

William & Mary

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SPRING/SUMMER 2006



THREATENED PREDATOR

VIMS Scientists Work to Save Sharks

PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS ~ HEALTHY HEART ~ CAMPUS RUMORS

W&M

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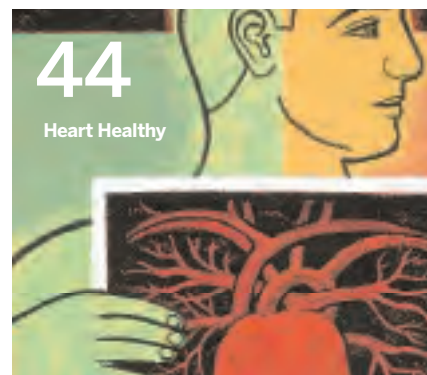
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While on assignment in Kenya, Peace Corps volunteer Matt Koltermann '02 took this photograph featuring local children at a madrassa (Islamic school) celebrating the prophet Muhammad's birthday.



ON THE COVER: VIMS researchers are at the forefront of efforts to restore shark populations, which have plummeted worldwide in recent decades. PHOTO: R. DEAN GRUBBS PH.D. '01

Brown v. Board of Education Revisited

~ JULIET E. HART, Assistant Professor of Special Education

Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1954) is a historic thread in the fabric of American education, the single most significant court decision impacting U.S. educational history. Today, many parents and children of color still wait for what the Brown plaintiffs argued for — access to the highest quality education possible.

Not long after the courts ordered and began enforcing the mandate that schools desegregate, the methodical tracking of African-American students into remedial and special education programs began. In the decades following Brown, disproportionate numbers of African-American students were labeled as mildly mentally retarded (MMR) and were subsequently placed in classrooms segregated from their mainstream peers. At

disturbance, 1.3 times as likely to be labeled as having a learning disability, and are conversely underrepresented in programs for the gifted and talented (Donovan & Cross, *Minority Students in Special and Gifted Education*, 2002). Moreover, once identified, these students have a greater likelihood of placement in a more restrictive setting (e.g., separate class, separate school and residential facilities), with schools providing access to inclusive educational settings to only 37 percent of blacks, as compared to 43 percent of Hispanics and 55 percent of whites (Fierros & Conroy, *Racial Inequity in Special Education*, 2002).

In the era of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), today's educational context is one driven by high-stakes assessment and accountability, with statewide testing being

Does special education perpetuate segregation?

the time of the *Larry P. v. Riles* case (1979), which contested the use of intelligence tests as the sole criterion for determining special education eligibility in a California school district, substantial evidence suggested overrepresentation of minorities in MMR programs. At that time, rates for African-American children noticeably exceeded the rates that would be expected given their proportion in the general school-age population. Even though they constituted 66 percent of the students in MMR classes, only 29 percent of the school-age population in the district was African-American.

Demographic trends from decades ago still hold today. National patterns have been consistently demonstrated to be robust over time, with minority overrepresentation having been documented every other year to date since 1968. Currently, African-American students are almost three times as likely as European-American students to be labeled as having mental retardation, twice as likely to be labeled as having emotional

utilized to determine teacher and school effectiveness. Teachers are therefore under pressure and report feeling unqualified to address the multiple challenges — cultural, academic and behavioral — they face day in and day out. When confronted with students perceived as difficult-to-teach, teachers seek the assistance of child study teams at their schools. This request for assistance is often interpreted as “special education referral” and students — particularly African-Americans — are set squarely on the path to special education assessment, diagnosis and placement, with a minimal likelihood of return to the general education setting. This outcome is disconcerting because placement in special education has been associated with lower levels of achievement, decreased likelihood of post-secondary education and more limited employment.

The research results over the last four decades suggest vehemently that we need to be doing something diametrically different in the way we prepare tomorrow's teachers to



deal with diversity. In order to truly learn and benefit from the Brown legacy, we must examine who is served by our current schooling policies, and consider how these can result in the exclusion and disempowerment of specific groups. At the same time, we must continue to search for constructive strategies to make our teaching more culturally responsive, while demonstrating high expectations for all students.

To document that students of particular racial and ethnic backgrounds are overrepresented in special education does not deny the fact that some of these students legitimately contend with serious learning and emotional disabilities, and special education may indeed assist many of them in accessing needed instructional and behavioral supports. However, the disproportionate numbers of diverse students placed and retained in special education implies that too many of the difficulties experienced by these children are considered intrinsic deficits best managed through special education. It is crucial that schools therefore begin to recognize, investigate and evaluate how they, in their special education decision-making, may reproduce educational inequalities (via inappropriate and restrictive special education placements) for lower-class and minority students. School personnel have been traditionally commended for student success and blamed for student failure. However, the provision of quality education and access to it constitute the shared responsibility of all.

Juliet Hart's primary research interests include multicultural issues in special education and child psychopathology.

W&M

AROUND THE WREN



The College formally welcomed new President Gene R. Nichol and new Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor on April 7.

PHOTO: STEPHEN SALPUKAS

'Lifting Our Sights Higher'

Sandra Day O'Connor and Gene R. Nichol were officially installed as chancellor and president, respectively, on April 7 while approximately 4,500 people gathered in the courtyard of the Sir Christopher Wren Building to watch.

O'Connor, former associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who became the College's 23rd chancellor, called on her new colleagues at the university to participate in paving the way toward a world of greater peace and security.

"Our nation is one built on pride and sacrifice and commitment to shared values, on a willingness of our citizens to give time and energy for the good of the whole," she said. Acknowledging that public service can be both difficult and rewarding, she urged members of the university to focus "energies on sharing ideas, on finding solutions and using what is right with America to remedy what is wrong with it."

"As you students at this College embark on your lives, I hope you will be bridge builders," she said. "Our nation needs you, and those who cross the bridges you will build will thank you."

In his remarks, Nichol, who was inaugurated as the 26th president of the College, also acknowledged the storied past of the university while suggesting the necessity of "lifting our sights higher."

"The College of William and Mary is venerable, beloved and inspiring. It is also hungry and unsatisfied," he said. Nichol promised that during his tenure as president the College would become more open in terms of admissions to those who have not enjoyed "economic privilege"; that it would work toward more racial diversity not only of the student body but among faculty, professional staff and senior administration; that it would further engage the "global community" and



Top left: President Gene R. Nichol officially joins the William and Mary community. **Bottom left:** O'Connor relished the opportunity to have one-on-one chats with a succession of students. **Below:** "These are times of tremendous changes," Chancellor O'Connor told the assembled crowd.



that it would foster a culture of undergraduate research while retaining the "heart" of a small-scale liberal-arts program.

"Now it is our turn to answer the call of history," he said. "The trumpet sounds. The bell tolls. This College — this compelling gift from one generation to the next — was founded to place the mightiest tools of intellect in the fullest service to a people. That large work remains our own."

The dual ceremonies opened with a procession of dignitaries representing more than 100 universities, including Oxford, Harvard, Yale and Princeton, who filed along the brick sidewalk leading to the Wren's portico

as tribute to the place held in academe by the College. Welcoming remarks were made by a succession of speakers, including James Beers, acting as President of the College's Faculty Assembly, Thomas K. Norment Jr., a state senator representing the Commonwealth, and John T. Casteen III, president of the University of Virginia representing Virginia institutions of higher learning.

In addition, a series of greetings were offered by Walter W. Stout III '64 on behalf of the College's 72,000 alumni, by Kimberley L. Phillips, Frances L. and Edwin L. Cummings Associate Professor of History on behalf of the College's faculty, by Ann Repeta, presi-

dent of the Hourly and Classified Employees Association on behalf of staff, and by Ryan M. Scofield '07 on behalf of students.

Overall, however, those who spoke concentrated on the serious matter of how William and Mary can extend its tradition of leadership into the future. Perhaps no one voiced that challenge more eloquently than did Casteen, who said, "Ultimately no American institution can claim to be more fundamental to the nation's existence and identity than this College is, and no position within our system of higher education exercises greater moral and public authority than does the one to which President Nichol ascends in a formal way today. Today and today's issues may not seem to be those of 1776, and yet this College and its new leader have the opportunity now and in the future to make a mark on this nation that is as profound as the mark the College made at the time of the nation's founding."

— *W&M News*

Charter Day Recasts Spotlight on Jefferson

The College of William and Mary proudly claims Thomas Jefferson as one of its own — an alumnus who continues to inspire current leaders. During the Charter Day celebration on Feb. 11, Jefferson factored prominently into the remarks made by College President Gene R. Nichol and Virginia's recently inaugurated 70th governor, Timothy M. Kaine, who received an honorary doctor of law degree during the ceremony and was the keynote speaker.

The first governor of Virginia to be inaugurated in Williamsburg since Jefferson in 1779, Kaine affirmed to an audience filling every seat in Phi Beta Kappa Hall that he would be committed to preserving and improving the quality of education in Virginia.

"Education is the single most important domestic public priority," he said. "Each governor, each legislator, each college president, each member of an alumni association has to protect the good we have, and seek to extend and improve it."

Kaine cited three essential values of public universities in Virginia that he will strive to uphold: meeting the obligations for funding, protecting the diversity of the many different schools and programs offered in Virginia, and never forgetting that higher education is a public good.

"Jefferson saw and cemented the connection between individual education and pub-

lic progress long before we had the Internet, computers or the insightful news commentary of your alumnus Jon Stewart ['84, D.A. '04]," concluded Kaine.

Nichol, who joked during the ceremony that Kaine, a graduate of Harvard Law School, would finally be receiving a real law degree during Charter Day, also underscored a sense of obligation, one that dated back to the charter that established the College.

"I think it's vital and ennobling to consider our charter — our mandate — our institutional description of purpose," said Nichol. "Especially here, this morning, in the company of a new governor, assembled in community, mindful of a storied past, optimistic of a bold future."

Nichol asked the audience to consider what James Blair, the first president of William and Mary, and other founders of the College might have expected of its caretakers 313 years after the charter was established.

"What would we promise to one another, to the Commonwealth, to the nation, to those who will come after us, to those who have gone before?" said Nichol. "How might we think of a chartered compact today?"

"Would we pledge to continue this institution's unique trajectory to greatness?... Would we also embrace, and enthusiastically claim, our call to public obligation?"

The answer — undeniably — would be yes.

— John T. Wallace

[AWARDS]

HONORARY DEGREES:

Timothy M. Kaine, *Doctor of Law*

Shirley Ann Jackson, *Doctor of Humane Letters*

Virginia "Dinny" Forwood Wetter '40, *Doctor of Public Service*

THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARDS:

Roy R. Charles Center Director **Joel D.**

Schwartz was presented the Thomas Jefferson Award, the highest faculty honor, in appreciation of his personal activities, influence and leadership exhibited during his 25 years at the College.

Associate Professor of Marine Science

Elizabeth A. Canuel received the Thomas Jefferson Teaching Award, which is awarded annually to a younger teaching member of the College community who has demonstrated the inspiration and stimulation of learning to the betterment of the individual and society as exemplified by Thomas Jefferson.

Paul A. Smith '06, a math major at the College, was awarded the Thomas Jefferson Prize in Natural Philosophy, presented annually to recognize excellence in the sciences in honor of the relationship between Thomas Jefferson and his math tutor, Professor William Small.

JAMES MONROE PRIZE IN CIVIC LEADERSHIP:

Catherine Schwenkler '06 received the James Monroe Prize in Civic Leadership for community service efforts that included implementing, organizing and raising funds for a twice-annual student trip to Reynosa, Mexico, to help build housing for deserving families. Closer to campus, Schwenkler has worked with several local schools and aid organizations to establish an English as a second language class for Latino immigrants, both adults and children.



Virginia's new governor, Timothy M. Kaine, spoke at Charter Day on Feb. 11. He was presented with an honorary doctorate of law.

Mason School of Business Names New Building

The Mason School of Business' new building will be named for health-care management entrepreneur Alan B. Miller '58 in honor of his generous support to William and Mary.

Miller joined Gene R. Nichol, president of the College, and Lawrence B. Pulley '74, dean of the business school, at Independence Visitor Center in Philadelphia, Pa., on March 16 for the surprise announcement during a business school alumni event.

To be constructed at the corner of Jamestown Road and Campus Drive, Alan B. Miller Hall will provide approximately 160,000 square feet of space consisting of state-of-the-art facilities for instruction, student activities, faculty offices, visiting scholars, research and other purposes.

"I have seen firsthand the impact new facilities can have on a university — especially its professional schools," said Nichol. "This new building will give our Mason School of Business much-needed space and enable the faculty and student interactions that drive great academic enterprises."

Exact cost figures will not be available

until the end of the planning process; funding will come from private and university sources. The amount of Miller's gift was not announced by mutual agreement between Miller and College officials.

Miller, a resident of Philadelphia, is chairman and president of Universal Health Services Inc. (UHS), which he founded in 1978. UHS is one of the largest hospital manage-



Alan B. Miller '58

ment companies in the nation, operating 100 facilities in 22 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Net revenues of the company are approximately \$4.5 billion annually.

"William and Mary is a special place and has had a lasting influence on me," said Miller, who has long been a supporter of the arts and education. "I am honored to help launch the next generation of future business leaders at my alma mater."

He served as a trustee of the William and Mary Endowment Association and is a life member of the College's President's Council. In 1999 he received the William and Mary Alumni Medallion, the College's highest alumni award. As a student, Miller played on the College's basketball team.

Miller also holds an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he serves on the Board of Overseers. In 1992 he was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina and received the George Washington University President's Medal in 2002.

— *W&M News*

College Breaks Ground for Integrated Science Center

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held Feb. 10 for William and Mary's new Integrated Science Center, the first phase in the development of a science precinct at the College.

The project includes construction of a new building and renovation of adjoining Rogers Hall, creating new labs and offices for the departments of biology, chemistry and psychology. Instead of the usual ceremonial hard hat and shovel, banners representing the biology, psychology and chemistry departments were planted in the ground by department chairs Paul Heideman (biology), Constance Pilkington (psychology) and Gary Rice (chemistry).

