the first few days, but hoped to adjust to the new schedule in about a week. By then he hoped to be left feeling refreshed, energized, and with lots of extra time to get things done.

Well, it was true—for the first two days he was exhausted. He told me that he felt constantly tired, and he seemed “out of it.” He soon stumbled across a remarkable find: polyphasic sleep, an alternative sleep pattern that reduces sleep time to 2-6 hours daily in order to achieve a “better quality of sleep.” The specific variant he was interested in was known as Uberman’s sleep schedule, viewed to be the “most extreme” form of polyphasic sleep.

In essence, the idea is to take 20-minute naps every four hours throughout the day. If successful, this would result in a person being awake for six extra hours every day, and a total of 42 extra hours of consciousness per week—nearly two extra days. But how does it work? Ordinary “monophasic” sleep consists of multiple stages, many of which theorists believe may not necessarily need to be as long as they normally are. The theory holds that after undergoing systematic sleep deprivation, the brain will eventually begin entering the more essential phases of sleep (such as REM, or rapid eye movement) more quickly as a survival strategy.

The problem was that it became hard to schedule the naps correctly—other activities seemed to always get in the way. He would find himself dozing off at non-nap times, and when he did take scheduled naps he frequently slept through his 20-minute alarm.

He realized after a few days that he simply did not have the time to devote to adjusting to this schedule. To adjust to the transition period, he would need a free week that he could spend getting his body used to it. Lacking that free time, he had to abandon the experiment.

If successful, this method could become wildly popular at the College, where students are always trying to cram more activities, meetings, and social work into an already packed schedule.

However, the inherent flaw in William and Mary students using this method to gain extra time is that they, in fact, need a week of no commitments in order to acclimate—a nearly impossible condition once the school year has begun. A more intelligent strategy would be to adjust during (or at the end of) an extended break, either in the winter or summer. This way, students could come back to school already adjusted to the schedule.

Study abroad safe from budget cuts, administration says

Michelle Ju

Staff Writer

Although the specter of harsh budget cuts continues to loom ahead in the upcoming fiscal year, it appears that the study abroad programs will remain financially untouched. Shirley Aceto, assistant to Provost Geoffrey Feiss, explained the institute’s nature of upcoming budget cuts, saying that “we really do not know what the state will impose upon us—seven percent or four percent.” Regardless of the percentage, the budget cuts are predicted to affect every other account on the campus. According to Ms. Aceto, “the study abroad program account is a fiscal year, it appears that the study abroad programs will continue to loom ahead in the upcoming fiscal year, it appears that the study abroad programs will remain financially untouched. Shirley Aceto, assistant to Provost Geoffrey Feiss, explained the institute’s nature of upcoming budget cuts, saying that “we really do not know what the state will impose upon us—seven percent or four percent.” Regardless of the percentage, the budget cuts are predicted to affect every other account on the campus. According to Ms. Aceto, “the study abroad program account is a

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Swimming off the deep end:

The secret life of Sam Sadler

“Jack Bauer ain’t got nothin’ on me!”

It has come to our attention that in our last column there were some baffling typographical errors. Much to the dismay of The Flat Hat and much to the delight of our readers, these errors were set, in fact, a display of gross incompetence, but, instead, the result of the work of a mischievous sprite who foiled up our printing press.

Press? Press, you might ask? Yes, you read that correctly. Imagine this: the year is 1450, and Johannes Gutenberg has just finished his masterpiece, arguably the most influential invention of the last 1,000 years. Fast forward to today: strangely, not much has changed. The year is 2007, and here we are working countless hours setting moveable type for all 16 glorious pages of The Virginia Informer. Our hands covered in ink, sweat dripping off our brow, all in the noble quest to bring a smile to the faces of the bedraggled students of William and Mary. So, rather than taking our fleeing, inconsistent mistakes too seriously you should be thanking us for all of our hard at work, the message is diverted directly to Sam Sadler…’s first secretary, who then processes the message and diverts it to Sam Sadler…’s second secretary, who then processes the message and diverts it to Sam Sadler.

So, on to business. This week, we have in store for you an epic tale of romance, danger, jealousy and betrayal—all involving an extremely unlikable—oh, there’s another typo—unlikely hero, W. Samuel Sadler:

“Hi, I’m federal agent Sam Sadler, chair, Emergency Management Team…and today is the longest day of my life…”

“The following takes place between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.”

9:15:35
• Larry Smith, alias “The Caf Man,” plants chemical weapons—supplied by Chang, an operative of the Chinese government-backed Aramark Corporation—in the Marketplace ventilation system, in a desperate attempt to increase Caf popularity.

9:24:47
• Text message intercepted from the Office of Multicultural Affairs. With our taxpayer dollars hard at work, the message is diverted directly to Sam Sadler…’s first secretary, who then processes the message and diverts it to Sam Sadler…’s second secretary, who then processes the message and diverts it to Sam Sadler.

9:30:00
• Senior EMT analyst Deb Boykin traces dumplings have been delivered.”

9:30:11
• Secret life of Sam Sadler: “You’re going to tell me what I want to know, it’s just a question of how much you want it to hurt.”

9:30:11
• Sam Sadler runs into the Marketplace dining facility, only to see Caf Man dive behind the Caprice station in an effort to escape.

9:30:42
• Chemical weapons discharged.

9:29:42
• Sam Sadler is immediately dispatched to OMC office with a full tactical team.

Response Team, busts down the doors of the OMC office.

• Sadler draws weapon, kneeling uninvolved student in the face.

9:24:47
• After kicking down the office door of Dr. Chon Glover, taking her completely by surprise, Sadler threatens her: “You’re going to tell me what I want to know, I’m going to make this the worst day of your life.”

9:29:14
• Sadler’s two secretaries rouse him from his dreamtreaming slumber underneath his desk and inform him that the emergency alarm failed to go off.

9:29:14
• “Well,” Sadler says to himself, “at least I’m still chair of the Emergency Management Team.”

Editor’s Note: A special thanks goes out to James Thurber for all of his support for this issue.

