



KEEPING TRADITION AFLOAT ~ MELISSA V. PINARD

Someone should publish a picture book of all the parade floats that were ever made at the College. There has been a lot of creative thought put into these floats over the years and a lot of chicken wire put to good use. Some of the ideas portrayed probably wouldn't be as politically correct as they would need to be today, but creativity and humor have abounded.

Nowadays, the “in” thing is to stay up the night before Homecoming to finish the float. A bonding experience, I am sure. One reason for this may be that there are not as many places available in Williamsburg to store floats for any great length of time. It's interesting to look through our archival photographs and compare them to current floats. As with everything in life, things change and the floats represent what is important to students at the time.

The Homecoming Parade began in 1929. Since then, the floats have

reflected the theme of the parade and have served as historically informative and entertaining markers of an era, according to the *Parade Resource Guide* produced by the Alumni Association.

If anyone has a memory of putting a float together or parade photos they want to share, please send them to the Alumni Communications office at alumni.magazine@wm.edu or P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187.

There is nothing like the excitement a parade can bring — especially when you don't know what to expect coming down the street. This year, the Homecoming Parade will resume its old route starting on Duke of Gloucester Street, traveling down Richmond Road past the Alumni House, turning left on Brooks Street and ending at William and Mary Hall. See you there — Saturday, Oct. 28 at our new time — 9:30 a.m.