The design of the Integrated Science Center will facilitate collaborative work on complex problems involving faculty from a wide variety of disciplines. The lab space is engineered to be flexible, adaptable and capable of quick reconfiguration to accommodate a succession of complex research challenges.

— *W&M News*



[NEWSBRIEFS]



**Hunter Andrews
Fellow Announced**
Journalist, editor and
author Walter Isaacson
has been named the

2006 Hunter B. Andrews Fellow in American Politics at William and Mary. The fellowship, in its sixth year, honors the late Virginia senator for whom it is named and brings notable journalists, politicians and academicians to campus each year to interact with students and faculty.

Isaacson began his journalism career at the *Sunday Times of London* and then the New Orleans, La., *Times-Picayune/States-Item*. In 1978 he joined *Time* magazine as a political correspondent, moving quickly through the editorial ranks to become national editor and editor of new media and then the magazine's 14th managing editor in 1996. Isaacson later became chairman and CEO of CNN before assuming his current position as president and CEO of the Aspen Institute.



**Van Dover Named
'Outstanding
Scientist'**
Cindy Lee Van Dover,
associate professor of

biology, was named as one of two Outstanding Scientists in the state by Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine and Walter R.T. Witschey, director of the Science Museum of Virginia.

Van Dover, the only woman ever certified to pilot the deep-sea submersible *Alvin*, has led nine major expeditions to deep-sea vents. A marine biologist by trade, she came to William and Mary in 1998 and holds a Ph.D. in biological oceanography from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution/Massachusetts Institute of Technology Joint Program. In January and February 2006, she compiled and produced a series of programs showcasing the ongoing

study of ecological systems in Antarctica. She transmitted the programs over the Internet as a podcast called "Via Antarctica."

Three Receive State's Top Faculty Award

Melvin Patrick Ely, Newton Family Professor of History; Margaret Saha, Class of 2008 Professor of Biology; and David Lutzer, Chancellor Professor of Mathematics, were among 15 recipients of the 2006 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. This is the highest honor the state awards to its college and university professors.

William and Mary is one of two institutions in the state to have three faculty members recognized. Since the annual awards program began 20 years ago, 29 faculty members at William and Mary have received the honor — the most of any college or university in the state.

New BOV Member Appointed

The Honorable John Charles Thomas, a Richmond, Va., attorney and former justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, has been appointed by Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine to serve on the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary. He will fill out the unexpired term of former Delegate James Dillard.

Thomas, the first African-American to serve on the Virginia Supreme Court, was appointed to the post by Gov. Charles S. Robb. He is currently a partner with Hunton & Williams, an international legal firm headquartered in Richmond.

The new board member earned a B.A. from the University of Virginia in 1972, and a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1975.

Thomas's appointment — which must be approved by the Virginia General Assembly — will run through June 30, 2009.

College Admits More Minority Students for 2006

The College has admitted 37 percent more African-American, Latino and Native American students to next fall's incoming class than it admitted last fall.

"William and Mary is committed to preparing students to live, work and contribute in a meaningful way to a world that is culturally more diverse than ever before," said Earl T. Granger III '92, M.Ed. '98, the College's new associate provost for enrollment. "It is imperative that this campus provide the academic environment, co-curricular experience, and class composition that broadens, strengthens and challenges how we think about each other, and more importantly, relate to one another."

The College's Office of Undergraduate Admission this year received a record number of applications (10,717). The middle 50th percentile on the SAT for students admitted for the fall of 2005 was 1310-1470, which is identical to the middle 50th percentile on the combined SAT math and critical reading scores for students admitted this year. William and Mary expects to enroll an entering class of approximately 1,350 students this fall. Among this year's admitted students, the number of African-Americans admitted increased 27 percent; the number of Latinos admitted increased 46 percent; and the number of Native Americans admitted increased 58 percent from the previous year.

Admission officials credited this year's significant increase to targeted outreach efforts and on-campus programs.

— *W&M News*



**Earl T. Granger III '92, M.Ed. '98, associate
provost for enrollment, began his new post on
Feb. 16.**



Queen of La Cucaracha

Betty Lane Faber '66 Teaches Us the Truth about Cockroaches ~ JOHN T. WALLACE

When Betty Lane Faber '66 was a little girl, she didn't like cockroaches. When she was an undergraduate at William and Mary, she still didn't like cockroaches, but she did take Dr. Robert Black's cell biology class, where she learned about the circadian rhythm of insects. In other words, she discovered insects have similar daily patterns to humans — they rest during particular parts of the day and are active during other specific time periods.

"I became fascinated by the fact that any life form can tell time," she recalls. After she completed her undergraduate studies, Faber enrolled in Rutgers University's graduate zoology program, where she decided to pursue the same subject she had discovered in Black's class. At Rutgers she also had the opportunity to take part in a graduate studies program that would allow her to further research circadian rhythm and help pay her tuition. But there was a catch — the insect she would have to work with was, you guessed it, the cockroach.

"When I found out cockroaches could pay my way, I decided I was more afraid of debt than I was of cockroaches," says Faber. She stuck it out, earning a master's in zoology and a Ph.D. in entomology from Rutgers.

Today, Faber, an entomologist who is a consultant for the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, N.J., is one of the foremost experts on cockroaches in the country. She has appeared on PBS and other television programs and has held several teaching positions over the years at the high-school and university levels.

One cockroach species that Faber has studied closely is the American roach, a large, mahogany-colored insect that is actually pretty common in Williamsburg. Faber explains that this particular roach is believed to have originated in the Nile River area and thrives in damp, warmer climates. The American cockroach and other pest roaches have been just as successful as the growing human population.

Furthermore, when we try to kill cockroaches, we actually may be

helping them thrive — as the weaker roaches die off while the stronger roaches survive. An example of this, says Faber, is the use of chemicals that ward off pests. “Cockroaches develop a resistance to pesticides,” she says. “Every 20 years or so the companies making these products have to change their pesticides.”

Another thing to note is that as the human population has increased, the cockroach population has enjoyed similar prosperity. Like the American cockroach, most household roaches like warm indoor environments. Consequently, more homes equal more cockroaches.

But, Faber explains, an increasing cockroach population is not cause for alarm.

“There are a lot of urban myths about cockroaches,” says Faber. “If there was a nuclear war, roaches would be blown away too.” She also explains that they won’t occupy a reasonably well-kept residence in great numbers. “If you were a college student and one of your dormmates was messy enough to attract a lot of cockroaches, you would probably kick him out long before they became a problem,” Faber jokes.

According to Faber, cockroaches like to occupy a familiar space. “If you see a cockroach on top of your refrigerator one day and another one the next day, chances are he is the same roach,” she says.

Faber has also observed that male cockroaches stay out later than females. “They’re really active between 8 p.m. and midnight,” she says. “But by 1-2 a.m. there is not much activity.”

And whether they’re male or female, cockroaches don’t provide for each other, says Faber. However, if a large roach is eating, younger roaches will often share the meal. She also says cockroaches like to eat crickets.

Today, many people feel much like Faber used to feel about cockroaches: they don’t like them. But Faber says that trying to rid the world of the roach could be a huge mistake.

“This world is a complex place. We’re changing it and we don’t always know we’re changing it,” she says. “In the natural environment, there is definitely a place for cockroaches. If you remove something, how will it affect us? It’s a terribly intricate thing and we’re beginning to see that things are interconnected.”

Much of Faber’s work today at Liberty Science Center involves educating people about insects, including the cockroach. “The Science Center tries to foster an appreciation of science among primarily young people — but really everybody,” says Faber. “You can learn science here, but it also gives you a leg up, enough knowledge to give you an interest to go out and further explore.”

At the Science Center, there is an insect zoo that contains insects and their relatives such as spiders, scorpions, millipedes and cockroaches — among many others. While some of these creatures may



Betty Lane Faber '66 became interested in circadian rhythm before completing her undergraduate studies at William and Mary, but didn't start her research of cockroaches until she began her graduate work at Rutgers University. She conquered her fear of cockroaches and today is one of the country's foremost authorities on the insect.

sound intimidating, Faber says the Center strives to make it a comfortable environment for the insects as well as the people who visit.

“At home it’s like they’re invading your space,” she says. “Here, you set it up so it’s not threatening, you make it OK.”

The Liberty Science Center is currently housed a couple of miles away from its regular facility while that building undergoes an expansion. The Center currently features an exhibit called Eat and be Eaten, which includes several kinds of cockroaches. To learn more, visit www.lsc.org.

Just Off DoG Street profiles William and Mary graduates who are pursuing work most might consider to be unique — that is, just off the beaten path.

**“There are a lot of urban myths about cockroaches.
If there was a nuclear war, roaches
would be blown away too.”**

W&M

ALUMNI SPIRIT

Around the World Adventure

~ MELISSA V. PINARD

Most people don't get the opportunity to blow a poisonous dart at a target in the Amazon. "I hit the target on the second try," said Sharon Hall McBay '63, who used a 4-foot bamboo tube to aim and shoot the dart.

This thrill was just one of many on the Natural Wonders Around the World excursion she went on through the Alumni Journeys program at the William and Mary Alumni Association, from Jan. 22 to Feb. 13.

McBay says she felt completely at ease as a single traveler as soon as she got on the plane, although she had trepidations at first. She, along with fellow William and Mary travelers Sharon Spooner Gray '65 and Dr. Robert "Bob" '67 and Christine Rowland '67, had the adventure of a lifetime along with 80 other travelers, who ranged in ages from 16 to 83.

After the group left the States, their adventure began in the Peruvian Amazon and then moved to the Galapagos Islands and Easter Island before the travelers made their way to Samoa, the Great Barrier Reef, Papua New Guinea, Borneo, Madagascar, the Serengeti Plain and finally Madeira Island before returning to Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

For many William and Mary alumni, learning is a lifelong activity that goes beyond the classroom's four walls. Educational travel offers people a unique glimpse at history, geology, sociology, zoology and many other areas of interest.

Charles Darwin may not have used a private jet when he went to the Galapagos, but on the TCS Expeditions Natural Wonders trip it offered a convenient and comfortable way to travel — not to mention the overviews of Mt. Kilimanjaro. "We flew around Kilimanjaro in several different directions," says Dr. Rowland. "You'd never



The famous Huli Wigmen of
Papua New Guinea

get that type of service if you planned the trip on your own.”

“When I flew economy class recently on another trip, I fondly remembered the private jet,” says McBay. “It spoiled me.”

From the size of the Amazon River to the tame nature of animals on the Galapagos Islands, Gray said that the trip was full of surprises. “Everywhere we were had something different to offer for us to enjoy,” says Gray. “The seals on the Galapagos didn’t even move when they saw us. They couldn’t have cared less that we were splashing in the water right next to them.”

Some of the surprises were not planned, such as the time Dr. Rowland tried to help save the life of a native Huli tribesman, after the tribe had come out to dance for the travelers. “One of the main chieftains collapsed,” says Dr. Rowland, a radiologist by trade. “Evidently he had a massive heart attack.” Rowland, along with a fellow traveler who was an anesthesiologist, assisted the TCS Expeditions staff physician in administering CPR, but they were not able to revive the tribesman.

And then there was the wildlife. Most of
(Continued on page 127)



Left: Travelers marveled while watching orangutans at a preserve in Borneo. Below: Four alumni stand in front of the Moai statues on Easter Island. The society on the island forced itself into extinction.



Board of Directors Meeting in New York

The Alumni Association’s Board of Directors gathered in New York City for their spring meeting on March 23-24, 2006, prior to the 12th biennial New York Auction. Among other actions taken during the meeting, the Board:

- Voted on the 2006 Alumni Medallion Award recipients and selected **Constance Warren Desaulniers '75**, **Thomas P. Hollowell '65**, **J.D. '68**, **M.L.T. '69**, **Susan Aheron Magill '72**, **Theresa Thompson '67** and **Winfred O’Neil Ward '54**.
- Approved Charter Day as the new time and place to honor Medallion recipients, thereby eliminating the need for the Homecoming Ball.
- Selected **Joseph J. Plumeri '66** as the 2006 Homecoming Grand Marshal.
- Approved the selection of **James Armstrong**, director of William and Mary Choirs, and **Robb L. Dunn**, associate athletic director, as recipients of the 2006 Faculty/Staff Service Awards.
- Granted associate alumni status to 20 retiring non-alumni employees of the College.
- Reviewed and approved the 2006-07 operating budget for the Alumni Association.

- Named the five 2006 Alumni Fellowship Award recipients: **Alison I. Beach**, assistant professor of religious studies; **Rachel DiNitto**, assistant professor of modern languages and literatures; **Mark H. Forsyth**, assistant professor of biology; **Robert L. Hicks**, assistant professor of economics; and **Ram K. Ganeshan**, assistant professor of business.

— Melissa V. Pinard



During the meeting the Board approved new officers (l-r): **Julian L. White '83**, treasurer; **Henry H. George '65**, president; **Elizabeth “Libba” A. Galloway '79**, vice president; and **Earl “Tuggy” L. Young '59**, secretary.

A Distinguished Record of Service

The Alumni Association Inducts 2006 Honorary Alumni

According to the bylaws established by the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Honorary Alumni of the College must achieve a “distinguished record of service, support, advocacy and commitment on behalf of the College of William and Mary and/or its schools, departments, units, organizations and boards.”

On Feb. 10, the Alumni Association formally inducted five individuals who have exemplified these qualities through their actions at William and Mary.

The former purveyor of Wythe Candies and Gourmet and Wythe-Will Distributors, Gordon Angles has been an advocate of Tribe Athletics with unparalleled passion for more than 30 years. Along with his wife, Judy, Angles has supported student-athletes and coaches and established an Athletic Leadership Endowment, which will enhance the salaries of William and Mary coaches. Angles has also supported many athletics special events, including the Plumeri Pro-Am, the Lord Botetourt Auction and the Wightman Cup.

The Roanoke Alumni Chapter has benefited greatly from the contributions of Karen Beldegreen. She has participated in the chapter's Habitat for Humanity projects and currently serves as the Web site administrator. An avid traveler, Beldegreen has joined alumni on over 16 trips through the Alumni Journeys program, including travels to Kenya, Italy, Egypt and Russia.