October Schedule

Kimball Theatre
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

Live Performances

The College of William and Mary Sinfonica Light Opera Company presents: An Onward Spectacle: Gala 2007
Sat., Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
All seats $15

Preservation & Exploration in the Shadow of John Smith 2007 Jamestown Lecture Series
All lectures begin at 7 p.m.
Tues., Oct. 9 – Jamestown, More Buried Truth
Tues., Oct. 30 – From Goats to Griffins: Animals, Real and Imaginary, at Jamestown
Tues., Nov. 13 – A Special Lecture presented by Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz, NASA Astronaut
Tickets for individual lectures are $10

Laughing Redhead presents
Clean Comedy Night
Featuring Bone Hampton and Donna East
Sat., Oct. 13 at 7:30 p.m.
General admission $15, Senior/Students $12

The Williamsburg Symphony presents Subscription Concert #1
Tues., Oct. 16 and Wed., Oct. 17 at 8 p.m.
Tickets: $42, $30. Advance tickets are available through the Williamsburg Symphony; please call (757) 229-9857

New Kent High School and Astor College present West Side Story
Book by Arthur Laurents
Music by Leonard Bernstein, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Tues., Oct. 23 and Wed., Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
Adults $7, Students $5

The devil came on horseback (Not rated)
Sun., Oct. 7, 8:45 p.m.
Tickets: $3, William and Mary ID $1

October Schedule

Movies

Manufacturing Dissent (Not rated)
Fri., Sept. 28-Wed., Oct. 3, 7 and 9 p.m.
Sept. 29, Oct. 1-2 screening room (35 seats)
Casi Casi (PG-13)
Tues., Oct. 2-Sept. 28, Oct. 1-2 screening room (35 seats)
Sun., Oct. 14-Sun., Oct. 21
Oct. 14-19 screening room (35 seats)
Oct. 20-26 screening room (35 seats)
Wed., Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.

Mother of Mine (Not rated)
Wed., Oct. 31 at 7 p.m.
Tickets: $3, William and Mary ID $1

Lady Chatterley (Not rated)
Sun., Oct. 14, Oct. 17 and 8:45 p.m.
Oct. 7-9, 11, 13 screening room (35 seats)

Film Movement: 2007 Independent and International Film Series:
The Brothersome Man (Not rated)
Wed., Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.

Rescue Dawn (PG-13)
Fri., Oct. 19-Sun., Oct. 28
6:30 and 8:50 p.m.
Oct. 20-26 screening room (35 seats)
My Best Friend (PG-13)
Fri., Oct. 26-Thurs., Nov. 1
7 and 8:45 p.m.
Oct. 27-30, Nov. 1 screening room (35 seats)
The World Forum on the Future of Democracy—events of which were held in both Colonial Williamsburg and at the College—represented the signature event of Jamestown 400 Commemoration. With a focus on the threats and opportunities facing the future of democracy worldwide, the forum consisted of eight panel discussions centered on everything from the founding fathers’ original ideals to the most pressing threats of terrorism. In addition to 85 official delegates from 16 nations, thousands of individuals attended the event’s many different components.

The opening ceremony of the World Forum was first marked by the reading of America’s Declaration of Independence by interpreters from Colonial Williamsburg. It was then followed by remarks from President Gene Nichol and President Emeritus Timothy Sullivan, both of whom introduced the many members of the forum’s conference committee who made the event possible. Other speakers at the opening ceremony included Virginia’s senior Senator John Warner, Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and video remarks by former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and former President George H.W. Bush.

The two days of main events following the opening ceremony were made up of eight different panels, many of which were renowned scholars and policy experts. Discussions on September 17 were centered on the topic of the “Architecture of Liberty” and focused on issues such as the framers’ original intent of the Constitution, the American founding principles relevant in today’s global age. In the first panel discussion, “Developing a Structure for a Deliberative Democracy: The Framers’ Debate,” historians Dr. Joseph Ellis, Dr. Gordon Wood and Dr. Hunter Rawlings discussed a number of issues presented at the framing of the Constitution, such as the merits of a strong central government, individual rights, the economy and religion. Dr. Ellis (’65) joined a student delegation from the College to continue the discussion in a seminar setting. In the second panel discussion, “Has America Kept the Founding Faith? Is it Working?”, New York Times columnist David Brooks commented during the William and Mary student seminar that the freedom of speech exercised in independent student publications, such as The Virginia Informer, is important to preserve. That evening, the World Forum hosted its premier event at William and Mary Hall, entitled “The Future of Democracy: Why does it matter?” Moderated by Jim Lehrer of PBS, the seminar panel was comprised of Mrs. O’Connor, Former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and the Director of Iranian Studies at the American Institute in Iran, Dr. Ali Amiri. Questions asked of the panelists comprised the many themes being discussed throughout the forum and were asked by international delegates and William and Mary students.

The discussions on Sept. 18 focused around the theme of “Global Issues and Challenges to Democracy.” Topics presented included terrorism and security, religious freedom and minority rights, world markets and sustainable development. In the session entitled “Terrorism and Security,” panelists Dr. Ansari, Dr. Martha Crenshaw, Vice-Provost for the College of William and Mary and Mitchell Reiss, and former US Senator and Governor of Virginia Charles Robb debated the current issues related to terrorist movements and American security. Each of the panelists gave their opinion of the role of democracy in fighting terror and discussed their positions with regards to the main threats to American and international security. In Dr. Crenshaw’s personal seminar session with William and Mary student delegates, she further discussed the current threats to the stability and spread of democracy worldwide.

At day’s end, the forum concluded with speeches by its organizers entitled, “The Journey that Changed the World.” It also featured video remarks by former British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Secretary Gates tackles realism v. idealism in American foreign policy

Andrew Blasi 
Business Editor

On September 17, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates (’65) delivered a major address to delegates of the World Forum on the Future of Democracy at the Williamsburg Lodge. The speech was a groundbreaking look into the future of US foreign policy. Entitled “Promoting Democracy Abroad: A Reality’s View,” Mr. Gates spoke of America’s historic and present struggle between idealistic and realistic goals in foreign policy.