A former executive with CBS, Belde-

green established an endowment for in-state graduate students enrolled at the Mason School of Business, as well as an endowment for undergraduate out-of-state students at the school.

When the Campaign for William and Mary was formally launched in 2003, Betti Brown made sure the celebration went off without a hitch. A production manager by profession, Brown worked with student performers, the Pine Rock production team, the president, University Development and many others to coordinate the program. Since the Campaign launch, Brown has continued to assist the Alumni Association and Development with site location suggestions for Campaign regional events and the Welcome President Nichol receptions. She is married to Bob Ramsey '72.

Through her 28-year career with the Central Intelligence Agency, Lois Critchfield developed first-hand knowledge of the Middle East. When she established the James H. Critchfield Memorial Endowment at the College in honor of her late husband, Critchfield cited three priorities it would address for William and Mary students studying the Middle East. Those included a study abroad and academic exchange with noted Middle Eastern universities, an expanded faculty-student research effort on topics specifically related to Middle Eastern and Arabic studies, and enhanced programming at the Arabic Language House.

From October 1987 until June 2005, count-



(L-r) Lois Critchfield, Gordon Angles and Betti Brown were inducted as Honorary Alumni. Karen Beldegreen and Elizabeth MacLeish were also honored, but unable to attend.

less alumni interacted with Elizabeth MacLeish, former director of Alumni Travel Programs and executive assistant to former Executive Vice President Barry Adams. With an extensive knowledge of the Alumni Association and a helpful and positive attitude, MacLeish was instrumental in the successful accomplishment of many projects throughout her tenure, some of which included the Alumni Center Expansion Campaign, support for the Tercentenary Celebration, the implementation of numerous policies and procedures and the establishment and growth of the Alumni Journeys program.

— John T. Wallace

Alumni Service Awards



Nancy Wonnell Mathews '76 was presented a 2005 Alumni Service Award during the Lord Botetourt Auction on Feb. 10. Mathews has chaired the auction twice — once in 1992 and a second time in 2002 — and served on the auction committee since its inception in 1990. She and her husband, Hallett Mathews (Honorary Alumnus '02), have supported

Tribe Athletics for years. Additionally, she has served on the board of directors of the Athletic Educational Foundation. Mathews, who served on her 25th Reunion gift committee, is currently a member of the Class of 1976 30th Reunion gift committee.



Henry D. Wilde Jr. '53 was presented a 2004 Alumni Service Award on Jan. 14 for his ongoing efforts on behalf of the College and the Alumni Association. As co-chair of his 50th Reunion gift committee, Wilde and his classmates raised over \$1.3 million for their class gift. He is an emeritus member of the Endowment Association board and a former

vice president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Wilde, who lives in Texas, is a founding member and past president of the Houston Alumni Chapter. He has served as a member of the Houston Alumni Admission Network and as a class agent.

Class of 1956 Celebrates 50th Reunion



The 2006 50th Reunion weekend began with a welcome reception at the Muscarelle Museum of Art on Friday evening, April 28. Activities continued Saturday morning with breakfast, a student panel discussion and a guided bus tour of campus. Following the

tour, President Gene R. Nichol accepted the Class of 1956 reunion gift on behalf of the College at a luncheon in Trinkle Hall.

Saturday evening, classmates met at the University Center for a reception and dinner. The class relived memories of graduation 50

years ago, on Sunday, by donning academic regalia and receiving medallions during the Olde Guarde Induction Ceremony in the Wren Yard. Immediately following this ceremony, deceased classmates were honored during a special Service of Remembrance.

Olde Guarde Day 2006



Olde Guarde Day, on May 1, featured guest speaker Harrison R. Tyler '49 during the academic symposium, discussing his great-grandfather, the 10th U.S. President John Tyler. The traditional Bloody Mary reception followed to welcome the newest members of

the Olde Guarde, the Class of 1956.

During the luncheon, President Gene R. Nichol addressed the audience, admiring their dedication to the College. Linwood Perkins '52, Olde Guarde chair, presented Dixon L. Foster '44, B.C.L. '49 (pictured

above left with his wife, Nancy Norris Foster '44) with the fourth annual Olde Guarde Distinguished Service Award. The Gentlemen of the College performed a rousing rendition of the "Alma Mater" to conclude the day's festivities.



New York Auction 2006

A Wicked Good Time

This year's auction featured many amazing items, but the biggest bidding war was over the adorable puppy honorary auctioneer President Gene R. Nichol toured around the room. Sam Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71 served as auctioneer with guest appearances by Joseph Plumeri '66 and President Emeritus Paul R. Verkuil '61. Alumni from all classes gathered at the Grand Hyatt for the auction, which grossed close to \$200,000 for the Alumni Association's out-of-state student scholarship endowment, diversity programming, the Dean's Endowment for the Arts, and Alumni Association programs and publications. On the Saturday evening after the big event, alumni had the opportunity to attend the Broadway musical *Wicked* and to be greeted by the cast during a special post-show program. See additional photos at www.wmalumni.com.



Student Academic Prizes to Undergraduates

William and Mary Alumni Association President Henry George '65 presented certificates and monetary awards to 20 students during the 2006 Student Academic Prize Awards Reception on April 19 at the Alumni Center.

From top of staircase left to right, Physics Prize: Daniel S. Damiani '06; Tiberius Gracchus Jones Prize: Maxwell B. Uphaus '06; History Prize: Amy C. Green '06; Molecular & Cellular Biology Prize: Ryan M. Fame '06; Howard Scammon Drama Prize and G. Glenwood Clark Fiction Prize: Caroline K. Bennett '08; Business Prize: Timothy J. Slattery '06; Music Prize: Matthew L. Klein '06; Three-Dimensional Art Prize: Ty A. Brickhouse '07; Business Prize: Brian D. Callen '06; Geology Prize: Laura J. Buchanan '06; Two-Dimensional Art Prize: Erin E. Murray '06; G. Glenwood Clark Fiction Prize: Elizabeth A. Sutherland '09; Geology Prize: Sarah E. Kolbe '06; G. Glenwood Clark Fiction Prize: James R. Todd '06; Organismal Biology Prize: Laura C. Page '06; Chemistry Prize: Melissa Sprachman '06; Art History Prize: Tingting Zhang '06.

Not pictured: Academy of American Poets Prize: Ruth M. Stickland '07; Goronwy Owen Poets Prize: Ann E. Lefevre '07.



PUBLIC POLICY

Players in the Public Policy Process (Cambridge University Press, 2005), by Life of Virginia Professor of Business Administration **Herrington J. Bryce**, focuses on the nonprofit organization as a social capital asset and agent in all phases of the public policy process. Placing the nonprofit in a principal-agent framework, the text emphasizes topics such as the moral hazards and benefits of organizational self-interest and the role of social service organizations as managers of adverse social risks.

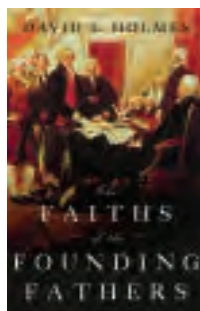


RELIGION

The Reluctant Parting: How the New Testament's Jewish Writers Created a Christian Book (Harper San Francisco, 2005) is the new work by **Julie Galambush**, associate professor of religious studies. Raising the question "What would it mean to read this Christian scripture as it was meant to be read — as a collection of Jewish books?," she identifies the Jewish goals of the New Testament authors and sheds new light on the common roots of modern Judaism and Christianity.



David L. Holmes, Walter G. Mason Professor of Religious Studies, is the author of *Religion of the Founding Fathers* (Oxford University Press, 2006). In this text, Holmes offers a clear, concise and illuminating look at the spiritual beliefs of America's founding fathers, beginning with an informative account of the religious culture of the



late colonial era and then examining the individual beliefs of a variety of men and women who loom large in U.S. history.

SOCIOLOGY

Awesome Families: The Promise of Healing Relationships in the International Churches of Christ (Rutgers University Press, 2005), by Assistant Professor of Sociology **Kathleen E. Jenkins**, explains how and why so many individuals — primarily from middle- to upper-middle-class backgrounds — were attracted to the International Churches of Christ. Noting that the group was founded on principles of enforced community, explicitly authoritative relationships and therapeutic ideals, Jenkins argues that members were commonly attracted to the structure and practice of family relationships advocated by the church.

Jennifer Bickham Mendez, associate professor of sociology, has written *From the Revolution to the Maquiladoras: Gender, Labor and Globalization in Nicaragua* (Duke University Press, 2005). A part of the publisher's American Encounters/Global Interactions series, the book is an ethnographic account of the efforts of Nicaraguan women to organize female workers in the country's free trade zones and improve conditions in maquiladora factories, often in collaboration with international feminist and labor groups.



VIRGINIA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

The 2006 Virginia Shakespeare Festival is scheduled for June 28-Aug. 13 and will feature 39 performances of three shows: *Macbeth*, *Illyria* and *Three Tall Women*. Ticket reservations may be made via phone to 757.221.2674 beginning June 3. For additional information about the festival visit <http://vsf.wm.edu>.



Christine Rowland '67 makes friends with a lemur.

the animals the travelers may never see again. "The orangutans were probably my favorite animal on the trip," says Christine Rowland. "They are so expressive and entertaining, very funny and also capable of emotions, such as maternal love."

The travelers got up close and personal with the orangutans at the Sepilok Rehabilitation Center in Borneo, a special treat as part of the trip. TCS makes contributions to this and other programs on the tour, which help preserve these natural wonders.

Great Faiths

March 18-April 9, 2007
\$42,950 double occupancy



Join this one-of-a-kind journey to discover for yourself the remarkable people, places and legacies of the world's greatest religions. Your 23-day quest touches down in nine exotic countries for an intimate glimpse into the many facets of faith. For more information or to hear about our other Alumni Journeys, visit www.wmalumni.com or call Mary Meadows, manager of Alumni Travel at 757.221.1165.

PHILANTHROPY

Being True to Their School

50th Reunion Classes Set Fundraising Records

At their 50th Reunion on April 28-30, the Class of 1956 had two big reasons to celebrate. The first — a return to campus that was 50 years in the making. The second — a record-breaking class gift of \$9,281,529 — an achievement the class worked on together.

"I think our class has finally figured out that the state is not supporting the College at the level it once was," says Jane Thompson Kaplan '56, who, along with Bruce '56 and Betsey Davis Hathaway '56, co-chaired this year's 50th Reunion gift committee. As state funding has declined (it now stands at less than 19 percent), reunion gifts have become an ever more essential source of funding for the College. Recent 50th Reunion classes have risen to that challenge, leading the way among all classes celebrating reunions and consistently setting records, not only with giving, but with participation.

"We looked at our gift as a way for our class to give something back for future generations. Put simply, we love our College," says Ed Coco '55, who chaired his class's

reunion gift committee last year, an effort that raised \$2.137 million. "But part of our job also was to keep raising the bar. We wanted the class after us to be able to learn from what we did and do even better."

Achieving ambitious goals requires elbow grease on behalf of each 50th Reunion gift committee, which usually is comprised of 12 to 15 members. "It does take a considerable amount of time and teamwork — it was a good eight months of hard work that occurred, really, on a daily basis," Coco admits. "But that commitment has to happen in order for the fundraising effort to be successful."

When each committee initially meets, the group determines which areas to support through its class gift. This year's reunion class, for example, decided to designate 75 percent of their gift to fund a need-based student scholarship named for the Class of 1956, 20 percent to the Fund for Coaching Excellence (which provides support for Tribe coaching salaries), and 5 percent to Alumni House operations. However, class members can designate their gifts to other

areas, and these contributions will be included with the total class gift.

The committees have been very aware that their success depends in large part on the amount of participation they can generate from their class, which — for most 50th Reunions — has averaged about 50 percent. "We wanted people to think about giving whatever they could afford," Bruce Hathaway says. "We encouraged everybody to participate."

"Of course, we really wanted 100 percent participation," Betsey Hathaway adds, "but we set our goal at 56 percent because it matched our class year and it seemed like an achievable number."

In 1984, the Class of 1934 assembled the first 50th Reunion class gift committee, raising a total of \$51,000 for library acquisitions. Fifteen years later, the Class of 1949 became the first 50th Reunion class to raise more than \$1 million and, since that time, every 50th Reunion gift committee has exceeded that amount.

The Class of 1956's record-breaking numbers were aided in large part by two major commitments: one from Jim '57 and Jane Thompson Kaplan to the men's basketball program and a second from Bob and Sally Ives Gore '56 for the Integrated Science Center.

Over the years, 50th Reunion gifts have supported everything from endowed professorships to student scholarships to Swem Library's expansion and renovation. In the past 10 years, 50th Reunion efforts have contributed more than \$21.7 million to William and Mary's people and programs.

So what makes the 50th Reunion gift effort so successful? Perhaps it's the relationships forged with classmates that have endured over the years. "It's really been the people we've met here," Jane says. "I think people make a special effort at their 50th Class Reunion to give in honor of those special relationships."

The Hathaways agree. In fact, at William and Mary the couple forged a memorable relationship of their own, meeting the very first day of freshman year. "We've had a fantastic life," Betsey says. "We attribute much of that to William and Mary."

— John T. Wallace



The Class of 1956 Reunion gift committee (pictured) raised \$9,281,529. Front, from left: Jane Thompson Kaplan '56, Julie Bleick Moat '56, Virginia Portney Klapp '56 and Barbara Lynn Wheeler '56. Back, from left: Betsey Davis Hathaway '56, Bruce E. Hathaway '56, Aubrey H. Fitzgerald '56, Stewart Sell '56, James M. Brown '56 and Marcia Page Cooley '56.

New Name, Same Mission: Supporting Students and Faculty

The Endowment Association of The College of William and Mary in Virginia, Incorporated, was established in 1939 under the guidance of President John Stewart Bryan to “aid, strengthen, and expand in every proper and useful way” the College’s mission. Association trustees work with alumni, friends, corporations and foundations to obtain gifts and endowments for scholarships, fellowships, professorships and other important purposes. Trustees then prudently invest these gifts and allocate returns in accordance with donors’ wishes and — if given as unrestricted gifts — the College’s most pressing needs.

As dedicated to this mission as ever, the Association’s board of trustees recently voted to officially change the organization’s name to “The College of William & Mary Foundation,” effective July 1, 2006. “We felt that ‘The Endowment Association of the College of William and Mary in Virginia, Incorporated,’ did not characterize the entire mission of the organization, and, quite frankly, it was rather long,” explains Howard Busbee ’65, J.D. ’67, M.L.T. ’68, chair of the Endowment Association. “On the other hand, ‘The College of William & Mary Foundation’ more accurately describes the full development and investment functions of the organization.”

Busbee adds that the name change will not affect the day-to-day workings of the foundation, but, starting on July 1, 2006, Endowment Association donors should begin using the new name when making pledges and gifts. Alumni and friends who already have



Endowed professorships support faculty members like David Holmes, the Walter G. Mason Professor of Religion.

included the Endowment Association in their estate plans, however, do not need to make changes to their legal documents.

If you have any questions about the Endowment Association’s name change, please contact Susan H. Pettyjohn, associate vice president for university development, at 757.221.1001 or shpett@wm.edu.

— Bramble Klipple ’88

Pieri Named Vice President for University Development

Sean M. Pieri, vice president for development of the U.S. Air Force Academy’s Association of Graduates, has been named William and Mary’s new vice president for university development. In this position, Pieri will oversee all William and Mary fundraising operations.

Pieri has led the Air Force Academy’s development program since 2002, during which time the amount of private funds raised for the AOG grew by more than 250 percent. Previously, he was managing director for development and director of regional development programs for the United States Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs, Colo.; assistant dean for external relations of the University of Washington’s business school in Seattle and later the university’s assistant vice president for development; and director of development for the College of Commerce at DePaul University in Chicago, Ill.

“Sean Pieri’s energy and experience will

enable William and Mary to secure the additional private support needed to match its aspirations to be one of the great public universities of the world,” said President Gene R. Nichol. “His strong leadership of the Air Force Academy’s first comprehensive campaign and his success-



Sean M. Pieri will start work in June.

ful efforts on behalf of the University of Washington and other philanthropic organizations demonstrate his ability to lead and inspire fundraising programs.”

Pieri believes that the Campaign for William and Mary marks a new level of excellence for the College and he attributes its success to the generosity and faith of donors and the hard work of the staff. “I look forward to working with President Nichol and the entire William and Mary family on achieving even greater heights for one of this nation’s great public institutions,” Pieri said.

Originally from South Bend, Ind., Pieri earned a bachelor’s degree in American studies from the University of Notre Dame and an M.B.A. from DePaul University’s Kellstadt Graduate School of Business. He also completed an executive program in finance and accounting at the University of Washington.

— William T. Walker Jr.

W&M

TRIBE SPORTS

Lacrosse Leader Colleen Dalon '06 Shines ~ JOHN T. WALLACE

During their second game of the season on March 5, the William and Mary women's lacrosse team sent a strong message to its rivals, as the unranked squad upset ninth-ranked Boston University (BU) 12-10 at Albert-Daly Field in Williamsburg. Leading the charge on offense was Colleen Dalon '06, an all-conference attacker in her final year with the Tribe.

Recalling the victory, Dalon, who contributed three goals and one assist, was confident the team was up to the challenge. "It wasn't a surprise to us, but it felt really good to beat them because now other teams will not take us lightly," she says. "I think we'll get the recognition we deserve."

Dalon says she and the three other seniors on the roster wanted to move past the team's perceived boundaries and boost confidence. "I think what I really wanted — and what the rest of the seniors really wanted — was to break the norms this year," says Dalon. "After the BU win, a lot of our thoughts became reality."

She also thinks the team chemistry is strong at William and Mary and considers that a significant component of any success they achieve. "Having a bond with teammates through your sport is really important on the field," Dalon says. "When you're not just playing *with* that person, but *for* that person, it can propel your team throughout the season."

A native of Moorestown, N.J., she watched both of her brothers and their friends, including several women, play lacrosse. "I looked up to them, but I couldn't play until seventh grade," recalls Dalon, who has played the sport continually since middle school.

Lacrosse is a very physical sport, a fact Dalon confirms. "Most people associate the physicality of lacrosse with the men's game, but I have the bruises and scratches on my arms to prove that the women's game is as well," says Dalon, who was not intimidated by the risks associated with the sport. "I have two older brothers and it doesn't compare to some of the WWF wrestling moves they put on me as a kid."

Dalon first learned of the College during her sophomore year of

PHOTO: CHRIS SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY

high school through a coach who was a William and Mary graduate. She had also been to Williamsburg before on family vacations and liked the area. When it came time for her to make a decision about where she would go to school, William and Mary won out because Dalon wanted to move south and the College also offered excellent academics as well as a lacrosse team where she could make an impact.

"She has done a great job," says Head Lacrosse Coach Tara Brown. "Colleen has always been a fun person on the team and very likable. She has learned how to use that to be a leader who motivates her teammates to push themselves."

Dalon will soon be making another move. This time, however, she will not be relocating farther south — she will be leaving the country. After graduation, she is off to England to work at a boarding school where she will coach lacrosse and be a physical education instructor. And if she has any leftover time, Dalon plans to join a travel lacrosse team in England and continue to play.

Whether she is mentoring future lacrosse stars or making contributions as a leader among her teammates, Dalon can be certain she is now a lacrosse player others look up to.



Colleen Dalon '06 was named CAA Player of the Week both the first and second weeks of the season.

[SPORTSBRIEFS]

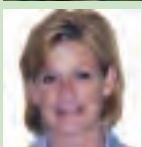
W&M Athletes Ranked Among Academic Best

Based on a March 1 report issued by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), William and Mary is one of only a few institutions that exceed the NCAA's academic standards. Brown, Harvard and Yale universities, as well as three U.S. military academies, joined William and Mary in this distinction. The report also cited 99 teams at 66 universities for failing to meet NCAA academic standards. Under new regulations, these schools must reduce the scholarships they award either in 2006 or 2007.



CAA Honors Go To Women's Basketball

The Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) recognized Women's Basketball Player Kyra Kaylor '08 (top) as Player of the Year and Head Women's Basketball Coach Debbie Tay-



lor '86 (bottom) as Coach of the Year on March 7.

Kaylor led the league in scoring and rebounding all season, and her 21 double doubles tied for second nationally. During the regular season, she averaged 18.4 points and 11.4 assists per game.

Taylor led the ninth-youngest team in NCAA Division I women's basketball to a tie for the second-best turnaround in the NCAA from last year. Setting its best record since the 1998-99 season, the team finished the regular season 15-12, including a school-record 11 conference victories.

Former Tribe Quarterback Plays for Berlin Thunder

Former William and Mary quarterback and 2004 Division I-AA Player of the Year Lang Campbell '04 will represent the Cleveland Browns and play for the

Berlin Thunder during the 2006 NFL Europe season. Campbell worked out with the Browns at their 2005 training camp, but was released prior to the regular season. He is posting his experiences with the Berlin Thunder in an exclusive diary; fans can follow his progress at www.clevelandbrowns.com/news_room/news/arts/5117.0.html

Campbell was named NFL Europe's League Offensive Player of the week for the first week of the season in March after completing 16 of 26 passes for 139 yards and one touchdown to lead the Berlin Thunder to a 33-29 victory over the Amsterdam Admirals in a rematch of World Bowl XIII.

The former William and Mary star guided Berlin to touchdowns on each of its first three possessions, including a 27-yard touchdown pass to Patriots wide receiver and one-time College teammate Rich Musinski. During the 2003 Tribe Football season, Campbell and Musinski connected 63 times for 888 yards and seven touchdowns.

Botetourt Auction Benefits Tribe Athletics

The annual Lord Botetourt Auction was held Feb. 10 in Trinkle Hall. Through the generous support of many, this sold-out event raised over \$132,000 to benefit scholar-athletes at William and Mary. The 300 guests in attendance had the opportunity to bid on vacation packages, sports memorabilia, event tickets and many other unique and exclusive items in both a silent and live

auction. Special thanks go out to 2006 co-chairs Mary Busbee (Honorary Alumna '03), Pam Michael '65 and Carol Taylor.





The 2006 Hall of Fame inductees were honored on April 8 at William and Mary Hall. Pictured left to right are Martin Morris '65, Shawn Knight '94, Rebecca Wakefield Snider '93, Marcie Homan Heil '95, Tyrone Shelton '90 and Scott Budnick '93.

2006 Hall of Famers Honored

The Tribe Athletics Department honored six of its own on April 8, 2006 at the Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony held in Williamsburg. The six inductees were treated to a weekend of golf and relaxation with friends and family.

The following is a brief sketch of the athletic career of each inductee:

Selected in the inaugural MLS Player Draft in 1996, **Scott Budnick '93** is one of just seven Tribe soccer players to be drafted. As a member of the Tribe, Budnick was named twice to the Colonial Athletic Association's (CAA) first-team all-conference squad and led the Tribe to a Sweet 16 appearance in his junior season. He was also named to the first team all-south Atlantic Region and all-Virginia squads.

A five-time All-American, and just one of four Tribe student-athletes to earn the honor three times in a year, **Marcie Homan Heil '95** captured the first of her two CAA Cross Country Athlete of the Year awards in 1993, finishing first at the conference championships. The following year, she earned three more All-America honors, one each for cross country, indoor 3,000 meters, and outdoor 5,000 meters. She is currently the school record holder for the 5,000 meter event.

The all-time NCAA I-AA leader in both career and season pass efficiency, at 170.77 and 204.6, respectively, quarterback **Rev. Shawn Knight's '94** name can be found across the Tribe record book. He is the all-

time school leader in career and season completion percentage (65.5 percent and 69.4 percent), as well as the leader in single-game touchdown passes with six.

The 1965 Outstanding Player of Virginia as selected by the Virginia Sports Writers and Sportscasters, **Martin Morris '65** was part of the men's basketball squad that nearly toppled West Virginia University in the finals of the Southern Conference tournament, falling 70-67 in double overtime. That season, he served as both team captain and class president, and averaged 16.0 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. He also earned all-state and all-Southern Conference honors.

As fullback, **Tyrone Shelton '90** and teammate Robert Green each recorded over 1,000 yards in the 1990 season — a feat that has only been accomplished five times prior in Division I-AA and stands as the lone occurrence in school history. A recruited walk-on, Shelton ended his career as the team's starting fullback who had amassed 2,534 rushing yards, the sixth-most in school history.

One of the most prolific players in Tribe's women's soccer, **Rebecca Wakefield Snider '93** finished her career third all-time in goals and fourth in assists. Her senior season is one of the greatest on record, as she recorded 20 goals and was named as a first-team All-American. That same year (1992) also saw her named as one of the national finalists for the Honda Player of the Year Award.

— *Sports Information*

[SPORTSSTATS]

FALL 2005 ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- 2005 CAA Champions
- CAA Athlete of the Year: Ian Fitzgerald '08
- CAA Coach of the Year: Alex Gibby '97
- CAA Scholar-Athlete of the Year: Keith Bechtol '07
- NCAA Championship: 22nd

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- 2005 CAA Champions
- CAA Coach of the Year: Kathy Newberry '00
- CAA Scholar-Athlete of the Year: Meghan Bishop '07
- NCAA Championship: 23rd

FIELD HOCKEY

- CAA Defensive Player of the Year: Anna Davis '06
- NFHCA National Academic Squad: Diana Esposito '06, Gwen Hunter '08, Jessica Kacerek '08, JJ Kubicek '06, Mary Teeter '06
- Advanced to CAA Semifinals
- Season Record: 10-11

FOOTBALL

- A-10 and W&M Record Career Field Goals: Greg Keuhn '06, 59 career field goals

MEN'S SOCCER

- CAA All-Rookie Team: Andrew Hoxie '09
- Season Record: 4-9-5

WOMEN'S SOCCER

- CAA All-Rookie Team: Claire Zimmeck '09
- Season Record: 7-4-9

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

- CAA Coach of the Year: Debbie Hill
- CAA Defensive Specialist of the Year: Kathleen Hawley '07
- CAA Rookie of the Year: Kim Mount '09
- Season Record: 22-9



SHARK S.O.S.

As shark populations plummet worldwide, VIMS researchers are at the forefront of efforts to save these awesome creatures.

BY SARA PICCINI



In the summer of 1961, a Rutgers University undergraduate named John Musick snagged an unusual job. Assigned to the Sandy Hook lab of the New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Division, Musick joined a crew aboard the fishing vessel *Cape May* to take part in the first fisheries-independent shark survey ever conducted.

Using longlining methods employed by commercial fishermen, Musick and his colleagues sacrificed the sharks they caught for the advancement of science — performing necropsies to learn more about sharks' diet, reproductive biology and growth patterns. Musick also kept careful records of catch numbers.

"The sheer seasonal abundance of sharks was a revelation," Musick recalls in his recent book *The Shark Chronicles*, co-written with his wife, Beverly McMillan. "For me [the trip] began a lifelong shark odyssey that has led me around the world."

Since 1973, Musick's home port has been the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) at the College of William and Mary, where he is now Marshall Acuff Professor of Marine Science. He heads VIMS' shark research program, part of the National Shark Research Consortium, which Musick helped to establish in 2002. In addition to VIMS, the consortium includes Moss Landing Marine Laboratories in California and two Florida institutions, the University of Florida/Florida Museum of Natural History and Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota.

Last summer, Musick (universally known as Jack) returned to the Jersey shore where his shark odyssey began. Using the same longlining gear, he again surveyed the waters. "Somebody found my original data — it was still there, on handwritten sheets," he says. "One of my graduate students, Dan Ha [Ph.D. '06], entered it in the computer and then compared the catch index with the index from last summer."

Once the analysis was complete, the hard evidence proved what Musick already knew.

"It's a hell of a decline," he says bluntly.

"Our own VIMS data had shown almost a 50 percent decline from the mid-1970s to the mid-80s, principally due to the recreational fishing that exploded after the movie *Jaws* came out," Musick explains. "Hundreds and hundreds of tons of sharks were landed."

"After that, the infrastructure developed for transport of shark fins from the East Coast of the United States to Hong Kong, where they're processed and reshipped around the world to different Chinese communities for shark fin soup, which is a delicacy and a high-priced commodity."