In what was perhaps the most striking remark of his address, Mr. Gates admitted that the United States has “allied with tyrants to defeat other tyrants...sustained diplomatic relations with governments even as we supported those attempting their overthrow...made human rights the centerpiece of our national strategy even as we did business with some of the worst violators of human rights [and we have] worked with authoritarian governments to advance our own security interests even while urging them to reform.” Furthermore, Mr. Gates stated that the United States has used its military in the past “to eliminate governments seen as a threat to our national security, to undo aggression, to end ethnic slaughter, and to prevent genocide.” Mr. Gates added, “We have done this in Grenada, Panama, Kuwait, the Balkans, Haiti, Afghanistan and Iraq. In the process, we have brought the possibility of democracy and freedom to tens of millions more who had been oppressed or were suffering.”

Mr. Gates’ devotion towards realism philosophy was made more evident when he declared that “to win and protect our own freedom, the United States has made the common cause with countries that were far from free—from Louis XVI, to one of history’s true monsters, Joseph Stalin. Without the one there is no American independence. Without the other, no end to the Third Reich. It is neither hypocritical nor cynicism to believe fervently in freedom while adopting different approaches to advancing freedom at different times along the way—including temporarily making common cause with despots to defeat greater or more urgent threats to stability and freedom.”

In addition, Mr. Gates also took a swipe at current US allies now pondering their withdrawal from Afghanistan, saying “Afghanistan, is, in a very real sense, a litmus test of whether an alliance of advanced democracies can still feature world in the way that we fought against the Third Reich. It is neither hypocrisy to other nations. “Americans have never been a patient people,” he said. “Today, we look at Russia, China, Afghanistan, Iraq, and others—and wonder at their excruciatingly slow progress toward democratic institutions.”

Mr. Gates served within the Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Council from the 1960s to 1993. In that time, he rose from an entry-level position to eventually become deputy national security advisor from 1989 to 1991, as well as a personal assistant to St. Andrews at Scotland in 1999. He has a Ph.D. in Russian and Soviet history from Georgetown University.
Delegates the world over attend events in Williamsburg

Jennifer Souers
Staff Writer

The World Forum on the Future of Democracy was truly a global event, boasting 85 official delegates from 16 nations with emerging or threatened democratic governments, or in some cases, both.

Nominated by the US Embassy in their respective nations, each delegate was recruited based on four criteria: (1) his or her commitment to democratic reform and participation; (2) geographic diversity; (3) who would find the conference most beneficial; and (4) who would be able to best contribute in a positive and constructive manner.

The nations with delegates in attendance included: Brazil, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ukraine, India, Egypt, Indonesia, Peru, Turkey, Georgia, South Africa, Kyrgyzstan, Bolivia, Philippines, Tunisia and Bahrain. These delegates represented a diverse mix of national and local government leaders, journalists, non-governmental organization leaders, students, educators and other noteworthy and influential leaders.

In addition to these 85 delegates, the forum also hosted many other leaders from around the world who participated in many of the event’s seminars. Some of these individuals included: Kumi Naidoo, a noted anti apartheid activist from South Africa who currently serves as the Secretary-General of CIVICUS (The World Alliance for Citizen Participation); Y.J. Choi, former assistant secretary general for peacekeeping operations at the United Nations, and current permanent minister of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations; Ali Ansari, director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, provided opening remarks and author of Iran, Islam, and Democracy: The Politics of Managing Change; Mokhtar Lamani, former ambassador to the United Nations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), and officer in charge of the Iraq-Kuwait dispute, now currently serving as a special representative of the Arab League and senior visiting fellow at the Center for International Governance Innovation; John Hewko, former executive secretary to the International Advisory Council to the Ukrainian parliament, and former vice president of operations for the Millennium Challenge Corporation; and Chan Heng Chee, former executive director of the Singapore International Foundation, and director of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, now currently serving as the ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to the United States.

What does the World Forum mean for students?

Much can be learned from wide range of speakers at event

Andrew Blasi
Business Editor

For students, the World Forum on the Future of Democracy was an occasion that will pale in comparison to such events as Queen Elizabeth’s visit to the College. The vast majority of its proceedings were either closed to the general public or held mid-day during class. Furthermore, the major event of the forum, highlighted new challenges, the very essence of democracy, where a minority of people make decisions, and how anachronistic this idea is compared with what we currently enjoy. In addition, one witnesses the divisions of national and local government leaders, journalists, non-governmental organizations, students, educators and other noteworthy and influential leaders.

In spite of this, the forum delivered a number of powerful messages that are sure to impact the future of global democracy and our country’s future. Whether these messages will be attributed to this forum in the many textbooks, journals and academic pieces yet to be written, one thing is certain: our world is headed down a new and uncertain path.

In synthesizing the many arguments presented by some of the world’s most notable public figures and scholars, one sees the divisions and similarities defining the policies of the past, present and future. During the forum’s September 18 seminar entitled “Terrorism and Security,” the panel of leading scholars was unified behind the idea that our nation must go to greater lengths in educating our nation must go to greater lengths in educating itself on the world’s many cultures and ideologies in an effort to truly understand the motivations of terrorist organizations. Furthermore, during the forum’s September 17 seminar entitled “Developing a Structure for Deliberative Democracy – The Framers’ Debate,” the panelists commented that the vagueness of the American Constitution’s wording stems from, perhaps, the framers’ true desire to encourage continual debate over the structure and powers of the government.

On September 16, Governor Tim Kaine highlighted new challenges, the very essence of democracy. During the forum’s opening ceremony he asked the audience to envision a world without democracy, where a minority of people make decisions, and how anachronistic this idea is compared with what we currently enjoy. In addition, Mr. Kaine also asked the audience to envision a world where dissent, once encouraged in free and democratic societies, is now labeled as unpatriotic.