"That was the nail in the coffin. By 1992, we saw a 90 percent decline in some species of large coastal sharks and a 70 percent in others."

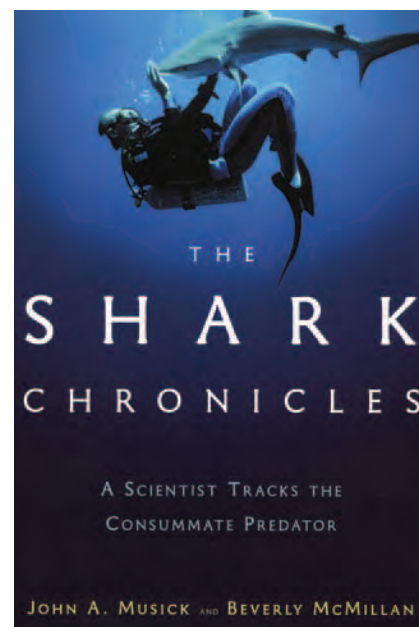
THE APEX PREDATOR

Sharks loom in the popular imagination as terrifying beasts, an enemy humans feel powerless to subdue. Shouldn't we feel heartened, then, that there are far fewer of them lurking off our beaches? Absolutely not, says Musick.

"When humans remove a top predator or severely deplete its numbers ... more lower-level predators survive, and proceed to eat a larger share of *their* prey," he writes in *The Shark Chronicles*. "The result is a cascade of disturbed ecological relationships, all evolved over countless millennia, all sundered in what amounts to a blip of time."

Musick and his fellow ichthyologists agree that sharks have much more to fear from humans than vice versa. Shark attacks can and do inflict terrible damage, but they are extremely rare. (See "Shark Attack FAQs," page 41.)

Even a small understanding of this great ocean predator can turn fear into awe. Sharks are marvels of design, perfectly engineered to swim through the water with speed and grace. A shark's skin, for



Left: Dr. Jack Musick (r) dissects a small Atlantic sturgeon as Sea Grant Commercial Fisheries Specialist Dr. Chris Hager (l) lends a helping hand. Above: Musick's book.



VIMS research scientist Dean Grubbs Ph.D. '01 gets close to a tiger shark in the Bahamas.

example, is made up of tiny teeth-like structures called placoid scales that significantly reduce drag. Its skeleton is flexible cartilage rather than bone, increasing efficiency of movement. (Sharks are classified as elasmobranchs, as are skates and rays — a subgroup of the class *Chondrichthyes* distinguished by cartilaginous skeletons and five or more gill slits on each side of the head.)

Fossil records suggest that sharks have been around for more than 400 million years — making them older than dinosaurs — and that they were the first vertebrate to have a complete jaw.

On an April day this year, doctoral student Jason Romine '97, M.S. '04 stood cleaning one of those jaws in a VIMS lab at Nunnally Hall. The jaw will be added to VIMS' extensive fisheries collection. "It's from a Galapagos shark, a species we don't see here on the East Coast," he explains. Romine, who works under Professor Musick, is involved with ongoing VIMS research in Hawaii on comparative shark populations. "We caught this back in January — it came up dead," Romine says, adding that the shark had been pregnant. "We're going to look at the genetics of the pups to see if there's multiple paternity."

Breakthrough scientific advances in recent years such as DNA analysis are helping ichthyologists to understand more about sharks, but much about them remains unknown. Unlocking such secrets as shark mating habits and migratory patterns is an essential part of scientific inquiry, but the need for answers goes well beyond pure science: it is critical to the survival of the species.

William and Mary scientists stand at the forefront of this battle.

VITAL RESEARCH

The shark research program at VIMS includes a broad array of investigations at multiple sites, ranging from an on-site examination of shark vision using sophisticated spectrum analysis to a study of thermoregulation in the salmon shark off the coast of Alaska.

The centerpiece of the program is the longlining

SHARK ATTACK FAQs

HOW COMMON ARE SHARK ATTACKS?

Shark attacks are extremely rare. However, because more humans are spending more time in the ocean, the number of shark-human interactions is generally increasing.

WHERE ARE SHARK ATTACKS MOST COMMON IN THE U.S.?

Most U.S. attacks occur in Florida. There are only two unprovoked shark attacks on record in Virginia, a non-fatal incident in 1973 and a fatal attack in 2001. Of the 490 attacks in U.S. waters between 1990 and 2004, 11 were fatal.

ARE ALL SHARKS DANGEROUS TO HUMANS?

Of the over 400 different species of sharks found in the world's oceans, only about 30 have been reported to ever attack a human. The shark species responsible for most unprovoked attacks on humans are white, tiger and bull sharks.

HOW CAN I AVOID BEING ATTACKED BY A SHARK?

- Always stay in groups, since sharks are more likely to attack a solitary individual.
- Avoid the water during darkness or twilight hours when sharks are most active and have a competitive sensory advantage.
- Don't enter the water if you're bleeding.
- Avoid wearing shiny jewelry while in the water: the reflected light resembles the sheen of fish scales.
- Avoid waters being used by sport or commercial fishermen, especially if there are signs of bait fishes or feeding activity.
- Use extra caution when waters are murky. Avoid uneven tanning and bright clothing: sharks see contrast particularly well.
- Use caution in areas between sandbars or near steep dropoffs. These are favorite hangouts for sharks.

Adapted from www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/sharks/nsrc/Attack.htm and www.vims.edu/newsmedia/press_release/shark_facts.htm.

PROFESSOR JACK MUSICK: *SUI GENERIS*

With his mustache, sandy hair and glasses, Jack Musick bears a passing resemblance to Matt Hooper, the marine biologist portrayed by Richard Dreyfuss in the movie *Jaws*.

So perhaps it's appropriate that Musick — who will assume emeritus status next year as the College's Marshall Acuff Professor of Marine Science — is a larger-than-life character in the eyes of students and colleagues.

"He's a Hemingway figure," says Paul Gerdes '77, curator of the 128,000-specimen fisheries collection that Musick was instrumental in building. "They don't make them like that anymore."

Like many students before him, R. Dean Grubbs Ph.D. '01 came to graduate school at the College of William and Mary specifically to study with Musick.

"One of the things that attracted me is Jack's diverse interests — he's as well known in herpetology as ichthyology, for instance. Nowadays biologists are really pigeonholed. Jack's a throwback to the days of Darwin and Cope and the other great 19th-century biologists.

"We're similar in how we view the world and how we view scientists. I hope to be a real naturalist like Jack."

Grubbs points to Musick's annual field trip, the "Roanoke Roundup" — now in its 36th year — as just one example of his wide-ranging interests. At the end of the spring semester, students travel to western Virginia to study fish evolution in Appalachian rivers and streams: Musick not only teaches but cooks all the meals. For many years, Musick also ran the sea turtle stranding program at VIMS before passing the baton to his student Katherine Mansfield Ph.D. '06.

Musick has trained more graduate students than any other faculty member at VIMS. He received the College's Thomas Ashley Graves Award for Sustained Excellence in Teaching in 1997 and the

Outstanding Faculty Award from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in 2001.

As Paul Gerdes sees it, Musick is one of a kind, *sui generis*. "They can get someone to take his job when he retires," he says, "but not someone to replace him."



Musick has traveled the world's oceans studying fish of all kinds, and has explored the ocean depths in the submersible *Alvin*.

survey of sharks in and around the Chesapeake Bay, begun by Musick three decades ago. He's kept it running continuously since 1973, scrounging for funding in lean years.

"It stands as the longest monitoring program for shark abundance in the world," he says.

Now under the direction of R. Dean Grubbs Ph.D. '01, a former student of Musick's and a VIMS research scientist, the longlining crew goes out from May to October on the VIMS research vessel *Bay Eagle*, captained by Durand Ward.

The longlining crew, made up of about a half-dozen scientists, installs all the gear on a mile-and-a-quarter-long fishing line. "There's a gangion every 18 meters with a clip attached, two meters of nylon line and 1 meter of steel cable that the shark can't bite through. We attach J-hooks to the cable," Grubbs says.

"We have to keep the gear constant, which can be a challenge — now everyone's using monofilament line, for example. We've been able to tweak some things, like installing a hydraulic winch. Now we can set a hundred hooks in eight minutes, and bring in the line in 15.

"We do 10 to 12 four-hour sets in a four-day trip," Grubbs says. The work, although physically exhausting, is highly rewarding. Sharks caught and released are tagged to track migratory patterns. Those sacrificed for research yield crucial information: for example, a

shark's age can be determined by counting stratifications much like tree rings within its dorsal fin.

"In order to manage a species effectively, you need to do age and growth work — to find out how long sharks take to reach maturity, the length of their reproductive period, their methods of reproduction," Grubbs says.

Since 1996, Grubbs has been conducting a survey of juvenile sandbar sharks, the most common species in Virginia coastal areas, and analyzing the elements that make the Chesapeake Bay the prime nursery area for sandbars. "We're also tagging juvenile sandbars to see if females born in the Bay come back to have pups."

Sharks are at a special disadvantage in recovering from overfishing because of their long rates of maturity, long gestation periods and relatively few offspring. The sand tiger shark, for example, which has been especially hard hit, takes about 12 years to mature and has only two pups every other year.

Musick's long-term survey — sounding the alarm on the crash of shark populations — has been absolutely essential in pressing state, national and international agencies to adopt shark management programs. "In the mid-1980s, a group of us were pulled together by the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Council. We asked the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to put together a management plan quickly,



otherwise there was going to be some stock collapse.

"The state of Virginia put regulations in place in 1990 — Virginia was way ahead of the curve here," Musick says. "It wasn't until 1993 that NMFS finally put a management plan in place that had a quota for the year, and had a bag limit for recreational fishermen."

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Shark populations hit a nadir in 1992: since the implementation of the national management plan in 1993, ichthyologists have seen some recovery.

"One of the success stories is the dusky shark," Musick says, "We were really worried about it because it's a huge species — the females are 12 feet long and take 21 years to mature. They only have a litter every three years instead of every other year. But they do have 10 young. We've seen a substantial increase in juvenile dusky sharks now. They're back up to about 30 percent of what they were in the beginning."

Musick and other VIMS scientists are key members of international groups working to implement shark management plans worldwide. Musick co-chairs the shark specialist group of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), headquartered in Switzerland, which compiles the annual red list of endangered species; he was instrumental in the creation of a shark action plan issued by the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organization. Just this past year, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) adopted the first international ban on shark finning. The U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee is chaired by Professor John Graves of VIMS.

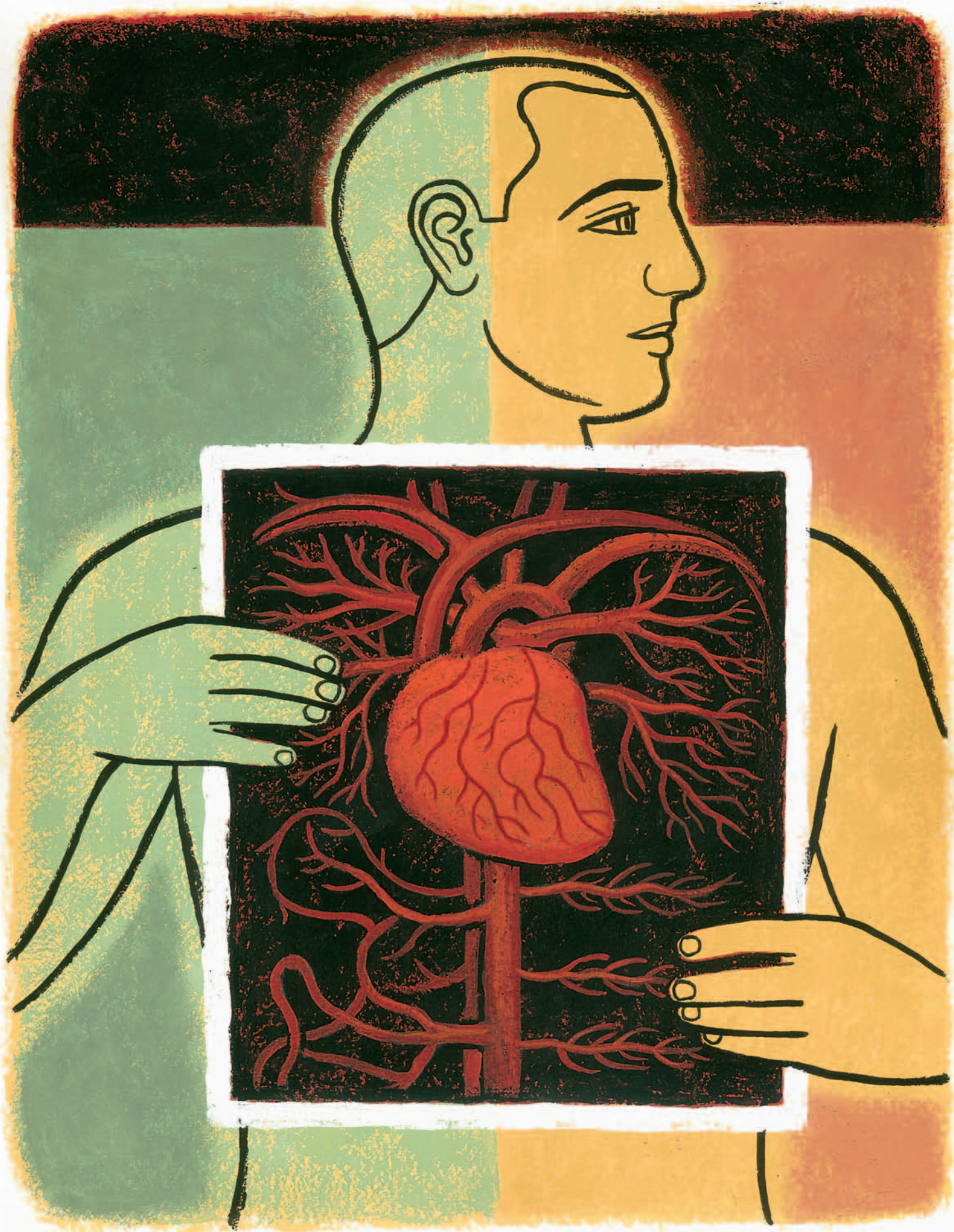


Top: VIMS' longlining survey of shark populations, begun in 1973, is the longest-running in the world. Above: Paul Gerdes '77, curator of the VIMS fisheries collection — essentially a fish library — holds the jaw of a tiger shark.

Still, Musick concedes, "it's a continual battle." As he speculates in *The Shark Chronicles*: "If there are paleontologists a million years from now, I wonder whether they will note that ... in the 21st century A.D. sharks' teeth disappeared from the fossil record."

With a new generation of shark experts leading the way — many of them trained by Jack Musick — we can find hope that the mighty shark will continue to roam the oceans for eons to come. ■

Sara Piccini is a freelance writer from Hampton, Va.



HEART HEALTHY

For people who are trying to protect their bodies from heart disease, a small daily dosage of aspirin might be lifesaving. We've known that for years. But research indicates that another type of drug might be the "new aspirin," and a William and Mary professor who studies the heart wants to know why.

BY SYLVIA CORNELIUSSEN

HEART DISEASE IS THE NATION'S NUMBER ONE KILLER.

In 2006 about 1.2 million Americans will have a heart attack, says the American Heart Association (AHA). Slightly less than half of them will die. Chances are high that you or someone you know is at risk.

But take heart. A researcher at your *alma mater* is among the countless scientists studying ways to prevent cardiovascular disease.

Brennan Harris '93, an assistant professor in the College's kinesiology department, has devoted his career to studying cardiovascular physiology with particular emphasis on how exercise protects the heart. Currently, however, he is researching how a drug meant to prevent heart disease in one way also — surprisingly — helps reduce the risk of heart disease in other, unpredicted ways.

About four years ago, while he was still in a postdoctoral position in vascular biology at the Medical College of Georgia, Harris learned of a clinical study in which doctors had administered HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors (commonly known as statins) to patients arriving in the emergency room with symptoms of a heart attack. The mortality rate for these patients was significantly lower than for those who had not been given the drug; health improvements

were seen in a matter of days. As statins were originally developed to lower cholesterol over a period of weeks to months, these results were puzzling.

"It seems to be sort of a wonder drug," Harris says.

The intended purpose of statins — lowering cholesterol levels — has an obvious effect on heart health. The AHA says that high cholesterol is a major risk factor for coronary heart disease. By prescribing statins, such as Lipitor, Zocor or Pravachol, doctors can help bring an at-risk patient's cholesterol down to a healthy level.

"Studies suggest that these drugs may help reduce cardiovascular disease in ways other than their intended purpose, such as lowering blood pressure," explains Harris.

Like cholesterol, the AHA lists low blood pressure as a key factor in preventing heart disease.

Curious to understand why this positive side effect occurs, Harris applied for and received a highly competitive Scientist Development Grant from the AHA. The grant, for which Harris is principal investigator, is officially titled "Mechanisms of eNOS Phosphorylation and Activation by HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors." When Harris

“Studies suggest that these drugs may help reduce cardiovascular disease in ways other than their intended purpose, such as lowering blood pressure.”

accepted his current position at William and Mary in 2004, the study came to Williamsburg with him.

In the Molecular and Cardiovascular Physiology Laboratory, a recently renovated on-campus kinesiology research lab, Harris is working with undergraduate students to examine the short-term effects of statins on an enzyme known as endothelial nitric oxide synthase (eNOS), which helps regulate blood pressure and other cardiovascular events that can ultimately lead to the development of heart disease.

“The best analogy is a garden hose,” explains Harris. “If you squeeze it, the water pressure in the hose goes up. If you relax your grip, the pressure goes down.”

Similarly, blood pressure can be lowered when nitric oxide is released from the endothelium — the cells lining the blood vessels — which causes blood vessels to relax and dilate. Nitric oxide is produced and released by the activation of eNOS through a process called phosphorylation. This process can be instigated by the introduction of statins. Using lab rats and cultured endothelial cells, Harris

and his students have been able to recreate this process and study how and why it works.

Harris has already published some of the results of these studies in the *American Journal of Physiology*. Meanwhile, and for the foreseeable future, he will continue to work with undergraduate William and Mary students in his laboratory. They will evaluate the importance of each of the sites that might be phosphorylated by statins and therefore might help protect the heart.

Scientists have compared the positive side effects of statins to the long-known positive effects a small daily dosage of aspirin has on the heart — even going so far as to call them the “new aspirin.” But Harris points out that the heart-healthy benefit of aspirin — thinning of the blood — is different from the benefits of cholesterol-lowering drugs.

“Ultimately, I hope the results of this study will help us understand how statins can provide protection against cardiovascular disease independent of their cholesterol-lowering effects,” says Harris. “This information may help us develop better drugs for cardiovascular protection or identify new therapeutic uses for statins.” ■

FOLLOWING HIS HEART

Brennan Harris says he made it his goal early on to come back to his *alma mater*. After all, it's where he met (in the choir) and married (in the Wren Chapel) his wife, Terri Hamlet Harris '93.

William and Mary is also where he found academic mentors who have helped him become the teacher and researcher he is today. When Harris left the College following graduation, he went on to pursue a master's at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a doctorate at the University of Texas at Austin, both in exercise physiology.

At the time, Harris asked one of his mentors — Kenneth Kambis, the professor of kinesiology whose office is now next door to Harris' — what he needed to do to come back to William and Mary.

“His advice was to go be the best scientist I could be,” recalls Harris. “He told me that research would really set me up.”

Harris took Kambis' advice to heart — literally — and has focused his career and education on studying the cardiovascular system and ways to protect it.

Statins are not the only way to activate eNOS and thereby reduce your chances of developing coronary heart disease, according to Harris. As a matter of

fact, one of the best ways to instigate the same benefit does not even come in pill form. Similar effects, such as cholesterol lowering and eNOS activation, can actually be produced by exercise.

“Physical inactivity is the most prevalent controllable cause of heart disease,” says Harris. “The reduction in risk occurs when you go from being sedentary — doing nothing — to doing something.”

Harris' research on how exercise protects the heart extends beyond the College's kinesiology department. In spring 2005 he learned that Professor of Modern Languages and Literature George Greenia was leading students on a 500-mile, 30-day pilgrimage across Spain in the summer.

“They were going to be walking five to six hours each day for the 30 days,” says Harris. “That's a real challenge. The energy expenditure for that is equivalent to running a marathon each day for 30 days.”

During his freshman year at the College, Harris had taken a writing-intensive freshman honors course with Greenia and remembered him well. After contacting the professor to discuss the physical impact of the trip, Harris was asked to present to the students on how to train for the long days of walking.

Thanks to a Borgenicht Program Grant from the College, when Greenia leads a similar student trip this summer, Michelle Wolf '07, one of Harris' research students, will be going along to monitor the walkers, studying how the pilgrimage changes their fitness levels and markers for cardiovascular disease risk.

Harris also practices what he preaches — he knows what long-term benefits an active lifestyle will give him and his family. A current Williamsburg resident, he enjoys running, mountain biking and spending time with Terri and their three children, Kayleigh, Sydney and Jake.



**Assistant Professor of Kinesiology
Brennan Harris '93**

A satellite image of a hurricane over the Gulf of Mexico, with the eye of the storm clearly visible. The text "EYE ON THE STORM" is overlaid in large, blue, outlined letters.

EYE ON THE STORM

Hurricane Center Media Guru Frank C. Lepore Jr. '65
Aims To Save Lives By 'Getting the Word Out'

BY TOM NUGENT '65

One cloudy, blustery morning in August 2005, a 64-year-old resident of Palmetto Bay, Fla., slid behind the wheel of his Honda and took off for a well-known landmark in the city of Miami, about 15 miles to the north.

The man in the driver's seat that morning was Frank C. Lepore Jr. '65, the longtime public affairs director for the National Hurricane Center (NHC), which was at that moment carefully tracking a minimally powerful Category 1 hurricane named Katrina. If the current forecast held, Katrina would be coming ashore in South Florida around suppertime and would pass almost directly over Lepore's office.

Lepore piloted his Honda into the crowded lot flanking the gray-painted NHC complex — a sprawling, warehouse-like building with walls and ceiling made of 10-inch thick steel-reinforced concrete and crammed with state-of-the-art satellite imaging systems and chattering computers. The primary center for hurricane forecasting in the U.S., the complex is operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

As he parked, Lepore caught a quick glimpse of his own visage in the rearview mirror. Normally upbeat and gregarious, the round-faced hurricane-media guru with the booming, signature laugh was a little surprised to see how grim and anxious he looked.

During some tense discussions the previous day with NHC director Max Mayfield — a household name in America, after his almost nightly appearances on the major TV networks during the extraordi-

“When I went to bed the night before the storm struck the Gulf Coast, I knew we'd done everything we possibly could do to get the word out. ...”

narily busy hurricane seasons of the past few years — Lepore's boss had made it quite clear that the Miami area faced relatively little danger from the approaching storm.

With sustained winds of only 80 miles an hour and a tiny eye that measured no more than about 15 miles in circumference, Katrina would likely prove to be little more than an irritating blip on the radar screen for South Florida. So as he slipped his NOAA ID card into the electronic lock at the front of the NHC complex, Lepore wasn't overly concerned about the fact that he and his colleagues were sitting smack in the middle of Katrina's Florida bull's-eye.

But what would happen if the storm re-emerged over the Gulf of Mexico?

If the smallish storm headed west-southwest over the water-laden Everglades — her likely path, according to current projections — she would then begin passing over the heat-filled surface of the sun-waloped Gulf. “If you think about it, the Gulf of Mexico is like a bathtub,” Lepore says, “which means that heat from the sun gets trapped in there, all summer long.

“When a hurricane or a tropical storm rolls over that water in September, the heat acts like high-octane fuel. Within a few hours, even a small tropical storm can gain power dramatically. And if you put a small or average-sized hurricane over that water under the right conditions, it can turn into a *beast* within the space of a day.”



Frank C. Lepore Jr. '65

The events that followed Frank Lepore's arrival at the National Hurricane Center in Miami last Aug. 25 are now a matter of history.

Four days after Lepore strode into his buzzing office that morning, Katrina blasted into Buras, La., with 126-mile-an-hour winds and a storm surge that quickly overtopped the fragile system of levees protecting the city. During the nightmare that ensued, more than 1,400 residents would lose their lives — and another 1,500 would vanish without a trace. If the missing are counted as dead (a logical assumption, according to disaster experts), Katrina easily matches 9/11 as one of the worst catastrophes in the history of the United States.

“One of the most heartbreaking things about Katrina was the loss of life despite the heroic efforts at many levels,” says Lepore. “We had a dozen different weather forecasters working on it, and they came up with a forecast that pinpointed Katrina's landfall and intensity with remarkable accuracy.

“We also did everything humanly possible to get the word out,” Lepore adds, describing the 19-hour days of media coverage that Hurricane Center staffers put in during the last few days before the storm struck the Big Easy. “Our forecasters at the center gave more than 400 TV-radio interviews over four days, and the director [Mayfield] was so concerned that he personally called the Louisiana governor [Kathleen Blanco] and at her suggestion the mayor [Ray Nagin] of New Orleans to warn them that they faced a potential catastrophe. We also alerted FEMA [the Federal Emergency Management Agency] and the White House, and provided them with special briefings in which our forecasters stressed the potential for disaster.

“We were encouraged by the fact that there was a major evacuation taking place in New Orleans and all along the Gulf Coast. We were heartened by reports that about 80 percent of the public had evacuated the area — but my God, that still left tens of thousands in harm's way!”

When Lepore and his colleagues at the Center checked in for work on Aug. 29, he was horrified to discover that Katrina was doing her worst and that the crucially important levees were being breached. “We knew it was going to be ugly, and we were full of dread,” he recalled later. “We had studied the films and news reports of [damage

from] Hurricane Betsy in 1965, and I knew what to expect if a major hurricane ever slammed into New Orleans.

“As we had all feared, Katrina turned out to be an immense human tragedy. That was very difficult to accept. When I went to bed the night before the storm struck the Gulf Coast, I knew we’d done everything we possibly could do to get the word out that this was an extremely dangerous, killer storm.

“Still, I didn’t sleep a wink that night, knowing what lay ahead.”

Spend a few hours wandering around the giant NOAA Hurricane Center with Lepore, and you’ll soon find yourself wondering how in the world he manages to get through a single shift, much less the endless days of back-to-back storms that sometimes occur during the annual Atlantic hurricane season, which stretches from June 1 through the end of November.

For Lepore, a once-upon-a-time ROTC student who became an Army officer and wound up in Vietnam leading 64 combat photographers two years after graduating, the challenge that begins with the emergence of a major hurricane is “rather formidable, to say the least, and there are days when I wonder if I’m going to be able to get through it without a case of terminal exhaustion.”

In his current position, Lepore manages two to three other media professionals who volunteer to assist in operations whenever a hurricane threatens. Otherwise, he works solo and coordinates all media coverage involving the 35 trained meteorologists and technicians who make up the staff of the Hurricane Center. “On a typical hurricane day, our forecasters will do anywhere from 80 to 100 TV interviews,” he says, “while also fielding 200 to 300 phone calls. As you can imagine, this place lights up like Times Square during periods when we’re issuing regular bulletins. Katrina required 714 interviews.

“Over the years, we’ve managed to develop a pretty efficient system for getting it all done. On a really busy day, we can conduct a TV interview every four minutes — and never fall behind, all day long.

When we finally head for home, most of us at the Center will admit to a special, very special kind of tired — part physical, part intellectual and part emotional.

“And when a storm lasts for 10 days or so — the way Hurricane Georges did back in 1998, taking nearly two weeks to get from the Windward Islands to landfall in Mississippi — that daily grind of scheduling interviews really takes a toll. By the time Georges finally petered out in the southeastern United States, three of our guys were so hoarse they could barely talk.”

Although his professional life during hurricane season can be “extremely grueling at times,” Lepore says he was never tempted to call it quits during the past 11 years on the job, and will continue to work at the Center “at least through the current hurricane season.” Why does he keep coming back for more?