Finally, in what was perhaps the most striking clash of ideas, Defense Secretary and William and Mary alumnus Robert Gates and former Supreme Court Justice and current William and Mary Chancellor Sandra Day O’Connor delivered entirely contradictory messages in their attempt to define America’s current and future role in foreign affairs. The speeches were given separately. In his address to the forum’s delegates, Mr. Gates spoke of the Bush Doctrine and the need to encourage democratic movements across the globe with American support. During the cornerstone event of the forum, highlighted by the chancellor’s speech, Mrs. O’Connor’s statements could not have been more contradictory to Gates’. In response to Mr. Lehrer’s question of “Do you believe all people desire democracy?” Mrs. O’Connor responded with a resounding “No.” She asserted that not all people would be content under democratic governance.

Ali Ansari, director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, provided an alternative view. Dr. Ansari contended that democracy is not an end, but, instead, a means to an end. He described democracy as not a specific or holistic means of governance shared by free nations, but, rather, is a process by which those that yearn to be free and desire happiness shall see the greatest success.
WMPD BUDGET: force faces criticism over expenses

continued from page one

2006, three purchases of business cards were made; additional card purchases occurred in November 2006, March 2007 and April 2007. The purchases came to a total of $167,669. Additionally, there was also $3,581.02 that the police recorded under catering expenses. Over $1,690 in catering was purchased on December 23, 2007 for “random actor January,” a training session that featured a guest speaker, who, according to Mr. Challs, was paid for with student tuition. Another $1,880 was spent on refreshments in June.

Throughout the year, officers received around $12,000 in unitemized credit card reimbursements. No explanation was given as to what was purchased on the credit cards. Mr. Challs confirmed, however, that gasoline is not purchased using these credit cards, but rather through a different account that he could not recall at the time. The Informer could not locate any line items clearly identified as “gas” for police cars on the itemized list of expenditures, begging the obvious question: how is such a high-costing, essential commodity paid for?

Mr. Challs grew somewhat agitated during the interview, demanding to know “what are you trying to accomplish by this? Do you feel we are paid too much or too little?” He was also inspired to create the Facebook group of the Levinson family’s letter via e-mail to members of the UN General Assembly. According to Mr. DeLong, his hope, as well as the hope of the Levinson family, was that the members of the General Assembly “will receive enough letters that this issue will come to their attention” and be discussed during the United Nations summit being held this week.

As co-president of the Delta Chi fraternity chapter on campus, Mr. DeLong said he created the Facebook group because of the close friendship the two shared during their time together at the College. “Dan was a terrific mentor to me when I first came to William and Mary...he was eager to help and supportive of me when I had some trouble as a freshman year, so I jumped at [this] chance to provide some sort of help for him. It is really the least I could do.”

He was also inspired to create the Facebook group because of the courage and dedication with which he saw the Levinson family deal with such a difficult crisis. “They have persevered and is making a tremendous effort to do something and [are] in many ways inventing their techniques as they go.”

Mr. DeLong’s Facebook group now has more than 1,800 members. Mr. DeLong told The Informer that he felt Facebook was the easiest way to get the message out about the Levinson family’s crisis. “Facebook is an excellent social networking tool. I thought if I made the name of the group shocking enough, it would grab people’s attention, and maybe even spread outside the William and Mary community,” he said.

A quick perusal of the group’s membership proves that Mr. DeLong’s wish has indeed been realized—people have joined not just from William and Mary, but also from universities and high schools across the country.

“I’m not surprised at the group’s popularity. I’m happy, but I’m not shocked,” he said. He believed that once people found out about this issue, they would be enthusiastic in their support of the Levinson family. “Dan was a part of the William and Mary community. It’s natural for us to rally around one of our own.”

Mr. DeLong also hopes that as many as possible continue to send e-mails and letters to the United Nations and especially the Iranian mission. He asks that anyone interested in this issue or the Levinson family’s crisis visit the Web site of the family has set up at http://www.helpboblevinson.com.

On September 23, the Iranian mission to the United Nations announced that Tehran had granted visas to members of the Levinson family to visit Iran in order to search for him, and promised the Iranian government’s full cooperation in helping the family find clues as to his fate. Mr. DeLong says he hopes to support the Levinson family in their trip, though he’s not sure what form that support will take as of yet.

Although he is glad to have so many positive responses to his Facebook group, Mr. DeLong is humble. “I want this to be about [the Levinson family], about the movement to get his father back. He is the story, I’m not the story,” he said. “I just want to help a friend.”

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MISSING IN IRAN:
Ahmadinejad’s government claims to not know whereabouts of former FBI agent Levinson

announced that it had made every effort to find Mr. Levinson, but that they could not locate him anywhere on Iranian soil.

Mr. Levinson is the father of seven children, including Dan, who graduated from the College in 2006. Jon DeLong (’09), a longtime friend of Dan, recently began a campaign to both raise awareness about the disappearance of Mr. Levinson and to get students involved in efforts to locate him. After receiving a letter in the mail from the Levinson family which they requested be sent on to the United Nations, Mr. DeLong had the idea to start the Facebook group “My Dad Is Missing In Iran, You Can Help Find Him” as a way to inform students about the issue.

The group encourages members to send the Levinson family’s letter via e-mail to members of the UN General Assembly. According to Mr. DeLong, his hope, as well as the hope of the Levinson family, was that the members of the General Assembly “will receive enough letters that this issue will come to their attention and be discussed during the United Nations summit being held this week.

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He was also inspired to create the Facebook group because of the courage and dedication with which he saw the Levinson family deal with such a difficult crisis. “They hold my most sincere admiration. This is something that few people will ever go through, and it would be easy to feel overwhelmed with fear and sadness…the family has persevered and is making a tremendous effort to do something and [are] in many ways inventing their techniques as they go.” Mr. DeLong’s Facebook group now has more than 1,800 members. Mr. DeLong told The Informer that he felt Facebook was the easiest way to get the message out about the Levinson family’s crisis. “Facebook is an excellent social networking tool. I thought if I made the name of the group shocking enough, it would grab people’s attention, and maybe even spread outside the William and Mary community,” he said.

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Devoted father and grandfather: Levinson is the father of seven, including Dan (’06).
Tallest Highest: A new sound for a very old campus

Jon San  Features Editor

“If you set Popeye’s chicken on fire.”

“What does that even mean, Andy?”

“Exactly, it means nothing. What would you say, Dave?”