Ask the gruff-voiced but amiable media guru that question and he’ll hesitate, Yoda-like, for a moment before explaining:

“Really, I feel very privileged to have been able to spend the past decade in this job. The way I see it, my task here is to do my utmost to get information to the public in order to save lives.

“How do we accomplish that? It’s simple: We do everything we can, day in and day out, to educate the public about hurricanes before, during and after the hurricane season. We emphasize practical things, such as the need to pay attention to hurricane warnings, and to make sure you have at least a one-week supply of necessities on hand, if you’re anywhere near an approaching hurricane. Our message is always clear: you, your business, your family and your city need to have a plan for what to do when a hurricane threatens. As Katrina demonstrated: Don’t wait for the government to save you — you have to take the steps necessary to save yourself until the cavalry arrives.

“Getting that kind of message out to the public has been my reward on this job. I know we’ve saved some lives, over the years, and that’s the greatest feeling a communicator can experience.” ■

Freelance journalist Tom Nugent '65 is the author of Death at Buffalo Creek and writes often for the Washington Post and Chicago Tribune.

Lepore (in back with pink shirt) coordinates all media coverage at the National Hurricane Center. On a typical hurricane day, forecasters conduct 80 to 100 TV interviews.





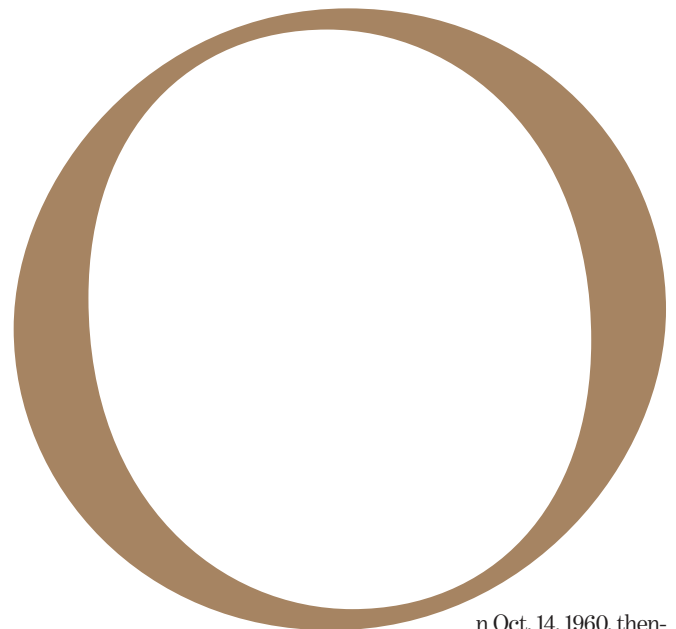


While on assignment in Kenya, Peace Corps volunteer Matt Koltermann '02 took this photograph featuring local children at a madrasa (Islamic school) celebrating the prophet Muhammad's birthday.

'THE TOUGHEST JOB YOU'LL EVER LOVE'

William and Mary Ranks Among the
Top Producers of Peace Corps Volunteers

BY SYLVIA CORNELIUSSEN



n Oct. 14, 1960, then-Senator John F. Kennedy, campaigning for the presidency, made a speech to students at the University of Michigan, challenging them to devote two years of their lives to helping people around the globe.

"How many of you who are going to be doctors are willing to spend your days in Ghana? Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the foreign service and spend your lives traveling around the world?" Kennedy asked. "On your willingness to do that, not merely to serve one year or two years in the service, but on your willingness to contribute part of your life to this country, I think will depend the answer whether a free society can compete."

In the four and a half decades since Kennedy's speech, thousands upon thousands of college graduates have traveled worldwide in response to his call to promote world peace and friendship. Peace Corps volunteers sign on for two years of service in foreign countries to do what has been affectionately — and, more than likely, honestly — termed "the toughest job you'll ever love."

Since the Peace Corps' inception in 1961, shortly after Kennedy was inaugurated, a total of 452 of those volunteers have been graduates of the College of William and Mary. According to the Peace Corps, William and Mary consistently ranks high among colleges and universities producing Peace Corps volunteers. Statistics released

earlier this year place the College 10th among all medium-sized colleges and universities (those with 5,001-15,000 undergraduates).

Given William and Mary's reputation for community service, these numbers are not surprising.

"The students I work with [at William and Mary] often develop a deep commitment to service," says Drew Stelljes, coordinator of student volunteer services. "Through service, students begin to grasp a larger, more complex understanding of social issues and often are motivated by injustices they witness in the service setting."

According to Stelljes, a spring 2006 survey showed that 75 percent of current William and Mary students volunteer regularly. The Office of Student Volunteer Services (OSVS) partners with 90 non-profit agencies and schools, offering opportunities ranging from tutoring to service trips in the United States and abroad.

Community service is so important to William and Mary students, in fact, that friendly competition even develops over opportunities. In January, for example, when OSVS opened registration for three spring break service trips, the 35 available spots filled up in 10 minutes.

Kelsey Holden '06, who graduated May 14, will soon be among those William and Mary alumni with Peace Corps ties. Although she had not yet received her assignment at press time, she has been nominated to teach English in Asia.

"I think William and Mary has a number of opportunities that communicate to students that service is important," says Holden, who participated in many activities, including College Partnership for Kids, Service Leaders Corps and the Red Cross. "There are so many ways to get involved that it's hard not to."

Andrew Contreras, a Peace Corps regional recruiter, looks for a number of characteristics in potential volunteers, although he says there is no specific formula for choosing among the approximately 12,000 applications received each year. He does, however, like it when

he sees an applicant demonstrate excitement for the opportunity — something he frequently sees in William and Mary students, who make up the bulk of his applicants.

"William and Mary students have a lot of outreach experience," Contreras explains. "And they are very passionate."

Contreras has also picked up on the academic abilities of William and Mary students. While he emphasizes that grade point average and major are not deciding factors, he is impressed with how William and Mary challenges students to think critically and intelligently about the world they live in.

William and Mary graduates who have served in the Peace Corps agree that the academic side of their *alma mater* made a significant difference in their service.

"Being a student at William and Mary stretches you," notes Peter Bradley '64, who taught English in Iran as a Peace Corps volunteer from 1965 to 1967. "They don't settle. You've got to work. That prepares you for life. It prepared me to face things I couldn't even imagine."

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED ...

Peter Bradley '64

WHERE AND WHEN: *Iran, 1965-67*

SERVICE: *Taught English*

A dare from a friend inspired Peter Bradley '64 to apply for Peace Corps service during the final months of his senior year. Not knowing exactly what he was going to do after graduation, he thought he'd give it a shot.

"My friend had heard they were only taking the cream of the crop," recalls Bradley. "I didn't even think we'd get in."

But sure enough, shortly after filling out the application, Bradley received a letter inviting him to go to Iran to teach English.

For the most part, Bradley helped the country's teachers by going to classes of male students and speaking to them in English so they could hear the language. "Iran already had a lot of English teachers, but they weren't trained in modern teaching methods. We were trying to nudge them to try newer methods," recalls Bradley.

When Bradley returned from Iran in 1967, he earned a master's degree in Middle Eastern studies, spent a year in Washington, D.C., raising money to help Middle Eastern refugees, and then recruited for the Peace Corps in California. He eventually took a position teaching English as a second language — a job he still holds today.

"It absolutely shaped my life," notes Bradley. "I had the experience — in my mid-20s — of living for two years in another country. It makes you realize the world is very different than you perceive it to be."

A history major at the College, Bradley counts one particular moment of realization among his most memorable Peace Corps experiences. At one point during his service, Bradley and a Peace Corps friend paid the driver of a kerosene truck to take them to India, the place they had decided to spend their vacation. As his friend had just gotten over being very ill, and as the vehicle only offered one passenger seat, Bradley rode on top of the truck. As he sat up there with the desert sun beating down on him, a thought struck him: "There was so much history there. I suddenly realized



Lane Ellis '70

we were following the exact same route as Alexander the Great. That did it for me.”

Even after nearly 40 years, Bradley is still firm in his belief that Peace Corps service will change your life. “When you go, you go with one set of attitudes, but you come back with very different ones,” he remarks. “I came back thinking, ‘Boy, I learned a lot more than I gave them.’”

Lane Ellis ’70

WHERE AND WHEN: *Ghana, 1970-72*

SERVICE: *Taught physics and mathematics*

A love for travel was one of the many reasons Lane Ellis ’70 signed on for Peace Corps service. It’s a love he developed in college that still sticks with him today.

“I had little experience with other places and people,” Ellis says. “I was a hick for sure, but by the time I graduated, I had traveled all over Canada and the American North and Midwest.”

Even so, when he arrived in Ghana, Ellis admits feeling homesick at first. “But that quickly went away,” he says, “and towards the end my dreams had Ghanaian settings.”

Teaching physics and mathematics was a perfect fit for this self-described “science geek” who is now a senior scientist with the American space program. But while trying to keep himself entertained without electricity in Ghana, Ellis says he learned to read in a very true sense.

“During those two years, I learned to appreciate reading,” he explains. “It did take the full two years, and I reached that appreciation kicking and screaming, but I am a different person than I would have been because of it.”

Among Ellis’ many favorite Peace Corps memories, one in particular sticks out. The school where he was teaching had in its library a single set of encyclopedias — an ancient *World Book* set with one volume missing.

“The set was the only source of information the kids had about other things and places, and I felt bad for them,” Ellis recalls. So he wrote to that encyclopedia company to ask if they had a back copy of the missing volume he could purchase. Two months later, a truck delivered a brand new set of *World Book* encyclopedias free of charge. Inspired by the surprise delivery and the village’s excitement, Ellis wrote to *Compton’s Encyclopedia*.

“Sure enough, a new set of *Compton’s* eventually showed up as well,” says Ellis. “I do believe that had I stayed in that village a couple of extra years, they would have had a library anyone would be proud of.”

Ellis’ Peace Corps service actually increased his “already healthy interest in traveling.” He and his wife have taken their children to several Third World countries, where, he says, “We don’t rough it, but we don’t stay in high-dollar hotels either. We always eat local, however much whining I hear.”



Lydia Dambekalns ’81

Lydia Dambekalns ’81

WHERE AND WHEN: *Benin, 1981, and Kenya, 1982-84*

SERVICE: *Rural development with women’s groups*

Lydia Dambekalns ’81, who became a Peace Corps recruiter when she finished volunteering, might be one of the organization’s most enthusiastic supporters.

“I have always said that the three things I believe in most wholly and completely are Swiss Army knives, duct tape and the Peace Corps. I could sell any of these easily,” she says.

Indeed, like many volunteers, Dambekalns’ life was shaped by the time she spent in the Peace Corps. “It changes a person forever,” she says. “I often carry that model of Africa’s ability to not take things so seriously. I admire that. I also will be a little more lonely the rest of my life ... because African society requires you to be part of everyone’s lives.”

Having grown up on a farm in the Shenandoah Valley, Dambekalns had practical experience to offer as a Peace Corps volunteer. During her time in Africa, she worked with women’s groups to do small income-generating projects like raising goats and chickens. The organization sometimes finds it more challenging to fill these positions, which made Dambekalns a perfect choice.



Tiffany Churukian Coke '98

Being immersed in Kenya's agricultural pursuits allowed her to enjoy the magnificent scenery surrounding her. She had the opportunity to foray into the hills and the distant parts of the region — all while driving the Suzuki Jeep provided to her by USAID.

Dambekalns, an associate professor of art education and curriculum development at the University of Wyoming, says her Peace Corps service gave her skills that can be applied to any situation and have especially helped her in the education field.

"It taught me how to move into brand-new situations and be able to hit the ground running. It taught me something about listening and observing" she says. "It taught me that no matter how hard a moment might be here, it's not as hard as [it is for] people in other places who have little to eat or less security to sleep at night."

The daughter of a native Latvian, Dambekalns says she had always been interested in being a part of other cultures. In her freshman year at the College, a classmate told Dambekalns that he intended to go into the Peace Corps after graduation. "That was the first time I had ever heard of it," she recalls. "So because of him, I looked into it. In the end, I went and he did not."

Tiffany Churukian Coke '98

WHERE AND WHEN: *Tanzania, 1998-99*

SERVICE: *Taught physics*

For Tiffany Churukian Coke '98, volunteering for the Peace Corps after graduation was not the answer to a longtime burning desire or a childhood dream.

"I was a senior and I was not thrilled with my options after graduation," recalls Coke. "The idea of the government paying for my food and lodging while I learned a new language and experienced a new culture seemed pretty cool."

She also felt that being a physics major and a French minor prepared her for this type of experience.

"Knowing physics was essential for day-to-day life, as I was teaching physics," Coke says. "But more importantly, physics taught me how to logically solve problems — even problems that seemed completely new and different from anything I had seen before."

Coke's experience teaching in Tanzania directly relates to her job now — teaching physics in the United States.

"Many of the daily duties are the same — preparing for lessons, grading papers or tests, etc.," explains Coke. "There are some wild differences [in Tanzania], though, that other teachers will appreciate. There was no textbook, so I had to make everything up myself by cobbling together the chapters from the textbooks I used in both my freshman and sophomore years [at William and Mary]."

But William and Mary provided her with more than the knowledge — and the materials — Coke needed to be successful. Growing up in Los Angeles, Calif., Coke attended small private schools. Making the decision to attend a public college in Virginia — all the way across the country — was a big shift.

"I already knew that I could escape my comfortable surroundings and actually be a better person for it," she explains.

Reflecting back on her service, Coke remarks, "I'm glad my initial reasons for going were so far from being noble. ... Anyone can do it, which is why I think that my lack of real thought is a good way to show that you don't need to be a bleeding heart to make a difference — you don't even need to want to make a difference."

Matt Koltermann '02

WHERE AND WHEN: *Kenya, 2002-04*

SERVICE: *Trained small business owners in basic business skills*

Matt Koltermann '02 believes that it is his duty to give back to the world. That's why he signed on for Peace Corps service.

"Being a part of an increasingly connected world, through living in an increasingly insulated America, I saw the experience of living and working in a developing country as a vital part of my personal and professional growth," he says. "I also had a sense of responsibility that came with my very expensive education, the sense that folks who don't have the resources or the opportunity should also be able to benefit from what I've been taught."