“Popeye’s chicken is shuttled and my Bloody Valentine punched New Order in the face.”

The sound of Tallest Highest, one of the better known student bands here at the College, was only one of the many jokingly disputed responses I received during a quick interviewing. The band agrees that this varying, sometimes conflicting, range of opinions and musical tastes remains their greatest asset.

“One of us has exactly the same [musical tastes],” said bassist and sometimes vocalist Eddie Charlton. “Other group members will like different groups and the other two will listen to other groups but I feel like this range of musical works to the advantage of the band.”

Nowhere is this divergence more evident than in the case of drummer Ryan McQueeney, who, guitarist Andy Beers kiddingly remarked, “we rescued from the clutches of classic rock.”

Mr. McQueeney, who transferred here from the University of Washington during his freshman year, played the Keith Moon role in a Who cover band.

The other members of Tallest Highest—fans of indie bands such as Pavement, Radiohead and New Order—introduced Mr. McQueeney to more contemporary groups.

“The transition [for Ryan] was not difficult at all,” said Mr. Charlton. “I mean, he is such an incredible drummer that he can literally play anything. In fact, we’ve been thinking he may be bionic, because, seriously, can any human play like that?”

So what does the future hold for Tallest Highest? Fans of indie rock bands such as Pavement, Radiohead and New Order are allowed to practice the house free of charge and energy during their senior year to expanding their catalogue.

“The group agreed that this will likely be the last year together as a band.”

“Unfortunately, I think that after school we’ll all go our separate ways,” said Mr. Charlton.

But take heart, Tallest Highest fans: you can relive all of your favorite songs on their soon-to-be-released compilation CD. In addition to the songs available on the band’s MySpace Web site and the free demos given out at shows, this compilation will feature several Tallest Highest songs, solo performances from side projects involving Messrs. McQueeney, Beers and Charlton, and recordings from their friends’ bands.

Tallest Highest will be performing at the Red Ribbon Rock concert on October 5. All proceeds will be donated to further AIDS research.

The group, thanks to the Baptist College Ministries student organization which allowed them to practice in their house free of charge, practiced a good amount last school year.

“We had a golden age last school year where we would consistently practice about three times a week,” said Mr. Beers. “Unfortunately, we’ve only practiced once this semester.”

This lack of free-time, as any student at the College knows, is due to the rigorous curriculum.

“It’s difficult being in a band and also being a student,” said Mr. Charlton. “I mean, we would all rather devote our time to [Tallest Highest], but that’s not really a viable possibility. And especially during the summer, it’s impossible to practice due to geographical constraints. Dave and I are both from Richmond, but Andy lives in Pennsylvania and Ryan now lives in New York.”

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So what does the future hold for Tallest Highest?

Upcoming HBO miniseries finds ideal set in Colonial Williamsburg

Nick Hoelker  Online Editor

Hollywood has once again chosen Williamsburg as a site for a film production. Scenes for “John Adams,” an HBO miniseries executive-produced by Tom Hanks and Gary Goetzman, were filmed in Colonial Williamsburg from February through May. The miniseries is based on Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough’s biography on the Founding Father and former president. “John Adams” will air in March 2008 and stars Paul Giamatti as John Adams, Laura Linney as Abigail Adams and David Morse as George Washington.

Several William and Mary students had an opportunity to be part of the filming that took place last spring. The production staff contacted members of the Revolutionary War College Company to serve as extras in the miniseries. One of those students, Jack Cohen (10) explained that the actual shooting lasted for four hours, although the students had to be on site for almost twelve hours for costume and makeup preparation.

Cohen said that the extras earned $200 for their work, which consisted of sitting by a campfire, looking pathetic, and [pretending to be cold] to re-enact scenes set at Valley Forge. Cohen added that the extras were able to meet Giamatti and Morse, but Hanks was not present for that particular day of filming.
Matthew Sutton
Managing Editor

Stuart Taylor and KC Johnson’s new book, Until Proven Innocent: Political Correctness and the Shamalified
Innocence of the Duke Lacrosse Rape Case, is a gripping account documenting the unraveling of the notorious case
against three wrongfully accused Duke lacrosse players. Exposing a shocking level of police and prosecutorial
miscarriage of justice, including lies and bias in the investigation and due-process violations, Messrs. Taylor and
Johnson have produced a comprehensive and must-read account of the entire scandal.

Many readers know the rough outlines of the case as it began on March 13, 2006, after Crystal Mangum, an exotic dancer, accused members of the Duke men’s lacrosse team of raping her at a party held at an off-campus commercial hotel in Durham. District Attorney Mike Nifong ultimately indicted three members of the team—Dave Evans, Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann—on charges of rape, sexual offense and kidnapping. After Mr. Nifong stepped down as district attorney in January, the North Carolina attorney general took over, and, on April 11, 2007, dropped all charges against the students and declared them innocent. Messrs. Taylor and Johnson painstakingly detail everything that happens in between, focusing not only on the legal developments but also on the politically motivated rush to judgment by the media and a vocal number of Duke professors.

The book contains a number of bombshell revelations about the case. Ms. Mangum, the accuser, had a history of documented mental health problems and a proclivity for alcohol and drug abuse. She first claimed she had been raped only when confronted with the possibility of being involuntarily committed to a mental health institution. Her medical examination that night revealed no evidence that she had been brutally attacked, as she claimed. Tara Levy, the trainer, sexual assault nurse examiner, who later told a defense attorney that she had attended the party, contradicted Ms. Mangum’s account, as she told police officers that the medical exam showed signs consistent with sexual assault, although the records said nothing of the kind.

When interviewed at the hospital and then separately on March 14, March 16 and April 6, Ms. Mangum repeatedly changed not only the number of alleged assailants and their identities but also the timeline of the incident, and what trauma she had allegedly suffered. After she could not identify any of her attackers during two photo lineups, an unprecedented third lineup was held. In this highly irregular “third try,” Ms. Mangum was told that only pictures of the 46 white lacrosse players who attended the party were contained in the lineup. Described by one of the defense attorneys as a “multiple choice test without any wrong answers,” the rigged lineup violated federal, state and local guidelines for identifications.

Mr. Nifong, who had taken direct control of the police investigation on March 24, an unusual breach of standard procedure, began to publicly vilify the lacrosse team in dozens of national and local interviews. These inflammatory statements, which were later found to violate ethics rules, saw Mr. Nifong play off the racial tensions in Durham to assist his flagging re-election campaign.

Even worse, Mr. Nifong conspired to hide exculpatory DNA evidence from the defense, a serious breach of prosecutorial ethics and the law. After publicly and repeatedly claiming that the DNA tests on the samples from the rape kit would identify the guilty players and exonerate the innocent ones, Mr. Nifong ignored the results of the tests, which showed no link to any player and also revealed DNA from four other men, none of whom were lacrosse players or even Duke students. This evidence contradicted Ms. Mangum’s claim that she had no sexual contact with anyone for a week before the alleged rape.

Messrs. Taylor and Johnson also highlight the shameful coverage that the media provided in this case, singling out talking heads like Nancy Grace and The New York Times who ignored the growing number of holes in the prosecutor’s case to vilify the defense and its teammates. The Duke faculty and administration do not escape censure, especially the so called Group of 88. These 88 faculty members signed a full page ad condemning the case and the defense, and holding that something “happened to this young woman” and thanking professors who had carried banners, reading “Castrate” and put up “wanted” posters that had photos of the lacrosse players. Duke President Richard Brodhead refused to criticize the group or its members, who, for months, lobbed false accusations at the team and the defendants while also refusing to meet with the defense attorneys to hear evidence about their clients’ innocence.

The book is an impeccably researched, four hundred page tour de force that should raise important questions for the criminal justice system, the media and academia. It is must read.

Mr. Taylor is a columnist for The National Journal and contributing editor to Newsweek. He co-wrote the book with Mr. Johnson, a Brooklyn College professor who published a blog entitled “Durham in Wonderland,” which chronicled the unfolding of the case.

Book Review:
Falsely accused: The story behind the Duke lacrosse case

The power of the pen

Like what you see?
JOIN US:
Informer meetings are every Monday 7:30 p.m. Blair 223

REPORTING FROM ALL PERSPECTIVES:
Until Proven Innocent is a must read chronicle of the explosive scandal that rocked Duke University.
Food Review:
Sal's by Victor offers reasonably priced Italian fare

Standard local Italian eatery near campus specializes in pizza, pasta

Matt Poms
Food Critic

One month into the school year, the monotony of the culinary options at the College begins to become evident. After spending four weeks eating at the Caf, one can only ingest so many under-sized bowls of pasta and unimaginative salads. So, with this in mind, I made a Friday evening trip up Richmond Road to the Williamsburg Shopping Center. There, tucked into a corner behind the Food Lion, sits a longtime Williamsburg staple: Sal's by Victor.

Arriving at roughly 6:30 after a crisp, 15-minute walk from New Campus, we entered a reasonably welcoming restaurant with the familiar décor of so many Italian establishments across the country. After a short wait, our party of four was seated at a table in the middle of the spacious restaurant. A glance at the menu revealed a wide selection of dishes ranging from chicken and fish to pasta; it was the New York style pizza, however, which captured my imagination.

I immediately decided to make this dish part of my meal, especially after I heard it had been voted Williamsburg's best pizza by the readers of The Virginia Gazette for an impressive seven years running. After a few more moments of review, my dining companions made their selections, each bypassing the generic Italian appetizers and instead heading straight for the entrees.

For Mr. DeSoto, the most difficult aspects of producing a Powwow episode are the technical components of the netcast. “A lot of time goes into making sure volume levels are optimal, transitions are smooth and file information is configured correctly.” Recording a show is fairly straightforward, however. Mr. DeSoto and his guest usually do one practice take as a warm-up, and then move on to the official recording. The episodes are designed to have a relaxed, conversational format and so no script is needed.

Feedback for the first three episodes of the Powwow has been quite favorable. “I've already received a number of positive comments praising the quality of the show, entertainment value resulting from the casual, natural interactions on and accessibility and applicability of the podcast in general,” Mr. DeSoto says.

New podcast provides free insight into campus creativity

Megan Locke
Assistant A&E Editor

A new addition to campus life has come to William and Mary. Created and hosted by Andy DeSoto ’09, the Williams and Mary Powwow is the first independent student podcast at the College. It provides students with a mixture of news, entertainment and insights into college life.

The impetus behind the creation of the Powwow lies in Mr. DeSoto’s love of social media, videos and audio production and psychology. “To me, a podcast is a perfect synthesis of these things, allowing me to combine my technical experience with my enormous drive to meet, know and understand people,” Mr. DeSoto says. Mr. DeSoto also felt motivated to fill a void on campus, since there has never before been a regularly-produced podcast at the College. “I feel that the average college student deserves as many media formats as possible available to him or her,” he said.

According to Mr. DeSoto, the main appeal of the Powwow for students is convenience. Podcasts are an on-demand form of entertainment and easily accessible. They can put podcasts on their iPods for the walk between classes, listen to them while browsing the Web or burn the shows to CDs. Mr. DeSoto also stresses the Powwow’s unique approach in comparison to other campus news outlets. “We work hard to make sure episodes blend information and entertainment so that listening to the Powwow might feel much like reading a newspaper and listening to a sitcom at the same time. At the Powwow, we like to take a more down-to-earth, unpretentious approach that involves the listener community and speaks with them rather than at them.”

Topics covered at the Powwow usually concern recent world and campus events, and often vary based on the particular guest who co-hosts the episode with Mr. DeSoto. Some issues Mr. DeSoto and his co-hosts have already discussed include developments at New Town, construction on campus and getting involved in campus life. For future episode themes, “emphasis will be placed on showcasing creativity and involvement on campus, on people and events that really break the mold and help make William and Mary a fantastic place,” Mr. DeSoto says.

The Powwow already has a full schedule of co-hosts through November, and Mr. DeSoto is looking forward to talking with a variety of people at the College, including students, faculty, staff and administrators. “There are so many students on campus involved in so many fascinating activities, and I really enjoy spotlighting the phenomenal things my classmates are up to.” Mr. DeSoto invites anyone interested in co-hosting with him to contact him at andy@wmpowwow.com.