Koltermann spent two years working with Peace Corps/Kenya's Small Enterprise Development, Information and Communication



Matt Koltermann '02

Technology sector. His job was to teach basic business skills, such as marketing, bookkeeping and quality control, to small business owners.

But while his Peace Corps service was focused on training other people, Koltermann learned a lot, too: how to cook, how to keep bees and how to communicate using American Sign Language, among many other skills.

The international experience also taught him something about his current job — he is working with Action Without Borders, a nonprofit organization headquartered in New York, N.Y., that produces www.idealists.org, an international clearinghouse for nonprofit information and industry resources.

As a former Peace Corps volunteer, Koltermann is eligible for short-term international assignments with the Crisis Corps. But when Hurricane Katrina destroyed the Gulf Coast states last summer, the Crisis Corps formed a partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and within days Koltermann found himself in Louisiana.

“We worked one-on-one with displaced victims from all over the Gulf South, listening to their survival stories, connecting them with local resources and troubleshooting their aid applications,” Koltermann recalls. “Being involved on the front lines of the recovery process was a fantastic experience. It was tiring, emotional, exhausting and certainly FEMA-frustrating at times, but it was great to be empowered with the role of helping one person or family at a time.”

After all, that’s a role Koltermann knows well.

environment and extremely poor and called Nigerians very friendly and hospitable — all of which, she notes, is true.

“But I had never seen a developing country before I came to Niger, so of course seeing the poorest country in the world for the first time was shocking,” she says. “To be honest, when I first arrived in Niger, all I wanted to do was get back on the plane to America.”

Leach-Kemon says she never knows what each new day will hold for her. Some days are spent at the local health clinic, where she educates women about various health topics. Once a week she goes to the radio station to do a 30-minute health show in the local language — Zarma. She has painted maps on school walls and worked on a library project. “My job title is community health volunteer,” she notes, “but in the end my activities are dependent on identifying ways that I can best serve the community.”

To date, Leach-Kemon’s most memorable moment is seeing a severely malnourished Nigerian child she had worked with for a year take his first steps; he has reached a healthy weight.

“The most striking thing about daily life is how every day teaches me new things about this country, its people and myself,” she says. “I have been here for nearly 20 months and I still have so much more to learn.” ■

Editor’s Note: As it is impossible to profile all 452 William and Mary graduates who have served in the Peace Corps, the Alumni Magazine editorial staff selected the previous individuals as a sample of the many experiences.

Katie Leach-Kemon ’04

WHERE AND WHEN: Niger, 2004-present

SERVICE: Educate the community on how to prevent HIV, malaria, malnutrition, bird flu and other diseases

In her senior year at the College, Katie Leach-Kemon ’04 took a class called Economics of Hunger with Associate Professor of Economics Arnab K. Basu. Having just spent 10 months studying abroad in France, the history major had been looking for another more challenging and more intense overseas experience. The class piqued her interest.

“The concepts we studied in class were hard for me to grasp, so I wanted to see them for myself,” says Leach-Kemon.

Another William and Mary class — this one in West African history — introduced her to a continent she knew little about. “The professor was very positive about West Africa and helped demystify the concept of Africa,” Leach-Kemon says. “The media in America seems to discuss the negative side of things, like AIDS, genocide and starving children. [The] course made me excited to visit Africa.”

Nonetheless, just like many volunteers, it took several months for Leach-Kemon to feel completely comfortable in Niger. Materials provided by the Peace Corps described the country as a harsh



Katie Leach-Kemon '04



The Legend of Crim Dell

and other Campus Rumors

BY JAY BUSBEE '90

It starts the first day you arrive on campus, a callow freshman ready to soak up all the history the storied College of William and Mary has to offer. Your RA takes you on a tour of the College, pointing out necessary stops like the Caf, the University Center and the delis. But in between, your tour guide drops in the good stuff — the rumors of a ghost here, stories of a rock 'n' roll connection there. And faster than you can say Christopher Wren, the legends of campus spread to a new class of students.

As with any oral history, the tale grows in the telling — a story of, say, strange lights in an upstairs window in one generation transforms into a grim legend of a vengeful Civil War wife in the next. Some rumors are playful, some are sinister, some have recent origins, and some have histories nearly as long as the College itself.

Here are several of the more famous ones, along with their (alleged) origins — see how many you remember from your own College days.



RUMOR: *Ghosts haunt several buildings on campus.*

STATUS: *We're not going to say they're false. Ghosts have memories too.*

If you believe all the legends, William and Mary's got more ghosts than Paul's Deli has sandwiches. A book published last year by Daniel Barefoot entitled *Haunted Halls of Ivy* recounts the tales behind the ghosts that fairly swarm Old Campus. For instance, students began hearing mysterious footsteps in the Wren Building shortly after the Revolutionary War; the ghost was said to be anyone from a French soldier who died in the building to Sir Christopher Wren himself. They've apparently got Civil War-era colleagues stationed at the President's House, which was used to house captured Southern soldiers.

And generations of theater students are familiar with "Lucinda," the ghost of a student who, according to legend, won the lead role in Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* but died in a car crash two weeks before the play's opening. She continues to wander the halls, one of many: "Some rumors suggest there are several — one in the light booth, one in the scene shop, one in the costume shop, one in the scenery storage/trap room," says Theatre Professor Patricia Wesp '76. "We try not to play favorites — they're mostly benevolent. Especially the one in the costume shop — I've fallen off ladders back in the stockroom numerous times over the years, and I've never been injured."

RUMOR: *William and Mary has the highest student suicide rate in the nation.*

STATUS: *False.*

The real problem with this most notorious of all campus rumors is that it reduces suicide to a mere statistic, ignoring the tragedy for the sake of mere shock value. That said, the legend fortunately wilts in the hard light of truth. Dr. Kelly Crace, director of the College's counseling center, notes that the most recent surveys on suicide place the annual figure at 10 per 100,000 15-to-24-year-olds. Reduced to William and Mary's enrollment of 7,500, that would correspond to an average rate of 7.5 suicides every 10 years. But the College has recorded a total of 11 suicides since 1968 — far below the national average.

The question of how the rumor got started in the first place is murkier. Crace notes that one possible origin could be "guilt by association." The College has had in place for 30 years a proactive policy designed to intervene when students threaten to harm themselves. Now called the Medical Emotional Emergency Policy, it was once called the "Suicide Policy," and received national attention for its progressive nature. Of course, it's possible that many people assumed the College wouldn't have in place such a comprehensive policy if there wasn't already a problem — hence the pervasive rumor.

RUMOR: *Members of the group Steely Dan attended the College, but left in disgust and recorded the song "My Old School" (lyrics: "Oh, no, William and Mary won't do ...").*

STATUS: *False.*

The first time you heard jazz-rock legends Steely Dan sing your *alma mater's* name in their 1974 tune "My Old School," you felt

RUMOR: *If you kiss someone on the Crim Dell bridge, you'll end up married to him/her.*

STATUS: *Unverifiable, but nobody's taking any chances.*

It's the most famous College rumor of all, the one that sets some hearts a-fluttering and sends some screaming in terror. True or not, its sway is powerful enough to keep many a budding College couple from even walking across the Crim Dell bridge together, lest a stray kiss seal a couple's marital fate.

So how did the rumor get started? Nobody knows, not even the man with some of the deepest institutional memory of anyone connected with William and Mary, Student Affairs Vice President Sam Sadler '64, M.Ed. '71. He notes that the rumor can't date to before 1967, when Crim Dell was built.

"I remember a magazine writing an article and naming Crim Dell as one of the most romantic spots on a campus in the country, and the rumor was included in that article," Sadler says. "I have always suspected that was the genesis of the rumor — a little creative journalism or perhaps, in typical William and Mary fashion, students being creative in their storytelling to the author."

In recent years, a couple of Crim Dell corollaries have sprung up. Should you kiss someone on the bridge and later change your mind, you have to throw your former beloved off the bridge in order to break the curse. And women shouldn't walk across the bridge alone, lest they be doomed to a life of spinsterhood.

Of course, none of the rumors yet address what happens if you walk across the bridge backwards ... or on one foot ... or at a dead run. ...

a surge of pride — hey, U.Va. doesn't have any popular songs written about it. And between the W&M shout-out and the apparent reference to Annandale, a Northern Virginia suburb, it's easy to assume there's a connection between Steely Dan and Our Old School.

Unfortunately, the song has no more to do with William and Mary than William Hung. An early-1980s *Flat Hat* investigation reportedly found that Steely Dan writers Walter Becker and Donald Fagen selected the College's name simply because it fit the cadence of the song ("Guadalajara" fits the same space in a later chorus), and the Annandale in question is in New York. Even so, the classic "William and Mary won't do" line has been used in roughly half a billion *Flat Hat* headlines, kiosk flyers and dorm-door signs.

RUMOR: *If you live with your freshman-year roommate all four years, you get invited to dine with the president.*

STATUS: *True.*

It's the rare pair of roommates that can make it through four years together without killing one another or splitting off when a better offer comes along. But for those who do, rewards await. Former President Timothy J. Sullivan '66 began a tradition of hosting a luncheon for the long-term roomies. President Gene R. Nichol continues the tradition and in fact dined with 40 students — that's 20 pairs of roommates — on April 18 in the Wren Building's Great Hall.

RUMOR: *Miles of catacombs run beneath Old Campus.*

STATUS: *True — sort of — but you didn't hear it from us.*

The legend of catacombs running beneath the bricks and grass of Old Campus is one of the College's more fascinating rumors. What's down there? Graves? Treasure? Caches of blue books and Psych 101 notes? The truth would disappoint Indiana Jones — yes, there are tunnels, but they're designed for steam and maintenance pipes — most definitely *not* people. The College administration begrudgingly acknowledges their existence, but does nothing to dispel the rumor that getting caught in them means instant expulsion.

As a side note, there is indeed a crypt beneath the Wren Building, but there's no indication it has any connection to the tunnels. Another rumor — that the tunnels were part of the Underground Railroad — doesn't hold up to close inspection, as it's unlikely the railroad was running escaped slaves from, say, Ewell Hall to Jefferson Hall.

RUMOR: *The Dillard Complex used to be a mental hospital.*

STATUS: *False, but close.*

Eastern State Hospital built what is now known as the Dillard Complex in 1949 to house nursing students who were doing rotations at the hospital. Jess Raymond, residence life area director for Dillard, notes that during the 1965-66 academic year, William and Mary began leasing the buildings to meet the needs of a growing student population; the College finally purchased the buildings in 1980. Dillard itself was never a mental hospital, though patients from Eastern State — still a fully functioning facility — have occasionally ventured into the complex.

RUMOR: *Playboy loves us! Playboy hates us!*

STATUS: *False on both counts.*

Playboy and William and Mary — a couple of classic institutions that aren't often mentioned in the same sentence. And yet two major campus rumors connect them. The first one holds that the magazine named Crim Dell the second most romantic spot on any college campus. (Could it have been the one that Sadler was reading in the Crim Dell question above? Hmmmm...) The second rumor doesn't exactly jibe with the first — sometime in the mid-1990s, *Playboy* apparently named the W&M student body one of the ugliest in the country.

Both are complete nonsense. A recent investigation by the *Flat Hat* found that as best *Playboy* researchers could determine, the College and its students have never been mentioned — or, to the best of our knowledge, displayed — in its pages.

RUMOR: *If you touch the statue of Lord Botetourt in front of the Wren Building, you'll get a good grade on your next test.*

STATUS: *Unverifiable.*

Certainly at a school as competitive and achievement-driven as William and Mary, students would want any advantage they could get — and rubbing the boots of Botetourt, no matter how strange, would certainly qualify. Unfortunately, College historian Louise Lambert Kale notes that she's never heard of such a tale. And, of course, if there was any truth to the rumor, there'd be lines all the way down to the Capitol Building during exam week. ■

Jay Busbee '90 is the president of the Atlanta Chapter of the William and Mary Alumni Association. He writes for ESPN.com, Atlanta magazine and many other publications.



CLASSNOTES



EDITOR'S NOTE ~ MELISSA V. PINARD

Change is good. An alumni magazine is an ever-evolving creature, improving with age. Thanks to our first advisory board meeting last December, we have made some adjustments to the magazine that better reflect our campus and alumni body. I went to an editor's conference recently and a designer used the following quote but did not know who first stated it: "People think they want change — but really what they want is what they know, but better." How apropos. So here is how we made the magazine better: First, we renamed the Arts and Humanities section and are calling it Arts and Sciences. This section now incorporates profiles of scientists, both faculty and alumni, as well as updates on campus research and other science happenings. Within that section we also had to shorten our book reviews in order to fit in as many as we can because of our prolific alumni. Second, we changed the name to Book Notes to more accurately describe what we are doing on those pages. Our next advisory board meeting will be in June. Members are listed on the right.

Sometimes change can be difficult. Between March and April we had to bid farewell to two treasured employees, John Wallace and Sylvia Corneliussen. John has taken a position in the College's Development Communications office so we will continue to see him around campus. Sylvia joined the Mariners' Museum staff as their marketing communications manager. We wish them the best in their new career paths. In my next note I hope to be announcing two new members of the Alumni Communications team.

Enjoy your summer and remember Homecoming is just around the corner, Oct. 26-29.

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SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVING IS EASY ~ MELISSA V. PINARD



By the time you read this, students will have returned home to rest and recuperate or start their new jobs. But, in the lazy days of April and May when the weather can reach 80 degrees in the 'Burg — distracting students from their studies — you will occasionally see the co-eds soaking up the rays at Yorktown Beach, a two-acre public beach on the York River. Some aspects of student life haven't changed over the years and this is one of them. In the current photo, Mary Beth Litton '07 (left) and Alison Mathey '07 decided to visit what they called “the quaint little beach.” The other image was taken during the 1940s, we presume from the cars, but if you have any additional information please send it to the Alumni Communications staff at alumni.magazine@wm.edu. We would love to hear your beach memories.



TOP PHOTO COURTESY OF ALISON MATHEY '07; BOTTOM PHOTO: WMAA ARCHIVES