One of the Powderkegs, editors Megan Locke and Matt Poms, will be on hand Thursday, October 4, to speak about the Powwow and answer questions about it. The event will take place in the College Tavern.

Lucky Number Seven: Readers of The Virginia Gazette have voted Sal’s New York style pizza to be Williamsburg’s best pizza seven years in a row.

Williamsburg
Shopping Center
1242 Richmond Rd.
(757) 220-2641

Go to http://www.wmpowwow.com to download or listen to Powwow episodes. Students can even subscribe to the show via iTunes or check out updates on the William and Mary Powwow’s Facebook group. Be sure not to miss out on the latest media experience on campus.

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The third installment was downloaded over a hundred times across the Web site in only a few days.

Go to http://www.wmpowwow.com to download or listen to Powwow episodes. Students can even subscribe to the show via iTunes or check out updates on the William and Mary Powwow’s Facebook group. Be sure not to miss out on the latest media experience on campus.

Staff Editorials:

Facts, not feelings, on Nichol decision

The recent e-mail from Rector Michael Powell concerning President Gene Nichol’s future with the College should signal the beginning of the end of the Nichol era. Last issue, The Informer broke the story of Mr. Nichol’s decision to cede control of day-to-day operations of the school to Provost P. Geoffrey Feiss. This week’s news only adds to this picture of an out-of-touch and divisive leader, whose future at the College seems increasingly uncertain.

Mr. Nichol has utterly failed us as our college president and as a leader. We urge members of the community to tell the Board the same.

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OPINION

WMPD needs to trim fat, protect and serve

The College will soon become even more pinched for money as it is hit with a 7 percent reduction in state funding this year. There is an essential need for frivolous spending to be reduced.

The campus police department, for one, certainly has some fat to trim. Tuition and state funding cannot be thrown around to pay for overzealous enforcement.

Honest, objective assessment of Mr. Nichol’s performance. The facts speak for themselves.

Unfortunately, the mentality of Mr. Nichol and many of his supporters is not that mediocrity is sufficient, but should be rewarded through the renewal of his contract. Additionally, people believe that an objective appraisal of the facts is unnecessary, and that emotions trump rational, reasoned appraisal.

The Board of Visitors has made the right decision to solicit the opinions of the College community, particularly of the alumni, and it is our hope that this process will examine and weigh all of these damning facts.

We urge students, faculty, and alumni alike to look back at Mr. Nichol’s tenure at the school has resulted in unnecessary divisions, a loss of forward momentum and squandered opportunities. The Board of Visitors has made the right decision to solicit the opinions of the College community, particularly of the alumni, and it is our hope that this process will examine and weigh all of these damning facts.

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Thank you from all of us at The Virginia Informer

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

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

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The Virginia Informer

The Virginia Informer is a nonpartisan group, with printing 501(c)(3) tax status.

The Informer apologizes for the following errors in our Sep. 19 2007 Issue:

The news brief on page two regarding CCM and VOX confused two separate events on different dates into one. VOX did not plan, nor did it partake in, any protest of the CCM event.

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is democracy better than other forms of government?

The centerpiece of the recent World Forum on the Future of Democracy held in Williamsburg was a public panel discussion in Kaplan Arena entitled “The Future of Democracy: Why Does It Matter?” The panel, which was moderated by renowned journalist Jim Lehrer, included Sandra Day O’Connor, former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, Dr. Ali Ansari, director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. While the discussion of the various topics was relevant and even occasionally entertaining—especially the sharp wit of Ms. O’Connor and Mr. Eagleburger can be credited for that—for the most part, the questions discussed by the panel were relatively tame. Perhaps not surprisingly, none of the questions—or answers—was especially intellectually provocative or groundbreaking. This may have been a subelement underscored during the discussion that I found quite curious. For all the talk about the possibilities of democracy in new regions of the world and the importance of having “organic growth” of democratic principles in each culture, there was a central question that the panel seemed to be avoiding: Why should democracy be spread across the world?

At the heart of this question—and ostensibly the issue the panel was supposed to be addressing—is the deeper question of why the democratic system of government has any inherent value. The emphasis on moral relativism in today’s society makes such a question rather taboo. It seems politically incorrect to suggest that democracy is a better form of government than say, monarchy or theocracy. The accepted view seems to be that democracy is better “for us,” but not necessarily for “other cultures.”

Although saying that cases such as Indonesia and India prove that democracy is not “incompatible” with Islamic culture, Ms. Day O’Connor answered that Mr. Barker’s views about the possibilities of democracy in Muslim societies was not at all clear that they should. In other words, it was not necessarily true that another culture should see democracy as preferable to any other political arrangements.

Edward Said, the renowned anthropologist, famously condemned the white European nations’ belief that they had an inherent right to impose their political will on cultures other than the Western world. Said thought it was a grave mistake believing they could “civilize” the “primitive Other” in the image of Middle Eastern colonial occupation. Today, it seems that a majority of Europe and the United States have yet to move from the Old World policy but have done so with an equally arrogant mindset. “Who are we to ‘force’ democracy on other cultures?” the popular refrain goes. The implication was that “democracy is universal” is shunned as a naive fantasy.

Ms. O’Connor’s blunt refutation of that notion—met with enthusiastic applause from the Democratic contingent of the world’s press—made it quite clear that democracy is not so universal. The conclusion one must draw is that the Arab world is dominated by dictatorships because such governments are more compatible with Arab “culture.” Following this logic, one must assume that Arab people “prefer” authoritarian governments simply because they’re Arab. Though the Assad regime in Syria or Mubarak’s defacto dictatorship in Egypt may seem “repressive” to Americans, by using this logic the most dangerous interests. As Mr. Eagleburger noted, America would have “ended up with a second-rate power” if we had always chosen idealism over realism throughout our history. At the same time, it would be unwise to forget that America—the birthplace of modern democratic government—condemned an entire region of the world to an indefinite period under authoritarian oppression, haughtily justifying our continued inaction with the excuse that “it’s just their culture.” Rather, we should use our historically unparalleled power and influence to help promote there the most just and free system of government ever devised by man. Such a system is democracy and democracy is without serious flaws. As Winston Churchill said, “No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried.” As the most powerful nation on earth, advancing the benefits of this “least flawed” system of governance to as many corners of this planet as possible seems a worthy objective.

Support the Little Rock Nine or the Newark Four, but forget the Jena Six

T he hardest cause around is now fighting to “free” the Jena Six, a gang of thugs from Jena, Louisiana, who are being charged with aggravated battery or have been sent to juvenile court in some of the strangest events in the nation’s history. The unprovoked beating of Mr. Barker is the only injustice in the entirety of this Jena 6 debacle. It is sad that the actual victims of this case still need to be discussed after a protest has already been held. Was it wrong to charge the Jena 6 with second degree attempted murder? Certainly. Should the students who hung the nooses have been expelled? Absolutely. But now that we are past that, and the Jena 6 have received a much more appropriate second-degree battery charge, there is no reason why these criminals should be free.

While a very strong argument can be made for the fact that the racial tensions in Jena boiled over and, ultimately, led directly to the beating of Mr. Barker— which thus garners sympathy for the race-religious town and its citizens—it is still not right to support those who willingly and knowingly perpetrate violence and, more generally, violate the law.

S o essentially, William and Mary students and administrators put together the rally two weeks ago to show support for a band of criminals. The reason? Evidently, the hanging of the nooses— which, from a legal standpoint, could not realistically be deemed a threat—is the same as assault. So much for the schoolyard limerick about sticks and stones. It disgusts me that people from the College and the community feel like it is necessary to defend such scum. A n d what does this oracle say for the state of the civil rights movement in the nation, as well as on campus?

T his past summer, in Newark, NJ, three black college students were murdered, executed style, in an elementary school playground. A great sorrow that these students were killed. This, in a city where the teacher’s union has posted a billboard “STOP THE KILLINGS IN NEWARK” as the problem has reached epidemic proportions. September 25 marked the 50th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine, the brave students who, under National Guard protection, entered Little Rock Central High School, our nation’s first legitimate attempt at desegregation.

I have yet to see a rally, celebration or remembrance for either one of those events. Instead, students are encouraged to support the Jena Six or the other two that have got up set over some racist symbolism. It is a sad commentary on our society in general, and our college campuses in particular, where the students who are the future are so many, as not to more, attendances than a remembrance of the terrorist attacks of September 11.

Love us? Hate us? Please end letters to the editor.

We will print them… probably.
On Thursday, September 27, the new Student Assembly representatives for the class of 2011 were announced. The class officers include President Jazmine Piña, Vice President for Advocacy Sarah Owermohle, Vice President for Social Affairs Hannah Armentrout, Secretary Chrissy Scott and Treasurer Yael Gilboa. The newly elected senators for the class of 2011 are Ronnie Wang, Michael Douglass, Brittany Fallon and Ben Brown. Alex Kyrios ('09) defeated Cliff Dunn for a vacant senate seat for the Class of 2009.

Following the election results, the winners were secretly kidnapped by current SA members and driven to the Library Tavern for an after-hours celebration. The newly elected representatives consist of four senators, the vice president for Advocacy, the vice president for Social Affairs, the treasurer, and the president. As in previous SA elections, the representatives ran on several different platforms. Each representative did manage, however, to bring something unique to the table.

Freshman Senator Ben Brown ran on, perhaps, the simplest platform of all. “I didn’t really have a platform in the traditional sense,” said Mr. Brown. “I ran primarily on the hope of bringing more honesty to the [student assembly]. And whatever the freshman class wants to get done, I’m here to do it.”

The idea of honestly pursuing what their class desires was echoed by nearly every representative. Sarah Owermohle, the freshman vice president for Advocacy, believes her role is “defined by what class wants.”

“I really hope to raise more awareness between the students and the Williamsburg community and also how the community affects student life,” said Ms. Owermohle.

Freshman Senator-elect Brittany Fallon had a much more specific platform than her elected counterparts. “I promised to install more emergency lights around campus, as well as clean up the retention ponds around campus, which are real eyesores,” she said.

Ms. Fallon also hopes to take an active role in raising environmental awareness around campus. Among other plans, she desires to expand the Wetland Reclamation Act. The last to arrive at the Library Tavern was newly elected freshman President Jazmine Piña, who was blindfolded and accompanied by current SA President Zach Pilchen and Vice President Valerie Hopkins.

“I really want to unite our class,” said Ms. Piña. “And another priority of mine is to try and make the meal plans more flexible for students. Many students end up wasting meals due to their busy schedules and I hope to find a way to avoid that.”

## Surprise: President Zach Pilchen welcomes the new class of 2011 president, Jazmine Piña at traditional SA victory spot, The Library Tavern on Richmond Rd.

Pilchen and VP Valerie Hopkins had blindfolded Piña for the surprise.

TIME OUT

I wanted to kick off the drink of the week with a very special cocktail. It’s unlike anything you’ll ever have. If it doesn’t give you the “buzz” so many of us seek between Thursday at around 4:30 p.m. and Saturday at 3:30 a.m., then nothing else will. It is a drink I continually return to that gets me feeling good; and for that reason alone, it’s one of my all time favorites. One of these drinks will leave you in what I like to call the “pleasure zone.” What exactly is the “pleasure zone,” you may ask? Drink one Will Knight and you’ll surely find out.

### The “Will Knight” Drink

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- ½ liquor of your choice, preferably Svedka Vodka
- ½ carbonated soda of your choice, preferably Mountain Dew
- Desired Ratio: 1:1. The size of the cup or glass doesn’t matter—trust me on this.

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What exactly is the “pleasure zone,” you may ask? Drink one Will Knight and you’ll surely find out.

Disclaimer: While drinking this, please use extreme caution. Three of these babies are plenty potent.

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**Jon San**
Features Editor

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**Ben Brown. Alex Kyrios (’09) defeated Cliff Dunn for a vacant senate seat for the Class of 2009.**